

Using talk and the body to prevent gender-based violence

Application ID: 0000027659

INFORMATION SHEET

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What is the purpose of the research?

Violence and sexual abuse against women and girls is a widespread problem in New Zealand. This research examines what can be done to prevent violence in the first place. To answer that question, we are video-recording and analysing women's self-defence courses.

Previous research has shown that self-defence training has positive impacts including increasing women's confidence and reducing their likelihood of experiencing future violence. However, we don't yet know how empowerment self-defence training works to transform women and make them less vulnerable to violence. This research project aims to fill this gap in knowledge.

The findings of the study will help to understand how violence can be deflected and de-escalated. The results may also be used by Women's Self-Defence Network – Wāhine Toa (WSDN-WT), for instructor training or to help other students learn how to keep themselves safe.

Who is conducting the research?

Ann Weatherall is the primary investigator on this project and is leading the research. She is a professor at the School of Psychology, specialising in Discursive Social Psychology and Gender Studies. She is working with Women's Self-Defence Network – Wāhine Toa to better understand exactly what makes feminist self-defence so effective.

Other members of the research team include Lorenza Mondada as an associate investigator. She is a Professor in Linguistics from the University of Basel. Emma Tennent is an associate investigator from Victoria University of Wellington. Maja Zonjić is a research fellow from Victoria University of Wellington. Bell Murphy is a senior research assistant from Otago University who is also a trained self-defence instructor.

What is involved if you agree to participate?

The research involves video-recording self-defence classes as they naturally occur. Classes will only be recorded if all participants agree to it. In addition to the trained instructor who will lead the class, a designated safety kaiako (teacher) may be present for the research. The kaiako's role is to ensure participant safety during the research.

Researchers will be on site for recording and will explain the process before class begins. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and change your mind about participating at the start of class. You can ask for the recording to stop at any time during the class. You don't need to give a reason and can speak to the instructor, the researchers, or the safety kaiako.

At the end of the class, the researchers will check to make sure everyone is still happy to have the recording included in the research sample. You can let us know if you don't want to be involved and we will delete the bits where you appear. You can also contact us up to a week after the course if you want to withdraw from the study and we will delete the recordings you appear in.

How will the recordings be used?

The recordings will be analysed using a specialised and technical approach called conversation analysis. This approach examines social interaction 'under the microscope' looking not only at the words spoken, but how they are said (e.g. volume and tone) and the bodily movements and orientations that occur between people.

The research team will analyse the video recordings by watching them multiple times to identify patterns and produce detailed descriptions of talk and the body in action.

We will identify short clips of good practice that can be useful as training materials for course instructors. If you appear in one of these clips, we will contact you to secure your consent to share the clip with WSDN-WT. These recordings will only be used to support training for instructors.

We will also present data in academic settings such as conference presentations and research articles. We will digitally edit the recordings so no one is identifiable in the data extracts we present.

Privacy and Confidentiality

A digital copy of your consent form and the video-recordings of the class will be safely stored on password protected servers at Victoria University of Wellington. Only the research team will have access to the video recordings. Any recordings or extracts copied from the server for analysis will be stored on encrypted password-protected storage devices.

This research has been approved by the Victoria University of Wellington Human Ethics Committee (ID: 0000027659). If you have any concerns about the ethical conduct of the research you may contact the Victoria University HEC Convener Dr. Judith Loveridge at hec@vuw.ac.nz or 04 463 6028.

What will the project produce?

The information from the research will be used to better understand women's self-defence and to support courses. The results may also be included in publications to scientific journals, presentations at academic conferences, and thesis work.

If you have any questions, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact Ann Weatherall as listed above. You can also check out her research webpage where updates about this project will be posted: <https://discursivepsychology.wordpress.com/>

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CONSENT FORM

- I have read the Information Sheet and understand the project.
- My questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I understand that I can ask further questions by contacting Ann (details on the information sheet)
- I understand that I can ask the recording to be stopped at any time during the class and that I can withdraw from the study up to one week after the class by contacting Ann
- I agree to be video-recorded as a participant in a Women's Self-Defence Network – Wāhine Toa class.
- I confirm that I am over sixteen years of age

I consent to participate:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: __/__/____

