

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Queer Family Imaginaries

Interviews

Chief Investigator: Prof Christy Newman

Research Team: Ms Katherine Thompson (PhD Candidate), Assoc Prof Bridget Haire, Dr Ash Watson

1. What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in this research study. The research study seeks to understand how LGBTQ+ people in Australia imagine and experience creating families with children.

2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers: Professor Christy Newman, Katherine Thompson (PhD Student), and Dr Ash Watson from the UNSW Centre for Social Research in Health; and Associate Professor Bridget Haire from the UNSW School of Population Health.

Research Funder: This research is being conducted as a PhD project, with the support of a UNSW PhD scholarship and scholarship top-up donated by Rainbow Families Australia.

3. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Before you decide to participate in this research study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The research study is looking recruit people who meet the following criteria:

- Those who are over 18
- Those who are in Australia
- Those who are LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Bi+, Trans, Queer and Questioning, and all other diverse sexualities and genders).
- Those who are or have been a parent or carer for a child or children under 18, OR have considered or pursued becoming a parent or carer (regardless of current outcome).

Participants who do not meet the above criteria will be excluded from the study.

4. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage until your data has been incorporated into analysis. If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary);
- Sign and return the consent form (or complete it online) if you decide to participate in the study;
- Take a copy of this form with you to keep.
- If you prefer instead to give verbal consent at the start of your interview, that is OK. Please let the researcher know that you would like to consent verbally.

5. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you agree to participate you will be invited to participate in an online (via Teams or Zoom), phone, or in person (at UNSW Kensington) research interview, and you will be asked questions about your experiences and imaginaries (things you imagine or imagined) about becoming a parent. The interview will include a component of "photo elicitation", where you are asked to look at a bank of photos and choose one, if any, which best represents your experience with regard to several questions. If you prefer not to participate in the photo elicitation activity, you can still participate in an interview without this.

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The interview will take approximately 60 minutes and will be audio recorded, with your permission.

- 6. Additional Costs and Reimbursement:** There are no costs associated with participating in this research project. You will receive a \$50 Gift Pay voucher following participation in the interview, as a token of thanks for your time. GiftPay vouchers are delivered via email/SMS, and are redeemable at a variety of Australian retailers including major grocery and fuel suppliers.
- 7. Psychological Discomfort:** You may feel that some of the questions we ask are uncomfortable. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop immediately. If you become uncomfortable as a result of your participation in the research project a number of free contactable support services are included at section 13.
- 8. What will happen to information about me?**

By signing the consent form, you consent to the research team collecting and using information about you for the research study. The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for a minimum of 5 years after the publication of the research results. The information about you will be stored in a re-identifiable format where any identifiers such as your name, address, date of birth will be replaced with a unique code. Information collected from you in an electronic format will be stored on a UNSW password protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators. Audio recordings will be stored on a UNSW password protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators. Recordings will be transcribed using Teams or Zoom's automatic transcription tools and checked for accuracy by the research team.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the [UNSW Privacy Management Plan](#).

9. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

The research team intend to publish and report the results of the research. All information will be published in a way that will not identify you. If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can let the research team know by inserting your email address in the consent form. We will only use these details to send you the results of the research. You can also bookmark the study website, queerfamilyimaginaries.wordpress.com, where information about the study will be disseminated.

10. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time until your information has been incorporated into the data analysis (usually about three months from the time of interview). You can do so by completing the 'Withdrawal of Consent Form' which is provided at the end of this document or you can ring the research team and tell them you no longer want to participate. Your decision not to

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participate or to withdraw from the study will not affect your relationship with UNSW Sydney or any of the organisations involved in this research. If you decide to leave the research study, the researchers will not collect additional information from you. You can request that any identifiable information about you be withdrawn from the research project.

11. What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact

Position	Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Reference Number	10886

12. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Research Team Contact Details

Name	Katherine Thompson
Position	PhD Candidate
Telephone	+61 2 9065 2108
Email	katherine.thompson@unsw.edu.au

Chief Investigator

Name	Prof Christy Newman
Position	Professor, UNSW Centre for Social Research in Health
Telephone	(02) 9385 4717
Email	c.newman@unsw.edu.au

13. Support Services Contact Details

If at any stage during the study, you experience discomfort or require additional support from someone not involved in the research please call:

Organisation	Lifeline
Website	https://www.lifeline.org.au/
Telephone	13 11 14

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Organisation	QLife
Website	https://qlife.org.au/
Telephone	1800 184 527

Organisation	Beyond Blue
Website	https://www.beyondblue.org.au/
Telephone	1300 224 636
Organisation	13YARN
Telephone	13 92 76 (available 24/7, Australia-wide)
Online chat	https://www.13yarn.org.au/
About this service	Free, confidential and anonymous crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to yarn to an Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporter. Crisis Supporters listen without judgement and provide a confidential, culturally safe space to yarn about your needs, worries or concerns.

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Consent Form – Participant providing own consent

Declaration by the participant

- ☐ I understand I am being asked to provide consent to participate in this research study;
- ☐ I have read the Participant Information Sheet, or someone has read it to me in a language that I understand;
- ☐ I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study;
- ☐ Recordings: I understand that the research team will audio record the interview; I agree to be recorded for this purpose.
- ☐ I provide my consent for the information collected about me to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- ☐ I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received;
- ☐ I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time until my data has been incorporated into analysis, and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members;
- ☐ I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.
- ☐ I understand that the results of the research will be published as a PhD thesis and possibly in other publications.
- ☐ I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only.

☐ **Name:** _____

Email Address: _____

Participant Signature

Name of Participant (please print)	
Signature of Research Participant	
Date	

Declaration by Researcher*

- ☐ I have given a verbal explanation of the research study; its study activities and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

Researcher Signature*

Name of Researcher (please print)	
Signature of Researcher	
Date	

***An appropriately qualified member of the research team must provide the explanation of, and information concerning the research study.**

Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.

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Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in this research study described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** affect my relationship with UNSW Sydney or any of the organisations involved in this research.

- ☐ I am withdrawing my consent and I would like any identifiable information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research study withdrawn.

Participant Name

Name of Participant (please type)	
Date	

The section for Withdrawal of Participation should be forwarded to:

Name	Prof Christy Newman
Position	Professor, UNSW Centre for Social Research in Health
Telephone	(02) 9385 4717
Email	c.newman@unsw.edu.au