

## Research Participation Informed Consent Form

1. Title of Research: Exploring the needs of human trafficking survivors in a residential setting.
2. Principal Investigator (include names of Co-PIs) Note that for student projects, the faculty sponsor must be the PI and the student(s) the Co-PI(s):  
Supporting Professor: Laura Racovita, PhD, MSW  
Co-principal investigator: Mariah Sharp, BSW  
Co-Principal Investigator: Marissa Norman, BSW  
Co-Principal Investigator: Breanna Gould, BSW  
Co-Principal Investigator: Jamie Sherlock, BSW, CACI
3. Purpose of the Research: You are being asked to participate in a research project to help advance the understanding of the needs of survivors of human trafficking in the context of a residential treatment program. There will be twenty participants and they will be selected off of a volunteer basis who have been or who are currently a client at Second life. The duration of the study should take approximately twenty minutes to complete. Due to the nature of the survey participants will need to have the ability to read and write.
4. Procedures: Participants will meet with a researcher to review the consent form and sign it. They will then be given a survey and allowed to complete it on their own and a researcher will be available to answer any questions. Once the survey is complete, the participant can then leave. The forms will remain in a locked cabinet throughout the research study period and will then be destroyed. We will be meeting in a private conference room where it is private and confidential location. The locked cabinet will be at Second Life and the head researchers will have the key. The research would consist of five people every Saturday for one month, totaling twenty people. The five people that are assigned each Saturday will have a private room with the researcher for a total of twenty minutes at most, different intervals of time until all five each Saturday are complete.
5. Foreseeable Risks or Discomforts: This risk will involve minimal risks. It is possible that certain survey questions may cause some feelings of sadness or emotional discomfort. All efforts will be made by the researcher to minimize this risk. If at any time the participant becomes uncomfortable they can stop completing the survey.
6. Benefits: The expected benefits of this study are that a better understand of the needs of human trafficking survivors could positively affect how services are provided and income outcomes for those that are seeking those services.
7. Compensation/Costs: There will be no compensation or reimbursement for expenses for participation in this study. There will be no cost to you for participating in this study.

8. Confidentiality: All information concerning you will be kept private. If information about your responses are published, it will be written in a way that you cannot be recognized.

9. Contact Persons Include the following statement on the consent form: If you have questions about the research contact:

Laura Racovita, PhD, MSW at racovita@southern.edu

Breanna Gould, BSW (203)308-6416

Marissa Norman, BSW (615) 332-2426

Jamie Sherlock, BSW (706) 260-0891

Mariah Sharp, BSW (254) 595-2124

10. Voluntary Participation/Withdrawal: You have rights as a research volunteer. Taking part in this study is completely voluntary. If you do not take part, you will have no penalty. You may stop taking part in this study at any time without penalty.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research volunteer, write to the IRB office: IRB@southern.edu

A copy of this form will be given to you. Your signature below indicates that the researchers have answered all of your questions to your satisfaction and that you consent to volunteer for this study.

Participants Signature:

Date:

---

Person Obtaining consent signature:

Date:

---

## Anonymous Survey Questionnaire

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. What is your age range? Circle one.**

- A. 18-25
- B. 26-35
- C. 36-45
- D. 46-55
- E. 56 or older

**2. What is your gender? Circle one.**

- A. Female
- B. Male
- C. Other
- D. prefer not to disclose

**3. How important do you feel the following services are on a scale from 1-5. 1 being not important at all and 5 being extremely important.**

- A. Case management \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Job training \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Mental Health services \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Individual therapy \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Group therapy \_\_\_\_\_
- F. Substance abuse services \_\_\_\_\_
- G. Legal assistance \_\_\_\_\_

**4. What services, if any, are you currently using in the community? Please write below.**

---

**5. Do you feel a residential program in your community is needed for survivors of sex trafficking? Circle one.**

- A. Strongly Agree
- B. Agree
- C. Neutral
- D. Disagree
- E. Strongly Disagree

**6. Would you be interested in joining a residential program for sex trafficking survivors? Circle one.**

- A. Yes
- B. Maybe
- C. No

**7. What challenges are you currently facing? Please write below.**

---

---

**8. What, if anything, have you found to be helpful in addressing those challenges?  
Please write below.**

---

---

---

**Field Test  
Feedback and How survey will be changed**

1. Reviewer stated that the questions were easy to understand and not complicated or unclear.