



CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND  
EVIDENCE ON SECURITY THREATS



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**

## **Pathways in and out of cyberdeviance: Participant Information Sheet for Individual Interviews**

### **Who am I?**

My name is Alina Gruppe and I am a researcher in the Department of Psychology at the University of Bath. I am conducting this study as part of a CREST UK funded project into deviance in cyberspace.

### **What is this study about?**

Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed for this study. I am looking for individuals who used to engage in behaviour in cyberspace that some might label as deviant and are now using their skills in more socially conformist ways such as in a corporative context. The purpose of this study is to examine which social and individual factors have been of importance during this development.

### **What will I be asked to do?**

I would like to interview you on your behaviour in cyberspace across your lifespan. This refers to your online as well as some offline activities. This interview setting is supposed to be rather open and flexible so there will only be guiding questions but no fixed schedule to stick to. If you feel uncomfortable with any of the questions asked you naturally have the right to refuse an answer to it.

The interview itself will last about an hour and will take place at a time that suits you. The interview will either take place in a private room at the University of Bath, your workplace or another suitable local public location. If necessary due to large distances, the interview might also be carried out online. Each interview will be recorded so that it can be transcribed after the session is complete.

### **Do I have to take part?**

Taking part in this research is entirely voluntary, and you are free to make your own choice about whether you want to participate. If you agree to take part you can choose not to answer any questions that you do not want to and you are free to withdraw at any time.

### **What will happen to the recording of the interview?**

Should you decide to take part, the interview will be recorded digitally. Once the interview has been transcribed the audio file will be deleted to guarantee that the data you have provided will be anonymised and that after transcription no link between your personal data and your information given can be made. All data will only be stored on within an encrypted folder on a University Device, to which only myself and my supervisors have access. So again, your name, or any material that might identify you, will never be used or given to anyone unless you disclose information clearly suggesting an imminent threat to your own life and physical condition or the one of other parties. This would have to be reported to the relevant authorities.

### **Can I withdraw my data?**

You have the right to withdraw your data until anonymisation, which should be completed at 31.08.2021. You can either communicate your wish to withdraw directly after participation or using the contact details provided above. Please note that withdrawal will not be possible anymore once the data is anonymised.

### **What will happen to the results of this research?**

The data you provide will add knowledge to the psychological research on deviance in cyberspace. I may use extracts taken from what you have told me, however these would not identify you to anyone. The findings of the research may also be published in research journals or used in presentations. If you would like to be sent a summary of the findings, we can arrange for this.

## **University of Bath privacy notice**

The University of Bath privacy notice can be found here: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/university-of-bath-privacy-notice-for-research-participants/>.

## **What do I do if I would like to take part or have any more questions?**

You can contact me, Alina Gruppe, to arrange a suitable time or to discuss any questions you might have using the following contact information:

Email – [Agd56@bath.ac.uk](mailto:Agd56@bath.ac.uk)

You can also speak to the supervisor of the project, Laura G.E. Smith

Email – [ls487@bath.ac.uk](mailto:ls487@bath.ac.uk)

If you have any concerns related to your participation in this study please direct them to the Chair of the Department of Psychology Research Ethics Committee, email: [psychology-ethics@bath.ac.uk](mailto:psychology-ethics@bath.ac.uk).

Our address is

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Claverton Down  
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Many thanks for taking the time to read this. I would be delighted if you would be willing to take part.