

Call for Participation in Research Activities

We are looking for participants for our research activities that includes individual interviews, and groups discussions.

Our goal is to document participants' experiences, and perspectives which will guide our exploration of the link tech-facilitated violence and its implications on sexual health and rights of women and LGBTQ+ people in Egypt. Additionally, we want to amplify the ways in which victims/survivors resist and respond to this phenomenon.

The below Q&A below will guide you through the study objectives, what your participation entails, and our ethical, safety and care considerations.

If you would like to be part of this study, write to us at a.mansour@cairo52.com, c.kerolos@cairo52.com

1. What is the study about?

This study is exploring experiences of Egyptian women and LGBTQ+ people with tech-facilitated violence and its implications on their sexual health and rights. It also explores the ways in which victims/survivors respond to this phenomenon.

2. What is Tech-Facilitated Violence?

Tech-facilitated violence is the use of any form of digital technologies (AI, monitoring and tracking systems, online platforms, etc.) to incite and/or perpetrate harm based on gender and/or sexual orientation. It includes but is not limited to online hate speech, defamation, entrapment, doxing, or online threats of any kind.

3. How Tech-Facilitated Violence is linked to sexual health and rights?

In many cases, tech-facilitated violence is not limited to online spheres. Instead, the violence takes place on-and offline, reinforcing one another. Whether the violence is contained online or spills over to offline spheres, tech-facilitated violence has repercussions on the victim/survivors on a social, economic and health levels. In this study, we are focusing on health repercussions, particularly, sexual health and rights.

4. Who is conducting the study? Why?

While tech-facilitated violence is not a new phenomenon, the past few years have witnessed an alarming surge of digital crimes based on gender and/or sexual orientation that disproportionately targeted women and members of LGBTQ+ community in the MENA region including in Egypt.

Undertaken by Cairo52 Legal Research Institute, we are a group of researchers conducting this study. Our goal is to understand the structural factors that contribute to technology-facilitated violence in Egypt and its influence on sexual rights and health. Additionally, we want to document and the amplify the tools and the ways in which women and LGBTQ+ individuals respond and resist tech-facilitated violence. Consequently, we want to generate evidence-based policy recommendations to contribute to addressing tech-facilitated violence.

5. Who is funding this study?

This study is funded by The Association for Progressive Communication (APC), an international network of civil society organisations, dedicated to supporting those who work for human rights, and development through the strategic use of Information Communication Technology (ICT).

6. How are the researchers conducting the study?

We are conducting a **qualitative study** using a) individual interviews and b) collective conversations as our methods. We are meeting with groups of Egyptian women and LGBTQ+ people who have either experienced tech-facilitated violence or their work is dedicated to tackling this issue.

7. Can I participate in this study?

If you identify as a woman, or a member of LGBTQ+ community, currently living in or used to live in Egypt over the past 5 years, between 18-40 years old, have an experience with tech-facilitated violence or your work is concerned with tackling technology-facilitated violence against women or LGBTQ+ community, then we are looking for you.

8. What does my participation entail?

Your participation entails contributing to either online individual interviews or group discussions or both.

1. Individual interviews, a onetime conversation that will last about an hour
2. Groups conversation, a series of 4 meetings/sessions where you can talk about some of your perspectives and experiences collectively, and explore your potential writing contribution to the research output

We will send more information about the follow-up conversations in due course. Nevertheless, you are under no obligation to participate in all the activities. Additionally, your participation is completely voluntarily, and you can withdraw from the study at any point.

9. Is there any financial compensation?

There is no financial compensation for your participation in the interviews. However, writing contributions during groups conversations will be financially compensated.

Ethical, safety and care considerations

10. How will you collect and handle my data while ensuring my safety and confidentiality?

We will take your written and verbal consent before the interviews and group conversations. Discussions will be held on Jitsi Meet. Preferably, if you are comfortable, we will record this interview. Only we, the researchers on this project, will have access to this recording so we can transcribe and anonymise it. This means that we turn the recording into a written script and remove any identifying information, such as your name or your place of residence. **One month** after the end of the research project, before October 2025, we will delete the recording and transcript from our systems. For as long as your data is stored, it will be held on a secure end-to-end encrypted cloud. (know more details about the institute research ethics from [here](#))

11. How will you use my data?

The anonymised data (transcripts) will be analysed and used to generate evidence-based research that responds to the research inquiries that were mentioned earlier. The generated knowledge will be in the form of a research report and an academic article that can be accessed through the institute's website.

12. What can I do if I believe that my data has been misused by the researchers?

If you suspect that the researchers have misused your data, or if you found the information given to you to be inaccurate or insufficient for making an informed decision about your consent, please contact research@cairo52.com. Cairo52 will promptly conduct a thorough investigation and may request your attendance to provide oral testimony. This is to ensure an accurate assessment of the situation and determine appropriate disciplinary actions to be taken.

13. Any other safety and care measures?

We have arranged multiple care measures and resources to maintain your safety and well-being, as we understand that sharing your experience on tech-facilitated violence can be difficult and requires a secure and supportive environment.

1. We are supported by a team of professionals throughout the research project. For the duration of the research, we will maintain regular check-ins and you will have access to a first-aid psychological support if you need.
2. We have consulted with a digital rights expert to maintain the security and safety of your data. Additionally, with their help, we have created a short booklet with some information about protecting yourself digitally.
3. We will maintain your anonymity and the confidentiality of any information you share with us.