

## Recruiting participants for a new research study

### Developing a Theory of Minor-Attracted Person (MAP) Sexual Identity Development

#### Overview of the project

This research hopes to understand the sexual identity development of Minor Attracted Persons (MAPs), exploring this process from when the attraction first begins through into adulthood. This research builds upon previous work with Minor Attracted Persons who highlighted the adolescent time-period as important.

The purpose of this in-depth project is to focus on the adolescent time-period and develop a theory of the stages for the development of a minor-attraction / minor-attracted identity and its associated factors. For example, the thoughts, feelings, and behaviours that occur, as well as any experiences or milestones individuals feel were/are important. Theories such as this exist for individuals with other sexual orientations, but to my knowledge no study has looked at this from the perspective of an individual who self-identifies as minor attracted.

The research will address the gap in knowledge relating to how we understand the development of a minor attracted identity over time. This may be helpful for individuals who identify as minor-attracted, for professionals who work with or come into contact with MAPs, as well as the wider academic community and those who wish to learn more in a non-biased and well-informed way. The hope is that it will offer a framework and point of reference for understanding the experiences individuals have and how this has come to shape their lives.

#### We would like to hear from individuals who are:

- Attracted (emotionally/romantically/sexually) to individuals under the age of 16 years,
- Aged 18 or over,
- Willing and able to reflect on their adolescent years / when they first realised their attraction,
- English-speaking,
- Willing to take part in an interview over the telephone/ internet audio (e.g., Skype, Discord).

#### Researcher contact details:

Potential participants can contact the Jasmin Stevenson (based at Nottingham Trent University, Division of Psychology, UK) at [jasmin.stevenson2013@my.ntu.ac.uk](mailto:jasmin.stevenson2013@my.ntu.ac.uk) and Jasmin will be happy to discuss the project with you.