

# Echoes

of the QLSCD

Restructuring at the *Institut de la statistique du Québec*! The QLSCD “I am, I’ll be” is now under the ISQ department called *Direction des enquêtes longitudinales et sociales*. Having become Director of this department, Bertrand Perron is now passing the torch of coordinating the study to Delphine Provençal.

## Why the QLSCD?

QLSCD is the acronym for the Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development. This is the “scientific” name of the study and the one specialists, researchers and government employees use. Many major publications refer to the QLSCD and not to “I Am, I’ll Be” and this may unfortunately be a factor in why it is felt that the study is not talked about enough.

## Cross-sectional or longitudinal study?

These two types of surveys are completely different even though they can address the same topic. A cross-sectional survey is a snapshot of a population at a particular moment in time. It can be repeated, but the participants change.

A longitudinal study is similar to a TV series – like actors in these series, the same respondents repeatedly participate in rounds of the survey over time. Therefore, this type of survey means the life course of participants can be followed more closely.

## “I am, I’ll be” – unique in Québec, but not the only longitudinal survey in the world!

Indeed, other large-scale longitudinal studies on child development are being conducted in various parts of the world. The most impressive in terms of certain characteristics are the following:

- Number of respondents: In the U.S., the National Children's Study is following about **100,000 children**, from before birth to the age of 21 years.
- Duration: In Great Britain, the National Child Development Study, launched **in 1958**, is still following respondents more than **50 years** after the first data collection!
- Number of researchers: In France, the *Enquête longitudinale française depuis l'enfance* has more than **400 researchers** in 60 laboratories. Launched in 2007, it is following 20,000 children from birth to adulthood.

## For your information

To bring an exciting conclusion to Phase 2 of “I am, I’ll be” we have organized a draw for children participating in the 2010 data collection. Great prizes can be won! You can find more information on this in The Investigator by turning over the page.

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## A Few Words From the Director

After six wonderful years coordinating the survey, I am now meeting new challenges while still continuing to be part of the study. Knowing how much she has taken “I am, I’ll be” and its respondents to heart, I have complete confidence in passing the reins to Delphine Provençal. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and participation over these many years.

Bertrand Perron

## A Few Words From the Coordinator

It is with great enthusiasm that I have accepted this new responsibility. With my five years of experience on the QLSCD, surrounded by an amazing team, and supported by a dynamic and committed director, I am convinced that I will do well at fulfilling the functions of coordinator of the study.

Following the birth of my first child, your experiences as parents have been very useful to me. Research flowing from the “I am, I’ll be” study has helped me better understand the development of my little treasure. Thanks to your generosity, I am better equipped to raise my child. I sincerely thank you for continuing this adventure with us.

Delphine Provençal

happy  
educated  
active  
healthy

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