



Date: 10.12.2024

Data protection statement of the research project DWELL

You are taking part in a scientific study conducted at the University of Turku. This notice describes how your personal data will be processed in the study.

1. Data Controller

University of Turku

2. Description of the study and the purposes of processing personal data

Despite the belief that seeking social support is beneficial, supportive friendships do not always help youth feel better when they have problems and can, surprisingly, sometimes lead to worse adjustment. This project examines co-rumination (excessively discussing distress with a friend) as an explanation for this paradox. Whereas most studies have examined co-rumination as an individual trait, I will examine how co-rumination tendencies (vs. other coping strategies) vary across different friendships. This will help us understand the circumstances under which friends can help or hurt youth who are dealing with stress. The collective answers of all students taking part in these surveys will be analysed simultaneously.

3. Principal investigator or research group

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4. Contact details of the Data Protection Officer

The Data Protection Officer of the University of Turku is available at contact address: dpo@utu.fi.

5. Persons processing personal data in the study

Sarah Malamut
Other specified members of the research group (limited access, will be recruited)

6. Name, nature and duration of the study

Name of the study: DWELL: How can friends help? A new way to assess co-rumination and social support

Nature of the study: Students of the participating schools will answer questionnaires 2 times separated by approximately one month.

Duration of the study: Data collection will occur across 1 month. Data analysis and processing will occur for up to 5 years after data collection.

7. Lawful basis of processing

Personal data is processed on the following basis, which is based on Article 6(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation:



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- ☐ data subject's consent;
- ☐ processing is based for the performance of a contract;
- ☐ compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject;
- ☐ processing is necessary in order to protect the vital interest of the data subject;
- ☒ performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller:
 - ☒ scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes;
 - ☐ archiving of research materials or cultural heritage materials;
- ☐ legitimate interest pursued by the controller or by a third party.

8. Personal data included in the research materials

Personal data collected include names and dates of birth of the students, child's native language and other languages spoken in the family, names and e-mail addresses of the parents/caretakers, and names of the teachers. Information regarding students' social relations with classmates will also be collected. This data will only be processed using non-identifying student-IDs, so no names will be included in the stored data. The id-key linking personal information and the research data will never be visible to the researchers.

Names of the students or other personal information will not be stored in the data; instead, they will be stored on a separate secure network drive of the University of Turku and destroyed when research related to this project has concluded. Participants can also demand for their personal data (i.e., names and birthdays) to be deleted (from the separate secure network drive) at any time. Only the principal investigators have access to the data.

During the project, all data will be pseudonymized. After the project, metadata and/or data that can be anonymized or adequately masked will be archived. Research data will be stored according to the regulations of the GDPR and the Personal Data Act and archived in the most suitable repository available after the completion of the project (e.g., the Finnish Social Science Data Archive: <http://www.fsd.uta.fi/en/>).

9. Sensitive personal data

Following categories of sensitive personal data will be processed in the study:

In the parental consent forms, personal data concerning the child's native language and other languages spoken in the family, as well as information about child's special needs are asked.

Sensitive personal data is processed on the following basis, which is based on Article 9(2) of the General Data Protection Regulation:

- ☐ data subject's consent;
- ☐ processing is necessary in order to protect the vital interest of the data subject;
- ☒ performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller:
 - ☒ scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes;
 - ☐ archiving of research materials or cultural heritage materials.



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10. Sources of personal data

We will ask the names of students from schools, which are pseudonymized to a student-ID. We ask students to fill in their date of birth. These data will not be stored together with research data and this data will be erased after the project has ended.

11. Transfer and disclosure of the personal data to third parties

The personal data will be transferred to the following recipients outside the University of Turku/research group/researcher:

All data is stored in the secure servers or secure network drives of the University of Turku. Processor of the personal data in the data collection tool: Anders Innovations Oy. The roles of the controller (UTU) and processor (Anders Innovations) are defined in the contract between the two parties.

12. Transfer or disclosure of personal data to countries outside the EU/European Economic Area

Personal data will not be transferred outside the EU/ European Economic Area.

13. Automated decisions and safeguards

No automated decisions are made.

Safeguards to protect the personal data:

- ☒ The data is confidential.
- ☒ Personal data processed in IT systems: These are secured with passwords.

Personal information containing direct identifiers (names) are stored in the secure, password protected Wellu data collection tool (provided by the processor Anders Innovations Oy) located in the secure servers of the University of Turku and research data in the secure, access controlled and encrypted network drives of the University of Turku. Only limited members of the research team have access to personal data, and access is controlled by the Data Controller of the project. School admins of the participating schools can see the name lists of the students of their own school.

Processing of direct identifiers:

- ☒ Direct identifiers will be removed in the analysis phase

14. Processing of personal data after the completion of the study

Duration of the processing of personal data: The research metadata and/or data will be archived without identifying information, in concordance with FAIR data principles. After the project, metadata and/or data that can be anonymized or adequately masked will be archived a suitable data archive (such as the Finnish Social Science Data Archive <http://www.fsd.uta.fi/en/>). Personal data is stored for a maximum of 20 years after the end of the funding period. Until that, the necessity to store personal data is assessed every 5 years, after the completion of the project. The data will be securely disposed if in assessment there are no plans to conduct relevant further research. Participants can request for their personal data (i.e., name and birthday) to be deleted from the secure network drive at any time.



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The research material will be archived:

☒ without identifiers

☐ with identifiers

Where will the material be archived and for how long: After the project, the data and metadata that can be opened will be archived in a suitable data archive (such as the Finnish Social Science Data Archive <http://www.fsd.uta.fi/en/>). It will be made available for subsequent use by other researchers. The permission for such use can be given by the PI (Malamut).

15. Your rights as a data subject, and exceptions to these rights

Contact information: DPO@utu.fi

Exceptions to data subject rights

Under the General Data Protection Regulation and the Finnish Data Protection Act, certain exceptions to the rights of data subjects can be made when personal data is processed in scientific research and fulfilling the rights would render impossible or seriously impair the achievement of the objectives of the processing (in this case, scientific research).

The need to make exceptions to the rights of data subjects will always be assessed on a case by case basis. It is likely that exceptions to the following rights will be necessary in this study:

- ☒ Right of access (GDPR Article 15)
- ☐ Right to rectification (GDPR Article 16)
- ☒ Right to erasure (GDPR Article 17)
- ☐ Right to restriction of processing (GDPR Article 18)
- ☐ Right to data portability (GDPR Article 20)
- ☐ Right to object (GDPR Article 21)

Reasons and the extent for the exceptions:

Participants have a right to ask for access of their personal data. However, an exception exists in respect to data regarding their received nominations on the peer nomination items, as this would jeopardise the privacy and anonymity of the answers of their classmates.

Participants have a right to ask for erasure of their personal data. However, other research data (questionnaire data) gathered up until the request will be stored anonymously based on Scientific research based on the public interest as the legal basis for the processing of personal data, if disposing these anonymous research data would jeopardise the aims of the project. This will be assessed case by case.

Right to lodge a complaint

You have the right to lodge a complaint with the Data Protection Officer if you think your personal data has been processed in violation of applicable data protection laws.

Contact details: The Data Protection Officer of the University of Turku is available at contact address dpo@utu.fi