



## INFORMED CONSENT

**TITLE OF THE STUDY:** Adult Heartstopper Fandom

**INVESTIGATORS:**

**Phone:**

**E-mail:**

Annaliese Grant

(520) 360-4359

[annaliese.grant@unlv.edu](mailto:annaliese.grant@unlv.edu)

Carrie Grant

(520) 235-5264

[cgrant@towson.edu](mailto:cgrant@towson.edu)

### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

You are invited to participate in a research study. The purpose of this research study is to understand how adult fans of the television show, *Heartstopper*, talk about and experience the show and its fan community.

### **PARTICIPANTS**

In order to participate in this study, you must fit this criteria: you are 18 years of age or older and you identify as a “fan” of the television show, *Heartstopper*. You may not participate in this study if you are under 18 years of age.

### **PROCEDURES**

If you volunteer to participate in this study, you will be asked to participate in a single interview with one or more research team members. You will be asked questions about your experience watching *Heartstopper*, what the show means to you, and your experience of the fan community of the show. You may participate in-person in a public place of your choice, over the phone, or via a video conference call (based on your preference). Your participation in the study should take approximately one hour.

### **RECORDING INFORMATION**

An audio recording of your interview will be made. These recordings will be used by the research team, solely for the purpose of transcription. The recordings will be kept until transcription is complete.

### **RISKS OF PARTICIPATION**

There are risks involved in all research studies. You might reveal personal, sensitive, or identifiable information when responding to us. We will remove all identifying information (including your name) from transcripts, deleting the recorded interviews thereafter, meaning a small risk exists should the data be breached in the interim. However, all information will be stored on secure, password-protected computers.

### **BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION**

You are not expected to benefit in any way from your participation in this research. However, we hope you enjoy talking about a show you love and your experience with it.

### **ALTERNATIVES TO PARTICIPATION**

Participation in this study is voluntary (that is, it is up to you whether or not to participate). You are free to withdraw or discontinue participation in this study at any time without penalty. You may also choose not to answer any questions that you do not want to answer.

If you do not want to participate in this study then do not consent to this study.

### **COST/COMPENSATION**

You will receive no compensation for your participation in this study. There is no financial cost to you to participate in this study.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

To ensure your anonymity, we are not collecting any identifying information that could be used to identify you. The audio-recording of the interview will be destroyed upon transcription by the research team or confidential transcription services, and any identifying information will be redacted during transcription. After interviews are completed, coordinating conversations on email, text, or social media will be deleted. Any publications or reports that result from this research will not include identifying information on any participant. The audio recording, transcription, and notes will be accessible only by the research team. All records will be stored in a locked facility at UNLV and Towson University.

The data are being collected via the online platform, Zoom. To address any concerns you may have about the confidentiality of data collected in this manner, please see Zoom's Data Privacy Policy at <https://zoom.us/privacy>.

### **VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION**

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate in this study or in any part of this study. You may withdraw at any time without prejudice to your relations with TU or UNLV. You are encouraged to ask questions about this study at the beginning or any time during the research study.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For questions or concerns about the study, you may contact Annaliese Grant at (520) 360-4359 or via email at [annaliese.grant@unlv.edu](mailto:annaliese.grant@unlv.edu)., or Carrie Grant at (520) 235-5264 or via email at [cgrant@towson.edu](mailto:cgrant@towson.edu).

For questions regarding the rights of research subjects, any complaints or comments regarding the manner in which the study is being conducted, contact **the UNLV Office of Research Integrity – Human Subjects at 702-895-0020 or via email at [IRB@unlv.edu](mailto:IRB@unlv.edu)**.

### **PARTICIPANT CONSENT**

By speaking during the interview session, I am indicating my understanding that (a) I am participating in a research study; (b) my participation is completely voluntary and that I can withdraw my consent at any time without penalty; and (c) I do not have to answer any questions I do not want to answer.