INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS

London-Camden and King's Cross Research Ethics Committee Ref: 263099

Researcher name: Siofra Peeren

Supervisors: Dr Sian Oram and Dr Elsa Montgomery

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET

Study Title: Understanding the pregnancy, birth, and early motherhood experiences and needs of women who have experienced sexual violence and abuse in adulthood

I would like to invite you to participate in this research project which forms part of my PhD research. 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 friends, family and/or people you trust, if you wish. Please do contact me at the contact details below if there is anything that is not clear, or if you would like more information.

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of the study is to understand whether and how having experiences of sexual violence and abuse after the age of 16 may affect how women experience pregnancy, birth, early motherhood, and maternity care. I am doing this study to find out what is helpful and unhelpful for women in terms of their care and experience of services. The aim of finding out women's experiences is to find ways to improve maternity care for women who have experienced sexual violence and abuse.

Why have I been invited to take part?

You are being invited to participate in this study because you, or a professional working with you, has identified that you have experienced sexual violence or abuse after aged 16, and that you have had a pregnancy and experience of using maternity services in the UK.

What will happen if I take part?

If you choose to take part in the study you will be asked to participate in a single interview with me, Siofra Peeren. I am a PhD student at King's College London. In the interview I will ask you about your experiences of pregnancy and, if applicable, of giving birth and of being a parent. I will also ask you about what you found helpful and unhelpful about your maternity and postnatal care, and how you think maternity services could be improved for women who have experienced sexual violence and abuse in adulthood. I will not ask you to talk about specific experiences of abuse/violence, and if there are questions you don't want to answer, that is okay: you do not have to say anything you don't want to in this interview. Although I have some topics I would like to cover, the interview will be guided by you and your story.

Participation will take place in a private location of your choosing. I expect the interview will last about 60 - 90 minutes, but it could be longer or shorter depending on how much you want to say. Before the interview, I will go through the study with you and answer any questions you might have, and I will do the same afterwards, so you should allow 2 to 2.5 hours for participation.

The interview will be audio recorded with your consent. I am the only person who will listen to the recording. I will use it to type up ("transcribe") your interview. After the interview is transcribed, the recording will be permanently deleted. I will not include any identifying details such as your name, place names etc. in the transcript. You can stop the interview, or the recording, at any time.

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, or affect your care, in anyway. Once you have read the information sheet, please contact me if you have any questions that will help you make a decision about taking part. You can also discuss this study with someone you trust, if you think this would be helpful. If you decide to take part, I will ask you to sign a consent form and you will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

Will I receive any compensation for taking part in this study?

Travel expenses and child care costs will be reimbursed. You will also receive a £15 voucher as a thank-you for your time.

What are the possible risks of taking part?

It is very important that you feel safe and supported during your participation in this study.

Reflecting on your experiences of pregnancy, labour, birth and maternity and postnatal care could bring up distressing memories or feelings, especially if you found this to be a difficult time. I will do my best to create an empathic and safe interview experience for you. Before we begin the interview, I will ask you if there is anyone that you would like me to contact if you feel upset. During the interview you can take breaks, or end the interview if you would like. After the interview, I will check in with how you are, and give you information about services that are available to you if you would like to access support.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

I don't expect there to be any direct benefits to you taking part in this research. However, I hope that the results of this study will help improve services for women who have experienced sexual violence, so your participation may help others with similar experiences in the future.

What if I change my mind about taking part?

You are free withdraw from the study, including during the interview, without having to give a reason. Withdrawing from the study will not affect your care in any way. You are able to withdraw your data from the study, up until January 2020, when the analysis will be written up. If you choose to withdraw from the study I will not retain the information you have given thus far.

Will be information be confidential?

Yes. Your data will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and will be destroyed after the end of the research project. During the research, your name and personal details will be kept securely and separately from your anonymised transcript. No information that could identify you will be published. The only time I would share your information is if you tell me information that suggests a serious risk of harm to you or someone else (including a child). If this happened, I would talk to you first. I would then speak to a clinical

colleague at King's College London (KCL) and may then need to inform a member of staff involved in your care, such as your GP or care coordinator, or a relevant agency, where appropriate.

Kings College London (KCL) is the lead sponsor for this study based in the United Kingdom. KCL will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that KCL is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. KCL will keep identifiable information about up to 3 months after study ends.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

You can find out more about how we use your information at this link https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/support/research-ethics/kings-college-london-statement-on-use-of-personal-data-in-research.aspx.

Data Protection Statement

The data controller for this project will be King's College London (KCL). The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. The legal basis for processing your personal data for research purposes under GDPR is a 'task in the public interest' You can provide your consent for the use of your personal data in this study by completing the consent form that will be provided to you.

You have the right to access information held about you. Your right of access can be exercised in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation. You also have other rights including rights of correction, erasure, objection, and data portability. Questions, comments and requests about your personal data can also be sent to the King's College London Data Protection Officer Mr Albert Chan info-compliance@kcl.ac.uk. If you wish to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office, please visit www.ico.org.uk.

How is the project being funded?

This study is being conducted as part of my PhD, which is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The results of the study will be summarised in my final dissertation as part of the requirements for a PhD. They may also be published in peer-reviewed scientific journals, and presented at conferences and/or to interested organisations that work with women who have experienced sexual violence or that provide maternity/health care. The results may also be used in teaching e.g. educating professionals who work with women who have experienced sexual violence, or in creating a resource for women who have experienced sexual violence and/or professionals. You won't be identifiable in any outputs from the study.

If you like, you can receive a summary of the study results by e-mail or post. You can indicate on the consent form whether you would like to receive a summary of the study results on the consent form. I also hope to organise a research dissemination event where I will present a summary of the study results. You can indicate on the consent form whether you would like to receive information about an event like this.

Who should I contact for further information?

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

Name: Siofra Peeren
Email: Siofra.peeren@kcl.ac.uk
Phone number: 07376 935 491

What if I have further questions, or if something goes wrong?

If this study has harmed you in any way or if you wish to make a complaint about the conduct of the study you can contact King's College London using the details below for further advice and information:

Name: Dr Sian Oram
Email: Sian.oram@kcl.ac.uk

Contact number: 020 7848 5053

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