



July 6, 2021

Learning about the lived experiences of military families is one of the most effective ways to understand how to provide valuable support. Therefore, on behalf of the Military Family Advisory Network (MFAN), I am writing to communicate our support for the Operation Military Experience (OpME) study. I urge you and your family to participate.

The OpME study is led by the Military Family Research Institute (MFRI) at Purdue University. We at MFAN value MFRI for its deep expertise about military children, youth and families.

The OpME study will provide leading-edge data about the long-term consequences – good and bad -- of OIF/OEF deployments for youth and families. We are pleased that the study will include many different kinds of military families, including families of military moms, and families who have completed their military service as well as families who are still serving.

MFAN is eager to learn the lessons you have to share so that we can strengthen our programs for families, and providing information to policymakers. MFAN's focus is to ensure that military and veteran families have what they need to thrive. We take a data-driven approach to connect military families to the resources, people, and information they depend on to successfully navigate all phases of military life.

If your family is invited to participate, we encourage you to accept. You can be certain that any data you provide will be confidential, and only summaries of group information will be shared.

We are grateful for the service you have already given our country, and we look forward to learning more about your experiences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shelley Kimball". The signature is written in a cursive style and is contained within a light blue rectangular box.

Shelley Kimball, Ph.D.  
Senior director of research and program evaluation