

**“Building Relationships Around Tourette Syndrome Stereotypes  
In High---School---Aged Students”**

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Researcher/Main Contact: **Joe Blank** , [jblank@yorku.ca](mailto:jblank@yorku.ca)

My name is **Joe Blank** and I am a student in the York University/Sheridan College Program in Design at York University. The purpose of this research is to discover if there is a link between the socially constructed stereotypes surrounding Tourette Syndrome in high school aged students and the kinds of relationships they form with the unaffected public around them. As part of my research I intend to use my findings and further secondary research analysis in a research and design proposal to develop a prototype design solution aimed to facilitate the improvement of learning and social experiences in a school environment for high school students who have Tourette Syndrome.

I have asked you to participate in this study because of your experience working with high school students who have special needs and, in some cases, Tourette Syndrome. As an educator in the Special Education Department of a high school, you may have first-hand knowledge of the policies, accommodations, and support services offered to students with Tourette Syndrome. I am asking you to participate in this research project by answering questions in an interview that will be recorded to ensure accurate interpretation.

Please note that you are under no obligation to participate in this study. You have every right to decline to answer questions or terminate your participation at any point during the data collection phase of this study. Should you choose to withdraw from this study, audiotapes of our conversation will be erased and information obtained from you will be destroyed.

Any data used to illustrate these findings will be stripped of any information that might be used to identify participants. Data will be secured in a locked safe in my office and will be accessible to the researcher, **Joe Blank**, alone. Participants will not be identified and if an interviewee's responses need to be used as part of a case study, all traces of identification will be changed (i.e. name, age, physical description, workplace, etc.).

Participating in this study should benefit individuals by using their knowledge to educate the public about Tourette Syndrome and its high---school accommodations. The resulting data of this interview will not be made available to participants. However, once the data is edited for participant anonymity, it will appear in the resulting research proposal. Participants may contact the researcher should they wish to view this proposal when completed. There are no expected risks for participants.

If you have any questions about the research in general or about your role in the study, please contact **Joe Blank** by email at [jblank@yorku.ca](mailto:jblank@yorku.ca). If you have any questions about the project itself and the class in which it has been assigned, please contact **Your Instructor** at **email**. This research has been reviewed by the Research Ethics Committee in the Department of Design at York University and conforms to the standards of the Canadian Tri Council Research Ethics guidelines. If you have any questions about this process, or about your rights as a participant in the study, please contact the Ethics Committee Chair, David Gelb at [dgelb@yorku.ca](mailto:dgelb@yorku.ca).

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Participant's Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date