

Appendix B: Participant Information Sheet for Qualitative Study



University of the Witwatersrand
School of Human and Community Development
Department of Psychology



Participant Information Sheet

Dear Potential Research Participant,

My name is Jennie Ashwal and I am currently enrolled as a Clinical Psychology Masters student at the University of the Witwatersrand. As part of the requirements for my degree I am required to submit a research report on a particular topic. My research is aimed at investigating the lived experiences of transgendered individuals in the South African society with a particular focus on how they negotiate and consolidate their gender identity. Participants in this research need to identify as transgendered, including both those who wish to pursue and not pure physical transition.

I would like to invite you to participate in my research. In order to participate you will be required to participate in a semi-structured one-on-one interview with the researcher. The broad topic of the interview will be your experiences of living transgendered in South Africa. The interview will be about one hour in length.

The interviews will be audio recorded with a dictaphone and then transcribed by the researcher. The audio recordings and transcriptions will be kept in locked draws and password protected files that only the researcher will have access to. The only other person besides the researcher who will have access to the transcriptions is my supervisor, Esther Price (Clinical psychologist and lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand). Direct quotes may be used in the final report but will not be personally identifiable. All data will be kept for a period of 2 years (should publication of the results occur) or 6 years (should no publication occur). After this time, all data will be destroyed or deleted.

All identifying information will be kept strictly confidential. In the final report (and any subsequent publications) your anonymity will be protected by using a pseudonym such as Participant A, B etc. Also the identity of all extraneous persons mentioned by you will be kept anonymous through the use of pseudonyms.

Your participation in this research is completely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any stage prior to submission/publication for any reason. You are also free to abstain from answering any question in the interview that makes you feel uncomfortable. There will be no reward or sanction as a result of participation in this research.

If you experience any emotional distress during your participation in this research, please be aware that there is a low-cost counselling service at the Emthonjeni Centre on the east campus of the University of the Witwatersrand, Braamfontein, that is available if you should need support or help. Their contact number is 011 717 4513.

If you have any further questions, please contact me via email on jennie.ashwal@gmail.com or you can contact my supervisor Dr Esther Price on 011 717 4517 or esther.price@wits.ac.za

If you agree to participate in this research, please complete the consent form attached to this document.

Jennie Ashwal