**CURRENT CAREGIVER CONSENT FORM**

To be printed on Westat Letterhead

**Introduction and PURPOSE OF STUDY**

Westat, a company hired by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is studying special services being providing by a group working with the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). The study is to find out if the special services help children stay out of foster care or leave foster care sooner. It will also help groups in your community come up with better ways to serve children and families.

We are asking you to take part in this study because you currently provide or will be providing care for a child receiving these special services. We will also ask the child if we can interview him or her.

You do not have to be in the study. You can stop being in the study at any time. Your choice will not affect the services that you and your family get.

**Procedures**

*Collection and use of interview responses*:

While you are getting the special services, Westat will be studying how much these services help children. Part of the study includes getting information about you, the child receiving special services, and how you feel about similar children.

A Westat worker is going to be asking you questions up to 2 different times. The first interview will be soon after you start participating in the special services from the group working with DCFS. The worker will meet with you again once more before services end.

A Westat worker will visit you at home at a time that is best for you. You can ask questions at any time. You can also skip questions that you do not want to answer. The questions will take about 36 minutes to answer. There are no right and wrong answers. We just want you to be honest when you answer.

*Studying your interview responses and foster care client records:*

During the study Westat workers will review the information from questions we ask you and will also review information from foster care client records. These records have information that is already collected on children that are part of the foster care system. We are asking if you will agree to let us to study your answers together with the answers the child gives us and the information we get from the child’s foster care records. We will use this information only for the study.

**DIFFERENT WAYS TO PARTICIPATE**

There are no other ways to participate in the study other than completing the interviews.

**Participant and Data Privacy**

Only Westat workers will see your answers and we will keep your information private to the extent permitted by law. We will use your information only for research. We will not include information that identifies you or your family in reports we write.

To help us protect your information, we have a Certificate of Confidentiality from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This Certificate means that no one can force us to share information that may identify you. This is true even in any court or legal proceeding, under a court order or subpoena. But we do have to take any needed action, including reporting to authorities, to prevent harm to yourself or others. This includes reporting suspected child abuse or neglect.

To make sure that Westat workers are collecting the data correctly, another Westat worker may ask to sit in on the interview. We will ask you ahead of time so you can decide if the other worker can come or not.

**INCENTIVE FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE STUDY**

You will receive a $20 gift card for taking part in each interview.

**BENEFITS**

There are no direct benefits to you. But by taking part, you will help groups in your community come up with better ways to serve children and families.

**RISKS**

We do not expect that there are any risks from your taking part in the study. If some of the questions make you feel upset or sad, you can talk with a caseworker. The worker also has a list of local mental health agencies that he or she can give you, if you ask. You can also skip questions that you do not want to answer or end the interview at any time.

**treatment for injury related to this study**

We do not expect that you will experience any injuries because of participating in the study. Therefore, no treatment will be available to address any injuries.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Westat has no financial or other relationships with your agency that will affect our role in conducting the study, including interpreting and reporting the study results.

**Signature**

Signing this form means that you read or listened to someone read this form to you, that you understand what it says, and that you agree to be in this study. Please provide your response to participating in the study by checking Yes or No in box A and B. Then, sign your name and give this form to the Westat researcher. You will receive a copy of the consent form.

|  |
| --- |
| A.. Do you agree that you have received a copy of the Research Participant’s Bill of Rights and agree to the collection and use of your interview answers in this study? |
| * Yes, I agree to the collection and use of my interview answers in this study and I have received a copy of the Research Participant’s Bill of Rights. [Please proceed with answering the question in box B.].
 | * No, I do not agree to let Westat collect and use my interview answers in this study but I agree that I have received a copy of the Research Participant’s Bill of Rights. [You may skip box B and proceed with signing this form].
 |
|  |  |  |  |
| B. Do you agree to have Westat study your interview answers with the interview answers provided by [insert child name] and the foster care records for this child’s case? |
| * Yes, I agree to let Westat study my interview answers with the interview answers provided by [insert child name] and the foster care records for this child.
 | * No, I do not agree to let Westat study my interview answers with the interview answers provided by [insert child name] and the foster care records for this child.
 |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Participant’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**CONTACT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For questions about the study, please contact:Jaymie Lorthridge, *Westat Study Contact*1-800-WESTAT1 (937-8281), x5871JaymieLorthridge@westat.com | You can learn more about your rights as a part of the study from the *Research Participant’s Bill of Rights* document. For questions about your rights as a participant in this study, contact: *The* *Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects,* (916) 326-3660. |

**Date of IRB approval of this consent:**

**Expiration date of IRB approval of this consent:**

**RISE CURRENT CAREGIVER INTERVIEW**

**DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**EVALUATION id: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**INTERVIEWER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**interview task:**

**☐BASELINE**

**☐FOLLOW-UP**

**Supporting/Rejecting Attitudes Scale (MHI) Adult**

**NOTE: Hand the respondent the rating card and read the following statement aloud**.

We are doing a study about youth in the child welfare system. We want to get the opinions and attitudes of caregivers who provide temporary and permanent homes to these youth. We want to know your beliefs and attitudes about youth sexuality and youth sexual orientation.

I am going to read you some statements. I would like you to rate how much you agree or disagree with each of the statements. Use one of the phrases on this card **[point to card]** to answer:

* strongly disagree,
* disagree,
* somewhat disagree,
* neither agree or disagree,
* somewhat agree,
* agree, or
* strongly agree.

There are no right or wrong answers. We want this information so that we can better provide services to youth and their caregivers.

|  | **Strongly Disagree** | **Disagree** | **Somewhat****Disagree** | **Neither Agree****or Disagree** | **Somewhat****Agree** | **Agree** | **Strongly Agree** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. I prefer the youth in my care to be heterosexual.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I prefer the youth in my care NOT be gay/lesbian/bisexual.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I prefer the youth in my care NOT be gay/lesbian/bisexual because it will affect the way people treat them.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If I found out a youth in my care is gay/lesbian/bisexual, I would support him/her.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If I found out a youth in my care was discriminated against because he/she is gay/lesbian/bisexual, I would help him/her.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I prefer the youth in my care NOT be gay/lesbian/bisexual because religious institutionsreject these people.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If I found out a youth in my care is gay/lesbian/bisexual, I would feel comfortable with their boyfriend/girlfriend coming to my home.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I prefer the youth in my care NOT be gay/lesbian/bisexual because it will beharder for them to adopt or have children.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I prefer the youth in my care NOT be gay/lesbian/bisexual because they won’t be able to marry the person they love.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I have at least one gay/lesbian/bisexual friend.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. At least one of my family members is gay/lesbian/bisexual.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Gay/lesbian/bisexual people should not talk about their sexuality. It should be a private thing.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I believe being gay/lesbian/bisexual is wrong.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I watch TV shows that have a gay/lesbian/bisexual character.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I am uncomfortable watching a TV show that has a gay/lesbian/bisexual character.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I know a gay/lesbian/bisexual person who has children.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Discrimination against gay/lesbian/bisexual people almost doesn’t exist today.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Most people treat gay/lesbian/bisexual people as fairly as they treat everyone else.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I believe gay/lesbian/bisexual people should get therapy. They should learn to be attracted to people of the opposite sex.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I believe gay/lesbian/bisexual people should not be able to adopt or raise children.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Children raised by a gay/lesbian/bisexual parent are worse off than children raised by a heterosexual parent.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Children raised by gay/lesbian/bisexual people turn out just as well as those raised by a heterosexual parent.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I know gay/lesbian/bisexual people who are successful.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I believe that gay/lesbian/bisexual people should be allowed to get married.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Gay/lesbian/bisexual marriage will result in the breakdown of the family.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I believe that gay/lesbian/bisexual people should not be allowed to work with children.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Gay/lesbian/bisexual people are good members of society.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Bisexual people just want to have sex with a lot of people. They need to learn to have sex only with members of the opposite sex.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

NOTE: this instrument is based on the Multidimensional Heterosexism Inventory (MHI) developed by Walls, 2005.  See Walls, N. (2008) Toward a Multidimensional Understanding of Heterosexism: The Changing Nature of Prejudice, *Journal of Homosexuality*, Vol. 55, No. 1: 20-70.

**Supportive/Rejecting Attitudes-Genderism and Transphobia Scale**

**NOTE: Hand the respondent the rating card and read the following statement aloud**.

We are conducting a study about youth in the child welfare system. As part of this study, we want to capture the opinions and attitudes of caregivers who provide temporary and permanent homes to these youth. Specifically, we are interested in your beliefs and attitudes about youth sexuality and gender variant youth or those that identify as transgender (born one sex but identify with the opposite sex).

I am going to read some statements and I would like for you to rate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the statements by looking at this card **[POINT TO CARD]** and selecting one of the following options:

* strongly disagree,
* disagree,
* somewhat disagree,
* neither agree or disagree,
* somewhat agree,
* agree, or
* strongly agree.

There is no right or wrong answer. We want your opinion about youth sexuality and gender variant youth so that we can better provide services to youth and their caregivers.

|  | **Strongly Disagree** | **Disagree** | **Somewhat****Disagree** | **Neither Agree****or Disagree** | **Somewhat****Agree** | **Agree** | **Strongly Agree** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Children should be encouraged to explore their masculinity and femininity.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Children should play with toys appropriate to their own sex.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. God made two sexes and two sexes only.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Masculine girls should be cured of their problem.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I have teased a woman because of her masculine appearance or behavior.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. It is all right to make fun of people who cross-dress.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Masculine women make me feel uncomfortable.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I have behaved violently toward a woman because she was too masculine.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Feminine boys should be cured of their problem.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I have teased a man because of his feminine appearance or behavior.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If I saw a man on the street that I thought was really a woman, I would ask him if he was a man or a woman.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Men who shave their legs are weird.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Men who act like women should be ashamed of themselves.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I have behaved violently toward a man because he was too feminine.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Men who cross-dress for sexual pleasure disgust me.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Feminine men make me feel uncomfortable.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I cannot understand why a woman would act masculine.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Women who see themselves as men are abnormal.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. It is morally wrong for a woman to present herself as a man in public.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If I found out that my best friend was changing their sex, I would freak out.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If I found out that my lover was the other sex, I would get violent.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If a friend wanted to have his penis removed in order to become a woman, I would openly support him.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I would avoid talking to a woman if I knew she had a surgically created penis and testicles.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I would go to a bar that was frequented by males who used to be females.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If a man wearing makeup and a dress, who also spoke in a high voice, approached my child, I would use physical force to stop him.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I would be alarmed if my child’s teacher was a woman who dressed like a man.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. If I encountered a male who wore high-heeled shoes, stockings, and makeup, I would consider beating him up.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I have beat up men who act like sissies.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. A man who dresses as a woman is a pervert.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. My friends and I have often joked about women who look like men.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. I would go to a bar that was frequented by females who used to be males.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Sex change operations are morally wrong.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Passive men are weak.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. People are either men or women.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. My friends and I have often joked about men who dress like women.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 1. Individuals should be allowed to express their gender freely.
 | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

NOTE: this instrument is based on a standardized scale developed by Hill and Willoughby, 2005. See Hill, D.B., and Willoughby, B.L.B. 2005. The Development and Validation of the Genderism and Transphobia Scale, *Sex Roles*, Vol. 53, No. 7/8: 531-544.