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Canberra, ACT, 0200, Australia
27 February 2004

TITLE OF RESEARCH: INTERPERSONAL AND FAMILY RELATIONS IN TRANSCULTURAL/TRANSNATIONAL MARRIAGES

INFORMATION STATEMENT FOR PARENTS

Dear -----

We are researchers from the Department of Anthropology, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University. We are currently conducting research on the personal, family and community relationships that are constituted through intercultural courtship and marriage in Australia. Our project includes a focus on the recent development of internet courtship and marriage. We would like to invite your child, -----, to participate in this research project. Participation is voluntary and ----- is free to withdraw at any time.

With your consent, I will be audio taping ----- interview. This will take approximately one to two hours and will be conducted at a mutually agreed upon place. Some of the themes we will be discussing are what is it like for children living in a cross-cultural family? What sorts of things do children do in their families? Are children involved in the Filipino/Indonesian community? How do children in intercultural families feel about how families from a similar background are portrayed in newspaper stories, reports and films? How do children respond to these stories?

If at any time ----- wishes to stop the interview or not answer a question, he/she is free to do so. ----- may erase the tape at any time. I will give ----- a new name and remove other identifying features when his/her interview is transcribed and in any publications. I will return the transcription to ----- for any changes or comments. Information obtained from the interview will contribute to research and conference papers, journal articles and books about marriage migration and intercultural families in contemporary Australia. However, in the reporting of this project and in any publications, ----- will be in no way identifiable. The audio tape of ----- interview will be erased immediately after it has been transcribed. Confidential information, notes and interview data will be securely stored in a locked filing cabinet in Dr Saroca's office and on password protected computers, which only the researchers have access to, as far as the law allows, and destroyed by shredding after five years.

Dr Kathryn Robinson is the chief investigator on the project. She draws on 25+years of research on Indonesia, including studies of marriage and family relations, and migration for her study of

Indonesian migrants in transnational marriages. Dr Nicki Saroca is herself married to a Filipino and has children in this relationship. She has lived in the Philippines and in Australia, has conducted research on transcultural marriage and has active contacts with Filipino communities in Australia.

For further information about the study please contact Dr Cleonicki Saroca.

Yours sincerely,

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COMPLAINTS

Concerns or complaints about the manner in which a research project is conducted may be directed to the Human Research Ethics Committee, care of:

Sylvia Deutsch, Human Ethics Officer, Research Services Office, The Australian National University, ACT 0200, Tel: 61 (0)2 6125 2900, Fax: 61 (0)2 6125 4807, Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au

Alternatively, complaints or concerns may be directed to:

Mavic Cabrera-Balleza, Communications Program Officer, Isis International-Manila P.O. Box 1837 Quezon City Main, Quezon City 1100 Philippines, Tel: (632) 435-3405; (632) 436-0312; (632) 924-1065. Email: isis@isiswomen.org

Dee Hunt, Centre for Philippine Concerns-Australia, Brisbane Branch, Justice Place, 84 Park Road Woolloongabba Queensland 4102, Australia. Email: cpcabris@cpcabrisbane.org

Robin Brown, Committee Member, Australia-Indonesia Families Association, 14 Gundara Street Aranda Canberra 2614, Australia. Tel: 61 (0)2 62513445