

**University of Washington
Research Participation Form**

Youth Online Community Moderators

Researchers: **Jina A. Yoon**, PhD Student at the University of Washington Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering. [jinayoon@cs.uw.edu](mailto:jina.yoon@cs.uw.edu).

Amy X. Zhang, Assistant Professor at the University of Washington Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering. axz@cs.uw.edu

Joseph Seering, Postdoctoral Researcher at Stanford University.
seeringj@stanford.edu

We are asking you to be in a research study. Here is some information to help you decide if you want to volunteer to be in the study. Please read this carefully. You may ask any questions about the study. Then you can decide whether you want to be in the study.

1. What is this study about?

This study is about how teenagers moderate their own online communities on apps like Discord, Twitch, and Reddit. We also want to know more about what teenagers think of when it comes to internet safety. We think it is important to understand teenagers' opinions on the topic.

2. Who are the researchers?

We are researchers at the University of Washington and Stanford University. We have been studying how users moderate groups on apps like Facebook Groups, Reddit, Discord, and Twitch for several years. We have interviewed a lot of adults about what they do as moderators, but we would also like to know what teenagers do as moderators because a lot of the moderators on these apps are not adults yet.

3. What will happen to me in this study?

This research only involves an interview. It is not an experiment. The only thing that people who are in the study will do is answer some questions through a voice call, video call, or text messages. The interview should take between 30 and 60 minutes depending on how much they have to say. The interview will be recorded so that the researchers can remember what we talked about with you. We will erase anything in the recording that contains unique information about you, like your username or name.

4. What types of questions will be in the interview?

In this study, we will ask you questions about how you use the social media app where we contacted you, or other apps that you have been a moderator/admin in. These questions will be focused on how you moderate groups on this app. We will ask you about the usual types of things you do as a moderator in your groups and how you learned how to be a moderator. We will ask you about things like which tools you use, whether you use any bots, whether you talk with other moderators about how to moderate, and how you learned how to be a moderator.

5. Will people know my name and username from this study?

No. We will erase any information about your name, username, or anything else that is unique about you before we share or publish the research. We will not ask you for any personal information. We might ask you some basic questions about you like country, age, or gender.

6. Can anything bad happen to me in this study?

People who use social media have lots of different experiences, both good and bad. It's possible that we might ask some questions that could remind you of bad experiences you have had on this app in the past, but you don't have to talk about any of those experiences if you don't want to. You can skip any questions if you want, or ask any questions at any time. If anything about this study makes you feel uncomfortable, you should feel free to tell your parents or guardians.

7. Can anything good happen to me in this study?

Although the results of this study might not benefit you directly, we hope that the results of this study will help people and companies understand the experiences of teenagers who are moderators on this app better so that the app can be improved. You will also receive a \$15 USD gift code as a thank you for your time.

If you are in the US, the default store for the gift card will be Amazon.com, and you will receive the code in 1-2 weeks. You can also choose a different store from this catalog if you want to: <https://www.tangocard.com/reward-catalog>. If you choose a store from that website, it will take much longer (about 4-8 weeks).

If you are not in the US, you have to choose which store you want the gift card from this catalog here: <https://www.tangocard.com/reward-catalog>. It will take about 4-8 weeks to get your gift code because we are required to fill out more paperwork for international participants.

8. Who can I talk to about the study?

You are allowed to talk about the study with anyone. We might ask you to share information about the study with your friends or other moderators who might want to be in the study, but you don't have to if you don't want to. If you have any questions about the study or any problems to do with the study you can contact the researcher in charge of the study, Jina Yoon. You can email her at jinyoon@cs.uw.edu, or message her on whichever social media app you are talking to her on. If you have questions about the study but want to talk to someone else who is not in charge of the study, you can call the University of Washington Human Subjects Division (HSD) at 206-543-0098 or email them at hsdinfo@uw.edu.

9. What if I don't want to be in this study?

You don't have to be in this study. If you don't want to be in the study, you won't get in trouble. If you decided you want to be in it but change your mind later, you can stop at any time. You can skip any questions during the interview. You will still get the \$15 gift code even if you stop the study at any time.

Agreement Statement

If you agree to be in this study after reading this form, please message the researcher you are talking to by typing this in the chat:

"I agree to be in this study."
