

APPLICATION FOR ETHICAL APPROVAL

In order for research to result in benefit and minimise risk of harm, it must be conducted ethically. A researcher may not be covered by the University's insurance if ethical approval has not been obtained prior to commencement.

The University follows the OECD Frascati manual definition of **research activity**: "creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications". As such this covers activities undertaken by members of staff, postgraduate research students, and both taught postgraduate and undergraduate students working on dissertations/projects.

The individual undertaking the research activity is known as the "principal researcher".

Ethical approval is not required for routine audits, performance reviews, quality assurance studies, testing within normal educational requirements, and literary or artistic criticism.

Please read the notes for guidance before completing ALL sections of the form.

This form must be completed and approved prior to undertaking any research activity. Please see Checklist for details of process for different categories of application.

Delete the Guidance Notes at the end of the form BEFORE submitting your application

SECTION A: About You (Principal Researcher)

Full Name:		Alexander Harries			
Tick all boxes which apply:		Member of staff:	☐	Honorary research fellow:	☐
Undergraduate Student	☒	Taught Postgraduate Student	☐	Postgraduate Research Student	☐
Faculty/School/Centre:		Psychology and Counselling			
Campus:		SA1 - Swansea			
E-mail address:		1704208@student.uwtsd.ac.uk			
Contact Telephone Number:		07891834924			
For students:					
Student Number:		1704208			
Programme of Study:		BA Counselling Studies and Psychology			
Director of Studies/Supervisor:		Judith Marshall			

SECTION B: Approval for Research Activity

Has the research activity received approval in principle? (please check the Guidance Notes as to the appropriate approval process for different levels of research by different categories of individual)		YES	☒	NO	☐
					Date
If Yes, please indicate source of approval (and date where known): Approval in principle must be obtained from the relevant source prior to seeking ethical approval	Research Degrees Committee		☐		
	Faculty Research Committee		☐		
	Approval from Supervisor		☒	25/11/19	

SECTION C: Internal and External Ethical Guidance Materials

Please list the core ethical guidance documents that have been referred to during the completion of this form (including any discipline-specific codes of research ethics, and also any specific ethical guidance relating to the proposed methodology). Please tick to confirm that your research proposal adheres to these codes and guidelines.	
UWTSD Research Ethics & Integrity Code of Practice	☒
UWTSD Research Data Management Policy	☒
BPS Code of Ethics and Conduct (2018)	☒

SECTION D: External Collaborative Research Activity

Does the research activity involve collaborators outside of the University?		YES	☐	NO	☒
If Yes, please provide the name of the external organisation and name and contact details for the main contact person and confirmation this person has consented to their personal data being shared as part of this collaboration.					
Institution	NA				
Contact person name	NA				
Contact person e-mail address	NA				
Has this individual consented to sharing their details on this form?		YES	☐	NO	☐
Are you in receipt of a KESS scholarship?		YES	☐	NO	☐
Is your research externally funded		YES	☐	NO	☐
Are you specifically employed to undertake this research in either a paid or voluntary capacity?	Voluntary	YES	☐	NO	☐
	Employed	YES	☐	NO	☐
Is the research being undertaken within an existing UWTSD Athrofa Professional Learning Partnership (APLP)	If YES then the permission question below does not need to be answered.	YES	☐	NO	☐
Permission to undertake the research has been provided by the partner organisation	(If YES attach copy) If NO the application cannot continue	YES	☐	NO	☐

Where research activity is carried out in collaboration with an external organisation

Does this organisation have its own ethics approval system?	YES	☐	NO	☐
If Yes, please attach a copy of any final approval (or interim approval) from the organisation				

SECTION E: Details of Research Activity

Indicative title:	Celebrities speaking out about mental ill-health: investigating perceptions of undergraduate university students of the value of celebrity contributions and influence.		
Proposed start date:	1/12/19	Proposed end date:	27/03/20
Introduction to the Research (maximum 300 words) Ensure that you write for a Non-Specialist Audience when outlining your response to the three points below: • Purpose of Research Activity • Proposed Research Question • Aims of Research Activity • Objectives of Research Activity Demonstrate, briefly, how Existing Research has informed the proposed activity and explain • What the research activity will add to the body of knowledge • How it addresses an area of importance.			
Purpose of Research Activity celebrity contributions and influence The purpose of this research activity is to investigate whether exposure to celebrity involvement mental ill-health discourse, can influence a person's interest in mental health issues, and how in turn this might influence a person to become involved and engaged with mental health support opportunities. An additional focus of this study is whether, in the future, it would be beneficial to recommend that a person's interests and preferred activities are involved in treatment for mental ill-health? This study intends to expand upon, and contribute to existing research that suggests involving people's interests in mental health provision and treatment can raise their attention and engagement with it (Mind, 2019), and ultimately boost a person's mental well-being (Beiser, 1974) and (Davies, Knuiman & Rosenberg, 2016).			
Research Question How do university students' perceive the value and influence of celebrities' contributions to mental ill-health discourses? Does the engagement of particular types of celebrities increase interest in, and engagement with mental health support services? What will be people's perceptions to the value of celebrity contributions and influence in regard to the topic of mental ill-health? Additionally, can the presence of individuals of public interest, or celebrities increase engagement in mental health initiatives?			
Aims of Research Activity			

The aim of this study is to investigate the perceptions of undergraduate university students to the questions they will be asked, and examples of celebrity input they will be shown, in regard to their perceived value of celebrity contributions and influence in regard to mental ill-health.

This study seeks to build on recently undertaken studies such as Hughes (2019), which found that media influences and individualised mental health experiences, both linked to celebrities, can increase awareness in mental health, looking to either find in favour of, or against these previous findings. Additionally, this research aims to build on the proposal that 'celebritisation' of mental illness can lead to developments to such psychological treatment practices such as self-care (Franssen (2019).

Objectives of Research Activity

The objective of this study is to determine whether the existing body of literature and suggestion, that involving people's interests in mental health provision and treatment can raise their attention and engagement with it (Mind, 2019), and ultimately boost a person's mental well-being (Beiser, 1974) and (Davies, Knuiman & Rosenberg, 2016). Also, where possible linking and examining this in relation to social-identity theory and its specific ideas, such as non-shared characteristics (Harris 1995) and in-groups and out-groups.

Proposed methods (maximum 600 words)

Provide a brief summary of all the methods that **may** be used in the research activity, making it clear what specific techniques may be used. If methods other than those listed in this section are deemed appropriate later, additional ethical approval for those methods will be needed.

Participants

Participants will be recruited internally from within the undergraduate population of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. They will be recruited through the Psychology labs' EMS system. It is expected that all of the students will be from the academic discipline of Psychology and Counselling, studying at the SA1 campus. However, as this study is not specific in regard to subject background, recruiting undergraduate participants from other academic disciplines and campuses is an additional option should the need arise.

Design

This study will collect qualitative data. This qualitative data will be collected through a focus group, expected to be between five and eight participants. The study is expected to last approximately 45 mins. The topic being investigating is perceptions of undergraduate university students of the value of celebrity contributions and influence, speaking out about mental ill-health. The discussions will be recorded, transcribed and interpreted using thematic analysis. All data that is collected as part of this study will be anonymised. Pseudonyms or numbers will be used when quoting participants in the written dissertation.

Materials

Participants will initially be presented with a consent form which will contain information about the study. This will ensure they understand the concept of the study and what it will entail. Having thoroughly read the consent form, participants will be asked to sign it. Signing this consent form will indicate that they agree with the study's requirements and are willing to participate in it. As this study is a focus group, a focus group topic guide has been prepared and will be used throughout the study's entirety. This topic guide will feature four sections, each section will consist of three questions with a number of prompts, one to go with each question. The questions and prompts within the focus groups will be designed to stimulate conversation in regard to the perceptions of undergraduate university students in the value of celebrity contributions and influence, when speaking out about mental ill-health. In addition to the questions, participants will be shown copies of newspaper and online articles about celebrities speaking out about mental ill-health, alongside images and quotes from those who have. Although the focus group topic guide will be in place, the exact wording of the questions will be flexible and allow for subtle change depending on the nature and direction of the conversation.

At the conclusion of the study, all participants will be given a debrief form. This will enable them to fully understand the purpose of the study they will have taken part in, as well as providing them with the contact details of the researcher and academic supervisor, should they have any questions they would like to ask regarding the study.

As the conversation of the focus group will be recorded, a recording device will be used openly in order to collect the qualitative data that the participants will provide.

Procedure

After first being provided with, and then signing a consent form, participants will be seated in a circle along with the researcher, in a qualitative psychology laboratory lab. The recording device will be placed in a central location within the room, ensuring that it is able to pick up what everyone is saying easily, evenly and fairly.

Once participants verbally consent to begin, the focus group conversation will start. The researcher will introduce the topic of discussion. Questions will be asked based on the focus group topic guide. The researcher will continue to ask questions and show participants news articles pictures and quotes at appropriate points. Once the focus group has come to its conclusion, the participants will be asked if they have any questions they would like to ask. The recording will then cease, and the recording device will be switched off. At the conclusion of the study, the participant will be thanked for taking part, and before leaving, provided with a debrief form.

Location of research activity

Identify all locations where research activity will take place.

Psychology laboratories at the SA1 Campus of University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Swansea.

Research activity outside of the UK

If research activity will take place overseas, you are responsible for ensuring that local ethical considerations are complied with and that the relevant permissions are sought. Specify any local guidelines (e.g. from local professional associations/learned societies/universities) that exist and whether these involve any ethical stipulations beyond those usual in the UK (provide details of any licenses or permissions required). Also specify whether there are any specific ethical issues raised by the local context in which the research activity is taking place, for example, particular cultural and/or legal sensitivities or vulnerabilities of participants.

Use of documentation not in the public domain: Are any documents **NOT** publicly available?

NO



YES



SECTION F: Scope of Research Activity

Will the research activity include:	YES	NO
Use of a questionnaire or similar research instrument?	☐	☒
Use of interviews?	☒	☐
Use of diaries?	☐	☒
Participant observation with their knowledge?	☐	☒
Participant observation without their knowledge?	☐	☒
Use of video or audio recording?	☒	☐
Access to personal or confidential information without the participants' specific consent?	☐	☒
Administration of any questions, test stimuli, presentation that may be experienced as physically, mentally or emotionally harmful / offensive?	☐	☒
Performance of any acts which may cause embarrassment or affect self-esteem?	☐	☒
Investigation of participants involved in illegal activities?	☐	☒
Use of procedures that involve deception?	☐	☒
Administration of any substance, agent or placebo?	☐	☒
Working with live vertebrate animals?	☐	☒
Other primary data collection methods, please explain in this box For example, 'focus groups'. Please indicate the type of data collection method(s) in this box and tick the accompany box.	☒	☐
Details of any other primary data collection method:		
Focus Group * (this box should expand as you type)		

If NO to every question, then the research activity is (ethically) low risk and **may** be exempt from **some** of the following sections (please refer to Guidance Notes).

If YES to any question, then no research activity should be undertaken until full ethical approval has been obtained.

SECTION G: Intended Participants

Who are the intended participants:	YES	NO
Students or staff at the University?	☒	☐
Adults (over the age of 18 and competent to give consent)?	☒	☐
Vulnerable adults?	☐	☒
Children and Young People under the age of 8? (Consent from Parent, Carer or Guardian will be required)	☐	☒
Prisoners?	☐	☒
Young offenders?	☐	☒
Those who could be considered to have a particularly dependent relationship with the investigator or a gatekeeper?	☐	☒
People engaged in illegal activities?	☐	☒
Others (please identify specifically any group who may be unable to give consent) please indicate here and tick the appropriate box.	☐	☒
Other – please indicate here:		

Participant numbers and source	
Provide an estimate of the expected number of participants. How will you identify participants and how will they be recruited?	
How many participants are expected?	Between five and eight.
Who will the participants be?	Undergraduate students from the University of Wales Trinity Saint David.
How will you identify the participants?	Participants will be recruited through the Experiment Management System (EMS)

Information for participants:	YES	NO	N/A
Will you describe the main research procedures to participants in advance, so that they are informed about what to expect?	☒	☐	☐
Will you tell participants that their participation is voluntary?	☒	☐	☐
Will you obtain written consent for participation?	☒	☐	☐
Will you explain to participants that refusal to participate in the research will not affect their treatment or education (if relevant)?	☒	☐	☐
If the research is observational, will you ask participants for their consent to being observed?	☒	☐	☐
Will you tell participants that they may withdraw from the research at any time and for any reason?	☒	☐	☐
With questionnaires, will you give participants the option of omitting questions they do not want to answer?	☐	☐	☒
Will you tell participants that their data will be treated with full confidentiality and that, if published, it will not be identifiable as theirs?	☒	☐	☐
Will you debrief participants at the end of their participation, in a way appropriate to the type of research undertaken?	☒	☐	☐
If NO to any of above questions, please give an explanation			

Information for participants:	YES	NO	N/A
Will participants be paid?	☐	☒	☐
Is specialist electrical or other equipment to be used with participants?	☐	☒	☐
Are there any financial or other interests to the investigator or University arising from this study?	☐	☒	☐
Will the research activity involve deliberately misleading participants in any way, or the partial or full concealment of the specific study aims?	☐	☒	☐
If YES to any question, please provide full details			

SECTION H: Anticipated Risks

Outline any anticipated risks that may adversely affect any of the participants, the researchers and/or the University, and the steps that will be taken to address them.

If you have completed a full risk assessment (for example as required by a laboratory, or external research collaborator) you may append that to this form.

Full risk assessment completed and appended?

Yes

☐

No

☒

Risks to participants

For example: emotional distress, financial disclosure, physical harm, transfer of personal data, sensitive organisational information

Risk to Participant:

There is a possibility of emotional distress as participants in this study will be discussing their perceptions of the value celebrity of input to the subject of mental ill-health, which can be a sensitive and personal subject.

How will you mitigate the Risk to Participant

Risk will be best managed by fully briefing potential participants at the recruitment stage about the nature of the topic of conversation that the focus group will have, continually monitoring the welfare of the participants during the focus group and fully de-briefing participants was the study has concluded.

Participants will also be made fully aware they have the right to withdraw themselves and the data they have provided at any point during the study, in accordance with the BPS Code of Ethics and Conduct (2018).

If a participant becomes distressed during the focus group the researcher will pause the focus group interview and offer the distressed participant the opportunity to take a break or to withdraw from the interview. If necessary, the remaining participants will be asked to take a break while the researcher adheres to his duty of care to the distressed participant.

If research activity may include sensitive, embarrassing or upsetting topics (e.g. sexual activity, drug use) or issues likely to disclose information requiring further action (e.g. criminal activity), give details of the procedures to deal with these issues, including any support/advice (e.g. helpline numbers) to be offered to participants. Note that where applicable, consent procedures should make it clear that if something potentially or actually illegal is discovered in the course of a project, it may need to be disclosed to the proper authorities

The research activity will feature a conversation about mental health and in particular mental ill-health with the aim of investigating perceptions and responses of undergraduate university students to the value of celebrity input. To ensure that participants are best prepared for the study, they will be comprehensively briefed as to the nature of the study, both verbally and through the consent form they will receive. They will be told that they are not required to disclose personal or sensitive information, as the focus will be upon their perceptions. At the end of the study, participants will be fully debriefed through a de-brief form. This debrief form will outline the reasons of the study that they will have just taken part in, as well as contact information for the researcher, the academic supervisor and any other relevant organisations.

Risks to investigator

For example: personal safety, physical harm, emotional distress, risk of accusation of harm/impropriety, conflict of interest

Risk to Investigator:

This study is unlikely to incur any immediate risks to the investigator. However, one potential risk which could arise from this study is

How will you mitigate the Risk to Investigator:

Readying in advance contact information for the academic supervisor of the study, as well as

emotional distress of the participants and possibly the researcher. Another risk is that a participant could become agitated. Also, there is the risk to the investigator that a participant in the study could make a complaint against them.	contact information for organisations which offer help and support outside the university. Throughout the study the researcher will adhere to the BPS Code of Human Research Ethics (2014). The data collection stage will be recorded.
University/institutional risks For example: adverse publicity, financial loss, data protection	
Risk to University: There are no anticipated risks to the university as any research undertaken as part of this study will follow full ethical requirements and appropriate research practice, adhering to the university's own standards and those of the BPS. However, there is potential for complaint from a participant to affect the reputation of the University.	<i>How will you mitigate the Risk to University:</i> All participants will be fully de-briefed by the researcher at the end of the study. This will include being presented with a de-brief from, the form will contain contact information for relevant help and support organisations to assist anyone should they require it. In the event that there are any clear and evident risks to the university, matters will be referred to the academic supervisor immediately. The recorded information may also be used in defence of a complaint.

Disclosure and Barring Service			
If the research activity involves children or vulnerable adults, a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate must be obtained before any contact with such participants.	YES	NO	N/A
Does your research require you to hold a current DBS Certificate?	☐	☒	☐

SECTION I: Feedback, Consent and Confidentiality

Feedback

What de-briefing and feedback will be provided to participants, how will this be done and when?

Participants will be provided with a de-brief form, which will be physically handed to them at the completion of the study. The form will contain information regarding the aim of the study they have taken part in. It will also provide the contact details of both the researcher and the academic supervisor should any participant wish to raise a query with them.

Informed consent

Describe the arrangements to inform potential participants, before providing consent, of what is involved in participating. Describe the arrangements for participants to provide full consent before data collection begins. If gaining consent in this way is inappropriate, explain how consent will be obtained and recorded in accordance with prevailing data protection legislation.

Participants will be recruited to this study via the Experiment Management System (EMS). The study's entry on the EMS will provide information to potential participants regarding things such as the nature of the study, what will be discussed by the focus group and the amount of time it will take. Before commencing the study, participants will be given, and asked to sign a consent form. Through the information provided on the consent form, participants will again be made aware of what is involved in the participation of this study.

The consent form and the information it will feature, such as reminding participants that their participation is voluntary and they may withdraw from the study at any time, will strictly follow the BPS and University's own ethical guidelines.

Having read the consent form provided to them, participants signing then the form will be taken as informed consent.

Confidentiality / Anonymity

Set out how anonymity of participants and confidentiality will be ensured in any outputs. If anonymity is not being offered, explain why this is the case.

This study will utilise a focus group, meaning that certain information and qualitative data provided by participants will be shared in the group. However, participants will be reminded that under no circumstances should they discuss or disclose what is provided as part of the focus group outside of the study.

As the focus group's discussion will be recorded, no identifiable or personal information will be requested. Participants will initially identify themselves for the recording by their allocated participant number. The electronic recording device that will be used to record the conversation of the focus group will be stored securely in a locked draw with the help of the academic supervisor. The focus group's discussion will be deleted off the recording device in question within approximately 24 hours, after it has been transferred to a BitLocker password encrypted storage device. Additionally, all signed consent forms will also be kept in a locked draw.

In terms of the transcription of the focus group's discussion, numbers will be given to participants and any identifiable information will be removed.

SECTION J: Data Protection and Storage

In completing this section refer to the University's Research Data Management Policy and the extensive resources on the University's Research Data Management web pages (<http://uwtsd.ac.uk/library/research-data-management/>).

Does the research activity involve personal data (as defined by the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 "GDPR" and the Data Protection Act 2018 "DPA")?	YES	NO
"Personal data" means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). An identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.	X	☐
If YES, provide a description of the data and explain why this data needs to be collected:		
The names of the participants taking part in the study will be acquired through the signing of consent forms. These forms are compulsory as they are needed to confirm informed consent. These forms will be locked in a locked draw, only accessible to the researcher and academic supervisor. The consent forms will be stored separately from the transcript. During the transcription of the focus group's discussion, numbers will be given to participants and any identifiable information will be removed, particularly for the inclusion of quotations in the final dissertation.		
Does it involve special category data (as defined by the GDPR)?	YES	NO
"Special category data" means sensitive personal data consisting of information as to the data subjects' – (a) racial or ethnic origin, (b) political opinions, (c) religious beliefs or other beliefs of a similar nature, (d) membership of a trade union (within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992), (e) physical or mental health or condition, (f) sexual life, (g) genetics, (h) biometric data (as used for ID purposes),	☐	X
If YES, provide a description of the special category data and explain why this data needs to be collected:		
Will the research activity involve storing personal data and/or special category data on one of the following:	YES	NO
Manual files (i.e. in paper form)?	☐	☒
University computers?	☐	☒
Private company computers?	☐	☒
Home or other personal computers?	☒	☐
Laptop computers/ CDs/ Portable disk-drives/ memory sticks?	☒	☐
"Cloud" storage or websites?	☐	☒
Other – specify:	☐	☒
For all stored data, explain the measures in place to ensure the security of the data collected, data confidentiality, including details of password protection, encryption, anonymisation and pseudonymisation:		

All data stored electronically will be stored on a BitLocker password encrypted storage device, for which only the researcher, and if needs be the academic supervisor will have the password. All data in physical form i.e. signed consent forms will be kept in a locked draw provided by the academic supervisor, only the researcher and academic supervisor will have access to it.		
All Data Storage		
Will the research activity involve any of the following activities:	YES	NO
Electronic transfer of data in any form?	☒	☐
Sharing of data with others at the University?	☒	☐
Sharing of data with other organisations?	☐	☒
Export of data outside the European Union or importing of data from outside the UK?	☐	☒
Use of personal addresses, postcodes, faxes, emails or telephone numbers?	☐	☒
Publication of data that might allow identification of individuals?	☐	☒
Use of data management system?	☐	☒
Data archiving?	☐	☒
If YES to any question, please provide full details, explaining how this will be conducted in accordance with the GDPR and DPA (and/or any international equivalent): Sharing of data only with the study supervisor The data from this study will be electronically transferred from a electronic recording device to a BitLocker password encrypted storage device. This will be done in accordance with the University's Research Data Management Policy, as the focus group's discussion will be deleted off the recording device in question within approximately 24 hours, after it has been transferred to a BitLocker password encrypted storage device.		
List all who will have access to the data generated by the research activity:		
Alexander Harries and Dr. Judith Marshall		
List who will have control of, and act as custodian(s) for, data generated by the research activity:		
Alexander Harries		
Give details of data storage arrangements, including security measures in place to protect the data, where data will be stored, how long for, and in what form. Will data be archived – if so how and if not why not.		
Data held electronically - a BitLocker password encrypted storage device - whilst data held in physical form such as signed consent forms will be kept in a locked draw. As this study will produce qualitative data, it will be transcribed, and once research has been completed the recording will be deleted. Although an encrypted recording until after the final result of the dissertation is confirmed by the exam board.		
Please indicate if your data will be stored in the UWTSD Research Data Repository (see https://researchdata.uwtsd.ac.uk/). If so please explain. <i>(Most relevant to academic staff)</i>		
Confirm that you have read the UWTSD guidance on data management (see https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/library/research-data-management/)	YES	☒
	NO	☐
	YES	☒



Confirm that you are aware that you need to keep all data until after your research has completed or the end of your funding	NO	☐
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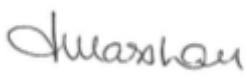
SECTION K: Declaration

The information which I have provided is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have attempted to identify any risks and issues related to the research activity and acknowledge my obligations and the rights of the participants.

In submitting this application I hereby confirm that I undertake to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's [Research Ethics and Integrity Code of Practice](#)

Signature of applicant:	A. Harries	Date: 25/11/19
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For STUDENT Submissions:

Director of Studies/Supervisor:		Date: 25/11/19
Signature:		

For STAFF Submissions:

Head of School/Assistant Dean:		Date:
Signature:		

Checklist: Please complete the checklist below to ensure that you have completed the form according to the guidelines and attached any required documentation:

☒	I have read the guidance notes supplied before completing the form.
☒	I have completed ALL RELEVANT sections of the form in full.
☒	I confirm that the research activity has received approval in principle
☐	I have attached a copy of final/interim approval from external organisation (where appropriate)
☐	I have attached a full risk assessment (and have NOT completed Section H of this form) (where appropriate) ONLY TICK IF YOU HAVE ATTACHED A FULL RISK ASSESSMENT
☒	I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the above named research activity will meet the University's Research Ethics and Integrity Code of Practice.
☒	I understand that before commencing data collection all documents aimed at respondents (including information sheets, consent forms, questionnaires, interview schedules etc.) must be confirmed by the DoS/Supervisor, module tutor or Head of School.
☒	I have deleted the guidance notes before submitting the PG2 for consideration

RESEARCH STUDENTS AND STAFF ONLY

All communications relating to this application during its processing must be in writing and emailed to pgresearch@uwtsd.ac.uk, with the title 'Ethical Approval' followed by your name.

You will be informed of the outcome of your claim by email; therefore it is important that you check your University and personal email accounts regularly.

STUDENTS ON UNDERGRADUATE OR TAUGHT MASTERS PROGRAMMES should submit this form (and receive the outcome) via systems explained to you by the supervisor/module leader.

This form is available electronically from the Academic Office web pages:

<http://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/academic-office/>

Application Process

All staff research projects and all research students must submit the Ethical Approval Form to the **University Ethics Committee** via the Academic Office (pgresearch@uwtsd.ac.uk). Staff research directly in relation to personal study for taught undergraduate or Masters programmes should be submitted via the Faculty procedures explained below.

Taught masters and taught undergraduate research Ethical Approval Forms are considered **within Faculties**. Faculties will provide details of the specific processes for this. Where the Ethical issues within any single ethical application are of particular concern the Faculty will refer these to the University Ethics Committee. Any student activity that involves the collection of primary data needs to undergo Ethical approval, this includes assignment work as well as dissertations.

Topic Guide

Opening: Thank you all for coming today.

- Let's start by going around and introducing ourselves. Tell us your name, what you are studying and what year of study you are in. Then I'll give an overview of why you are here today and what will happen. Right I'll start...(Researcher gives name)

Introductory / opening cont...

- Now we have all introduced ourselves, I will give a brief overview of why you are here and of what it will entail (Researcher gives an overview of study and introduces the topic of investigating perceptions of undergraduate university students to the value of celebrity contributions and influence when speaking out about mental ill-health)
- Before we start if at any point you wish to leave, or if you need the toilet then please let me know.
- Importantly, please don't be offended if we need to move on at any point. And it would be really helpful if you could talk clearly and try not to talk over each other.
- Researcher to define and explain the term 'mental ill-health'.
- Finally before we go on, this is my first go at doing a focus group so please be kind!!!
- So if everyone is happy for me to move on and there aren't any questions...the reason you are all here is because we want to investigate with you, the perceptions of undergraduate university students to the value of celebrity contributions and influence *

Questions

Part 1 – Stigma of mental ill-health

Q1) To start with, at the present time, how do you all feel the subject of mental ill-health is currently regarded in society?

Prompt/follow up - Are there particular views of mental ill-health you think are helpful or unhelpful?

Q2) So, do you think there is still a stigma attached to mental ill-health?

Prompt/follow up - Do you think there has been much change in peoples' judgements?

Q3) Fairly recently, celebrities have been speaking about mental health issues. How do you think people respond to celebrities talking openly about such topics?

Prompt/follow up – Why do you think that might be?

Part 2 – Celebrities Stigma

Q1) Can anybody name any celebrity that they are aware of who has spoken out about their mental health, and indeed mental ill-health?

Prompt/follow up - Ok, so we are/aren't (depending on answers) aware of some. Can anyone think of any/anymore? (again, depending on answers)

Before question is asked, researcher introduces pictures and quotes from, and articles relating to Demi Lovato and Dwayne Johnson.

Q2) After hearing from these two celebrities, would you have previously thought or indeed said, that they would have been associated with mental ill-health?

Or
(Depending on Answer)

Q2) As (one or both) of these people have been previously mentioned, would you say they have been stigmatised as a result of being associated with having had mental ill-health?

Prompt/follow up for both - Why do you think that is?

Q3) Would you say that levels of stigma in regard to mental ill-health apply equally to celebrities who have spoken out about the topic and people within the general public, or does it differ for them because of their status?

Part 3 – Celebrity influence

Before question is asked, researcher introduces pictures and quotes from, and articles relating to Ellie Goulding and Jonny Wilkinson.

Q1) What do you think about what these celebrities have said on subject of mental ill-health?

Prompt/follow up – Researcher to pick up on interesting points and ask participants to talk more about a particular aspect.

Q2) Would you say that celebrities speaking out about mental ill-health like this is a valuable contribution to the subject?

Prompt/follow up – Why do you think that is?

Q3) Do you think particular types of celebrities speaking out about mental ill-health increase interest in, and engagement with mental health support services?

Prompt/follow up - What does everyone else think?

Q4) Do you think there are negative elements to celebrities talking about mental health issues?

Prompt/follow up - What might these be?

Part 4 – Influential Factors

Q1) Do you think celebrity involvement in mental health initiatives would increase people's interest in them?

Prompt/follow up - Researcher to pick up on interesting points and ask participants to talk more about a particular aspect.

Q2) Do you think involving a person's interests in provision and treatment of mental ill-health would be beneficial?

Prompt/follow up - Researcher to pick up on interesting points and ask participants to talk more about a particular aspect.

Q3) What do think would be the greatest factor in possibly increasing people's engagement with mental ill-health provision and treatment, the fact that a general celebrity was involved, or the fact that someone from within an area of interest of theirs was involved?

Researcher to give example.

Prompt/follow up – Why do you think that is?

Researcher sums up key issues

Ending

Researcher asks - Is this an adequate summary of what was said here today?

Researcher says – If anyone would like any feedback from the research, or has any further questions please let me know here today or feel free to get in contact with me via the information provided

Researcher thanks participants for taking part and concludes the study.