Transwomen and Intimate Relationships Study Description

I am interested in understanding transwomen’s experiences in relationships with cisgender and transgender partners. I, James Joseph Dean, a sociology faculty member at Sonoma State University (SSU), am conducting interviews and hope to discuss the role one’s relationship and current (or past) partner(s) plays in how transwomen disclose or don’t disclose their identity status to other persons in their lives. I am also interested in one’s experiences in dating before and after transitioning. The questions I ask are about one’s personal feelings and experiences.

If one agrees to participate one will be interviewed in a private setting of one’s choice. Interview lengths will average between 1 and 1 ½ hours. Interviews will be recorded and transcribed. To ensure confidentiality, interview transcriptions will be identified by a numeric code and will not be associated with one’s real name. The final report will use a pseudonym to protect one’s true identity. However, I am asking permission to use some of the comments (with a pseudonym) as examples to illustrate areas of importance recorded in the interview. At the end of the project, all recordings will be erased.

If you have any questions about this study for me, please feel free to contact me at james.dean@sonoma.edu.

My previous research has focused on a sociology of heterosexual identities, gay, lesbian and queer film as well as theoretical understandings of identity. My book, Straights: Heterosexuality in Post-Closeted Culture, was published in 2014 by NYU Press. To read my previous journal articles, see my academia.edu link. https://sonoma.academia.edu/JamesDean