

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET*Narratives of the Co-Adventurers:
The Collaborative Exploration of Adolescent Experiences in Adventure Therapy***Researcher**Will Dobud MSW
PhD. Candidate**Project Supervisors**John Paul Healy PhD
Wendy Bowles PhD
Susan Mlcek PhD**Invitation**

You are invited to participate in a research study exploring the experience of participants and professionals involved with adventure therapy programs around the world. The study is being conducted by social worker Will Dobud, a PhD student from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Charles Sturt University.

Before you decide whether or not you wish to participate in this study, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish.

1. What is the purpose of this study?

As part of my Doctor of Philosophy from Charles Sturt University, this research will explore the experience of participants involved with adventure therapy programs around the world. Collecting information about your experience will be used to inform helping professionals about the lived experience of adventure therapy participants.

2. Why have I been invited to participate in this study?

You have been invited to participate in this study as you are within the ages of 18 to 25 and have attended an adventure therapy program during your teenage years, 13 to 18.

3. What does this study involve?

If you agree to participate, you will be asked to participate in an interview in person or by Skype lasting one hour with the researcher. This interview will discuss how became involved with the adventure therapy program, your experience on the program, and what benefits, if any, you experienced.

This interview will be recorded and transcribed by the researcher removing all identifiable information in order to keep your participation anonymous. Following this process, the researcher will contact you to schedule a follow-up discussion. The transcript will then be returned and you will have the opportunity to add, edit, change, or delete any information you like from it.

4. Are there risks and benefits to me in taking part in this study?

Although participating in narrative research is a potentially empowering experience, we cannot promise you any benefit from participating in this research. If at anytime you become uncomfortable, you are free to stop the interview at anytime or ask the researcher to change the course of conversation. Attached to this Information Sheet is a list of resources that may be of assistance should you wish for additional support.

5. How is this study being paid for?

This study is self-funded by the researcher.

6. Will taking part in this study (or travelling to) cost me anything, and will I be paid?

There is no cost or stipend awarded for participating in this voluntary research.

7. What if I don't want to take part in this study?

Participation in this research is entirely your choice. Only those people who give their informed consent will be included in the project. Whether or not you decide to participate, is your decision and will not disadvantage you.

8. What if I participate and want to withdraw later?

If you decide to participate, you may withdraw from the project at any time without giving a reason and have the option of withdrawing any data you provide.

10. How will my confidentiality be protected?

Any information collected by the researchers, which might identify you, will be stored securely and only accessed by the researcher unless you consent otherwise. Upon transcribing your recorded interview, your identifiable information will be given pseudonyms in order to protect your confidentiality. Data will be retained for at least 5 years at in a password secured folder on the researcher's computer.

11. What will happen to the information that I give you?

The information you provide will be reported in a final thesis to be submitted for this researcher's Doctor of Philosophy. The individual participants that decide to participate in this study will not be identified in any reports arising from the project.

After the interview, you will be able to review the recording to edit or erase your contribution. Because these recordings are to be transcribed, you will also be able to review, edit, or erase your contribution to the transcriptions. Should you wish, you will be able to attain a copy of the final report once this study is completed.

12. What should I do if I want to discuss this study further before I decide?

If you would like further information please contact Will Dobud by email at info@willdobud.com or by phone +61 04777161768.

13. 'Who should I contact if I have concerns about the conduct of this study?'

Potential participants can obtain further information about the project from Charles Sturt University's Human Research Ethics Committee who has approved this project. If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this project, you may contact the Committee through the Executive Officer:

The Executive Officer
Human Research Ethics Committee
Tel: (02) 6338 4628 Email: ethics@csu.edu.au

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully and you will be informed of the outcome.

Thank you for considering this invitation. This information sheet is for you to keep.