AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY OF THEOLOGY

Does my ethics protocol qualify as low risk?

If you answer **NO** to all questions, your protocol qualifies as low risk and can be approved by your college LREC. However, all HDR projects and projects undertaken by an affiliated staff member of the AUT must be reviewed by HREC irrespective of whether they qualify as low risk.

If you answer **YES** to any questions in **Section A**, your protocol does not qualify as Low Risk and must be submitted to the University's HREC for approval. Alternatively, the contents of the protocol can be modified so that none of the questions in Section A receive a 'yes' response. For example, if a protocol requested permission to undertake research with participants aged 16 and over, the protocol could be modified to limit research from participants 18 and over, therefore avoiding research with children or young people (Q 39).

If you answer **YES** to any questions in **Section B**, you must contact the University to request guidance on whether the protocol can be submitted to your college LREC or must go to the University's HREC. Please email a copy of your completed protocol to ethics@aut.edu.au.

Section A

Q39. Does the research involve children and/or young people? (NS 4.2) *If YES, provide evidence that appropriate training and screening to work with children and/or young people has been obtained (upload with submission as **Appendix 7**)*
Q40. Does the research involve people highly dependent on medical care who may be unable to give consent? (NS 4.4)
Q41. Does the research involve people with a cognitive impairment, an intellectual disability, or a mental illness? (NS 4.5)
Q42. Does the research involve participation of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or Maori people who have been selected as research participants because they are indigenous Australians/New Zealanders? (NS 4.7)
Q43. Does the research involve any artifacts that are of cultural, spiritual or religious significance to Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or Maori people? (NS 4.7)
Q44. Could the research place the intended or likely participants at risk of experiencing more than discomfort, i.e., harm (including psychological harm, devaluation of personal worth, cultural harm, and social harm)? (NS 2.1)
Q45. Is there any potential risk to the researcher's safety, beyond that normally encountered in everyday life, as a result of their involvement in the research?
Q46. Do you plan to vary the usual written consent processes? (NS 2.2.1-2.2.7; NS3.1 Element 3: Consent) *If YES, provide justification here for your reason for the changes and detail how oral and/or community consent will be obtained and recorded (upload with submission as **Appendices 4 and 5**).*
Q47. Does the study have potential legal implications for the researcher, the researcher's college or the University? (NS 4.6)
Q48. Is data collection to take place outside Australia/New Zealand? (NS 4.8)

Section B

Q49. Does the research involve a dependent or unequal relationship between the researcher and any of the research participants? (For example, minister and parishioners.) (NS 4.3; NS 2.2.9) *If YES, please indicate your role within the group or organisation (if applicable), and how long you have been in that role. Please indicate how you intend to minimise any potential detrimental effects.*
Q50. Does the research involve people in countries other than Australia? (NS 4.8)
Q51. Is approval required to access personnel, clients or records from any institution or organisation? *If YES, have you provided written evidence of the approval (upload with submission as **Appendix 8**)* *If NO, please state why not*