Information Collection Request

Supporting Statement for the

Teen Dating Relationships: Opportunities for Youth to Define what's Healthy and Unhealthy

also known as the

Understanding Abuse in Teen Dating Relationships Through Concept Mapping Project

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B.1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

For the pilot study fifty teens, ages 14-18, will participate in the brainstorming, sorting and rating tasks. A minimum of twenty five completed sorts is typically needed to produce a reliable concept map; however, given the foundational, exploratory nature of this information collection and the variation in experience that teens are likely to have in relation to dating and relationships, we believe that fifty sorts will be sufficient to produce a concept map that will give us meaningful insight into the conceptualization of the teen respondents, as well as how the collection procedures need to be refined to involve a greater range of youth and adults in the future information collection. Twenty teens, ages 14-18, will participate in each of the two facilitated discussions (a total of forty teens).

The following table displays the number of individuals that will be invited to participate in the different information collection tasks for the full study:

Concept Mapping Participation Targets					
Task	Preteens (11-13)	Teens (14-18)	Young Adults (19-22)	Adults	Total task target
Brainstorming	50	100	100	150	400
Sorting	0	25	25	50	100
Rating	0	125	125	150	400
Total group target					**400**
Facilitated Discussion Participation Targets					
Suggested location	Preteens (11-13)	Teens (14-18)	Young Adults (19-22)	Adults	Total regional target
Washington, DC	0	10	10	20	40
Atlanta	0	10	10	20	40
Chicago or Kansas City	0	10	10	20	40
San Francisco	0	10	10	20	40
Total group target	**0**	**40**	**40**	**80**	**160**

This information collection will not require purposefully sampling on the basis of any specific social demographics other than age.

B.2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

The information collection approach for this project will be to purposefully sample on the basis of heterogeneity, which is to non-randomly select a broad range of persons who are likely to reflect the full range of ideas as possible that are relevant to the topic under investigation. However, the adequacy of ideas that are captured is dependent upon there is a match between the focus and the participants selected to participate. We are not expecting that the results will be generalizable to the youth and adult populations at large; however we will be looking for saturation of the topic, as bounded by the participants group. Thus, we anticipate that in the brainstorming task, we will reach a point where there will be a fair amount of redundancy and some homeostasis in the topic. The goal is to achieve a broad sampling of ideas rather than a representative sample of individuals. Youth respondents will be recruited through youth serving organizations with collective access to a diverse group of youth recommended by members of the project Planning and Advisory Groups. These groups will be selected in part through a nomination process that solicited recommendations for organizations from the project's Planning and Advisory Groups. Within this group of youth serving organizations, we are also looking to purposefully stratify our sample by age across three age groups: 11-13 (preteens), 14-18 (teens) and19-22 (young adult), in order to capture the variation of perspectives as they may be influenced by age. The organizations that will be used for recruitment purposes will be instructed by the research team to recruit a specific number of youth within the specific age ranges for participation in each activity (See Appendices B1-B3). Inclusion of youth participants will be based on a first-come-first-serve criterion; those youth who are the first to respond to the organizational representatives' advertisements will have the opportunity to participate. In addition, adult participants will be purposefully selected from Planning and Advisory Group nominations, based on the relevance of their professional roles to the youth population and their relationships (i.e. practitioners, teachers, advocates, researchers, etc.). The proposed recruitment strategies for 14-18 year olds will be tested in the pilot study and revised, as necessary, for the full study.

In terms of quality control, the sorting, rating and demographic/background data will be gathered directly over the web, thus eliminating any concerns about mis-entering or mis-reading handwritten data. The software has some constraints built in that prevent errors in the data entry. For example, since this is an unstructured forced-choice sort method (Weller & Romney, 1988), the software does not allow a statement to be placed in more than one group simultaneously. For the ratings, the software only allows legitimate entries (e.g., the integers 1-to-5). Before any participant data can be used in data analysis, the software requires that the concept map analyst visually inspect the data and indicate by checking a setting that the data are complete and useable. Without this check, the participant's data will not show up in any subsequent screen that calls for data analysis. Because the Concept System® software was expressly designed to accomplish the concept mapping process and analysis, there is also no danger that the statistical analysis procedure might be mis-specified by the analyst.

B.3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates and Deal With Nonresponse

The brainstorming task will be conducted completely anonymously for all respondents. The number of statements elicited in response to the focus prompt will be measureable, but there will no way to determine the actual response rate, as respondents will be able to provide as many statements as they choose without any way to identify which respondents provided which statements.

The response rate for sorting and rating will be calculated over the course of the information collection, as the project website administrators will be able to monitor the progress of each participant according to their username. In order to maximize response rates for brainstorming, sorting and rating, a reminder notice will be sent to all invited respondents at multiple points during the period for each task. Response rates for youth invited to participate in the sorting and rating will also be maximized by offering the incentives described in section A9 of this supporting statement. In addition, because the use of incentives

to maximize completion of the sorting and rating tasks, we anticipate that our response rates will be higher than the estimates outlined in section B1 above.

The facilitated discussion response rate will be calculated based on how many invitees (20 per discussion) actually attend. Attendance rate will be maximized by sending invitees reminders of the discussions in advance of the sessions.

B.4. Test of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

Not applicable. No tests of procedures or methods will be undertaken.

B.5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collection and/or Analyzing Data

Concept Systems, Inc. (CSI) is the contractor that will be consulted on statistical aspects of the design, and that will actually collect and analyze the information for the agency. Individuals from CSI who will be contributing to the statistical design and analysis are as follows:

i. Mary Kane, Principal Consultant
ii. Scott Rosas, Senior Consultant
iii. Alyssa Goldman, Junior Consultant

These individuals can be reached by telephone at (607) 272-1206.

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