

# Microsoft Research Project Participation Consent Form

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for taking the time to consider volunteering in a Microsoft Corporation research project. This form explains what would happen if you join this research project. Please read it carefully and take as much time as you need. Email the study team to ask about anything that is not clear.

Participation in this study is voluntary and you may withdraw at any time.

## Crowdsensing Noise Pollution

Principal Investigator: Siddharth Suri

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to measure the volume and type of sounds people are hearing during the shelter in place orders due to COVID-19 and to see how these sounds change as the shelter in place orders are lifted.

## PROCEDURES

During this project, the following will happen:

You will be asked to install a free commercial 3<sup>rd</sup> party app that records the decibel levels of the sounds around you. After the app is installed, you will spend a minute outside with the app running, and report to us the maximum and average decibel levels the app reports. We might also ask you to upload a screenshot of the app working and/or a picture of the sky to show that you were outside. We also ask you to report the GPS coordinates of wherever you are. You could get this by opening Google or Apple maps on your phone, dropping a pin wherever you are, clicking on the pin and reporting the latitude/longitude coordinates. We'll also ask you to tag the types of noise you heard during the minute the app was running. Possible tags could be birds, water, wind, airplanes, cars, horns, trucks, traffic, etc. We expect this entire process to take under 5 minutes. Finally, we'll ask what state you live in and if you'd like to be notified if we launch future HITs like this to workers who live in your state or your area.

Microsoft may document and collect information about your participation by recording the data you report along with the time you collected it. The data will be analyzed by scientists at Microsoft Research.

Approximately 1000 participants will be involved in this study.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Aside from your Mechanical Turk ID, we will not collect any personal information from you. Your Mechanical Turk ID will not be shared outside of Microsoft Research and the confines of this study without your permission, and will be promptly replaced with a code after compensation has been

successfully provided (30 days or less). De-identified data may be used for future research or given to another investigator for future use without additional consent.

- Microsoft Research is ultimately responsible for determining the purposes and uses of your personal information.
- **How we use personal information.** The personal information and other data collected during this project will be used primarily to perform research for purposes described in the introduction above. Such information and data, or the results of the research may eventually be used to develop and improve our commercial products, services or technologies.
- **How we store and share your personal information.** Your personal information will not be on the study information we receive about you or from you; this study information will be identified by a code. The key to the code will be kept separate from your personal and study information, which will be kept in a secured, limited access location.

Aside from the researchers of this study, your personal and study information may be shared with study team members outside of Microsoft, applicable individuals within Microsoft, but confidentiality will be maintained, as allowed by law.

- Your study information will be stored for a period of up to 5 years or the length of the project, whichever is sooner.
- **How you can access and control your information.** If you wish to review or copy any personal information you provided during the study, or if you want us to delete or correct any such data, email your request to the research team at: [suri@microsoft.com](mailto:suri@microsoft.com).

For additional information or concerns about how Microsoft handles your personal information, please see the [Microsoft Privacy Statement](#).

## BENEFITS AND RISKS

**Benefits:** There are no direct benefits to you that might reasonably be expected as a result of being in this study. The research team expects to learn how the types and volume of sounds people hear change as the shelter in place orders due to COVID-19 are lifted from the results of this research, as well as any public benefit that may come from these Research Results being shared with the greater scientific community.

**Risks:**

We are asking you to download a third party app to collect the decibel levels around you. Downloading an app can introduce risk to your phone. Please make sure to review the app's terms of use agreement. There are no other anticipated, foreseeable risks or discomforts to you as a result of being in this study.

## FUTURE USE OF YOUR IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION

(i) Identifiers might be removed from your identifiable private information, and after such removal, the information could be used for future research studies or distributed to another

investigator for future research studies without your (or your legally authorized representative's) additional informed consent,

## COSTS TO PARTICIPATION

We will ask you to use your mobile phone to some download and upload some data during this task.

## PAYMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

You will be paid \$1 through MTurk after completing each HIT.

Your data may be used to make new products, tests or findings. These may have value and may be developed and owned by Microsoft and/or others. If this happens, there are no plans to pay you.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Should you have any questions concerning this project, or if you are injured as a result of being in this study, please contact; Siddharth Suri, at [suri@microsoft.com](mailto:suri@microsoft.com).

Should you have any questions about your rights as a research subject, please contact Microsoft Research Ethics Program Feedback at [MSRStudyfeedback@microsoft.com](mailto:MSRStudyfeedback@microsoft.com).

## CONSENT

By clicking "I agree" below, you confirm that the study was explained to you, you had a chance to ask questions before beginning the study, and all your questions were answered satisfactorily. By clicking "I agree" below, you voluntarily consent to participate, and you do not give up any legal rights you have as a study participant.

You will be provided a link to download this form. On behalf of Microsoft, we thank you for your contribution and look forward to your research session.

### **Do you understand and consent to these terms?**

I agree

No thanks, I do not want to do this Task