



18 June 2007

Dear participant

My name is Margaret Lau and I am a doctoral candidate at the University of South Australia. I am seeking volunteers for a research study to investigate the effect of Falun Gong (also known as Falun Dafa) on individuals who practise this meditation form. This study is undertaken as part of my Professional Doctorate in Counselling.

The purpose of this survey is to gain a snapshot of the demographics of Falun Gong practitioners around the world, to study the impact of the practice on individuals' health and wellbeing as perceived and reported by practitioners, and how that compares with people who do not practise Falun Gong or similar practices and other forms of meditation.

I would like to invite Falun Gong practitioners to contribute to this online survey. To participate fully in this survey, you also need to invite a friend, or a family member, to complete the survey. This person must not be practising Falun Gong or other meditation on a daily or regular basis during the past 6 months. For participation criteria, please refer to the Research Information Sheet (RIS).

Participation is entirely voluntary. You and your invited friend, or family member, are under no obligation to participate in the survey. All responses are confidential and anonymous. No one can be identified or identifiable in this survey. The researcher will take every care to remove responses from any identifying material as early as possible. All responses will be kept confidential by the researcher and not be identified in the reporting of the research. Please do not complete the online survey if participating poses a security risk for you and your family.

The University's Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) has reviewed and approved this study. If you have any ethical concerns about the project or questions about your rights as a participant, please contact the Executive Officer of this Committee, Tel: +61 8 8302 3118; Email: vicki.allen@unisa.edu.au.

The Australian and the European Falun Dafa Associations have approved for the research information and survey web links to be posted on their web sites.

I hope you will take this opportunity to participate and to give a self-report of the impact of Falun Gong in your life. Should you require further information, please contact me, or my supervisor.

Yours sincerely,

Project Researcher

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