

**Australian Queer Screen: Representation of Gender and Sexual Diversity in Australian Film and Television,
1990-2010 (Phase One: Creative Producer Interviews)**

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM

Thank you for your interest in this project. This project is investigating gender- and sexually-diverse (LGBTIQ+) characters, themes and narratives in Australian film and television (1990-present), and their impact on health, identity and culture.

We are providing the first comprehensive account of Australian media production's contribution to gender/sexual minority representation, in the context of its importance for fostering (i) healthy identities, and (ii) acceptance of minorities to mainstream audiences in a digital media era. This knowledge will benefit the mental health, wellbeing and social harmony for both minority and mainstream Australians and help showcase a very important aspect of Australian media inclusivity and diversity in international scholarship. The project is funded for three years (2018-2020) by the Australian Research Council under its Discovery Projects scheme.

In this first phase of the research, we talked to people who have been involved in the creative production of Australian film and television content with gender- and sexually-diverse themes, stories, characters and content to find out their thoughts about the kinds of films and series they were creating.

In the second, current phase of the research, we are interviewing people who were born in the 1970s and those born in the 1990s to find out about the kind of Australian films/series with LGBTQ and diverse content that they remember, how it was influential and how it might have helped with creating social change and acceptance of minorities in Australia.

This research is important because it will provide a unique opportunity to understand more fully the importance of these texts for young people in terms of health, education and identity and for the broader community in terms of fostering positive social change and acceptance of diversity.

Your participation in this project would assist with developing a clearer picture of the ways in which film and television is understood and responded to in an everyday context.

If you choose to be a part of this project you will be invited to participate in a one-on-one interview conducted in Brisbane, Adelaide, Melbourne or Perth. The interview will be around 45-60 minutes duration. Interviews will be recorded on a digital voice recorder so that the project researchers can later accurately transcribe what has been discussed and apply data analysis to the information discussed. Your name and personal identifying details will remain confidential; a pseudonym will appear against your responses when the interview is transcribed, and the names of any friends, organisations, educational institutions will be removed from public view. Also, names of persons and texts, or content that might identify another person will not be used in any report or other publication. Interview data and other information will only be accessed by the project researchers with access to password protected files on a computer hard drive and removable USB device.

All research participants are entitled to retain a copy of any Participant Information Form and/or Participant Consent Form relating to this research project.

Please be reassured that your participation in this research project is entirely **voluntary**. Should you feel uncomfortable at any stage with what is being discussed you are able to decline to respond to any question, or withdraw from the project as any time without any disadvantage to yourself.

Approval to conduct this research has been provided by the University of Western Australia, in accordance with its ethics review and approval procedures. Any person considering participation in this research project, or agreeing to participate, may raise any questions or issues with the researchers at any time. In addition, any person not satisfied with the response of researchers may raise ethics issues or concerns, and may make any complaints about this research project by contacting the Human Ethics Office at the University of Western Australia on (08) 6488 3703 or by emailing to humanethics@uwa.edu.au.

If you have any questions or require any further information about the research project, please contact either:

Project Chief Investigator
Associate Professor Rob Cover

School of Social Sciences
The University of Western Australia (M257)
35 Stirling Highway, CRAWLEY WA 6009
Phone: 0-437 902 967
Email: rob.cover@uwa.edu.au

Research Fellow
Dr Duc Dau

School of Social Sciences
The University of Western Australia (M257)
35 Stirling Highway, CRAWLEY WA 6009
Email: duc.dau@uwa.edu.au

If you would like to speak with someone further regarding any issues raised during your interview the following contacts may be helpful:

UWA Counselling and Psychological Services

First Floor, Social Sciences Building
(South Wing)
The University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Hwy
Crawley WA 6009
Telephone (+61 8) 6488 2423