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**Exploring the changing role(s), identities and wellbeing of women in small-scale fishing families**

**INFORMATION SHEET FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS IN THE UK**

**VERSION NUMBER [ 4 ] : DATE [ 24 May, 2018 ]**

Thank you for showing an interest in this research project. Please read this information sheet carefully before deciding whether or not to participate.

**What is the aim of the project?**

The purpose of this research is to develop a better understanding of women's changing roles, identities and wellbeing in small-scale fishing families. This is particularly important in light of the recent and ongoing economic downturn in the small-scale fishing sector, the unknown impact of Brexit on fisheries and the important but invisible role(s) women play in small-scale fishing family businesses.

**What will you be asked to do?**

Should you agree to take part in this project you will be asked to meet with me for an interview. I will visit you in a location convenient to you, such as your workplace or home, at a time that is convenient to you. Should you agree to take part, you can still decide to withdraw from the study at any stage for any reason, without any disadvantage to yourself of any kind. To be clear: you can, for example, choose to me meet once and then decide not to participate further.

I would like you to take part in an **interview**. In this interview I will ask you to talk about your experiences of living in a fishing family. Together we will explore the different roles you undertake and what they mean to you and the everyday life of your family. I will also ask questions about any other types of paid work you may have outside of the fishing industry.

This study involves an open-questioning technique where the precise nature of the questions asked have not been determined in advance, but will depend on the way in which the interview develops. Consequently, although the Medical School Research Ethics Committee is aware of the general topics to be explored in the interview, the Committee has not been able to review the precise questions to be used.

In the event that the line of questioning does develop in such a way that you feel uncomfortable, you may decline to answer any particular question(s).

**Time commitment**

As a participant in this study you will be asked to participate in one research encounter. The meeting will take up to 1 hour. You are free to withdraw at any stage throughout the research without any disadvantage to you of any kind.

**How will your information be collected and how will this be kept confidential?**

The information collected for this research will come from the conversations we have in the interviews. The interviews will be recorded and then typed up. We will analyse this information to create a better understanding the changing roles of women in fishing families.

Your confidentiality and that of your family will be ensured throughout the research process. Results of this project may be published, but your name and the location in which you live and/or work, as well as other information that could identify you or your family will be removed from any published material.

Dr Madeleine Gustavsson is the only person who will have full access to the data. Professional transcribers will be used to type out the audio-recordings. These transcribers will sign a confidentiality agreement and will not have access to your full name.

The information collected will be securely stored in four localities 1) on an encrypted external hard drives, 2) an encrypted laptop, 3) a secured institutional network drive and, 4) any hard copies will be stored in locked in drawers. This ensures that only Dr Madeleine Gustavsson will have access to your information.

After the project is finished, the anonymised data (information with names and places removed) will be stored in a secure repository – the UK Data Archive – and may be analysed by other researchers. You will, however, be given the option to withhold your transcripts from this Archive if you wish to do so. If you do opt out of storing your data in the UK Data Archive your data (both digital and hard copies) will be confidentially destroyed ten years after the project has ended.

The University of Exeter processes personal data for the purposes of carrying out research in the public interest. The University will endeavour to be transparent about its processing of your personal data and this information sheet should provide a clear explanation of this. If you do have any queries about the University’s processing of your personal data that cannot be resolved by the research team, further information may be obtained from the University’s Data Protection Officer by emailing dataprotection@exeter.ac.uk or at [www.exeter.ac.uk/dataprotection](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/dataprotection)

**Can you access the results of this research?**

Regular updates and a summary of the research findings will be available to you and can be accessed through *the* project website www.women-fisheries.com.

At the end of the project, the research team will organise a workshop to communicate research findings.

Your contact details will be stored if you wish to be informed about the results of the research.

**Can participants change their mind and withdraw from the Project?**

You may withdraw from participation in the project at any time without any disadvantage to yourself of any kind. If you wish to withdraw you can contact Dr Madeleine Gustavsson (see contact details below). You do not have to give a reason for withdrawing. The data will be destroyed as long as an analysis of the data has not already been published in its anonymised form. In the latter case, the full data transcripts will be deleted.

**Who is funding this research?**

The study is supported by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) through the New Investigator Grant (ES/R00580X/1).

**What if you have any questions?**

If you have any questions about the project, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact:-

Dr Madeleine Gustavsson, Research Fellow

European Centre for Environment and Human Health, University of Exeter

M.c.gustavsson@exeter.ac.uk

**Complaints**

If you have any complaints about the way in which this study has been carried out please contact the Chair of the University of Exeter Medical School Research Ethics Committee:-

Ruth Garside, PhD

Chair of the UEMS Research Ethics Committee

Email: uemsethics@exeter.ac.uk

**This project has been reviewed and approved by the**

**University of Exeter Medical School Research Ethics Committee**

**UEMS REC REFERENCE NUMBER:** Jun18/B/160

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**CONSENT FORM FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS IN THE UK**

**VERSION NUMBER [ 4 ] : DATE [ 24 May, 2018 ]**

I have read the Information Sheet Version Number [ 4 ] Dated [ 24 May, 2018 ] concerning this research project and understand its content. All my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I understand that I am free to request further information at any stage.

**I know that:**  *Please circle*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | my participation in the research project is entirely voluntary; | Yes / No |
|  |  |  |
| 2. | I am free to withdraw from the research project at any time without any disadvantage; | Yes / No |
|  |  |  |
| 3. | I agree to the research using an open-questioning technique | Yes / No |
| 4. | I agree to the data being audio-recorded for the purpose of data processing | Yes / No |
| 5. | I agree to participate in a face to face interview : | Yes / No |
| 6. | the data (audio-tapes and interview transcripts) will be retained in secure storage; | Yes / No |
|  |  |  |
| 7. | the results of the research project may be published but my anonymity will be preserved. | Yes / No |
| 8. | I agree that my contact details can be kept securely and used by Dr Madeleine Gustavsson to contact me about the result of the research. | Yes / No |
| 9. | I agree that my contact details can be kept securely and used by Dr Madeleine Gustavsson to contact me about future research projects. | Yes / No |

**I agree to sharing copies of the anonymised data transcripts (see point 5**

**above) in the UK Data Services so that other researchers can use them**

**in the future:** Yes / No

**I wish to be kept informed about research outcomes**

**and dissemination activities organised :** Yes / No

**I agree to take part in this project.**

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(Printed name of participant) (Signature of participant) (Date)

................................................. ……………………….. ...........

(Printed name of researcher) (Signature of researcher) (Date)

This project has been reviewed and approved by the University of Exeter Medical School Research Ethics Committee

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