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APPENDIX I: Information sheet and consent form for learner



UNIVERSITY of the
WESTERN CAPE

Department of Psychology
University of the Western Cape
Private Bag X 17
Bellville
7535
Tel: 27 21 959 2283

Dear learner,

I, Sabirah Adams, a Psychology Masters student from the University of the Western Cape, am conducting a research project on children's perception about the natural environment and creating child friendly cities. The aim of the study is to investigate children's perception of the natural environment. Within this process the study aims to clarify the meanings that children attach to environmental issues and how these meanings and perceptions contribute towards creating child friendly cities.

Two focus group discussions will be facilitated by the researcher at the school. After which the information gathered will be analysed, and published as part of a research report. The information gathered in these group discussions will remain confidential, and will not go beyond the bounds of the focus groups. You/the child has the right to withdraw at any stage of the research process, without being prejudiced. Should any emotional suffering arise, psychological counseling can be privately arranged by the researcher.

The study has been described to me in language that I understand and I freely and voluntarily agree to participate. My questions about the study have been answered. I understand that my identity will not be disclosed, and that upon signing I agree that the information gathered in the focus groups will remain confidential, and will not go beyond the bounds of the focus group. I may withdraw from the study at any time without reason, which will not negatively affect me in any way.

Participant's signature.....

Date.....

Should you have any questions regarding this study or wish to report any problems you have experienced related to the study, please contact the study coordinator:

Sabirah Adams

Cell: 073 127 3376

Email: 2770369@uwc.ac.za

APPENDIX II: Information sheet and consent form for parent



UNIVERSITY of the
WESTERN CAPE

Department of Psychology
University of the Western Cape
Private Bag X 17
Bellville
7535
Tel: 27 21 959 2283

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

I, Sabirah Adams, a Psychology Masters student from the University of the Western Cape, am conducting a research project on children's perception about the natural environment and creating Child Friendly Cities. The aim of the study is to investigate children's perception of the natural environment. Within this process the study aims to clarify the meanings that children attach to environmental issues and how these meanings and perceptions contribute towards creating child friendly cities.

Two group focus group discussions will be facilitated by the researcher at the school. After which the information gathered will be analysed, and published as part of a research report. The information gathered in these group discussions will remain confidential, and will not go beyond the bounds of the focus groups. Your child has the right to withdraw at any stage of the research process, without being prejudiced. Should any emotional suffering arise, psychological counselling can be privately arranged by the researcher.

The study has been described to me in language that I understand, and I freely and voluntarily agree for my child to participate. My questions about the study have been answered. I understand that my child's identity will not be disclosed and that he/she may withdraw from the study without giving a reason at any time and this will not negatively affect him/her in any way.

Parent/Guardian's signature _____ **Date** _____

Should you have any questions regarding this study or wish to report any problems you have experienced related to the study, please contact the study coordinator:

Sabirah Adams

Cell: 073 127 3376

Email: 2770369@uwc.ac.za

APPENDIX III: Focus Group Interview Guide

1. What do you understand by the natural environment?

- a. What do you think the natural environment includes?
- b. How does your community consider the environment?
- c. Do you think it is important to conserve the natural environment?
- d. What are your opinions about issues such as: pollution, recycling, green energy, climate change?
- e. What are your favourite places in the natural environment?
- f. Are there any factors keeping you from playing in the natural environment?
- g. Do you think people in your community protect the natural environment?
- h. Do you think people in your community consider it important to protect the natural environment?
- i. Do you think there is anything your community can do to protect the natural environment?
- j. Does the natural environment you play in have any effect on how you are feeling?

2. Do you think your city is child friendly? Yes/ No? Why?

- a. What do you think would make a city child friendly?
- b. Do you think your city can be made more child friendly? How?
- c. What do you think are important factors in creating CFC'S?
- d. Do you think it is important to consider the natural environment in creating a child friendly city? Why?
- e. Are there any places for children to safely play in within your community? Where are these places?
- f. Are there particular places in your community devoted to children playing safely?
- g. Are there any challenges you face on a daily basis in your community in relation to your safety?
- h. Do you think there are enough opportunities for you to experience the natural environment? Yes/ No? Why?
- i. Do you think your city can be made more child and environmentally friendly if you were able to help make decisions on how your city is run?
- j. Do you think you should have a say in the decisions that affect you?
- k. What kind of decisions would you make which will create a more child and environmentally friendly city and community in which you live?
- l. Can you depict (drawings or maps) how you would create a child and environmentally friendlier city in your neighbourhood?
- m. How would you make your city more child friendly by considering aspects of the natural environment?

APPENDIX IV: Western Cape Education Department Ethical Clearance Letter



WESTERN CAPE
Education Department

Provincial Government of the Western Cape

RESEARCH

awyngaar@pgwc.gov.za
tel: +27 021 476 9272 fax: 0865902282
Private Bag x9114, Cape Town, 8000
wced.wcape.gov.za

REFERENCE: 20110503-0004

ENQUIRIES: Dr A T Wyngaard

Miss Sabirah Adams
UWC
Modderdam Road
Bellville

Dear Miss Sabirah Adams

RESEARCH PROPOSAL: CHILDRENS' PERCEPTION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT: CREATING CHILD FRIENDLY CITIES

Your application to conduct the above-mentioned research in schools in the Western Cape has been approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Principals, educators and learners are under no obligation to assist you in your investigation.
2. Principals, educators, learners and schools should not be identifiable in any way from the results of the investigation.
3. You make all the arrangements concerning your investigation.
4. Educators' programmes are not to be interrupted.
5. The Study is to be conducted from **1 May 2011 till 30 September 2011**
6. No research can be conducted during the fourth term as schools are preparing and finalizing syllabi for examinations (October to December).
7. Should you wish to extend the period of your survey, please contact Dr A.T Wyngaard at the contact numbers above quoting the reference number.
8. A photocopy of this letter is submitted to the principal where the intended research is to be conducted.
9. Your research will be limited to the list of schools as forwarded to the Western Cape Education Department.
10. A brief summary of the content, findings and recommendations is provided to the Director: Research Services.
11. The Department receives a copy of the completed report/dissertation/thesis addressed to **The Director: Research Services
Western Cape Education Department
Private Bag X9114
CAPE TOWN
8000**

We wish you success in your research.

Kind regards.
Signed: Audrey T Wyngaard
for: **HEAD: EDUCATION**
DATE: 4 May 2011

**APPENDIX V: University of The Western Cape Research Ethics Committee Clearance
Letter**

**OFFICE OF THE DEAN
DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH
DEVELOPMENT**

Private Bag X17, Bellville 7535
South Africa
Telegraph: UNIBELL
Telephone: +27 21 959-2948/2949
Fax: +27 21 959-3170
Website: www.uwc.ac.za

10 June 2011

To Whom It May Concern

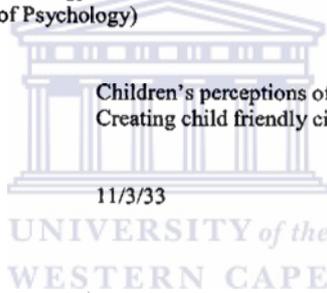
I hereby certify that the Senate Research Committee of the University of the Western Cape has approved the methodology and ethics of the following research project by:
Ms S Adams (Department of Psychology)

Research Project: Children's perceptions of the natural environment:
Creating child friendly cities.

Registration no: 11/3/33



*Ms Patricia Josias
Research Ethics Committee Officer
University of the Western Cape*



**UNIVERSITY of the
WESTERN CAPE**

A place of quality, a place to grow, from hope to action through knowledge