

## GUY2GUY PHASE ONE G2G BULLETIN BOARD FOCUS GROUP: INFORMED ASSENT/CONSENT FORM

The Center for Innovative Public Health Research and Northwestern University are developing a healthy sexuality and HIV prevention program for teenage males who are gay or bisexual. The health program will be sent to young people through text messaging. This research study is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

You are one of 40 to 48 teens who are being invited to take part in a 3-day bulletin board focus group. If you choose to take part in the focus group (sometimes also called a group interview), we will ask your thoughts about different parts of the healthy sexuality program that we are developing. For example, we might ask your ideas about interesting and useful ways we can teach young people to talk to their sex partners about condoms.

The focus group will take place over three days. It will be online, in a bulletin board format. We will ask you to come to the website 2 to 3 times each day, when it's convenient for you. At the website, you'll see questions that the moderator has posted for you to answer.

It is possible that your privacy will be broken. For example, if someone sees your computer screen, this person may see that you are talking about issues related to being gay or bisexual. It is very important that you use a computer that is in a private place.

To protect your privacy in the focus group, you can use a different name that is not your real name if you want to. Also, we will ask you and other young people in the focus group not to share any of the discussion with people outside of the group, but we cannot guarantee that this will not happen.

It also is possible that a question we ask might make you feel uncomfortable. If this happens, you can skip the question, leave the discussion board and not answer the question, or stop being in the focus group completely.

We don't know if you will benefit from being part of the study, but your answers are important: Your participation will really help us design a better health program, which will benefit guys like you in the future.

If you take part in all 3 days of the focus group, we will send you a \$25 Amazon gift card. We will keep a copy of your answers after the focus group ends so that we can look at them later. Only Dr. Mustanski and people who work with him will be able to see your answers. Your name and contact information will be kept separate from your responses in the focus group. We will not tell your parents or anyone else outside of the research team what you say during the focus group.

It is your choice to take part in the focus group or not. If you decide not to be in the focus group, nothing bad will happen.

Do you have any questions about the information that I just read to you, or about the study?

Do you agree to participate in this study?

**[If yes; agree to participate]**

Great! I will email you a copy of this assent form. If you have questions about this study, please contact me by email at [Tonya@InnovativePublicHealth.org](mailto:Tonya@InnovativePublicHealth.org) or call 1 877.302.6858, ext. 806. If you have any concerns about your rights in this research, please contact the Study Subject Adviser at Chesapeake Research Review, Inc., by email at [adviser@irbinfo.com](mailto:adviser@irbinfo.com). The adviser can be contacted by calling collect at 410-884-XXXX.

**[If no; do not agree to participate]**

Thank you for your time. We respect your decision not to take part in the focus group. To help us design future focus groups, can you please tell me why you decided not to take part?