Dear Veterinarian

I am currently busy with research towards an MCom in Industrial and Organisational Psychology at UNISA on the Coping and Adjustment Behaviour of Veterinarians and I have obtained ethical clearance (2017_CRERC_012[FA]) to go ahead with the empirical part of the research, which include online focus group discussions and personal interviews with veterinarians.

The purpose of this research is to obtain information on the lived experiences of veterinarians on how they cope with and adjust to the unique work-related challenges that they have to face, especially since these challenges also affect the other areas of their lives, e.g. marriages, families and friends.

**Online Focus Group discussions:**

The platform on which the focus group discussions will take place is secure and confidential. There will be 12 questions to discuss. Participants can enter and exit the discussion at any time. The commencement date is **3 April 2018** and the discussion will be closed after three weeks.

The link to the focus group discussion, will be provided to veterinarians who indicate that they are willing to participate by sending me an e-mail to liddyjvr@gmail.com or an SMS/Whatsapp to 0823727680.

**Personal Interviews:**

The research could also benefit from veterinarians who are prepared to share their experiences in a personal interview regarding occupational stress, compassion fatigue, and burnout, and how they coped with and adjusted to it.

It would, however, not exclude any veterinarian who are currently experiencing any of the above-mentioned challenges or any other related challenge, to participate in the individual interviews.

Due to possible geographical issues, the interviews could be conducted on the phone or on Skype, etc.

Participants can share as much or as little as they prefer, and the research results will not reflect any information that could identify them.

Veterinarians who want to participate in the individual interviews can send me an e-mail to liddyjvr@gmail.com or an SMS/Whatsapp to 0823727680, specifically indicating that they are interested in having a one-to-one interview.

They can additionally participate in the focus group discussions, should they so prefer.

Your participation will be sincerely appreciated.

Kind regards

Dr Liddy Janse van Rensburg