

Interview topic guide

Thank you very much for agreeing to take part in this interview. Just to remind you, it should take around 1.5 hours, but if you want to stop or take a break we can do so. If you do not want to answer a question, or decide you no longer want to take part in this study, you can let me know – and your data does not need to be included in the write-up. Also, as mentioned before, any details that could identify you will be changed (e.g. I will give you a different name), and what we discuss is confidential unless, as I mentioned before, you say something that leads me to think that you or someone else may be at risk of significant harm. On those occasions, I may need to pass on information to a third party to make sure you are safe.

I have some questions here to guide us, but it is fairly open to allow us to discuss issues that are relevant to you and your situation. As you know, I am interested in your own experience of living with a veteran who is showing symptoms of trauma following their combat experience. Therefore, it would be great if you could tell me about how you personally are affected, your views on how your partner is affected, and the impact on your relationship and wider family. Does that sound OK? Do you have any questions before we start?

- **Expectations of your partner's most recent homecoming OR early expectations of relationship**
- **Concerns for your partner**
 - First realising there was a problem
 - Signs something was wrong, what did you notice (prompt for example)
- **Impact on you**
 - How it has impacted
 - Why it has impacted you (process)
 - How this in turn impacts on your partner (if at all)
 - Perception of veteran/warfare/country and any changes to this
- **Impact of trauma/PTSD on your relationship**
 - Negative aspects (prompt for example)
 - Positive aspects? (prompt for example)
 - Any changes in impact over time
 - Why it has impacted relationship (process)
- **Impact on family**
 - Who is affected? (Wider family?)
 - Impact on children
 - Their perceptions of veterans/warfare/country and any changes to this
 - Perceptions of how their situation is viewed by UK society

Is there anything else you would like to mention?