



Dear Parent,

This summer, we are launching a five-year study called "The Impact of Camp on Jewish Campers." The study includes five Jewish camps throughout the United States, including the one that your child is attending this summer. We are writing to inform you about the study and provide you with an opportunity to ask any questions or withdraw your child from the study.

Who is conducting and funding this study?

This study is conducted by BTW *informing change* (BTW) (www.informingchange.com), a research and evaluation firm in Berkeley, California. The study is supported by the Jim Joseph Foundation (www.jimjosephfoundation.org).

What does the study entail?

During the next five years, BTW will be surveying campers and parents, and conducting focus groups with select campers and parents in order to understand how campers are affected by Jewish camp.

- **Camper Surveys:** This summer, your child will be asked to complete a paper survey when (s)he arrives at camp. In May 2011, your child will be invited to complete a follow-up survey. If your child attends camp for multiple summers, (s)he will receive an electronic survey every May following the summer that (s)he is at camp. The surveys are primarily about your child's previous camp experience as well as his/her Jewish life and identity. We estimate that this entire survey will take about 10–15 minutes to complete.
- **Parent Surveys:** In May 2011, you will receive an electronic survey which will ask you to reflect on how camp influenced your child's attitudes towards his/her Jewish identity and involvement in Jewish activities. If your child attends camp for multiple summers, you will receive an electronic survey every May following the summer that (s)he is at camp. We ask that this survey be completed by the parent or guardian most familiar with the decision to send your child to overnight Jewish camp and Jewish practice in your household. We estimate that this entire survey will take about 10–15 minutes to complete.
- **Focus Groups:** In Fall 2012, we will be inviting a select group of parents and campers to participate in a focus group to further discuss some highlights from the survey findings.

Is my data confidential?

The data will be held as confidential by BTW. While we will be linking the information from the baseline survey this summer and future survey data you and your child submit, all data will be aggregated at some level for any reports to the camps or the public. At absolutely no time will findings ever be isolated, tabulated or reported on an individual family basis.

Is my participation voluntary?

Your and your child's participation in this study is completely voluntary, and you and/or your child can withdraw from the study at any point.

If you have any questions about this study or would like to request that your child not be included in this study, please contact me by e-mail or phone using the information below.

Thank you.

Ilana Horwitz

BTW *informing change*

Phone 510.665.6100 x306

ihorwitz@btw.informingchange.com