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| TITLE OF PROJECT | A mixed gender study on the experiences of those with eating disorders.  |
| NAME OF RESEARCHER | Hayley Halpin  |
| NAME OF SUPERVISOR | Dr. Victoria Senior |

Dear Participant

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide if you want to take part, please take time to read carefully the information in this leaflet. You can talk about the study with other people if you wish.

**What is the purpose of the study?**

*The study will investigate the experiences of both women and men who suffer with an eating disorder.*

*The aim of the study is to find out how having an eating disorder changes people see themselves and their relationship with other people and their experiences of the treatment process.*

**Why have I been chosen?**

*You have been chosen as you have experience dealing with an eating disorder and are now in recovery*

**Do I have to take part in the study?**

*You do not have to take part in the study. You can also withdraw at any time if you feel uncomfortable.*

**What will I be asked to do if I take part in the study?**

*If you want to take part in the study you will need to:*

*Initial and sign the enclosed consent form and return it.*

*You will then need to answer some questions which will draw on your experiences which can be both positive and negative, while dealing with an eating disorder.*

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

*There are potential emotional risks in taking part. However, support and post-interview support will be given to participants by Bodywhys.ie.*

*If at any time you feel emotionally triggered by the questions, we can cease the interview process.*

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

*There are benefits to you as the participant as you get to partake in a study that will raise awareness the effects of eating disorders and you can share your story which may be beneficial to your recovery.*

*For society, my study aims to help society learn about eating disorders and to raise awareness for people going through it. It may also be beneficial for families who have had a loved one struggle with this disorder.*

**Who will know that I am taking part?**

*The only people who will know that you are taking part will be my dissertation supervisor and myself.*

**Will my details be kept confidential?**

*Yes. All information that is collected during the study will be kept confidential at all times and in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.*

*If there is a possibility of participation being disclosed to others for example, if the participant states their intention to harm themselves or others, we then will have to contact family members and emergency services.*

*Your name and personal details will be totally anonymous. Anything you share relating to your experiences will be kept completely confidential.*

**How will records from the study be stored?**

*The interview will be recorded on a password protected device which I the researcher will only have access to.*

*Once transcription of the interview as been completed the interview recording will be destroyed.*

*All data given in the interview process will be kept on a password protected device also and once the research has been completed it will also be destroyed.*

### **What happens when the research project stops?**

*When the research project stops, all data will be destroyed.*

**What will you do with the findings of the study?**

*The findings of the study will be reviewed and reported in my dissertation.*

*We will also present the findings to the exam board for review of the dissertation.*

**Who is organising and paying for the study?**

*The study is being co-ordinated by the BPP University. The study has been reviewed by the BPP Research Ethics Committee.*

**What if I want to complain?**

*If you wish to make a complaint, please contact:*

*Student’s supervisor: Dr. Victoria Senior Email: VictoriaSenior@bpp.com*

**How can I contact the study team?**

*If you have any questions about the study, or your involvement in it, either now or in the future, do please contact the student’s supervisor (email as above).*