

INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM

MATRICES Study: comparative views of women involved in assisted reproduction through surrogacy and oocyte donations in Canada

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You are invited to take part in a research project. Before accepting, please carefully read through the project participation conditions disclosed in this document. This information and consent form details the goals of the research project, its procedures, risks, advantages and disadvantages. Should need be, it indicates the contact information of the appropriate people to contact. It may contain words or expressions with which you may be unfamiliar. If such is the case, we encourage you to ask all questions you may deem useful to the person presenting this document.

A) PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

1. Research Presentation

The MATRICES Study - *maternités assistées par tierces reproductrices* – seeks to document the experiences of women involved in assisted reproduction through surrogacy and egg donations in Canada. In order to do so, we intend to collect the viewpoint of women who have made use of assisted procreation services, as well as the viewpoint of those who have either made an egg donation or that have carried a child as a surrogate. This research is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

2. Research Participation

By participating in this study, you agree to an interview that will take 1:30 to 2:00 of your time. With your authorization, the interview will be recorded by means of an electronic device in order to facilitate the transcription. The location and time of the interview will be determined with the researcher according to your availability. Many topics will be addressed during the interview such as the factors that have brought you to consider and need assisted procreation services, or the reasons you have decided to become a surrogate or egg provider, as well as the meaning you give to the topic of motherhood.

3. Risks and Disadvantages

There are no particular risks in participating in this study. There is, however, the possibility that certain questions bring back undesired memories of an unpleasant experience. You will be able to refuse to answer a question or even to put an end to the interview at any time should you feel the need.

4. Advantages and Benefits

There are no particular advantages in participating in this study. Nevertheless, you will be contributing to the better understanding of assisted reproduction through surrogacy and oocytes donation in view of the experiences of women directly related to the process. The interview will be a great opportunity to share your point of view relative to your own personal experience.

5. Confidentiality

The personal information you will provide will remain confidential. In no way will any information revealing your identity be published. As well, every participant in this study will be given a fictitious name that only the researcher and his director will be able to identify. The data will be filed in a secure location. The recordings will be transcribed and destroyed, along with all personal information 7 years after the project has been completed. Only the information from which you cannot be identified will be retained after this 7-year period.

6. Compensation

No financial compensation will be offered for your participation apart from a payment applicable towards childcare services, if need be (40\$).

7. Opting-Out

Your participation in this study is strictly voluntary and you can decide to opt out at any moment by verbal notice. You will not be asked for any justification and your decision will carry no consequence for you. Should you decide to withdraw from the research project, please reach out to the researcher with the contact information provided below.

Upon request, all information you have provided can also be destroyed. However, please be aware that once the publication process has begun, it will no longer be possible to destroy the analyses and the results based on the information you've provided.

8. Secondary Use of Information

The data collected within the scope of this study will be anonymous and may be further used by the researcher in future research projects that deal with the same subject matter, in compliance with the rules of confidentiality and providing the approval of the research ethics unit.

9. Participation in further research

We would like to request your participation in any future research projects. By no means does your acceptance state that you agree to participate in another research but rather that you consent to being contacted for a future invitation to participate in any new studies. You do not have to consent to this in order to participate in the current study.

I accept that you contact me to request my participation in other research projects.

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I do not accept that you contact me to request my participation in other research projects.

10. Research Results

Would you like to receive a summary of the research results? Yes No

Email where to send the summary: _____

B) CONSENT

Participant Declaration

- I understand that I can take my time to think about participating in this study before accepting or refusing the invitation to participate.
- I can ask questions to the researcher and require satisfactory answers.
- I understand that by participating in this research project, I do not renounce my rights nor do I clear the researcher of his responsibilities.
- I have carefully read this information sheet and consent form and agree to participate in the research project.

Signature of the participant: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Surname: _____

Researcher's commitment

I have thoroughly explained to the participant the participation conditions relative to this research project. I have answered all the questions asked by the participant to the best of my knowledge and have made sure that she fully understands. I commit to respecting the conditions detailed in this information sheet and consent form.

Signature of the researcher: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Surname: _____

For all questions pertaining to this study or to withdraw your participation, please contact Kévin Lavoie by phone at (514) 824-6352 or by email at kevin.lavoie.1@umontreal.ca.

For any inquiries concerning your rights or the responsibilities of the researcher, you can address your concerns to the *Comité d'éthique de la recherche en arts et en sciences* by email at ceras@umontreal.ca or by phone at (514) 343-7338. You can also consult the following website: <http://recherche.umontreal.ca/participants>.

All complaints concerning this study may be addresses to the ombudsman of the Université de Montréal by phone at (514) 343-2100 or by email at ombudsman@umontreal.ca (the ombudsman accepts collect calls).