Thank you for your interest in participating in our research study. The purpose of this survey is to gather statistical and opinion data about tattoos and tattooing at FAU, as part of a larger creative project. It should take you no more than 10 minutes to complete this survey. There are sections for both tattooed and non-tattooed persons. You may skip any questions that make you feel uncomfortable, and you are free to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. The risks involved with participating in this study are no more than one would experience in regular daily activities. Potential benefits that you may receive from participation include a deeper understanding of the meanings and motivations behind tattooing, and greater familiarity with the university community you are part of once the results are made available.

If you experience problems or have questions regarding your rights as a research subject, contact the Florida Atlantic University Division of Research at (561) 297-0777. For other questions about the study, you should call the principal investigator: Karen Leader, 561-297-3196. By completing the attached questionnaire/survey, you give consent to participate in this study.

You must be 18 years old to participate.

Age

Year in college

What is your College?

Select the department which houses your major program

Primary campus

Grade Point Average

Gender

What is your ethnicity (race)?
  Asian
  Black/African American
  Hispanic/Latina/o
  Native American
  White/Caucasian
  Other
What is your sexual orientation?
- Bisexual
- Heterosexual
- Homosexual
- Transgendered
- Other

Where would you place yourself on the socio-economic spectrum?
- Poor
- Lower middle-class
- Middle-class
- Upper middle-class
- Wealthy

Where would you place yourself on the religious spectrum?
- Not religious
- Religious but not observant
- Moderately observant
- Very observant

Where would you place yourself on the political spectrum?
- Very conservative
- Conservative
- Moderate
- Liberal
- Very liberal

Do you vote?
- Never
- Sometimes
- Every election

Do you have one or more tattoos?
- Yes
- No

(The answer to this question directed the participants to specific questions for person with and without tattoos, with general questions for both on the last page of the survey.)
Do you have one or more tattoos?
Yes - No  (ANSWERED - NO)

Questions for person without tattoos

Have you ever thought of getting a tattoo?
Yes - No

Please rank the top 3 reasons you have not gotten a tattoo. Enter 1 for the most important reason, 2 for the second most important reason and 3 for the third most important reason.
- Parents would disapprove
- Partner wouldn’t like it
- Don’t like pain
- Never had the money
- Social stigma
- Job discrimination
- Afraid of disease
- Religious reasons
- Other

Have you ever had a tattoo that you subsequently had removed?
Yes - No

Would your opinion change about someone if you found out they had a tattoo?
- Yes, for the better
- No, not at all
- Yes, for the worse

Would your opinion change about someone if you found out they were heavily tattooed?
- Yes, for the better
- No, not at all
- Yes, for the worse

Do you think you will ever get tattooed?
- No chance
- Not likely
- Could happen
- Definitely
Do you have one or more tattoos?
   Yes - No (ANSWERED - YES)

Questions for person with tattoos

How many times have you been tattooed?
   1
   2-3
   4-7
   8 or more

How long ago did you get your most recent tattoo?
   Within the last month 1
   2-6 months ago
   7-12 months ago
   More than a year ago

How likely is it that you will continue to add tattoos to your collection?
   Not likely
   Somewhat likely
   Very likely

How old were you when you got your first tattoo?

If you were a minor when you got any of your tattoos, did your parents give permission?
   Yes
   No
   Not applicable

There are many reasons to get a tattoo. Do any of these apply to you? Please choose up to three, and rank them in order of importance, where 1 is most important.
   To express myself
   To be unique
   To fit in
   To be rebellious
   To feel mature
   To feel more attractive
   To commemorate a life event
   To be like a friend, lover or other
   Empowerment
   Fashion
   Sexual attractiveness
   Just wanted it (them)
Does/Do your tattoo(s) relate to any particular community or tradition? Choose all that apply.
- Ethnic
- Cultural
- Religious
- Military
- Athletic
- Club
- Gang
- Music
- Prison
- Other
- None of the above

Do you participate in any of the following activities associated with the tattoo community?
- Read tattoo blogs, listservs, social networking sites
- Hang out in a tattoo studio when not getting a tattoo
- Go to tattoo conventions
- Read tattoo magazines
- None of the above

Is (are) your tattoo(s) visible to the general public?
- Always
- Usually
- Sometimes
- Almost never
- Never

When visible, do you enjoy showing your tattoo(s)?
- Yes - No

Do you ever cover it (them) up?
- Yes - No

Do you cover them up for any of the following reason? Choose all that apply.
- Job
- School
- Parents/family
- Religion
- Other

Do you feel special as a tattooed person?
- Always
- Usually
- Sometimes
- Almost never
- Never

Has anyone ever made you feel special because you were tattooed?
- Yes - No
Has anyone ever made you feel bad because you were tattooed?  
Yes - No

Do you believe you have ever been discriminated against because you are tattooed?  
Yes - No

Do you think your tattoo(s) have ever frightened someone?  
Yes - No

Have you ever regretted getting tattooed?  
Yes - No

Have you ever had a tattoo removed?  
Yes - No

Have you ever had a tattoo altered?  
Yes - No

Have you ever had a tattoo covered by another tattoo?  
Yes - No

Was it your decision to get tattooed or did you have to be encouraged?  
My own decision  
I was encouraged

How much time passed between making the decision and getting it done?  
None, it was spontaneous  
1-4 weeks  
2-6 months  
7-12 months  
More than a year

Were you anxious?  
Not at all  
Somewhat  
Very

Was it painful?  
Not at all  
Moderately  
Very

Did you know what you were looking for when you went to get your tattoo(s)?  
Yes - No
If no, were you happy with the result?
  Yes - No

Are you still happy with it?
  Yes - No

Did you choose a particular artist?
  Yes - No

Did you bring a picture or other explanatory materials?
  Yes - No

Did you contribute to the design?
  Yes - No

Did you consider it a collaboration?
  Yes - No

Were you happy with the result?
  Yes - No

Are you still happy?
  Yes - No

If more than one tattoo, did you use the same artist for each?
  Yes - No - Not applicable

What gender is your tattoo artist?
  Female
  Male
  Used both

If more than one tattoo, did your process change from your first to subsequent tattoos in terms of preparation or involvement?
  Yes - No - Not applicable

Do you consider your tattoo(s) a work (works) of art?
  Yes - No - Varies

Is it (are they) unique?
  Yes - No - Varies

Is it (are they) beautiful?
  Yes - No - Varies

Is it (are they) of high technical quality?
  Yes - No - Varies
Does it (do they) express something about your personality?
   Yes - No - Varies

Is it (are they) part of your identity?
   Yes - No - Varies

Is it (are they) part of your body image?
   Yes - No - Varies

Are you more likely to describe yourself as a person with a tattoo, or a tattooed person?
   A person with a tattoo(s)
   A tattooed person

Do you have a regular story or narrative that you tell when strangers ask about your tattoo(s)?
   Yes - No

Do you tend to describe your tattoo(s) in textual (what is pictured) or descriptive (how it looks) language?
   What is pictured
   How it looks

Do you think of tattooing more as the image itself or the experience of getting and being tattooed?
   The image itself
   The experience

Has the “meaning” of your tattoo(s) changed over time?
   Not at all
   Somewhat
   Quite a bit
   Completely

Is there an element of secrecy in your tattoo’(s’) meaning?
   Yes - No

Do you have a tattoo that you yourself cannot easily see?
   Yes - No

Some believe that tattooing in addictive. Do you agree or disagree?
   Agree
   Disagree

Would you be interested in participating in the next phase of Stories on the Skin?
   Yes - No

*On to more general questions...*
General questions for person with and without tattoos

Do you believe tattoos are treated differently by society than in previous generations?
   More accepted
   About the same
   Less accepted

Do you see being tattooed as a form of resistance to mainstream society?
   Yes - No

Current statistics show more women than men getting tattoos. Does this surprise you?
   Yes - No

The incidence of body art on young adults in the United States is higher in the South. Does this surprise you?
   Yes - No

A branch of the military has banned certain types of tattoos. Do you agree or disagree with this move?
   Agree
   Disagree

The State of Florida has recently tightened restrictions on tattooing, specifically regarding age and parental consent. Do you agree or disagree with this move?
   Agree
   Disagree

Were you aware that employment recruiters have a generally negative opinion of visible tattoos?
   Yes - No

In a university setting, non-tattooed people and tattooed people tend to have the same approval levels for tattoos. Does this surprise you?
   Yes - No

Thank you for your time and thoughts.

Please click the submit button below to complete the survey.

You must be 18 years of age or older to participate in this survey.

Please exit the survey site by clicking the submit button below.

Look for the results soon on our website:
storiesontheskin.org