

Appendix E Informed Consent Form

Title of Study: *Playback and the Transcendental Gift of Empathy*
Primary Investigator: *Katalin Szoboszlay Navarro*
Faculty Sponsor: *Dr. Steven A. Burr*

THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MARYLAND INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD.

Purpose and Procedures:

This graduate research study intends to examine the nature of empathy as it pertains to Playback Theatre. In this study, you will be asked to participate in three Playback workshop sessions (90 minutes each) which will later culminate in a 90-minute Playback performance for the Loyola University Community. In addition to these four sessions, you will be asked to complete two questionnaires. The first will be administered during the first Playback workshop session, and the second will be administered directly after the performance. These paper questionnaires will be administered anonymously, and there will be no manner in which your answers can be identified as your own.

The purpose of this research study is to determine whether a particular kind of theater performance, Playback Theater, is effective at fostering a greater capacity and desire for empathy on the part of individual participants and audience members.

Risks:

The risks associated with participation in this study are no greater than those encountered in daily life or during usual theater practices/performances.

Benefits:

By participating in this study you will have the opportunity to explore Playback Theater under the direction of trained Playback practitioners. Additionally, we hope that your participation in this study may reveal new ways in which theater performance may increase our capacity to empathize with another.

Confidentiality/Anonymity:

Data collection will entail completion of the 40-item Empathy Quotient test, both at the beginning and the end of the study period. Each survey

will be completed anonymously, and no individual identifying information will be provided at any time. Under these conditions, any information obtained from this research may be used in any way thought best by the investigators for publication or education purposes, provided that you are in no way identified and your name is not used.

Questions:

Please take as long as you need to review this information before deciding whether you would like to participate. If you have questions or concerns about your participation in this study, you should first contact the principal investigator (Katalin Szoboszlay Navarro, krszoboszlay@loyola.edu) or faculty sponsor at (Dr. Steven Burr, sburr@loyola.edu). In addition, you may contact Loyola's Institutional Review Board (IRB) if you have any questions about your rights as a participant at 410-617-2188 or irb@loyola.edu.

Voluntary Participation and Right to Withdraw:

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. If you decide not to participate, there are no penalties and you will not lose any benefits to which you would otherwise be entitled.

If you choose to participate in the study, you may withdraw from the study at any time. A decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not result in any negative consequences for you. If you want to withdraw from the study, please contact either the principal investigator (Katalin Szoboszlay Navarro, krszoboszlay@loyola.edu) or faculty sponsor at (Dr. Steven Burr, sburr@loyola.edu).

Statement of Consent:

I have read this form and am voluntarily agreeing to participate in this study. I have been allowed to ask the questions I have and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I have read this consent form and agree to volunteer as a research subject in this study with the understanding that I may withdraw at any time.

Printed name & signature of participant or legal representative Date