Exploring young people's views of digital behaviours in intimate relationships

GU Ref No: 2023/749

INFORMATION SHEET

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| **Who is conducting the research?** | María Atiénzar Prieto (PhD candidate)  Professor Silke Meyer (Principal Supervisor)  Assoc Professor Molly Dragiewicz (Associate Supervisor)  Dr Steven Baker (Associate Supervisor)  Dr Jeffrey Ackerman (Associate Supervisor)  School of Health Sciences and Social Work  Griffith University  **Contact information**:  María Atiénzar Prieto, lead investigator: [maria.atienzarprieto@griffithuni.edu.au](mailto:maria.atienzarprieto@griffithuni.edu.au)  Professor Silke Meyer (Principal Supervisor):  [s.meyer@griffith.edu.au](mailto:s.meyer@griffith.edu.au) |

Why is the research being conducted?

This study is part of a PhD project whose aim is to investigate the attitudes and perceptions of digital behaviours in romantic relationships among young people. For example, such digital behaviours may include calling a partner, sending text messages to a partner and sexting or sending nude pictures to a partner.

What you will be asked to do?

You will be asked to complete an online survey about your views of digital behaviours in the context of romantic relationships. The survey includes fictional short stories followed by close and open-ended questions that invite you to share your thoughts about this topic. You will also be asked for some demographic information in the survey.

The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes, although the length of the responses is up to you.

**Possible benefits and risks to participants**

***Benefits***

By participating in this study, young people’s voices will assist to the construction of knowledge regarding their views of the use of technology in the context of romantic relationships. Findings will inform prevention and early intervention strategies to address the potential risks involved in certain digital behaviours and the impacts this may have on young people.

***Risks***

Although you will not be asked about personal experiences of digital behaviours that may have affected you in a romantic relationship throughout the survey, you may feel discomfort or distress while completing this survey due to the sensitive nature of some of the questions included. Below, we have provided a list of support services you can contact if you experience any discomfort or distress from participating in the survey. You are able to withdraw from the survey at any time prior to completing the survey or during your completion of the survey.

**Youth Support Service**

**P:** 1800 458 685 **Hours:** 24 hours

[www.ysas.org.au](http://www.ysas.org.au)

**Kids Helpline**

Anonymous, confidential telephone counselling service for children and young people .

**P:** 1800 551 800 **Hours:** 24 hours, 7 days a week

[www.kidshelp.com.au](http://www.kidshelp.com.au)

**1800 Respect**

Confidential information, counselling and support service. 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Information & Referrals. 24/7 Counselling. 24/7 Web Chat.

**P:** 1800 737 732

[www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au)

Your confidentiality

*Personal Information*

For the purpose of this study, data will be collected on personal information that includes demographic characteristics, such as age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, cultural background and education. This information will be anonymous and will not identify you in anyway.

*How are we going to use your Personal Information*

Survey responses will be collected by LimeSurvey. Data collected from this survey will only ask for identifying information if you choose to volunteer this information to participate in a draw for one of three $200 gift vouchers and/or in further research. To do so, you will be directed to a separate survey where you will be asked to provide your preferred contact details so a member of the research team can be in touch. Alternatively, if you want to participate in further research but you do not want to leave your contact details in the survey, you can contact the PhD candidate, María Atiénzar Prieto ([maria.atienzarprieto@griffithuni.edu.au](mailto:maria.atienzarprieto@griffithuni.edu.au)), directly. If you choose to provide your contact details, these will be stored separately from your survey data. The data collected will be presented in academic publications, in the form of a PhD thesis, journal articles and conference presentations, in a manner that ensures your identity remains anonymous and prevents third parties from identifying you.

*How will this Personal Information be stored?*

Survey responses and resulting data will be stored by the PhD candidate in a password-protected device, accessible only to the research team.

Your participation is voluntary

Once you have read this information, and if you are interested in participating in this study, you are invited to follow the web link provided to the survey website. Before starting the survey, you will be asked to respond to two screening questions to assess your eligibility to participate in this study. Consent to participate will be confirmed before progressing to the survey.

Your participation is voluntary. You can skip any questions you do not wish to respond to. You can withdraw from the survey at any time prior to completing the survey or during your completion of the survey. Once you have completed the survey, your data cannot be withdrawn due to its anonymous nature. There are no consequences if you decide not to participate or to withdraw at any time while completing the survey.

Questions / further information

For questions about this study or to receive a copy of this form or additional information, please contact María Atiénzar Prieto (PhD candidate) via [maria.atienzarprieto@griffithuni.edu.au](mailto:maria.atienzarprieto@griffithuni.edu.au) or Professor Silke Meyer (Principal Supervisor) via [s.meyer@griffith.edu.au](mailto:s.meyer@griffith.edu.au).

The ethical conduct of this research

Griffith University Human Research Ethics Committee has approved this study (GU reference number 2023/749).

Griffith University conducts research in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. Should you have any complaints or concerns about the ethical conduct of this study, you are welcome to contact the Manager, Research Ethics on 3735 4375 or [research-ethics@griffith.edu.au](mailto:research-ethics@griffith.edu.au).

Privacy Statement

The conduct of this research involves the collection, access, storage and/or use of your de-identified personal information. The information collected is confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties without your consent, except to meet government, legal or other regulatory authority requirements. A de-identified copy of this data may be used for other research purposes, including publishing openly (e.g., in an open access repository). However, your anonymity will at all times be safeguarded. For further information consult the University's Privacy Plan at <https://www.griffith.edu.au/about-griffith/corporate-governance/plans-publications/griffith-university-privacy-plan>.

If you are under 18 years of age, we recommend that you consider discussing your participation in this survey with a parent or guardian.