

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Lee University

Project Title:

Burnout and Coping in Mothers of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder:
A Grounded Theory Study.

You have been asked to take part in a research project described below. The following instructions will explain the project to you in detail. If you have questions after completing the following surveys, please contact Hannah Barnett at hbarnett@leeuniversity.edu

Description of the project:

Researchers in this study aim to understand Mothers' experience of burnout and methods of coping with parenting demands associated with having a school-age child with ASD.

Procedures:

If you decide to take part in this study, here is what will happen:

- Hannah Barnett, M.S. MFT Doctoral Intern, will schedule an interview with you via zoom. You will receive an informed consent and all interview questions via email before your interview. This interview will take place via a secure zoom link and last approximately 45 minutes. The interviewer will ask open-ended questions related to your parenting experience and use of coping skills.
- Participants are not required to turn their camera on. Video recordings of each interview will be deleted within 24 hours. Audio files will be deleted after transcription and all identifying information will be removed from content utilized in the study.
- Participants may terminate the interview at any time or skip any question they do not wish to answer.

- Participants will receive a follow-up email with therapy resources and the option to be included in further surveys about the study or an opportunity to be interviewed again. Each participant will be assigned a random number to be included in a drawing for two \$50 gift-cards. Winner will be notified via email.

Risks or discomfort:

Mothers who participate in this study will be exposed to minimal risks. Emotional difficulty may be experienced as you choose to share your parenting experiences. Participants maintain the right to take their time answering questions or to end the interview if they become overwhelmed. Therapy clinics and advocacy resources will be provided after the interview.

Benefits of this study:

Hannah Barnett hopes to make a unique contribution to the literature surrounding the experiences of mothers of children with ASD. It is hoped that the findings of this study will provide more information and awareness on burnout and positive coping skills in mothers of children with ASD. The findings of this study may be used to help educate teachers, medical professionals, and therapists in best practices for supporting families who have a child with ASD.

Compensation:

No formal compensation will be provided; however, you will be entered into a drawing for two \$50 gift cards for participating in this study.

Confidentiality:

Your part in this study is confidential within legal limits. The researchers and Lee University will protect your privacy, unless they are required by law to report information to city, state or federal authorities, or to give information to a court of law. All reported, presented, and published data will have all identifying information removed. All data will be collected on paper or on password-protected computers, to which only members of the research team have access.

After completion of the research, all paper data will be securely stored in the locked lab rooms, and all computer data will be stored on password-protected computers.

Voluntary participation and withdrawal:

All participation is voluntary. Refusal to participate in any or all aspects of this project will be immediately honored. If you decide to be in the study and change your mind, you have the right to drop out at any time.

Questions, Rights and Complaints:

If you have questions after completing the qualitative interview, please contact Hannah Barnett (hbarnett@leeuniversity.edu). If you have any questions or concerns about your rights as a research participant in this study, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship at Lee University (ours@leeuniversity.edu).

Consent statement

By reading and signing below, you consent to participating in this project being given by the Psychology Department of Lee University. This statement certifies the following: that you are 18 years of age or older and you have read the consent and all your questions have been answered. You understand that you may withdraw from the study at any time. All of the answers you provide will be kept private. You have the right to see the results of this study if you wish. A copy of the informed consent will be given to you if requested.

Signature: _____

Date: _____