OMB No. 0910-0674
Exp: 3/31/16

Assent to Participate in Focus Group
Qualitative Study on Cigarettes and Smoking

Introduction and Purpose:
You have been asked to participate in a focus group as part of a research project. The purpose of the focus group is to better understand how young people feel and think about cigarettes and smoking.

RTI International, a non-profit research company in North Carolina will be doing the focus group. The research is sponsored by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Procedures:
During the focus group you will be joining a group of about 9 other people your age to talk with a member of the project team from RTI International. You will be asked for your opinions and knowledge of cigarettes and smoking. The focus group will last no more than 90 minutes.

We will be conducting focus groups around the country with young people for this study. You are one of approximately 192 participants who will take part in this study.

Some of the people working on the project may watch the focus group through a one-way mirror and take notes. It may also be video-streamed to other staff who couldn't be here. The focus group will be audio recorded. All recordings will be destroyed at the end of the project.

Risk/Discomforts:
There is no known physical risk to you from being in this study. Though unlikely, there is a small chance that you might feel embarrassed or upset by the things that are talked about during the focus group. You can say you do not want to talk about any topic for any reason. You can also stop being in the focus group at any time.

Benefits:
There is no direct benefit to you for being in this study. What we learn from the study will help the FDA better understand how people think about tobacco and health.

Privacy:
We will audio tape and may video-stream (but not record) the focus group. Notes will be

made of the recordings. We will only use first names in the notes. Your comments will be kept private to the extent allowed by law. The audio recordings and notes will be kept on a password-protected computer. Only certain project staff who have been trained on the project will be able to see them. Any forms for the project that have your name or anything that could identify you will be kept in a locked file cabinet. Except for this consent form, these forms will be destroyed once the project ends. However, there is still a small chance that your privacy could be broken. We will not share information with anyone outside of the study unless it is necessary to protect you, or if it is required by law. **Information you share about your tobacco-related attitudes, beliefs and behaviors will not be shared with others, including your parents.**

Future Contact:

We will not contact you in the future.

Payment:
We will give you $40 for your time, effort and travel costs.

Right to Refuse or Withdraw:
It is your choice to be in this study. You can choose not to talk about any topic. You can stop your participation in the focus group at any time without penalty.

Persons to Contact:
You may ask questions or express concerns about this assent form, the study, your rights as a research subject, or report problems (e.g. any research–related injuries) at any time before, during or after the study. You may contact the research team through the Principal Investigator of the study, Denise Dickinson of RTI at (919) 485-5594. If you have concerns about how you are treated in the study, you may contact RTI's Office of Research Protection toll-free at 1-866-214-2043.

Your Assent:
I have read this assent form. I understand what I am being asked to do. My questions have been answered and any words I did not understand have been explained to me. I agree to be in this research study for the purposes listed above. I will receive a copy of this assent form for my records.

_____
Print your name here if you want to be in this study

_____ _____
Sign your name here if you want to be in this study Date

_____ _____ _____
Name of Witness to Assent Assent (Print) Signature Date