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INFORMED CONSENT

TikTok usage behaviors and mental health in adolescents and young adults

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to examine the differences in TikTok usage between suicidal and non-suicidal adolescents and young adults (AYA). We will use TikTok data to examine how frequently your child logs into the app, how much time they spend on TikTok, the hashtags and users they follow, what they search for, how frequently they post, and the type of content they engage with most frequently. Additionally, we want to understand your child's experiences with TikTok and what types of mental health interventions would be helpful. You are being asked to consent to your child participating in our study as a minor. We hope to have 140 people between the ages of 13 and 25 participate in this study. You and your child may have heard about our study because they are an adolescent or who use social media regularly and who may be interested in sharing their experiences with mental health.

PROCEDURES

This study has two parts. The first part is an interview over a HIPAA compliant zoom meeting with a member of our research team which should not take more than 100 minutes to complete. During this interview, we will ask about your child's mental health, any history with suicide and self-injury, and thoughts on TikTok and other kinds of social media. After this your child will be instructed on how to request their TikTok data within the application. The second part involves uploading their data. TikTok personal data requests take approximately 5 days to process and complete. As such, five days after the interview, your child will be sent a follow-up email containing a link to complete a few more questionnaires and upload their TikTok data which should take no more than 30 minutes to complete. Altogether, participating in this study will take a maximum of 1 hour and 40 minutes to complete.

RISKS and DISCOMFORTS

Some of the surveys and questions in this survey deal with personal mental health matters and it is possible that your child may experience discomfort and negative emotions while responding to them. Alternatively, your child may find it helpful to be able to talk about their experiences and gain helpful information about themselves. If there are specific questions that your child does not feel comfortable answering, they are free to skip those questions. Skipping questions will in no way affect the compensation that your child will receive for participation. If at any time in the

study your child becomes so distressed that they wish to drop out of the study, they may do so without penalty or losing compensation (i.e., gift cards) to which they are otherwise entitled. If your child's responses indicate that they are at risk for suicide, we will conduct a detailed risk assessment and take the necessary steps to help them stay safe. In addition, you as their legal guardian will be contacted via phone call immediately if your child is deemed to be at risk. Otherwise, your child will be exposed to no physical, psychological, and/or social risks as a result of their participation in the current study.

COMPENSATION

Your child will receive a total of \$75 in Amazon gift cards for completing the interview and the subsequent data upload. A \$25 gift card will be provided after completion of the initial interview and the \$50 gift card will be awarded after your child uploads their data 5 days later.

BENEFITS

There are no direct benefits for your child from participating in this research study. However, participating in research that asks individuals to share their experiences with mental health, suicide, and self-harm can help decrease distress by destigmatizing these experiences.

PARTICIPATION AND ALTERNATIVES TO PARTICIPATION

Your child's participation in this study is voluntary; they may decline to participate without penalty. If they decide to participate, they may skip any questions or withdraw from the study at any time without penalty and without loss of benefits to which they are otherwise entitled. If they withdraw from the study before data collection is completed, their data will be returned to them or destroyed. If at any point, they should feel like the content of the study is too distressing or stressful to continue, they are encouraged to withdraw from the study. Further, if they are experiencing high levels of distress or a crisis state, they are encouraged to reach out to the principal investigator, whose information is given at the top of this form, for a referral to an appropriate provider that will help them.

We are committed to your child's safety and encourage you to reach out at any point should you have any thoughts, concerns, questions, or simply need to speak with those within the field of psychology.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL / PSYCHOLOGICAL TREATMENT

Seattle Pacific University does not offer to reimburse participants for medical claims or other compensation. If physical injury is suffered in the course of research, or if your child experiences distress as a result of participation in the study, you are welcome to contact the principal investigator, Dr. Keyne Law at lawk3@spu.edu or 206-281-2956. Additionally, if your child is experiencing any thoughts of suicide, you can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988 with them for free, anonymous, 24-7 help. You can also access www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org for 100% anonymous, free, and confidential live chat, or text 'HELP' to 741741 for assistance from a trained counselor.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Your child will be assigned a participant number and your child's identifying information will be removed from all data, with the exception of this consent form. All of your child's data and their responses during the interview will be kept confidential and stored electronically on password-protected private computers of the investigators and will be made available only to persons conducting the study. All of your child's information will be kept separately by (a) data collected from your child identified only by their participant number (e.g., surveys), (b) forms containing

their identifying information without their participant number or data (e.g., consent forms), and (c) password protected bridge files that link their participant number to their identifying information (e.g., database for tracking study progress and contacting participants for follow-up). Separation is done at every level: separate databases or tables, separate files on the server, separate file cabinets for paper files. Permissions to electronic data are separated and only those with explicit need to know are permissioned into that database (e.g., researchers analyzing data do not need permission to bridge or identified files, but doctoral students and research assistants contacting participants for follow-up do). All data will be stored securely on the Seattle Pacific University's and University of Washington Medical Center servers for 3 years after the study has been completed. After 3 years, all information linking your child to this study will be securely destroyed.

Consistent with journal/guild expectations and the ethical principles of open science, a fully anonymous and non-identifiable version of the responses (i.e., dataset) may be posted online (e.g., to the APA-endorsed "Open Science Framework" [www.osf.io] or to the journal, submitted with the research article). All data will be thoroughly inspected prior to dissemination to confirm that no responses could inadvertently identify a participant, either directly or indirectly. Posting data (commonly referred to as 'data sharing') is necessary for reproducibility and replicability in science, allows peer reviewers and meta-analysts to check statistical assumptions, protects the field against data fraud, is required by journals and reviewers in social/personality psychology, and is increasingly seen as an ethical obligation within psychology.

SUBJECT RIGHTS

If you have questions at any time about the study or the procedures, (or your child experiences adverse effects from participating in this study,) you may contact the Principal Investigator, Keyne Law, at Seattle Pacific University, 3307 Third Ave. W., Suite 107, Seattle, WA 98119-1922 and 206-281-2956. If you have questions about your rights as a parent of a participant, please contact the SPU Institutional Review Board Chair at 206-281-2201 or IRB@SPU.edu.

CONSENT

By clicking "continue" you are indicating that you are aged 18 or above and are a legal guardian of the participant. You are indicating you understand to your satisfaction the information regarding participation in this research project and agree to allow your child to participate in this study. In no way does this waive your legal rights nor release the investigators, sponsors, or involved institutions from their legal and professional responsibilities. You will be provided a copy of this form.