Hello,

We are Dr. Dionne Stephens and Dr. Asia Eaton, faculty members at Florida International University in the Department of Psychology. We are conducting a research study to find out what teens think about dating violence, sexuality, and coercion. The purpose of this research study is to discuss your attitudes about gender, race, and violence in dating relationships.

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS STUDY?
We would like for you to be in a research study we are doing. A research study is a way to learn information about something. We would like to find out more about teens’ experiences and attitudes, especially regarding romance, sexuality, and dating.

HOW MANY OTHERS WILL BE IN THIS STUDY?
If you agree to participate in this study, you will be one of 100 adolescents in this research study.

HOW LONG WILL THE STUDY LAST?
Your participation will require 1 hour.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THIS STUDY?
If you participate in this study, you will first be invited to be interviewed about dating relationships. The 30-minute one-on-one interview will be conducted by a trained research staff member and will take place in private rooms. Afterschool staff will not be present while you are being interviewed in order to protect your privacy. Investigators will audiotape the interviews. After the one-on-one interview, you will be asked to complete a 30-minute anonymous online survey, also about dating, intimacy, and relationships. There will be no identifying number that will connect you or your family members with the interview on audiotapes or the online survey. All participation will be completely anonymous.

As an incentive for study participation, you will be given a $10 gift card. If at any time, you decide to stop participating in the interview or questionnaire, the investigators will stop the study. You will not be penalized or punished by the investigators or any afterschool staff for withdrawing participation or not answering certain interview or survey questions, and you will still receive the $10 gift card.

CAN ANYTHING BAD HAPPEN TO ME?
We do not expect any harm to you by being in this study. You may experience minor emotional discomfort with answering questions about sexual behavior. If you do not want to answer any question in the interview or survey, you can decline. If you decide to participate you are free to change your mind at any time while completing the demographic questionnaire and stop answering the interview questions. Please be reassured that your participation is totally voluntary, completely confidential, and anonymous.

CAN ANYTHING GOOD HAPPEN TO ME?
With your participation in this study, you will benefit from learning about yourself and your relationships. You will also be helping researchers better understand the way adolescents feel about dating relationships.
DO I HAVE OTHER CHOICES?
There are no known alternatives available to you other than not taking part in this study.

WILL ANYONE KNOW I AM IN THE STUDY?
The records of this study will be kept private and will be protected to the fullest extent provided by law. In any sort of report we might publish, we will not include any information that will make it possible to identify your child as a subject. Research records will be stored securely and only the researcher team will have access to them. None of the data collected will be shared with anyone other than the FIU academic research team. In accordance with Florida Law, the only exceptions to confidentiality are in cases where a) informants report hurting themselves or others or b) informants report the occurrence of child abuse or neglect. In such cases, you will be informed and, if necessary, so will the proper authorities.

WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT TO DO THIS?
You do not have to be in this study if you don’t want to and you can quit the study at any time. If you don’t like a question, you don’t have to answer it and, if you ask, your answers will not be used in the study. No one will get mad at you if you decide you don’t want to participate.

WHO CAN I TALK TO ABOUT THE STUDY?
If you have any questions about the research study you may contact Dr. Asia Eaton, at Florida International University DM 445A; 11200 SW 8th St., Miami, Fl. 33199; 305-348-0229, aeaton@fiu.edu. If you would like to talk with someone about your rights of being a participant in this research study, you may contact the FIU Office of Research Integrity by phone at 305-348-2494 or by email at ori@fiu.edu.

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT
This research study has been explained to me and I agree to be in this study.

__________________________________________  __________________________
Signature of Adolescent Participant                  Date

____________________________________
Printed Name of Adolescent Participant
Dear Parent or Legal Guardian,

We are Dr. Dionne Stephens and Dr. Asia Eaton, faculty members at Florida International University in the Department of Psychology. We are conducting a research study to find out what adolescents think about dating violence, sexuality, and coercion. The purpose of this research study is to discuss your teen’s attitudes about gender, race, and violence in dating relationships.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY
You are being asked to give your permission for your child to be in a research study. The purpose of this study is to examine adolescent’s experiences and attitudes regarding sexuality and dating.

NUMBER OF STUDY PARTICIPANTS
If you agree to allow your son or daughter to participate in this study, he/she will be one of 100 students in this research study.

DURATION OF THE STUDY
Participation in this study will require 1 hour of your child’s time.

INCENTIVE
As an incentive for study participation, your child will be given a $10 gift card.

PROCEDURES
Your child will be given an Assent Form in order to help her or him to decide whether or not to participate in the study once your permission is granted. Your child will be given an Assent Form because she or he is under the age of 18. "Assent" means that your child:
1. agrees to participate in this research study;
2. understands what is being asked to do as a participant in this research study;
3. has been read participant rights in this research study and understands those rights.

If your child participates in this study, he or she will first be invited to be interviewed about dating relationships. The 30-minute one-on-one interviews between participants and trained research staff will take place in private rooms. Afterschool staff will not be present while participants are being interviewed in order to protect their privacy. Investigators will audiotape participants’ interviews. After the one-on-one interview, your child will complete a 30-minute anonymous online survey, also about dating, intimacy, and relationships. There will be no identifying number that will connect you or your family members with the interview on audiotapes or the online survey. All participation will be completely anonymous.

If at any time your child decides to stop participating in the interview or questionnaire, the investigators will stop the study. Your child will not be penalized or punished by the investigators or any afterschool staff for withdrawing participation, and he or she will still receive the $10 gift card.

RISKS AND/OR DISCOMFORTS
We do not expect any harm to your child by being in this study. They may experience minor emotional discomfort with answering questions about sexual behavior. If you do not want them or they choose to not to take part, they can decline. If you agree to have your child take part, you are free to change your mind at any time. Please be reassured that your participation is totally voluntary, completely confidential, and anonymous.
There are no known long-term risks for your child as a participant of this study. The questions and questionnaires used in this study have been used in similar studies with other students. If needed, your child may let the research assistant know that they need a break from answering questions. The research assistants are available to help your child in that situation.

BENEFITS
Your son or daughter will benefit from learning about themselves and their relationships via their private survey responses. In addition, their participation will provide information that will be helpful in expanding scientific knowledge.

ALTERNATIVES
There are no known alternatives available to your child other than not taking part in this study. However, any new findings which may relate to your child’s willingness to participate will be provided to you.

CONFIDENTIALITY
The records of this study will be kept private and will be protected to the fullest extent provided by law. In any sort of report we might publish, we will not include any information that will make it possible to identify your child as a subject. Research records will be stored securely and only the researcher team will have access to them. None of the data collected will be shared with anyone other than the FIU academic research team. In accordance with Florida Law, the only exceptions to confidentiality are in cases where a) informants report hurting themselves or others or b) informants report the occurrence of child abuse or neglect. In such cases, you will be informed and, if necessary, so will the proper authorities.

RIGHT TO DECLINE OR WITHDRAW
Your child’s participation in this study is voluntary. Your child is free to participate in the study or withdraw his/her consent at any time during the study. Your child’s withdrawal or lack of participation in this study will not affect any benefits to which he/she is otherwise entitled. The investigator reserves the right to remove your son or daughter from the study without your consent at such time that they feel it is in the best interest.

RESEARCHER CONTACT INFORMATION
If you have any questions about the purpose, procedures, or any other issues relating to this research study please contact the researcher, Dr. Asia Eaton, at Florida International University DM 445A; 11200 SW 8th St., Miami, Fl. 33199; 305-348-0229, aeaton@fiu.edu. If you would like to talk with someone about your child’s rights as a subject in this research study or about ethical issues with this research study, you may contact the FIU Office of Research Integrity by phone at 305-348-2494 or by email at ori@fiu.edu.

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT
I have read the information in this consent form and agree to allow my child to participate in this study. I have had a chance to ask any questions I have about this study, and they have been answered for me. I understand that I am entitled to a copy of this form after it has been read and signed.

______________________________   _________________________
Signature of Parent/Guardian   Date

______________________________   _________________________
Printed Name of Parent/ Guardian   Printed Name of Adolescent Participant