



Institutional Review Board Application for EXPEDITED or FULL BOARD REVIEW

Use this form for an expedited or full board review of any student, faculty, or staff research project involving human subjects. For studies that require a full review, please note that the IRB meets once a month and to be considered the project must be submitted ten working days prior to the board meeting.

Principal Investigator: Valerie Alms

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Are you:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APU student		
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	Chair, dean, or supervisor	Department
	Phone	Email
<input type="checkbox"/> Unaffiliated with APU		
	Institutional Affiliation and Address	
	Faculty Advisor or Chair	Email

List here the names and email addresses of all persons who consent participants, implement research procedures, and collect research data.

Name	Email address
Valerie Alms	valms13@apu.edu

Project Title:
Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploration of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

Is this a Pilot Study? Yes No

If Yes, who is your target sponsor? N/A

Is this research funded by award?

Yes No

If Yes, list the following: N/A

1. Funding Agency :
(if NIH funded, attach certificate of compliance)
2. Study Initiator: Local Investigator Funding Agency
3. Award Number:
4. Confirmed or estimated amount of award

If there is a contract related to this study of which APU is a party, has the office of the General Counsel approved the contract?

Yes No N/A

Is the research project a clinical trial:

Yes No

Expected Research Start Date: May 21, 2015

Expected End Date: July 27, 2015

Recommendation for IRB Review Category (see IRB instructions)

Full Board Review

Expedited Category # _____ (see page 6 in this handbook)

If you are requesting Expedited review, give rationale for doing so.

Please confirm the following:

- Vulnerable population? No
Sensitive topic? No
Exceeds minimal risk? No

Paginate your application once it is complete. Place the page numbers as found in your application into the Index below. Some items may not be needed for your application.

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2014-15 Institutional Review Board Application form, continued

Please complete the following sections in enough detail for the IRB to understand the nature, intent, and procedure of your project. Enter the following information within this document.

1. Title:

Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploratory Case Study Analysis of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

2. **Project Summary:** Summarize your project, listing goals, participants, researcher interventions (for experimental research) and measures. (Limit – 120 words)

The researcher will analyze how discussion-based community groups can facilitate worldview change and lifestyle transformation. In collaboration with Delhi House Society, the researcher's partner NGO, an **exploratory case study** will be conducted with a women's well-being group in Meena Bazaar, a Muslim squatter community. Through a **participatory action approach**, the researcher will examine how paradigm shifts occur through interactive group conversations, and discover which elements of group structure and content promote improved well-being.

Participant observations and interviews will develop comparative case studies with other community **group facilitators and participants** throughout Delhi to compare different group formats and identify elements that lead to transformation. The data will be used to develop a framework for community groups that incorporates conversations into the community development process.

3. **Research Question:** State your research questions and hypotheses if applicable:

Research Question: What are effective elements in community groups in Delhi, India that promote worldview change that leads to improved well-being?

Research Hypothesis: The researcher seeks to identify effective elements in community groups that promote worldview change which leads to improved well-being. She believes that **conversations*** have the ability to cultivate critical thinking. When paired with biblical teaching and storytelling, the researcher proposes that this dialectical process provides a space for transformational conversations about Jesus to occur. These conversations have the potential to promote **worldview change**** and **lifestyle transformation*****.

After reviewing scholarly literature on the subject, the researcher worked with the Delhi House Society staff to formulate a preliminary community group format for the exploratory portion of this survey. See **Page 30 for a basic outline of the proposed group format.**

***Conversation:** In the context of the community groups in this study, conversation refers to the group discussion. The term "conversation" comes from Dr. Viv Grigg's concept of *transformational*

conversations. These conversations are a holistically-focused dialectical process, addressing temporal issues while also addressing the spiritual root to human problems. The goal is to dialogue in order to collectively arrive at a holistic solution to a problem and produce transformative action (Grigg, 2009). See Page 36 for references.

****Worldview Change:** A paradigm shift occurs which changes the way a person thinks and causes him or her to view reality from a new perspective. Previous assumptions are often challenged or even replaced with new ones during this process. In this study, the researcher will be using this term primarily to refer to inward spiritual transformation.

*****Lifestyle Transformation:** This is behavior change that occurs as a result of worldview change. Inward spiritual change leads to holistic change of the individual and how they interact with the world.

4. Foreseeable Benefits:

a. What, if any, is the immediate benefit of this research to the *participant*?

1. Members of the exploratory study group in Meena Bazaar may experience benefits as a result of participating in this community group, such as improvements in well-being that result from the participants' interactive conversations.

2. Delhi House Society, the researcher's partner organization, is also a participating body. The organization has been developing relationships with the homeless population in Meena Bazaar for the past few years and also work with other impoverished communities in Delhi. Therefore, this research will directly benefit them as a community development organization, as they will receive improvements to their framework with which to conduct conversation-based community interventions.

3. There are no foreseeable immediate benefits for the case studies of participants in groups in organizations outside of the Meena Bazaar group, as the researcher will simply be observing and interviewing group facilitators and participants about their experiences.

4. The primary benefit of this research will be its contribution to the larger body of academic knowledge on holistic interventions.

5. There are no foreseeable risks related to participation in this study, thus the benefits will outweigh any potential risks.

As mentioned above, this research is a participatory research process with an organization and will be communicated into the decision-making of staff at Delhi House Society upon completion of the study. They will use the findings to implement changes into their current small group programs.

Participants in the study who are not directly affiliated with Delhi House Society will also be given a 4 page summary of the research findings upon completion of the study, and be invited to attend a community report-back session where the research findings will be presented with translation.

b. How does this research benefit the *population of persons similar to participants*? Provide citations and a brief summary:

This research may contribute to the larger body of academic knowledge on holistic interventions in grassroots community development in India, and potentially other cultural contexts as well. The primary

benefit in this study lies in the importance of the knowledge that will be gained, as is common in social and behavioral sciences research (Arwood & Panicker, 2014). Participants in the cases outside of the primary Meena Bazaar exploratory study group will be from various sociocultural and religious backgrounds, which will strengthen the external validity of the findings and increase the likelihood of the data being generalizable to fit any population (Gray, 2014). This research will ideally generate basic steps or principles for holistic interventions using small groups which can be used by development agencies outside of Delhi House Society as well.

See Page 36 for references.

c. Summarize scholarly research with citation. Please limit summary to 500 words. Place references on a separate page with this application.

The purpose of incorporating conversations into a community group setting is not simply to analyze and talk about issues, but to eventually produce critical action that leads to transformation.

The idea of a “circle of praxis” is central to a conversationally-focused group format. It emphasizes the ongoing relationship between reflection and action. Holland and Henriot (1983) identifies four steps in the social analysis process:

- Insertion: Approaching social issues in a way that corresponds with the experiences of ordinary people.
- Social Analysis: Examining all elements of a social issue in light of the context of a given situation.
- Theological Reflection: Applying Scripture to the context in order to provide new insights, raise new questions, and open new responses.
- Pastoral Planning: Designing a holistic plan of action that integrates contextual realities and scriptural truth.

This process is more akin to a spiral than a circle, breaking new ground with each cycle rather than simply retracing old steps (Holland & Henriot, 1983). This is similar to the Transformational Conversations approach of Grigg utilizing Theological conversations, social analysis in the City conversation and integration of these in the Transformational Conversation (Grigg, 2009).

David C. Ward’s (2014) Christian interdisciplinary approach to social research, “faith-learning integration for social change,” also incorporates a mix of concepts and questions into the learning process in pursuit of truth. This process of inquiry creates an environment in which dialogue about shared humanity and common challenges in the social and natural realms in a way that opens problem-solving opportunities that are informed by spiritual truths. Worldview analysis is a critical part of this. In this process, change in thinking first takes place at the individual level and then at the local level (Ward, 2014).

See Page 36 for references.

5. Target Sample Demographics:

a. How many total subjects?

Currently, the number of participants attending the **women's group in the Meena Bazaar community** fluctuates between **10-20 women**. There are six Delhi House Society staff members working in Meena Bazaar on a regular basis who have been involved in the planning process for the proposed format of this well-being class; however, only two of the staff members will be directly involved in putting on the class.

The size of each case study outside of Meena Bazaar ranges from 4-15, and the researcher will conduct case study **observations and interviews** in approximately **6-8 small groups** with organizations in different areas of Delhi. While visiting each group, the researcher will conduct interviews with the facilitators and a 2-3 participants from each group.

b. What is the age range?

There is no target age range for this study. All participants will be adults (18 years old and over) of various ages.

c. Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Those in the exploratory study group must be female residents of the Meena Bazaar community in order to participate. All holistic community groups or programs in Delhi, including other community groups associated with Delhi House Society, are eligible to participate in the supplementary observation and interview portion of this study. However, the researcher will specifically be seeking out groups which incorporate a combination of dialectical conversations and biblical teachings into their sessions. Although the researcher will be speaking with male participants of community groups associated with Delhi House Society, she will primarily be interacting with female group facilitators and participants outside of the NGO setting. While this does not exclude male participants outside of the NGO, personal interviews with men will only be conducted when culturally appropriate.

6. Recruitment of Participants

a. How will you obtain names and contact information of potential participants?

Many participants in this study will come from the community groups organized and run through Delhi House Society. Contact with other potential participants will be obtained largely through pre-existing relational and professional networks with other NGOs and development workers in Delhi. For the non-exploratory portion of the study, the researcher will rely heavily on snowball sampling, asking group facilitators and attendees who have already participated in the study if they know of any other small groups in Delhi which the researcher might contact.

b. Who will make initial research contact with the participants?

Contact with clients being served by Delhi House Society will be initiated by the Delhi House Society staff. The researcher will take the initiative in making initial research contact with all other potential

participants. Because Indian culture is hierarchical, contact will first be made with group facilitators, and then later with group participants if invited by the group facilitator to observe.

c. What is the venue for recruitment activities?

Recruitment for participants from within Delhi House Society's community groups would occur at the facilities where the NGO works. Recruitment for male participants would take place at Sewa Ashram, the NGO's rehabilitation center for men in North Delhi. Recruitment for female participants would take place at the NGO's learning center in Meena Bazaar, a homeless community in Old Delhi. All recruitments outside of Delhi House Society will be done through word of mouth. Initial contact with potential participants will be done over the phone, by email, or in person at various small group meetings in Delhi (i.e., snowball sampling).

d. Provide a copy of the script or text used to recruit participants.

See Page 35 for Participant Recruitment (verbal invitation).

e. Provide letter(s) of approval from an authorized representative of the agency or agencies that will host data collection.

See Page 34 for Letter of Approval from Delhi House Society, the researcher's partner NGO.

7. Protection of potential participants from perceived coercion in recruitment process

a. What is the PI's professional relationship with potential participants?

The researcher is currently interning with Delhi House Society, the NGO with whom she is partnering for this research project. The PI has had numerous interactions with potential participants within the NGO's client populations over the past year, but the clients are aware that she has no authority in the organization in terms of the distribution of their services. Through her relational and professional network ties with other NGOs and development workers in Delhi, the researcher has obtained contact information for a few small group facilitators in Delhi who could serve as potential participants. However, she has not had previous professional contact with any of these group facilitators that she is aware of at this time.

b.

- Will professors be recruiting participants from their current classes? Yes No
- Is there any unequal power relationship that could influence a person's decision to participate in the research? Yes No
- Will large tangible rewards that might induce a potential participant to take unusual risks be offered?

Yes No

- Will participants be expected to reveal residency status or legal status? Yes No

If you answered *Yes* to any of the above, please comment.

Those participating in small groups through Delhi House Society also receive services from the NGO. This may cause clients to feel pressure to participate in this research study in order to continue receiving these services, whether this is explicitly communicated by the NGO staff or not. The researcher will ensure that the informed consent process includes a statement specifically declaring that the delivery of services will not be withheld if individuals choose not to participate.

8. Process to protect privacy

Privacy is defined as having control over extent, timing and circumstance of sharing oneself with others. Threats to privacy are mitigated by the participant's informed consent of participation in the research.

- a. What are the specific research related issues that the participant needs to understand in order to give informed consent?

The informed consent form will notify potential participants that participation in the study is voluntary. Group members from the exploratory study group will be informed about the proposed format and basic open-ended discussion questions that will be used during well-being classes. Potential interviewees will be informed about the nature of the interview questions that will be asked and how the research will be used for the study, thus allowing them to decide whether or not they would like to participate before the interview occurs. Because many of the questions being used will be open-ended, consent will be understood as both an initial step before the interview is conducted and an ongoing process throughout the interview. They have the right to decline to answer any questions with which they are uncomfortable. Potential participants will also be informed about the minimal risk, if any, involved in participating in this study related to divulging personal information and viewpoints. They will also be made aware that the main benefit of this research will be its contribution to the academic body of knowledge, and that participants will receive no monetary compensation for their participation. The consent form will reassure that any personal information that the researcher collects will only be used by the researcher and will not be publically distributed.

What personal information are you asking the participant to reveal?

Participants in the exploratory study group will not be asked to share any specific personal information directly with the researcher. However, personal information about themselves or their families may be shared during group discussion. Participants will be informed beforehand that any personal information they share in the group setting may be used by the researcher for her study. Any such stories will be reviewed with the persons before the completion of the study.

Interviewees outside of the exploratory study group will be asked questions about their level of participation in the group, their level of education, their religious background, and how their beliefs

have influenced their worldview and lifestyle practices. The researcher will also be asking participants questions regarding personal decision-making, interpersonal communication styles, and cooperation with their fellow community members. There will also be questions asking about specific issues that exist in the participants' communities. When applicable, the researcher will also ask the participants to share about how their involvement in the group may have impacted their family members.

The participants will have the option to allow the researcher to use their first names or to have a pseudonym created for them in the researcher's write-up. Participants will be informed that they have the right to decline to answer any questions they are not comfortable answering.

b. How do you plan to educate potential participants about possible risks in the research?

While verbally reviewing the informed consent form with the participant, the researcher and her translator will explain that there are no foreseeable risks related to participating in this study. Any risks related to participation would be minimal.

c. How will the participant affirm they understand?

With the assistance of a translator, the researcher will verbally walk each participant (both literate and non-literate) through the informed consent form. This document will also be translated into Hindi for native Hindi speakers. After covering each section of the consent form, the researcher will verify that the information provided to them was understood. After going through the entire informed consent form, the participants will be asked if they understand everything that has been explained to them and encouraged to ask the researcher any clarifying questions they may have about the research process.

Participants who are literate will be asked to provide their signature on the informed consent form to indicate that they understand their rights as they have been read to them.

The consent process for non-literate participants will be conducted verbally in their native language and documented by an impartial witness. This process involves two forms:

“(1) a short- form written consent document stating that the required elements of consent have been presented orally to the subject or the subject's legally authorized representative, and (2) a written, IRB-approved summary of what will be said to the subject or the subject's representative” (Hicks, 2014, Documentation of Informed Consent section, para. 2).

Those who are able to sign their names will sign the short form. Those who are unable to do this will indicate their understanding and agreement through verbal consent, which will be audio recorded. The researcher will sign the summary form, and the witness will sign both the summary and the short form. A copy of each form will be given to the consenting participant.

See Page 36 for references.

d. List names of all persons who will discuss Informed Consent documents with potential participants or their guardians.

Name : Valerie Alms (Principle Investigator)
Mohini Pandey (Exploratory Group Facilitator and Translator)
Shallu Rai (Female translator)
Faniel Singh (Male translator)

e. Does that person(s) speak the same language as the potential participants? Yes No

If no, translations will be required of the recruitment scripts, the Informed Consent forms, and the survey instruments for participants. In *some* cases the translation can be done by the researcher. Additionally, a back translation must be completed independent of the original translator.

***Note: The researcher is functionally proficient in Hindi, the language of the potential participants. However, in order to capture significant details and cultural nuances, the researcher will be using a translator when doing any formal interviews. All of the translators are fluent in both English and Hindi.**

f. How will you train those people to properly follow the procedures of Informed Consent and to be aware of confidentiality and privacy issues?

The researcher will hold a simplified ethics training session for all of the translators. This training session will be a more basic version of the CITI training, which the researcher has completed, and will outline proper practices and procedure for protecting the confidentiality and privacy of the research participants.

g. Do all persons who will have any interaction with participants have current certification in the protection of human subjects? Yes No

***Note: The condensed training session mentioned above in Section 8f will provide the translators who are assisting the researcher with the training necessary to equip them with knowledge of the protection of human subjects.**

Do all persons who will have access to research data have current certification in the protection of human subjects? Yes No

Include a copy of all CITI Completion Reports with the application. CITI training must have been completed within the prior three years. If a member of the research team is currently affiliated with another institution, include a copy of their training certificate as required by that institution.

h. After the participant has read the informed consent form, will you affirm with your signature that you believe the participant understands the content of the Informed Consent? Yes No

i. Include a copy of the Informed Consent document, prepared according to the template (found in the Appendix) for face-to-face consent or the template for electronic consent. If children are participants, address the Informed Consent to parents and address an Assent Document to children. If the research involves a focus group, the Informed Consent must state that the Primary Investigator cannot guarantee that participants will honor privacy pledges. Informed Consent templates can be found in the Appendix on pages 42-46.

See Informed Consent Documents on Pages 22-27.

9. Confidentiality

a. Will you store the Informed Consent forms and research data separately? Yes No

b. How will you de-identify research data?

Participants who do not want personal identifiable information included in the researcher's final write-up will be assigned pseudonyms. When necessary, additional information will be added to the researcher's final report in order to disguise a person's identity.

c. Is there a document that links participants' names with corresponding research code numbers?

Yes No

If Yes, is the document stored separately from the research data? Yes No

N/A

d. How will you protect the security of the documents?

All research data will be kept on an external hard drive, which will be stored securely in the researcher's home. This will ensure that electronic theft of personal identifiable information cannot occur via any internet channels.

e. Do you plan to use electronic surveys? Yes No

If Yes, do you agree to decline the privilege of access to personally identifiable data?

N/A

Yes No

10. Risks for physical discomfort and emotional distress associated with research procedures

a. What components of the research procedures might cause physical discomfort or emotional distress for participants?

Spirituality is a topic which is generally discussed without hesitation in Indian culture. However, questions related to religious identity may still be a sensitive topic for some. This is especially true if someone has "converted" from one religion to another, which may come up in questions about worldview changes that have taken place in the group.

Nevertheless, the researcher is not anticipating any severe discomfort or distress to result from the prepared interview questions.

b. What is the anticipated evidence of physical discomfort or emotional distress?

It is the hope of the researcher that participants who are uncomfortable with a question will simply tell the researcher and request to skip the question. However, this is not entirely realistic. The researcher needs to be vigilant and perceptive to the reactions of the interviewee in order to determine when a participant is exhibiting evidence of discomfort or distress.

Rather than declining to answer a question, participants who experience distress or discomfort with a subject may choose to answer the question in a way that does not necessarily answer the question, but instead avoids the uncomfortable subject. (The researcher will need to use her best judgment and ask follow-up questions in order to determine whether this kind of response is the result of discomfort or a lack of comprehension of the question.) Other signs which may indicate that a participant is uncomfortable with a subject may include avoiding eye contact, hesitating to answer the question, or becoming quiet after being asked.

However, as mentioned above, the researcher is not anticipating any severe discomfort or distress to result from the prepared interview questions.

c. How will the researcher respond to evidence of physical discomfort or emotional distress?

If any of the participants exhibit signs of discomfort or distress, or says that they are uncomfortable discussing the subject matter, the researcher will ask them if they want to continue or not. If they choose not to continue, the researcher will stop the interview immediately. If a participant affirms that they would like to continue with the interview, the researcher will ask if he or she would like to take a break before continuing with questioning, depending on the severity of discomfort being exhibited. The researcher will remind the participant that he or she has the right to decline to answer any questions with which they are uncomfortable.

d. What resources are available to the participant that may experience distress?

Participants associated with Delhi House Society will have access to counselling with the NGO staff if, for any reason, they begin to experience distress during the interview process. Before conducting interviews with small group participants who are not affiliated with Delhi House Society, the researcher will ask the group facilitator whether or not potential participants in their community groups seem mentally and emotionally stable enough to withstand an interview. This will hopefully avoid any unnecessary distress from occurring. However, when unanticipated distress does occur, the researcher will ask the group facilitator to step in for emotional support, as he or she already has a relationship with the group member. If further counselling is needed, the researcher will arrange it at her own expense.

11. International or Cross Cultural Research

Do potential participants reside outside the US?

Yes No

Will the research be conducted in a cross cultural setting?

Yes No

If Yes to either question provide evidence that research procedures are sensitive to the local research context. Possible sources of evidence are approval from an IRB in the host country, or written approval from a governmental health or education agency in the host country. See page 11 in the handbook for more information.

Some research will require translations of Informed Consent forms and survey instruments for participants. Translations are generally done by someone other than the researchers. Additionally, a back translation must be completed independent of the original translator.

***Note: See Page 38 for the researcher's Letter of Approval from a Local Academic.**

12. Quantitative Research – Survey Methods

N/A – No questionnaires or surveys will be used in this research study.

- a. For paper and pencil questionnaires, identify who will distribute questionnaires to participants and how participants will return marked questionnaires to the researcher.
- b. For web platform responses to questionnaires, identify materials for directing the participant to the platform and how participant will respond.
- c. Describe the evidence that questionnaires are appropriate for the participants.
- d. Describe your plan for analyzing questionnaire data. List a specific statistical technique (univariate or multivariate).

13. Quantitative Methods – Experimental

N/A – An experimental procedures related to this study will be conducted by the NGO staff, not the researcher. She will simply be observing the implementation of these low risk experimental elements. All data resulting from experimental procedures will be qualitatively analyzed. Details about experimental procedures have been written in section 14, "Qualitative Research Methods," below.

- a. Describe research question and relevant hypotheses
- b. Describe independent and dependent variables
- c. Describe your procedure for random selection and assignment of participants to experimental and control groups.
- d. Describe venue for research activities

- e. Describe independent variable materials or activities
- f. What experimental interventions will be used to measure independent and dependent variables
- g. Describe activities and/or materials for the control group
- h. Describe other procedures designed to enhance internal and external validity.
- i. Identify data collection intervals
- j. Describe plan for monitoring treatment integrity
- k. Describe evidence that experimental and control materials and/or activities are appropriate for participants
- l. Describe evidence that measures are appropriate for participants
- m. Describe your data analysis plan

14. Qualitative Research Methods

- a. Explain theory/conceptual framework guiding data collections, including reference to established researchers who have conducted studies with similar procedures.

In this study, the researcher will be observing and indirectly assisting an exploratory approach that involves qualitative experimentation, which has been developed based on communication and development principles from the literature. The researcher will be using a mix of **qualitative and participatory methods** for her data collection, as her goal is both to gain knowledge about holistic community interventions and to practically apply this knowledge to the community development process (Mayoux, 2006).

The main conceptual framework in which the researcher will be operating is **Participatory Action Research (PAR)**. This framework focuses on collective inquiry and experimentation, and involves close collaboration between the researcher and the practitioner for the purpose of promoting change. Kurt Lewin, who first coined the term “action research,” saw action research as a method for improving social behavior and promoting social change. He understood the importance of seeing data as a part of a holistic, complex social system (Gray, 2014).

Participatory Action Research involves reflection, social learning, and strives to develop a “critical consciousness” among participants (Gray, 2014). This is precisely what the researcher hopes to see happen with the women of Meena Bazaar, and for all others who will use the conversation framework in the future. Both Delhi House Society and the researcher see the use of transformational conversations as essential in the community development process. The Delhi House Society has emphasized to the researcher multiple times that they believe inward transformation (i.e., worldview change) must occur before true lifestyle transformation can take place. It is essential to examine the thought and heart behind a person’s behaviors in order to understand how to promote transformation.

The following is a brief overview of the researcher's data collection process:

- The researcher will begin the research process by observing staff utilizing **the preliminary group** format in order to see if it is an effective format for promoting worldview change and lifestyle transformation. This format has been designed in conjunction with Delhi House Society for use in their women's well-being group, but it will be revised as necessary for the benefit of the participants and for the purpose of fostering the end goal of transformation.
See Page 30 for the Proposed Exploratory Group Framework.
- The researcher will simultaneously conduct **participant observations and interviews** with other community group facilitators and participants in Delhi to support these findings. This element of primary data collection will allow the researcher to identify potential transformational elements of community group dynamics other than conversations that are currently being incorporated in community groups in Delhi.
- The researcher will then **compare** the proposed format for the Meena Bazaar well-being group with other community groups in Delhi in order to **identify emergent themes** in the process of transformation within a group setting.
- The researcher will **revise** the original community group format to include new transformative elements and discard any elements that did not seem to be effective. The end result will be a community group framework for incorporating conversations and other transformative elements into the community development process.

The researcher will use both inductive and deductive methods to collect qualitative data. The implementation discussion/conversation into the exploratory study group in Meena Bazaar will deductively test the researcher's hypothesis regarding conversation leading to transformation. Participant observations and interviews that take place in other community groups will allow the researcher to inductively identify social and functional patterns in the transformative process of the individual (Gray, 2014).

See Page 36 for references.

- b. Explain steps taken to ensure methodological and data analytic rigor (including but not limited to the utilization of qualitative analysis software programs), including reference to established researchers who have conducted studies using similar procedures.

The researcher will be using an analytic inductive process to analyze her data in order to identify patterns or themes in the observations and interview she conducts. She will develop case studies and use triangulation to assist her with the identification of these emergent themes. Triangulation seeks to find the convergence from different methods of research, integrating key themes that emerge from secondary sources as well as multiple primary research methods, such as interviews and case studies.

The independent variables in this study would be conversation and other applicable group dynamics, as they are the elements which will be influencing the dependent variables, worldview change and lifestyle transformation.

Measurable indicators of individual worldview change that the researcher will be looking for include: change of belief system or religious identity, change in religious practices (whether frequency or type of practices performed), and change in self-esteem level or self-concept.

Measurable indicators of lifestyle transformation include: changes in well-being - i.e., health or healthcare practices, educational attainment, ceasing to engage in destructive behaviors (drug or alcohol addiction, violence, etc.), family or other relational dynamics (as indicated by relational restoration and harmony), and increased social or civic engagement.

The researcher will also be looking for additional outcomes which are not easily measured in the process of developing case studies. If important, this additional information will be included in a case study in the form of thick description (Gray, 2014).

See Page 36 for references.

c. Do you plan to interview participants? Yes No

d. Interview questions are found on pages **31-32**.

e. Data analysis procedures, including coding and software

Because the amount of data being analyzed will be fairly small, the researcher does not plan to use data analysis software as a part of her data analysis procedure.

f. Do you plan a focus group? Yes No

If Yes, focus group questions are found on page ____ N/A

g. Data analysis procedures, including coding and software
N/A as it relates to focus groups

15. Research Plan

List approximate dates for major activities in your research plan.

Research Task	Start	Complete
Collect Secondary Research (Books, scholarly articles, etc.)	February 2015	May 2015
Conduct Simplified Ethics Training for Translators	May 2015	May 2015
Recruit Participants	May 2015	June 2015
Conduct Participant Observations and Interviews	May 2015	June 2015
Begin Exploratory Research in collaboration with Delhi House Society	May 2015	July 2015
Analyze and Write-Up Data	July 2015	July 2015
Give Community Report-back on Research Findings	July 2015	July 2015

16. California Experimental Subjects Bill of Rights

If your research involves an experimental clinical procedure, have you included the California Experimental Subjects Bill of Rights with your application? Yes No N/A

17. Use of Private Health Information

If your research requires medical records, have you included the Authorization for Use of Private Health Information with your application? Yes No N/A

18. What is your plan for sharing your findings with the scholarly community?

The researcher plans to publish her findings in an academic journal or similar publication if her research uncovers significant knowledge that would benefit the scholarly community and community development workers. She will discuss this option with her thesis advisor to determine the best course of action to take once her research has been completed.

Regardless of whether or not the research findings are published, the completed report will be available to Delhi House Society and any other NGOs or development workers who might find this information beneficial. A shortened summary of the findings will also be given to the research participants.

19. I have read and understand Azusa Pacific University's policy on Integrity in Research

Yes No

If a survey of Azusa Pacific University students, faculty, staff or alumni will be used for this research, the researcher agrees to contact the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.

SIGNATURES:

All applications must include a current CITI Completion Report for the applicant and the reviewers. Reviewers certify that the application has been reviewed for clarity, validity, and the protection of human subjects.

For STUDENT Applications:

Principal Investigator: If more than one investigator, include names and signatures)

Valerie Alms _____  _____ 5/6/15
Print Name Signature Date

Reviewed by Faculty Advisor with current human subject protection certification:

Print Name Signature Date

Department Chair or designee with current human subjects protection certification: I have reviewed this application and determined that the departmental requirements are met, the investigator(s)

has/have adequate resources to conduct the research, and the research design is sound and has scientific merit.

Print Name Signature Date

Dean or dean designee:

Print Name Signature Date

For FACULTY/STAFF Applications:

Principal Investigator (If more than one investigator, include list of names with email addresses and signatures)

Print name Signature Date

Department Chair or designee with current human subjects protection certification:

I have reviewed this application and determined that the departmental requirements are met, the investigator(s) has/have adequate resources to conduct the research, and the research design is scientifically sound and has scientific merit.

Print name Signature Date

Dean or dean designee:

Print name Signature Date

**THE COMPLETED, SIGNED APPLICATION WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE SENT IN ONE .pdf FILE TO:
Joanie Stude, IRB Coordinator, at jstude@apu.edu**

Please note: The Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Azusa Pacific University (APU) is charged with oversight of the protection of human subjects in experimental research. Receiving IRB approval does not constitute institutional approval of the project by APU. If the responsible investigator believes that the project might be inconsistent with the mission and values of APU or potentially not represent the University in a favorable light, it is recommended that the responsible investigator contact their Dean.

For IRB Use Only

Approved by **Expedited Review**

No further review needed unless the protocol changes or research continues past one year.

Signature: IRB Chair or Designee _____

Date of Approval _____

Date Approval Expires _____

Approved by **Full Board Review**

Not Approved – Resubmission Required

Signature: IRB Chair or Designee _____

Date of Approval _____

Date Approval Expires _____



Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploratory Case Study Analysis of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

Principal Investigator: Valerie Alms
[List IRB # once assigned]

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Voluntary Status: You are being invited to participate in a research study conducted by the researcher listed above. You are being asked to volunteer since you meet the requirements for enrollment into this study. Your participation is voluntary which means you can choose whether or not you want to participate. You may withdraw any time without penalty. If you decline to continue, any data gathered to that point may be used in data analysis. If you choose not to participate, there will be no loss of benefits to which you are entitled, such as services provided by an NGO. Before you can make your decision, you will need to know what the study is about, the possible risks and benefits of being in this study, and what you will have to do in this study. The research team is going to talk to you about the study, and they will give you this consent form to read. You may also decide to discuss it with your family or friends. If you find some of the language difficult to understand, please ask the researcher and/or the research team about this form. If you decide to participate, you will be asked to sign this form. Those who are unable to read or write will be asked to give their consent verbally. Verbal consent will be audio recorded.

Purpose: The study for which you are being asked to participate is designed to uncover holistic interventions taking place in small, community-based groups in Delhi. The researcher will examine the role of small group dynamics, specifically discussion and dialogue, and investigate how these practices can promote worldview change and community transformation. This research will ideally generate basic steps or principles for holistic interventions using small groups which can be used by development agencies to help empower communities for change.

Procedure: To be a voluntary participant in this study, you will be either be asked to take part in an exploratory community group study or participate in an interview with the researcher. (The researcher will clarify which group you are in.)

Those participating in the exploratory study will participate in topical lessons and discussion on the topic in a group setting. This discussion will include spiritual teachings and discussion.

For those being interviewed, the researcher may ask those being interviewed questions related to any of the following topics:

- Your level of participation in the group
- Your religious background
- Your level of education
- How your beliefs have influenced your worldview and lifestyle practices
- Personal decision-making methods
- Interpersonal communication styles
- Cooperation with your fellow community members
- Specific issues which exist in your community
- How your involvement in the group may have impacted your family members

The participants will have the option to allow the researcher to use their names or to have a pseudonym created for the purpose of developing case studies. Participants will be informed that they have the right to decline to answer any questions they are not comfortable answering.

The findings will be used to develop a framework for conversation-based community interventions, which will be passed on to Delhi House Society, the researcher's partner organization, for implementation in their current programs. A summary of the final research findings will also be provided to you upon the completion of this study.

A Note about Consent: Open-ended questions will be used in the exploratory study group. This may lead to follow-up questions based on what the participant chooses to share. These may or may not pertain to the interview questions which the researcher has prepared beforehand. **Therefore, consent should be understood as an ongoing process.** You have the right to decline to answer any question which may cause you discomfort or distress, and have the right to decline to continue with the interview at any time.

Commitment and Compensation: Members of the exploratory group will be invited to participate in 1-hour group sessions every week. An interviewee's total participation in the study will take approximately 1-2 hours. Participants will not receive financial compensation for participation in the study.

Possible Risks & Benefits: It is expected that participation in this study will provide you with no more than minimal risk or discomfort which means that you should not experience it as any more troubling than your normal daily life. However, there is always the chance that there are some unexpected risks. The foreseeable risks in this study include an accidental disclosure of your private information, or discomfort by answering questions that pertain to potentially sensitive subjects such as family dynamics and religious beliefs or practices. If you feel uncomfortable or distressed, please tell the researcher and he/she will ask you if you want to continue. Because this is research and does not have anything to do with the current services you are receiving at this time, you can withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

You will not receive any direct benefits from participating in this study; however, your participation in this study will help improve the knowledge about holistic community interventions. Your participation may also benefit other people who participate in community groups like yours.

Confidentiality & Consent: The investigator and staff involved with the study will keep your personal information collected for the study strictly confidential. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential and will be disclosed only with your permission or as required by law. Your identity will be kept strictly confidential. All research data will be kept on an external hard drive, which will be stored securely in the researcher's home. This will ensure that electronic theft of personal identifiable information cannot occur via any internet channels. Only the researcher and the translator assisting her will be present during the interview to ensure confidentiality. However, after the interview process, only the researcher will have access to research data which includes identifiable personal information.

This document explains your rights as a research subject. If you have questions regarding your participation in this research study or have any questions about your rights as a research subject, please contact the Principal Investigator, Valerie Alms, using the information at the bottom of this form. Concerning your rights or treatment as a research subject, you may contact the Research Integrity Officer at Azusa Pacific University (APU) at (626) 812-3034 or at dguido@apu.edu.

New Information: During the course of this study, we may discover information that could be important to you. This includes information that, once learned, might cause you to change your mind about being in the study. We will notify you as soon as possible if such information becomes available.

Conflict of Interest: The Principal Investigator has complied with the Azusa Pacific University Potential Conflict of Interest in Research policy.

Consent: I understand that my participation in this study is entirely voluntary and that I may refuse to participate or may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. I understand the procedures described above, and I understand fully the rights of a potential subject in a research study involving people as subjects. My questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree to participate in this study. I have received a copy of this consent form.

I agree to be audio taped

I do not agree to be audio taped

Participant Name Printed

Participant Name Signed

Date

I have explained the research to the subject or his/her legal representative and answered all of his/her questions. I believe he/she understands the information described in this document and freely consents to participate.

Signature of Principal Investigator

Date

Time

[Signed by researcher or certified assistant after participant has demonstrated understanding of research procedures through questions and answers]

Valerie Alms
+91 8130063773
valms13@apu.edu



Baatacita ka parivartanakaari sakti: Dilli mein saamudaayika samuhun ke maadhyama se visvadrsti badale ki ek khoj

Pramukha Anvesaka: Valerie Alms
[List IRB # once assigned]

SUCHIT SEHMATI PATTAR

Ichok ka interview: Aapko aamantrit kiya jata hai ek research mein jise start kiya hai Pramukha Anvesaka ne. Aapne sari jarurato ko mana hai hai to ye sab aap se pucha jar aha hai. Aapka bhag lena aap ki icha pr nirbhar hai ki aapko khud isme bhag lena hai ya phir nahi. Aap kabhi bhi is interview se apna naam vapas le sakte hai bina jurman diye. Agar aap beech mein hi is interview ko chod dete hai to jitni jankari aapse mili hogi vo samast jankari ka vishleshan karne mein kaam aayegi. Agar aapne bhag lene se mana kr diya to aapke hone vale labh mein se koi hani nahi hogi. Aap koi bhi faisla lene se pehle is interview ki sabhi jankari le le, sabhi labh aur hani ke bare mein jan le aur ye bhi jan le ki is interview mein bhag lene pr aapka karya kya hai. Khoj karne vala samuh aapse is adhyan ke bare mein puchega, aur vo aapko padhne ke liye yeh sehmati pattar dega. Aap is bare mein aapne dosto aur parivar se bhi puch sakte hai. Agar aapko is form ki bhasha samajne mein koi pareshani hoti hai to ap iske bare mein khoj karne vale ya uske samuh se puch sakte hai. Aur agar aap isme bhag lete hai to aapko is sehmati pattar pr hastakshar karna hoga.

Udshaye: Āpa bhāga lēnē kē li'ē kahā jā rahā hai, jisakē li'ē adhyayana dillī mēm chōṭē, samudāya ādhārīta samūhōm mēm jagaha lēnē kē samagra hastakṣēpa kō ujāgara karanē kē li'ē ḍizā'ina kiyā gayā hai. Śōdhakartā chōṭē samūha kī gatiśīlatā kī bhūmikā, viśēṣa rūpa sē carcā aura bātācīta kī jāñca, aura ina prathā'ōm vaiśvika najariyā badalanē kē li'ē aura samudāya parivartana kō baṛhāvā dēnē kē kara sakatē hair̄ ki kaisē jāñca karēngē. Is śōdha ādarśa rūpa sē samudāyōm kō saśakta banānē mēm madada karanē kē li'ē vikāsa ējēnsiyōm dvārā istēmāla kiyā jā sakatā hai, jō chōṭē samūhōm kā upayōga karatē hu'ē samagra hastakṣēpa kē li'ē buniyādī kadama yā sid'dhāntōm utpanna hōgā.

Karyavahi: Isa adhyayana mēm ēka svaicchika bhāgīdāra hōnē kē li'ē āpakō yā tō ēka khōjapūrṇa samudāya samūha kē adhyayana mēm bhāga lēnē kē li'ē yā śōdhakartā kē sātha ēka sākṣātkāra mēm bhāga lēnē kē li'ē kahā jā kiyā jā'ēgā. (Śōdhakartā āpa mēm hair̄ jō samūha kō spaṣṭa karēngē.)

Khōjapūrṇa adhyayana mēm bhāga lēnē vālōm kē li'ē ēka samūha kī sthāpanā mēm isa viṣaya para sāmāyika sabaka aura carcā mēm bhāga lēngē. Isa carcā ādhyātmika śīkṣā'ōm aura carcā mēm sāmīla hōngē.

Una sākṣātkāra hōnē kē li'ē, śōdhakartā nīmalikhita viṣayōm mēm sē kisī sē sambandhita una sākṣātkāra kiyā jā rahā savāla pūcha sakatē hair̄:

- Samūha mēm bhāga lēnē kē apanē stara
- Apanē dhārmika pṛṣṭhabhūmi
- Śīkṣā kē apanē stara
- Apanē viśvāsōm kō apanē viśvadṛṣṭi aur jīvana śailī prathā'ōm kō prabhāvita kiyā hai kaisē
- Vyaktigata nirṇaya lēnē kī vidhiyōm
- Pārasparika sañcāra śailiyōm
- Apanē sāthī samudāya kē sadasyōm kē sātha sahayōga
- Apanē samudāya mēm maujūda hair̄, jō viśīṣṭa muddōm
- Samūha mēm apanī bhāgīdārī kē li'ē apanē parivāra kē sadasyōm kō prabhāvita kiyā hai kaisē hō sakatā hai

Pratibhāgiyōm kē śōdhakartā unakē nāma kā upayōga karanē kē li'ē yā māmālē kē adhyayana kē vikāsa kē uddēśya kē li'ē banāyā gayā ēka chadma nāma hai karanē kī anumati dēnē kā vikalpa hōgā. Pratibhāgiyōm kō vē kisī bhī savāla kā javāba dēnē kē li'ē asvīkāra karanē kā adhikāra hai ki sūcita kiyā jā'ēgā ki vē nahīm sahaja javāba dē rahē hai.

Niṣkarṣōm kō unakē maujūdā kāryakramōm mēm lāgū karanē kē li'ē Delhi House Society, śōdhakartā sāthī saṅgaṭhana, kō pārita hō jā'ēgā, jō bātacīta kē ādhāra para samudāya hastakṣēpa, kē li'ē ēka ḍhāncā vikasita karanē kē li'ē istēmāla kiyā jā'ēgā. Antima śōdha niṣkarṣōm kā ēka sārānsā bhī isa adhyayana kē pūrā hōnē para āpa kē li'ē pradāna kiyā jā'ēgā.

Sahamati kē bārē mēm ēka nōṭa: Śōdhakartā khōjapūrṇa adhyayana samūha mēm ōpana ēṅḍēḍa savālōm kā upayōga kiyā jā'ēgā. Isa anuvartī karanē kē li'ē bhāgīdāra sājhā karanē kē li'ē cunatā hai, usakē ādhāra para savālōm kē javāba hō sakatā hai. Yē hō sakatā hai yā śōdhakartā pahalē sē taiyāra kiyā gayā hai jō sāksātkāra kē savālōm sē sambandhita nahīm hō sakatā hai. **Isali'ē, sahamati kē ēka satata prakriyā kē rūpa mēm samajhā jānā cāhi'ē.** Āpa asuvidhā yā saṅkaṭa kā kāraṇa hō sakatā hai jō kisī bhī savāla kā javāba dēnē mēm girāvaṭa, aura kisī bhī samaya sāksātkāra kē sātha jāri karanē sē manā karanē kā adhikāra hai karanē kā adhikāra hai.

Vachan Baddhta aur Muavza: Khōjapūrṇa samūha kē sadasyōm kō hara saptāha 1 ghaṅṭē samūha kē satra mēm bhāga lēnē kē li'ē āmantrita kiyā jā'ēgā. Adhyayana mēm ēka iṅṭaravyū kē kula bhāgīdārī lagabhaga 1-2 ghaṅṭē lagēngē. Pratibhāgiyōm kō adhyayana mēm bhāga lēnē kē li'ē vittīya mu'āvajā prāpta nahīm hōgā.

Sambhavik Nuksan aur Labh: Yaha isa adhyayana mēm bhāga lēnē sē āpa apanē sāmān'ya dainika jīvana sē kisī bhī adhika parēsāna kara kē rūpa mēm yaha anubhava nahīm hōnā cāhi'ē jisakā matalaba hai ki kama sē kama jōkhima yā bēcainī sē adhika nahīm kē sātha pradāna karēgā ki um'mīda hai. Hālānki, kucha apratyāsīta jōkhima bhī hai ki vahām hamēsā maukā hai. Isa adhyayana mēm nikaṭa jōkhima aisē parivāra kī gatiśīlatā aura dhārmika viśvāsōm yā prathā'ōm kē rūpa mēm sambhāvita rūpa sē sanvēdanaśīla viṣayōm sē sambandhita savālōm kā javāba dēnē sē ēka durghaṭanā mēm apanī nijī jānakārī kā khulāsā, yā bēcainī sāmīla hai. Āpa asahaja yā vyathita laga rahā hai, śōdhakartā batā dīji'ē aura āpa jāri rakhanā cāhatē hai, tō vaha/ vaha āpa sē pūchanā hōgā. Isa śōdha hai aura āpa isa samaya mēm prāpta kara rahē hai maujūdā sēvā'ōm kē sātha kō'ī lēnā dēnā nahīm hai, kyōnki āpa daṅḍa kē binā kisī bhī samaya isa adhyayana sē vāpasa lē sakatē hai.

Isa adhyayana mēm bhāga lēnē sē kisī bhī pratyakṣa lābha prāpta nahīm hōgā; hālānki, isa adhyayana mēm āpakī bhāgīdārī kē samagra samudāya kē hastakṣēpa kē bārē mēm jñāna kō bēhatara banānē mēm madada milēgi. Āpakī bhāgīdārī bhī tumhārī taraha sāmudāyika samūhōm mēm bhāga lēnē vālē an'ya lōgōm kō lābha hō sakatā hai.

Gopniyeta aur sehmati: Adhyayana kē sātha sāmīla anvēśaka aura karmacāriyōm kō pūrī taraha sē gōpanīya adhyayana kē li'ē ēktra āpakī vyaktigata jānakārī rakhēngē. Isa adhyayana kē sambandha mēm prāpta kī hai aura kahā ki gōpanīya rahēgā tumhārē sātha pahacānā jā sakatā hai aura āpakī anumati kē sātha hī khulāsā kara diyā jā'ēgā yā kānūnī rūpa sē jāri hai ki kisī bhī jānakārī. Āpakī pahacāna pūrī taraha sē gōpanīya rakhā jā'ēgā. Sabhī śōdha ḍēṭā śōdhakartā kē ghara mēm surakṣita rūpa sē saṅgrahīta kiyā jā'ēgā jō ēka bāharī hārḍa ḍrā'iva, para rakhā jā'ēgā. Yaha kisī bhī iṅṭaranēṭa cainala kē jari'ē nahīm hō sakatā hai vyaktigata rūpa sē pahacāna yōgya jānakārī kā ilēkṭrōnika cōrī sunīscita karēgā. Kēvala śōdhakartā aura usakī gōpanīyatā kō sunīscita karanē kē li'ē sāksātkāra kē daurāna upasthita rahēngē sahāyatā kara anuvādaka. Hālānki, sāksātkāra prakriyā kē bāda, kēvala śōdhakartā pahacāna yōgya vyaktigata jānakārī bhī sāmīla hai jō anusandhāna ḍēṭā kā upayōga karanā hōgā.

Is adhyan mein sabhi pratigiyon ke sari gupt jankari gopniye rakhi jayegi. Aise koi bhi jankari jo aapke adhyan ke bare mein hogi usko aapse puche beggar nahi khola jayega. Aapki pechan ko gupt rakha jayega uske badle aapka koi jhuta nam raha jayega. Aapki sari jankari khogi samuh ke pas hard drive mein gopniye rahegi. Agar yeh hard drive chori hoti hai tabhi aapki gupt jankari ke bare mein kisi ko pata chalna ka khatra hai aur tab bhi hard drive

mein rehne ki wajah se veh surakshit rahegi. Yeh adhyan aapke sabhi adhikaron ko samjhata hai. Agar aapko is adhyan se juda hua koi bhi saval karna hai to aap Valerie Alms se jankari le sakte hai jiska pata is pattar ke nichle bhag mein likha hai. Aap apne adhikaron ke bare mein Research Integrity Officer jo Azusa Pacific University mein rehte hai unse bhi pata kr sakte hai. Aap unse (626) 812-3034 pr sampark kr sakte hai ya dguido@apu.edu pr sampark kar sakte hai.

Nayi jankari: Is adhyan ke chalet aapko kuch aise jankari ke bare mein gyat ho sakha hai jo aapke liye labhdayak ho jaise is adhyan mein kuch batein aapki soch bhi badal sakti hai. Agar hume aisa kuch bhi pata chata hai to hum aapko zaroor sampark karenge.

Vyaktigat labh: Pramukha Anvesaka ne Azusa Pacific University ke sath sari jankariyon ko ikhatta kr kiya hai.

Sehmati: Mujhe is adhyan ke bare mein yeh pata chala hai ki yeh adhyan meri ichha pr nirbhar krta hai aur mein kabhi bhi isme bhaglone se mana kar sakta hu bina kisi nuksan ke. Mein upar diye sari shartoon ko mante hue sabhi ko swikar karta hu. Mere se pucho gaye sabhi savalon ke javab mere anusar honge. Mein is adhyan mein bhar lene ke liye razi hu. Mujhe is sehmati patar ki ek pratilipi mil chuki hai.

Main audio recording karne ke lie sehemat hu.

Main recording karne ke lie nahin sehemat hu.

Ichok ka naam, likhna

Ichok ka naam, hastakshar

Aaj ka Tarikh

Maine apni sare javabon ko khoj krne valon ko samjhaya hai, aur mein samajta hu ki sabhi khoj krne valon ko mere javab samaj aayenge aur vo mujhe is adhyan mein bhag lene denge.

Khoj karnevali ka naam, hastakshar

Aaj ka Tarikh

Baje

[Pratibhāgī kē bāda śōdhakartā dvārā hastākṣara ki'ē ga'ē yā pramāṇita sahāyaka savāla aura javāba kē mādhyaṃ sē anusandhāna prakriyā'ōm kī samajha kā pradarśana kiyā hai.]

Valerie Alms

+91 8130063773

valms13@apu.edu



Potential Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

Everyone engaged in research at Azusa Pacific University (see definition of covered individual) must complete the "Potential Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form," at least annually during the conduct of research, per the Policy for Conflicts of Interest in Research (the "Policy").

Name: Valerie Alms Date: May 6, 2015

Title of Proposed Research: Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploratory Case Study Analysis of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

Potential or Secured Funding Source: This research will not be funded by any agency or organization.

Submitted with: N/A [checkbox] Sponsored Research Routing Form [checkbox] Annual Update [checkbox] IRB or IACUC Proposal [checkbox] Other (e.g., change of circumstances)

- 1. Do you have any significant financial interest... Yourself: Yes X No Your spouse or dependent children: Yes X No
2. Separate from regular research payments... Yourself: Yes X No Your spouse or dependent children: Yes X No
3. Do you consult or have a financial interest with any commercial funding source... Yourself: Yes X No Your spouse or dependent children: Yes X No
4. Do you serve as an officer, director, employee, or member of an advisory committee...

Yourself: Yes No

Your spouse or dependent children: Yes No

5. Would your school or academic department receive anything of value from any commercial funding source that sponsors your research (other than compensation disclosed in the budget submitted to the Office of Research and Grants with your grant proposal)? Yes No
6. Do you use or propose to use University facilities or personnel to conduct research or testing for any outside interests other than sponsored projects approved by the University? Yes No
7. Do you engage in external professional or commercial activities (e.g., external consulting) related to your research? Yes No
8. Did you receive any reimbursement for travel or sponsored travel related to your institutional responsibilities from an entity other than a federal, state, or local governmental agency, an institution of higher education, an academic teaching hospital, a medical center, or a research institute that is affiliated with an institution of higher education? Yes No
9. Do you have a *conflict of interest* (as defined in the *Policy*) or the appearance of any *conflict of interest* (including bias) between your personal financial, relational, or other interest and your involvement in this research project? Yes No
10. Is there anything not covered in the above questions that you believe might constitute a potential conflict of interest or create the appearance of being a conflict of interest related to this research? Yes No

If you answered “yes” to any question above (#1-10), attach a separate page describing the nature and amount of any interest noted.

Are you the Principal Investigator or are you responsible for the design and conduct of this research project?
 Yes No

If yes, please identify faculty, staff, students, and other collaborators who will be working with you on this research project.

N/A – The Primary Investigator is the only person who will be involved in analyzing data.

Name, Affiliation: _____
 Name, Affiliation: _____
 Name, Affiliation: _____
 Name, Affiliation: _____

If any of the *covered individuals* listed above has IRB approval from another institution related to this study, please provide a copy of that IRB approval.

I attest that I have disclosed any and all significant financial and other interests, as well as those of my spouse and children, which, to an independent observer might reasonably appear to affect or be affected by my research.



 Signature Department/Division Date
 Urban and Multiethnic Studies May 6, 2015

Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploratory Case Study Analysis of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

Principal Investigator: Valerie Alms

Proposed Exploratory Group Format (with Basic Open-Ended Discussion Questions)*

*This format is flexible and will likely be adjusted throughout the exploratory study in order to develop a dialectical process that is most beneficial to the participants and most successful in accomplishing worldview change and lifestyle transformation.

Lesson or Discussion Topic Overview

- The facilitator will ask participants to share what they already know about the topic based on their own personal experiences with the subject.
- The facilitator will introduce new knowledge on the subject by giving a brief lesson.

Biblical Teaching or Storytelling

- A story or verse from the Bible will be shared that relates to the day's topic.
 - When applicable, this biblical teaching will be presented in a way that bridges/parallels Islamic teachings and the Christian Gospel.

Interactive Discussion – Building Conversations

- Reflection on the lesson and biblical teaching
 - What does this story/verse tell us about God/Jesus?
 - What does this story/verse tell us about ourselves?
 - What does this story/verse tell us about how God wants us to live?
- Talk about the decisions that you make in this area of your life.
 - Why do you make the decisions that you do?
 - How do your decisions impact your own well-being, either positively or negatively?
 - How do your decisions impact other people?
 - Your family?
 - Your community?
 - What lifestyle adjustments do you need to make in order to improve your well-being and/or the well-being of your loved ones?
 - What are the barriers in your life that prevent you from making these lifestyle adjustments?
 - What do you need in order to overcome those barriers?

Goal Setting

- Long-Term Goal
 - What is something that I want to see changed in my life?
 - How will I start applying what I have learned in a way that benefits myself and my loved ones for the years to come?
- Short-Term Goal
 - How will I practically start applying what I have learned this week?
 - This is the first step in accomplishing a larger long-term goal.

Closing Prayer

Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploratory Case Study Analysis of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

Principal Investigator: Valerie Alms

Interview Questions

For Group Facilitators:

- How would you define your role in the group (i.e., title, level of participation, responsibilities, etc.)?
- What would you say is the purpose of this community group?
- With which religion or belief system do you identify? What is the religion of the majority of the group members?
- What is your level of education? What is the level of education of the majority of the group members?
- How has your background (i.e., religion and education) impacted the way you engage group members, and how they engage with you?
 - How has it influenced how you view community transformation?
 - How have the beliefs and education level of the group members influenced how they participate in the group? How they view community transformation?
 - How involved are you with the families of the participants?
- In what ways is the purpose of this group carried out (group format, lesson or discussion content, etc.)?
- What role do discussion or interactive conversations play in the group meetings? Have you found this to be effective?
- How has the use of discussion or conversations led to paradigm shifts or the acceptance of new ideas among the participants? In the community as a whole?
 - What role do faith and religion play in this dialogue?
 - How have participants reacted to biblical principles and stories about Jesus?
- What are some specific issues facing this community?
 - What are community members doing to address these issues?
 - Is the group involved in trying to address these issues?
 - Are there any religious groups or organizations which are trying to address these issues?
- How have you seen the community change since the group started?
 - Have you seen specific people in the community whose lives have changed as a result of the group?
 - How has the community become empowered as a result of this group?
- Is there anything else you would like to share about yourself, the group, or your community that you think would help the researcher understand group dynamics and their impact on personal or community transformation?

Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploratory Case Study Analysis of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

Principal Investigator: Valerie Alms

Interview Questions

For Group Participants:

- How would you define your role in the group (i.e., title, level of participation, responsibilities, etc.)?
- With which religion or belief system do you identify?
- What is your level of education?
- How has your background (i.e., religion and education) impacted the way you participate in the group?
 - Are there any other factors that have impacted your participation in either the group or the community?
- How has your involvement in the group influenced any of the following?
 - Your worldview and lifestyle practices
 - The thought process by which you make personal decisions (Decisions about your family? Decisions related to involvement in your community?)
 - How you communicate with others
 - Cooperation with your fellow community members
- How has your involvement in the group impacted your family members?
- What are some specific issues facing this community?
 - What are community members doing to address these issues?
 - Is the group involved in trying to address these issues?
 - Are there any religious groups or organizations which are trying to address these issues?
- How have you seen the community change since the group started? Have you seen specific people in the community whose lives have changed as a result of the group?
- How have you personally changed as a result of being involved in this group?
- Is there anything else you would like to share about yourself, the group, or your community that you think would help the researcher understand group dynamics and their impact on personal or community transformation?

30 March 2015

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Keshav Dutt Pandey and I am the Head of Operations at Delhi House Society. [B.A., B.Th., and M.S.W. as Team Leader/Executive Director]

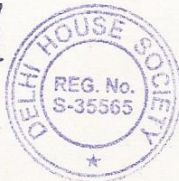
I am writing on behalf of Valerie Alms, who is conducting research on the use of dialogue in community groups to facilitate worldview change and holistic community transformation. I am familiar with her research topic, and have approved her research partnership with Delhi House Society.

As Head of Operations in the organization hosting data collection, I affirm that her research will be reviewed periodically by myself and the NGO staff to ensure that her research is being conducted in an ethically sound and culturally appropriate manner.

Sincerely,



(Keshav Dutt Pandey)



Date: 30th March 2015
Phone: 9311968001
Email: mohkesh@gmail.com

Delhi House Society
Regd. No. S-35565
47/25 & 48/21, Krishna Nagar,
Mamoorpur, Singhu Border Road,
Narela, Delhi-110040



Valerie Alms

Date: 30th March 2015
Phone: +91 813 006 3773
Email: valms13@apu.edu

Transformative Power of Conversations: An Exploratory Case Study Analysis of Worldview Change through Community Groups in Delhi

Principal Investigator: Valerie Alms

Participant Recruitment (Verbal Invitation)

For Exploratory Group Participants (as introduced by a Delhi House Society staff member):

Hello everyone. As many of you know, this is Valerie Alms. She is the American Master's student from Azusa Pacific University who has been interning with our NGO for the past year. Valerie is doing research on the use of discussion and conversations in community groups as a part of the community development process. Delhi House Society has invited her to participate in the well-being classes that we have been doing in order to help us create a format that is more discussion-based. If you have any questions or concerns about her involvement in the group, she would love to share more about her research project with you. As always, it is your choice to attend this well-being group, and you are welcome to stop attending the group at any time.

For Non-Exploratory Group Facilitators:

Hello. My name is Valerie Alms. I am an American Master's student doing research with Azusa Pacific University, and I am currently interning with a local NGO called Delhi House Society. I am visiting different community groups in Delhi to observe group dynamics and learn more about the role of small group discussion in holistic community interventions. I am particularly interested in visiting groups that use a discussion and dialogue format with group members. If possible, I would love to share more about my research project and possibly set up a meeting with you to talk more about your experience as a community group facilitator.

For Non-Exploratory Group Participants:

Hello. My name is Valerie Alms. I was invited by your group facilitator to observe your group for the day. I am an American Master's student doing research with Azusa Pacific University, and I am currently interning with a local NGO called Delhi House Society. I am visiting different community groups in Delhi to observe group dynamics and learn more about the role that small group discussion plays in the community development process. I am particularly interested in visiting groups that use a discussion and dialogue format with group members. If possible, I would love to share more about my research project and possibly ask you a few questions about your experience as a community group participant.

Scholarly References

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19 April 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a graduate student from Azusa Pacific University in California, U.S.A. Currently, I am conducting thesis research on how conversations in a small group setting can be used to bring about worldview change and holistic lifestyle transformation. This research will be conducted via grassroots level research in Delhi, India. For this research, I am also partnering with an NGO called Delhi House Society, who will be supervising and overseeing my fieldwork. When the research is finished, I will then present my findings to Delhi House Society and the local community.

Dr. Mujibur Rehman has agreed to serve as an academic consultant as I carry out my research. He has reviewed my research plan, and has affirmed that it is both culturally sensitive and respectful of the target population. I am submitting my research plan here, along with his letter of affirmation, to be reviewed for approval by your board.

Thank you for your careful consideration,



Valerie Alms

Phone: +91 8130063773

Email: valms13@apu.edu

19 April 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Dr. Mujibur Rehman and I am an Assistant Professor at Jamia Millia Islamia Central University, New Delhi. I am writing on behalf of Valerie Alms, who is conducting research on how conversations in a small group setting can be used to bring about worldview change and holistic lifestyle transformation. I have reviewed her research plan and affirm that it is both culturally sensitive and will be translated into the local language if necessary. As an academic consultant and a local resident of India, I believe that she will conduct her research in a culturally appropriate and respectful manner.

If there are any questions regarding this research, please contact me or the student.

Sincerely,


Dr. Mujibur Rehman


Valerie Alms

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Phone: +91 8130063773

Email: smujib2000@yahoo.com

Email: valms13@apu.edu

COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE (CITI PROGRAM)

COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS REPORT*

* NOTE: Scores on this Requirements Report reflect quiz completions at the time all requirements for the course were met. See list below for details. See separate Transcript Report for more recent quiz scores, including those on optional (supplemental) course elements.

- **Name:** Valerie Alms (ID: 4732047)
- **Email:** valms13@apu.edu
- **Institution Affiliation:** Azusa Pacific University (ID: 2683)
- **Institution Unit:** Global Studies

- **Curriculum Group:** Social & Behavioral Research - Basic
- **Course Learner Group:** Same as Curriculum Group
- **Stage:** Stage 1 - Basic Course
- **Description:** Choose this group to satisfy CITI training requirements for Investigators and staff involved primarily in Social/Behavioral Research with human subjects.

- **Report ID:** 15516455
- **Completion Date:** 03/25/2015
- **Expiration Date:** 03/24/2018
- **Minimum Passing:** 80
- **Reported Score*:** 100

REQUIRED AND ELECTIVE MODULES ONLY	DATE COMPLETED	SCORE
Belmont Report and CITI Course Introduction (ID:1127)	03/18/15	3/3 (100%)
History and Ethical Principles - SBE (ID:490)	03/18/15	5/5 (100%)
Defining Research with Human Subjects - SBE (ID:491)	03/19/15	5/5 (100%)
The Federal Regulations - SBE (ID:502)	03/20/15	5/5 (100%)
Assessing Risk - SBE (ID:503)	03/20/15	5/5 (100%)
Informed Consent - SBE (ID:504)	03/22/15	5/5 (100%)
Privacy and Confidentiality - SBE (ID:505)	03/25/15	5/5 (100%)
Unanticipated Problems and Reporting Requirements in Social and Behavioral Research (ID:14928)	03/25/15	5/5 (100%)

For this Report to be valid, the learner identified above must have had a valid affiliation with the CITI Program subscribing institution identified above or have been a paid Independent Learner.

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COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE (CITI PROGRAM)

COURSEWORK TRANSCRIPT REPORT**

** NOTE: Scores on this Transcript Report reflect the most current quiz completions, including quizzes on optional (supplemental) elements of the course. See list below for details. See separate Requirements Report for the reported scores at the time all requirements for the course were met.

- **Name:** Valerie Alms (ID: 4732047)
- **Email:** valms13@apu.edu
- **Institution Affiliation:** Azusa Pacific University (ID: 2683)
- **Institution Unit:** Global Studies

- **Curriculum Group:** Social & Behavioral Research - Basic
- **Course Learner Group:** Same as Curriculum Group
- **Stage:** Stage 1 - Basic Course
- **Description:** Choose this group to satisfy CITI training requirements for Investigators and staff involved primarily in Social/Behavioral Research with human subjects.

- **Report ID:** 15516455
- **Report Date:** 03/28/2015
- **Current Score**:** 100

REQUIRED, ELECTIVE, AND SUPPLEMENTAL MODULES	MOST RECENT	SCORE
History and Ethical Principles - SBE (ID:490)	03/18/15	5/5 (100%)
Defining Research with Human Subjects - SBE (ID:491)	03/19/15	5/5 (100%)
Belmont Report and CITI Course Introduction (ID:1127)	03/18/15	3/3 (100%)
The Federal Regulations - SBE (ID:502)	03/20/15	5/5 (100%)
Assessing Risk - SBE (ID:503)	03/20/15	5/5 (100%)
Informed Consent - SBE (ID:504)	03/22/15	5/5 (100%)
Privacy and Confidentiality - SBE (ID:505)	03/25/15	5/5 (100%)
International Research - SBE (ID:509)	03/28/15	5/5 (100%)
Unanticipated Problems and Reporting Requirements in Social and Behavioral Research (ID:14928)	03/25/15	5/5 (100%)

For this Report to be valid, the learner identified above must have had a valid affiliation with the CITI Program subscribing institution identified above or have been a paid Independent Learner.

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