

University of Wisconsin - Madison
Research Participant Information and Consent Form

Study Title: Storytelling and Settlement through Sikh LGBTQIA+ Oral Histories

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Description of the research

You are invited to participate in a research study about the experiences of LGBTQIA+ Sikhs in the United States. The study collects oral history interviews with adults from LGBTQIA+ backgrounds to provide a more complete history of Sikhs and LGBTQIA+ Sikhs in the United States.

You have been asked to participate because you have self-identified as part of this community.

The purpose of the research is to document the history of Sikhs in the US who are also from LGBTQIA+ backgrounds. After the interviews are completed, the interviews will be made publicly available on a website for others to listen and learn about the experiences of people from these backgrounds. On this website, anyone can access it. The project specifically focuses on the history of Sikh LGBTQIA+ adults (at least 18 years of age) of any ethnic or regional descent who spent their formative years in California, United States. Though the project has a focus on California, it encompasses people who may live throughout the United States.

This research will be conducted virtually via TheirStory, Zoom, WhatsApp, or Skype. For individuals who wish to do interviews in-person, the research team will work with them to make this possible.

What will my participation involve?

If you decide to participate in this research, you will be asked about your experiences, how you understand yourself and your communities, and how you make homes in the United States. Your participation can come in two forms: (1) a formal interview only, or (2) a pre-interview and a formal interview. You can choose either option since they come with different compensations. The pre-interview is 30-minutes and a formal interview will last approximately 90 to 120 minutes and we expect at least 1 session of a formal interview. This research will be conducted virtually. If you are interested in doing an in-person interview, the research team will try to work with you to make this possible. During the interviews, you will be allowed to skip any question you do not wish to answer and will be allowed to ask for the recording to be paused as you discuss concerns with your interviewer. After the interviews are complete, we will ask that you complete a demographic/background survey.

Recording information

These recordings will be used by the research team. After the research team has reviewed the recordings and reached out to you to give you the opportunity to review the recordings, the interviews will be shared on a website at a later date along with their transcripts. Other individuals will be able to listen to and read this version of the interview. If at any point you do not want your interview to be publicly available, this will be honored and the recording and transcript will be removed from the website. The public recordings and transcripts will be kept indefinitely or until you request removal. The original, unedited recordings and transcripts will be destroyed and not kept by the research team after the edited interviews have been made publicly available.

Are there any risks to me?

Participants may wish not to be identified in the data and may use a pseudonym. There is a slight risk that someone may be able to identify you because you would share your life history. In addition, you may become upset or experience discomfort because of what you share; may reveal personal, sensitive, or identifiable information when responding to open-ended questions; and/or may experience some effects on their employment or reputation. That said, interviewees will be given the opportunity to name themselves (i.e., pseudonym) and will be given the opportunity to edit the interviews for safety concerns.

Are there any benefits to me?

There are no direct benefits from participating, however, we hope you may experience indirect benefits from being given an opportunity to share your experiences publicly and provide others with an opportunity to learn from your experiences. Given that there are few avenues in which LGBTQIA+ Sikhs' stories are collected, you may benefit from contributing to a resource for future generations.

Will I be compensated for my participation?

If you choose to do two interviews – a 30-minute pre-interview and a formal interview –, the total compensation will be \$150. If you participate in the formal interview only, you will receive a one-time compensation of \$100. There is no compensation for only doing a pre-interview. If you do not complete a full formal interview after beginning, you will receive \$100 for the time you do contribute. The payment is not prorated for the length of the interview.

How will my confidentiality be protected?

Confidentiality will be protected in two ways. First, the research team will review the recordings to consider safety concerns for you and remove information that could compromise you. Second, the research team will provide you the opportunity to review the interviews before they are made publicly available. You may also use pseudonyms if you wish. Only approved personnel will have access to the data before it is made available on the public website and all data will be kept behind a triple-password protected Dropbox until it is made publicly available. Furthermore, if you do not wish to publicly share your interview after it is completed at any time, you may contact the primary point of contact and they will remove the interview from the public website.

If you participate in this study, we would like to be able to quote you directly, with or without using your name or using a pseudonym. If you agree to allow us to quote you in publications, please initial the appropriate statement at the bottom of this form. Please note the interview could be used for future research studies or distributed to another investigator for future research studies without additional informed consent from you.

Whom should I contact if I have questions?

You may ask any questions about the research at any time. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think that participating in the research has hurt you, talk to the research team or reach out to project's primary point of contact prabhdeep singh kehal at kehal@wisc.edu, or their research supervisor Erika Marín-Spiotta at marinspiotta@wisc.edu.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant or have complaints about the research study or study team, call the confidential research compliance line at 1-833-652-2506. Staff will work with you to address concerns about research participation and assist in resolving problems.

If you decide not to participate or to withdraw from the study, you may do so without penalty.

Your signature indicates that you have read this consent form, had an opportunity to ask any questions about your participation in this research and voluntarily consent to participate. You will receive a copy of this form for your records.

Name of the Participant (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

_____ I give my permission to be quoted directly in publications without my name.

_____ I give my permission to be quoted directly in publications with my name.