

**The questionnaire will take about ten minutes to complete.**

**You are not obliged to answer all questions. After this page, if you wish to omit any particular question, you may still continue on to the next one.**

**All data collected is strictly confidential, and you are free to withdraw from the study at any time.**

**By selecting 'yes' below, you are giving your consent to participate.**

**I wish to participate:**

☐ YES

☐ NO

**Which online discussion forum have you used?**

**(Please copy and paste its URL if at all possible.)**

**Note: if you have read and/or posted on more than one forum, please tell us your "primary" one.**

**What is your gender?**

☐ FEMALE

☐ MALE

**What is your age?**

**How many hours per week (average) do you use the internet for any purpose, including email?**

**How many hours per week (average) do you use the internet for purposes directly related to your primary forum (e.g., on the forum, on other related forums, shopping with related online retailers)?**

**How long ago (in months) did you first start reading postings on your primary forum?**

**How long ago (in months) did you first start posting your own material on this forum?  
(If you have never posted on the forum, please leave this answer blank.)**

**How often do you just 'lurk' on this forum (i.e., read postings but not post yourself)?**

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once a day
- ☐ Once an hour

**How often do you post on this forum?**

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once a day
- ☐ Once an hour

### Why did you decide to join this forum initially?

	Not at all	-	-	-	-	-	Very much
To seek information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To share information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To form or maintain relationships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Because there are no opportunities to meet like-minded people in my area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Now that you have been using the forum for a while, has the forum met your expectations for what you would get out of it?

	It has fallen short of my expectations	-	-	It has met my expectations	-	-	It has exceeded my expectations
In terms of seeking information...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In terms of sharing information...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In terms of forming or maintaining relationships...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

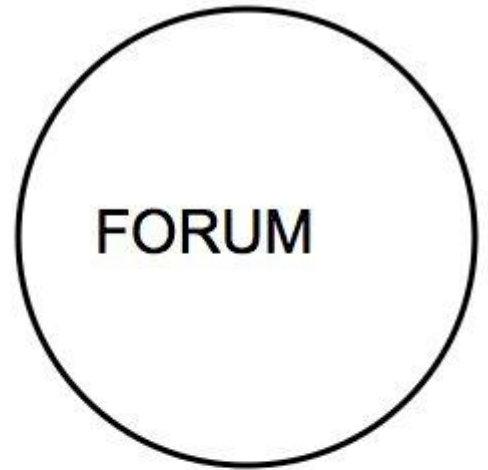
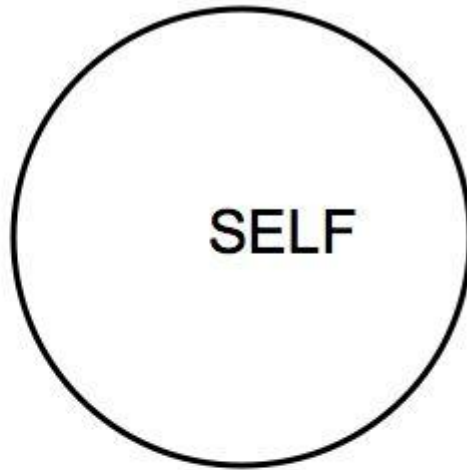
### There may be many like-minded people who are not on the forum.

### How many minutes would you be willing to travel to meet with these people face-to-face?

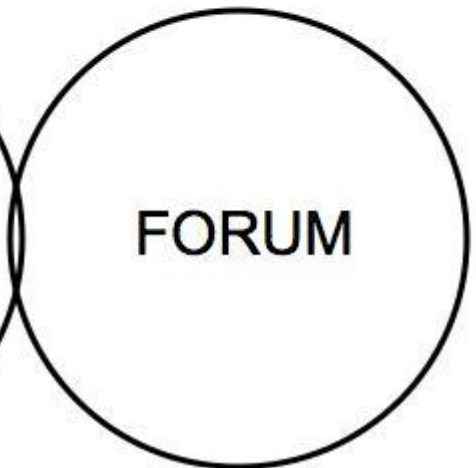
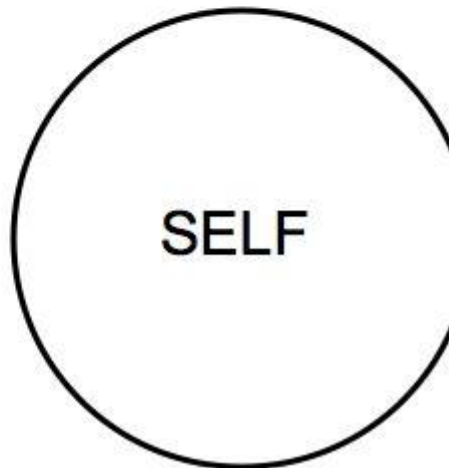
- ☐ Less than 10 minutes
- ☐ 10 to 20 minutes
- ☐ 20 to 30 minutes
- ☐ More than 30 minutes
- ☐ Not willing, forums are fine for me!

Please enter the number of the picture below that best represents your relationship to the forum.

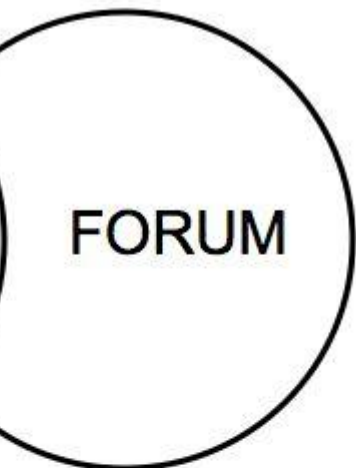
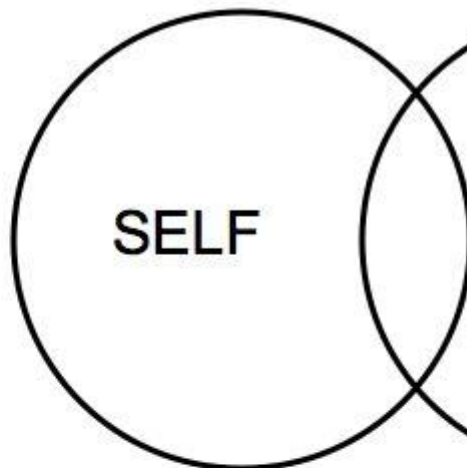
1



2



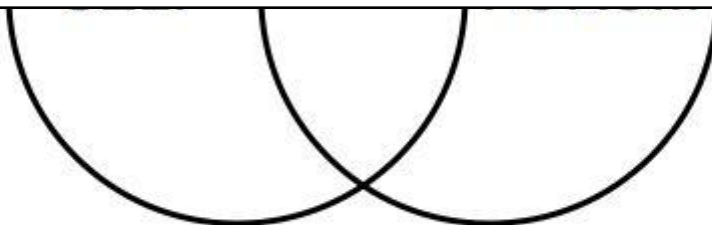
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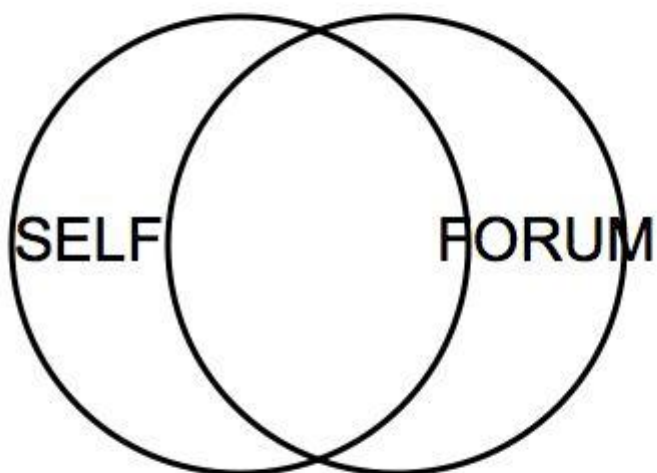
4



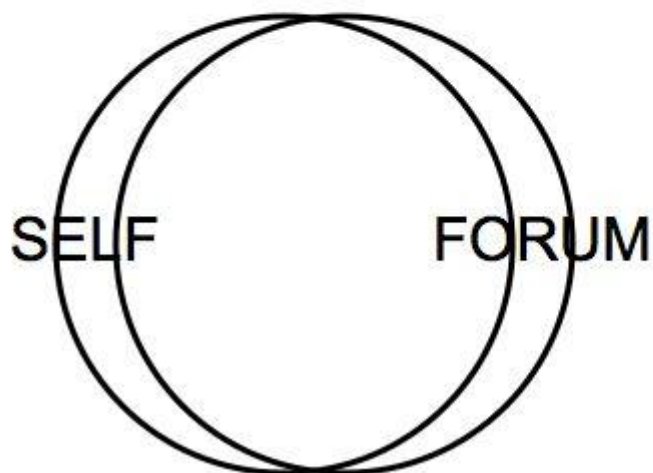
4



5



6



**Next, we have some questions about how much you relate to other users of the forum.**

[illegible]

**Please read the following statements and answer using the scale provided.**

[illegible]

**Please read the following statements and answer using the scale provided.**

[illegible]

**Listed below are some activities that may be associated with the issue the forum is concerned with. Please indicate how likely you would be to engage in these activities.**

[illegible]

**Many thanks for taking part in this survey.**

**To have your work accepted, first you need to generate a completion code, type it in below and hit 'done', and then go back and submit the HIT along with the same completion code.**

**In other words, make sure you submit your work twice (both here & on the MTurk website) and we will use your completion codes to link the data.**

**To generate your completion code to enter below (and on MTurk), take:  
the day of the month of your birth, plus  
the first two letters of your mother's first name, plus  
the last three digits of your home postcode**

**For example, if you were born on the 9th of May, your mother's name is Hazel, and your postcode is EX4 4QG, your code would be 09 HA 4QG**

**Please type your completion code in the comment box.**

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**The purpose of this research is to investigate how people form and share identities with other online-discussion forum users and to assess how forums affect users' attitudes and behaviours in the offline world.**

**If you would like to know more about this study, or to receive a summary of results once they are available, do feel free to email Louise Pendry ([l.f.pendry@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:l.f.pendry@exeter.ac.uk))**

**Thank you once again!**