Explanatory Statement: Women in sustainable healthcare education

Project ID: 30093

Project title: Exploring women’s experiences in sustainable healthcare education

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You are invited to take part in this student research project. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this research. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to contact the researchers via the phone numbers or email addresses listed above.

What does the research involve?

This study aims to explore women’s experiences as educators/leaders in sustainable healthcare education in health professions curricula. The research team are interested in understanding women’s motivations and any challenges of advocating, teaching, and learning sustainable healthcare education. Insights from this study may reveal how gender shapes women’s experiences and how addressing gender issues in higher education could help facilitate better implementation of sustainable healthcare education.

This study involves your participation in an approx. one-hour audio recorded interview. You may choose to partake in the interview either via Zoom or face-to-face (in Melbourne, Australia in adherence with the Monash COVID Safe Plan). You may also be contacted by the research team to participate in follow-up interviews or surveys on the same theme in separate research in the future. The interview will be exploratory and semi-structured to follow your own individual story. In the interview you will be asked general questions about: your demographics; your professional/educational background; your experiences of working in and/or advocating for sustainable healthcare education; what motivates you in your work; any challenges that you have encountered (e.g., any institutional barriers, any emotional labour involved in teaching/learning about socio-ecological issues); how you have navigated any challenges; how you feel that gender might shape your experiences; and how you think that addressing gendered issues in higher education may help facilitate better implementation of sustainable healthcare education.

Why were you invited for this research?

You have been selected to participate in this study as a woman health profession academic or student working in/advocating for sustainable healthcare education. Your contact details may have been obtained from: existing Monash networks; referral from other contacts in relevant organisations, your expertise and work in the field, and/or referral by previous participants via snowball sampling.

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

Participating in this study is voluntary and you are under no obligation to consent to participation. You will be asked to verbally consent to participating in the audio recorded interview prior to the commencement of the interview. You have a right to withdraw from the interview at any stage. If you do consent to participate, you may only withdraw data prior to the transcription of the data from the interview, which will likely occur within the days following the interview. If you choose not to participate in the interview, there may be an option to participate in a survey in a separate future project. Please feel free to contact the student researcher if you would prefer to complete a future survey instead.

Possible benefits and risks to participants

You may find benefits in having the opportunity to express your experiences and any challenges that you have encountered through engaging in sustainable healthcare education leadership. Additionally, the community of women in sustainable healthcare education and in education more broadly may benefit from any insights from this study that highlight a need to address gender issues in higher education.

It is not anticipated that participation in this study will likely cause a level of discomfort to you greater than the inconvenience to your schedule of participating in the interview. However, there may be an unlikely risk that discussion of topics such as climate change and navigating challenges within higher education could prompt a level of personal distress during the interview greater than discomfort. The interview will be semi-structured, and you will therefore have the freedom to direct the discussion as you wish and to cease the interview at any stage. In the unlikely event that you do require counselling from participation, please refer to the list of services below:

For students:

*Services in Australia*

Monash Counselling Services for Monash students (free): (03) 9905 3020 or 1300 788 336 after hours.

Lifeline: ph. 13 11 14

Kids Helpline (5 to 25 year olds): ph. 1800 551 800

*Services internationally:*

Monash Counselling Services for Monash students (free): From Malaysia ph. 1800 818 356 (toll free)

Samaritans (UK): ph. 116 123

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (USA): ph. 1800 273 8255

For academics:

*Services in Australia:*

Monash Counselling Services for Monash staff: ph. 1300 360 364 (phone service available 24/7, includes Employee Assistance Program enquiries)

Lifeline: ph. 13 11 14

*Services internationally:*

Monash Counselling Services from Malaysia: ph. 012 431 1562 or 1800 818 356

Samaritans (UK): ph. 116 123

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (USA): ph. 1800 273 8255

Payment

You will be offered a $20 gift voucher or an equivalent donation to a not-for-profit organisation of your choice as a token of appreciation for your participation. If you choose to receive a gift voucher, the Monash finance team may require your name for auditing purposes and your anonymity therefore cannot be guaranteed.

Confidentiality

During the interview, names will be avoided and if they must be used only first names will be used so as not to identify you or others fully. Audio recorded interview data will be transcribed by an audio transcription service and covered by the service’s Privacy Policy, which you are welcome to ask the research team for a copy of. The confidentiality and anonymity of your data will be protected as only the research team will have access to identified information. Any personal information you provide during the interview is confidential and will not be disclosed. Findings from the study may be published in a thesis, journal articles and at conferences. Findings will be reported in such a way to protect the anonymity, privacy and confidentiality of participants and pseudonyms/codes will be used where necessary.

Storage of data

All data collected will be electronic and will be stored in accordance with Monash University regulations. The electronic data will be stored on secure Monash computers or drives and kept for a minimum of five years after completion of the project. After such time, and when the data are no longer required, data will be electronically destroyed.

Use of data for other purposes

In accordance with data sharing guidelines, de-identified data may be made available for use by the other researchers. This data will be held on secure public repositories and may be a requirement of some journals prior to publication.

Results

Once the data are analysed and compiled, a copy of a data summary will be sent to all participants. The data will also form the basis of a thesis.

Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC):

Executive Officer

Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)

Room 111, Chancellery Building D,

26 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus

Research Office

Monash University VIC 3800

Tel: +61 3 9905 2052   Email: [muhrec@monash.edu](http://muhrec@monash.edu) Fax: +61 3 9905 3831

Thank you,

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Dr. Susie Ho