Victim positions and healing
The research interview as a safe space for telling stories
Challenging the vulnerable victim paradigm

**Research question:** Why do informants participate in research interviews, and what’s in it for them?

<table>
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<th>Data and design:</th>
<th>Objective: Exploring the research interview as a setting for telling stories of violence and sexual abuse and different victim positions</th>
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<td>combining qualitative interviews from two research projects</td>
<td>Implications, discussion, research ethics</td>
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**Tentative findings: Motivations and victim positions in the research interviews**

- **Healing:** telling to come to terms with their story. The research interview as an opportunity: *‘It feels very good because in a way there is no other place to say these things. Just the way I say them now’*
- **Moral duty:** hoping their stories will matter: *‘It’s almost grotesque to say these details, I do not think I’ve told anyone, but oh my God, all for the research’*
- **Compliance:** telling because they were asked, no oral motivation

**Project 1: Violence in couple relationships, gender, gender equality and power**

**Responsible:** Margunn Bjørnholt
Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies

**Funding:** Ministry of Justice and Public Security / The Domestic Violence Research Programme

**Number of interviews:** 40, sample consists of women and men aged 19-70. Recruited via survey and Facebook

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**Project 2: Sexual violence in a life course perspective**

**Responsible:** Kari Stefansen
Norwegian Social Research, Oslo Metropolitan University

**Funding:** Ministry of Justice and Public Security / The Domestic Violence Research Programme

**Number of interviews:** 40, sample consists of women aged 18-40. Recruited via Facebook.

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