

How to Participate in Our Study

Read the information below to learn more about our study and to find out if you are eligible to participate.

Why is the study being conducted?

The purpose of this study is to better understand how emotions are spread on social media in the wake of shocking events and how people manage their emotions in response to such events.

Am I eligible to participate?

You're eligible to be in this study if you are:

- Age 20 or older by September 1, 2018
- Used some form of social media during the time of the protests (September 2016, which is the month of the Keith Lamont Scott shooting)
- Resident of Charlotte, or lived within one hour of Charlotte, during September 2016

You should also have opinions about the Keith Scott shooting/protest.

What happens if I choose to participate?

If you are interested in participating, you will complete a [screening survey](#). If selected for participation in the study following the screening survey, our scheduler, Michael Brunswick, will follow up with you to schedule the interview/focus group.

At the beginning of the interview/focus group, you will talk through the consent information described on this page, and you will have the opportunity to ask questions before deciding whether to sign the consent form. After signing the consent form, you will respond to questions about your emotional response to the Keith Scott shooting/protest. You will be asked if you would be willing to be available for follow-up questions via phone or email, which is entirely optional. You will also be asked if you would like to receive an executive summary of the results with an invitation for feedback, which is also entirely optional. Finally, you will be asked to choose whether to have your non-identifiable transcript stored in a research database for the purpose of future studies and the historical record, or whether you prefer to keep your transcript confidential.

The audio of the focus group would be recorded for accuracy. Details about confidentiality can be found below. Remember, participation in this study is completely voluntary. You can choose to be in the study or not.

Who is funding this project?

This research is being funded by the Department of Defense Army Research Office Grant number #72487-RT-REP.

How do I access the screening survey?

The screening survey can be found [here](#).

If you have questions, feel free to reach out to us at sms-study@uncc.edu.