



## Information Statement

**Human Ethics approval number: HEC19549 Research Project Title:**

**The Relationships Australia South Australia (RASA) La Trobe University Clinical-Research Partnership**

**Chief Investigator: Professor Jennifer McIntosh**

**Version Number/Date: V4 13/03/2020**

When you joined as a client at Relationships Australia SA (RASA), you provided information to help RASA provide an effective service to you. The information you provided covered you; your background; your well-being, safety and the safety of others; and about children or others you care for. As explained in the RASA Privacy and Policy Statement, RASA sometimes seeks to share your information with Universities for research purposes. We would like your permission to include your anonymous information in the data that we send to La Trobe University for the **RASA-La Trobe University Clinical-Research Partnership**.

### **What is this project about?**

To improve services to clients, Relationships Australia South Australia (RASA) has funded a partnership with Professor Jennifer McIntosh at La Trobe University's The Bouverie Centre, Victoria's family institute. Through this project with RASA, Professor McIntosh and her team are helping RASA build an "evidence-based culture of practice". This includes creating reliable questionnaires; describing the needs of client groups; to monitor the organisation's progress in meeting client needs; and for extensions to closely related initiatives to improve client safety and wellbeing. The partnership will produce presentations at professional conferences and academic publications about family safety and wellbeing.

### **What your participation involves**

We seek your permission to share with La Trobe University some anonymous information already collected as part of normal service delivery at RASA. This information is already held by RASA, so there are no added demands and no recognisable risks for you in agreeing to share this information. RASA will remove all names and give your remaining information a special code number to keep you anonymous. RASA will then securely share only information from consenting clients with La Trobe University for inclusion in a large pool of data, for analysis of group results.

### **What are the possible benefits and risks?**

RASA and its clients will benefit through improved understanding of our clients' needs and potentially important insights into new ways of promoting wellbeing for our clients and their families. We regularly publish summaries of our research on [www.rasa.org.au](http://www.rasa.org.au) to show how it's

useful. The risk of loss of privacy is protected by removing identifiable information about people (such as names, dates of birth) and by analysing only data in service groups so it is not possible for any individual identity to be revealed.

### **What if I DO NOT want my information shared?**

Please be assured: you will still receive the same quality and standard of care from RASA even if you choose to not share information. If you give your consent now but later change your mind, then you can require that your data be removed from any further analysis. You can do this by writing to Dr Jamie Lee, Practice Manager at Relationships Australia South Australia, at [research@rasa.org.au](mailto:research@rasa.org.au) or contacting reception at any RASA office.

### **Complaints**

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about your rights as a research participant, then you may contact:

The Human Research Ethics Team, La Trobe University, Plenty Rd & Kingsbury Drive, Bundoora, Victoria, 3086; Telephone: (03) 9479 1144; Email: [humanethics@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@latrobe.edu.au).

Please quote project number HEC19549.

### **Questions?**

We welcome your questions. Please contact Dr Jamie Lee, Practice Manager at Relationships Australia South Australia, on 1300 364 277 or email [research@rasa.org.au](mailto:research@rasa.org.au). Questions to the La Trobe Research team? Please contact Prof. Jennifer McIntosh at [Jenn.McIntosh@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:Jenn.McIntosh@latrobe.edu.au).

A copy of this information statement is available at any RASA reception or via <https://www.rasa.org.au/about/partnerships/>

Thank you for your time,

### **Dr Claire Ralfs**

CEO

Relationships Australia South Australia (RASA)

### **Professor Jennifer McIntosh**

Chief Investigator

The Bouverie Centre, La Trobe University

### **Dr Jamie Lee**

Practice Manager

Relationships Australia South Australia (RASA)



## Consent statement

Human Ethics approval number: HEC19549 Research Project Title:

**The Relationships Australia South Australia (RASA) La Trobe University Clinical-Research Partnership**

Q1. Please tick the box to indicate your preference (your answer will not be seen by others):

<input type="checkbox"/> I agree for my anonymous information to be included in the data shared by RASA with La Trobe University, for the purposes outlined above	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not agree for my anonymous information to be included in the data shared by RASA with La Trobe University, for the purposes outlined above
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Q2. Please tick the box to indicate your preference (your answer will not be seen by others):

<input type="checkbox"/> I agree for researchers from La Trobe University to contact me independently, if there is a study that is relevant to me. If so, I provide my preferred contact details below	<input type="checkbox"/> . I do not agree for researchers from La Trobe University to contact me independently, if there is a study that is relevant to me.
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Name: ..... Date: .....

Signature: .....

(If you consent to be contacted by La Trobe University at question 2)

Your preferred contact number/email: .....