



BIRTH OUTCOMES AND WATER (BOW)

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INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Project Name Birth Outcomes and Water (BOW)—*FOCUS GROUP/INTERVIEW*
IRB# 17044

Purpose of the Research:

The purpose of conducting focus groups and interviews relating to the Birth Outcomes and Water research project is to understand the reasons or barriers affecting people's choices to be involved or not involved in studies such as this one. If you agree to participate in interviews or focus groups you will be asked questions about barriers/motivations concerning participating or not participating in the study. This part of the study is open to those invited to participate in the main study, even if they did not participate.

Procedures: If you agree to be part of the focus group/interview, the Public Policy Center will contact you to schedule an interview or focus group, according to what is most convenient for you. The interviews and focus groups may be recorded in order to reference them during summarization and reporting of results.

Benefits: There are no known benefits to you personally for participating in the focus group/interview. However, your participation may help researchers improve their methods for research.

Risks and/or Discomforts: Those who participate in the interviews and focus groups will be persons who have been invited to be part of this study. If you are uncomfortable discussing your experiences in front of others, you will be invited to do an interview instead. If you do participate in the focus group, your identity will be known to others in the group.

Confidentiality: Other than others in the focus group (if applicable), your identity and participation in the study will be kept confidential along with all other information that could be traced to you. We will use a study code number to label and connect your data, including connecting your focus group or interview data to other data in the study (if relevant). All study information and any audio recordings from the interviews and focus groups will be stored on secure computer servers and in locked cabinets in the investigator's office, and will only be accessed by authorized personnel during the study and for two years after the study is completed. The results of this study may be used for teaching, research published in scientific journals or presented at scientific meetings, but never in a way that could identify you. We will never share any of your individual results or personal information with anyone.

Compensation: If you agree to participate in an interview or focus group, we will send you a \$25 check in the mail when your interview or focus group is completed.

Opportunity to Ask Questions: You may ask any questions you have about this study and have those questions answered before agreeing to participate in or continue participating in the study. You may email (bow@unl.edu) or

call (402-472-1633) the project leader (Dr. Martha Rhoades) at any time. You may leave a message and she will return your call. If you have questions concerning your rights as a study participant that have not been answered or to report any concerns about the study, you may contact the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Institutional Review Board at (402) 472-6965.

Freedom to Withdraw: You are free to choose whether to participate in this study and can stop participating at any time, without affecting your relationship with the investigators or the University of Nebraska. Your decision will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Consent, Right to Receive a Copy: You are voluntarily making a decision whether or not to participate and provide information about you and your child for this research study. You will be asked at the beginning of the focus group or interview to give verbal consent. That verbal consent and your participation indicates that you have read and understand the information presented, and have decided to participate.

This consent form is yours to keep. If you have questions at any point, please feel free to contact Dr. Rhoades at bow@unl.edu or (402) 472-1633.

Names and Phone numbers of investigators:

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