

**DATA USER AGREEMENT REGARDING USE OF DATA FROM THE UNDERSTANDING AMERICA STUDY**

*This data use agreement applies only to the signatory. Any other associated data users must apply for separate account(s)*

**IMPORTANT: ALL FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED  
RETURN SEPARATE FORMS FOR ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL ACCESS THE DATA**

**THE UNDERSIGNED:**

First name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Hereby undertakes to carry out work using the data of the USC Dornsife Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) Understanding America Study (UAS). This work is related to my position at the educational or research institution: \_\_\_\_\_


as a  research investigator or part of a research team;  professor / lecturer;  undergraduate student;  masters student;  Ph.D. student;  Post-Doc (*check all that apply*).

I agree to use CESR UAS data only in accordance with the following conditions:

1. **To make no attempt to identify the persons in any UAS dataset, nor allow others to do so**
2. **If the identity of any person in a UAS data file is inadvertently discovered:** (a) no use will be made of the knowledge (b) The Director of UAS, Arie Kapteyn (uas-l.usc.edu), will be advised of the incident immediately, (c) the information that would identify the individual will be safeguarded or destroyed, as requested by UAS, and (d) no one else will be informed of the discovered identity
3. **To employ the following guidelines when producing tabulations for distribution or publication**
  - *Magnitude data:* Ensure that no cells/strata with  $n < 5$  are produced.
  - *Frequency data:* apply a marginal threshold of  $n \geq 5$  to all tabulations
  - *Protecting against complementary disclosure:* Suppress additional cells as needed to make sure the primary suppressions cannot be derived by subtraction from marginal totals.
4. **To publish only aggregate statistical summaries of the data**, subject to the provisions above, and provide a copy of all journal publications based on the data to CESR UAS c/o Tania Gutsche ([tgutsche@usc.edu](mailto:tgutsche@usc.edu))
5. **To store and use this data set (and any data sets derived from it) in a secure computing environment.** UAS data will never be stored or posted in a location where others who are not authorized will have access. Note that UAS will host your analytic data set as needed to meet journal requirements.
6. **To cite the UAS as the source in any journal publications, professional presentations, and detailed reports**, as follows: *The project described in this paper relies on data from survey(s) administered by the Understanding America Study, which is maintained by the Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) at the University of Southern California. The content of this paper is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of USC or UAS.*
7. **To use UAS data solely for statistical reporting and analysis.** Data will not be used alone or in combination with other data for any purpose other than analysis.
8. **To never share the file with, or provide copies of data files to, any other person or organization. Note: Each co-author, research assistant/associate, graduate student, or undergraduate student, or other individual working on the research project must sign and submit a separate form.**
9. To return or destroy data files, and any derivative data files, upon request from UAS.
10. This agreement shall remain valid, even after conclusion of the work on the data.
11. UAS makes no warranties with respect to any UAS data and provides all data "as is" without any express or implied warranty of any kind, including any warranty as to merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, accuracy, completeness or violation of third party intellectual property rights. UAS has no liability to the data user or the receiving entity for any activity, including testing or use of UAS data under this addendum.
12. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, to the maximum extent permitted by law, in no event will UAS be responsible for any incidental damages, consequential damages, exemplary damages of any kind, lost goodwill, lost profits, lost business and/or any indirect economic damages whatsoever regardless of whether such damages arise from claims based upon contract, negligence, tort (including strict liability or other legal theory), a breach of any warranty or term of this addendum, and regardless of whether UAS was advised or had reason to know of the possibility of incurring such damages in advance.

**DATA USER:** I understand and agree to these requirements. I also certify that the affiliation and contact information I provide is current, and I will submit a revised or updated agreement if/when my circumstances change.

Email address (use the email affiliated with your institution) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature  \_\_\_\_\_

Place (e.g. US County and State, or Non-US region and country) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Continue obtaining signatures on the next page...*

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**PROFESSOR/ADVISOR OF STUDENT DATA USER (REQUIRED FOR STUDENT ACCOUNTS):** I certify that I will oversee the student’s use of UAS Data as part of a project or class assignment and will provide instruction and resources as needed to ensure safe data handling in accordance with this agreement. Data will be destroyed at the end of the project or class.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign, scan, and return this statement to [uas-l@usc.edu](mailto:uas-l@usc.edu), or mail to Tania Gutsche; USC Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR); 635 Downey Way, Suite 501; Los Angeles, CA 90089-3332