

Looking for participants for an adoption study



Are you an adoptive parent of an internationally adopted child with a disability?

Since the finalization of your child's adoption, has the child been placed – either temporarily or permanently – in a group home, residential treatment center, foster care or another adoptive family?

If so, I am interested in speaking with you. My name is JaeRan Kim and I am a doctoral student at the University of

Minnesota. I am looking to interview adoptive parents of internationally adopted children with disabilities for my doctoral dissertation research.

Who: Minnesota adoptive parents whose internationally adopted child:

- Is currently between 6 and 21 years of age
- Has a disability diagnosed at least 6-months ago (or more) by a medical professional, mental health professional, or school professional for an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) including (but not limited to):
 - Intellectual/Developmental disability including Autism Spectrum Disorders
 - FASD
 - Mental health disability
 - Learning disability
 - Physical or medical disability including sensory (vision/hearing) impairment
- Is currently, or has in the past, been placed in any of the following (other than for respite or a 72-hour hold):
 - Shelter
 - Foster care
 - Residential treatment center
 - Group home
 - Hospital treatment center
 - With another caregiver (in legal or informal transfer of custody)
 - With another adoptive family after a dissolution of the adoption

What is involved: I am asking adoptive parents for about 60 to 90 minutes of their time to interview them about their experiences. Participation is voluntary and your information will be protected and confidential. Your participation in this study will never be disclosed.

Why: Adopting a child with disabilities can be both challenging and rewarding. Parents who have adopted children from outside the United States with mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities sometimes struggle to find appropriate pre- adoption education and/or post-adoption support to help them manage the challenges of parenting a child with a disability. The purpose of this study is to inform adoption practices and improve adoption supports for families that adopted children with disabilities.

How: To participate in this study, or to find out more information about this study, please contact JaeRan Kim at blev0001@umn.edu or visit my website at jaerankimresearch.wordpress.com.