

## School for Policy Studies

### Information sheet

#### **Exploring the narratives, motivations and experiences of people engaging in an online sewalong: the #focuscuttingsewalong (previously known as the #fussycuttingsewalong)**

My name is Naomi Clarke and I am at the University of Bristol studying for a Social Work PhD. I realise there is a lot of information on this sheet so please do let me know if I can answer any questions or if there is another format I can use to make the information more accessible.

#### **“What is the research about?”**

For my PhD I am doing a research project about people’s experiences of sewing in an online sewalong (the Instagram-led #focuscuttingsewalong which was also previously known as the #fussycuttingsewalong), their experiences of sewing generally, and their motivations for both sewing and engaging in the #fussycuttingsewalong.

#### **“What is involved?”**

Your participation is completely voluntary. If you don't wish to take part then that's okay and this will not go any further. You can continue to be a part of the sewalong without participating in the research project.

As part of the research project, I would like to preserve the posts you have made as part of your sewalong journey. This involves me taking a screenshot of the posts you have made on Instagram with the hashtag #focuscuttingsewalong and #fussycuttingsewalong which would include the photo, the written texts and the comments.

Taking part would firstly involve completing the consent form which you can find **here:** <https://sps.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/consent-form-sewalong>

#### **“What about privacy?”**



I may write academic publications and give talks based on this project. I may use direct quotes and/or your experiences, thoughts and the photos of your work but I will **not** use your name, your Instagram name, or any other identifying information without your express consent. Whilst I will do my very best to anonymise your experiences if you request that they be anonymised, it is also important to note that it may be difficult to proffer complete anonymity as some sewing photos, by their very nature, may be personal to you, your style and could potentially be identifying. Everything you say will be private, unless you say something that makes me worry about serious harm (which is behaviour that poses a risk physically and/or emotionally) either to yourself or to others. If this happens, then I'll need to talk about this with my supervisor. All of the photos will be stored on a password-protected backed-up University of Bristol network computer and anonymised. You have the right to request for your data to be erased at any point and for any reason. This request may, however, be difficult to ensure if the data has been suitably anonymised.

**“What if I’m happy for you to preserve my sewalong photos but I don’t want the images to be used in reports/publications?”**

That’s absolutely okay! Please just clearly state in your email and in the consent survey that you don’t want any of the images to be used in any reports or publications.

**“What next?”**

Your participation is entirely voluntary. If you’re happy to take part in the project, then please complete the consent survey (available at). I will keep records of the consent survey completion and these records will be destroyed if you withdraw your consent. Once you’ve completed the consent survey, I will then start to preserve your images by taking screenshots.

If you don’t wish to take part then that’s okay and this will not go any further. You do **not** have to take part in this research and participation is voluntary. You can still take part in the sewalong without taking part in the research project.

**Further information:**

If you’d like to know any more about the project I’m more than happy to talk with you. My contact details and my PhD supervisor’s details (Professor Debbie Watson) are available on the bottom of this form. I’ve received ethical approval from the School for Policy Studies Ethics Committee at the University of Bristol.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Naomi Clarke

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**PhD supervisor:**

**Professor Debbie Watson**

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