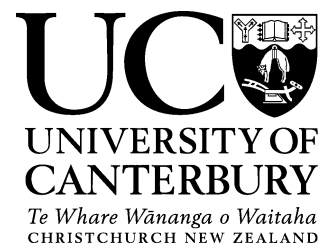


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Help needed for NZ research

My name is Tracy Clelland and I am a PhD student at the University of Canterbury. I am also a mother of two children aged 12 and 13. To conclude my study for the PhD, I am completing a research project titled *How do parents/caregivers of young people aged 11-14 understand and experience their role as sexuality educators in contemporary New Zealand?* The aim of the project is to research how parents/caregivers make sense of talking with their children about sexuality topics such as relationships, communication, love, intimacy, puberty, gender, sex, and other topics relevant to parents/caregivers with their children in New Zealand.

I want to find out what is going on for parents/caregivers in terms of the experiences they have encountered with their children and how they feel about being a sexuality educator of their own children. We know that sexuality topics can be quite confusing for parents/caregivers in terms of what, how or when they should engage with their children. Research tells us that many young people would like to talk more openly with adults but that they feel this is difficult. However in New Zealand there has been little research about how parents/caregivers understand and experience sexuality education with young people. I have approached your school to ask if I can have access to any parents/caregivers who may be interested in participating in this research.

If you choose to take part in this study, your involvement in this project would be participating in a one-off small focus group that consists of 4-6 parents/caregivers. The focus group will involve discussing your understanding of, and experiences with, sexuality education and your child/ren. It will take place in a day/time that is suitable to most people. The research will comprise a 5min introductory session where the participants can share some kai and learn more about the project and establish group guidelines. After this a focus group interview will be audio-taped which will take approximately 60-90mins. Full details and consent forms will be given before the focus group commences.

Two focus groups will be held at Beckenham Primary school on Tuesday September 5 and September 7. Each focus group will be a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6. (Meet at the school Office)

If you would like to take part in this research please email me, with your name for more information at tracy.clelland@canterbury.ac.nz. I really hope you will consider being part of this project. There is such limited research on New Zealand parents and it is time to open up the conversation

Alternatively if you have a group of 4 friends and would like me to interview you in your home then please feel free to contact me. The only requirement is the participants have children aged 11-14.