

Victim-Survivors' Experiences with Reporting Sexual Assault to the Alaska State Troopers

Consent Form

Researcher

Dr. Ingrid D. Johnson, Assistant Professor, University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center

Description

Dr. Johnson is researching how the Alaska State Troopers and other agencies respond to reports of sexual assault. The point is to understand what happens when sexual assaults are reported and whether hopes for justice are met.

You are being asked to take part in a 1 to 2-hour interview. The interview will be about your experiences with reporting a sexual assault to the Alaska State Troopers. The sexual assault must have occurred between 2006 and 2016. You must have been at least 18 years old when you experienced the sexual assault. You will be asked to talk about the sexual assault, the people you interacted with after you reported, and whether you believe that justice was done in your case. Your experiences, along with the experiences of others, will be shared (without your name being used) with the Alaska State Troopers and other agencies. They will use this information to improve how they respond to sexual assaults in the future. Your experiences may also be shared (without your name being used) in research presentations and articles.

Voluntary Nature of Participation

It is your decision to participate in an interview. If you choose to participate, you may stop the interview at any time. You do not have to answer questions that you do not want to answer. No one other than you and Dr. Johnson will know if you do or do not participate.

Confidentiality

Everything you say during the interview will be confidential. This means that only Dr. Johnson and her research team will know exactly what you said (the research team includes Dr. Johnson, two research technicians, a transcriptionist, and an interpreter if needed).

You will be interviewed by Dr. Johnson. No one else will be in the room or part of the interview unless you need an interpreter. Dr. Johnson will audio record the interview so that your experiences are captured in your own words. The audio recording will be sent to a transcriptionist. Transcriptionists are professionals who type up recordings word-for-word. Only the research team will have access to the interview recording and typed version of the interview. Digital and hard copies will be kept on secured computers and in locked cabinets in locked offices. Once the recordings have been typed and the research team has removed any information that could link the interview to you, the recordings will be destroyed.

The typed versions of the interview will be kept by Dr. Johnson until all analyses are completed.

Dr. Johnson and the research technicians will use the typed version of your interview to create their report for the Alaska State Troopers. Your name and any other information that could link the interview to you will not be shared with anyone other than the research team.

Potential Benefits of Participation

Taking part in this interview could give you the chance to share your thoughts on what happened to you in ways that you may not have had before. This could be relieving and/or empowering for you. It could also provide you with the chance to be linked to resources for victims of sexual assault that could help you in your recovery process.

Potential Risks of Participation

Taking part in this interview could be emotionally difficult. You will be asked to talk about things that could have been traumatic for you. This could bring back some of the feelings and responses that you had when you first had these experiences. Dr. Johnson will do everything she can to provide you with a safe space to share. If needed, Dr. Johnson can connect you with resources for victims of sexual assault.

All measures will be taken to keep your participation in this interview a secret from anyone other than the research team. However, there is always a small risk that someone else could find out that you participated in the interview and/or what you said during the interview. The risk of that happening is low.

Compensation:

You will receive a \$45 Amazon or Visa gift card for your participation.

Contact People

If you have any questions about this study, please contact Dr. Johnson at 907-786-1126 (office) or 907-885-4896 (cell). If you have any questions or concerns about your rights as a research subject, please contact the UAA Office of Research Integrity and Compliance at 907-786-1099 or uaa_oric@alaska.edu.

Consent

To further protect your identity, your name and signature are not being collected to show that you agree to take part in an interview. Instead, if you agree to take part in this interview, please check the "I AGREE" box below. Checking this box means that you have read the information above (or have had it read to you) and that you agree to take part in this study. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them at any time.

I AGREE that I have read the above information, I am my own legal guardian, and I AGREE to participate in this study. If this interview is being done over the phone or via web-conference, I have given the researcher (Dr. Ingrid Johnson) permission to check this box and write the date on my behalf.

I DO NOT AGREE to participate in this study and/or I am not my own legal guardian. If this interview is being done over the phone or via web-conference, I have given the researcher (Dr. Ingrid Johnson) permission to check this box and write the date on my behalf.

Date _____