

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Title of Project: Middle Eastern Lives in the United States

- 1 *Purpose of the study:* The purpose of this study is to bring to light the existence of Middle Easterners in America and to show the human complexity of their lives. The work gives special attention to how members of this ethnic group cope with, resist and combat discrimination.
- 2 *Procedures to be followed:* We request that you answer a number of in-depth questions in this audiotaped focus group or interview. Afterwards, you will be asked to complete a short survey questionnaire. We expect your entire participation will take approximately 90 minutes.
- 3 *Discomforts and risks:* As with any research study, the only possible discomfort you might experience from participation in this study is that you could be uncomfortable answering certain questions. For this reason, you may decline to answer any or all of our questions, or you may stop participating at any time.
- 4 *Benefits:* This is an opportunity for Middle Easterners like yourself to present a balanced and unbiased perspective on their lives.
- 5 *Statement of confidentiality:* Your participation in this research is confidential. Only the researchers will have access to the audiotape and transcription of your interview along with any other information that discloses your identity in this research project. All these materials will be stored at Dr. Marvasti's residence and will be destroyed by the end of the year 2003. No identifying labels will be attached to the audiotape (the audiotape will not be associated with your identity). Also, in the event of publication of this research, no personally identifying information will be disclosed. Your name will be changed to an alias in any publications or reports, and any details which might identify you will also be removed.
- 6 *Right to ask questions:* You can ask questions about the research. The people in charge will answer your questions. Contact Dr. Marvasti or Dr. McKinney.
- 7 *Voluntary participation:* Your participation is completely voluntary. You may refuse to answer any questions you do not wish to answer. You may end your participation at any time without penalty by telling the researchers.

You must be 18 years of age or older to consent to participation in this research study. If you consent to participate in this research study and to the terms above, please sign your name and indicate the date below. You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep for your records. (Adapted from Marvasti and McKinney, forthcoming)