



FACULTY OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE  
INFORMATION LETTER

Dear [Name],

Our names are Amanda Haynes and Jennifer Schweppe, and we work at the University of Limerick. We have been funded by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and the Irish Research Council to understand the relationship between the Irish Traveller/Mincéir community, An Garda Síochána and the courts. The name of the project is Irish Travellers' Access to Justice. Dr. Sindy Joyce, Margaret O'Brien and Olive O'Reilly, who are all Travellers, are working with us as researchers.

We are looking to speak with members of the Traveller/Mincéir community, who are at least 18 years of age, across Ireland. We particularly want to understand how you feel about the gardaí and the courts, and why you feel that way. We want to know how you think the gardaí and the courts act or would act towards you as a Traveller/Mincéir, and if this impacts how you feel about them. As well as that, we will ask about your direct experiences with them also if you feel comfortable telling us about them.

The research is advised by Minceirs Whiden, the National Traveller Women's Forum, Pavee Point, the Irish Travellers Movement, and the Traveller Mediation Service. The purpose of this research is to inform the work of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission in protecting the human rights of Travellers/Mincéirs. The data will be used to publish a report, as well as other academic publications and presentations. The findings of the research will be shared widely as we want it to contribute to improving Travellers/Mincéirs access to justice.

If you consent to be part of the research, we would be like to talk to you either by phone or by video call for about 40 minutes. We will record our discussion. If you choose to talk to us by video call, we will record both the audio and video, but you can choose to keep your camera off if you wish.

While we are talking, you can refuse to answer any of the questions we ask you. If you decide during the interview that you don't want to continue, we can stop at any time. Even when we finish, you can still come back to us and ask us to delete the information you gave us up to 14 days after our interview.

In writing up the findings of the research, we will not use your name or any other information that might identify you or anyone you mention. The recording of our talk will be stored securely by the University of Limerick and destroyed after 1 year. It will not be shared with anyone beyond the researchers, and they all must keep your identity confidential. You can have a copy of the audio recording whenever you want it within that year.

If you are interested in this research and have any questions, you can contact any of the project researchers without making any commitment to take part in the research:

Amanda Haynes - 086-0837991

Jennifer Schweppe - 086 0837989

Sindy Joyce - 086-0837992

Margaret O'Brien - 086-0138840

Olive O'Reilly - 086-0837995

You can also email us at [itaj@ul.ie](mailto:itaj@ul.ie)

We would be happy to answer any questions about the research whether or not you decide to take part.

If you have any queries or would like more information about the project, please contact:

Principal investigator: Amanda Haynes ([amanda.haynes@ul.ie](mailto:amanda.haynes@ul.ie)) 086-0837991

This research study has received ethics approval from the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee (AHSS-2021-02-06). If you have any concerns about this study or your participation and wish to contact an independent authority, you may contact:

Chairperson Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee  
AHSS Faculty Office  
University of Limerick  
Tel: +353 61 202286  
Email: [FAHSSEthics@ul.ie](mailto:FAHSSEthics@ul.ie)

Best Wishes

*Amanda Haynes*