

17/04/13

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing you to request permission to interview suicide bereavers, who may be attending your Church or bereavement community. I am currently conducting approved research into suicide bereavement from churches who identify as Evangelical or Pentecostal, to determine how we can implement effective postvention care during such a crisis.

I am a candidate of the Australian Collage of Theology studying through the Melbourne School of Theology, seeking to interview suicide bereavers over the age of 21, who have lost a Christian family member to suicide. The approach used will be qualitative, descriptive, narrative research, involving one confidential, in-depth 1-2 hour face-to-face interview, conducted at a place of the participants choosing.

My desire for the outcome of this research is to equip ministers to be able to minister effective postvention care into the lives of suicide bereavers, to ensure their ongoing emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

I would appreciate your participation in seeking out members within your community who have had such an experience and invite them to speak to me about the possibilities of participating in this valuable and much needed research. In addition, I have also included an advertising flyer should you wish to allow people to discreetly approach me of their own accord.

I thank you in advance for your assistance in recruiting participants for this essential research and would ask that you forward the details of participants to me either via email to: staley2@bigpond.net.au or phone me on mobile: 0408 435 191

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me on my mobile 0408 435 191 or contact my supervisor, Dr. Judy Wilkie at Melbourne School of Theology, on 03-9881 9800. or Rev. Dr. Graeme Chatfield, Associate Dean, Australian College of Theology, Level 10, 257 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000; ph. 02 92627890; fax 9262 7290.

Yours faithfully in Christ,

Ps. Astrid Staley

DMin (Cand) Melbourne School of Theology