

## Department of Pastoral Counseling

Dear Participant,

My name is Jesse Fox and I am an Assistant Professor at Stetson University and an Affiliate Lecturer at Loyola University Maryland. I am conducting a research study to gain information about the use of different types of coping strategies used among clients in outpatient mental health treatment. More specifically, this study will focus on secular, religious, and spiritual approaches to dealing with problems and how different coping strategies may impact the counseling and psychotherapy process.

Participation in this study is voluntary. If you choose to participate in this project, you will be asked to complete a one-time online survey that should take about 25 minutes to complete. Do your best to respond to each question; however, you may skip any item(s) you do not wish to answer, and you may discontinue your participation in the study at any time. If you decide not to participate, there are no penalties and you will not lose any benefits to which you would otherwise be entitled. If you choose to participate in the study, you may withdraw from the study at any time. A decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not result in any negative consequences for you. If you want to withdraw from the study, please close the browser window.

If you do choose to participate in the study, your participation will be anonymous. Neither anyone reading the results of the survey nor I will be able to identify you. Please do not include your name or any other identifying marks on the survey form. Under this condition, you agree that any information obtained from this research may be used in any way thought best for publication or education.

If you have questions or concerns about participation in this study, you should first contact Jesse Fox, Ph.D. at <u>jfox2@stetson.edu</u>, or 386-822-7132. In addition, you may contact Loyola's Institutional Review Board (IRB) if you have any questions about your rights as a participant at 410-617-2188 or email Loyola's IRB.

If you choose to participate in this study, please click on the link below to begin taking the survey.

https://loyola.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV d5NXvJSBPd5l0ix

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jesse Fox, Ph.D.

Jun Aux

Assistant Professor, Stetson University

Affiliate Lecturer, Loyola University Maryland

THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MARYLAND INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD.