

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Title of Project: The Dark Side of Architecture: The Human Cost in Construction

Name and Contact Details of Researcher(s): David Shipley up2144278@myport.ac.uk

Name and Contact Details of Tutor/Supervisor: Dario Pedrabissi dario.pedrabissi@port.ac.uk

1. Invitation

I am David Shipley and am studying the MArch Architecture course at the University of Portsmouth. This research relates to the Thesis Dissertation module.

I would like to invite you to take part in my research study. Joining the study is entirely up to you, but before you decide I would like you to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. I will go through this information sheet with you, to help you decide whether or not you would like to take part and answer any questions you may have. I would suggest this should take about 10 minutes. Please feel free to talk to others about the study if you wish. Do ask if anything is unclear.

2. Study Summary

This study is concerned with the experience of construction professionals in relation to human rights issues, which is important because it will provide a valuable insight to this aspect of the industry. I am seeking participants who are currently working in various aspects of the industry and have general knowledge and experience surrounding the research title question. Participation in the research would require you to complete a series of written responses which will take approximately 30 minutes of your time. No travel is required as all questions/responses can be submitted via email.

3. What is the purpose of the study?

The intention of this study is to understand from those in industry how they view ethical practice in relation to alleged human rights dilemmas, drawing upon their relevant and specialist experience. The project itself is educational which will assist in my pursuit of a Master's degree.

4. Why have I been invited?

You have been invited to participate due to your line of work, knowledge of the industry and views surrounding the topics covered. Around 30 individuals have been contacted for inclusion, collectively representing various perspectives within the industry. You have been invited in a personal capacity and not as a member representative of your company.

5. Do I have to take part?

No, taking part in this research is entirely voluntary. It is up to you to decide if you want to volunteer for the study. I will describe the study in this information sheet. If you agree to take part, I will then ask you to sign the attached consent form, dated November 2024, version number 1.

6. What will happen to me if I take part?

If you choose to participate, you can expect to take up to 30 minutes to answer the questions put forward. These can be returned via email, no travel will be necessary. All responses will be initially copied verbatim, although will be anonymised with no identifying notes recorded. You will be invited to comment freely, writing

as little or as much that you feel comfortable with. Specific consent will be sought if the finalised material has the potential to identify, although for the purposes of this study, it is only expected to be used for educational purposes.

7. Expenses and payments

Please note that no payment will be made to participants for their time.

8. Anything else I will have to do?

If you choose to participate, please answer honestly and openly. If there is a question you are unsure about, you can contact me for clarification or choose not to answer it.

9. What data will be collected and / or measurements taken?

The data collected will be analysed to identify patterns and themes for further analysis within the study. No specialist equipment or measures are required, with the questions being sent to you via email with the same option for convenience, expected in return of the responses.

10. What are the possible disadvantages, burdens and risks of taking part?

No burdens or risks have been identified, but all participants are reminded that they can withdraw at any time should they wish to.

11. What are the possible advantages or benefits of taking part?

No benefits have been identified for participating in this study, although a greater societal benefit may be gained as the researcher further improves their understanding of this area.

12. Will my data be kept confidential?

The raw data will be kept securely by the researcher. This will be in the format of a password-protected database on the university system. All identifying remarks shall be removed from the responses received, ensuring anonymity of results in the final draft of the work.

Upon completion of the research, all paper and electronic copies of information shall be disposed of securely and otherwise deleted from the database.

13. What will happen if I don't want to carry on with the study?

As a volunteer you can stop any participation at any time, or withdraw from the study at any time before 3 January 2025, without giving a reason if you do not wish to. If you do withdraw from a study after some data has been collected you will be asked if you are content for the data collected thus far to be retained and included in the study. If you prefer, the data collected can be destroyed and not included in the study. Once the research has been completed, and the data analysed, it will not be possible for you to withdraw your data from the study.

14. What if there is a problem?

If you have a query, concern or complaint about any aspect of this study, in the first instance you should contact the researcher if appropriate. If the researcher is a student, there will also be an academic member of

staff listed as the supervisor whom you can contact. If there is a complaint and there is a supervisor listed, please contact the Supervisor with details of the complaint. The contact details for both the researcher and any supervisor are detailed on page 1.

If your concern or complaint is not resolved by the researcher or their supervisor, you should contact the Head of Department:

The Head of Department	Lynne Mesher
University of Portsmouth	023 9284 5452
School of Architecture, Art and Design	Lynne.Mesher@port.ac.uk
Eldon Building	
Winston Churchill Avenue	
Portsmouth	
Hampshire	
PO1 2UP	

If the complaint remains unresolved, please contact:
The University Complaints Officer
023 9284 3642 complaintsadvice@port.ac.uk

15. Who is funding the research?

This research receives no direct funding as it is part of the general studies for the MArch Architecture programme. The researcher will not receive any financial reward by conducting this study.

16. Who has reviewed the study?

Taught undergraduate and postgraduate research involving human participants is reviewed by a departmental ethics processes overseen by a faculty-level ethics committee.

Thank you

Thank you for taking time to read this information sheet and for considering volunteering for this research.