

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH
Carrying Culture: A Study on Family, Gender and Ethnicity
Among Asian Immigrants and Their Children

You are asked to participate in a research study conducted by Dr. Angie Y. Chung, a professor from the Sociology Department at the University at Albany (SUNY Albany). Your participation in this research is entirely voluntary.

• PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The general purpose of the study is to examine the ways in which Asian immigrant family experiences shape the development of ethnic identity and culture among American-born/ American-raised children in their adult years. You have been asked to participate in this study because you are a Korean/ Chinese/ Taiwanese American child of an immigrant family; you were born in the U.S. or immigrated here before elementary school; you are between the ages of 25 to 40; and you have lived in the New York-New Jersey area for at least three years. Your name was obtained through direct solicitation or through a referral. This study is expected to conclude by December, 2008.

• PROCEDURES

If you volunteer to participate in this study, I would first ask for some brief background information vis-a-vis e-mail or phone in order to prepare for our interviews. I would then ask you to provide about at least 1.5 hours of your free time for an open-ended, in-person interview regarding your childhood and family experiences; past and current relationships with parents, siblings and/ or romantic partners; racial/ ethnic experiences in the school/ workplace, neighborhood, and ethnic communities throughout your life; and your views on family and ethnicity/ culture, among other things. If you are available and willing, I may also make follow-up calls or request more interviews to elaborate on your responses or for comment on new developments. However, you are free to decline any follow-up requests.

Generally, the interviews tend to last between 1 to 1½ hours depending on the interview and your availability. The interview will be scheduled at a time and a quiet, public location that is most convenient for you. It is estimated that there will be at least 70-100 participants interviewed for this project. With your consent, we will tape the interviews and make transcriptions from the tapes that will be accessible only to the research investigator and any employed staff.

Although the interview is my main method of interest, I may also take notes on discussions or observations I make before or after the interview or in any social interactions outside of the interview context. I will use the same methods to protect the confidentiality of you and any third parties, including the use of pseudonyms and the omission of any identifying information. You are also welcome to request that any comments or observations I make be omitted from my research.

• POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS

Risks will be minimum, given these interviews are strictly voluntary and confidential, and interview questions are open-ended. We do not anticipate any risk in your participation, other than the possibility you may become uncomfortable answering some of the questions. However, you are free to answer questions any way you like and to decide not to answer questions that may make you feel uncomfortable.

• POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO SUBJECTS AND/OR SOCIETY

You may not receive any direct benefits from this research, other than the potentially therapeutic benefits of talking about your experiences. However, the hope is that this study will provide more information on the dynamics of immigrant family culture as they impact the socio-psychological development of native-born children, which may help to improve social service delivery to immigrant families and their children.

• PAYMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

You will be given a choice of \$15 cash or a \$15 Barnes & Nobles gift card right before the interview as a token of my appreciation.

• PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

This project has been approved by the University at Albany Institutional Review Board. Approval of this project only signifies that the procedures adequately protect the rights and welfare of the participants. Please note that absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed due to the limited protections of Internet access.

The only people who will know that you are a research subject are members of the research team and, if appropriate, the person who has referred me to you. All information obtained in this study is strictly confidential unless disclosure is required by law. In addition, the Institutional Review Board, any sponsors that may be affiliated with the study, and University or government officials responsible for monitoring this study may inspect these records, if necessary.

The given materials may also be published (e.g. journal articles or books) or presented at seminars/ conferences at any time throughout the study. In any write-up, publication, or public statement based on the study, your name and those of all third parties will be written under pseudonyms, if at all. Any name, occupation, or other potentially identifying information will be omitted or changed. To protect your privacy and confidentiality, I will ensure that your tapes are held in a locked cabinet in my home and transcripts are held in password-protected files in a personal computer accessible only to the research staff. All audio-taped information and the file with your personal information will be erased at the conclusion of the study around December, 2008. Interview notes and transcriptions will be archived by me with only ID numbers.

• PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

You may ask any questions regarding the research, and they will be answered fully. Your participation in this project is voluntary. You are free to withdraw your consent and discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you may otherwise have been entitled. You may also choose not to answer any question(s) you do not wish to for any reason. The investigator may withdraw you from participating in this research if circumstances arise which warrant doing so. If new information is obtained that may cause you to change your mind, your consent to continue participating in this study may be re-obtained.

• IDENTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATORS

If you have any questions or concerns about the research, please feel free to contact Angie Y. Chung at: Department of Sociology, University at Albany, 1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12222; (work) 518-442-4677; (e-mail) aychung@albany.edu. You may check my credentials on the university website at: <http://www.albany.edu/sociology/html/Faculty.htm>

• RIGHTS OF RESEARCH SUBJECTS

You may withdraw your consent at any time and discontinue participation without penalty. You are not waiving any legal claims, rights, or remedies because of your participation in this research study. One copy of this document will be kept together with the research records of this study. Also, you will be given a copy to keep. If you have questions regarding your rights as a research subject that have not been answered by the investigator or if you wish to report any concerns about the study, you may contact the Office of Research Compliance, at (518) 437-4569 or orc@uamail.albany.edu.

SIGNATURE OF RESEARCH SUBJECT

I have read the information provided above. I have been given an opportunity to ask questions and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I have been given a copy of this form.

By signing below, I willingly agree to participate in the research it describes.

Name of Subject

Signature of Subject Date

By signing below, I willingly agree to have the interview audio-taped.

Signature of Subject Date

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR

In my judgment the subject is voluntarily and knowingly giving informed consent and possesses the legal capacity to give informed consent to participate in this research study.

Signature of Investigator Date