
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM

Stage 2: National Wicked Problems Survey

Title: The Wicked Problems Survey project

Researchers

<p>Project officer Sahar Faghidno College of Business, Government and Law Flinders University wicked.problems@flinders.edu.au</p>	<p>Project leader Professor Ian Goodwin-Smith College of Business, Government and Law Flinders University csiflinders@flinders.edu.au</p>
--	--

Research team

Associate Professor Selina Tually, Professor Svetlana Bogomolova, Dr Ehsan Abedin, Professor Timothy Cavagnaro, and Professor Raymond Chan.

Description of the study

Flinders University is undertaking a new national project to understand what Australians see as the pressing and complex issues or 'wicked problems' of our time.

Understanding our wicked problems — problems that are complex, open-ended and unpredictable and often require multiple and flexible solutions — is useful for the university in setting our research priorities and ensuring we are undertaking activities that align with community values and priorities.

The Wicked Problems Survey project comprises two phases:

- **Phase 1:** This phase of the study has been completed. During this phase, the research team conducted a series of focus groups and drop-in sessions with the general community to identify Australia's current wicked problems. These sessions were held across South Australia, including Port Augusta, Mount Gambier, and various northern, southern, and central suburbs of metropolitan Adelaide. In addition, interviews were conducted with government and non-government agencies to gather their perspectives on the complex challenges facing Australia. This phase also included a pre-test survey of 400 Australians nationwide, asking them to list their top 'wicked problems'. The data generated from Phase 1 were then combined and analysed to create a comprehensive and representative list of 'wicked problems' for inclusion in the Phase 2 survey.
- **Phase 2:** Your participation in this online survey will contribute to Phase 2 of the study. In this phase, researchers are conducting a national Wicked Problems Survey, in which about 30,000 Australians will be surveyed about their views on Australia's wicked problems identified in Phase 1. The Phase 2 survey will present you with a list of 'wicked problems' that have been developed based on conversations with the general community, as well as with people in government and non-government agencies who have a broad view of community issues in Australia. The aim of this study is to gather your opinions on these complex and pressing concerns that Australians have identified

as wicked problems, and to determine which challenges you consider most important for researchers to address.

Benefits of the study

Sharing your thoughts will help us to understand the range and types of wicked problems people are concerned about. Furthermore, it will help us identify the most important issues to focus on in future research.

Participant involvement

You must be 18 years of age or older to participate in this research study.

If you agree to participate in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Complete an online survey. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes.
- Respond to questions that will help the research team identify and quantify the wicked problems concerning Australians.

Participant involvement

We do not expect this research study to trigger any trauma; however, given the focus of the study being problems concerning you, there is a possibility that you may experience feelings of distress while answering some questions. If you experience distress, take a short break before returning to the survey or opt out of the study. Furthermore, you can contact the following services for support:

- Healthdirect – Call 13 11 14 or text 0477 13 11 14
- Lifeline – Call 13 11 14 or visit www.lifeline.org.au
- Beyond Blue – Call 1300 22 4636 or visit www.beyondblue.org.au

Withdrawal rights

You may, without any penalty, decline to take part in this research study. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you may, without any penalty, withdraw at any time without providing an explanation. To withdraw, you may refuse to answer any questions, close the internet browser, and leave the online survey. Data captured up until withdrawal may be used in the study.

Confidentiality and privacy

Only researchers listed on this form have access to the individual information provided by you. Researchers will take all possible steps to ensure privacy and confidentiality will be adhered to at all times. All of your answers will remain anonymous and your identity will be kept confidential.

The research outcomes may be presented at conferences, written up for publication or used for other research purposes as described in this information sheet. You will not be named, and your individual information will not be identifiable in any research products.

Data storage

The information collected will be stored securely on a password protected computer and Flinders University server throughout the study. Any identifiable data will be de-identified for data storage purposes. All data will be securely transferred to and stored at Flinders University for fifteen years from the date of publication of the results. Following the required data storage period, all data will be securely destroyed according to university protocols.

How will I receive feedback?

On project completion, a short summary of the outcomes will be made available via different media platforms and published on the Flinders University website. Participants can also request a summary of the

outcomes via email; please contact csiflinders@flinders.edu.au and ask about a summary of results for The Wicked Problems Survey project.

Ethics Committee approval

The project has been approved by Flinders University's Human Research Ethics Committee (protocol number: 7344).

Queries and concerns

Queries or concerns regarding the research can be directed to the research team. If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this study, you may contact the Flinders University's Research Ethics and Compliance Office team either via telephone (08) 8201 2543 or by emailing the Office via human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.

CONSENT FORM

Title: The Wicked Problems Survey project
(HREC project number: 7344)

Consent Statement

- I have read and understood the information about the research, and I understand I am being asked to provide informed consent to participate in this research study. I understand that I can contact the research team if I have further questions about this research study.
- I am not aware of any condition that would prevent my participation, and I agree to participate in this project.
- I understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study.
- I understand that I can contact Flinders University's Research Ethics and Compliance Office if I have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this study.
- I understand that my involvement is confidential, and that the information collected may be published. I understand that I will not be identified in any research products.
- I understand that I will be unable to withdraw my data and information from this project. I also understand that this data **will be used** for this research study.

I further consent to:

- participating in a survey
- sharing my de-identified data with other researchers
- my data being used for other related projects.

By entering this survey you indicate your consent to being involved in the survey.