Recruitment Script
Communication in Cohabitating Parent Relationships

My name is Nate Swords and I am a doctoral student in the Department of Communication Studies. I am conducting a research project that is studying the communication between a parent’s son/daughter and the person their parent is cohabitating with.

To be included in the study, you must meet the following criteria:
1. You are least 19 years old
2. You were at least ten years old when your parent started cohabiting (living with) their romantic partner.
3. Your parent is currently cohabiting (living with) their romantic partner.
4. You lived with this parent and their partner at least 50% of the time while you were under the age of 18.

If you have any questions about meeting the qualifications for this study, please feel free to email me at (Nathan.swords@huskers.unl.edu). Communication regarding your willingness to be interviewed will be conducted outside of Facebook and will not include exchanges between the investigators and yourself in the comments on Facebook. All communication between yourself and the investigators of this study will be conducted outside of the Facebook platform.

If you meet the criteria on the list above, you may take part in an interview that consists of three parts. First, I will ask you questions about the time when your parent and their partner started living together. Second, I will ask you questions about your relationship with your parent’s cohabiting romantic partner. Third, I will ask you some questions about the address terms you, your parent, and your parent’s romantic partner use between each other. By “address terms,” we are referring to the labels you give to these individuals. In others words, what do you call your stepfamily members (e.g., mother, father, first name, stepmother, stepbrother, brother, etc). The entire process will take approximately 60-90 minutes. These interviews will take place in a private office on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or in another location you choose.

If you agree to participate you will be asked to email or call Nate to set up a time and place to be interviewed. Interviews will be audio recorded, you will be asked to answer a number of open-ended questions related to your experiences with your parent’s cohabiting romantic partner. All responses to these interview questions will be kept confidential and at no time will your identity be revealed in the analysis and or reporting of research results.

Your participation is completely voluntary. At any time throughout the interview you may choose not to answer any question(s) and you are free to leave at any time that you do not feel comfortable. If you are a UNL student and your instructor agrees, you will receive extra credit in this course. I will inform your instructor that you participated in a research study, but the nature and topic of the study will not be revealed. If you do not
wish to participate in this study but still wish to receive extra credit, a separate but equal assignment will be made available to you by your instructor. Thanks for your consideration of involvement in this study.

If you are interested in participating, please contact me at (Nathan.swords@huskers.unl.edu).

Nate Swords, Doctoral Student, Department of Communication Studies
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