Dr. Gina C. Whalen  
Assistant Teaching Professor  
Business

Title of your research project.  
Using Autoethnography, Storytelling, and Metaphors to Explore the Traumatic and Transformative Journeys

Description of research. Please provide a few sentences that explain the question and the methods employed in this research project.
The study was designed to address ethical concerns that typically arise when representing or appropriating others’ traumatic experiences and vulnerable populations. It empowered my sisters-in-loss to give voice to their heartbreaking and often-stigmatized experience. A combination of a narrative inquiry and autoethnography were utilized.

Did this project include Penn State students as researchers?  
No

If yes to the above question, please state where it was published.  
n/a

What problem do you address with your research?  
The study was designed to address ethical concerns that typically arise when representing or appropriating others’ experiences and vulnerable populations.