

SAJJ Research on Conferencing

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Victim Phone Interview (did not attend the conference)

FCREG Number

Hi, I'm calling from the SAJJ Research on Conferencing Project.
The SAJJ Research Group is conducting a major study on people's experiences when they attend family conferences. We'd also like to find out why some people -- especially crime victims -- do not attend.

You've received the letter we sent you about the project?

Only if the victim is a juvenile (under 18)

[Interviewer should speak to the juvenile's parent or guardian about permission to conduct a phone interview.]

..... Verbal consent of parent/guardian obtained.

Is it OK for me to interview you now? Or would another time be more convenient?
Also, I'd like to remind you that all the answers you give us are confidential and your participation is voluntary. If you don't want to answer a question, then just tell me that.

Letter was sent on

Log of phone calls

	date		date		date
attempt #1	attempt #5	.....	attempt #9	.....
attempt #2	attempt #6	.....	attempt #10	.....
attempt #3	attempt #7	.....	attempt #11	.....
attempt #4	attempt #8	.....	attempt #12	.....

Agreed to be interviewed on (date) (time)

Note to other users of this instrument: If you use items from this instrument, a citation would be appreciated.

SAJJ Research on Conferencing
Victim Interview (did not attend)
Phone interview

SAJJ Number
Vic Number
SAJJ-R Number

[Interview to determine the following before the start of the interview.]

Is the victim a juvenile (under 18) or not?

- juvenile -----> make sure verbal consent of a parent is secured
- non-juvenile

What is the kind of victim in this offence?

- personal victim of crime
- organisational victim -----> *What type of organisation?*
- other (specify):

Was there a victim representative present at the conference?

- yes ----- > Make sure to ask the boxed question about VSS.
- no

Time interview began:

Section 1

The first section asks about yourself, your family, and your school and work situation.

- 1-1. Code sex of respondent male female
- 1-2. You are how many years of age?
- 1-3. Were you born in Australia? yes
 no ----- > *Where were you born?*
- 1-4. How long have you lived in Adelaide? all my life years
- 1-5. What is the highest grade or year of school (primary or secondary) you have completed?
 [Interviewer to code from no formal schooling to year 12.]

For juveniles only

- 1-6. Are you currently in school (primary or secondary)?
 yes ----- > *What year?* -----> **Skip to Q 1-8**
 no

1-7. Since leaving school (primary/secondary), have you completed more years of schooling or obtained another qualification?

..... no

..... yes: *What is your highest qualification (completed)?*

1-8. Which best describes what you were doing when this incident occurred. [Interviewer to elicit and code.]

1 student (full-time)

2 student (part-time)

3 not working, looking for work

4 not working, not looking for work

5 working (full-time) ----- >

> *what type of work were you doing?*

6 working (part-time) ----- >

7 home duties

8 other:

1-9. The postal code in the place where you live is

For non-juvenile personal crime victims only

1-10. Which of the following describes your family/household situation?

..... live alone

..... live with others ----- > *Whom do you live with?*

1-11. Do you have primary responsibilities for the care of children or other dependents?

..... no

..... yes ----- > *How old?*

For juvenile personal crime victims only

1-12. Do you live with your mother or female guardian? mother female guardian no }
1 2 3 }

} ----- >

1-13. Do you live with your father or male guardian? father male guardian no }
1 2 3 }

[If no to both]: *Where do you live?*

.....

1-14. How many brothers and sisters do you live with? brothers sisters

1-15. Who else lives with you?

1-16. Do you have primary responsibilities for the care of children?

..... yes ----- > *Can you tell me about that?*

..... no

For organisational crime victims only

1-16A. How long have you worked in (for) the (organisation) that was victimised?

1-16B. During that time, had the (organisation) been victimised before? yes -----> times

..... no

1-17. Do you consider yourself of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage?

..... yes

..... no ----- > Do you consider yourself a member of another culture or ethnicity? yes (*what?*)
 no

1-18. What language is spoken in your home? English

..... other (*what?*)

1-19. Was this the first conference you've ever been invited to? [includes any form of participation]

..... yes, my first conference

..... no ----- > *How many have you attended?*
 [Interviewer to determine in what capacity, as YP, V, other]:

[If respondent was a YP or V in a previous conference, ask]
How fairly were you treated in that (those) conference(s)?

very				very
unfairly	unfairly	fairly	fairly	
1	2	3	4	

Now, I'd like to find out if you've been a victim of a criminal incident before this incident that led to the conference. I'm not interested in the details, just a *general idea* and *only for the 6 months* before the incident that led to this conference. So that would be from (month) to (month) in 199 .

1-20. During that time, were you a victim of crime? (including any incidents *not* reported to the police)

..... no ----- > **SKIP to Section 2**

..... yes [complete "previous victimisation" questions below]

Previous victimisation

Was this one incident or more than one? incident(s)

[Interviewer to ask the set of questions for each incident if there is more than one]

Was the offence (or the first offence) against you or your property?

..... personal: [get type] inc #1.....inc #2.....

..... property: [get type] inc #1.....inc #2.....

		#1	#2	
----- >	Did you report the incident to the police?	..... no	..... no	---> Skip to Section 2

.....	yes	yes
-------	-----	-------	-----

----- >	Ultimately (after several months or so), were you satisfied with the way your case was handled by the justice system? no no
---------	---	----------	----------

.....	yes	yes
-------	-----	-------	-----

Section 2

Now, I'd like to ask you some questions about the losses and harm you (or your organisation) experienced as a result of the offence that led to this conference.

2-1. Let me verify something. In my notes, it says that before the incident occurred,

..... you didn't know the offender

..... you knew the offender, but only by sight or from school or the area

..... you knew the offender (describe the relationship)

Is that right? yes

..... no ----- > *clarify*

For property offences only

2.2. As a result of the offence, were the financial costs to you (or to your organisation) significant?

not at all	some, but not much	of some significance	of great significance
1	2	3	4

2-3. What do you estimate the financial costs were to you (or to your organisation) as a result of this offence, *before* any insurance claim? [Interview to get total amount. Probe so that all the categories are considered in the total.]

damage to property \$

loss of wages \$.....

medical costs \$.....

legal costs \$

repairs \$

improved security \$

other (specify) \$

Total:

[Depending on what the respondent says, interviewer to determine amounts recovered through insurance.]
Have (or will) any of these costs be recovered by insurance?

2-4. So, all tolled, it seems that you were "out of pocket" about \$ as a result of this offence. Is that about right?

2-5. Were goods stolen from you? yes ----- > *Were they recovered?* yes partly no

..... no

For violent offences only

2-6. Would you say that the personal (physical) injury to you was significant?

not at all	some, but not much	of some significance	of great significance
1	2	3	4

2-7. What kind of medical attention, if any, did you require?

..... some (**go to Q 2-8**) none ----- > **SKIP to Q 2-9**

violent offence (continued)

2-8. Did you require the attention of a doctor? yes no
 hospital emergency-casualty assistance yes no
 admission to hospital yes no

2-9. What do you estimate were the financial costs to you (or to your organisation) as a result of this offence, *before* any insurance claim? [Interview to get total amount. Probe so that all the categories are considered in the total.]

 damage to property \$

 loss of wages \$.....

 medical costs \$.....

 legal costs \$

 repairs \$

 improved security \$

 other (specify) \$

 Total:

[Depending on what the respondent says, interviewer to determine amounts recovered through insurance.]
Have (or will) any of these costs be recovered by insurance?

2-10. So, all tolled, it seems that you were "out of pocket" about \$ as a result of this offence. Is that right?

2-11. Some crime victims may suffer other kinds of harm as a result of an incident, for example, fear of being alone, sleeplessness, general health problems, concern about security of their property, loss of confidence, or other kinds of difficulties. To what degree did you experience any of these problems as a result of the incident?

not at all	a little, but not much	to some degree	to a high degree (alot)
1	2	3	4

These next questions are about how you felt *after the incident occurred*.

2-12. After the incident, how *angry* did you feel toward the offender?

not at all angry	a little angry	somewhat angry	very angry
1	2	3	4

2-13. How *frightened* were you of the offender?

not at all frightened	a little frightened	somewhat frightened	very frightened
1	2	3	4

2-14. How *sorry* did you feel for the offender?

not at all sorry	a little sorry	somewhat sorry	very sorry
1	2	3	4

2-15. How *curious* were you to find out what the offender was like?

not at all curious	a little curious	somewhat curious	very curious
1	2	3	4

2-16. How *curious* were you to find out why the offender victimised you (or your organisation)?

not at all curious	a little curious	somewhat curious	very curious
1	2	3	4

These next questions are about the information you were given, if any, about the conference (or most recent conference) you were invited to.

2-17. Were you given information on what would happen at the conference?

none	not much	some	a lot
1	2	3	4

2-18. Were you given information on what was expected of you at the conference?

none	not much	some	a lot
1	2	3	4

2-19. Were you given information on possible outcomes of the conference?

none	not much	some	a lot
1	2	3	4

2-20. Would you say that you had a "fairly good" or "no" idea of what might happen at the conference?

..... had no idea what would happen

..... had a fairly good idea ----- > *What did you think would happen?*

..... had a bit of an idea (or "in between") ----- >

.....

Section 3

People have different opinions about what's important at conferences, and I'm going to read a list of things that can be important. Had you gone to the conference, *how important* would each of the following things have been to you? If you have no opinion or don't know, just tell me.

Would it have been important	not at all important	a little important	important	very important
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3-1. To hear the offender's account of what happened.

1	2	3	4
----------	----------	----------	----------

3-2. To receive compensation from the offender.

1	2	3	4
----------	----------	----------	----------

3-3. To tell the offender how the offence affected you.

1	2	3	4
----------	----------	----------	----------

3-4. To get answers to questions you wanted to ask the offender (eg., why me? and why did you do it?).

1	2	3	4
----------	----------	----------	----------

3-5. To have the offender apologise for what they did.

1	2	3	4
----------	----------	----------	----------

3-6. To be reassured by the offender that the behaviour won't happen again.

1	2	3	4
----------	----------	----------	----------

3-7. Was there something else that would have been important to you?

..... no

..... yes ----- > *That was?*

3-8. We interested to learn why you chose not to attend or you were unable to attend the conference. I'll write down what you say. So, can you tell me why you chose not to attend or you were unable to attend?
 [Interviewer to elicit response and code] [Follow-up] *Anything else?*

- reluctance/fear to confront the YP
- it's the responsibility of the justice system to handle
- nothing would have been accomplished
- too busy to attend
- work commitments
- other

3-9. While you didn't attend the conference, it's important that we learn what *you would have liked to have seen happen* for this particular case. For each statement, let me know how important it was to you.

For this case, how important was it to you

	not at all important	a little important	important	very important
	1	2	3	4
that the offender be <i>punished</i> ?	1	2	3	4
that you be <i>compensated</i> ?	1	2	3	4
that the offender <i>get counseling</i> or other type of help?	1	2	3	4
that the offender <i>apologise</i> to you?	1	2	3	4
that the offender be <i>deterred</i> (stopped) from committing offences in the future	1	2	3	4

3-10. By now you've probably received a copy of the conference outcome. Have you?

- no (or haven't read it) ----- > **Skip to Q 3-12 (next page)**
- yes

3-11. Do you think that the agreement was too easy or too harsh on the offender or was it about right?

too easy		about right		too harsh
1	2	3	4	5

Why do you think so?

3-12. Can you tell me what your feelings are *now* toward the offender, that is, do you feel positive or negative or neither?

negative	a bit negative	neither pos/neg	a bit positive	positive
1	2	3	4	5

Only if someone from VSS represented the victim at the conference

3-13. My notes show that someone from VSS -- the Victim Support Service -- represented you at the conference. Is that right?

..... no, didn't know that a VSS rep was there ----- **Skip to Q 3-15**

..... yes, knew that a VSS rep was there

3-14. Was the VSS representative helpful to you?

not at all	a little, but		very
helpful	not much	helpful	helpful
1	2	3	4

Why do you think so?

.....

3-15. Overall, then, how *satisfied* were you with how your case was handled?

not at all	a little,		very
satisfied	not much	satisfied	satisfied
1	2	3	4

3-16. If you were invited to a conference again, would you go?

..... yes *Why do you say that?*

..... no

..... unsure/dnk

3-17. Would you recommend that the government keep family conferencing in the justice system?

..... yes *Why do you say that?*

..... no

..... unsure/dnk

Section 4

4-1. I've asked you quite a few questions about your experiences with crime and the justice system. But, is there anything you think I've missed or something you think I should know?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Thank you.

Interviewer to complete the following:

Date of interview: / /

Time interview ended: Total time of interview (mins)

How cooperative was the respondent?

- very cooperative 1
- fairly cooperative 2
- not very cooperative 3

How interested was the respondent in the interview?

- very interested 1
- fairly interested 2
- not very interested 3

How accurate do you think the information given to you was?

- very accurate 1
- fairly accurate 2
- not very accurate 3

Did the respondent have difficulty comprehending the questions (vocabulary or meaning, not language problems)

- yes, most of the time 1
- yes, part of the time 2
- yes, every so often 3
- no, not at all 4

How good was the respondent's English?

- very good 1
- fairly good 2
- not very good 3

Any other comments about the context and conduct of this interview?

.....

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