

GUY2GUY PHASE FOUR RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL: SAFETY APPRAISAL QUESTIONS

Objective: *Ensure that candidate understands and can evaluate his personal safety if someone finds messages on his phone or surveys on the computer. This document is intended to serve as a guide, as the discussion will be dynamic based on candidate responses.*

Guy2Guy text messages will talk about some sensitive stuff – like anal sex, condoms, and other things related to guys being into other guys. If someone saw these messages, like a parent, brother, sister, or even a friend, it might be embarrassing. For some guys, it could even possibly put them in danger: The person who reads the messages might get really angry and lash out physically or say awful things.

The goal of Guy2Guy is to promote health. We don't want to place anyone in danger. So, if you think that it might be unsafe for you if someone else saw these kinds of messages on your phone, that's really important to keep in mind.

What do you think? If your parents saw a text message about anal sex, or guys having sex with other guys on your phone, what would happen?

What would happen if your friends, boyfriend, or brothers or sisters saw these kinds of messages on your phone?

If it seems unsafe: Based upon what we're talking about here, it seems like taking part in Guy2Guy right now might not be a safe decision for you. We can talk you through how to make your cell phone more private by putting a password on it. Even then, though, someone might demand the password from you. I'm concerned about your safety. What do you think?

If he agrees that it's unsafe: Ok. Thank you for reaching out to us. If you would like some information about healthy sexuality, you can go to the Impact Program website at impactprogram.org.

If he disagrees and thinks it can be safe, go to next section.

Privacy Assessment Questions:

1) Some guys have told us that their phone is theirs and no one is allowed to read messages without their permission. Others say that their parents can look at their phone at any time, or that their boyfriend has their password so he can look anytime he wants.

Another thing to keep in mind is that even if you have a password on your phone, some phones have a text message preview feature where a new text message will pop up on the screen (even if it's password-protected).

Does anyone have access to your phone? This could be a parent. It could also be a friend, or a boyfriend.

2) Is your phone password protected?

2a) **If no:** We strongly recommend that you password protect your phone so that you can keep your messages private. Do you know how to add a password?

2b) **If no:** We have created an easy “how to” that shows you how to password-protect most phones. Would you like me to text or email you the link?
<http://sms.projectg2g.com/technical-guides/>

3) During your participation, you'll need to take a couple surveys on the Internet. They're kind of long – like 30 minutes or so, so it will probably be better to take the surveys on a computer or tablet rather than your phone. There will be questions about sex and other private stuff.

Do you have a computer or tablet that you can use in a private space?

4) Also, you can pause the survey and finish it later. In this case, you will need to log on again. It is possible though, that if someone clicks on the website from the history bar or some other way, they may be able to see the survey and your answers. To protect against this, you'll need to clear your browser history.

Do you know how to do this?

4a) **If no:** OK. No worries. We have created a quick “how to”. Would you like me to text or email you the link? You can find it here:
<http://sms.projectg2g.com/technical-guides/>

5) And, last question, and it might sound weird. But, there are apps that can be downloaded to phones that will give someone else access to your text messages. Sometimes, parents will download them so they can monitor their kids. Sometimes, boyfriends or other people will do it too.

Do you know how to check if there is an app like this on your phone?

5a) **If participant is not sure:** Do you have a smartphone (one that connects to the Internet)?

If participant has smartphone: Ok. We've got a quick "how to". Would you like me to text or email you the link? <http://sms.projectg2g.com/technical-guides/>

If participant does not have smartphone: Good news – apps can't be downloaded to your type of phone.

OK. We've talked about what might happen if someone sees the program messages on your phone, and how to make your phone and computer more private. Our goal here at Guy2Guy is to help you make healthy choices, and this includes enrolling only if you can take part safely.

Now that we've talked in more detail, what are your thoughts about taking part?