

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Researchers at the School of Psychology, Cardiff University, are looking for parents with at least one child under 24 months to participate in a new study looking at the choices parents make in caring for their children.

Time Required: 10 minutes per person

When: As soon as possible

WHO CAN TAKE PART?

Any mother who has at least one child under 24 months. She will need to ask her partner or another person who also cares for her child **to take part as well**.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

We are developing an online questionnaire called *The Baby Care Questionnaire* about the choices parents make in caring for their children. We are asking you to help us with an important step in checking the accuracy of the questionnaire.

We are asking **pairs of people** to complete the questionnaire. Afterward we will compare the answers to check the accuracy of the questionnaire.

First we would like the mother to complete the questionnaire. **After the mother has completed it**, we would like another person (partner, family member, or friend) who shares caring duties for the same child to complete the questionnaire. We will ask this person to complete it in the way they would expect the mother to complete the questionnaire. Mothers can ask their partner, family member or friend to complete the second questionnaire immediately afterward. The mother will choose and contact this person. The partner/ family member/ friend will not be contacted by the research team directly. If the second questionnaire has not been completed within one day, **we will send a reminder email** with a link to the mother who can send this reminder message to their chosen person. After this reminder, we will not contact parents again. So we can send you the reminder message, we will be asking you for a contact email address.

The questionnaire has four sections with questions about sleeping, eating, crying and social support, as well as some background information. It takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. If you prefer to complete a paper version you can telephone us on 029 2087 6190.

WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL THE INFORMATION?

Only members of the research team will have access to the information. We will store your contact details so that we can contact you to remind your partner, family member, or friend to complete the questionnaire. Your contact details will be stored separately from your answers to the questionnaire. After the reminder email is sent, we will delete your contact details. Your answers to the questionnaire will always be stored anonymously.

HOW CAN YOU TAKE PART?

Simply click on the following link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCQ>

WHO CAN I CONTACT ABOUT THE STUDY?

If you have questions about the study you may contact us (029 2087 6190; development@cardiff.ac.uk). If you have a complaint about the study ethics, you may contact the secretary of the Cardiff University School of Psychology Research Ethics Committee (02920 874007; psychethics@cf.ac.uk).

Kind regards,

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