

Informed Consent

Study Title: The GMM-CD Model of Gender

Principal Investigator: Sean Senechal, Primary Researcher and Doctoral Candidate, Human Sexuality PhD Program at the California Institute of Integral Studies, Email: ssenechal@mymail.ciis.edu.

You are being invited to participate in a study exploring the makeup and organization of gender using the Gender Mosaic-Matrix Component-Domain (GMM-CD) Model. I am conducting a dissertation research study which explores the organizational makeup of an individual's gender identity/expression (profile) in multiple environments to determine whether the model accurately reflects/reveals participants' gender profile, and how taking the survey impacts them.

Who can participate?

People with all/any genders (from Cis, Trans*, Nonbinary, Agender, etc.) and sexes, who are 18 years old or over and reasonably fluent in reading English are included. This survey will be conducted in English and online, and therefore requires some reasonable reading fluency in English and access to a computer, tablet, or cell phone with internet service.

What will I have to do?

This questionnaire will ask participants to disclose some brief demographic information, such as age, sex, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and extensive reflective information about their gender identity/expression. In addition, the questionnaire asks about how accurately the GMM-CD model reflects/reveals your gender. The survey will take most participants from 35 to 45 minutes to complete. You may pause the survey and return to it later if unable to complete it in one continuous sitting. This study is exploratory and there is no cost to participants. For many questions you have the option of selecting "Prefer not to respond." Gender answers are required (noted by (*)) but may come with the text field "Other" or "Prefer not to respond" to allow you to participate as you feel appropriate and/or comfortable to do so.

Is there compensation for my participation?

Upon completing the survey, participants have the options to receive their gender profile answers, research results, and be notified of potential participation opportunities for future revisions. To receive the latter two items, you will be asked to share your email address. The contact information will only be used by the principal investigator for the purposes stated above and will not be shared with any third parties.

Will I be informed of the study results?

If participants wish to be informed of the research results, a field will prompt for their email at the survey completion. If you have questions about the study and results, please contact Sean Senechal at ssenechal@mymail.ciis.edu

What are the benefits of this study?

The purpose of this study is to improve gender discourse through understanding gender's makeup and organization. With the expanding, flourishing awareness and expression of genders, your and others' voluntary participation could make a valuable contribution to facilitating

individual, health, and academic understanding and visibility of the variety of gender identity/expressions, as well as our communities' supporting all genders better.

Are there any risks associated with this study?

Because of the confidential nature of the research, participant information will not be shared, or used commercially in any form. Although the study is designed to minimize potential risks for participants, some may have feelings about the content of this questionnaire as gender and sexuality-related inquiry can touch upon sensitive experiences and thoughts.

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary, and there is no penalty for your choosing to not participate. Should you feel provoked or triggered from the questions, you should feel free to take a break from or quit the survey. End the survey by exiting or shutting down the survey website, and by logging out of the browser. If participants complete the survey but want to have their answers excluded from the analysis, they should contact the primary researcher, Sean Senechal, at the contact information below. Questions marked without an "*" can be skipped, though if you are comfortable, answering will be valued. If you are uncomfortable or feel negatively affected by the survey content, you may want to search for resources and/or counseling services locally or virtually online and this study provides you with a listing of **resources** at the end of this consent form as well as at the exit page of the study's survey.

Is my information private and confidential?

Your data and content records and IP addresses are obtained but kept confidential and private. Only the principal investigator and the supervising research team will have access to this data. The survey will not require you to answer identifying information, except for your name for informed consent and agreement to participate. You may provide your email address at the end. If you choose to do so, your email address will be stored in a separate folder and unlinked from direct association with the survey data. It will be used solely for communications regarding your gender profile results, high-level study results and notification of opportunities for future study participation. Your survey data will be assigned a number at random (survey identification number), and this number is how individual surveys will be referenced in the data analysis. The information you provide will be used for the only study purpose. As with any online-related activity such as this survey, the risk of a breach of confidentiality is always possible. Survey Monkey has precautionary measures in place, noted at the [Survey Monkey privacy notice](#).

To the best of my ability this research study data will remain confidential under the fullest extent of California and U.S. law. In very rare circumstances, especially authorized university or government officials may be given access to our research files for purposes of protecting participants' rights and welfare or to assure the research was conducted properly. To minimize risk, study data will be stored in a confidential and password protected storing system with only a survey identification number associated with the answers individuals submit. Cloud-based data storage will have SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) enabled. Physical survey data/copies will be kept in a locked file cabinet with only a survey identification number associated with a participant's answers.

Whom to contact if you have questions about the study

Please feel free to contact me, the Principal researcher, with questions you may have, or if you would be interested in learning more about the study. Sean Senechal, Principal Researcher and Doctoral Candidate, Human Sexuality PhD Program at the California Institute of Integral Studies, (650) 400 4744, ssenechal@mymail.ciis.edu. 1453 Mission St., San Francisco, CA. 94103

Whom to contact about your rights as a research participant

Human Research Review Committee Coordinator at California Institute of Integral Studies, 1453 Mission St., San Francisco, CA. 94103, E-mail: hrrcoffice@ciis.edu

Consent Agreement

I agree to participate.

By typing in my name and clicking “Yes- I agree and consent” in the survey question, I am agreeing to the following:

- The details of this research study have been explained to me, including what I am being asked to do and the anticipated risks and benefits.
- I know the researcher’s training and experience, as provided in the invitation.
- I have read and understand this Informed Consent form.
- I have read and understand the Human Subjects Bill of Rights.
- I have had questions about this survey answered to my satisfaction.
- I understand that my confidentiality and anonymity will be protected within the limits of the law.
- I consent to my survey data being used for the purposes of this study and this study only.
- I understand that I will be given the opportunity to receive a copy of my answers and research results, and notifications of future researcher’s gender studies.
- I am voluntarily agreeing to participate in the research, which includes I agree to answer questions about gender, but to other questions can select to not respond or enter other comments, as described on this form.
- I may ask more questions or quit participating at any time without penalty or prejudice.
- I may discuss any concerns or file a complaint about the study with the Human Research Review Committee, California Institute of Integral Studies, 1453 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Email: hrrcoffice@ciis.edu.
- I agree that I am at least 18 years old. I agree to the terms of this study and agree to participate.

Human Subject Bill of Rights and Confidentiality Statement

Welcome to the GMM-CD study as a Participant! Please review this document and then after you return to the survey answer questions about your agreement and consent to participate.

Research Subjects Human Bill of Rights

California law, under Health & Safety Code '24172, requires that any person asked to take part as a subject in research involving a medical experiment, or any person asked to consent to such participation on behalf of another, is entitled to receive the following list of rights written in a language in which the person is fluent. Medical experiment also includes psychotherapy.

This list includes the right to:

- Be treated with dignity and respect.
- Be informed of the nature and purpose of the study.
- Be given an explanation of the procedures to be followed in the study, and any drug or device to be utilized.
- Be given a description of any attendant discomforts and risks reasonably to be expected from the study.
- Be given an explanation of any benefits to the subject reasonably to be expected from the study, if applicable.
- Be given a disclosure of any appropriate alternative procedures, drugs or devices that might be advantageous to the subject, and their relative risks and benefits.
- Be informed of the avenues of mental health treatment, if any, available to the subject after the experiment if complications should arise.
- Be given an opportunity to ask any questions concerning the experiment or the procedures involved.
- Be instructed that consent to participate in the study may be withdrawn at any time, and the subject may discontinue participation in the study without prejudice.
- Be given access to an electronic copy that is downloadable/printable of the consented form/document, as was agreed to the terms on the agreed date.
- Refuse to answer sensitive research questions, refuse to participate in any part of the study, or withdraw from the study at any time by exiting, without any negative effects.
- Be given the opportunity to decide to consent or not to consent to a study without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, coercion, or undue influence on the subject's decision.
- Be given a description of the overall results of the study upon request.
- Discuss any concerns or file a complaint about the study with the Human Research Review Committee, California Institute of Integral Studies, 1453 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Email: hrrcoffice@ciis.edu

Confidentiality Statement

Your privacy with respect to the information you disclose during participation in this study will be protected within the limits of the law. However, there are circumstances where a researcher is required by law to reveal information, usually for the protection of a patient, research participant, or others. A report to the police department or to the appropriate protective agency is required in the following cases:

1. If, in the judgment of the researcher, a patient or research participant becomes dangerous to themselves, himself, or herself or others (or their property), and revealing the information is necessary to prevent the danger.
2. If there is suspected child abuse, that is if a child under 16 has been a victim of a crime or neglect.
3. If there is suspected elder abuse, in other words if a person aged 60 or older has been victim of a crime or neglect.

Please read the Privacy Policy on [SurveyMonkey's online site](#).

Agree & Consent Signing Questions

These question appear in the survey at the end of the Welcome to Participants of the GMM-CD Survey page (Appendix C1). After the participants have read the Informed Consent and Bill of Rights documents and returned to the survey, the following questions are asked.

1. Regarding consent choice, type your full name in the field, then in the next questions select your choice to consent or not.

Full Name _____

2. Did you read the Informed Consent and Bill of Rights document, and do you agree to consent to terms in the documents?

-If you did not read or do not consent, select No, and you will be exited from the survey.

-If you did read and do consent, select Yes, and you will be continue to Module 2: Demographic questions.

☐ Yes – I agree and consent

☐ No – I do not agree nor consent

