



**Birth Companions** supports women experiencing severe disadvantage during pregnancy, birth and early parenting. Birth Companions provide personal support for women before, during and after childbirth. They run community groups and pregnancy support classes in North London for pregnant women and new mums. They support women and new mums in Bronzefield and Peterborough prisons.



**Birthrights** promotes dignified and respectful maternity care for all women. Birthrights provides advice on human rights and the law in pregnancy and birth. They run training on rights and dignity in childbirth for midwives and doctors, and campaign for respect for women's rights in maternity care.

### **If you want to get involved**

If you think you would like to take part, or if you have questions, you can contact the researcher:

#### **Rebecca Brione**

rebeccabrione@birthrights.org.uk

07967 135396 (I work part time so text or email first if you can).

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet, we hope you want to take part.



[www.birthrights.org.uk](http://www.birthrights.org.uk)

[www.birthcompanions.org.uk](http://www.birthcompanions.org.uk)



### **Women's Experience of Maternity Care Research Project**



We would like your help with a research project about the maternity care experienced by women living in difficult circumstances.

This leaflet tells you about the project.

In this project we want to find out about the maternity care received by women living in difficult circumstances or who are facing lots of challenges.

We would like you to take part so that you can tell us what you thought about your maternity care. We will listen carefully, and use what you tell us to work with policy makers and healthcare professionals to improve maternity services for other women in similar situations in the future.



We want to speak to around 15 women in total. We will also speak to midwives, birth supporters and social workers to find out what would help them better meet your needs in future.

### **Who can take part?**

- Women who have had a baby in London in the last 2 – 3 years and who are over 18.
- You can take part whether or not your child lives with you now.
- We want to speak to women who are not pregnant now.

### **What will I have to do?**

The research involves meeting with the researcher to tell her about your maternity care. You can bring someone with you, for example a support worker, if you wish. You can choose where to meet so you feel comfortable and safe e.g., a community centre or a quiet cafe.



You don't have to answer a question if you don't want to, and you can stop at any time. The researcher will audio-record the discussion if you agree.

### **What else do I need to know?**

We will pay your travel costs and will buy tea and coffee if possible. We can provide an interpreter and childcare if needed. We will also offer you a £10 thank you for taking part.

You can change your mind about taking part at any time until the report is finished. You do not have to give a reason or repay any money.

We will send you a copy of the final report when it is finished, if you would like.

### **Will the discussion be confidential?**

Everything you say will be confidential unless you say anything that makes us worried that you or a child might be at risk of harm. If this happens we may ask to share that information with other agencies to help protect you or the child. If you say no, we may still have to share that information if we are very concerned.

We will not use your name in the research report, and we will make sure that you cannot be identified. We will store notes safely and destroy the audio-recordings.