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ADDENDUM A

INFORMED CONSENT FORM FOR PARTICIPATION AS CO-RESEARCHER

University of Pretoria
Department of Practical Theology
Promoter: Prof J C Müller

Researcher: Ilse Gravett

Title of the study

Narratives of couples affected by infertility: daring to be fruitful.

Purpose of the study

I understand that I am invited to take part in a research study on the narratives/stories of couples who are affected by infertility.

I undertake to willingly share my story with the researcher on the issue of infertility, as an individual, as part of a couple, but also as part of the larger research group consisting of four couples.

Procedures

I understand that I will have a number of conversations with the researcher, and furthermore that I will be treated as a co-researcher and not merely be a subject being researched.

I understand that to be a co-researcher means that I will take part in reflective conversations and/or correspond with the researcher on the conversations that have taken place.

I understand that I will be asked to share my feelings, emotions and beliefs about my story concerning infertility, and will be asked to give meaning and interpretations to my story and the research process as a whole.

I understand that a reflecting team, consisting of various persons from different disciplines for instance, a psychologist, social worker, embryologist, bio-chemist, linguist and minister, among others, will read the verbatim reports of my conversations with the researcher and give their comments.

I understand that I will be expected to reflect on their reflections.

I understand that I will have the opportunity and responsibility to be continuously involved in the research process as a whole.

Risks and discomforts

I understand that there will be no physical risk to me being involved in this study.

I acknowledge however, that I might feel emotionally uncomfortable at some stages in the research conversations or thereafter, as a result of the conversations.

Benefits

I understand that there are no financial benefits as a result of taking part in the research.

However, I hope that in sharing my story about infertility I will add to the available narrative research on the theme, and enrich my lived experiences, as well as those of the researcher and reader of the research thesis in some ways.

Participants' rights

I understand that my participation is voluntary.

I understand that I have no obligation to continue as co-researcher, and that I can withdraw at any time from the research process, without negative consequences from any of the other research participants.

Confidentiality

The assurance of all information being treated as confidential has been given to me, my anonymity is assured and no information about my story will be used in any way if I don't give my permission for it.

If I withdraw all data concerning my story will be destroyed.

I understand that I have the right to the names of all those on the reflective team, although they will not be given my real name.

Statement and permission by co-researcher

Hereby I state that

I am aware of the purpose of the study.

I had an opportunity to ask questions about the research, and that I my decision is an informed one.

I am a voluntary participant, and that I was not forced to take part in the research.

I am fully aware of the fact that the results of this research for the purpose of an academic scientific will be published.

I agree to take part in this research project.

Name of co-researcher

Signature

Place

Date

Witness



Statement by researcher

I gave verbal information about the research project.

I undertake to answer all questions about the research to the best of my ability.

I undertake to keep to the arrangement between the co-researcher and me.

Name of researcher

Signature

Place

Date