

## Explanatory Statement Online Survey

**YourGround:**  
Mapping a safer  
Victoria for women and  
gender-diverse people

**Project No. 27863**

**Dr. Nicole Kalms**

Department of Design

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**You** are invited to take part in this research survey, YourGround – a collaborative project between CrowdSpot and Monash University. The survey will be conducted through an online survey.

This Explanatory Statement is being provided to you to allow you to decide whether or not to participate in the research. Please read the Explanatory Statement carefully. Feel free to ask any questions about any information in the statement. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to speak to the researcher. You can contact the researcher via the phone number or email address above.

Once you understand what the project is about and if you agree to take part, you will be asked to provide consent electronically by selecting “Yes” on a digital Consent Form. By selecting “Yes” to the items on the Consent Form, you indicate that you understand the information and that you give your consent to participate in the research project. You may print a copy of both the Consent Form and this Explanatory Statement to keep as a record.

### What does the research involve?

This research survey is designed to explore the experiences of women, girl's and gender-diverse people when engaging in recreation, movement and leisure in public. The research will:

1. Examine the experiences of women, girls, and gender-diverse people while using public space for recreation;
2. Understand how these experiences are informed by public space design and infrastructure;
3. Analyse the typologies and relationship between safe and unsafe experiences for different demographics in public recreational spaces.

In this research, we recognise that women are not a homogenous group. When we use the word Woman or Women, the XYX Lab and CrowdSpot recognise that they are not a homogeneous group. Women represent enormous diversity in their cultural background, socio-economic status, where they live, their sexuality, abilities, and age. The terms is therefore inclusive of all women, including cis-women, trans-women, and intersex women. The term girl is for participants that are female identifying and are under the age of 18. Any person under the age of 18 will need to check with a parent or guardian before submitting a response. Gender-diverse refers to people that identify with a gender or genders outside of male or female.

The research aims to inform a larger body of research around gender and recreation in public space. It investigates the environmental features that encourage women to participate in wellbeing, leisure and recreation in public space and how it varies across cultures and context of Victoria. The survey will be conducted across the Victoria metro and regional cities via Local Government Partner, to understand how safe and unsafe experiences affect and shape women's use of public space. The outcomes of this research will be used for:

- The prioritisation of the needs of women, girls and gender-diverse people in their communities through strategy and budget
- Awareness building around gender issues in their communities
- Meeting the requirements of the recent Gender Equality Act (2020)
- Showing their active and positive engagement with health and wellbeing of women, girls and gender-diverse people in their communities.

The raw data resulting from the survey will be shared with Local and State Government Partners. The data resulting from the survey will be analysed and included in a report delivered to Local and State Government Partners. It will inform future research into this topic, be included in future publications, and possibly public talks and workshops.

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As a participant, you will be asked to provide insight and feedback on the topic. Data will be collected through this survey. Then the data will be incorporated into the final report. The survey is anonymous. It will not be possible to withdraw your data once it is submitted.

### **Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research**

By consenting to participate in the survey as a research participant, you are consenting to allow us to use the information obtained in the survey as data for this research project. You will remain anonymous. Once you have submitted the data, withdrawal from the study is not possible.

### **Possible benefits and risks to participants**

By participating in this study, you can contribute your thoughts and experience about recreation in public space. This is an opportunity to reflect of your experiences of recreation and how it affects your feelings of safety. It is also an opportunity to contribute your knowledge and experience to improve the future experience of women, girls and gender-diverse communities in public space.

The survey is designed to help participants share their experiences and concerns about this topic. However, for some people answering questions about a negative experience in public space can be upsetting. There are no other perceived risks involved with any other aspect of this project. If you no longer wish to participate in this study, you can leave the survey at any time prior to submitting and no data will be collected. Collected information will be collated and presented in de-identified and summarised research reports.

### **Confidentiality**

Your participation is confidential, and as the survey is anonymous participants' names, responses and reflections cannot be disclosed or published in relation to what they share in the survey.

### **Results**

Results of this research will be included in a report to the Local and State Government Partners. Some results may be made available through published written work, public forums and discussion and future workshops related to this research.

### **Storage of data**

Research data will be retained in accordance with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2007) and Monash University's Research Data Management Policy. The database that will be collecting the information from the YourGround survey will be hosted on dedicated secure servers and will be password protected. Only the Director of CrowdSpot will be able to access the administrative dashboard to access the data collected from submission.

Digital data from the survey will be stored on Google Drive and backed up on the Monash University share drive (S Drive), which is secure, centrally managed, reliable, and backed up.

The director of XYX Lab will only have access to the de-identified data once it has been exported from the Dashboard.

CrowdSpot will be complying with the University's Privacy Policy to ensure that all reasonable standards are adhered to ensure that information is protected from misuse, loss and unauthorised access, modification or disclosure. The research data (i.e. the raw information collected) will be kept securely at Monash and CrowdSpot for 5 years after collection, before being destroyed whereas the final report will remain archived in hard copy.

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If the data is no longer needed after completion of the research, it will be disposed of in the following ways:

- Digital data (i.e. electronic copies of survey responses) will be destroyed by deleting or overwriting information or destroying the physical media. Data stored in cloud services shall be made unavailable by using methods such as Crypto-Shredding.

## **Ethical Guidelines**

The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC).

## **Complaints**

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics (MUHREC):

Executive Officer  
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)  
Room 111, Chancellery Building E,  
24 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus  
Research Office  
Monash University VIC 3800  
Tel: +61 3 9905 2052  
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Fax: +61 3 9905 3831

Thank you very much,  
Dr Nicole Kalms