

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Are you aged **60+** and live in the UK?
If yes, this is for you!

Which streets are you happy to walk alone, after dark?

This research project is inviting you to contribute in making the streets of Sheffield safer to walk alone at night.

To participate you will need to share one photo of a street in Sheffield you **are happy walking alone at night** and one you are **not happy walking alone at night**.

Alternatively, you can provide details of the locations, and the researcher will capture them instead.

This will be followed by a brief 10-minute online or over the phone interview to ask a few questions about the photos.

Interested? Please contact Shahab for more information:

Email: sgorjimahlabani1@sheffield.ac.uk

(Please also find attached the participant information sheet)



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

This is a research project for The University of Sheffield and has received ethics approval from the university.

Participant Information Sheet

1. Research Project Title: Factors Influencing the Decision to Walk Alone, After Dark

2. Invitation paragraph

You are participating in a PhD research project that will be conducted at The University of Sheffield. Before deciding whether to take part it is important you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Don't hesitate to ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information – please see contact details provided at the end. Take your time to decide whether or not your wish to participate.

3. What is the project's purpose?

Walking encompasses physical and psychological health benefits as well as environmental and economic advantages, and is therefore encouraged by Governments and medical doctors. The results of this experiment will help identify factors influencing older people's decision to walk alone, after dark and hence encourage walking amongst older people.

4. Why have I been chosen?

We are looking for people over the age of 59 who are living in the UK and whom regularly walk. We are aiming for a random sample with representation of society.

5. Do I have to take part?

It is totally up to you to decide whether or not to take part. You can still withdraw at any time without any negative consequences, and you do not have to give a reason.

6. What will happen to me if I take part? What do I have to do?

You will be asked to provide details of two locations: one where you would be happy to walk alone, after dark, and one where you would not be happy to walk alone, after dark. You can either provide photographs of these two locations yourself, send Google Earth or Google Street View images, or details of the locations. You are not expected to visit these locations. Images of these locations will be used as prompts in a follow-up interview.

You will be asked to sign and write your name on a consent form before taking part in this experiment. This is to record that you are happy to take part in the experiment. Even after consenting to take part, you have the right to withdraw at any time of the interview without giving any reason and without any consequences.

The interview will be during a time convenient for you and will be conducted online (e.g. Google Meet), over mobile phone messaging apps (e.g. WhatsApp or Messenger), or over the phone based on your expressed preference. Participation should not require more than 10 minutes. The interview will be recorded.

You will be asked to state your age and gender during the interview. The age and gender of participants will be used to demonstrate the degree to which the sample represents society. Your name will not be included in the recording, and only the identification number on your consent form

will be used to associate the interview with the consent form. This means that in the interview recording and all subsequent work your data will be associated only with the ID number, from which it will not be possible to establish your identity.

During the interview, you will be asked to look at each of the two images and answer a simple question after each image. If the images have not been provided by you, they will be sent to you via email or messaging apps beforehand.

7. What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

There are no known disadvantages to participation in this experiment. The interview will be held online or over the phone and there is no need for an in-person interview. The interview will be conducted at a time convenient for you.

8. What are the possible benefits of taking part?

Participation in this experiment will help us to identify factors influencing older people's decision to walk alone, after dark. This will help encourage walking amongst older people and therefore enhance the physical and psychological health benefits associated with walking amongst this age group.

9. Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?

All the information that we collect about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential and will only be accessible to members of the research team. You will not be able to be identified in any reports or publications; your name and contact details will not be included in our records of results or the interview recording: in other words, all data that you provide will be anonymised and it will not be possible to identify you from the data collected. If you agree to us sharing the information you provide with other researchers (e.g. by making it available in a data archive) then your personal details will not be included.

10. What is the legal basis for processing my personal data?

We will ask for your name and contact information (phone number and email address) in order to arrange and conduct the interview. Also, we will ask you to write your name on the consent form and sign it. This is to enable the researcher to confirm that we did seek informed consent to participate. We will also record your age and gender in order to demonstrate how well the data collected represent the whole population. The interview will be recorded in order to generate a transcript after the interview which will be used to analyse the result of the interview. Participants' names or contact information will not be included in the interview recording, on the transcript or data analysis, and an ID number will be used instead in order to ensure anonymity.

11. What will happen to the data collected, and the results of the research project?

The researcher will ask for each participant's name, contact information, gender and age. The interview will be recorded but will not include your name or contact information. Each participant will be given a reference number which means their responses are anonymised. Data with personal identifying information (participants' name and contact details) will be stored on university approved secure file store and will be destroyed at the end of the researcher's PhD. Other collected data (participants' age and gender, interview recording and transcript) will be stored by the researcher on his University Google Drive account with a back-up held by the supervisors. This data will be used in

the analysis of the data and we will retain this data for future use. Future uses include further analysis of the data and sharing the results with other researchers. Due to the nature of this research, it is likely that other researchers may find the data collected to be useful in answering future research questions. We will ask for your explicit consent for your data to be shared in this way.

12. Who is organising and funding the research?

This research is not funded. It is carried out by Shahab Gorjimahlabani as a member of the lighting research group at The University of Sheffield, School of Architecture, under the supervision of Professor Steve Fotios and Dr Jim Uttley, both academics at The University of Sheffield, School of Architecture.

13. Who is the Data Controller?

The University of Sheffield will act as the Data Controller for this study. This means that the University of Sheffield is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

14. Who has ethically reviewed the project?

This project has been ethically approved via the University of Sheffield's Ethics Committee (UREC), as administered by School of Architecture. The University's Research Ethics Committee monitors the application and delivery of the University's Ethics Review Procedure across the University.

15. What if something goes wrong and I wish to complain about the research?

If there are any complaints about the research, please contact the researcher or his supervisors (contact details below). If your complaint has not been handled to your satisfaction, please contact the head of the School of Architecture, Professor Karim Hadjri.

16. Contact for further information

Researcher: Shahab Gorjimahlabani
E: sgorjimahlabani1@sheffield.ac.uk

Supervisors: Prof Steve Fotios
E: steve.fotios@sheffield.ac.uk
T: 0114 222 0371
Dr Jim Uttley
E: j.uttley@sheffield.ac.uk
T: 0114 222 0326

Head of School: Prof. Karim Hadjri
Office Address: Western Bank,
Sheffield S10 2TN. The Arts Tower,
Room 13.07
E: k.hadjri@sheffield.ac.uk
T: 0114 222 0307

Thank you for your time reading this. I hope you are interested and will take part in this research project.