



Dear peer support worker,

RE: Ministry of Social Development funded research project exploring the journeys and service needs of men who have experienced sexual abuse (#27115)

Little attention has been placed on understanding men's experiences of sexual abuse and what is required to make support services work for men. As a result, what gender-responsive and male friendly support looks like in Aotearoa/New Zealand remains poorly understood. We want to change this.

We are a New Zealand based research team working with Male Survivors Aotearoa to carry out a project that aims to understand the journeys of men who have experienced sexual abuse, what their needs are, and how they have been met by services in Aotearoa/New Zealand. This project is funded by the Ministry of Social Development and will help to understand:

- What men go through and what they need.
- What good practice looks like with the men.
- If there are gaps in service delivery or provision.
- How services for men should be designed.

To do this we need to work together with professionals and men who have experienced sexual abuse to learn about the journeys and service needs of men. As such we are hoping that you will take part in the project and complete an anonymous online questionnaire so that we can learn from you.

The questionnaire will take approximately 30 minutes to complete and you will be able to take part until the link closes on November 15th 2019.

The questionnaire will ask you for some basic demographic information and to consider how the men disclose sexual abuse; their support needs; how you work with the men; and what ideal support for male survivors should look like. These topics will also be posed to service managers and the men.

This invitation provides a brief introduction to the project. You can learn more about the project and questionnaire by clicking on the link below, or enter the link into your web browser. If you access the link you can choose not to start the questionnaire or withdraw from the project at any time. We will only use responses that you have given us permission to use up to the point where you stopped taking part.

You will see that we are also looking for peer support workers to take part in a follow up interview and photography activity. If that interests you please follow the online links in the questionnaire to provide your contact details so we can get in touch.

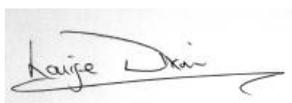
If you have any further questions about the research please also contact me directly, I will be happy to communicate with you in more detail about any questions or concerns you may have (email: louise.dixon@vuw.ac.nz or telephone: +64 4 453 6548). If you have any concerns about the ethical conduct of the research you may contact the Victoria University HEC Convener: Dr Judith Loveridge (email: hec@vuw.ac.nz or telephone: +64 4 463 6028).

Thank you for your time in considering this request.

PLEASE TYPE THE BELOW LINK INTO YOUR INTERNET BROWSER TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT AND START THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

[HTTP://VUW.QUALTRICS.COM/JFE/FORM/SV_BNQLA3LTVZNWE6P](http://vuw.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/sv_bnqla3ltvznwe6p)

Kind regards,



Louise Dixon (Lead Researcher)

Associate Professor
Director of Forensic Programme
School of Psychology
Victoria University of Wellington
Wellington
6140, NZ
louise.dixon@vuw.ac.nz
+64 (0)4 463 6548

Other researchers' contact details involved with the project:

- Dr Chris Bowden, Victoria University of Wellington, chris.bowden@vuw.ac.nz
- Philip Chapman, Chair Male Survivors Sexual Abuse, pchapman@ts.co.nz
- David Mitchell, Lecturer, Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology, david.mitchell@nmit.ac.nz
- Dr Lynne Russell, Senior Research Fellow, Victoria University of Wellington, lynne.russell@vuw.ac.nz
- Shane Graham, Trustee Male Survivors Aotearoa, waipuna@inspire.net.nz