

Designing-out Plastic: Creating innovative ways to reduce and manage plastic waste in Brisbane

QUT Ethics Approval Number 1800001198

RESEARCH TEAM

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| Principal Researcher: | Dr Manuela Taboada | Senior Lecturer, School of Design |
| Associate Researchers: | Professor Leonie Barner | Professor, Institute for Future Environments |
| | Dr Rowena Maguire | Senior Lecturer, School of Law |
| | Dr Glenda Caldwell | Senior Lecturer, School of Design |
| | Dr Hope Johnson. | Lecturer, School of Law |
| | Queensland University of Technology (QUT) | |

DESCRIPTION

This research is being undertaken as part of a QUT funded project that aims to reduce plastic consumption and waste in Brisbane. The research team has researchers from many different areas of knowledge, including design, science and law.

The purpose of this research is to design a novel system to help people reduce individual and household plastic consumption and waste. We believe that the best way of tackling the huge problem of plastic waste is to work on its causes, and we know how hard it is to live with less plastic or even to know what to do with it when we need to throw it away. So, we set out to design an intervention that can help us understand our daily use of plastic, its collective patterns and help change the way we consume and dispose of plastic.

We also believe that we can create much better solutions if we work together and involve people from different knowledge groups and backgrounds. That is why you are invited to participate in this research project. Also because you are over 18 years old and are the main responsible person for your household (this means the person who looks after everything / everyone, not necessarily the one that brings in the money).

PARTICIPATION

Your participation will involve video recorded collaborative design workshop at QUT Gardens Point Campus or other agreed location that will take approximately 2-3 hours of your time.

A collaborative design workshop includes different activities that range from group discussions and brainstorming sessions through to creative design and prototyping moments. Activities during this workshop will be directly related to personal and household use and disposal of plastic.

Please note that if you arrive late it may be possible for you to participate, but it may impact on your input in the final proposed designs.

Your participation in this research project is entirely voluntary.

If you do agree to participate you can withdraw from the research project without comment or penalty. You can withdraw anytime during the workshop. If you withdraw with two weeks after the workshop takes place, on request any identifiable information already obtained from you will be destroyed. Your decision to participate or not participate will in no way impact upon your current or future relationship with QUT.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

It is expected that this research project will directly benefit you by raising your awareness on the issue of plastic and helping you identify some personal plastic consumption and disposal patterns. It will also benefit you and others by creating an artefact that might, in the future, help you better manage your plastic consumption and disposal.

Refreshments will be available during the workshop.

To recognise your contribution should you choose to participate the research team is offering you a small “plastic-free beginners kit” containing: 3 x bees wax-cloths, and a small booklet with tips on how to substitute plastic items in the household.

RISKS

There are minimal risks associated with your participation in this research project. These include:

- Discomfort caused by anxiety from sharing their thoughts and opinions with the other participants during the workshops.
- Inconvenience for sharing their time during workshops and providing feedback.

These are minimized by the fact that:

- You are able to withdraw and leave the workshop at any time and request that your contributions and/or opinions are removed.
- Participation in discussions and creative contributions is absolutely voluntary and non-compulsory.
- All identifications will be removed from transcriptions and reports on this workshop.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

All comments and responses will be treated confidentially unless required by law, or regulatory or monitoring bodies, such as the ethics committee. The names of individual persons are not required in any of the responses.

As the research project involves a video recording:

- You will have the opportunity to verify your comments and responses prior to final inclusion.
- The recording will be destroyed 5 years after the last publication.
- The recording will not be used for any other purpose.
- Only the named researchers will have access to the recording.
- It is not possible to participate in the research project without being recorded.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the data you provide cannot be traced back to you in reports, publications and other forms of presentation. For example, we will only include the relevant part of a quote, we will not use any names, or names will be changed, and/or details such as dates and specific circumstances will be excluded. Nevertheless, while unlikely, it is possible that if you are quoted directly your identity may become known.

Alternatively, you can choose to have your comments and/or contributions attributed to you by name.

Please note that non-identifiable data from this research project may be used as comparative data in future research projects or stored on an open access database for secondary analysis.

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

We would like to ask you to sign a written consent form to confirm your agreement to participate.

QUESTIONS / FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESEARCH PROJECT

If you have any questions or require further information please contact:

Dr Manuela Taboada

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07 3138 5489

CONCERNS / COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT

QUT is committed to research integrity and the ethical conduct of research projects. However, if you do have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of the research project you may contact the QUT Research Ethics Advisory Team on 07 3138 5123 or email humanethics@qut.edu.au. The QUT Research Ethics Advisory Team is not connected with the research project and can facilitate a resolution to your concern in an impartial manner.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH THIS RESEARCH PROJECT.
PLEASE KEEP THIS SHEET FOR YOUR INFORMATION.**