

Dear parents,

Your child's school is taking part in our **study “Friendship and Violence in Adolescence 2024” (FuGJ 2024)** this year. This independent scientific study is funded by the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia. The aim is to prevent violence and improve the lives of young people.

As part of our project, we ask all pupils in your child's grade about their experiences and opinions. The survey takes place at school this semester and lasts two school hours. Questions are asked about friendship, family, leisure, mental health and deviant behavior. Finally, we ask for some general personal information, such as gender, age and ethnic origin.

Of course, all **data protection rules** are observed and all information provided by the participating pupils is treated in **strict confidence**. No answers from individual pupils are reported in the results of the study. Results will **only be published anonymously**. It will therefore not be possible to find out later who took part in the survey. All procedures underwent intensive checks by the data protection officer and the ethics committee of the University of Cologne. Further information can be found in the enclosed *data protection declaration* (see sheet 2).


For the study to be meaningful, it is important that as many pupils as possible take part. Your child can only participate if he or she and you agree. We therefore kindly ask for your consent. Participation is voluntary and can be terminated at any time without giving reasons and without any negative consequences.

Please complete the enclosed parental declaration (see sheet 3). **Please give this Parental Declaration to your child to take back to school, even if you do not agree to participate.** As a small thank you for your support, we will donate 10 euros to your child's class fund for each pupil with a signed Parental Declaration.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. You can reach us by telephone on 0221/470-3943 or by e-mail at [schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de](mailto:schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de).

Thank you very much for your support!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Kroneberg'.

Professor Dr. Clemens Kroneberg

## „Freundschaft und Gewalt im Jugendalter 2024“ (FuGJ 2024) „Friendship and violence in adolescence 2024“ (FuGJ 2024)

### Data Protection Declaration

#### General Information

The research team guarantees a high level of data security and strict compliance with all data protection regulations. Our approach has been reviewed by the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Cologne. It complies with national and European legislation, including the Federal Data Protection Act and the Data Protection Act of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Participation in the study is voluntary. It also requires parental consent for young people under the age of 16. Participation can be terminated at any time without giving reasons and without adverse consequences. In the following, we would like to make transparent how we guarantee the confidentiality of information and data protection.

#### School Surveys

The study will include a survey of approx. 5,000 pupils at approx. 30 secondary schools in North Rhine-Westphalia. The survey is only conducted in schools where the school management has expressly agreed to participate. It is carried out by the research team, supported by specially recruited interviewers. This means that no personal data is passed on to third parties.

#### Storage of the collected data

The survey data is stored by the research team. The highest security standards apply, which comply with all security requirements of the Federal Data Protection Act. Personal data (e.g. the names of respondents) are processed and managed strictly separately from the survey data in all phases of the research project. This ensures that any statistical analysis of the survey data is only carried out on the basis of completely pseudonymized data. In particular, the names and contact information of the students *are not linked to survey data at any time*. The separate storage of personal data takes place exclusively in order to be able to delete survey data if respondents withdraw their consent and to be able to match survey data from repeated surveys. The survey data is analyzed for research purposes at the end of the study. The contact data will be completely deleted at the end of the study.

#### Use of the survey data

The survey data is used exclusively for scientific purposes. The data will only be archived in anonymized form for purely scientific reuse. Beyond this, data will not be passed on to third parties or persons or institutions not involved in the study. All results of the study are presented exclusively in anonymized form, i.e. they do not contain any information that could be used to identify the persons surveyed.

#### Data protection obligation

The persons involved in the implementation and evaluation of the study are bound by signature to strict data protection. To view the declarations, please send an e-mail to [schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de](mailto:schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de).

#### Inspection and Deletion of Data

On request, you can obtain information about your personal data stored by us at any time (including a copy free of

charge) and have it deleted. We will be happy to correct any incorrect information (e.g. if you change your telephone number). As part of our university control, there is also the possibility of inspection by representatives of the Ethics Committee of the University of Cologne. After completion of the research work, all personal data will be deleted. You can revoke your declaration of participation at any time and without detrimental effects, without this affecting the legality of the processing carried out on the basis of the consent until the revocation. You or your child can also request the deletion of the survey data collected on your child. You can use the project's email address for this purpose: [schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de](mailto:schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de). The survey data will be completely anonymized at the end of the project so that it cannot be assigned to individual persons.

#### Control of the data protection regulations

Compliance with data protection regulations by the research team is monitored by the data protection officer of the University of Cologne, Mr. Alexander May. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact him:

Mr. Alexander May, LL.M.

Data Protection Officer of the University of Cologne  
University of Cologne, Albertus-Magnus-Platz, 50923  
Cologne  
Tel.: 0221 4703872, e-mail: [a.may@verw.uni-koeln.de](mailto:a.may@verw.uni-koeln.de)

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the competent data protection supervisory authority:  
State Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information North Rhine-Westphalia, P.O. Box 20 04 44,  
40102 Düsseldorf  
Phone: 0211 384240, e-mail: [poststelle@ldi.nrw.de](mailto:poststelle@ldi.nrw.de)

#### Information about changes

You and the respondents will be informed promptly of any changes and important information during the course of the project.

#### Statistical analysis and contact persons

The statistical analysis is carried out by the research team. If you have any questions about the project or data protection, you can contact us at any time:

#### Project implementation:

Alexandra Heyden, Fiona Seiffert, Maximilian Pickartz, Dr. Christof Nagel, University of Cologne, Albertus-Magnus-Platz, 50923 Cologne, Tel.: 0221 470-3943, e-mail: [schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de](mailto:schulbefragung@wiso.uni-koeln.de)

#### Responsible Project Manager:

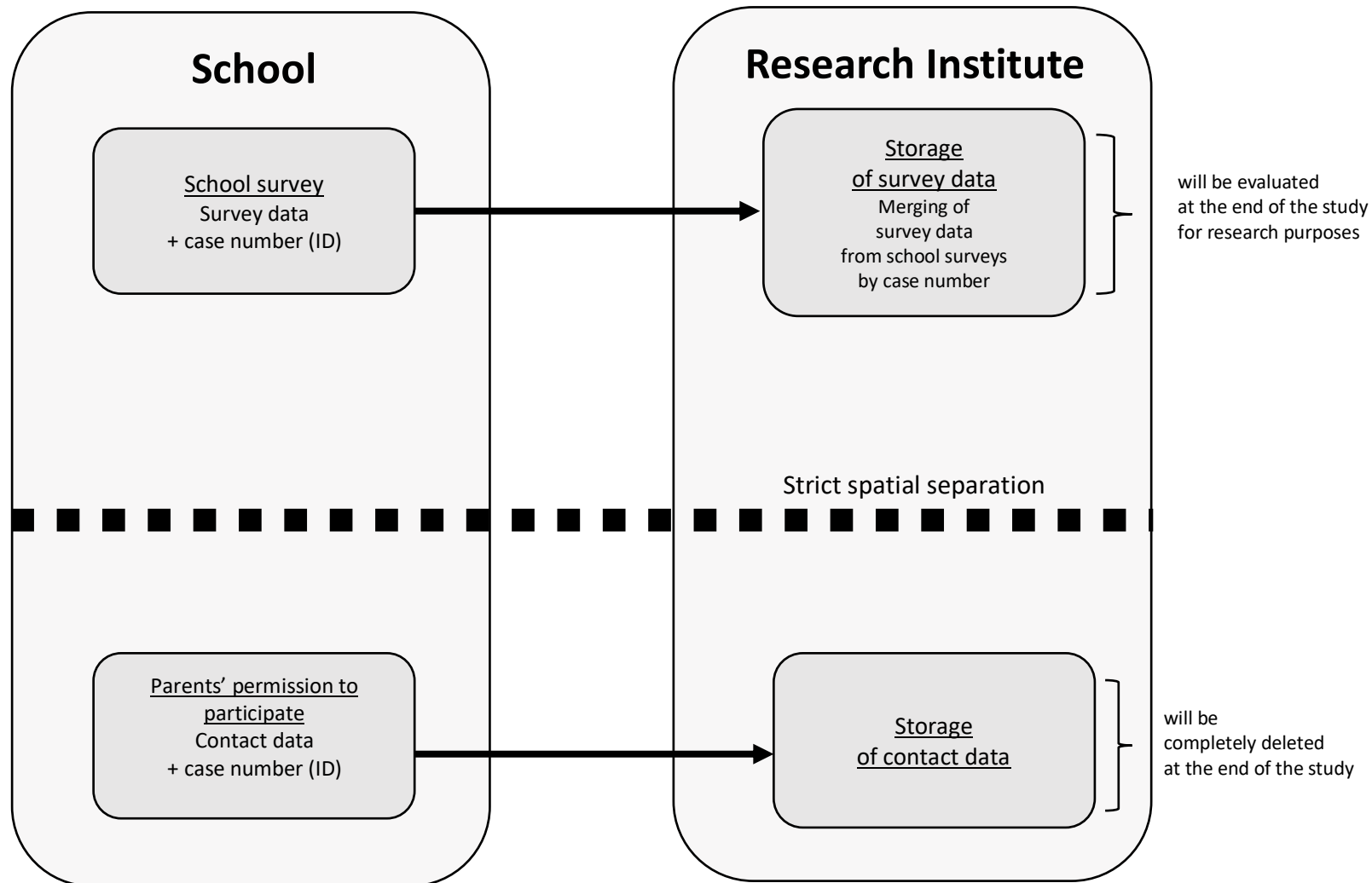
Prof. Dr. Clemens Kroneberg  
University of Cologne, Albertus-Magnus-Platz, 50923  
Cologne, Tel.: 0221 470-4406, e-mail: [kroneberg@wiso.uni-koeln.de](mailto:kroneberg@wiso.uni-koeln.de)

For more information, see: [www.fugj-studie.de](http://www.fugj-studie.de)



„Freundschaft und Gewalt im Jugendalter 2024“ (FuGJ 2024)  
„Friendship and violence in adolescence 2024“ (FuGJ 2024)

Course of Study



# University of Cologne

„Freundschaft und Gewalt im Jugendalter 2024“ (FuGJ 2024)  
„Friendship and violence in adolescence 2024“ (FuGJ 2024)

## Parental Declaration

*-Please tick-*

With respect to the school survey of the study “FuGJ 2024”:

- My child may participate.
- My child may not participate.

With my signature, I agree to the collection, processing, storage and disclosure of the data in accordance with the descriptions of the above-mentioned research project and in particular also special personal data on ethnic origin, deviant behavior and mental health. Consent is voluntary. Failure to give consent has no negative legal consequences. Consent to the processing of personal data can be withdrawn without giving reasons and without negative consequences until the data has been completely anonymized. The withdrawal of consent shall not affect the lawfulness of processing based on consent before its withdrawal.

**- Please complete legibly and in BLOCK CAPITALS -**

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**Surname of a parent / guardian**

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**Surname of daughter / son**

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**First name of daughter / son**

Place, date

Signature of the parent / legal guardian

**- Please do not fold this sheet, leave the reverse side blank -**

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*- Please leave these fields blank -*

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