



Invitation to Participate in Research

Surfacing Shame: the lived experiences of shame reported by adults who have experienced sexual abuse in childhood

Researchers at UNSW Sydney (The University of New South Wales) are seeking volunteer research participants to help us learn about the meanings, perceptions, and experiences of shame for adults who have experienced childhood sexual abuse.

Adult survivors of child sexual abuse frequently report experiencing shame or related emotions. The researchers would like to hear from survivors who identify as having experienced shame or related emotions. Your contribution to the research will help us understand survivors' journeys in managing shame. The research findings will inform better responses and support for survivors of child sexual abuse.

Would the research study be a good fit for me?

The study might be a good fit for you if you:

- Are over 18 years of age and are in NSW/ACT.
- Experienced sexual abuse in childhood.
- Identify as having experienced shame or related emotions (e.g. guilt, embarrassment).
- Would like to share your meanings, perceptions and experiences of shame and related emotions and how you have managed them at different points in your life.
- Have disclosed the abuse and received support at least 1 year ago.
- Currently have a safe place to live free of violence and abuse.
- Have access to support from friends, family, a community group, or counsellor.
- Are not experiencing current severe distress, crisis or current danger.

What would happen if I took part in the research study?

If you decide to take part you would:

- Take part in one interview of about 90 minutes either face-to-face, by phone or skype, whichever suits you.
- Have the option to review the typed transcript of the interview, edit and make corrections
- Have the option to get feedback about the findings sent to you from the research team.
- Get the choice to stop participating in the study whenever you choose.

Will I be paid to take part in the research study?

The study is voluntary. There are no costs to participate in this study, nor will you be paid.

Who do I contact if I want more information or want to take part in the study?

If you would like more information or are interested in being part of the study, please contact:

Name: Maureen MacGinley Doctoral Research Candidate

Email: maureen.macginley@unsw.edu.au

Phone: 61 2 9385 8998