



Inclusive Research Case Study 9

Engaging parents in child neglect research

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Overview

This case study highlights the efforts to include parents' voices in research on child neglect. The researcher engaged in advisory groups and focus groups, emphasising clear communication and regular updates to participants. Challenges included time pressure, lack of trust, and dropouts due to personal circumstances. However, positive strategies such as effective communication and understanding concerns helped address these challenges. Maintaining involvement with organisations, especially amidst personnel changes, was identified as a challenge. Confidence in working with underserved groups was gained through experience, and actions such as peer support and communication with peers were suggested for further improvement.

Research Area: Child neglect and the inclusion of parents' voices in research

Population: Families

Involvement and Research Methods:

- Advisory groups and focus groups discussions

Facilitating Participation:

- Emphasis on clear communication, regular updates, and acknowledgment of participants' efforts

Known Participants/Organisations:

- The Parent, Family and Allies Network

Barriers to Contact:

- Time pressure, lack of trust, and dropouts due to personal circumstances.
- Maintaining relationships with organisations, particularly when key personnel change

Facilitating Contact:

- Effective communication, building trust, understanding concerns, and maintaining a friendly atmosphere

Promoting Researcher Confidence:

- Confidence gained through experience in working with underserved groups
- Peer support and communication with peers suggested as ways to improve confidence

Experience of Ethical Review:

- Challenge: Restrictive study time-frames and experience of some delays
- Helpful Approach: Starting ethical review process as early as possible