

## CALL FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

My name is Tara Fannon and I'm a third year doctoral student with the *Department of Political Science and Sociology at NUI, Galway, Ireland*. I live in Brooklyn New York and I'm getting ready to begin my fieldwork in and around NYC.

My research entitled, *Personal Narratives of Gender and Disability: Blind and Visually Impaired Men's Accounts of Embodied Selfhood*, qualitatively investigates the relationship between gender, disability and visibility, specifically how visual and textual representations of masculinities and disability shape and are shaped by blind and visually impaired men's sensory accounts of body and self. In other words, I'm interested in learning what masculinity and disability means to participants in their everyday lives and, beyond this, what it's like having a visual disability in a time when visual technology and culture and image and physical appearance are considered important in our society.

I am currently recruiting males between the ages of 18-75 who are fluent English speakers, permanent residents of the United States currently living in the United States and who identify as severely visually impaired or totally blind (from birth or acquired).

Participation in this research will entail one in-depth interview lasting up to an hour and possibly one shorter follow-up interview. Interviews can be conducted face-to-face with participants who live in the NYC area or over the phone if preferred. Interviews with participants who live outside the NYC area will take place only over phone because because my travel to locations outside NYC is not possible at this time.

Face-to-face interview locations will be agreed upon by the participant and researcher and will take place in public spaces provided they are accessible, suitably quiet to ensure a good recording, and private enough to ensure participant comfort.

This research is anonymous and confidential.

While I'm unable to offer financial compensation for participation, if in the case of face-to-face interviews, water and snacks will be provided. Beyond this, there are multiple, worthwhile benefits to participating in this research that range from exploring completely new areas to growing important and under-researched areas.

**If you're interested in participating or would just like to know more about my research please email me at: [T.FANNON3@nuigalway.ie](mailto:T.FANNON3@nuigalway.ie) and I will be in touch shortly. Your expression of interest doesn't obligate you to participate in my research.**

**Finally, please feel free to pass this research call onto family, friends or colleagues that might meet the criteria for my recruitment.**

Warm regards,

Tara Fannon  
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