

A Collateral Damage Research Study



We are writing to tell you of an opportunity to participate in a research study conducted by Cheryl Welch, a PhD candidate at Capella University. Study subjects will be the parents of adult sons or daughters who have been incarcerated for CP. Participants anonymity will be protected and subjects will receive a \$30 gift card as appreciation for their participation.

Please carefully read the blue text below for further details about qualifying. The study is only looking for ten participants so, if you are interested, you should act quickly.

If you would like to participate, please send an email to the following address: cwelch16@capellauniversity.edu and please write "STUDY" in the subject line.

**I am seeking parents whose adult child (18 years and older)
has been incarcerated for a child pornography offense
to participate in my research study**

- The initial arrest or incarceration must have occurred three years prior to your participation.
- Participants of any race, gender, religion, culture, sexual-orientation, sociocultural background, and age are welcome.
- For confidentiality purposes, participants' names and contact information will be stored separately in a locked file from the information shared about the experience.

- Individuals currently undergoing treatment for a mental health diagnosis should not volunteer for this study (However, seeing a therapist for anxiety is OK)

**I want to tell your story and the stories of other parents
through my research study**

- The aim of the study is to understand how parents and families manage experiences of coping with the arrest and incarceration of their adult child who was arrested for child pornography.
- This study may help the counseling profession better understand how to provide effective services to support families through this experience.

**If you choose to participate, you will be asked to meet with me
for an in-person interview**

- The interview will last 1 to 1-1/2 hours in order to answer interview questions such as, *Tell me about your experience as a parent of a child who was convicted of child pornography and how has this experience affected your life?*
- The interview will take place in a private room at a local library or community center in your community. **Note:** If the distance between interviewer and participant is too far, a video conference call will be arranged
- At any time during the research process, if you wish to withdraw from the study, you have the right to stop your involvement without any pressure to remain in the study.
- Participants will receive a \$30 Visa Gift Card in appreciation for participation.
- Participants will be provided a list of free crisis counseling resources they can access if during or after the interview they feel they need to receive counseling services.

Purpose of the research study:

- To gather the stories from parents who have had an adult child who was arrested for the act of child pornography offense or offenses.
- To understand how the community responses impacted their situation and perspective of how to cope with the public review of the arrest.

- The parents' stories will help the counseling profession, community, and others understand how to better serve these parents and families who have had a child (18 years or older) arrested for this offense.
- To gain understanding of how the behaviors of one family member has ripple effects on the whole family will help the counseling profession better understand how to provide effective services to support families through this experience.
- By understanding this experience it will open the door for future research on other family related experiences with individuals incarcerated for other types of offenses.
 - To share your experiences of coping with the arrest and incarceration of the adult child who was arrested for child pornography may help other families cope with similar situations.

Who Can Be In the Study?

- Self-identified parents whose adult child (18 years or older) has been arrested for child pornography offense(s).
- The initial incarceration must have occurred three years prior so parents have had time to process their emotional related to the experience.
- Participants of any race, gender, religion, culture, sexual-orientation, sociocultural background, and age are welcome.
- Participants will be provided information about free crisis counseling services to access if they become emotionally triggered related to the interview or following the interview process.
- Individuals currently undergoing treatment for a mental health diagnosis should not volunteer for this study (However, seeing a therapist for anxiety is OK)

Participant's Confidentiality:

- All participants' names and personal information or identifiers will remain confidential and anonymity will be provided.
- Each participant will be provided an alphanumeric pseudonym such as P1, P2, P3, etc. to ensure the information provided in the research documents do not link back to a specific individual's personal information or ability to identify the volunteer.
- Locations of the interview will be at a local library or community center behind a closed door. All efforts to maintain confidentiality will be made. **Note:** If the

distance between interviewer and participant is too far, a video conference call will be arranged

Participants' Rights

- The participant will be asked to do a phone conversation with the researcher to determine eligibility.
- The participant will be asked to sign a consent form prior to the beginning of the interview.
- The participant has the right to withdraw at any time from the research study without undue stress or coercion.
- Each participant will receive a \$30 Visa Gift Card in appreciation for participation at the start of the interview.

Self-Referrals ONLY:

- Please do not make the referrals directly to me but give the individuals you believe would want to share their experience my contact information. This is a self-referral for participating in the study so the individual is making the decision and does not feel they were coerced into participating.

Free Counseling Resource Information:

- Participants will be provided information about free crisis counseling resources in their area they can contact if they experience any emotional distress during or after the interview.

If you would like to participate, please send an email to the following address: cwelch16@capellauniversity.edu and please write "STUDY" in the subject line.

This study and others like it will help to bring light to our issue. This is a study of collateral damage. For those of us who are parents of incarcerated loved ones, this is our issue. Thank you for your consideration

Directors

Women Against Registry

800-311-3764

Fighting the Destruction of Families

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