

OUR LIVES

SOCIAL FUTURES AND LIFE PATHWAYS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN QUEENSLAND: A LONGITUDINAL PROJECT

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STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

HOW TO FILL OUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

To answer most of the questions you only need to circle a number. Please circle the number that is **closest to your view**. Here is an example.

In general, how good is your HEALTH?

Excellent	1
Very Good	2
Good	3
Fair	4
Poor	5

Sometimes you are asked to write an answer - in that case simply write your answer in the space provided.

Please read each question carefully. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers. We want to know what you think, so please don't talk to anyone about your answers.

Please raise your hand and ask if you have any questions.

***We hope you enjoy the questionnaire.
And thank you very much
for taking part in this study.***



SECTION A: THE FUTURE

First, we would like to ask you some questions about your future plans.

A1. Are you planning to finish Year 12?

Definitely yes	1
Probably yes	2
Probably no	3
Definitely no	4
Not sure	5

A2. WHEN, if ever, do you think these things might happen?

	<i>Within 2 years of leaving school</i>	<i>Between 2 to 5 years of leaving school</i>	<i>More than 5 years after leaving school</i>	<i>Sometime in the future but I don't know when</i>	<i>Never</i>
A. Move to a different state	1	2	3	4	5
B. Move to a different country	1	2	3	4	5
C. Move somewhere else within Queensland	1	2	3	4	5
D. Have children	1	2	3	4	5
E. Get married	1	2	3	4	5
F. Live with someone without being married	1	2	3	4	5
G. Get divorced	1	2	3	4	5
H. Be unemployed	1	2	3	4	5
I. Stay at home to look after children	1	2	3	4	5

A3. In thinking about yourself and your future, how IMPORTANT are each of the following goals to you?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. To set my own goals	1	2	3	4	5
B. To be more self confident	1	2	3	4	5
C. To be a good person	1	2	3	4	5
D. To practice my religious faith better	1	2	3	4	5
E. To have time to think about myself and my life	1	2	3	4	5
F. To have a sense of achievement	1	2	3	4	5
G. To find meaning in life	1	2	3	4	5
H. To have a sense of self respect	1	2	3	4	5

A4. In thinking about yourself and your future, how IMPORTANT are each of the following goals to you?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. To leave school as soon as I can	1	2	3	4	5
B. To do a trade or apprenticeship	1	2	3	4	5
C. To go on to TAFE	1	2	3	4	5
D. To go on to university	1	2	3	4	5

A5. In thinking about yourself and your future, how IMPORTANT are each of the following goals to you?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. To get a job as soon as possible	1	2	3	4	5
B. To get a job with good career prospects	1	2	3	4	5
C. To work in a job that interests me	1	2	3	4	5
D. To get a job that's close to where I now live	1	2	3	4	5
E. To get a job that helps other people	1	2	3	4	5
F. To get a job that allows me to make lots of money	1	2	3	4	5
G. To have enough money to do what I want	1	2	3	4	5

A6. How much do the following people INFLUENCE your decisions about your future?
(N/A means Not Applicable – for example, if you don't have a brother or sister, etc.)

	<i>Never</i>	<i>To some extent</i>	<i>A lot</i>	<i>N/A</i>
A. Mother or female carer		2	3	4
B. Father or male carer	1	2	3	4
C. Grandparents	1	2	3	4
D. A brother or sister	1	2	3	4
E. Friend/s	1	2	3	4
F. Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

A7. How much do the following INFLUENCE your decisions about what job or career you will have in the future?

	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>To some extent</i>	<i>A lot</i>
A. What you're interested in	1	2	3
B. What you think will help you earn the most money	1	2	3

A8. How TRUE are the following statements for you? I am VERY SURE about . . .

	<i>Not True at all</i>	<i>Slightly True</i>	<i>Somewhat True</i>	<i>Quite True</i>	<i>Very True</i>
A. The kind of occupation I want	1	2	3	4	5
B. The values I believe in	1	2	3	4	5
C. What roles men and women should play	1	2	3	4	5
D. What kind of friends I want	1	2	3	4	5
E. What kind of person I want to be	1	2	3	4	5
F. What kind of relationships I want with my family	1	2	3	4	5
G. What kind of person I want as my partner	1	2	3	4	5

A9. What kind of job would you like to have?

A10. What sorts of things will you do in this job?

A11. Will you work for yourself in your own business, or will you work for someone else?

Work for self 1

Work for someone else 2

A12. Will you supervise other people in this job (i.e. tell other workers what to do)?

Yes 1

No 2

A13. How CONFIDENT are you of getting this kind of job?

Not Very Important	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important
1	2	3	4	5

A14. How CONFIDENT are you that . . . ?

	<i>Very Confident</i>	<i>Confident</i>	<i>Somewhat Confident</i>	<i>Not Very Confident</i>	<i>Not at all Confident</i>
A. You can get a good education	1	2	3	4	5
B. You can get a job that pays well	1	2	3	4	5
C. You will have a job you will enjoy doing	1	2	3	4	5
D. You will have a happy family life	1	2	3	4	5
E. You will have good friends you can count on	1	2	3	4	5
F. You will earn the respect of others	1	2	3	4	5
G. You will achieve whatever you want in life	1	2	3	4	5
H. You will have a rewarding and meaningful life	1	2	3	4	5
I. You will have the kind of lifestyle you really want	1	2	3	4	5

A15. In thinking about yourself and your future, how IMPORTANT are each of the following goals to you?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. To have lots of friends	1	2	3	5
B. To have really close friends	1	2	3	5
C. To have a close friend of the opposite sex	1	2	3	5
D. To have a close friend of the same sex	1	2	3	5
E. To spend lots of time with my friends	1	2	3	5

A16. In thinking about yourself and your future, how IMPORTANT are each of the following goals to you?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. To look good	1	2	3	5
B. To eat healthy food	1	2	3	5
C. To be really fit	1	2	3	5
D. To be really good at sports	1	2	3	5

A17. In the year after you leave school, WHAT do you plan to do? (Circle one only)

Get a job	1
Get an apprenticeship / traineeship	2
Go to TAFE	3
Go to University	4
Travel	5
Join the Army, Navy or Air Force	6
Take a year off	7
Other	8
Don't know	9

A18. WHEN did you decide what you plan to do after leaving school? (Circle one only)

Before Year 7	1
During Year 7	2
During Year 8	3
Still undecided	4

A19. How important are the following to your FUTURE HAPPINESS?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. Getting married	1	2	3	4	5
B. Having children	1	2	3	4	5
C. Supporting your parents	1	2	3	4	5
D. Having really good friends	1	2	3	4	5
E. Getting a university degree	1	2	3	4	5
F. Making lots of money	1	2	3	4	5
G. Working in a job that really interests you	1	2	3	4	5
H. Having a strong sense of achievement in your life	1	2	3	4	5
I. Being able to choose the kind of life you want to live	1	2	3	4	5
J. Being involved in your religious tradition	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION B: ISSUES AND INTERESTS

B1. How IMPORTANT are the following to you?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. Being a good student	1	2	3	4	5
B. Being great at sports	1	2	3	4	5
C. Being the best person you can	1	2	3	4	5
D. Being a good friend	1	2	3	4	5
E. Being a good son or daughter	1	2	3	4	5

B2. How many HOURS PER WEEK, on average, do you spend doing the following?

	<i>None</i>	<i>1-3 hours</i>	<i>4-6 hours</i>	<i>7-9 hours</i>	<i>10 or more hours</i>
A. Using the Internet to email or chat with friends	1	2	3	4	5
B. Using the Internet to help with your homework	1	2	3	4	5
C. Using the Internet for other things	1	2	3	4	5
D. Doing homework	1	2	3	4	5
E. Playing sports	1	2	3	4	5
F. Doing chores at home	1	2	3	4	5
G. Hanging out with friends outside of school	1	2	3	4	5
H. Watching TV	1	2	3	4	5
I. Playing computer games	1	2	3	4	5
J. Participating in a community group (e.g. Scouts, Guides, church group)	1	2	3	4	5
K. Listening to music	1	2	3	4	5
L. Reading books for fun	1	2	3	4	5

B3. Roughly how many BOOKS are there in your home?

None or very few	1
11-25 (about one shelf)	2
25-100 (about one bookcase)	3
100-200 (about two bookcases)	4
200-300 (about three bookcases)	5
300-400 (about four bookcases)	6
More than 400	7

B4. How many COMPUTERS (desktops and laptops) are there in your home?

0	1	2	3	4	5 or more
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B5. Do you have access to a computer at home?

Yes, for me only	1
Yes, a computer I share with others	2
No	3

B6. Do you have internet access at home?

Yes, through dial-up	1
Yes, through broadband / ADSL	2
No	3

B7. Do you have a mobile phone?

Yes	1
No	2

SECTION C: YOUR FRIENDS AND PERSONAL NETWORKS

C1. Who of the following do you LIVE WITH? (Circle one only)

I live with both my parents	1
I live with my mother	2
I live with my father	3
I live some of the time with my mother and some of the time with my father	4
I live with other relatives (eg. grandparents, uncle, aunt, brother or sister)	5
Other (please specify)	6

C2. How MANY brothers and sisters do you have? (Count those who live with you AND those who don't)

Number

A. Brothers (including step/half brothers)

B. Sisters (including step/half sisters)

C3. How many brothers and sisters LIVE WITH YOU?

Number

A. Brothers (including step/half brothers)

B. Sisters (including step/half sisters)

C4. Are you . . . (Circle one only)

The oldest	1
The youngest	2
Somewhere in the middle	3

And now some questions about your friends and personal networks.

C5. How CONFIDENT are you that the following people won't let you down?

	Very Confident	Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not Very Confident	Not at all Confident
A. Your parents	1	2	3	4	5
B. Your friends	1	2	3	4	5
C. Your best friend	1	2	3	4	5
D. Your brothers and sisters	1	2	3	4	5
E. Your teachers	1	2	3	4	5
F. Your neighbours	1	2	3	4	5

C6. How much TRUST do you have in:

	A great deal of trust	Quite a lot of trust	Not very much trust	None at all
A. Your school	1	2	3	4
B. What you see on television	1	2	3	4
C. What you see on the internet	1	2	3	4
D. The police	1	2	3	4
E. Politicians	1	2	3	4
F. Church leaders	1	2	3	4
G. Groups that are working to protect the environment (e.g. Greenpeace, etc)	1	2	3	4
H. Well known sporting figures	1	2	3	4

C7. Apart from family members, how MANY friends do you have?

	None	1-3 friends	4-6 friends	7-9 friends	10+ friends
A. Close friends	1	2	3	4	5
B. Friends in general	1	2	3	4	5

C8. Thinking about your close friends, are they? (Circle one only)

All girls	1
Mostly girls	2
About equal girls and boys	3
Mostly boys	4
All boys	5

C9. Thinking about the very best friend you have, not including family members or your boyfriend /girlfriend

A. How old is your best friend? _____ years old.

B. Is your best friend:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Male | 1 |
| Female | 2 |

C10. What CULTURE do they come from?

(For example, Australian, Lebanese, Australian-Irish, Vietnamese, Chinese-Australian, etc.) Please write your response in the space provided.

C11. What COUNTRY were they born in?

C12. Have the following events ever HAPPENED to you?

	<i>Never</i>	<i>Within the last 6 months</i>	<i>Last year</i>	<i>More than a year ago</i>
A. Death of a family member or friend	1	2	3	4
B. Changed schools	1	2	3	4
C. Separation/divorce of your parents	1	2	3	4
D. Serious health problems	1	2	3	4
E. Friendship problems	1	2	3	4
F. Bullied by other kids	1	2	3	4
G. Received poor grades at school	1	2	3	4
H. Family problems	1	2	3	4
I. Parent remarried	1	2	3	4
J. Fell in love	1	2	3	4
K. Got into trouble at school	1	2	3	4
L. Broke up with boyfriend/girlfriend	1	2	3	4

C13. To what extent do you AGREE or DISAGREE with the following?

	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Mildly Disagree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Mildly Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>
A. My life is going well	1	2	3	4	5
B. My life is just right	1	2	3	4	5
C. I would like to change many things in my life	1	2	3	4	5
D. I wish I had a different kind of life	1	2	3	4	5
E. I have a good life	1	2	3	4	5
F. I have what I want in life	1	2	3	4	5
G. My life is better than most kids	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION D: ABOUT YOU

D1. Are you...

- Male 1
- Female 2

D2. What is your birth date? (day / month / year)

_____/_____/_____

D3. Where were you born? What about your mother? And your father?

		Yourself	Mother	Father
A.	Australia	1	1	1
B.	New Zealand	2	2	2
C.	United Kingdom	3	3	3
D.	Republic of Ireland	4	4	4
E.	Italy	5	5	5
F.	Germany	6	6	6
G.	Greece	7	7	7
H.	China	8	8	8
I.	Netherlands	9	9	9
J.	Vietnam	10	10	10
K.	Yugoslavia (former)	11	11	11
L.	Other.	12	12	12

Please specify (below):

Other Birthplace: Yourself _____

Other Birthplace: Mother _____

Other Birthplace: Father _____

D4. Are you an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person?

- Yes, Aboriginal 1
- Yes, Torres Strait Islander 2
- Yes, Both 3
- No 4

D5. What is the MAIN LANGUAGE spoken at home?

- 1 English
- 2 English plus other (specify) _____
- 3 Other (specify) _____

D6. How IMPORTANT are the following for you?

	<i>Not Very Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Very Important</i>
A. Being a member of your family	1	2	3	4	5
B. Being a part of your local community	1	2	3	4	5
C. Being a member of your school community	1	2	3	4	5
D. Being a Queenslander	1	2	3	4	5
E. Being Australian	1	2	3	4	5
F. Being a part of the global community	1	2	3	4	5
G. Being a boy or a girl	1	2	3	4	5

D7. What is your religion or faith?

Anglican/Church of England	1
Buddhist	2
Hindu	3
Jewish	4
Muslim	5
Pentecostal	6
Roman Catholic	7
Uniting Church/Methodist/Presbyterian	8
Other Christian	9
No religion	10
Other (please specify): _____	11

D8. How OFTEN do you attend religious services?

More than once a week	1
About every week	2
About every fortnight	3
About every month	4
Between three and six times a year	5
About once or twice a year	6
Never	7

D9. What was the highest level of education your parents or carers reached while AT SCHOOL?
(Please answer for both parents or carers with whom you live most of the time).

	<i>Mother or carer</i>	<i>Father or carer</i>
Primary	1	1
Some Secondary	2	2
Year 10	3	3
Year 11	4	4
Year 12	5	5
Don't know	6	6

D10. What was the highest level of education your parents or carers reached after LEAVING SCHOOL?
(Please answer for parents or carers with whom you live most of the time).

	<i>Mother or carer</i>	<i>Father or carer</i>
No further education	1	1
Completed a trade qualification like a diploma, certificate or apprenticeship	2	2
Completed a University or college degree	3	3
Completed post-graduate University study (Masters, PhD)	4	4
Don't know	5	5

D11. LAST WEEK, what were your parents or carers MAINLY doing?
(Please answer for parents or carers with whom you live most of the time).

	<i>Mother or carer</i>	<i>Father or carer</i>
Working full or part time	1	1
Unemployed/looking for work	2	2
Domestic duties	3	3
Studying	4	4
Other	5	5
Don't know	6	6

D12. Thinking about your FATHER'S main job, either the job he has now, or the last job he had, if he is not currently working.

What is (was) his job?

D13. What does (did) he usually do in that job?

D14. What do they make or do at the place where he works?

D15. Who does (did) your FATHER work for?

Owns his own business and works on his own	1
Owns his own business with people working for him	2
Works for somebody else	3
Don't know	4

D16. Does (did) your FATHER tell other people what to do at work?

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3

D17. Now, thinking about your MOTHER'S main job, either the job she has now, or the last job she had, if she is not currently working.

What is (was) her job?

D18. What does (did) she usually do in that job?

D19. What do they make or do at the place where she works?

D20. Who does (did) your MOTHER work for?

Owns her own business and works on her own	1
Owns her own business with people working for her	2
Works for somebody else	3
Don't know	4

D21. Does (did) your MOTHER tell other people what to do at work?

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3

D22. How LONG have you attended your school?

_____years

D23. Thinking about how well you do at school, are you:

An excellent student	1
A very good student	2
A good student	3
An average student	4
A poor student	5

D24. This year, HOW WELL would other people think you were doing in the following subjects?

	<i>Very Poorly</i>	<i>Poorly</i>	<i>OK</i>	<i>Well</i>	<i>Very Well</i>
A. Maths	1	2	3	4	5
B. English	1	2	3	4	5
C. Science	1	2	3	4	5
D. SOSE/Social Studies/History/Geography	1	2	3	4	5
E. The Arts (Music, Drama, Dance)	1	2	3	4	5

D25. How HARD do you WORK in the following subjects?

		<i>Not at all</i>	<i>A little</i>	<i>A fair bit</i>	<i>Very hard</i>
A.	Maths	1	2	3	4
B.	English	1	2	3	4
C.	Science	1	2	3	4
D.	SOSE/Social Studies/History/Geography	1	2	3	4
E.	The Arts (Eg. Music, Drama, Dance)	1	2	3	4

D26. How well does each of the following statements describe you? On this scale from 1 to 9, 1 means the statement doesn't describe you at all, and 9 means the statement describes you very well. (Circle one number in each line).

	Not At All								Very Well
I'm considered exceptionally or unusually intelligent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I'm considered a very "brainy", scholarly person	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I'm considered extremely "gifted" or talented at academic things	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
My school grades have usually been near the top of every class	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

D27. What CLASS are you in?

D28. What is the NAME of your school?

SECTION E: ONGOING CONTACT

This is a longitudinal study, which means that we will be in touch again in 2 years' time. In order for us to keep in touch, please provide the following information:

Your Name:

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Name of one of your parents or carers:

Address (*leave blank if same as above*): _____

Email Address: _____

Phone number: _____

***Please be assured this information will remain CONFIDENTIAL.
No one except the research team will see it,
and it will be kept separately from the main survey.***

That is the end of the questionnaire.

Thank you for your participation!