**Participant Information Sheet for:  
 Understanding women’s experiences & involvement with modern tabletop board games**

You are being invited to take part in research on women’s experiences of acceptance/marginalisation within modern tabletop board games. Dr Ryan Scoats, Lecturer in Sociology at Coventry University is leading this research. Before you decide to take part it is important you understand why the research is being conducted and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully.

**What is the purpose of this research?**The purpose of the research is to understand and explore the experiences, perspectives, and attitudes of women within modern tabletop (specifically board game) culture. Within board game culture, women are in the minority, and this project thus aims to explore how they navigate and experience this predominantly male space.

**Who is organising and funding the research?**The research is being organised and funded by Coventry University.The research was granted ethical approval by Coventry University’s Research Ethics Committee [P125857].

**Do you have to take part?**No – it is entirely up to you. If you do decide to take part, please keep this Information Sheet and complete the Consent Form to show that you understand your rights in relation to the research, and that you are happy to participate. Please note down your participant number and provide this to the lead researcher if you wish to withdraw from the research at a later date. You are free to withdraw your information from the research at any time until the data is fully anonymised in our records on 23/12/2022. You do not need to provide a reason for withdrawing. A decision to withdraw, or not to take part, will not affect you in any way.

**What will happen if I decide to take part?**You will be asked to take part in an in-person or online interview. The interview will take place in a mutually agreed upon public space convenient to you, or online via zoom. It should take around 30-60 minutes and we would like to audio record (in-person interviews) or video record (zoom interviews) your responses.

**Why have you been invited to take part?**You have been invited to participate in this research because you are a woman who is interested in modern/designer board games, view it as a hobby, or who consider themselves a ‘board gamer’.

**What are the benefits and potential risks and benefits in taking part?**By taking part, you will be helping Dr Ryan Scoats and Coventry University to better understand women’s involvement and experiences of modern tabletop board games and the extent to which they feel accepted/marginalised. There are no significant risks associated with participation.

**What information is being collected in the research?**Information on your experiences with and attitudes towards tabletop board games and its associated culture is being collected through this research.

**Lawful basis of processing**Under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) 2016 we must have a lawful basis to process your personal data and for the purpose of this research, our lawful basis is that of consent. Although we do obtain your consent, this is not for data protection purposes.

**What will happen to the results of the research?**The results of this research may be summarised in published articles, reports and presentations. Quotes or key findings will always be made anonymous in any formal outputs.

**Who will have access to the information?**

Your data will only be accessed by the research team

**Where will the information be stored and how long will it be kept for?**

Your data will be processed in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2016 (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). All information collected about you will be kept strictly confidential. If you consent to being audio/video recorded, all recordings will be destroyed once they have been transcribed.

All electronic data will be stored on the Coventry University OneDrive, and only accessible by the lead researcher. All paper records will be stored in a locked filing cabinet in the lead researcher’s office at Coventry University. Your consent information will be kept separately from your responses. The researcher will take responsibility for data destruction and all collected data will be destroyed on or before 01/01/2024.

For further information about how Coventry University will handle your personal data, please read our [Privacy Notice for Research Participants](https://livecoventryac.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/externalstudentdocuments/ES5MKa3ING5AkN87Zzi7LRsB0S1p8DR4VoEDvhe5KWRbwQ?e=mIHS7P).

**What will happen next?**If you would like to take part, please contact the lead researcher. You will be asked to complete a consent form before taking part.

**Researcher contact details:**Dr Ryan Scoats, ad3948@coventry.ac.uk

**Who do I contact if I have any questions or concerns about this research?**If you have any questions, or concerns about this research, please contact the researcher. If you still have concerns and wish to make a complaint, please contact the University’s Research Ethics and Integrity Manager by e-mailing [ethics.uni@coventry.ac.uk](mailto:ethics.uni@coventry.ac.uk). Please provide information about the research project, specify the name of the researcher and detail the nature of your complaint.

Thank you for taking time to read this information sheet and for considering participating in this research.