



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Consent Form for Participation in the Research Study Entitled:
Adaptation to ACE: A Constructivist Grounded Theory of Individuals Adaptations to Adverse Childhood Experiences

Funding Source: None.

IRB protocol #:

Principal investigator(s)
Jeff Friedman
1800 South Ocean Drive apt 2410
Hallandale, Fl., 33009

Co-investigator(s)
Jim Hibel, Ph.D.
Family Therapy Department
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Fl., 33314
954-262-3067

For questions/concerns about your research rights, contact:
Human Research Oversight Board (Institutional Review Board or IRB)
Nova Southeastern University
(954)-262-5369/Toll Free: 866-499-0790
IRB@nsu.nova.edu

What is the study about?

You are invited to participate in a research study. I am interested in speaking with individuals that have experienced adverse childhood events. My goal is to develop a new theory about how individuals adapt to these events

Why are you asking me?

You are invited to participate because you are a member of the ACEsconnection. In order to participate in the study, you must live in North America, be between the ages of 18 and 65, and be an English language speaker. You must have had a least one adverse childhood experience as defined by the ACE Study, prior to the age of 18. These adverse childhood experiences may have included being subjected to emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse; being raised by one or no parents, witnessing domestic violence, having a family member incarcerated, or having a family member with a mental illness or substance use disorder. There will be approximately 10 participants in this study.



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What will I be doing if I agree to be in the study?

You will be asked to meet with the researcher, Jeff Friedman, for an interview, taking approximately 1 hour of your time. The interview will be a phone interview. The interview will consist of questions formulated by Jeff Friedman, as well as any additional questions that may arise as a result of your response(s). The overarching question will be: How do individuals adapt to their adverse childhood experiences?

Is there any audio or video recording?

This research project will include audio recording of the interview. It will be a telephone based interview. The audio from the interview will be recorded over a website called SecureSpeak which is a service that records and encrypts phone calls providing a high level of security. This audio recording will be available by the researcher, Jeff Friedman, the IRB, and the dissertation chair or committee. The recording will be transcribed by Jeff Friedman using headphones in his private home office. Jeff Friedman will de-identify any name mentioned during the interview to protect confidentiality using pseudonyms. The recording will be kept securely in Jeff Friedman's home office in locked safe to which only he has access. The recording will be kept for 12 months and wiped clean after that time. Because your voice will be potentially identifiable by anyone who hears the recording, your confidentiality for things you say on the recording cannot be guaranteed, although the researcher will try to limit access to the recording as described in this paragraph.

What are the dangers to me?

The risks to you are minimal, meaning they are not thought to be greater than other risks you experience every day. Being recorded means confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Sharing your experiences about adverse childhood experiences may bring forth unpleasant or unhappy memories. If this happens, Jeff Friedman will try to help you to work through these memories. If you need further help, he will provide referral sources. These services are not included in the study, and any costs incurred are your responsibility. Privacy is an additional risk, however, Jeff Friedman has established procedures to keep all your audio files confidential. If you choose to discontinue your participation in this study at any time, for any reason, you have the ability to request you wish to discontinue and for Jeff Friedman to refrain from sharing information that makes you uncomfortable. If you have questions about the research, your research rights, or if you experience an injury because of the research please contact Jeff Friedman at (954) 494-9914. You may also contact the IRB at the numbers indicated above with questions regarding your research rights.

Are there any benefits for taking part in this research study?

There are no direct benefits.

Will I get paid for being in the study? Will it cost me anything?

There are no costs to you or payments made to you for participating in this study.

How will you keep my information private?

Confidentiality is of optimum importance for academic research there is always the potential for

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a breach of confidentiality, although unlikely. However, all information obtained in this study is strictly confidential, unless law requires disclosure. Your data will be de-identified with the use of pseudonyms in place of any other actual name mentioned during the interview. Pseudonyms will be used throughout the interviews and transcription process. The IRB, and/or Dr. Jim Hibel, (dissertation chair) may review research records. All data will be stored in a locked safe in the home office of Jeff Friedman, on a password protected computer, and will be kept for about 12 months. Every effort will be made by the researcher to ensure the security and confidentiality of your information throughout this entire process.

What if I do not want to participate or I want to leave the study?

You have the right to leave this study at any time or refuse to participate. If you do decide to leave or you decide not to participate, you will not experience any penalty or loss of services you have a right to receive. If you choose to withdraw, any information collected about you before the date you leave the study will be kept in the research records for 36 months from the conclusion of the study and may be used as a part of the research.

Other Considerations:

If significant new information relating to the study becomes available, which may relate to your willingness to continue to participate, this information will be provided to you by the investigators.

Voluntary Consent by Participant:

By signing below, you indicate that:

- This study has been explained to you.
- You have read this document or it has been read to you.
- Your questions about this research study have been answered.
- You have been told that you may ask the researchers any study related questions in the future or contact them in the event of a research-related injury.
- You have been told that you may ask Institutional Review Board (IRB) personnel questions about your study rights.
- You are entitled to a copy of this form after you have read and signed it.
- You voluntarily agree to participate in the study entitled: *Adaptations to ACE: A Constructivist Grounded Theory regarding adaptations to Adverse Childhood Experiences*

Participant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Participant's Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Person Obtaining Consent: _____



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