

## From Boys to Men: Participant Information Sheet

You are being invited to take part in a research study about domestic abuse. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

### What is the research about?

The main aim of the research is to understand why some boys grow up to carry out domestic abuse when others do not. We want to learn more about what young men have to say about domestic abuse and what can be done to prevent it.

### Why have I been chosen?

We are asking 30 young men who have experienced domestic abuse in their lives to take part in one-to-one interviews. Those invited to take part may be people who have either been victims of domestic abuse, those who have been accused of doing it, and/or those who have witnessed it.

### What would I be asked to do if I took part?

The interview will be conducted either by David Gadd or Mary-Louise Corr who both work at the University of Manchester. If you would prefer either a male or a female interviewer please let us know.

The interviewer will help you to talk about your experiences using a 'life history' approach. The interview is an opportunity for you to tell your story without being interrupted. The interviewer will help you identify which things you most want to talk about. The interviewer will be interested in hearing whatever things you think are important about your experiences of violence.

The interview will usually take about 90 minutes but if you need longer the interviewer will be able to listen to you for as long as you need. The interview will take place in a room where other people cannot hear what you are saying and in which you feel comfortable. This will usually be a place where you meet with the worker who has given you this information sheet. The interviewer will need to record the interview so that they have an accurate record of what has been said. The interviewer will show you how to stop the recorder and you can ask for the recording to stop at any time during the interview.

### How is confidentiality maintained?

After the interview, a member of the research team will listen to the recording and type up what was said – the interview will then be deleted from the audio-recorder. All recording equipment and typed up versions of the interview will be kept in a locked filing cabinet or on a password secure computer that only the research team can access. We will make sure that your responses cannot be traced back to you by giving you a "fake" name.

What you say to us in the interview is **completely confidential**. This means that whatever is spoken about in the interview will not be communicated to other people **except** where you tell us that you, or someone else, are at risk of harm or danger. If an interviewee did say that they or anyone else were at risk of harm or danger the interviewer would tell a project worker about this. The interviewer would talk to the interviewee about how best to pass this information on before doing so.

### **What happens to the data collected?**

Once the interviews are over the researchers will look at all of the interviews they have conducted. They will want to use quotes from interviews in the reports, books and articles they will write about this research. When they do this, they will remove any information (names, place names etc.) which could be used to identify you or anyone else you have mentioned in the interviews. The research reports will be used to help those who work in the area of domestic abuse to better understand the perspectives of young men affected by violence.

At some point in the future the anonymised transcripts of what interviewees have said will be made available to other researchers so that they can also study young men's perspectives about domestic abuse in more detail.

### **What happens if I do not want to take part or if I change my mind?**

You do not have to take part in the research if you do not wish to. Feel free to ask the interviewer any questions that you have about taking part. If you do decide to take part, you do not have to answer any questions you do not wish to answer. If you change your mind about being involved in the research you can stop the interview at any time. You can do this without having to explain your reasons for doing so.

### **Will I be paid for participating in the research?**

You will be offered a £10 Amazon voucher to compensate you for your time and any travelling costs you have incurred.

### **Criminal Records Check**

All members of the research team carrying out the interviews have undergone a criminal records check.

### **Contact for further information**

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the research team by phone, writing or email:

David Gadd, The School of Law, The Williamson Building, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL; Tel: 0161 2755621 ; Email:

[david.gadd@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:david.gadd@manchester.ac.uk)

Mary-Louise Corr, The School of Law, The Williamson Building, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL; Tel: 0161 2750347; Email: [mary-](mailto:mary-louise.corr@manchester.ac.uk)

[louise.corr@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:louise.corr@manchester.ac.uk)

### **What if something goes wrong?**

At the end of the interview, if you feel upset or need further help or advice please let the researcher know and they can advise you on who you could contact.

If you are unhappy about the conduct of the research and would like to make a formal complaint you should write to: Head of the Research Office, Christie Building, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL.

## Background Data

Before we begin the interview I would like to collect some background data from you:

Identifier Code:

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in any education/training? \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Educational Qualification: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any kind of employment? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a regular income? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in a relationship? \_\_\_\_\_

Current Living arrangements:

living on your own

living with partner/spouse

living with children

in residential care

with foster carers

living with friends

living with parents

in custody

other (please state) \_\_\_\_\_

## Interview Schedule

1. As you know this research is about people who have been involved in domestic abuse or violence either as victims, witnesses or because they have been accused of doing it. The aim of the research is to try and understand the experiences of people affected by domestic abuse and how that fits into their life story.

With this in mind, the first question I would like to ask you is if you could tell me your life story. Feel free to say whatever you would like, whatever comes to mind, take as much time as you need and I will just take a few notes so that I get down the important points.

[The role of the interviewer is to facilitate the interviewee's response and to probe for more detail/explanation when required.]

2. Domestic abuse can be any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.
  - Can you tell me about the times you have seen other people do this in their relationships?
  - Can you tell me about the times when it has happened to you?
  - Can you tell me about the times when you've done it to someone else.
3. What about physical violence? Perhaps when you've seen someone hit, kicked or beaten by their partner, boyfriend, girlfriend, husband or wife?
  - Can you tell me about any times when this kind of violence has impacted on your life? As witness, victim or perpetrator?
4. What about sexual aggression? Can you tell me about any times when this has impacted on your life? [As witness, victim or perpetrator?]
5. Can you tell me about any times when violence that happened away from home or outside of relationships impacted on your life? [As witness, victim or perpetrator?]
6. Can you tell me about any times in your life when someone has been able to help you come to terms with the violence that you told me about?
  - What about the help you are getting at the moment from X?
  - What sort of help did you/do you need, from whom?
  - Can you tell me about times when someone has been aggressive, but you have managed to avoid being violent?
7. Is there anything else you want to ask me or tell me before I turn off the recorder?
8. If I have further questions, would you mind if I call you?
  - Or would you rather I didn't contact you again?