

Participant Information About the Survey

10/02/2022

Title of the Project: Language attrition in multilingual foster children, international adoptees, and migrants: a mixed-methods approach.

Researcher: Claudia Cojocaru

Supervisor: Prof. Monika Schmid

What is our study about?

I would like to invite you to take part in a new research study. This study is part of a doctoral thesis at the University of York. Before you decide if you'd like to participate, I would like to take the chance to tell you a little more about this research.

Our study seeks to better understand your experience of growing up speaking a minority home language in England. We are looking at your personal experiences and the varying types of language support that was available to you. We want to investigate how these may affect how well you have retained your minority language in adulthood.

How will you take part in our study?

You are eligible for participating in our study. Taking part in this study is entirely voluntary and up to you. You are free to withdraw from this study at any point you may wish to, with no penalty and no questions asked.

If you choose to take part in our study, you will be provided with a written consent form, which you must sign before you can take part. Once this has been signed, you will be sent a link to our study.

You will then take part in a short survey (20 minutes). You will fill out a quick self-assessment about your home language skills, answer a few questions on your background, and then answer a few questions about your language use and experiences.

What will happen to the data that is gathered?

The data collected will remain entirely anonymous. If you choose to withdraw at any point, any data that had been collected until that point will be immediately destroyed. If you choose to take part in the study and complete the survey, the data collected will be used in the publication of the doctoral thesis and will be completely anonymous.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The results will be published as part of a doctoral thesis at the University of York and may appear in an academic journal. If you would like to receive a copy of the thesis or a short summary, you may request this from the Principal Investigator. We will be very happy to provide you with one.

Why should you participate in this study?

Your responses will help us better understand how we can improve support for looked-after children who speak a minority home language. By learning about your experiences, we hope to find ways to make home language support more available, understand children's specific language needs, and raise awareness of bilingualism with professionals in social work.

Are there any risks?

There are no physical risks to taking part in this research. This study addresses growing up with a minority home language and may address foster care or adoption. We would advise you consider how you feel about this and ask yourself if you feel comfortable answering questions on this topic. If you experience any psychological distress while filling out the survey, then you are free to stop immediately with no penalty.

Who has reviewed this study?

This study has been reviewed by the University of York and University of Essex Ethics Committees and has been granted full ethical approval. The research is currently being supervised by Professor Monika Schmid, Head of Department, in the Department of Language and Linguistic science at the University of York.

Further questions?

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal Investigator (see details below). We are very grateful for your choice to participate in our survey.

Kind regards,



Claudia Cojocaru
PhD Candidate
Department of Language and Linguistic Science
University of York
Heslington
York, YO10 5DD, UK
cpc530@york.ac.uk

Prof. Monika Schmid
Head of Department
Department of Language and Linguistic Science
University of York
Heslington
York, YO10 5DD, UK
monika.schmid@york.ac.uk