Victim-survivors

**INFORMATION SHEET**

**THE EXPERIENCES AND COPING STRATEGIES OF VICTIM-SURVIVORS OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND ABUSE: AN ACCOUNT OF NIGERIAN WOMEN LIVING IN ENGLAND.**

My name is Oghenerukevwe Sophia Mene and I am currently studying for my PhD at the School of Social Sciences, London Metropolitan University. I am based at the Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit (CWASU).

**The purpose of the interview**

This study aims to get a better understanding of how Nigerian women living in England cope with their experiences of intimate partner violence and abuse. The interview is aimed at giving voice to Nigerian women living in England who are victim-survivors of intimate partner violence and abuse, as their experiences are not sufficiently documented. The interviews will be an opportunity for you to talk about your experiences. This could help other women in similar situations and will be completely confidential.

This study has been ethically approved by the London Metropolitan University Research Ethics committee.

If there is any aspect of the study that you are unsure about or feel that you may like to discuss, do not hesitate to contact me or my supervisors with the contact details below.

This interview is primarily aimed at giving voice to Nigerian women living in England who are victim-survivors of intimate partner violence and abuse, as their experiences are not sufficiently documented.

**What will the interviews ask about?**

The interview will ask you about your experience(s) of intimate partner violence and abuse- how you made sense of this act(s), who you told, the role your culture played in how you coped with your experience, the support you got from statutory and other agencies and the effectiveness of their support. The interview will require you to give some details of the type of abuse, the coping strategies that you adopted and the help you sought.

You will get the opportunity to ask questions about the study before agreeing to take part.

**How the information will be gathered**

If you consent to take part in the study, all interviews will be recorded with a digital audio recorder. I will also take notes.

Your participation is greatly appreciated, entirely voluntary and confidential; there will not be any negative repercussions for you if you decide not to take part. Also, you are free to withdraw from this study up to two weeks after your interview and your data will not be used for the research. You will not need to give any reason for wanting to withdraw from the study.

**What will happen to the information you share?**

I will ask your permission to audio record and transcribe your interviews. All recordings will be transcribed so that there is an accurate and full record of what you said. Only my supervisors and I will have access to the recording and the transcript of the recording. The audio files will be stored on password protected University computers, where only I will have knowledge of the password. Any paper-based data (interview notes/transcriptions) will be stored in locked filing cabinets in a locked office in the University.

All identifiable information for example, names, age, will be removed to ensure your identity is not known to anyone reading the thesis and/or other publications from this research. If you prefer, you can choose your own pseudonym for the interview to anonymise your identity. I will use this name in all aspects of the research process, for example when I extract quotes from your transcript to highlight points in my analysis. These extracts may be used in my PhD thesis, book chapters, journal articles and any reports or presentations about the study.

You will have the opportunity to read your response during the interview (within one month after the interview), after it has been transcribed through your personal email if you wish to receive them and if it is safe to do so. I would hope that you can give me any comments on your transcript (any; corrections or additions) within two weeks of receiving the transcript.

Only my supervisors and I will have access to the recording and transcript. The audio files will be stored on password protected University computers, where only I will have knowledge of the password. Any paper-based data (interview notes/transcriptions) will be stored in locked filing cabinets in a locked office in the University.

I will be happy to also give you a copy of the key findings from the study.

**How long and where will the interview take place?**

The interview will last 1 to 2 hours and will take place at a suitable day, time and location such as a room at London Metropolitan University, a room in a library, a council office or a venue of your choice.

 **What if I have any concerns, or get upset?**

Your well-being is very important to me. If you are concerned about any aspect of the research process you should feel free to let me know, at any stage; before, during or after the interviews to discuss any concerns or issues that you might have.

To ensure that you are not harmed or overly upset by the interview or the research process, I will explain throughout, what you are being asked to comment upon.

I will need you to complete a consent form (in writing/verbally) before we continue. I will respect the pace you set for the interview. Interviews can and will be stopped if you need this, either to take a break or if a certain question causes you distress.

For any further questions about the interview and its use, please contact;

My contact details:

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