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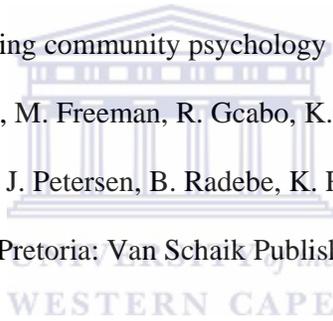
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APPENDIX A

Department of Psychology
University of the Western Cape
Private Bag X 17
Bellville
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Tel: 27 21 959 2283

UNIVERSITY *of the*
WESTERN CAPE

INFORMATION LETTER

I am a Master's Research student at the University of the Western Cape. I am currently conducting a research study which seeks to explore the influence of exposure community violence on adolescent's sense of hope. The aims of my study are to ascertain how adolescents exposed to community violence, experience and give meaning to community violence and explore as to how this exposure affects their sense of hope for themselves, and for their future.

In order to achieve this, I will conduct two focus groups (consisting of six adolescents per group) in order to understand how adolescent's themselves experience violence in their community. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times. The research process is guided by strict ethical considerations of the University of the Western Cape and will be adhered to at all times. If the discussion results in any emotional discomfort or trauma, counselling will be arranged by the researcher. Should you have any further queries, feel free to contact me.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Yours Faithfully

Serena Isaacs
Department of Psychology
University of the Western Cape
(c) 074 19 777 04

APPENDIX B

Department of Psychology
University of the Western Cape
Private Bag X 17
Bellville
7535
Tel: 27 21 959 2283

UNIVERSITY *of the*
WESTERN CAPE

LEARNER CONSENT FORM

I am a Master's Research student at the University of the Western Cape. I am currently conducting a research study that seeks to explore the influence of exposure community violence on adolescents' sense of hope. In order to achieve this, I will conduct two focus groups (consisting of six learners per group) in order to discuss and understand how adolescent's themselves experience violence in their community.

The research process is guided by strict ethical considerations of the University of the Western Cape and will be adhered to at all times. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times. Your identity will not be disclosed and the researcher will monitor access to the information you provide. You may also withdraw from the focus group at any time with no consequences.

If the discussion results in any emotional discomfort or trauma, counselling will be arranged by the researcher. Should you have any further queries, feel free to contact me, **Serena Isaacs (c) 074 1977 704**.

Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

I confirm that I have read and understand the nature of the research study.

I agree to participate in my individual capacity.

Signature of participant ……………………….   **Date: ....**

Signature of Researcher ……………………….   **Date:……………………………..**

Thank you for volunteering to participate in this study.

APPENDIX C

Department of Psychology
University of the Western Cape
Private Bag X 17
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Tel: 27 21 959 2283

UNIVERSITY of the
WESTERN CAPE

PARENT CONSENT FORM

I am a Master's Research student at the University of the Western Cape. I am currently conducting a research study that seeks to explore the influence of exposure community violence on adolescents' sense of hope. In order to achieve this, I will conduct two focus groups (consisting of six learners per group) in order to discuss and understand how adolescent's themselves experience violence in their community.

The research process is guided by strict ethical considerations of the University of the Western Cape and will be adhered to at all times. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times. Your son/daughter's identity will not be disclosed and the researcher will monitor access to the information he/she provides. Your son/daughter may also withdraw from the focus group at any time with no consequences.

If the discussion results in any emotional discomfort or trauma, counselling will be arranged by the researcher. Should you have any further queries, feel free to contact me, **Serena Isaacs (c) 074 1977 704**.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

I confirm that I have read and understand the nature of the research study.

I permit my son/daughter, ... ,to participate in this study.

Signature of participant ……………………… **Date: ....**

Signature of Researcher ……………………… **Date:……………………………..**

Thank you for volunteering to participate in this study.

APPENDIX D

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. **What do you think a community is?**

   - Is being part of one important to you? Why?

   - What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of being part of a community?

2. **Explain what you think violence is?**

   - Explain what makes something violent?

   - Explain what you see as violence in your community? Does this happen a lot in your community?

   - Can you give me examples of what happens in this community?

   - Have any of you ever witnessed/ been exposed to violent acts? Explain.

   - What do you think about these things happening where you live?

   - How do you think community violence has affected you?

   - How do you think community violence has affected people in the community?

   - How do you think people are affected when their community is not safe?   - What can happen/happens to them?

   - How have you coped with community violence?/Have you changed the way you do certain things? – walk home, locking doors, going outside a lot?

   - What do you think are the causes of violent acts?

3. What do you think about people having hope?

- What do you understand by the word 'hope'?

- What does having hope, mean to you?

- Do you think hope is important? Explain.

- How can having hope affect you?

- Where/How do you see yourself in the future?

- In what way do you think that being exposed to community violence has affected your hope for the future?

- Do you think that being exposed to community violence will affect your goals for the future?

- Do you believe that your community will change for the better in the future?