Promoting social connection through challenging public attitudes: a participatory project with older people

The University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland

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Participant Information sheet (focus group)

Hello, we are a research team from The University of Auckland (Merryn Gott, Lisa Williams, Tess Moeke-Maxwell, Janine Wiles, Lovely Dizon, Sarina Pearson, Shuchi Kothari and Peter Simpson) We would like to tell you about our project so you can see if you would like to be involved. Please have a read.

What is the purpose of the project?
We have co-created a 22-minute film titled *Manawaroa* with 5 older New Zealanders that tells their stories and gives their views on intergenerational social connection. We want to show *Manawaroa* to students in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences and the Faculty of Arts to gain their views on the film. We want to do this in focus groups, either online or in person.

Why am I being asked to take part?
You are being invited to take part in this study because you are a student in either FMHS or the Faculty of Arts.

What does being part of the project involve?
Taking part in this project involves attending outside of class time 1, 1.5 hour focus group either online or in person (your choice). With the rest of the group you will watch *Manawaroa* and then answer questions about the film. We anticipate holding up to 6 focus groups with between 4-6 people in each group. If you are a student of any of the researchers involved in this project, we give our assurance that your participation or non-participation will have no effect on your grades or relationship with the University. You may contact your academic head should you feel that this assurance has not been met.

Do I have to take part?
No. Your participation is entirely voluntary.

The focus groups will be digitally audio recorded. You may refuse to answer any questions and are free to leave the group discussion without having to give a reason. However, because of the nature of the group situation, the recording device cannot be turned off during the discussion and, if you withdraw from the research, information you have contributed up to that point cannot be withdrawn as its removal will affect the contextual meaning of the remaining data.
While the researchers will do their best to preserve the confidentiality of participants in the focus groups, we cannot guarantee that confidentiality will be maintained. Others may identify participants by their comments, or other members of the focus groups may mention your involvement in the group.

All those who take part in a focus group will go into a draw to win a $50 Countdown voucher.

Timespan of the project
The project runs from February 2020 – December 2021.

Storing study information
The digital recordings will be stored on a password-protected computer at the University of Auckland and only members of the research team will have access to them. They will be transcribed by either the researchers or a third-party transcriptionist who has signed a confidentiality agreement.

Reporting on the study
No material that could personally identify you will be used in any reports on this study. The recordings from the focus groups will be destroyed after the analysis is complete. Following the completion of the study, any print material from the study, such as focus group transcripts, will be stored in a locked cupboard. Digital data will be stored on a password protected computer at the University of Auckland for 6 years.

Are there any possible risks or benefits to my relative/friend taking part?
There are no identified risks. However, if you are concerned about any part of this project, you can speak to Lisa Williams who will do her best to answer your questions. If you want to talk to someone who isn’t involved with the study, you can contact an independent health and disability advocate: Health and Disability Consumer Advocates on 0800 377-766 or the Health Advocate’s Trust: 0800 555-050. In terms of benefits, you might also enjoy helping out with research that contributes to exploring issues relating to intergenerational connection and older people.

What will happen to the results of the study?
Our findings will be reported in a range of professional and academic journals and conferences. We will also give presentations about the study. A report on the study will be posted on CANVAS as the completion of the project that you may download if you wish to read it. The report will appear between Feb-March 2022.

Who has funded and sponsored this research study?
This research has been funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.
If you require any further information about the study, please contact Lisa Williams.

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<th>Research team contacts</th>
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For any concerns regarding ethical issues you may contact the Chair, the University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee, Office of Strategy Research and Integrity, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142. Telephone 09 373-7599 ext. 83711. Email: humanethics@auckland.ac.nz

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.

APPROVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND HUMAN PARTICIPANTS ETHICS COMMITTEE ON 18 December 2019 for (3) years, Reference Number 024061