CONSENT FORM FOR YOUNG ADULTS
UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

Children of Incarcerated Parents: Unheard Stories from the Prison Industrial Complex

[IRB log IRB#06-049-3]

I am conducting a study about children of incarcerated mothers as part of my dissertation. I chose this topic because the experience of children of incarcerated mothers is understudied. I invite you to participate in this research. You were selected as a possible participant because you identified yourself as having a mother who is or was incarcerated at some point in your life. I want to share your story to help change the way society treats children of prisoners. Women are becoming the fastest growing prison population and their children are becoming society's biggest casualty. I am hoping that you can share your experiences about what it was like growing up having a mother incarcerated.

What is your understanding of what I will be asking you about in this study? What happens if I ask you a question you don't want to answer?

This study is being conducted by: Sharon La Verne Price, doctoral student in the Department of Leadership, Policy, and Administration, School of Education. My advisor is Dr. Kay Egan.

Background Information:

The purpose of this study is to surface and examine the experiences of children of incarcerated mothers.

I chose this research focus because the literature on the experiences of children of incarcerated mothers is relatively scant compared to what I think is the magnitude of the problem. My goal is three-fold: First, I want to learn of the experiences of children of incarcerated mothers so that I may contribute to a larger conversation. Second, I want to awaken other educators to the unique circumstances of children of incarcerated mothers by designing a staff-development workshop. Third, by sharing the children's stories, I want to raise a level of consciousness that creates a counter discourse.

Procedures:

If you agree to be in this study, I will ask you to participate in a forty-five minute audio-taped interview. The majority of my questions will be open-ended - you can just tell me your story. I will provide some guided questions, but you do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer. The locations, dates and times of the interview will be arranged at your convenience.

Risks and Benefits of Being in the Study:

Relating your experiences may cause sensitive issues to surface. In case you experience any difficulty, you may contact:

The Crisis Connection - (612) 379-6363 (or)

Walk-In Counseling Center - (612) 870-0565 2421 Chicago Avenue S.

Minneapolis, MN 55404

Walk-In Center hours:

Monday - Thursday 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm (or) Afternoons Mon., Wed. Fri. 1-3 pm
Other crisis intervention services can be found at:

http://minneapolis.zamLcom/Crisis Intervention Ser

There are no direct benefits for participating. But your story will help raise public awareness and hopefully, help change the way society treats children of incarcerated mothers.

Confidentiality:

The records of this study will be kept private. In any sort of report I publish, I will not include information that will make it possible to identify you in any way. Research records will be kept in a locked file on my computer, which will be destroyed six months after the dissertation is completed. My advisor, Dr Katherine Egan and I will be the only people with access to the interview data - your names will remain confidential. The audio tape recordings will be solely transcribed by me. All audio files and computer-stored transcribed data will be destroyed six months after the dissertation is completed.

Voluntary Nature of the Study:

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with the person who invited you to be in the study or the University of St. Thomas. If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without penalty. Should you decide to withdraw, data collected about you will only be used with your permission; otherwise it will be discarded without prejudice.

Contacts and Questions

My name is Sharon La Verne Price. You may ask any questions you have now. If you have questions later, you may contact me by phone at 763-425-2406 or by email at sprice07edu@aol.com.

My advisor is Dr. Katherine Egan. She can be reached at 651-962-.4890. You may also contact the University of St. Thomas Institutional Review Board at 651-962-5341 with any questions or concerns.

You will be given a copy of this form to keep for your records.

Statement of Consent:

I have read the above information. My questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I consent to participate in the study. I agree to be audio-taped.

_________________________________________  __________________________
Signature of Study Participant                  Date

_________________________________________  __________________________
Signature of Researcher                        Date
CONSENT FORM FOR PROFESSIONALS

UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

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I am conducting a study about children of incarcerated mothers as part of my dissertation. I chose this topic because the experience of children of incarcerated mothers is understudied. I invite you to participate in this research. You were selected as a possible participant because you work with children of incarcerated mothers. I want to help change the way society treats children of prisoners. Women are becoming the fastest growing prison population and their children are becoming society's biggest casualty. I am hoping that you can share your experiences in working with children of incarcerated mothers.

What is your understanding of what I will be asking you about in this study? What happens if I ask you a question you don't want to answer?

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Procedures:

If you agree to be in this study, I will ask you to participate in one forty-five minute interview. I realize that you are very busy and I will only request a second interview for clarification purposes. The dates and times will be arranged at your convenience. I will be willing to meet at your place of business if you so choose.

Risks and Benefits of Being in the Study:

There are no potential risks.

You can benefit from participating in this study by helping to raise public consciousness about the plight of children of incarcerated mothers.

Confidentiality:

The records of this study will be kept private. In any sort of report I publish, I will not include information that will make it possible to identify you in any way. Research records will be kept in a locked file on my computer, which will be destroyed six months after the dissertation is completed. My advisor, Dr Katherine Egan and I will be the only people with access to the interview data - your names will remain confidential. The audio tape recordings will be solely transcribed by me. All audio files and computer-stored transcribed data will be destroyed six months after the dissertation is completed.
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_________________________ ____________________________
Signature of Study Participant Date

_________________________ ____________________________
Signature of Researcher Date