

I am conducting a mixed-methods research study on trauma bonding for an Ed.D. The purpose of my research is to study the relationship between Emotional Quotient (EQ) and trauma bonding that quantitatively, qualitatively, and integratively captures the lived experiences of female sex-trafficked survivors during an intervention of 12, 3–6 hour weekly sessions that offers a creative environment while concurrently learning skills in the emotional-social intelligence (ESI) framework of EQ, creative problem-solving, and Christian doctrine.

To participate, participants must be a biological female; English-speaking with a minimum 4th grade reading and writing level of education; 18 years of age or older; and willing to develop skills in ESI, creative problem-solving, and Christian doctrine. Additionally, the eligible participants must have been sex-trafficked with no minimum or maximum duration and present with the trauma bonding complex symptomatology as screened by the Trauma Bonding Rate of Prevalence (TBRP) and the Biopsychosocial-Spiritual (BPSS) assessments.

All participants will complete the pre- and post-intervention, participants in the Experimental Group and Control Group will be asked to complete the quantitative instruments of the Trauma Bonding Rate of Prevalence – Assessment (TBRP–A), the Emotional Quotient Inventory 2.0 (EQi® 2.0), the Spiritual Assessment Inventory (SAI), and the Person Environment Fit Scale for Creativity (PEFSC), which will take about 30 minutes each to complete. The qualitative instruments of the Biopsychosocial-Spiritual (BPSS) model and the semi-structured interview questions for the EQ, EQ Problem-Solving subscale, SAI, and PEFSC will be conducted pre- and post-intervention for participants in the Experimental Group and Control Group, take between 30–45 minutes each to complete, and will be one-on-one, audio- or video-recorded.

After each group session of the intervention, the Experimental Group participants will be asked to complete the qualitative semi-structured interview questions of the Debriefing Feedback Tool, which takes about 5–7 minutes; and at the completion of the final group session, the Experimental Group participants will be asked to hand in their Self-Discovery Journal. Each participant will review, approve, and sign off on their responses for each interview transcript to increase the accuracy of the collected data.

The total time requirement for participants will be approximately five hours pre-intervention and five hours post-intervention (for a total of 10 hours), and 36–72 hours during the intervention plus 12 hours of suggested homework – for a total of 58–94 hours per participant in the Experimental Group and 10 hours per participant in the Control Group.

If your organization and clientele are interested and eligible, please contact me at 716-491-4723 or via email at kdorey1@liberty.edu for more information. Consent information will be provided to your organization and clientele one week prior to the research beginning.

Participants will not be financially compensated for participating in this study. However, meals, snacks, and refreshments will be provided during each of the 12, 3–6 hour intervention sessions. Additionally, participants will be able to keep any session materials provided by the researcher.