

Fostering Resiliency - Informed Consent Letter



August 30, 2012

The experiences and perceptions of child welfare system-involved youth are relevant in policy and system reform. The purpose of this research study is to give those directly impacted by child welfare the opportunity to share how participation in the foster care system has influenced their identity, life and future goals and to identify factors that contribute to resilience.

In order to gather information about the foster care experience, we have created an online survey that will take approximately 30 minutes. In the survey, you will see a series of 90 different images and will be asked to sort them into three different piles depending on how much the image matches your experiences in the child welfare system. After the images are sorted, you will be asked to rank the top 10 in two of the categories. If you would like, you can also participate in a one-on-one interview session, scheduled at your convenience, to discuss your sorting and ranking decisions.

The online survey will be available over a six-month period [November 2012 – April 2013] to alumni of child welfare systems that are 18 and over. The survey will be available 24 hours a day allowing participants to complete the survey at their leisure. If you can't complete the survey in one sitting, you will be able to save your responses and return at a later time. A link to support staff will be provided to answer any questions you have and will respond within a 24-hour timeline. A link to a helpline will also be available if you have/want to speak with a professional.

The data collected in this research study will be combined together and the findings will be shared with the public. All of the information collected will be kept confidential and individuals that participate will not be identified in any way. The data will be stored on a password-protected external hard drive kept in a locked cabinet in Dr. Leslie Ponciano's office at Loyola Marymount University.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the research team via email at fosteringresiliency@peace4kids.org or Dr. Leslie Ponciano, at Leslie.Ponciano@lmu.edu.

Thank you in advance for providing consent to participate in this research study. Clicking the button below indicates that you have read the information above and are willing to participate in the survey.

[Click here]

Sincerely,

Research Team / Fostering Resiliency
Loyola Marymount University / Peace4Kids