



Thanks for agreeing to participate in this survey about young women's attitudes towards family issues. Your views in response to the following questions are extremely valuable to this project, informing part of a research degree with James Cook University. You may also like to take part in one of a number of discussion groups being held in conjunction with this project, in which case, kindly add your contact details in the allocated space. However, if you wish to remain anonymous, no identifiable details are required. If you are under 18 years old, permission from a parent/guardian is required on a separate authority, to be attached/handed to the researcher before starting.



This survey is being conducted by Marilyn Anderson, postgraduate doctoral research candidate with the School of Arts and Social Sciences, James Cook University, Cairns Campus, during 2007-8. Participation is preceded by providing information about the project to establish informed consent. This survey can be completed electronically or on paper.

## **Mothers of the future: assessing the effects of national messages promoting having children on young women in Far North Queensland**

**For the purpose of consent, are you under 18 years of age or aged 18 or over?**

- under 18 years of age. Please make sure your parent or guardian's informed consent form is handed in.  
 18 years of age or over. Please make sure your own informed consent form is attached.

**Please remember,**

- ➔ you can decide not to proceed at any time
- ➔ you can skip any questions you wish, by choosing the 'not sure' or 'prefer not to say' option
- ➔ you can remain anonymous
- ➔ your responses will be kept confidential
- ➔ you can continue into a discussion group if you wish, by arrangement
- ➔ you can talk to someone about how this survey may have affected you.

Date administered	/	/	
by	at		
data entered	/	/	by

**Can you please acknowledge that you are female, an Australian citizen and living in Far North Queensland?**

- Yes, I am a female, Australian citizen, living in Far North Queensland

**Mothers of the future: assessing the effects of national messages promoting having children on young women in Far North Queensland**

**Question 1** Please tick one box only. As far as population numbers go, do you believe that the world

- Needs more people
- Should stay the way it is
- Needs less people
- Not sure

**Question 2** Please tick one box only. As far as population numbers go, do you believe that Australia

- Needs more people
- Should stay the way it is
- Needs less people
- Not sure

**Question 3** Please tick one box only. How many children do you think is or are ideal for a typical family?

- none
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 or more
- not sure

**Question 4** Please tick one box only. How many children would like to have yourself?

- none
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 or more
- not sure

**Question 5** Please tick one box only. Do you have any fears that you may not be able to become pregnant?

- No
- No, because I have already been pregnant
- Yes
- Not sure

The following questions seek to find out how the media may have affected you, and how secure you feel in the world, that link in certain theories of interest to this research project.

**Question 6** Please tick one box in each line.

Recalling the following events that have been in the news over the past few years, do you remember how, at the time of the event, you were emotionally affected and how affected you may be today?

		not at all	a little bit	a fair bit	a lot	not sure
a	When I first learned of the planes crashing into the Twin Towers in the USA, I remember being affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b	Recalling the events of what has come to be known as 9/11, I am currently affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c	At the time of the Bali bombings in October 2002 and again in October 2005, I remember being affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d	Recalling the Bali bombings, I am currently affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e	During 2005 when the spread of the Bird Flu virus was first known, I remember being affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f	Now, thinking about the possible spread of the Bird Flu virus, I am affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g	When I first heard about the tsunami on Boxing Day 2004 in Indonesia, I remember being affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h	Later, when more was known about the effects of the tsunami, I was affected . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**Question 6 cont'd** Please tick one box in each line.

		not at all	a little bit	a fair bit	a lot	not sure
i	The water shortage issues in Australia affect me . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
j	Terrorism or, as it is reported in the media, the war on terrorism, affects me . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
k	Global warming is an issue which affects me . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
l	The issue of genetically-modified foods affects me . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
m	I think about whether or not to go on a diet . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
n	When I compare myself to the models in magazines and on television, I am affected	<input type="checkbox"/>				
o	I think about my weight and body shape . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				
p	I think about the possibility of becoming a mother . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**Question 7** Please tick one box in each line.

These next questions ask how safe you feel as a member of society

		not at all safe	not really safe	safe	very safe	not sure
a	Overall, when I think of my safety in the world, I mostly feel	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b	Overall, when I think of my safety in Australia, I mostly feel	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c	Overall, when I think of my safety in Far North Queensland, I mostly feel	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**Question 8** Please tick one box only. What do you consider is the ideal age for a woman to have her first baby?

- under 20 years old    
  20-24 years old    
  25-29 years old    
  30-34 years old    
  35-40 years old    
  over 40 years old    
  not sure depends

**Question 9** You may choose more than one response. Concerning the cost of raising children today, which of the following statements best fit your ideas when it comes to planning for a family of your own?

- I would try to make sure that I and/or my partner were financially prepared to start a family
- I would have kids and worry about the finances later
- Kids cost as much or as little as you let them - it's up to you and what your expectations are
- I'm not planning on having kids for a number of reasons, but one of the reasons is the expense
- You can always get government support if you need it to afford the basics for a family
- I would expect my partner to be earning enough to support a family
- I would expect that between my partner and myself, we would be able to earn enough to support our family
- I could work to make sure my/our child(ren) didn't go without
- If I didn't have a partner, I could get the sole parenting allowance
- Not sure
- Other?

**Question 10** Please tick one box only. What do you think it currently costs to raise a child (not including a private education)?

- less than \$5,000 a year    
  around \$10,000 a year    
  about \$15,000 a year    
  about \$20,000 a year    
  not sure
- Some other amount?

**Question 11** Please tick one box only. What do you think about a mother placing her baby up for adoption?

- |                          |                                     |                              |                               |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| not a good<br>idea       | under extreme<br>circumstances only | OK, if it's<br>best for baby | OK, if it's<br>what she wants | OK                       | not sure                 |

**Question 12** Please tick one box only. Do any of your friends receive the sole supporting parenting allowance?

- |                          |                          |                          |  |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| no                       | one friend               | several friends          | I know of one or more<br>but they're not friends | not sure                 |

**Question 13** Please tick one box only. Do you know what the government payment called the Baby Bonus is?

- |                          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| yes                      | I think so               | no                       |

**Question 14** Please tick one box only. Do you know how much the Baby Bonus is ?

- paid in instalments, I think
- \$2,000
- \$3,000
- \$4,000
- \$4000 if you are 18 or over, instalments if you are under 18
- \$5,000
- not sure
- some other amount? \$

**Question 15** Please tick one box only. Do you believe people would have a baby to get the Baby Bonus'?

- Yes, I know a person who has done that
- No, I don't believe there are people who do this
- I don't know of any personally, but I believe there are people who would do that
- Undecided/indifferent
- Rather not say

**Question 16** Did you participate in the baby simulation education program at school?

- yes     
  no     
  I didn't but someone I know did     
  never heard of it     
  prefer not to say

**Question 17** Did you participate in the early childhood Certificate III program at school?

- yes     
  no     
  I didn't but someone I know did     
  never heard of it     
  prefer not to say

In the next three questions, rather than about you personally, we are interested in your views on **abortion** (also described as termination of pregnancy), **surgical** abortion (which involves an operation under anaesthetic) and **medical** abortion (which involves taking medication, known as the Abortion Pill or RU486, under medical supervision).

**Please tick one box in each line.**

**Question 18** Regardless of how she became pregnant, from a list of reasons why it might be difficult for a young woman to get any type of abortion if she was considering such a decision, how would you rate each reason? A young woman might not seek an abortion . . .

		major reason	one of a number of reasons	not a reason	do not know	prefer not to say
<b>a</b>	because it would be too difficult a decision to make	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b>	because one or both of her parents would stop her	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>c</b>	because having an abortion is against God's wishes or like murdering an unborn child	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>d</b>	because it's more acceptable to her friends to have the baby	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>e</b>	because the father of the baby might not want her to	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>f</b>	because she could place the baby up for adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 19** Next comes a list of reasons why it might be difficult for a young woman to get a **surgical** abortion if she wanted to. (A surgical abortion involves an operation under anaesthetic.) How would rate each reason? A young woman might not seek a surgical abortion. . .

		major reason	one of a number of reasons	not a reason	do not know	prefer not to say
<b>a</b>	because it is too expensive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b>	because access to one is too difficult	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>c</b>	because it is too gross to consider	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>d</b>	because too many people would be involved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>e</b>	because it is possibly dangerous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>f</b>	because she found out about her pregnancy too late	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Question 20** Next comes a list of reasons why it might be difficult for a young woman to get a medical abortion if she wanted to. (A medical abortion involves taking medication known as the abortion pill or RU486, under medical supervision.) How would rate each reason? A young woman might not seek a medical abortion . . .

		major reason	one of a number of reasons	not a reason	do not know	prefer not to say
<b>a</b>	because it is too difficult to access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b>	because it is possibly dangerous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>c</b>	because popping a pill to end a pregnancy is heartless?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Thanks for your participation. One last section to go with some details about you, which do not identify you in any way**

**Question 21** What is the month and year of your birth?

Month:  Year:

**Question 22** In which country were you born?

And in which countries were your mother/female guardian and father/male guardian born?

**you**  **your mother (or guardian)**  **your father (or guardian)**

**Question 23** Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

- yes
- no

What was the highest level of education attempted or achieved by

**Q24 :you?**

- did not complete Year 10
- completed Year 10 and left
- still at high school
- completed Year 12
- doing certificate/diploma
- did certificate/diploma
- doing university degree
- other \_\_\_\_\_

**Q25 your mother (or guardian)?**

- did not complete Year 10
- completed Year 10
- completed high school
- doing certificate/diploma
- completed certificate/diploma
- doing university degree
- completed university degree
- other \_\_\_\_\_
- don't know/unsure

**Q26 your father (or guardian)?**

- did not complete Year 10
- completed Year 10
- completed high school
- doing certificate/diploma
- completed certificate/diploma
- doing university degree
- completed university degree
- other \_\_\_\_\_
- don't know/unsure

**Question 27** What is your religion? Write 'not applicable' if you don't follow a religion.

**Question 28** How often do you attend religious services

- weekly  fortnightly  monthly  religious holidays  never

**Question 29** For something really important or in an emergency, how long would it take you to get hold of \$4000? Think about all your possible resources - your own savings, income from work, getting help from a parent or relative, borrowing, pawning, but not stealing.

minutes       days       weeks       months       unachievable

**Question 30** About how old was your mother when she had her first child?

**Question 31** About how old was your father when he had his first child?

**Question 32** Do you live

- with one of your parents/guardian?
- with both of your parents?
- in share accommodation, not with any family members?
- in a marriage or marriage-like arrangement?
- other?

**Question 33** Do you live in  rented accommodation?     a home owned/mortgage being paid?

**Question 34** Is there anything you would like to add, or think we should have asked but didn't?

We are looking for young women aged 12 to 19 to take part in interviews about their views on motherhood and families. The interviews will be informal, confidential, last roughly 30 minutes, and will be with a female interviewer. If you are interviewed, you will receive a gift voucher as a thank you. Please note, we may not be able to interview all those who volunteer but if you would like to be considered, please enter your contact details and a member of the research team will contact you.

email       phone

Thanks for your time, honesty and engagement. Kindly hand this to your researcher or mail in the reply paid envelope provided (with your consent form).