

**PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR MASTERS
RESEARCH INTO SECTION 37 CHILDREN ACT 1989**

We are looking for key stakeholders with prior experience of/involvement in section 37 Children Act 1989 investigations, including:

- Local Authority and private practice lawyers;
- Child social workers and Team Managers;
 - Family Court Judges;
- Cafcass Family Court Advisors and Guardians;
- Clinical Experts in Child and Family Assessments for court;
 - NYAS legal representatives;
- Members of key stakeholder organisations: NAGALRO, Association of Lawyers for Children, Interdisciplinary Alliance for Children, Family Law Bar Association.

In private family disputes in court if a judge feels that there is a risk of significant harm to a child he or she can direct the local authority to investigate the child's circumstances, consider child protection measures and report back under section 37. The use of this section varies considerably nationally and very little is known about its use in practice. This project seeks to provide an evidence base to inform future practice, research and policy development in this area.

As a participant in this study, you will be asked to take part in a confidential telephone interview lasting approximately 1 hour to discuss your understandings and experience of section 37 Children Act 1989 in your professional capacity. The interview will be recorded and transcribed.

For more information about this study, or if you would like to share your views and experiences, please contact:

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**The study has been reviewed and approved by the
Research Ethics Committee, School of Social Work, University of East Anglia.
and Research Governance Group, Essex County Council.**