

Can you help with my research?

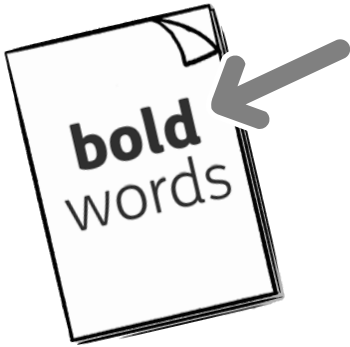
Do people with mental health conditions or learning disabilities get enough help to communicate in court?



easy
read



How to use this easy read document



In this easy read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are [blue and underlined](#). These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

Introduction



My name is Edmore Masendeke.

I am a disabled PhD student at the University of Leeds School of Law.



I would like to speak to people to help with my research.



I am trying to find out if **defendants** with mental health conditions or learning disabilities get enough help to communicate and understand what happens in court.



A **defendant** is someone who is accused of doing something wrong by law.



This document will explain who I need to speak to and how you can help me with my research.

My research



I am doing interviews with defendants who have mental health conditions or learning disabilities to find out if they:



- had someone to help them:
 - understand what was going on in court
 - understand the questions they were asked in court
 - make the court understand their answers



- feel the help they received worked well for them or not.

I would like to hear from you if you have:



- a mental health condition or learning disability, and
- been a defendant in the past 4 years, and
- had to go to court in England or Ireland, and
- had help from someone to help you communicate or understand what was going on in court.

I am most interested in talking to you if you had help from:



- an intermediary - this is someone who helps you talk to another person or organisation
- a disability advocate - this is someone who helps you to speak up, or speaks up for you, if you have a disability.



I want to find out:

- whether you think the help you received worked well



- if there are problems with this type of help



- how you think the help could be made better.

Helping me



I would like to hear about the help you received in court by doing an interview with you.



The interview would be online or by phone. It would last about 1 hour.



If you are interested in taking part in the research, please contact me on the following details:

- email: lw12etm@leeds.ac.uk



- phone: +44 07810 308 216

This research has:



Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Actions

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- been approved by the University Research Ethics Committee.