**Disclosure Dances in Doctoral Education.**

1.6.2020 to 31.8.2021

**Information sheet for Participants**

**Who is conducting the research?**

My name is Nicole Brown, I am a Lecturer in Education at the UCL Institute of Education and I am inviting you to take in part in my research project, "Disclosure Dances in Doctoral Education". I work with a wide range of creative research methods to get as close as possible to participants' experiences and feelings and I believe in the participatory nature of research and the need for participants to make sense of their experiences.

I am hoping to find out what it feels like to be disabled, chronically ill and/or neurodiverse in doctoral education and how we navigate our identities and disclosure depending on the circumstances and contexts we find ourselves. I would like to provide a platform and means to express what is usually considered difficult to express.

I very much hope that you would like to take part. This information sheet will try and answer any questions you might have about the project, but please don’t hesitate to contact me if there is anything else you would like to know.

**Why am I doing this research?**

With this research I am hoping to be able to explore experiences and to allow for new ways of expressing and making sense of experiences.

Research shows that individuals with chronic conditions, disabilities and/or neurodivergence are underrepresented in higher education (Brown and Leigh, 2018). Literature in relation to ableism and disabilities in academia is sparse (Brown, forthcoming; Brown and Leigh, forthcoming), but is non-existent in relation to doctoral students' experiences. The role of disabilities, chronic illnesses and/or neurodivergence play in navigating the doctoral journey are not mentioned, although the decision to disclose a condition is relevant for individuals’ emotional wellbeing and the subsequent managing of the conditions.

**Why are you being invited to take part?**

Through our joint networks we have discovered your eligibility and/or interest to take part in this research. You are kindly asked to provide information about your experiences, which will be pseudonymised and anonymised as soon as possible after transcriptions have been completed.

**What will happen if I choose to take part?**

If you choose to participate in this research you will be asked to provide your story and experiences of disclosure through an interview and/or map-making. The interview will be held as a video-conference call, whichever method is most suitable for you. Usually, the interviews take about 45-60 minutes. It is not possible to predict the exact interview questions at this point, but the questions will be for example:

What is your model/drawing representative of?

What do you mean with ….?

How do you feel about….?

Should you not wish to answer a question, for example, if it makes you uncomfortable, you are free to skip it with no consequences.

**Will anyone know I have been involved?**

Every care will be taken to ensure confidentiality and anonymity of responses. Direct quotes from interviews will be anonymised to make individuals non-identifiable. Where data is submitted in a form where individuals may be recognisable, e.g. on video footage, the relevant sections will be edited so that faces are blurred and individuals will not be identifiable.

**Could there be problems for me if I take part?**

The project relates to capturing the feelings, emotions and experiences that result from embodied learning processes and reflective practice. You may therefore find yourself reflecting on experiences and feelings that may make you feel uncomfortable. I will not ever ask you to share what is uncomfortable to you and you may skip questions you may not want to answer or feel comfortable about.

**What will happen to the results of the research?**

I will use the data to write research articles and presentations for conferences. I will also use anonymised photos of your maps to illustrate our findings. You will be able to choose which representations we share with the wider public. Also, I will use made-up names for all anonymised data rather than your real name with the relevant representations. Any data collected in this research will be kept safe in an encrypted form.

**Do I have to take part?**

It is entirely up to you whether or not you choose to take part. I hope that if you do choose to be involved then you will find it a valuable experience.

However, there will be no consequences for you should you wish not to share your data for research purposes. Also, if at any stage of the research you feel you would no longer take part, you may withdraw from the research without giving reasons and without any consequences. Should you wish to withdraw, please, just get in touch with me by email.

**Data Protection Information**

The controller for this project will be University College London (UCL). The UCL Data Protection Officer provides oversight of UCL activities involving the processing of personal data, and can be contacted at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk

This ‘local’ privacy notice sets out the information that applies to this particular study. Further information on how UCL uses participant information from research studies can be found in our ‘general’ privacy notice for participants in research studies [here](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/legal-services/privacy/ucl-general-research-participant-privacy-notice).

The information that is required to be provided to participants under data protection legislation (GDPR and DPA 2018) is provided across both the ‘local’ and ‘general’ privacy notices. The lawful basis that will be used to process any personal data is: ‘Public task’ for personal data and ’Research purposes’ for special category data.

If you share any personal data voluntarily, your personal data will be processed so long as it is required for the research project. I will anonymise or pseudonymise the personal data you provide, and will endeavour to minimise the processing of personal data wherever possible.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, or if you would like to contact us about your rights, please contact UCL in the first instance at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk.

**Thank you very much for taking the time to read this information sheet.**

**If you would like to be involved, please complete the following consent form and return to** nicole.brown@ucl.ac.uk**. If you have any further questions before you decide whether to take part, you can reach me at** nicole.brown@ucl.ac.uk

**This project has been reviewed and approved by the UCL IOE Research Ethics Committee**

Full ethical approval for REC 1353

Data protection registration number: Z6364106 / 2020 /05 / 95

# Disclosure Dances in Doctoral Education.

1.6.2020 to 31.8.2021

If you are happy to participate, please complete this consent form and return to Nicole Brown at nicole.brown@ucl.ac.uk by [insert date].

Yes No



**UCL Institute of Education**

20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL

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I have read and understood the information leaflet about the research.

I understand that ethics is a process. We will therefore negotiate consent and assent accordingly throughout the project and the following stipulations are general principles.

I agree for my contributions and creations to be used as outlined on the information sheet.

I agree to be interviewed as outlined on the information sheet.

I am happy for my interview to be video-recorded.

I am happy for my interview to be audio-recorded.

I understand that if any of my words or creations are used in reports or presentations

they will be pseudonymised.

I understand that I can withdraw from the project at any time with no consequences and without providing any reasons.

I understand that I can contact Nicole Brown at any time to ask questions, discuss the project or to withdraw.

I understand that the findings will be disseminated in conferences and academic journals in pseudonymised form.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Researcher’s name \_\_Nicole Brown\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_