STANFORD UNIVERSITY Research Consent Form	IRB Use Only Approval Date: April 17, 2025 Expiration Date: Does Not Expire
Protocol Director: John Willinsky	
Protocol Title: Intimacy after AI	IRB# 79987

DESCRIPTION: You are invited to participate in **a research study** on AI intimacy, looking at how people use AI tools for intimate, personal interactions. The goal of this study is to understand this phenomenon, how people relate to AI tools, and how much of this is really "new." You will be asked to participate in an unpaid, recorded interview. Interviews will be audio/video recorded, recordings will be transcribed and de-identified before analysis. All interview recordings will be deleted three years after the study's completion.

TIME INVOLVEMENT: Your participation in the interview will take approximately one hour.

RISKS AND BENEFITS: The risks associated with this study are minimal, but it involves the discussion of intimate details, so there are risks related to psychological harm and data breach. Study data will be stored securely, in compliance with Stanford University standards, minimizing the risk of confidentiality breach. The benefits which may reasonably be expected to result from this study are primarily societal, not individual. Namely, we hope that society will benefit from this research, which will document emerging forms of technological intimacy that challenge dominant narratives about relationships, desire, and identity. This literature may serve as a valuable resource for researchers, educators, policymakers, and technology developers seeking to understand the social and emotional implications of AI companions. **We cannot and do not guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this study.**

PAYMENTS: You will not be paid for the interview.

PARTICIPANT'S RIGHTS: If you have read this form and have decided to participate in this project, please understand your **participation is voluntary** and you have the **right to withdraw your consent or discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled**. **The alternative is not to participate.** You have the right to refuse to answer particular questions. The results of this research study may be presented at scientific or professional meetings or published in scientific journals. Your individual privacy will be maintained in all published and written data resulting from the study.

In accordance with scientific norms, the data from this study may be used or shared with other researchers for future research (after removing personally identifying information) without additional consent from you.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Questions: If you have any questions, concerns or complaints about this research, its procedures, risks and benefits, contact the Protocol Director, John Willinsky, willinsk@stanford.edu, +1 (650) 804-4372.

Independent Contact: If you are not satisfied with how this study is being conducted, or if you have any concerns, complaints, or general questions about the research or your rights as a participant, please contact the Stanford Institutional Review Board (IRB)

to speak to someone independent of the research team at 650-723-2480 or toll free at 1-866-680-2906, or email at irbnonmed@stanford.edu. You can also write to the Stanford IRB, Stanford University, 1705 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Indicate ***Yes*** or ***No***:
I give consent to be audio and video recorded during interviews for this study.
___Yes___No

I give consent for all audio and video recordings collected during the study to be de-identified, transcribed, and studied by the research team for analysis and publication.
___Yes___No

After the interview is complete, may we contact you to invite you to our group's other projects?
___Yes___No

Please save a copy of this form for your records. If you agree to participate, please indicate this verbally to the Protocol Director. Please also include your responses to the Yes/No questions within the consent document.