

HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN AN INTERVIEW ABOUT A PERSONAL TOPIC OR ISSUE?



Your interview was:

- Face-to-face with an interviewer
- The interviewer asked one main question and then listened to your story
- You did *not* fill out a survey or questionnaire

I am a researcher interested in understanding what it is like for people to participate in this type of interview. Interviews provide important knowledge that can benefit others and society—but what was it like for you? Did you experience benefit, risk or harm as a result of being interviewed? I hope my research will help to ensure the best possible interview experience for those who participate in them. I need your help. Will you share with me your thoughts and experiences of being interviewed?

Please contact me so we can arrange to speak over the telephone or in person.

Thank you,
Michele McIntosh

Email: mjm19@ualberta.ca
Phone: (416) 736-2100 ext. 21017

Title of project: Participants' Perspectives on Risks Inherent in Unstructured Qualitative Interviews

Doctoral student researcher: Michele McIntosh

Co-supervisors: Dr. Katherine N. Moore & Dr. Janice Morse

Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

This study has been approved by the University of Alberta's Health Research Ethics Board (Panel B). For complaints or concerns about this research, please contact: Charmaine Kabatoff, Administrative Coordinator to the Board (780) 492-0302.



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA

TO FORMER INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS



Dear Former Interview Participant:

As a person who has taken part in an interview, you are invited to talk with me about your thoughts and feelings regarding your interview experience.

I am a graduate student in Nursing at the University of Alberta who is studying what it is like to be interviewed. Doing this study is a requirement of my doctoral degree.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY

Interviews in health research are a very important way of understanding the meaning of many human experiences that affect health. What does it mean to have a baby? What is it like to be told you have cancer? How do people manage with mental illness? Much of what we know about these experiences was learned from people like you who volunteered to be interviewed—but what was the interview like for you? Will you talk to me about your interview experience? My hope is that this study will contribute to better interviews and better research.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT

Participation in this interview is voluntary and may be of no direct personal benefit to you. However, your co-operation and information about your experience in participating in an interview is very important for this study.

DISCOMFORT OR RISKS

While there are no foreseen risks to your participation, you can refuse to answer any questions and you may stop the interview at any time. If you feel upset as a result of your interview I will, if you wish, provide you with a counselor to talk with.

WHO SHOULD VOLUNTEER TO BE INTERVIEWED?

Please volunteer if you:

- are over 18 years of age, speak English and live in Canada or the United States
- participated in an interview during 2006, 2007, 2008
- your previous interview was face to face, you did not fill out a survey, you were asked one main question and then you talked about your experience
- you were interviewed about a personal or sensitive topic
- you have access to a telephone and agree to a one hour telephone interview (personal interviews may be conducted where possible, if requested)

IF I VOLUNTEER TO BE INTERVIEWED, WHAT IS INVOLVED?

Step 1

If you volunteer to participate, please contact:

Michele McIntosh
19 MacPhail Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M4K 4A1

Email: mjm19@ualberta.ca
Phone: 416.736.2100 ext. 21017

Step 2

Upon contact I will arrange a date and time for your telephone (or, in person) interview.

Step 3

If you would like a copy of the results of this study, please e-mail Michele McIntosh at: mjm19@ualberta.ca requesting results from the Participants' Interview and giving your email or mailing address.

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Please be advised that the information you share with me is confidential except when the law or codes of ethics require reporting. The researcher who originally interviewed you will not know that you volunteered to participate. No personal identifiers will be linked to the responses you give in your interview. Your personal information (email address, telephone number), will only be known by myself. This information will be securely stored by Dr. Katherine N. Moore in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta for 7 years.

FREEDOM TO WITHDRAW

If at any time, you would like to withdraw from this study, you are free to do so. At any time you may refuse or cease to respond to any questions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this study please contact the persons named at the bottom of this page.

TIMELINE

Please contact me immediately.

Many thanks for your help,
Michele McIntosh



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