



**KABARAK UNIVERSITY**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND OUTREACH**  
**RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE**  
**APPLICATION FOR LOW RISK ETHICAL REVIEW**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Principal Investigator Name (print)</b> | <b>Date</b>                                       |
| <b>Study Title</b>                         | <b>Application Number<br/>(KUREC office only)</b> |
| <b>Principal Investigator's Signature</b>  |   |

**Purpose**

This form is intended for use by Kabarak University researchers in the identification and assessment of risk associated with proposed research involving human participants or data pertaining to human participants.

Examples of low risk research include and are not limited to research based on or involving:

1. information from existing de-identified datasets;
2. historical archives and public records;
3. data collected from internet sites;
5. questionnaires and surveys on non-controversial, non-personal issues that only include basic and de-identified demographic data; and
6. unobtrusive observational studies (i.e. with no form of intervention) of people undertaking non-sensitive or benign activities in a public space.
8. personal interviews or focus groups with participants containing non-controversial, impersonal, and non-sensitive questions; and
9. questionnaires or surveys containing questions about participants' experiences, thoughts, opinions and beliefs;

**Project Risk Assessment**

**If you believe that your research is low risk, might consider the low risk ethics pathway. In order to help you ascertain whether your research is indeed low risk, answer all of the questions below.**

**Research topics**

*Please indicate whether any of the following topics will be covered in part or in whole?*

|                          | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Research about parenting |            |           |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Research investigating sensitive personal issues       |  |  |
| Research investigating sensitive cultural issues       |  |  |
| Explorations of grief, death or serious/traumatic loss |  |  |
| Depression, mood states, anxiety                       |  |  |
| Gambling   |  |  |
| Eating disorders                                       |  |  |
| Illicit drug taking                                    |  |  |
| Substance abuse  |  |  |
| Self-report of criminal behaviour                      |  |  |
| Any other psychological disorder                       |  |  |
| Suicide  |  |  |
| Gender identity  |  |  |
| Sexuality  |  |  |
| Race or ethnic identity                                |  |  |
| Any disease or health problem                          |  |  |
| Fertility  |  |  |
| Termination of pregnancy                               |  |  |

### **Procedures**

*Are the following procedures to be employed?*

|  | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Deception of participants  |            |           |
| Use of data or records from which individuals can be identified          |            |           |
| Covert observation   |            |           |
| Audio or visual recording without consent                                |            |           |
| Recruitment via a third party or agency                                  |            |           |
| Any psychological interventions or treatments                            |            |           |
| A conflict of interest may exist (e.g., financial or other relationship) |            |           |

### **Participant Vulnerability Assessment**

*Do any of the participants fall within the following categories?*

|   | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
|---|------------|-----------|
| Persons suffering a psychological disorder        |            |           |
| Persons suffering a physical vulnerability        |            |           |
| Persons highly dependent on medical care          |            |           |
| Minors (0 – 18 years)                             |            |           |
| Persons whose ability to give consent is impaired |            |           |
| Residents of a custodial institution              |            |           |
| Persons with English language difficulties        |            |           |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Members of a socially identifiable group with special cultural or religious needs or political vulnerabilities |  |  |
| Persons in a dependent relationship with the researcher  |  |  |
| Participants able to be identified in any final report or publication when consent has not been given          |  |  |

**Answering “Yes” to any of the above questions means that your proposal does not fulfil any of the three risk definitions outlined above and that your application will not be approved under the Low Risk Ethics Pathway.**

**If you answered “No” to all of the above questions, please proceed to provide the following information in as great detail as possible.**

1. What is your research topic?
2. Why do you consider your research topic low risk?
3. What are your study / data collection procedures?
4. Why do you consider your study / data collection procedures to be low risk?
5. Who are your study participants?
6. Why do you consider your study participants not to be vulnerable?