



NATIONAL STUDY OF COMMUNITY VIEWS ON PAROLE (THE PAROLE PROJECT)

Dear participant,

You are invited to take part in the National Survey of Community Views on Parole (the 'Parole Project') being undertaken by Dr Robin Fitzgerald and Dr Adrian Cherney (University of Queensland), Associate Professor Lorana Bartels (University of Canberra), and Emeritus Professor Arie Freiberg (Monash University). This research is funded under the Discovery Grants Scheme of the Australian Research Council.

What is the purpose of this research?

The purpose of this research is to better understand Australians' views about crime, offender rehabilitation, and their attitudes towards release from prison on parole in different circumstances.

What do I have to do?

The public will be invited to participate in two of the three stages of the Parole Project:

- In Stage 1 participants will be part of a national telephone survey of 1,200 Australians aged 18 years and over. Participants will be chosen from a sample of randomly generated telephone numbers from all states and territories in Australia. The survey should take around 15-20 minutes to complete.
- In Stage 2 about 30 participants from the national survey will be invited to take part. Participants will be presented with two hypothetical parole cases and asked to provide their opinion on whether parole should be granted or denied. A gift card will be provided to participants in appreciation for their time.

Frequently Asked Questions?

Will the study be anonymous?

Although we will ask for your name and contact details if you agree to partake in Stage 2 of the research, the published results will not identify any participant.

How will you ensure my responses remain confidential?

Each participant will be allocated a unique ID, e.g., Participant 1, Participant 2, etc. Any material with your name will be saved on a password protected device that only project staff will have access to.

Do I have to take part in this research?

No. Participation is entirely voluntary. Participants can withdraw at any point without penalty and any information recorded will be destroyed.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

Dr Robin Fitzgerald: r.fitzgerald1@uq.edu.au or (07) 3365 2287

Dr Adrian Cherney: a.cherney@uq.edu.au

Associate Professor Lorana Bartels:

Lorana.Bartels@canberra.edu.au

Emeritus Professor Arie Freiberg:

arie.freiburg@monash.edu

Who can I contact if I have any complaints?

This research adheres to the guidelines of the ethical review process of The University of Queensland and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. Whilst you are free to discuss your participation in this study with project staff, if you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Coordinator on (07) 3365 3924.

How can I find out the results of this research?

Publication details about the research will be provided on the University of Queensland website: www.socialscience.uq.edu.au/national-parole-project

