

## Human “Risk Perception & Safety” about Horses!

All information collected is for research purposes only and your opinion is very important for this CQUniversity PhD Research project. By participating in this survey, you will be providing critical information about the way you see and interpret any potential risk and harm associated with horses and safety principles.

Please complete the following questions:

Time taken to complete survey: \_\_\_\_\_

Section 1. Your general beliefs, values and risk perceptions (1-2)

Section 2. Your beliefs, values and risk perceptions about horses (3-11)

Section 3. Horse-related human safety (12-20)

Section 4. Horse-related human injury/illness (21-28)

Section 5. General Information (29-39)

### Section 1. Your general beliefs, values and risk perceptions

1. How do you see yourself: Are you generally a person who is fully prepared to take risks or do you try to avoid taking risks?

Please tick the box on the scale, where the value 0 = risk averse and the value 10 = fully prepared to take risks. You can use the values in between to make your estimate.

(risk averse)  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10 (fully prepared to take risks)

2. People can behave differently in different situations. How would you rate your willingness to take risks in the following areas? How is it..... Please tick the box on the scale

0 = risk averse

10 = fully prepared to take risks

- a) while driving?  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10
- b) in financial matters?  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10
- c) during leisure and sport?  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10
- d) in your occupation?  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10
- e) with your health?  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10
- f) your faith in other people?  0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

### Section 2. Your beliefs, values and risk perceptions about Horses.

Please circle one answer for each of the questions below (1.Strongly Disagree.....6.Strongly Agree)

3. A horse is a hazard, something that can cause harm to you.

1. Strongly Disagree 2. Disagree 3. Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5.Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

4. All horses can cause harm to you.

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

5. If a horse has a history of dangerous behaviours (i.e. biting, bucking, kicking) IT IS OK for an in-experienced person to handle/ride this horse because a more experienced person handled/rode this horse the day before and it DID NOT show these behaviours.

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree

6. Riding a horse is risky - it can seriously injure or kill you

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

7. Handling a horse is risky, it can seriously injure or kill you

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

8. I can control the risks of being around horses. *(how much harm it can cause)*

1. Strongly Disagree 2. Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

9. An experienced rider NOT using safety equipment when supervising-training a less experienced rider may influence safety values-beliefs of the rider wearing safety equipment.

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

10. I will always put MY safety FIRST, before my horse's safety

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

11. I follow safety first rules around horses, even when others are not?

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

### **Section 3. Horse-related HUMAN Safety**

*Please circle one answer for each of the questions below (1.Strongly Disagree.....6.Strongly Agree)*

12. I wear a helmet when riding a horse at home

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

13.I wear a helmet when riding a horse away from home, (e.g. work, competition)

1.Strongly Disagree 2.Disagree 3.Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree.

14. It's ok to drug a horse to make it safer to ride

1.Strongly Disagree 2. Disagree 3. Slightly Disagree 4. Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree

15. Clearly defined Equestrian Safety Standards would help me in meeting my safety or legal obligations

1.Strongly Disagree 2. Disagree 3. Slightly Disagree 4.Slightly Agree 5. Agree 6. Strongly Agree

Please tick Yes or No for Q16 & Q17

16. Workplace Health and Safety Legislation applies to any business or organisation that receives money (income) for services or products, including any horse business  Yes  No

17. Before undertaking this survey, were you aware of a Code of Practice for “managing risks when new or inexperienced riders or handlers interact with horses in the workplace’ in NSW?  Yes  No

If YES, has it changed your interest, beliefs or values about safety and horses?  Yes  No

18. What do you do routinely to check a horse is safe to approach?

Please list below

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

and so on.....

19. What safety checks do you do before mounting a horse to ride?

Please list below

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

and so on.....

20. Which safety action are you likely to do with a horse that is displaying unsafe behaviours?

(Please rate the following 1= MOST LIKELY to 6= LESS LIKELY, each box needs a different number rating 1,2,3,4,5,6)

- Wearing a helmet or another form of protective equipment
- More training, supervision, limiting some types of activities with the horse
- Providing a better horse for a rider/handler match for the selected activity
- Changing tack-gear (type of saddle, reins) for the relevant task to minimise risk
- Keeping a horse contained in a secure enclosure away from others
- No longer using a horse in a selected activity

#### **Section 4. Horse-related HUMAN injury/illness**

21. How many times since being involved with horses, have you had a medically treated INJURY

Number of times: \_\_\_\_\_

22. How many times since being involved with horses, have you had a medically treated ILLNESS (i.e. Zoonotic disease, i.e. Hendra or other)

Number of times: \_\_\_\_\_

23. How many times since being involved with horses, have you been not able to do normal daily activities for OVER one-month due to a horse-related injury/illness

Number of times: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer Yes or No for Q24 to Q28

24. I have suffered a horse-related INJURY that has resulted in permanent incapacity  Yes  No

25. I have suffered a horse-related ILLNESS that has resulted in permanent incapacity?  Yes  No

26. Due to having a horse-related injury/illness, I NOW take more safety precautions around horses?  
 Yes  No

27. If there was an on-line reporting data base for human horse-related injuries and illnesses would you report the incidents?  Yes  No

28. Do you currently report human horse-related near miss events? (nearly getting hurt by a horse)  
 Yes  No

### **Section 5. General information**

29. What is your gender?  Male  Female (please tick)

30. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_

31.a) Which country do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

b) What is your postcode or zipcode? \_\_\_\_\_

32. What equine (horse) discipline do you most identify with? (e.g. dressage, racing, leisure, jumping)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (please list)

Please tick Yes or No Q33 to Q34 and list additional information if relevant

33. a) Do you earn an income from horses?  Yes  No

b) If YES, what is your work? (e.g. farrier, riding coach, breeding, eventing competitor, vet etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (please list)

34. a) Have you had training to handle horses safely?  Yes  No  
If YES, what type \_\_\_\_\_ (please list)

b) Have you had training to ride horses safely?  Yes  No  
if YES, what type \_\_\_\_\_ (please list)

c) Do you get professional training with horses now?  Yes  No  
If regular, how many days a month? \_\_\_\_\_ (number of days per month)

Record a number for Q35 to Q38

35. In a typical week, how many hours do you spend handling a horse/s?

Number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

36. In a typical week, how many hours do you spend riding a horse/s?

Number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

37. How many times have you fallen from a horse in the past 12 months (even landed on your feet)?

Number of times: \_\_\_\_\_

38. How many years in total have you been around horses?

Number of years: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please tick one level below that best describes your ability and experience*

39. How do you rate your level of horse ability and experience?

- a)  Need supervision at all times and riding or handle low-risk horse - BEGINNER
- b)  Able to ride out of an arena or yard independently and do low-level competition -NOVICE
- c)  Confident to ride a variety of horses, basic training of a young horse with some supervision and compete - INTERMEDIATE
- d)  Able to confidently ride and handle a variety of horses, able to ride a green broke horse and compete moderate to higher level of competition - ADVANCED
- e)  Able to do all advanced riders skills, competently train others, complete consistently in high level competition- PROFICIENT

If you like would you leave some comments about your interest in safety and horses please do so below.

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*Thank you*

*Meredith Chapman*

*(PhD Candidate)*

If you would you like to participate in further research relevant to this PhD please tick  Yes  No

If YES, please provide your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact details: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your completed survey to:

Email: [meredith@safetyinfocus.com.au](mailto:meredith@safetyinfocus.com.au) or Post: PO Box 711, Narrabri, NSW 2390 or FAX: 02 67925504