

GENERATION NEW ERA

A STUDY OF CHILDREN
BORN IN THE 2020s



GENERATION NEW ERA: **STORIES**

Your guide to taking part



ABOUT THE STUDY

Generation New Era Stories (GNE: Stories) is an additional interview that is part of Generation New Era (GNE).

This interview gives mothers, fathers and carers the opportunity to talk in more detail about everyday life with a young child, in their own words. We would like to hear about family relationships, caring responsibilities, parenting, work and daily life, and people's hopes and concerns for their children's future.



Why are we doing this research?

Before a larger GNE: Stories study begins, we are doing this pilot study. We are doing this to help us improve the information given to participating families and to ensure we ask questions in ways that are clear and relevant. It will also help us prepare for a later study in two main ways:

- To find the best and most respectful ways to invite families to take part in future research.
- To compare different ways of doing interviews. We want to understand what works best for different people and what helps them to tell us about their family life.

Who runs GNE: Stories?

The Social Research Institute (SRI) at University College London (UCL) is in charge of the study. SRI is a world-leading centre for policy-oriented social science research. It carries out groundbreaking studies of children's lives and the life circumstances of families. Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS), who run Generation New Era overall, is also based within SRI, and is part of the team running GNE: Stories.

GNE: Stories is being led by Professor Katherine Twamley at UCL SRI and Dr. Michelle Sleded at the Anna Freud Centre, a charity focussed on the emotional wellbeing of children and young people. The GNE: Stories pilot is funded by the Royal Foundation Centre for Early Childhood.

GNE: Stories gives you an opportunity to share your views and experiences as a parent in greater detail and in your own words, as well as your hopes for your child's future.

WHAT'S INVOLVED?



1 A researcher will contact you to find out if you'd like to take part in the pilot study of GNE: Stories. The researcher will explain what type of interview you are being asked to take part in. This may be a one-to-one interview or, if you are in a relationship with someone who is also a parent to your child, you may be invited to a joint interview. You will be invited to participate online or in person – this is to test which format is ultimately better for the main study. During an in-person interview, you may also be offered the option of going for a short walk with the interviewer. Interviews can be done in other languages. The researcher will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



2 If you decide to take part, the researcher will arrange a day and time that works for you. You will be asked to complete a consent form before the interview.



3 Each interview will last around 60 minutes. During the interview, the researcher will ask you questions about your views and experiences of parenting and family life. You may also be asked to share some photographs of family life with the interviewer, if of interest. We will also ask you what it was like to take part in the interview. The interview will be recorded, either as a video or voice only, so that researchers can listen again afterwards.



4 You will be given a £30 shopping voucher as a thank you for your time.

Mothers
and fathers of
20 BABIES
will take part
in this study.

How was I chosen for this study?

When you took part in the GNE pilot survey you agreed that you could be contacted about further research. Your experiences as a parent or carer can help us understand family life in more depth. We would like to hear from mothers and fathers.

We are aiming to include 20 families in this pilot study from different backgrounds. This will help us check whether the information we give to people and the ways we interview people work well for different kinds of families.

What if I don't want to answer a question?

You do not have to answer any question that you do not want to answer. You can pause the interview, take a break, or stop the interview at any time without giving a reason. If you become upset during the interview, the interviewer will pause or stop the interview if needed.

Some of the things we ask about may feel personal or sensitive. For example, we may talk about parenting, family relationships, caring responsibilities, stress, or difficult experiences. Some people may find these topics emotional or uncomfortable to talk about. We have provided information about sources of support at the end of this information sheet.

LOOKING AFTER YOUR INFORMATION

Who has approved this research?

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Institute of Education (IOE) Research Ethics Committee at University College London (UCL).

What will happen to the information you give?

The information is used for research purposes only. Your interview recording will be written up as text for analysis. We will use what we learn to help improve future research. We may also use the information in research reports, academic journal articles, conference presentations, teaching materials, and other publications. You can request a copy of what we find out. If we use anything you have said, such as a quote from your interview, we will anonymise it. This means that your name and other identifying details will not be included.

Your personal data and interview texts will be treated in strict confidence and kept securely. Only approved members of the research team will be able to access them. We will keep your personal information (such as contact details) for the duration of the study, unless you tell us otherwise. We need this information to contact you for a

follow-up study which you can choose to take part in or not. Research data, such as interview transcripts, will be retained for future research use in anonymised form for a maximum of ten years.

The information from the GNE survey interview you did and from GNE: Stories interview might be used together for research purposes. This helps researchers build a fuller picture of family life with a young child. Your contact details may also be updated in the wider GNE study records if you give us new details.

What if you choose not to take part, or withdraw from the study?

You do not have to take part in GNE: Stories if you do not want to, and you have the right to withdraw from the research at any stage, without giving a reason and without any negative impacts. It will not affect any services you use.

If you want to leave the GNE: Stories study, this will have no impact on your participation in the wider GNE study.

The privacy notice can be found here: gnestudy.info/gne-stories-privacy.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

A researcher will be in contact with you by phone within the next 2-3 weeks to answer any questions you may have and to arrange an interview with you if you would like to be involved.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, or if you would like to contact us about your rights, please contact UCL at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk.

If you have any further questions or concerns about this project, you can contact the project team via email: gnestories@ucl.ac.uk.

What if taking part in GNE: Stories leaves you concerned about something in your life?

We hope you enjoy answering questions about your baby and life as a parent. Taking part should not cause any harm and will never affect any services or care you receive. If anything in the interview raises concerns, there are organisations that can help.

For general advice and support for parents:

Family Action:

family-action.org.uk, 0808 802 6666

For advice and support about money issues:

Citizens Advice Bureau:

citizensadvice.org.uk

For confidential support when experiencing feelings of distress or despair.

Samaritans:

samaritans.org, 116 123

For support about domestic abuse:

Refuge:

refuge.org.uk, 0808 2000 247

Respect:

mensadvice.org.uk, 0808 8010327

For support for single parents:

Gingerbread:

gingerbread.org.uk, 0808 802 0925

For advice about health concerns: contact your local GP or health visitor.

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE STUDY?



0776 096 2910

(you can call, text or WhatsApp)



gnestories@ucl.ac.uk



gnestudy.info/gne-stories



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ROYAL FOUNDATION

**Centre for
Early Childhood**



Anna Freud

Please note that the ethics approval number for this project is REC2435,
and the data protection number is Z6364106/2026/07/141 social research.

