PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Transportation of children with bicycle seats, trailers, and other carriers: considerations for safety

Dear Participant,

You are invited to take part in a research project being jointly undertaken by the Centre for Automotive Safety Research (CASR) of the University of Adelaide and the Monash University Accident Research Centre (MUARC). The aim of the project is to explore the issues surrounding the transportation of young children on bicycles using child carriers with a focus on prevalence of use and safety.

We would like to speak to adult cyclists who are the parents of young children (up to 5 years old) who regularly carry child passengers when they cycle, and parents who do not carry child passengers when they cycle. Child passengers include those in child seats, trailers, cargo bikes/trikes, family bikes, trailer bike (also trail-a-bike or tag along bike), or any other type of carrier designed for passengers (“dinkying” on the handlebars does not count).

Bicycle carriers such as front-mounted seats, cargo bikes, and trailers are becoming increasingly popular and there are now more options for transporting child passengers by bicycle in Australia than at any time previously. With the rise in popularity and emergence of these “new” carrier options there is also a growing interest in the safety of child bike carriers. The results of this research will be used to identify and publicise the available options for child carriers, provide information and advice allowing parents to make informed decisions when selecting a carrier, and improve the safety of child passengers.

Your participation in this research will involve an interview during which you will be asked questions about your experiences as a cyclist and the reasons why you do or do not carry child passengers by bicycle. We would also like to learn about any safety-related events you may have experienced both when cycling alone and when carrying child passengers.

The interview will be undertaken at a time and place that is convenient for you and we are happy to visit your workplace, home, or other convenient location if desired. A family member or friend may be present at the time of the interview if you like. The interview should take about 40 minutes and will be audio-recorded. The recording will be stored securely within CASR at the University of Adelaide. Any information you provide for this study will be treated with the strictest confidence and you will not be individually identified in any reports or publications resulting from this research.

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are also free to withdraw from the study at any time. Any information you have provided will be excluded from the study upon your withdrawal.

This research project has been approved by the University of Adelaide Human Research Ethics Committee. Should you require further details about the study either before, during or after the study, you may contact the Project Manager, Mr Simon Raftery, or any of the other researchers (Lisa Wundersitz, Jeremy Woolley) on (08) 8313 5997 during business hours.

If you wish to discuss any aspects of the project with someone who is not directly involved please contact the University of Adelaide Independent Complaints Unit, contact details for which are provided on the accompanying form.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Simon Raftery
Project Manager, Research Fellow
Centre for Automotive Safety Research
The University of Adelaide