

# Echoes

of the QLSCD

## Thank you to all our participants in the 2011 round of the study!

Approximately 1,500 respondents and their families participated in our survey this year. The data you agreed to provide us with is helping us gain a better understanding of the lives of young Québécois today.  
Thanks and have a great summer!

### Concrete, what is the study being used for?

The main goal of the study is to contribute to knowledge to help design and improve programs that foster the development of Québec children. This knowledge is based on your responses to our questionnaires. Here are two recent publications which have contributed to our understanding of certain phenomena.

#### A fascicle everyone is talking about!

In December 2010, the Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ) published the fascicle entitled "Diverse and Changing Family Structure During Early Childhood." It is based on data collected from the "I am, I'll be" survey. It covers family transitions experienced by the children and certain aspects of the family environment in which they are growing up, such as the atmosphere surrounding the parents' relationship and custody arrangements when the parents are separated or divorced. Ideas about suggested interventions form part of the conclusions.

#### A publication on hyperactivity and inattention

The Institut de la statistique du Québec recently published a report entitled "Hyperactivity and Inattention Symptoms in Children, from Preschool Years to Grade 2." It is based on data collected as part of the QLSCD 1998-2010. The authors present developmental trajectories of hyperactivity and inattention from 3½ to 8 years of age and their associations with variables such as academic performance, taking a medication to treat hyperactivity or inattention, and the type of class attended in Grade 2 of elementary school.

You can access these publications on our website at: [www.iamillbe.stat.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.iamillbe.stat.gouv.qc.ca). Click on the menu item on the left "Publications" – then select "Government."

### Redundancy in the questionnaires?

The interviewers have told us that some of you found certain questions redundant or almost the same as other ones. You're right! We are not trying to trick you or force you to answer in certain ways! Far from it! In reality, these statements or questions that seem very similar protect against misinterpretation.

Most questions are not "stand-alone," i.e. used only by themselves. We combine the answers to a number of different questions to obtain a score that illustrates a precise concept. For example, imagine the following two questions:

- Do you give your child material rewards when he/she does a good deed?
- Do you verbally praise your child on his/her good deeds?

A parent could reply "No" to question a) and "Yes" to question b). By combining the answers to these two questions, we can determine whether this parent gives recognition to the good deeds of the child. If we use only question a), the analyses might show that this parent does not highlight the good deeds of his/her child, which is not exactly true.

Little nuances in the questions provide specialists with a reliable portrait of the family life of Québécois. This is why we must ask several different questions which seem to resemble each other, but which together present a more comprehensive, realistic image of what is happening.

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### A word from the Coordinator

Thank you! Another round of data collection is over! Thanks to your participation, we have a wealth of data for research designed to improve public policies and the well-being of Québec children. Your contribution to the survey is a form of volunteering and all Québécois owe you their gratitude.

For example, the findings have been used by the Ministère de la Famille et des Aînés (Ministry of the Family and Seniors) to improve the education program "Accueillir la petite enfance" aimed at all daycare services in Québec. Your life and family experiences have therefore helped in the development of intervention programs directly designed for children. The longitudinal nature of our study, namely that the same respondents participate over time, is a prerequisite to obtain these types of results.

We hope to meet with you again in 2013, and in the meantime you may be invited to participate in a special project planned by researchers affiliated with our study. Your participation is voluntary, but very important.

I wish you a great summer, and I'll be in touch soon with the next newsletter!

Delphine Provençal

happy  
I'll be educated  
active  
healthy

Institut  
de la statistique  
Québec

