



COMFORT TV | Participant Information Sheet [Child ≥10yrs old]

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Comfort TV Research Project v1

INTRODUCING COMFORT TV

So, perhaps you're wondering, "**What is comfort TV?**" Well, that question pretty much sums up the entire purpose of this exciting new research project! You see, comfort TV is **TV that makes you feel better**, and this project is all about looking at *where* that comfort comes from and *how* you use TV.

WHAT IS A RESEARCH STUDY?

A research study is **a project that is designed to find out answers to particular questions**; in this case, where and how does comfort from television start? To find out the answer to this and similar questions we need volunteers like you to tell us all about the TV shows you love, how you use TV each and every day, how television makes you feel, and much, much more. This project's Chief Investigator is Kerr Castle, a PhD researcher in Television Studies from the University of Glasgow.

WHY IS THE RESEARCH STUDY BEING DONE?

Lots of research looks at how TV programmes are made and what is 'good' or 'bad' TV, but **there's not a lot of research that looks at how audiences actually use television** or the impact it has on their day-to-day lives. This study plans to change all that, looking at how families like yours, first year university students and hospital patients use television and how TV comforts them.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME?

If you're happy to take part, **you and your family will be asked to complete a short survey**, thinking about where, when and why you normally watch TV, the shows you like or dislike, what it is about TV that makes you feel good, and so on. **After that, you will all be interviewed together**, probably at home, and asked some more questions about TV by the project's Chief Investigator.

You and your family will then keep a viewing diary about the programmes each of you watch over a two-week period (so it's not just about what your parents watch, we want to know about the shows that you enjoy too!). Then, **to end the study, there will be a final interview/feedback session** where the project's Chief Investigator will ask you some more questions, tell you about some of their research findings and you'll get the opportunity to tell them what you think of it all, too.

Your involvement in the study should last between **4-6 weeks**, and **you are free to leave the project at any time**. Please note, any interviews will be done along with your parents, so you'll never have to answer questions on your own, and if you feel you don't know the answers to certain questions, that's OK, too. Whatever you can add will be really useful!

WHY SHOULD I TAKE PART?

This project could be really beneficial, and not just for academics studying television but for healthcare organisations like the NHS, **providing unique data about how TV makes different audiences feel better**. The project is also really exciting for people who make TV programmes too, like the BBC, giving **special insight into the role their TV shows play in the lives of their viewers**.

But what about you? Well, this project is also **a great opportunity for you to learn about how you watch TV and why you use it the way you do**.

WHAT NEXT?

So, **if you're interested in taking part, all you have to do is complete an Assent Form with your parent/guardian**, then your part of the project can kick off whenever you're ready!

In the meantime, if you have further questions please tell your parent/guardian and they can advise the Chief Investigator. He will then try to answer any and all questions for you as soon as possible.

THANK YOU!