**Social and Emotional Behaviour in Children and Adolescents**

**with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

**Synopsis of Study:**

Emotion regulation plays an important role in the human emotional experience. In typically developing research, emotion regulation has been associated with positive outcomes in many areas, including social functioning; however, this association has been largely ignored in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current study is investigating the importance of emotion regulation and how it is related to different symptoms of ASD. Primary caregivers are invited to participate in this study by completing an online survey package of three short questionnaires regarding their child’s social and emotional behaviour. These questionnaires are completed from home, and should take no more than 15 or 20 minutes to complete. Adolescents with sufficient verbal abilities are also invited to participate by completing two short questionnaires, requiring approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. All of the information from these questionnaires will be completely anonymous. The data from all participating families will be combined and analyzed. The findings may be submitted for publication, excluding any information that would identify individual participants. Participation in this study is completely voluntary, and will assist future researchers in understanding and improving emotion regulation abilities for children and adolescents with ASD.

**Information for Participants:**

Does your child struggle to regulate their emotions during times of anxiety or distress? Researchers at Queen’s University are interested in understanding how children and adolescents with ASD regulate their emotions, and how these regulatory abilities are associated with different ASD symptoms. Your participation in this study involves completing ONLINE questionnaires FROM HOME, and will allow future researchers to understand and improve emotion regulation abilities in youth with ASD.

**Who can participate?**

All parents and primary caregivers of children between ages 5 and 17 on the autism spectrum.

All adolescents (ages 12 to 17) who are able to independently respond to two online questionnaires with a total of 60 questions.

**How to participate:**

Primary caregivers are invited to complete an ONLINE survey package of three short questionnaires, requiring approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete. Adolescents with sufficient reading abilities are then invited to complete two short questionnaires, requiring approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. All questionnaires are included within a single online package, accessible at <http://queensu.fluidsurveys.com/s/er-asd/>

Any questions can be directed to Dr. Elizabeth Kelley at asd@queensu.ca.