

TEACHER INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM

1. Name of study

Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development ELDEQ (E7) – 2004 Round

2. Researchers

Michel Boivin (Université Laval), Frank Vitaro (Université de Montréal)

3. Objectives of the research project

Since 1998 we have been carrying out a study of the development of children in Québec. For this purpose we have been following a cohort of some 2000 children since birth. The children in this cohort were selected at random from all the children born from 1997 to 1998 so as to be representative of all children in Québec. Each year since birth their parents have filled out a questionnaire concerning the development of their child.

This year, these children are in kindergarten, and their parents have authorized us to ask their teacher to fill out a questionnaire concerning their behaviour, their performance in school, and their social relations.

4. Sources of funding

Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, ministère de l'Emploi, la Solidarité sociale et la Famille, la Fondation Lucie et André Chagnon

5. Invitation to participate in the psychosocial and school-performance part of the study

We are requesting your participation in the psychosocial and school-performance part of the study. We have already obtained the consent of both your school board and your principal. We ask that you read this information form in order to decide if you are interested in participating in this study.

6. Goal of the psychosocial and school adaptation part of the study

This part of the study is concerned with the social and school adaptation of the children. The goals of the study are as follows:

- a) Evaluate the effects of intervention on adaptation, school performance and associated psychosocial factors.

- b) Evaluate the key variables that explain changes in lifestyle and the frequency of physical activity.

7. General description of the psychosocial and school adaptation part of the study

The parents involved have already consented to participate in the psychosocial and school adaptation part of the study. During the months of March, April and May, 2004, a research assistant from the Université de Montréal will contact you to make an appointment to meet with the children for whom we have received parental consent. The child will be asked to complete cognitive tests as well as tests of psychomotility and physical condition. These are individual tests, so the child will be taken out of class. The visit will last approximately two and a half hours, but will be divided in two periods, one in the morning, and one in the afternoon. During this visit, the research assistant can answer any questions you or the principal may have.

8. Your participation

You will be asked to fill out a short questionnaire concerning the child's behaviour and school adjustment. If the best friend of the child-subject is in your class, we will ask you to give the best friend the consent form to be signed by his or her parents. When the completed form is returned, please fill out section E on the questionnaire: relations between the child and his or her friends.

9. Advantages and benefits

Your consent authorizing the teacher to complete a questionnaire concerning your child will not provide any specific benefit other than knowing that your collaboration has contributed to furthering our understanding of child development.

10. Inconveniences and risks

Your participation does not entail any risks. The visit has been planned so as not to interfere with your class activities.

The children's participation in this project does not entail any risks. If a child becomes tired, or feels ill-at-ease about any of the questions while taking these tests, there is no obligation on the child's part to complete them.

11. Compensation for your time

In compensation for the time spent on this part of the study, you will receive the sum of \$10.

12. Confidentiality

All the results gathered as part of the Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development ELDEQ (E7) – 2004 Round are **strictly confidential**. The results will be coded by number, and only authorized individuals will have access to the list identifying which numbers correspond to which children.

Teachers' questionnaires will be stored in a locked filing cabinet in a closed room, and will be destroyed five years after the project has been completed.

In order to assure that the research is carried out properly, it is possible that a representative of the research ethics committee or representatives of the funding agents may consult the research data on a confidential basis.

All the data that is gathered will remain confidential, and no details concerning specific individuals will be published or divulged. It is possible that the **general** results obtained in this study may be published or made public. Naturally, if you so desire, you will be able to contact the research team to obtain information on how research is proceeding, or on the general results of the project.

13. Freedom of participation

Your participation in this part of the study is completely voluntary. You are entirely free to accept or refuse to participate, without your refusal harming you in any way. You may withdraw your consent and terminate your participation in the study at any time, and without any penalty to you. In such a case, you will not have to justify your decision.

14. Responsibility of the researchers

In the event of a situation that causes you prejudice, you are in no way giving up your legal rights. What is more, you are not releasing the researchers and the promoter* of their legal and professional responsibility in the event of a situation that could cause prejudice to the children.

15. In case of questions or difficulties

For further information concerning this research, please contact the coordinators of this part of the study: Ms Hélène Beauchesne, (514) 345-2182, and Ms. Hélène Beaumont, (514) 345-2178.

16. Teacher's consent

The nature of and the activities involved in the present part of the study have been explained to me. I have carefully read and I understand the present information and consent sheet.

The risks and potential inconveniences have been explained to me. I have been given the opportunity to ask questions, and in that event, I have received satisfactory answers to my questions.

I understand that the various elements involved in carrying out this part of the study have been reviewed and approved by the ethics committee of the Institut de la Statistique du Québec.

I am free to withdraw from this study at any time and for any reason, without any penalty to me or my child.

I freely and voluntarily consent to participate in this part of the Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development ELDEQ (E7).

Teacher's name (Please print)

Teacher's consent (Signature)

Date

17. Commitment by researcher or the latter's representative

The research project as well as the terms of participation have been explained to the participant. A member of the research team (researcher or research assistant) has answered the participant's questions and has explained that participation in this research project is free and voluntary. The research team undertakes to respect the terms set out in the consent form.

Signature of researcher or representative who has obtained consent

Date

Hélène Beauchesne Hélène Beaumont Coordinators

February 19, 2004

Name of researcher(s) or of the representataive and function (please print)

Date