

Common Questions and Answers

1a. **What is this study about?** The researchers want to create a time line of how young people spend their time outside of school, and study some of the markers that indicate health and stress in a child's life.

1b. **But it isn't safe to share my information these days.** This study is by researchers at The Ohio State University and we don't release any personally identifiable information to the public and we never sell any information. Everything you tell us will be stored at the University in secured and locked areas.

2a. **About Parent: What will I (the parent) need to do if I am in this study?** An interviewer will sit down with you in your home at two times, one week apart, and ask you some questions about the places you and your child go in a typical week. There's also a series of questions you can answer by yourself about your life: questions on your health, your job and how you spend your time. We want to hear about your life.

2b. **About Child: What will I/my child need to do if I am in this study?** For ("you" if speaking to child, "your child" if speaking to parent) this is a hugely important study, with lots of parts. An interviewer will sit down with you/your child in your home two times, one week apart, and ask you/your child some questions about the places you/your child go in a typical week. We'll also give you/your child a smart phone for the length of the study to answer several questions, five times a day when we send you/your child the link. Every night, you/your child will need to collect a small vial of saliva and store it in a cold place. At the end of the week, I'll come back and you/your child will be asked another series of questions. If you/your child qualify, we will also ask you to donate a tiny hair sample for analysis.

3. **How long will we be in the study?** The study lasts for seven days. The first visit I make to your home will take about an hour and a half. Then your son or daughter will be given a smartphone to carry for the study. Five times a day (but not during school) your child will be asked to answer a 2 minute survey on the smartphone itself. Then I'll come back at the end of the seven days and ask the child about their experiences with the phone and their week, and ask you some questions about your neighborhood, then collect the biomarkers and distribute the incentives.

4. **Can I stop being in the study?** You/Your child may stop being in the study at any time.

5. **What bad things might happen to me if I am in the study?** We do not expect any bad things to happen to you. Our interviewers are trained to be professional and courteous. Sometimes people worry that the personal information they give to interviewers might become public, but we have taken security precautions to make sure that what you say will be kept confidential.

6. **What do I get out of it?** It can be an interesting experience to be part of a study and to tell an interviewer a little about your life, and it will help lots of people understand more about the challenges that face today's youth. We'll also give you \$25 each for a completed survey for both parent and child, \$30 for the saliva collection, and \$20 for the small hair sample.

7. **Who can I talk to about the study?** For questions about the study you may contact the head researcher of the study. His name is Dr. Christopher R. Browning and he is a sociology professor at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. You can call him at (614) 962-OHIO (6446). To discuss other study-related questions with someone who is not part of the research team, you may contact Ms. Sandra Meadows in the Office of Responsible Research Practices at 1-800-678-6251.

9. **What is the parental permission form for research participation?** The parental permission form contains important information about this study and what to expect if you permit your child to participate. Please consider the information carefully. Feel free to discuss the study with your friends and family and to ask questions before making your decision whether or not to permit your child to participate. If you permit your child to participate, you will be asked to sign a permission form and will receive a copy of the form.

10. **Is my child's participation voluntary?** Of course you and your child may leave the study at any time. If you or your child decides to stop participation in the study, there will be no penalty. Your decision will not affect your future relationship with The Ohio State University.

11. **What is the purpose of this study?** The purpose of this study is to find out if Central Ohio youth (ages 11 to 17) can answer questions about the geographic locations of their daily activities as well as some of the friends and associates (both peers and adults) with whom they come into contact. This study is called a pilot study because it is the first part of a possibly bigger study about adolescents.

12. **Tell me about the interviewing process...what is the interviewing procedure?** A trained interviewer will sit down with your child in your home and ask your child about the places he or she goes when outside the home and the people he or she associates with. The answers will be typed into a laptop computer. The information will then be transmitted to a secure Ohio State University server. All personal information will be kept confidential.

13. **How long is the survey?** The study takes place over a week. A professional interviewer will visit your home at your convenience once at the beginning of the week and again after seven days, for about an hour and a half each time. The length may vary based on the answers you or your child gives. Families with lots of friends or larger households may take longer.

On days 1- 7, we will loan your child a smart phone to collect small surveys 5 times a day (but not in school!). Your child may leave the study at any time. If you or your child runs out of time, we can save your answers and we can restart the survey where we left off.

14. **Are there any risks or benefits? How does this benefit us?** This is a very low risk study. Our interviewers are trained to be professional and courteous. Your child's information will be kept secure at The Center for Human Resource Research at The Ohio State University, a research center that maintains stringent Federally-mandated security measures. Your child will not have any direct benefit from this study other than the satisfaction of taking part of a study that is interested in what he or she has to say. We believe the overall knowledge gained from this study may help researchers and mental health professionals obtain a clearer picture of what is important for the well-being of adolescents.

15. **I'm worried about confidentiality.**

Except as required by law, you and your child's study-related information will be kept completely confidential. We never sell or make public any personal information.

Certain offices concerned with research at The Ohio State University may be asked to review you or your child's records if there is a problem. These are offices concerned with protecting your rights as a research participant. The foundation sponsoring the research may also have limited access to confidential data. Again, we would never sell or make public any of you or your family's personal information.

- Office for Human Research Protections or other federal, state, or international regulatory agencies;
- The Ohio State University Institutional Review Board or Office of Responsible Research Practices;
- The sponsor, if any, or agency (including the Food and Drug Administration for FDA-regulated research) supporting the study.

16. **Will I get paid?** You/Your child will each receive \$25 as a thank you for completing this study. Additional amounts will be received for participating in the biomarker collection of saliva and hair.

17. **What are biomarkers? What are they for?** Biomarkers, in this case saliva and hair, can tell researchers a lot about exposure to illness and stress. The samples your child gives will be analyzed for stress and exposure to Epstein-Barr.

18. **Where did you get my information? Why are you calling me?** We're trying to call everyone in your neighborhood who has children that are 11-17 years old, so we bought blocks of phone numbers from phone databases like Lexis-Nexis and Martin.