

Variation and change in the vowel system of Manchester**Participant Information Sheet**

You are being invited to take part in a research study as part of a project at the University of Manchester entitled "Variation and change in the vowel system of Manchester". It is a project involving interviews with speakers representing different generations, social groups, and neighbourhoods. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for reading this.

Who will conduct the research?

The principal investigator is Dr Maciej Baranowski; the interviews are conducted by students in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, the University of Manchester.

Title of the Research

"Variation and change in the vowel system of Manchester"

The study looks at variation and change in the speech patterns of Mancunians. It is a project involving interviews with speakers representing different generations, social groups, and neighbourhoods. We want to see how the language used by speakers in the city has changed over time.

What is the aim of the research?

Look into what has changed in the accent and dialect of Manchester by interviewing locals.

Why have I been chosen?

You have been asked because you were born and raised in Manchester.

What would I be asked to do if I took part?

What we do is simply sit down and talk to people for about an hour, or as long as you feel comfortable talking to me. We'll talk together about topics such as your community, your neighbourhood, the games you used to play as a kid, your hobbies and pastimes, your work life and general personal experiences about living in Manchester. We are particularly interested in the types of changes people have experienced in living in the community over

their lifetimes from their own perspective. What has changed? Who has changed? How? Because you were born and raised in Manchester you can give us an insider's perspective on these issues and what's been happening in Manchester over the last few generations. We will also ask you to read a list of words at the end of the interview so we can see how different people pronounce different words.

What happens to the data collected?

Because we won't be able to remember everything everyone says exactly, we ask your permission to tape-record our conversation. However, everything that is said is kept entirely confidential and you will remain entirely anonymous. The audio-tapes will be locked away and archived in the University of Manchester and conserved for posterity. No-one will have access to the data except academic researchers and no one will have access to the tapes unless they follow the same procedures as we do for keeping it anonymous.

How is confidentiality maintained?

In addition to the above question, you will be given a pseudonym, so no information will link back to you.

What happens if I do not want to take part or if I change my mind?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without detriment to yourself.

Will I be paid for participating in the research?

No, unfortunately we cannot offer payment for taking part in this study.

What is the duration of the research?

45 minutes interview, 10 minutes word list.

Where will the research be conducted?

At a place convenient to you.

Will the outcomes of the research be published?

The outcomes will be published in scholarly articles. No individuals will be mentioned by name in the publications.

Contact for further information

Email: maciej.baranowski@manchester.ac.uk

Variation and change in the vowel system of Manchester**CONSENT FORM**

If you are happy to participate please complete and sign the consent form below

**Please
Initial
Box**

1. I confirm that I have read the attached information sheet on the above project and have had the opportunity to consider the information and ask questions and had these answered satisfactorily.
2. I understand that my participation in the study is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without detriment to any treatment/service
3. I understand that the interviews will be audio-recorded
4. I agree that any data collected may be passed to other researchers

I agree to take part in the above project

Name of participant

Date

Signature