

## **INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS**

*Ethical Clearance Reference Number: **HR/DP-24/25-36157***



### **YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET**

#### **Title of project**

**A qualitative exploration of individuals with Paedophilia Themed Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (P-ODC) experience of service response to the disclosure of intrusive sexual thoughts about children.**

#### **Invitation Paragraph**

I would like to invite you to participate in this research project that forms part of my Clinical Psychology Doctorate thesis. Before you decide whether you want to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what your participation will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully, and discuss it with others if you wish. If you have any questions or if anything is unclear, please feel free to contact me using the details provided below.

#### **What is the purpose of the project?**

The purpose of the project is to gain an understanding of the experience of individuals that have lived with, and disclosed, intrusive thoughts associated with Paedophilia Themed Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (P-OCD). We would like to gain specific insight into the experience of those that have been subject to forensic and/or safeguarding involvement following the disclosure of these intrusive thoughts.

#### **Why have I been invited to take part?**

You are being invited to participate in this project because you have experience of living with symptoms associated with P-OCD and have experience of disclosing intrusive thoughts of a sexual nature about children. You may also have experience of forensic and/or safeguarding service involvement. "Paedophilia-themed OCD or P-OCD is a subset of OCD in which sufferers have unwanted harmful or sexual thoughts about children. People living with POCD have no desire to harm a child". In order to participate you must be over the age of 18, have experienced symptoms associated with P-OCD for at least 6 months, and have been out of treatment for at least 3 months.

#### **What will happen if I take part?**

If you choose to take part in the project you will invited to take part in a one-to-one interview (lasting approx. 60 minutes) that will aim to gain insight into your experience of disclosing intrusive sexual thoughts and your experience of forensic or safeguarding services. Interviews will provide a non-judgemental listening space and you will not be pushed to talk about anything that you do not want to disclose. Participation will take place on Microsoft Teams; we may be able to provide face-to-face interviews where necessary, the location of which would be decided with you.

Some of the questions that you will be asked include:

- Could you tell me about your experience of living with P-OCD?
- How do you feel others responded when you disclosed your experience of P-OCD?
- Please could you tell me about your experience of being subject to a forensic/safeguarding referral, following disclosure of your symptoms to professionals?
- How has this experience impacted your journey to accessing appropriate support for P-OCD?
- How do you feel this experience impacted you in general and how do you think things could have been dealt with differently?

As part of your participation in this project, you will be asked to provide your gender, age, ethnicity and details about your experience. Interviews will be audio and video recorded, interviews may be shared with third party transcription services; you are able to opt out of this if you do would prefer your interview is not transcribed by our third-party organisation using the consent form provided, or during your screening call. Any details provided will be kept confidential and all data will be stored on a secure, locked file. A pseudonym will be used in all write-ups and reports, including potential future publications. No identifiable information will be reported, and your information will be stored with a participant number which will be kept in a locked file which only researchers involved will have access to. Documents will be kept separately e.g. your contact information will be kept with an identification code, in a separate document your identification number will match up to your name. All transcripts and raw data will be deleted by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

As co-production is important within research; once the anonymous data has been analysed, a paid expert by experience (a person with experience of living with P-OCD), recruited from an OCD charity, will look over the themes adding insights from the perspective of someone who has an understanding of what it is like to live with P-OCD, and will share a second opinion. No identifiable information will be provided to the individual and this will be transcribed data only – recordings will not be shared.

### **Do I have to take part?**

Participation is completely voluntary. You should only take part if you want to and choosing not to take part will not disadvantage you in any way. Once you have read the information sheet, please contact us if you have any questions that will help you make a decision about taking part. If you decide to take part we will ask you to sign a consent form and you will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

### **Incentives**

You will receive a £20 Amazon or Love to Shop voucher for your participation.

### **What are the possible risks of taking part?**

Taking part in this research may bring up difficult memories or emotions. If you do experience any distress when answering questions about your experience, you will be provided with a list of resources/services that are available to provide ongoing support. There will be time assigned to debrief after the interview, and you do not have to answer

any questions that you do not feel comfortable answering and can decide to withdraw from the research at any point up until April 2025.

Some helpful services include:

OCD Action: <https://ocdaction.org.uk/i-need-support/> who have a helpline, support groups and resources.

The Samaritans: 116 123 (phone number) who provide 24/7 support

<https://www.samaritans.org/>

Mind: There is a full list of useful contacts available via this link

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/obsessive-compulsive-disorder-ocd/useful-contacts/>

For any mental health support you should reach out to your GP or self-refer to your local IAPT service. For urgent mental health difficulty, you should contact your local crisis line or contact emergency services on 999.

You can also contact the researchers for further information, support and signposting using the email provided below. This is for non-urgent enquiries.

### **Data handling and confidentiality**

Your data will be processed under the terms of UK data protection law (including the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018).

- Any personal information collected will be anonymised through use of a participant number in place of names. Any data that is written up in reports will be anonymised; all names will be replaced with pseudonyms and any identifiable information will be altered.
- Your data will be stored until 30/09/2026. Once the data is collated it will be uploaded onto a spreadsheet, anonymised and stored in a locked file that only the research team will have access to. The original data will be destroyed as soon as it has been anonymised. Any personal information collected will be anonymised through use of a participant number in place of names for questionnaire and through use of pseudonyms for follow-up interviews. Any data that is written up in reports will be anonymised; all names will be replaced with pseudonyms and any identifiable information will be altered.

King's College London has a responsibility to keep information collected about you safe and secure, and to ensure the integrity of research data. Specialist teams within King's College London continually assess and ensure that data is held in the most appropriate and secure way. This may include storage of anonymised or pseudonymised data with a contracted GDPR compliant third party storage provider within the UK, where they are assessed as the best data storage option. In such cases the third party storage provider will not have access to any data that could directly identify you. This may include storage of anonymised or pseudonymised data with a contracted GDPR compliant third party storage provider within the UK, where they are assessed as the best data storage option. In such cases the third party storage provider will not have access to any data that could directly identify you.

## **Data Protection Statement**

If you would like more information about how your data will be processed under the terms of UK data protection laws please visit the link below:

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/support/research-ethics/kings-college-london-statement-on-use-of-personal-data-in-research>

## **What if I change my mind about taking part?**

You are free to withdraw at any point of the project, without having to give a reason. Withdrawing from the project will not affect you in any way. You are able to withdraw your data from the project up until 30/04/2025, after which withdrawal of your data will no longer be possible due to data being committed to a report. If you choose to withdraw from the project we will not retain the information you have given thus far and all data will be destroyed.

## **What will happen to the results of the project?**

The results of the project will be summarised in a thesis as part of my Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. This will therefore be submitted to the course and assessed by academics at King's College London. It may then be edited for potential publication in a scientific journal. The report will be anonymised and therefore, will not contain any identifiable information and if there is anything that you do not want to be included in the project, you can request it be discluded and it will not appear in the report. If you would like to obtain a copy of the finished research project you can contact the researcher listed below, or tick the box provided on the consent form, and we can provide you with a copy once this is complete.

## **Who should I contact for further information?**

If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me using the following contact details:

### **Primary Contact:**

Jordan Little

[Jordan.1.Little@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Jordan.1.Little@kcl.ac.uk)

### **Secondary Contact**

Prof. David Veale

[david.veale@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:david.veale@kcl.ac.uk)

## **Who should I contact for further information?**

If you have any questions, require more information about this project, or would like to make a complaint please contact the primary contact using the following contact details:

### **Primary Contact:**

Jordan Little

[Jordan.1.Little@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Jordan.1.Little@kcl.ac.uk)

**Secondary Contact:**

Prof. David Veale

[david.veale@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:david.veale@kcl.ac.uk)

**Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research.**