



Participant Information and Consent Form

Online survey

Title Interface Jammers: Feeling Like a Child in the
Principal Investigator/Senior Supervisor Associate Professor Linda Knight

What does my participation involve?

1 Introduction

You are invited to take part in this research project, which is called Interface Jammers: Feeling Like a Child in the City.

This Participant Information and Consent Form tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Contact Linda Knight via email about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Before deciding whether to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative or friend.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the online survey, you will be asked to sign the consent section and email it to Linda Knight. By signing it you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent to take part in the research project

You are advised to keep a copy of this Participant Information and Consent Form.

2 What is the purpose of this research?

The Interface Jammers project explores how children between the ages of 3 - 10 years old, interact with different interfaces in the urban environment and how these interactions help develop a child's civic belonging.

The project will provide little-known research findings into young children's development as a citizen, and the role of urban interfaces in that development.

Interfaces refer to digital screens and displays, electronic devices, and sound-making interfaces. Interfaces in this project also refer to biologic surfaces including rocks, grass, sand, pets, and animals, and it also includes material interfaces such as metals, plastics, and wood.

Jamming refers to the act of humorously and artistically disrupting the usual ways we interact with interfaces. Through creative workshops children and families will explore different ways to respond to the interfaces in civic spaces and produce art-based responses to the interfaces. Through the activities, children communicate with others what it feels like to be a child in the contemporary city.

Interfaces will not be damaged or defaced, and children will be playing safely in the activities.

The project addresses an emerging area of research into urban childhood citizenship. The United Nations (2021) declares that more than half of the world's children live in cities, and UNICEF (2019) reports that cities globally are taking active steps towards becoming more inclusive and age-friendly during rapid urbanisation.

Cities should be diverse and inclusive, enabling people of all ages to participate in and contribute to civic activities. The project builds better awareness of the ways young children socially and emotionally build their civic relationships, and how effectively urban cities enable these.

This research has been initiated by the researcher, Associate Professor Linda Knight. This research has been funded by an RMIT School of Education seed grant.

3 What does participation in this research involve?

Completion of an online survey. The survey asks for your observations and reflections on your child's interaction with different interfaces in their daily lives.

The survey contains seven open-ended questions and should take no more than ten minutes to complete.

4 Other relevant information about the research project

The number of people taking part in the project will increase over 2022 and 2023 as more parents/carers complete the online survey and as workshops and Expression of Interest activities that are also part of the project take place. The different participant groups all contribute to the research into young children's civic development through their interactions with interfaces.

There is one University involved in the project: RMIT University, Australia and Associate Professor Linda Knight is the researcher leading the project.

This project is not a follow-on study, it is a new research project.

5 Do I have to take part in this research project?

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage.

If you do decide to take part, you will need to sign and submit this Participant Information and Consent Form. You will also need to a copy.

Your decision whether to take part or not to take part, or to take part and then withdraw, will not affect your relationship with the researchers or with RMIT University.

Submitting your completed questionnaire is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw your responses any time before you have submitted the questionnaire. Once you have submitted it, your responses cannot be withdrawn because they are non-identifiable and therefore, we will not be able to tell which one is yours.

6 What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research; however, you may appreciate contributing to knowledge. Possible benefits may include greater

awareness of your child's civic connection and development, and greater awareness of their experiences of being a child in the city.

There will be no clear benefit to you from your participation in this research.

7 What are the risks and disadvantages of taking part?

There are minimal psychological risks involved in participation. Participants may feel inconvenienced in participating in the survey. Participants completing the online survey are requested to provide non-identifiable information that is targeted specifically to the use of interfaces by their children. No other personal information is requested.

This project will use an internal RMIT site to create, collect and analyse data collected in a survey format. If you agree to participate in this survey, the responses you provide will be stored on the RMIT server. No personal information will be collected in the survey so none will be stored as data. Once Linda Knight has completed data collection and analysis, she will import the data to the RMIT server where it will be stored securely for five years.

8 What if I withdraw from this research project?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. If you decide to withdraw from the project, please notify Linda Knight via email, or Vivienne Moyle via the contact details below.

9 What happens when the research project ends?

The project website pages at <https://lindaknight.org/interface-jammers-feeling-like-a-child-in-the-city/> will be updated regularly throughout the project, and after it concludes. Updates will include images, workshop schedules, publications and reports emerging from the project. Participants are encouraged to visit the site regularly or follow the site to receive bulletin emails when new things are posted.

How is the research project being conducted?

10 What will happen to information about me?

Survey data

Survey data will be gathered via Microsoft forms. Responses will go onto Linda Knight's secure RMIT server account. Once survey responses have been analysed that will be transferred to a secure RMIT storage server for a period of five years, in line with RMIT data storage policy. Use of the survey data includes:

- Description of survey responses in publications, conference presentations, competitive grant applications.
- Analysis of survey responses in publications, conference presentations, competitive grant applications.

By signing the consent form, you consent to Linda Knight collecting and using information from you for the research project. Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you will remain confidential.

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your express permission.

Any information that you provide can be disclosed only if (1) it is to protect you or others from harm, (2) if specifically allowed by law, (3) you provide the researchers with written permission. Any information obtained for the purpose of this research project that can identify you will be treated as confidential and securely stored.

11 Who is organising and funding the research?

This research project is being conducted by Associate Professor Linda Knight.

12 Who has reviewed the research project?

All research in Australia involving humans is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). This research project has been approved by the RMIT University HREC.

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research* (2007). This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

13 Further information and who to contact

If you want any further information concerning this project, you can contact the researcher on 03 9925 8870 or any of the following people:

Research contact person

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| Name | Associate Professor Linda Knight |
| Position | Principal investigator |
| Telephone | 03 9925 8870 |
| Email | Linda.knight@rmit.edu.au |

14 Complaints

Should you have any concerns or questions about this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the researchers listed in this document, then you may contact:

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| Reviewing HREC name | RMIT University |
| HREC Secretary | Vivienne Moyle |
| Telephone | 03 9925 5037 |
| Email | humanethics@rmit.edu.au |
| Mailing address | Manager, Research Governance and Ethics RMIT University GPO Box 2476 MELBOURNE VIC 3001 |