

CORNELL UNIVERSITY
Research Participant Information and Consent Form for Gig Workers

Title of the Study: Understanding Immigrant and Gig Work in U.S. Cities

Principal Investigator: Andrew B. Wolf (phone: 978-835-0379) (email: andrew.wolf@cornell.edu)

Prof. Andrew Wolf and his research team are asking you to participate in a research study titled “Understanding Immigrant and Gig Work in U.S. Cities.” We will describe this study to you and answer any of your questions. This study is being led by Professor Andrew Wolf, Department of Global Labor and Work at Cornell University’s School of Industrial & Labor Relations.

What the study is about

The purpose of this research is to study how changes to immigrant and the rise of the gig-economy are impact labor markets and the future of work. This study is evaluating both how this work is changing work but also how governments and workers are responding to these changes. You have been asked to participate because of your involvement in this work. This study will include workers, union staff, union activists, NGO staff, and government officials working in these industries or working to regulate these industries. Please make sure you choose a comfortable place for you to participate in the interview.

What we will ask you to do

If you decide to participate in this research, you will be asked to participate in a roughly 30 minutes to 1-hour long interview and possibly a follow up clarifying conversation in the future also between 30 minutes and an hour.

For observations conducted during a meeting: Our research team will be observing this meeting and taking notes with your consent. While we will work to maintain your confidentiality we would like to note that this room includes small business owners, community organization, and government officials so please make sure what you say in this meeting you are comfortable with all present to hear. If you would like to remain anonymous please raise your hand at this time or come talk to us at any point and our research team will not take any notes on what you say during this meeting.

Risks and discomforts

There are minimal risks to participants. The main risks of participation include a breach of confidentiality and the risk that personal, sensitive, or identifiable information may be revealed in response to open-ended questions. Workers who participate could face risks associated with their job if their employer responds negatively to their participation in this study. Given these risks we again emphasize that participation is voluntary. Additionally, to minimize risk your confidentiality will be maintained both with our data storage and subsequent presentations. There are no consequences for declining to be identified in the study.

Benefits

We don't expect any direct benefits to you from participation in this study. We do expect that the information from this study may benefit other people now or in the future as the findings from this study will inform organizations and policy makers looking to address changing employment conditions in immigrant and gig work occupations.

Incentives for participation

You will receive a \$30 gift card for your participation in this study. You will be compensated at the end of this interview by receiving a Tango link to a \$30 gift card eligible at over 200 retailers.

Audio/Video Recording

To aid the research team in collecting your responses accurately we request permission to create an audio recording of this interview. We will keep this audio on a secure Cornell University server in a de-identified file and will be archived after transcription. We are verbally asking if you are willing to have this interview recorded as an audio file. You may still participate in this study if you are not willing to have the interview recorded. The study team member will check the following box consistent with your choice.

- ☐ I do not want to have this interview recorded.
☐ I am willing to have this interview recorded.

Privacy/Confidentiality/Data Security

Your involvement in the study is due to engagement with immigrant and gig-work issues and policy. The study team will work to ensure your privacy and confidentiality. We will not use your name and will work to remove any potentially identifying information from the study or publications resulting from the study. The study team will take proactive steps to ensure the participants privacy and/or confidentiality.

To help ensure your privacy and confidentiality we will store all data collected from your participation in this study in a de-identified manor on a secure Cornell University server and/or in paper files stored in a locked cabinet in Prof. Wolf's office. All participants will be assigned a random identifying code and the file with connects this code to you will be stored in a password protected document on our secure and further password protected server. The same will be true for this consent form. Only study team participants will have access to the data generated from your participation in this study.

Please note that email communication is neither private nor secure. Though we are taking precautions to protect your privacy, you should be aware that information sent by e-mail could be read by a third party.

Taking part is voluntary

Your involvement and participation in this study is completely voluntary, you may refuse to participate before the study begins, discontinue at any time, or skip any questions/procedures that may make you feel uncomfortable, with no penalty to you, and no effect on the compensation earned before withdrawing, or their academic standing, record, or relationship with the university or other organization or service that may be involved with the research.

If you have questions

The main researcher conducting this study is Andrew B. Wolf, an Assistant Professor of Industrial & Labor Relations at Cornell University. Please ask any questions you have now. If you have questions later, you may contact Andrew Wolf at Andrew.wolf@cornell.edu or at 978-835-0379. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a subject in this study, you may contact the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Human Participants at 607-255-6182 or access their website at <https://researchservices.cornell.edu/offices/IRB>. You may also report your concerns or complaints anonymously through Ethicspoint online at www.hotline.cornell.edu or by calling toll free at 1-866-293-3077. Ethicspoint is an independent organization that serves as a liaison between the University and the person bringing the complaint so that anonymity can be ensured.

Consent to Audio Recording

At the beginning of our interview, please confirm that you consent to an audio recording of the interview based on the above information. You may still participate if you choose not to consent to an audio recording.

Statement of Consent

At the beginning of our interview, please confirm that you have read the above information, received answers to any questions you asked, and consent to take part in this study.