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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF ORANGE  
SITTING AS THE JUVENILE COURT  
MISCELLANEOUS ORDER

**TITLE: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT IRVINE RESEARCH STUDY ON AT-RISK CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL UNDERSTANDING, EMPATHETIC RESPONSES AND PRO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR**

**TO: DIRECTOR, ORANGE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY  
DR. JODI QUAS, UNIVERITY OF CALIFORNIA AT IRVINE**

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS that prolonged exposure to maltreatment has adversely affected the emotional response and emotional regulation of children in the custody of the Orange County Social Services Agency (SSA). The aftereffects of maltreatment complicate and prolong efforts to protect, reunify, and preserve families. The maladaptive behaviors exhibited by abuse and neglected children correlate with higher rates of placement disruptions, truancy, delinquency, and poor academic performance.

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS that carefully tailored treatment and intervention regimens better ensure positive outcomes for maltreated children. SSA and the Court are duty bound to meet the needs of the children within the Court's jurisdiction. In order to do so, additional data on the emotional development, emotional response, and emotional regulation of children who have suffered maltreatment is needed, especially data that can be linked to children's experiences and outcomes so that better services for maltreated children can be developed and implemented.

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS that Dr. Jodi Quas of the University of California at Irvine (UCI) proposes to continue with an ongoing comprehensive study of emotional understanding, empathetic responses and pro-social behavior in at-risk children and adolescents

1 placed at Orangewood Children and Family Center (OCFC). The study has involved collecting  
2 information from children that can help improve services to address these children's needs. Dr.  
3 Quas received SSA's full support to carry out the study, which focused on emotional  
4 understanding, empathetic responses and pro-social behavior in at-risk children and adolescents.  
5 The original study was accompanied by declarations to the court detailing the purpose,  
6 methodology, and confidentiality provisions of the study and Dr. Quas has submitted additional  
7 declarations to the court detailing the study's continuing purpose, methodology, and  
8 confidentiality provisions.

9 FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the four-year UCI study  
10 on emotional development and positive behavior in at-risk children and adolescents continue  
11 forthwith and be completed by May of 2023.

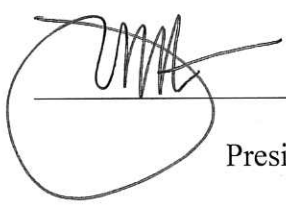
12 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that children from the ages of 6 through 17 who have been  
13 exposed to abuse and neglect, and who are residing at OCFC be allowed to participate in the  
14 study. Although the Court is providing consent for the children to participate in the study,  
15 participation in the study is strictly voluntary. UCI research staff is authorized to, and shall,  
16 obtain each child's voluntary assent to participate in the study, and the child participant will be  
17 informed that he or she may withdraw the assent to participate at any time. All UCI researchers  
18 will work under Dr. Quas or her designee. The UCI researchers may have access to juvenile case  
19 file information. All UCI researchers associated with the study shall execute written  
20 confidentiality agreements.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that court and social service files, including the jurisdiction and disposition reports, along with accompanying attachments and related materials, and placement data, be provided for all children who participate. All participant and case file data shall be securely maintained and shall not be released absent further order from this Court.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018



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Joanne Motoike  
Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court