



Participant Information Leaflet for Alumni Students

Study Title: Sex, Health, and the Student Body in Post-War England

Investigator: Mr Joseph Price

Introduction

You are receiving this information sheet to invite you to take part in an Oral History project about how students experienced and understood sexual health during their time in higher education. Before you decide if you would like to take part, you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Please take time to read the following information carefully. Talk to others about the study if you wish.

Please get in touch if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

Who is organising and funding the study?

This study is run by [Joseph Price](#), a PhD researcher at the [Centre for the History of Medicine, Science and Technology](#) in the Department of History at the University of Warwick.

The project is funded by the [Economic and Social Research Council](#).

What is the study about?

In recent years, news articles and public health data have revealed that higher education and the student body are facing a sexual health “crisis”. Increasing rates of sexually transmitted infections, occurrences of sexual violence and unwanted pregnancies have and continue to cause problems to students on campuses in the UK and globally. This study seeks to understand how students and institutions of higher education understood, navigated and engaged with matters of what we today would call sexual and reproductive health in late twentieth-century England. These include access to contraception, understandings of sexually transmitted infections, and protocols around sexual harassment.



What would taking part involve?

Participating in a one-to-one recorded interview with Joseph Price lasting approximately 60-90 minutes. The interview can be conducted online (via Microsoft Teams) or in person at a place convenient to you (such as a community centre, library or your own home) if requested.

The interview will cover topics such as:

- Student life and social culture
- Sexual relationships and sexual knowledge
- Access and attitudes toward contraception
- Knowledge and experiences related to sexually transmitted infections
- The HIV/AIDS crisis (if applicable)
- Sexual safety, harassment, and misconduct
- Institutional policies and welfare support

Do I have to take part?

Participation is completely voluntary. You can also choose to withdraw your participation without giving a reason by contacting Joseph Price. Further details about withdrawing from the study are provided later in this document.

What are the possible benefits of taking part in this study?

By participating, you will have the opportunity to share and reflect on your experiences of being a student and of sexual health, contributing to a deeper understanding of how young people navigated these issues in the past. Your insights will help shape the historical record that explores how sexual health, its practices, policies, and cultural attitudes evolved during a critical period of social change in Britain. This is particularly pertinent, given ongoing issues today surrounding young people, and students in particular, in relation to sexual health. This research aims to challenge existing narratives about youth sexuality and provide a more nuanced understanding of student experiences, informing contemporary discussions on sexual health in higher education.

What are the possible disadvantages, side effects or risks, of taking part in this study?

While there are no physical risks associated with this study, participants may find that discussing personal experiences related to sexuality, relationships, or sexual health could bring up sensitive or emotional memories. Talking about these topics may evoke feelings of discomfort, particularly if past experiences were difficult or challenging.



To minimise any distress, participants are encouraged to share only what they feel comfortable discussing. You will have the option to take breaks during the interview, skip questions that you do not wish to answer, or stop the interview at any time without explanation or consequence. If you do experience distress and/or require further support, below is a list of relevant support organisations:

- Terrence Higgins Trust: www.tht.org.uk
- Age, Sex & You: www.agesexandyou.com
- NHS Sexual Health Support Locator: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/sexual-health-services/find-sexual-health-advice-and-support>
- Victim Support: <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/>
- University of Warwick Report and Support: <https://reportandsupport.warwick.ac.uk/>
- Support for Survivors of Sexual and Domestic Abuse: <https://warwick.ac.uk/services/wss/students/supportforsurvivors-svda/>

Expenses and payments

There is no payment or expenses offered for this study.

Will my taking part be kept confidential?

The project is committed to keeping your personal data secure and all information will be stored on password protected devices which only the investigator, Joseph Price, will have access to. Upon completion of the project in 2028, and with your consent, this data will be transferred to the Modern Records Centre for archiving purposes. Further information is provided below.

Participants are not encouraged to disclose illegal activity. If criminal activity conducted by the participant was to be mentioned, then confidentiality will have to be broken and this will need reporting to the legal team in the first instance. Likewise if information was disclosed suggesting a risk to yourself or to others, confidentiality will also have to be broken and this will need reporting to the relevant authorities. If you disclose that you were the victim of criminal activity, such as sexual misconduct, then you will be signposted to the University of Warwick's [Report and Support](#) services and [Survivors of Sexual Abuse](#) services.



What will happen to the data collected about me?

At the end of the interview you will be asked to sign an oral history recording agreement. Oral history interviews are generally conducted on the basis that recordings and transcripts will be made accessible for future research as a matter of standard practice for the sake of historical preservation. It is hoped that at the end of the project in 2028 your raw data from the study (transcript and audio-recording) will be deposited in the Modern Records Centre at the University of Warwick. The recording agreement gives you the choice to either delete your audio-recording at the projects end in 2028 or select one of the archiving and access conditions. If you consent to your transcript and audio-recording being deposited, then you have the option for them to either be made immediately available for future researchers to access OR embargoed for a specified time of your choosing. Any video footage (e.g., from Microsoft Teams interviews) will not be deposited at the Modern Records Centre.

Please note that while you may request that your audio-recording be deleted once the project ends and the transcript is finalised, the transcript itself will be securely stored for a minimum of 10 years to meet University research standards. Administrative data, namely your signed consent forms, will be securely stored by the University for a period of 10 years. Your contact details will be securely deleted as soon as they are no longer needed for the research process. At the end of this 10-year period, these administrative records will be reviewed by the departmental administrator to determine if they should be retained or deleted.

You have the right to put your own name to your interview recording and transcript, however, if you wish, you may select a pseudonym (a false name). It must be remembered that total anonymity is not possible as there is a small chance that a person may be able to indirectly identify you based on the specific combination of institutional and demographic details you provide (such as your course, university, and cohort year).

If you have any questions, please contact Joseph Price (joseph.price@warwick.ac.uk).

Data Sharing

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. The University of Warwick has in place policies and procedures to keep your data safe.



If you consent to your recording and transcript being deposited at the Modern Records Centre, your consent forms will also be transferred there to ensure the archive has a record of your permissions. As previously noted, contact information will not be deposited and will be deleted once no longer needed. However, in accordance with University requirements, a copy of these consent forms and the transcripts will also be retained by the University for 10 years, after which they will be reviewed by the departmental administrator.

This data may also be used for future research, including impact activities following review and approval by an independent Research Ethics Committee and subject to your consent at the outset of this research project.

In accordance with University requirements, consent forms will be retained for 10 years. As the researcher may no longer be at the University at that time, the responsibility for reviewing and potentially deleting this data after 10 years will be assigned to the departmental administrator.

For further information, please refer to the University of Warwick Research Privacy Notice which is available here:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/idc/dataprotection/privacynotices/researchprivacynotice> or by contacting the Legal and Compliance Team at infocompliance@warwick.ac.uk.

What will happen if I don't want to carry on being part of the study?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. As such, you can choose to withdraw your participation without explanation or consequence by contacting Joseph Price (joseph.price@warwick.ac.uk).

Please note that you have **60 days** from the interview date to withdraw any and all data. After this time, your data will be processed, and it will not be possible to extract it from the rest of the project's data.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The results of this study will be used to form part of a PhD thesis, which will be submitted to the University of Warwick as part of the requirements for the degree. The findings may also be presented at academic conferences, published in peer-reviewed outputs, or shared through other scholarly outlets.

Who has reviewed the study?

This study has been reviewed and approved by the University of Warwick's Humanities and Social Science Research Ethics Committee.



Who should I contact if I want further information?

Mr Joseph Price (joseph.price@warwick.ac.uk)

Who should I contact if I wish to make a complaint?

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with during the study or any possible harm you might have suffered will be taken seriously. Please address your complaint to the person below, who is a senior University of Warwick official entirely independent of this study:

Head of Research Governance

Research & Impact Services

University House

University of Warwick

Coventry

CV4 8UW

Email: researchgovernance@warwick.ac.uk

Tel: 02476 575733

If you wish to raise a complaint on how we have handled your personal data, you can contact our Data Protection Officer who will investigate the matter:

DPO@warwick.ac.uk.

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are processing your personal data in a way that is not lawful you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

Thank you for taking the time to read this Participant Information Leaflet