

## **Participant Information Sheet – Household Group**

**Project Title:** Civic Sinoburbia? New Chinese migrants and everyday citizenship in Sydney

### **Project Summary:**

You are invited to participate in a research study being conducted by Associate Professor Shanthi Robertson, Distinguished Professor Ien Ang, Professor Megan Watkins, Dr Bonnie Pang and Dr Alexandra Wong (Institute for Culture and Society) and Associate Professor Christina Ho (University of Technology Sydney).

Australia has seen a large influx of China-born migrants in the past few decades. Large numbers of them have taken up residency in various Sydney suburbs. This project aims to examine how new Chinese migrants participate in everyday civic life in three suburbs where they make up almost a third of the population. Focussing on five domains in everyday local civic life (i.e. education, culture, sports, religion and community services), this project looks at the opportunities and barriers that may affect their participation and how local civic organisations adapt to their growing presence in the areas. The findings from this project will generate new knowledge on the local impacts of new Chinese migration, which can help inform multicultural policies and enhance local social cohesion in Australia.

### **How is the study being paid for?**

The research is funded by the Australian Research Council Discovery Grant.

### **What will I be asked to do?**

You will be asked to

- 1) download a smartphone app 'Indeemo' on your mobile device and complete a mobile diary using the app for four weeks
- 2) allow us to observe you at different everyday civic spaces (e.g. schools, libraries, sports clubs, churches, cultural venues, care facilities and community centres)
- 3) complete two interviews with us at home (it will be audio recorded)
- 4) give consent to use the materials (video, audio, photos, texts) collected from your online diary on our project website

### **How much of my time will I need to give?**

We will ask you to complete your online diary using the mobile app 3 times a week for four weeks (each time will take less than 10 minutes and you may choose any time to suit your schedule). The two interviews with you and/or with your family members will last about 1 hour each (2 hours in total). The site observations will each last for about 1 hour, but it will not require extra time apart from your usual participation.

### **What benefits will I, and/or the broader community, receive for participating?**

You will not receive any direct benefits (e.g. in the form of reimbursement) from being in the study. However, we expect that the study will benefit you and the community at large by generating new knowledge on how new Chinese migrants participate in local civic life in suburbs and assisting local governments and organisations in responding more effectively to the demographic change in the

suburbs. The research will also provide insights for the multicultural policies and contribute to local community cohesion in Australia.

**Will the study involve any risk or discomfort for me? If so, what will be done to rectify it?**

We do not expect that there will be any risk or discomfort for you to take part in this study. The research will be carried out by experienced researchers who are well equipped to respond with different situations and locations with sensitivity. If you feel any discomfort during the interview or field observation, you may request the researchers to stop the research activity or negotiate another time for the visit. We are aware of the demands of completing the mobile diary and may bring inconvenience to you. If this is the case, we will happily negotiate this aspect with you.

**How do you intend to publish or disseminate the results?**

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, the information will be provided in such a way that the participant cannot be identified, except with your permission. We will use pseudonyms for all participants involved, and no personal information about you will be reported in any way that reveals your identity.

We may use the materials (e.g. video, audio, photos, texts) from your mobile diary on our project website, but no image of you will be used. We will seek your consent in advance if we display any materials from you on our website.

**Will the data and information that I have provided be disposed of?**

Please be assured that only the researchers will have access to the raw data that you provide. However, your data may be used in other related projects for an extended period of time. All data collected for this project will be retained for five years after publication. After five years, the data and information that you have provided will be securely disposed of.

**Can I withdraw from the study?**

Participation is entirely voluntary and you are not obliged to be involved. If you do participate, you can withdraw at any time without giving a reason. Please inform one of the researchers if you want to withdraw from the study.

If you do choose to withdraw, any information that you have supplied, including interview recordings and transcripts, mobile diary and observation notes will be securely disposed of.

**Can I tell other people about the study?**

Yes, you can tell other people about the study by providing them with Associate Professor Shanthi Robertson's contact details: [s.robertson@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:s.robertson@westernsydney.edu.au) or 9685 9536

They can contact Shanthi to discuss their participation in the research project and obtain a copy of the information sheet.

**What if I require further information?**

Please contact Associate Professor Shanthi Robertson should you wish to discuss the research further before deciding whether or not to participate

s.robertson@westernsydney.edu.au or 9685 9536

**What if I have a complaint?**

If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this research, you may contact the Ethics Committee through Research Services on Tel +61 2 4736 0229 or email [humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au).

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully, and you will be informed of the outcome.

If you agree to participate in this study, you may be asked to sign the Participant Consent Form. The information sheet is for you to keep and the consent form is retained by the researcher/s.

This study has been approved by the Western Sydney University Human Research Ethics Committee. The Approval number is H13926.