

1a. Participant Information for Caregivers

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 child's experience of growing up speaking a minority home language in England. We are looking at their personal experiences and the varying types of language support that may be available to them. We want to investigate how these may affect how well they are retaining their minority language.

How will your child take part in our study?

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

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

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

What will happen to the data that is gathered?

The data collected will remain entirely anonymous. If your child chooses to withdraw at any point, any data that had been collected until that point will be immediately destroyed. If your child chooses to take part in the study and then completes 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 your child participate in this study?

Your child's responses will help us better understand how we can improve support for looked-after children who speak a minority home language. By learning about their experiences, we hope to find ways to make home language support more available, understand their specific 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 to discuss with your child how they feel about this and ask them if they feel comfortable answering questions on this topic. If your child experiences any psychological distress while filling out the survey, then they 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 and your child's choice to participate in our survey.

Kind regards,



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1b. Caregiver Consent Form

10/02/2022

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

Researcher: Claudia Cojocaru

Please initial box

1. **I confirm that I** have read and understand the Information Sheet dated 10/02/2022 for the above study. I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and have had these questions answered satisfactorily.
2. I understand that my child's participation is voluntary and that they are free to withdraw from the project at any time without giving any reason and without penalty.
3. I understand that the identifiable data provided will be securely stored and accessible only to the members of the research team directly involved in the project, and that confidentiality will be maintained.
4. I understand that data collected in this project might be shared as appropriate and for publication of findings, in which case data will remain completely anonymous.
5. I agree to my child taking part in the above study.

Caregiver Name

Date

Caregiver Signature

Researcher Name

Date

Researcher Signature

2a. Participant Information for Children

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?

You are invited to take part in a new study at the University of York about minority home languages. We would like to learn more about your experience growing up speaking a minority home language in England. We are hoping to find out how your day-to-day experiences may have affected how well you are keeping your minority language.

How will you take part in our study?

If you decide to take part in our study, you will be given an assent form to sign. Your caregiver will also have to sign a consent form. Make sure that you both review and discuss the information presented in these documents before signing. Once you and your caregiver sign the documents, your caregiver will receive a link for the online survey you will participate in.

You will then take part in a short online survey (20 minutes). You will fill out a quick questionnaire about your home language skills, answer a few questions on your background, and then a few questions about your language use and experiences. This is not a test and you will not be graded on anything. You will not have to talk about your answers with anyone.

It is your choice to take part in this study. You are free to leave it at any point and you do not have to give a reason. There will not be any penalty and no questions will be asked. You can withdraw by just clicking off the survey.

What will happen to the data that is gathered?

Your answers will remain entirely anonymous. No personal data will be collected. If you choose to stop at any point, any data that had been collected until that point will be immediately destroyed. If you choose to finish the survey, the data collected will only be used in a 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 by contacting the researcher (details below). We will be very happy to give you one.

Why should you participate in this study?

Your responses will help us understand how we can improve the experiences of looked-after children who speak a minority home language. By learning about your experiences, we hope to find ways to make support for minority home language more available, understand your specific 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 is about growing up with a minority home language and may mention foster care or adoption. We would advise you to discuss how you feel about this with your caregiver and decide if you feel comfortable answering questions on this topic. If you start feeling upset for any reason while filling out the survey, you are free to stop immediately with no consequences.

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 questions, please contact the main researcher, Claudia Cojocaru (see details below). We are very grateful for your choice to participate in our survey.

Kind regards,



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2b. Participant Assent Form

10/20/2022

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

Researcher: Claudia Cojocaru

Please initial box

6. **I confirm that I** have discussed the study with my caregiver and that I understand what this study is about.

7. I agree to take part in the above study.

Participant Name

Date

Participant Signature

Researcher Name

Date

Researcher Signature
