

## CAP-PARTNER

Principal Investigator: Sally Wadsworth, Ph.D.

### PARTICIPANT INFORMED CONSENT FORM CURRENT OR FORMER PARTNER

March 16, 2010

*Please read the following material that explains this research study. Signing this form will indicate that you have been informed about the study and that you want to participate. We want you to understand what you are being asked to do and what risks and benefits if any are associated with the study. This should help you decide whether or not you want to participate in the study.*

You are being asked to take part in a research project conducted by Sally Wadsworth, a senior research associate at the University of Colorado at Boulder's Institute for Behavioral Genetics, 0447 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309-0447. Dr. Wadsworth can be reached at 303-492-7362.

#### **Project Description:**

This research study is designed to help us understand how genes and environment might influence development from childhood through adulthood. You are being asked to be in this study because you are a current or former partner (spouse or significant other) of a participant in the ongoing Colorado Adoption Project (please note: the CAP is comprised of both adopted and non-adopted participants). We may contact you in the future for additional follow-up.

#### **Procedures:**

If you agree to take part in this study, a researcher will call you to arrange for you to complete a short (about 30 minutes) questionnaire administered either in-person when we are interviewing your spouse, or remotely through a secure on-line server or a mailed paper-and-pencil version. The questions are identical to a subset of those completed by your partner and pertain to your relationship and, if you have children, to your child-rearing practices. For example, we will ask how well you get along with your partner ("Have you had a problem in your relationship because one of you had feelings that are easily hurt).

Approximately 680 primary participants and an unknown number, not to exceed about 400, partners will be invited to participate in this phase of the research study. This project has been ongoing for more than 30 years; during that time plus the current phase more than 4,600 people will have participated in various phases.

#### **Risks/Discomforts and Benefits:**

The risks associated with participation are possible embarrassment or discomfort due to the sensitive nature of some of the questions. We do not foresee any significant personal benefits associated with participation, but you will have access to results from the study via newsletters and our website.

#### **Source of Funding:**

This study is being funded by the National Institutes of Health, a federal agency that requires that data be collected in a form that may be analyzed for differences between men and women and races or ethnic groups.

#### **Cost to Participant:**

There is no cost to you for participation in this study.

**Subject Payment:**

You will be paid \$20 for completion of the questionnaire, by in cash if completed in-person or by check if completed remotely.

**Study Withdrawal:**

You have the right to withdraw your consent or stop participating at any time. You have the right to refuse to answer any question(s) or participate in any procedure for any reason.

**Confidentiality:**

We will make every effort to maintain the privacy of your data. Your completed test materials will be identified only by a numerical code, not your name. All written materials are stored in locked rooms in locked file cabinets; all computer-based materials are stored in password protected electronic files. Your questionnaire responses will not be released to anyone.

Other than the research team, only regulatory agencies such as the Office of Human Research Protections and the University of Colorado at Boulder Institutional Review Board, and NICHD may see your individual data as part of routine audits. However, the exception to the promise of confidentiality is that if information is revealed concerning suicide, homicide, or child abuse and neglect, we will report this to the proper authorities. This is an ongoing study and at this time we anticipate that these data will be maintained indefinitely at the Institute for Behavioral Genetics.

**Invitation for Questions:**

If you have questions about this study, you should ask the researcher before you sign this consent form. You may also ask questions during or after the session.

If you have questions regarding your rights as a participant, any concerns regarding this project or any dissatisfaction with any aspect of this study, you may report them -- confidentially, if you wish -- to the Executive Secretary, Institutional Review Board (IRB) 563 UCB, ARCE Room A15, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO 80309, (303) 735-3702. Copies of the University of Colorado Assurance of Compliance to the federal government regarding human subject research are available upon request from the IRB address listed above.

**Authorization:**

I have read this paper about the study or it was read to me. I know the possible risks and benefits. I know that being in this study is voluntary. I choose to be in this study. I know that I can withdraw at any time. I have received, on the date signed, a copy of this document containing 2 pages.

Name of Participant (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Also initial the previous page of the consent form.)