

## **TITLE OF RESEARCH: INTERPERSONAL AND FAMILY RELATIONS IN TRANSCULTURAL/ TRANSNATIONAL MARRIAGES**

### **Interview questions for couples who met through the Internet and already married and living in Australia**

- Can you tell me a bit about yourself?
- Have you been married before?
- Do you have any children from a previous relationship?
- How old are you/ how old is your partner?
- What sort of work do you do/did you do?
- Can you tell me about your partner?
- Can you tell me about your family/partner's family?
- What is it like being in a cross-cultural family?
- I'd now like to look at how your relationship developed – the emotions involved, and the importance of voice, photos etc.
- Can you tell me how you met?
- Did family/friends play a part in introducing you to your partner?
- Can you tell me the story of how you got to know each other?
- What was your first meeting like?
- What sort of person did you expect to find? Did he/she live up to your expectations?
- Can you tell me why you decided to advertise/look for a marriage partner on the web?
- What are the advantages/disadvantages of looking for a marriage partner on the web?
- Why did you decide to look for a Filipino/Indonesian/Australian as a wife/husband?
- Did your family and friends support your decision to look for a Filipino/Indonesian/Australian wife/husband on the web?

- Did your family and friends support your intercultural marriage?
- How did you arrive at the decision to marry?
- Where did you marry?
- Did you know any other Filipinas/Filipinos/Indonesians/Australians before partner?
- Did you know anyone else with a partner from the Philippines/Indonesia/Australia?
- What did you know about the Philippines/Australia/Indonesia before meeting your partner?
- Can you tell me about your experience of Internet courtship? Did it differ from previous experiences of romance?
- What do you like/dislike about your partner?
- What are your interests? Your partner's interests?
- Have you had any arguments that tested your relationship?
- How do you sort out misunderstandings, different beliefs?
- Can you tell me about the separation when he left to go back to Australia? How did you feel?
- Did you ever feel he won't come back or pursue the relationship?
- Did you experience any difficulties in your long distance relationship?
- Where would you rather reside? Why?
- What were you most excited/nervous about in living in Australia?
- How often would you like to/can you return to the Philippines?
- How will you stay in contact with your family in the Philippines?
- What sorts of expectations did you have of your partner before marriage? Have your expectations changed?
- What sorts of responsibilities do you and your partner have in the home?

- What issues, if any, could become/ have become sources of difference and how are/will they be resolved?
- Do you have different views about religion?
- Would you like to establish/pursue your career in Australia?
- Have you experienced racism? How do you deal with discrimination/racism?
- Would you like to have children? What sorts of ideas do you have about raising a child/children? Do your ideas on parenting differ from partner's ideas?
- Who earns income?
- Who manages the household budget?
- Do you give support (remittances, migration etc) to your family/ partner's family in the Philippines/Indonesia? How do you feel about that?
- What language do you speak at home?
- Do you have a support group/network in Australia?
- Are you involved in the Filipino/Indonesian community?
- Do you enjoy these activities?
- I'd now like to ask you about your migration to Australia
- What was the visa application process like?
- What sorts of questions did immigration officials and CFO ask you?
- What did you have to show as evidence of your relationship?
- Can you tell me what it was like to migrate to Australia?
- Did you get support from your partner/his family/friends to help you settle into your new life in Australia?
- What sorts of stories and news reports do you read/see in newspapers, film etc about women and men from the Philippines/Indonesia, and intercultural families?
- Can you tell me how you feel about these sorts of stories or news reports?

- What sorts of things, if anything, do you do in response to these stories/reports?
- Do you think there advantages/disadvantages to living in a cross-cultural family?
- Do you think there are advantages for women in intercultural marriages?
- Do you think there are advantages for men in intercultural marriages?
- Do you think there are advantages for children in intercultural families?
- How did you learn about chatting, forum, email on the internet?
- Can you tell me about how you use the internet to look for/keep in touch with partner; relatives and friends?
- Can you tell me how you show emotions, eg happiness, anger, sadness, tampo, through the internet?
- Do you use emoticons or similar things?
- What are your future plans?