

## NCVS-R Debriefing Interview

### Introduction

Hello, my name is **INTERVIEWER NAME**. I work for Westat, a research company in Rockville, Maryland. Thank you for recently completing the National Survey of Crime and Safety and for taking the time to participate in this part of the study.

Westat is working on this project for the Bureau of Justice Statistics, which is part of the U.S. Department of Justice. Today, we are interested in getting your feedback on your experience completing the survey, and hearing your thoughts about ways that some of the questions and the survey can be improved.

**IF PARTICIPANT JOINS BY AUDIO ONLY, ASK THEM TO TURN ON THE CAMERA ON THEIR DEVICE:** I would like to be able to see you during the interview to help facilitate the interview today. Would you be willing to turn on your camera?

### Informed Consent

We enclosed a consent form in our email exchanges with you. Let me just review what's on the form. This is a research project and this interview is voluntary. That means you can skip any question I ask and you can stop at any point. All of your answers and everything you say will be kept secure to the extent permitted by law. This means that we will not share your name or information with anyone outside of our research team. The interview will take about an hour and you will receive \$75 as a token of appreciation. It will be sent via email after this interview. We would like to audio record this interview because the recording makes sure we hear everything you say correctly. Even though we can see each other on screen, we are not video recording the interview. Only the people who work on this research project will be able to listen to the recording and see our notes. Your name will not be linked to any of your responses, though we may include quotes that you provide in our reports. The recordings and our notes will be destroyed after we finish the project.

**IF OBSERVERS ARE IN ZOOM MEETING:** I also want you to know that a couple of other people who work on this research project are listening to this interview to take notes as we talk. If you would prefer that they not observe, just let me know.

Do you have any questions about anything I've said so far? **(ADDRESS QUESTIONS)**

Are you willing to take part in this study? Are you willing to have the session audio recorded? {IF APPLIES: Are you willing to have other members of the research team observe?}

**IF ACCEPTABLE, START RECORDING IN ZOOM.** The date and time is \_\_\_\_\_. Now that I am recording, I want to ask again, do you agree to be interviewed? Is it okay if I audio record this interview? {IF APPLIES: Is it okay if other members of the research team observe?}

Let's start with some general questions about your experience filling out the survey.

1. First, I want to give you the opportunity to tell me anything you'd like to share about your experience being a respondent to this survey. I'm interested in all feedback, both positive and negative.
2. Now I have some specific questions about your experience. Do you recall how long ago you completed the survey?
3. Do you recall if you finished it in one sitting, or if you did it over multiple sessions? (If multiple, probe to understand why R did it in more than one session, and probe for any difficulties in logging back in or recalling details when they came back into the survey.)
4. Do you recall what kind of device(s) you completed it on? (If mobile: What was your experience like to answer the questions on a mobile phone? If more than one device: Probe to understand why they switched devices and what the experience was like on each device)
5. How did the look and feel of the screens and the functionality of this web survey compare to other web surveys you have responded to? Was there anything specific that you liked or didn't like about your user experience? (Probe to understand any feedback about the look and feel of the instrument)
6. Do you have any suggestions for how we could improve the look and feel of the questionnaire to make it easier for people to fill it out online?
7. Do you recall where you were when you filled it out? (Probe to understand if R was at home/away from home, and how their environment may have impacted the way they

answered the questions.)

8. Do you recall if you were alone when you filled it out, or were others in the room with you? (If others, probe to understand if R might have answered any questions differently because there were other people around.)
9. Do you recall roughly how long it took you to complete the questionnaire? (Probe to understand how R felt about the survey length and how it compared to their expectations)
10. Do you recall any questions being particularly difficult to understand? (Probe to find out which ones and why)
11. Do you recall any questions being particularly sensitive or too personal to answer? (Probe to find out which ones and why)
12. Do you recall having a hard time remembering the details about any of the incidents you were asked about? (Probe to find out which ones and why)
13. How did you feel about the level of detail that the questions asked about the incidents that happened to you?
14. (If more than one incident) How did you feel about being asked separate questions about each incident that happened to you?
15. Do you have any thoughts about how we could improve the questions?

Now I'd like to remind you of a few specific questions from the survey and will ask for your feedback to explore if there are ways we could improve the wording of the questions.

### **IF YES TO SERIES CRIME:**

16. You answered that [TYPE OF CRIME] happened to you more than 4 times in the past 12 months. Would you mind telling me a little bit about what happened to you?
17. Thanks for sharing that. The survey asked you "Do you recall enough details about each incident to be able to distinguish them from each other?" and you answered "No." What do you think this question meant? How did you decide on your answer?
18. Another question asked "Did all, some, or none of these incidents happen in the same place?" What do you think this question meant? How did you decide on your answer?
19. Another question asked "Were all of these incidents, some of them, or none of them done by the same offender(s)?" What do you think this question meant? How did you decide on your answer?

20. You were asked just focus on the most recent time this incident happened when providing details about this set of incidents. How did you feel about only being asked to focus on the most recent incident? How easy or hard was that to do? Were you able to just focus on that most recent time, or did you find yourself thinking about all of the times this happened to you?

### IF YES TO SEXUAL ASSAULT:

21. You answered that you experienced unwanted sexual contact. How did you feel about answering questions about this experience?
22. Do you recall whether or not the questions adequately captured what happened to you? If not, what did you think was not covered or was not adequately captured?
23. Were there any questions that you recall being too sensitive or personal to think about? (if yes) Which questions?
24. There was one question that asked about incidents that occurred because you were unable to consent because you were too drunk or high.
- a. What does that question mean to you?
  - b. What are the circumstances that someone is too drunk or high to consent?

### SELF PROTECTION

25. The survey had a few questions that asked you how you reacted during (one of) the incident(s). Here is what we recorded from your answers:

List responses from the survey

Could you describe in your own words how you reacted to the incident? Do you think the survey accurately captured what happened?

### IF YES TO HATE CRIMES:

26. You answered that you thought what happened to you was a hate crime. Can you tell me more about why you thought that?
27. The questions on the survey asked you about different types of prejudice or bigotry that you may have experienced. Do you think these questions covered the appropriate reasons for what happened to you? (if not) Why not?

## **CLOSING**

28. Do you have any additional feedback on anything else about your experience completing this questionnaire that could help us improve it?

That concludes our interview. I'm going to stop the recorder now.

## **STOP RECORDING**

This interview may have brought up some sensitive issues for you. In case you would like to talk to someone after this interview, I want to remind you that we emailed you a list of resources on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page of the consent form that you can use. I am also going to pull them up on the screen in case you would like to take a screen shot or write any of them down.

## **DISPLAY RESOURCES LIST.**

Thank you for your time today!