

Client Consent Statement

This research study is being conducted to determine ways to improve therapy services. The research is being conducted by Lee Johnson, Ph.D.; Shayne Anderson, Ph.D.; Alyssa Banford-Witting, Ph.D.; Quintin Hunt, Ph.D.; Roy Bean, Ph.D.; and Rick Miller, Ph.D. at Brigham Young University.

You have been invited to participate because the clinic where you have requested services uses the MFT-PRN (Marriage and Family Therapy Practice Research Network) to provide therapists with information about client mental health and their relationships (including the therapist-client working relationship). To assist your therapist in planning the best course of treatment, this clinic will require you to complete questionnaires at various times throughout therapy. Completing these assessments will provide your therapist with important information that can then be used to enhance the clinical services that you receive. There is substantial evidence that using assessments as part of therapy improves the success rate.

In addition to the clinical value of the questionnaires, they also have an important role in research. As such, we are asking permission to use your de-identified responses for research purposes (see below where you can agree to participate). Your name will be linked to your responses at this clinic so that your therapist can track the progress of therapy and they will be linked while the data is stored.

There are minimal risks for participation in this study. The main risk is that someone outside the project may gain access to your data without your permission. To help prevent this, numerous steps are taken to secure the data and make sure that all responses remain confidential, including the following:

- All information provided will be encrypted and protected during data entry, transit, and storage.
- Responses will be combined with the responses of others seeking therapy during the research process.
- When data are downloaded for research, your name is automatically replaced with a research id number so researchers never see your name.
- There will be no reference to your identity at any point in the research analysis and reporting process.
- Only researchers working on the MFT-PRN project will have access to the data.

There are no direct benefits to you for agreeing to have your responses included in the research. However, the information you provide will be helpful in improving treatments related to mental health and personal relationships.

Involvement in this research project is voluntary. Although you will still be expected to fill out the questionnaires as part of your treatment, your decision to allow the data to be used for research purposes is completely voluntary and you may ask to have your data deleted at any point by informing your therapist or the clinic director where you attend therapy. You may refuse to participate in the research portion of the assessments without penalty and you may withdraw your permission at any time.

If you have questions regarding this study, you may contact the researchers at contact@mft-prn.net. If you have questions regarding your rights as a participant in research projects, you may contact:

Human Research Protections Program

Brigham Young University

+1 (801) 422-1461

BYU.HRPP@byu.edu

Check the box next to the option you choose:

I agree to have my non-identifiable information used for research purposes.

I do not want my non-identifiable information used for research purposes