

EVALUATION OF THE SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE EDUCATION (SRAE) PROGRAM: EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM SURVEYS

Parental Information and Permission Form

(For Parents/Guardians of Participants Younger than 18 Years of Age)

We ask that you read this form and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to have your child complete an anonymous pre/post or entry/exit survey as part of a program in which they are participating.

What the project is about: The purpose of this project is to *evaluate the effectiveness* of Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) programming on changing adolescent participants' knowledge of, attitudes towards, and actions regarding healthy sexual behaviors, decision making, and relationships. SRAE combines mentorship with the delivery of Evidence Based Programs (EBPs) that have been shown to be effective at delaying sexual initiation, reducing pregnancy, and increasing contraceptive use among sexually active youth. These programs are being delivered by sexual health provider groups funded by the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) through the national SRAE program. You have already received information about this program and have given permission for your child to participate. The purpose of *this* form is to tell you about the evaluation of the programs. Researchers from the ACT for Youth Center for Community Action at Cornell University are conducting this evaluation project.

What we will ask your child to do: If you give permission for your child to be in this evaluation project, we will ask your child to complete an anonymous survey on the first day of the program and an anonymous survey in the final program session, after all the program lessons are complete. We will have no way of telling which responses came from your child and which came from other youth participants. These surveys include content from the program and will be given by the program educator.

Risks and benefits of being in the project: Your child will not face any risks from participating other than those faced in day-to-day life. The surveys will **not** ask for names or other identifying information. While there are no direct benefits anticipated, we hope that your child's participation in this evaluation project will include a chance to reflect on how the program has impacted their personal attitudes and actions about making healthy decisions and reducing risky behaviors.

Taking part is voluntary: Your decision about whether or not your child can participate will not affect your current or future relationship with Cornell University or with other organizations involved in the project. We will also talk to your child about participating, and if your child decides to participate in the evaluation, he or she is free to stop participating at any time with no consequences. Your child may also refuse to answer any individual question on the surveys. Additionally, you or your child may decline to participate in the surveys but still participate in the program.

Your child's responses are confidential: The records of this project will be kept private. Only the Cornell University researchers responsible for the project will be able to look at the records. Your child will be asked to NOT record his or her name on the surveys. No personally identifying information will be collected so there is no way to link an individual student with his/her survey responses. The reports we may publish on this project will not contain information that would make identification of your child possible. We will inform your child of his/her confidentiality as well.

If you have questions: Please ask any questions you have now, before you sign the form. If you have questions later, you may contact the Cornell University researcher responsible for this project, Amanda Purington Drake, by email at ald17@cornell.edu or by calling or 607-255-3993. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's rights as a participant in this study, you may contact the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at (irbhp@cornell.edu) or 607-255-5138 or access their website at <http://www.irb.cornell.edu>. You may also report your concerns or complaints anonymously through [Ethicspoint](http://www.ethicspoint.com) (www.ethicspoint.com) or by calling toll free at 1-866-293-3077. Ethicspoint is an independent organization that serves as a liaison between the University and the person bringing the complaint so that anonymity can be ensured.

If you agree to give permission for your child to complete these surveys, you do not need to do anything more. Please note your child may still decline to participate at the time the surveys are given out.

If you DO NOT give permission for your child to complete these surveys, please sign and date this form and have your child return it to his/her teacher. You will be given a copy of this form to keep for your records.

I do NOT give permission:

By filling in the following, you are indicating you DO NOT you give your child permission to complete the surveys. Please have your child bring this completed form to school.

I have read the above information, and have received answers to any questions I asked.

Please sign below:

I DO NOT consent, and therefore refuse, to having my child complete the surveys.

Your child's name: _____

Your signature: _____ Date _____

Your printed name: _____

Please keep the second copy of this form for your records.

Printed name of person obtaining this form: _____

This consent form will be kept by the researcher for at least three years after the end of the study. It was approved by the IRB on November 27, 2013.