RESEARCH STUDY RECRUITMENT INVITATION

Study Title: Child-rearing issues when a parent has autism

Researcher: Cathryn Rench, PhD, LPC, NCC

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Dear Prospective Participant:

You are invited to be in a research study about child-rearing issues when a parent has Asperger syndrome/autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The researcher received her Ph.D. from Capella University in 2014 with the dissertation When Eros Meets Autos: Marriage to someone with autism spectrum disorder.

The results of the present study will be included in a 90-minute workshop at the annual International Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) in Seattle, WA on June 2, 2016. A forthcoming dissertation-based book on the impact of ASD in marriage, divorce, and co-parenting, grounded in interpersonal neurobiology, will also include the results of this study.

To participate in this study:

- 1. You had a parent who received a formal diagnosis of ASD from a mental health professional, or you have experience raising a child with a spouse diagnosed with ASD.
- 2. You have not been diagnosed with ASD, and have no reason to believe you might have ASD.
- 3. You accept to participate in a brief individual pre-interview screening phone call with the researcher, where you will be asked to provide personal information, such as your age, gender, occupation, and education level.
- 4. You are age 18 years or older.

Your participation is voluntary, and you are able to withdraw from the study at any time.

You may choose to submit your story in writing, or participate in an individual face-to-face interview with the researcher via Cisco WebEx Meeting, which will be video recorded and will last no longer than 120 minutes. Throughout March/April 2016, written submissions will be accepted, or an interview will be conducted at a date and time of your choice. The confidential nature of the content and your identity will be strictly protected, as well as the identity of all other people you refer to.

Please respond via email dr.cathryn.rench@gmail.com or telephone 740-792-4970 (USA Eastern Time Zone) if you are interested in participating in this study or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cathryn Rench, PhD, LPC, NCC