



University of Brighton

Participation Information form

Title of Study

Unfinished business: A collaborative autoethnographic study into the impact of school corporal punishment on Irish psychotherapists.

Introduction and what is the purpose of the study/project?

My name is Dave Jordan and I am a Masters student at the University of Brighton. I am carrying out this research for my dissertation.

I am looking to carry out a collaborative autoethnography research study into the impact of school corporal punishment on child development into adulthood. In the dissertation, I will be telling the story of how corporal punishment throughout my schooling impacted my childhood development and adult life. I will also be using the stories and experiences of 3 other Irish psychotherapists who experienced corporal punishment in school and will look to weave their experiences into my story in order to build a coherent and informative interpretation of the impact as told from four different perspectives.

The aims of the dissertation are:

1. To investigate the ways in which school corporal punishment impacts child development into adulthood.
2. To contribute to research into the impact of trauma on children and adults.
3. To critique and connect personal experiences, insights and knowledge of corporal punishment, in relation to Irish culture within a religious, educational and political context.
4. To break silences and to reclaim lost and disregarded voices and in so doing, allow others the opportunity to 'bear witness' to their own experiences of school corporal punishment.

What participation will involve;

I would like to invite you to take part in this research study. Whether or not you wish to take part is entirely up to you. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. To help you decide please take time to read the following information carefully. Feel free to talk to

others about the study if you wish and ask me if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

Why have I been invited to participate?

You have been invited to participate in the study because you are a psychotherapist who, like myself, has experienced corporal punishment whilst being educated in the Irish educational system. As well as having experienced corporal punishment you have also studied the psychotherapeutic theories behind human growth and development, childhood trauma, and models of change, which will hopefully allow for a uniquely insightful and nuanced perspectives on the impact of corporal punishment on child development into adult life.

Do I have to take part?

Your participation in the research study is completely voluntary and there is no obligation to take part. Should you decide to take part I will ask you to sign and date a written consent form but you can withdraw from the study at any time up until one month after the interview date, when the data will have been transcribed and pseudonymised.

What will happen to me if I take part?

Your participation in the study will take the form of a one-off hour-long informal interview where we will discuss your experiences of corporal punishment at school and the impact it had on your childhood development and adult life. The interview will take place in August 2023 in a hired therapy room in Dublin convenient to yourself and the date, location and time will be agreed with you well in advance.

In preparation for the interview, I would encourage you to take notes and to journal as a way of remembering facts, feelings, incidents and stories relating to your schooling. Your journal entries will not be collected or used in the research and is purely to assist you in recalling relevant memories or events for the interviews?

Given the anxiety around Covid and the possibility of future restrictions, there is always the option to conduct an online interview, should you wish, where the audio from the interview will be recorded.

Will I be paid for taking part?

Participation is on a voluntary basis and there is no payment given to participants.

What are the potential disadvantages or risks of taking part?

By discussing your experiences of corporal punishment during your childhood it could trigger or expose you to the possibility of emotional or psychological distress. Should this

happen, you can request to terminate the interview at any stage. Should this happen after the interview process, below are some of the support services you can access;

IRELAND

- Call the HSE YourMentalHealth Information Line on freephone 1800 111 888, any time day or night
- H.O.P.E Drop-In Listening Service. Unit 5, Westpark, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 E24R, Ireland. +353 89 610 5476
- MyMind: Online and in-person counselling services, including options for free appointments and sessions. Email hq@mymind.org. Visit mymind.org
- <https://www.mentalhealthireland.ie/>

UK

If you just need to talk, any time of day or night: These services offer confidential support from trained volunteers.

- Call 116 123 to talk to Samaritans, or email: jo@samaritans.org for a reply within 24 hours
- Text "SHOUT" to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis Text Line, or text "YM" if you're under 19
- SANEline. If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else, you can call SANEline on 0300 304 7000 (4.30pm–10.30pm every day).
- National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK. Offers a supportive listening service to anyone with thoughts of suicide. You can call the National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK on 0800 689 5652 (6pm to midnight every day).
- Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM). You can call the CALM on 0800 58 58 58 (5pm–midnight every day) if you are struggling and need to talk. Or if you prefer not to speak on the phone, you could try the CALM webchat service.

The study will take up some of your time, which might be an inconvenience. You will have to cover your own travel expenses to attend the interview in Dublin. There are no other likely disadvantages.

As we are living in Covid times I will ensure that I take a covid test prior to the interview and encourage you to do the same. I will also make sure that the room is well-ventilated for the duration of the interview.

What are the potential benefits of taking part?

You will contribute to existing research into the impact of school corporal punishment on child development into adulthood. Participating in the study may contribute to the therapeutic practices used in the treatment of trauma.

Will my taking part in the study/project be kept confidential?

Your anonymity and the confidentiality of your data will be protected by never using names or any identifiable features. The following shall also be ensured:

- All interviews will be audio recorded using a digital recorder borrowed from Brighton University. Immediately after the interviews I shall plug the dictaphone into my laptop and upload the recording securely onto the University of Brighton's cloud server (one drive). I will then immediately delete the recording from the dictaphone.
- Recordings will be deleted once the study has been completed.
- All relevant files and documents will be stored onto OneDrive and shall be password encrypted.
- Any sensitive hard documents (eg. signed consent forms) shall be photographed or scanned onto OneDrive and then be destroyed.
- I shall ensure the removal of personal identifiers from all documents and all data shall be pseudonymised in the thesis.
- My research supervisor will have access to the dissertation at various stages of completion but no one else will have access to the data stored on my Brighton's cloud one drive server.
- Interviews will be conducted in a separate private therapy room.

However, I will have to break confidentiality if I felt that either you or someone else was in serious or imminent harm or danger, or if there was a revelation of any kind of professional malpractice on your part.

Please see below a link to the University of Brighton Research Privacy notice

<https://www.brighton.ac.uk/about-us/statistics-and-legal/privacy/index.aspx>

What will happen if I don't want to carry on with the study?

The research is completely voluntary and free from coercion, and you can withdraw at any stage without giving a reason up until one month after the interview date, when the data will have been transcribed and pseudonymised. Should you withdraw all recordings, email correspondence and personal data shall be erased and destroyed.

What will happen to the results of the project?

The results of the research study shall be written up in an MSc. dissertation and I will email you a summary report of the research findings once my award has been conferred.

Who is organising and funding the research?

Brighton University is organising the research and it is being conducted and funded by myself (David Jordan)

Contact details

Dave Jordan d.jordan1@uni.brighton.ac.uk

What if I have a question or concern?

please contact Dave Jordan with any further questions at d.jordan1@uni.brighton.ac.uk

Who has reviewed the study?

The research proposal has been given a favourable ethical opinion by Brighton University's ethics committee.

CREC Chair: Dr Nichola Khan

Committee name: Cross-School Research Ethics Committee C

Thank you for taking the time to read this and considering taking part in this study.