

**COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

---

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

---

**Informed Consent  
Experiences of Women in the Agriculture Industry**

1. My name is Cassie Duncan. I am a graduate student at Georgia Southern University with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology with a minor in Psychology. I am also currently enrolled in the Masters of Arts in Social Sciences at Georgia Southern University. I am conducting this research study for my thesis entitled: Experiences of Women in the Agricultural Industry.
2. Purpose of the Study: The purpose of this research study is to identify how women located in the Southeastern United States describe their participation in the agriculture industry. The goal of this research is to understand the difference in gender, race, socioeconomic status, sexuality, etc. and other forms of intersectionality and how that impacts women who are employed in the agriculture industry.
3. Eligibility Requirements: There are a few requirements that participants (you) must meet in order to be eligible for this study. All participants (you) must be 18 years of age or older, identify as a woman, live and work in the Southeastern United States, read, speak and understand English, and have been involved in the agriculture industry for at least three years prior to the interview.
4. Procedures to be followed: Participation in this research will include completion of this informed consent form, signed, as well as at least one 60 to 90 minute interview. Participants (you) may be contacted again for further interviewing if necessary. The second interview will be no longer than an hour. All interviews will be done virtually over Zoom.
5. Discomforts and Risks: The risks of this study are minor and should not exceed feelings of discomfort or distress experienced in daily life experiences. By signing this form you are stating that you understand that medical care is available in the event of injury resulting from research but that neither financial compensation nor free medical treatment is provided. Remember that you are able to stop this interview at any time as well as discontinue your participation. If attention is needed after or during this study the following resources are available to you:

Georgia Crisis and Access Line: 1-800-715-4225

Georgia Southern University Research Office: 912-478-5465

6. Privacy Policy: We are careful to ensure that the information you voluntarily provide to us is as secure as possible; however, you must be aware that transmissions over the Internet cannot be guaranteed to be completely secure. Your confidentiality will be maintained to the degree permitted by the technology being used. You will be subject to the privacy policy of Zoom.

7. Benefits:
  - a. The benefits to you as a participant include being able to share your perspective of what it is like to be a woman in the agriculture industry in a safe and confidential environment.
  - b. The benefits to society include sharing knowledge about what women in the agriculture industry have in common, including hindrances and victories.
8. Duration/Time required from the participant: The interview that you will be participating in will take 60 to 90 minutes to complete. You may be contacted at a later date for further interviewing that again will be no longer than one hour. All interviews will be done online over Zoom.
9. Statement of Confidentiality: The privacy of all participants in this study will be protected. I intend on keeping the recordings and accurate transcripts of the interviews. They will be kept in an unidentified name form. Recordings will be coded in a way that I, as well as my faculty advisor (Dr. April Schueths) will know which transcript/recording matches what participant. These codings will not be shared or published with anyone else besides those mentioned. This information will be kept in my Georgia Southern University Google Doc's account that is located on a Georgia Southern University laptop and/or in a locked filing cabinet that only I and my faculty advisor (Dr. April Schueths) will have access to.
10. Future use of data: The data collected will be maintained for future use in an deidentified fashion. Deidentified or coded data from this study may be placed in an available repository for study validation and further research. You will not be identified by name in the data set or any reports using information obtained from this study, and your confidentiality as a participant in this study will remain secure. Subsequent uses of records and data will be subject to standard data use policies which protect the anonymity of individuals and institutions.
11. Right to Ask Questions: Participants (you) have the right to ask questions and have those questions answered. If you have questions about this study, please contact the researcher named above or the researcher's faculty advisor (Dr. April Schueths), whose contact information is located at the end of the informed consent. For questions concerning your rights as a research participant, contact Georgia Southern University Institutional Review Board at 912-478-5465.
12. Voluntary Participation: Participants (you) are not required by any means to participate in this study. You may end your participation at any time by telling the researcher. You do not have to answer any questions that you do not feel comfortable answering. If this happens, please let the researcher know that you would like to skip the question asked or stop the interview.
13. Penalty: There is no penalty for stopping or discontinuing the interview. Participants may do so at any time by telling the researcher they no longer wish to participate.
14. You must be 18 years of age or older to consent to participate in this research study. You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep for your records. This project has been reviewed and approved by the GSU Institutional Review Board under tracking number H22134.

Title of Project: Experiences of Women in the Agriculture Industry

Principal Investigator: Cassie Duncan, Georgia Southern University, [cc14629@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:cc14629@georgiasouthern.edu)

Research Advisor: Dr. April Schueths, Georgia Southern University, [aschueths@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:aschueths@georgiasouthern.edu)

If you consent to participate in this research study and to the terms above, please sign your name and indicate the date below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, the undersigned, verify that the above informed consent procedure has been followed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Investigator Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date