
Participant Information Sheet***Shared houses, shared lives: exploring the trials and tribulations of living within a shared house***

What is the research about?

The research aims to investigate the trials and tribulations of living within shared houses and is interested in finding out what it is like to live in a shared house, and how it might differ (in both positive and negative ways) from other kinds of living arrangements.

What will the research involve?

You will be asked to take part in a short interview of about 45 minutes which will discuss what it is like to live in a shared house.

Will I be asked lots of personal questions?

The interviews will explore general areas of life within the shared house and will not cover areas that the participants are not comfortable with. You can disclose as much or as little about your life within the shared house as you wish; you are not obliged to answer any questions you do not wish to.

The types of questions you will be asked in the group interviews involve how the house operates day-to-day, such as how the house is used for activities like socialising, and how space is used. The individual interviews will cover topics such as why you chose to live in a shared house.

Who can take part?

Residents of shared houses of three more people aged 21-35 living within the Chorlton area can take part. Individuals or groups from shared houses are welcome to participate.

How much of my time will this take?

Interviews will take no more than 45 minutes, and these will be scheduled at times and locations to suit you.

What will I get out of it?

There will be no direct benefit to participants, but the contributions made within the interviews will form part of a piece of research that aims to make a significant contribution to theories of privacy, intimacy, self-disclosure and relationships. Participants often find taking part in the research an enjoyable and interesting experience to explore life within their homes that they may otherwise not have thought about.

Do I have to take part?

No, you are not obliged to take part. Participation is entirely voluntary and should you choose to participate you can withdraw at any time.

What will happen to my details?

Once the interviews have taken place and been transcribed the details will be anonymised – your name will be changed, and only general information about you will be used, such as your age, gender, and occupation. Your contact details will only be stored as long as is necessary in order to arrange interviews and to contact you should you wish to be updated on the outcomes of the research. All details are stored securely, and only the researcher and supervisor have access to personal details.

Portions of the interviews will be used within the production of academic papers and the final PhD thesis. No identifiable information will be used within these pieces of work, and you can have access to these works should you wish to.

How to participate

If you would like to participate, please contact me using the details below, including your name, address, contact telephone number, email address, and an indication of the best time to contact you. I will then contact you to discuss the research in more depth and arrange a date and time for the interviews.

Contact details

If you have any questions then please feel free to contact the researcher or supervisor directly.

Researcher:

Josh Richards
joshua.richards@manchester.ac.uk
Tel. 07805 560659

Supervisor:

Dr Dale Southerton
dale.southerton@manchester.ac.uk

Sociology
School of Social Sciences
The University of Manchester
Arthur Lewis Building
Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9PL