

Human Subjects Research Proposal, November 6, 2002
Neighborhood Transformation in Cuba: Karin Wolfe Gustafson

Informed Consent Form

You are invited to participate in a Senior Thesis Study conducted by Karin Wolfe Gustafson, a student at Reed College in Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Through this study the researcher hopes to learn about the neighborhood of Atares in Havana, and what meaning the Transformation Project has to the way you see yourself as a participant in social life.

Your participation includes a short interview, roughly 30 minutes to an hour. The interview will include some basic questions such as: How long have you lived in Atares? Have you participated in the Neighborhood Transformation Project's activities? The interview will focus more, though, on personal stories, or on any topics you think important concerning local neighborhood life. This process may benefit both yourself and the researcher in reflecting on daily life activities, ideas, and thoughts in Atares. An indirect benefit includes knowing that your input has helped to enhance a research experience for an American University student hoping to come to a greater understanding about Cuban life, culture and society. You are invited to participate in this study because you are a community member of Atares who may have interest in sharing your experiences and thoughts with a curious foreigner in the hopes of building cross-cultural understanding.

All conversations will be kept entirely confidential by the researcher. No information from the interviews (including whether you participated) will be disclosed to the staff of the Neighborhood Transformation Project, nor to the Popular Council, nor to any other neighbors of Atares. The interviews will be tape-recorded and then transcribed into a secure computer file to which only the researcher has access. After transcription, the tapes will be erased. Also, in all written versions of the research, your name will never be used. Any data by which you could be individually identified will be omitted from the written text as well. The researcher will request specific consent from you before including any direct quotes from your interview.

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary, and you may withdraw from it at any time. The researcher, Karin Gustafson, will answer any questions about her research project, and can be contacted at the address below. Concerns about any aspect of this study may also be referred to Professor Dell Rhodes, Chair of the Reed College Human Subjects Research Committee, 3203 S.E. Woodstock Blvd, Portland, OR 97202, USA.

I have read and understand the above, and I voluntarily consent to participate in this study. In signing below, I affirm that I am 18 years of age or older.

I may keep a copy of this consent form.

signature of participant

date

Researcher contact information: