

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Thank you for your interest in participating in this study.

Title of Research Project:

Adopted Therapists' Experience of Rupture and Repair with Children: A Reflexive Thematic Analysis.

Brief Description of Research Project:

The aim of this study is to explore how adopted therapists experience rupture and repair in therapeutic work with children. Because children often struggle to verbalise when a rupture has occurred in the therapeutic relationship, your insights as a practitioner are especially valuable.

As one of 3 to 6 participants, your lived experience will contribute to a limited but growing body of research on rupture and repair with children and help address a gap in understanding how adopted therapists navigate these relational dynamics.

You have been invited to participate because you are a qualified child therapist with lived experience of adoption and have over three years of post-qualification practice. This study invites you to share your experiences of rupture and repair in therapeutic work with children, and how you make sense of these moments.

I am particularly curious about the felt quality of these experiences — whether they are somatic, visceral, or described in other ways. The research also explores aspects of your adoption story, including age at adoption, who your adopters were, and the surrounding circumstances, to consider whether these factors shape your experience of rupture and repair with children.

Due to the sensitive nature of this topic, participants are asked to be emotionally grounded in their own adoption journey, engaged in regular clinical supervision, and have access to personal therapy. This is to help safeguard wellbeing and support reflective participation. You will also receive a debrief form prior to the interview, which includes a list of relevant support services and organisations.

Potential Benefits

Participation may offer opportunities for increased self-awareness, personal and professional development, and contribute to a growing understanding of how adopted therapists experience rupture and repair. These insights may help inform future training in child counselling and psychotherapy, supervision practices, and continuing professional development for therapists.



Interview Details

If you choose to take part, you will be invited to a 60-minute online interview via the University of Roehampton's Microsoft Teams platform. With your consent, the interview will be recorded and later transcribed for analysis. All stored information will be anonymised to protect your identity, and you'll be invited to choose a pseudonym for use in the final report.

We will both be in a quiet, private location during the interview to support confidentiality and emotional safety.

Participation is entirely voluntary. You may withdraw at any time without needing to give a reason. If you withdraw within three weeks of the interview, all your data will be removed. After three weeks, your demographic data will be redacted, but any quotes already anonymised may remain.

Data Protection

All data collected during this study will be stored securely on the encrypted Roehampton OneDrive, protected by password access, and managed in accordance with the University of Roehampton's attached Data Privacy Notice. Audio recordings and transcripts will be anonymised and stored without identifying information. Only the researcher and their supervisor will have access to your data. Personal data will be deleted upon completion of the study; anonymised data may be retained indefinitely.

Interview transcripts, or selected extracts, may be included in the final research report and in publications arising from the study. Recordings may be accessed by my supervisor and, if necessary, by others involved in examining the research.

Confidentiality

Everything you share will be treated confidentially. However, if you disclose information that suggests a risk of serious harm to yourself or others, I may need to take appropriate action in line with the University of Roehampton's Ethical Guidelines.

Contact and Consent

If you have any questions or concerns about the study, or if you wish to withdraw, please free to contact me:

Cathy McMorrow – mcmorroc@roehampton.ac.uk

Contact details for my research supervisor and the Dean of the University are available in the consent form.

If you agree to participate, please indicate your consent by signing the attached consent form and returning it to me via email.