

Participant Information Sheet

The ANUpoll survey series is being managed by Professor Nicholas Biddle, a researcher in the College of Arts and Social Sciences at the Australian National University. Also working on this wave of data collection is Professor Bruce Smyth, Professor Matthew Gray, and Dr Markus Hahn.

Project details:

- **Description and Methodology:** Approximately 1,500 Australians will be surveyed online, via ‘Life in Australia™’, the Social Research Centre’s probability-based online panel. For this particular wave of data collection, another 900 Australians will be surveyed by the Social Research Centre via a non-probability online panel supplied by the Online Research Unit. The project surveys Australians’ views on a range of social and policy issues, with a particular focus on issues around child support. Question modules that will be asked in this particular wave are on the following topics:
 - General attitudes on life in Australia, confidence in institutions;
 - Life satisfaction;
 - Employment, income, and financial hardship;
 - Marital status, number of children;
 - Relationship with the other parent, if you are separated with children;
 - Knowledge of and views towards child support and the government’s Child Support Scheme;
 - Policy issues around child support;
 - Views towards minimum living standards for families
- **Use of Data and Feedback:** Australian National University researchers will analyse the data and report the findings. ANUpoll findings are commonly reported in national media, but no individual respondents are ever mentioned or otherwise identified. The confidentialised data will be retained in the Australian Data Archive for future research.
- **Project Funding:** The project is funded by the Australian National University and, in this particular wave, also the Department of Social Services.

Participant Involvement:

- **Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal:** Participation in the project is entirely voluntary and you may, without any penalty, decline to take part or withdraw from the survey at any time until the work is prepared for publication without providing an explanation. You can refuse to answer any question throughout the survey. If you do withdraw, the primary investigator will retrieve and destroy your data record, and the survey will be continued without your responses and information.
- **What does participation in the research request of you?** All that is required of participants is completion of this survey, expected to take 20 minutes of your time.
- **Benefits:** By participating in this survey, you are helping to improve our understanding of Australian society. The data will be used to help design Australia’s health, welfare and economic policies, as well as the child support scheme.



- **Risks:** In any collection of personal information, there is some risk that third parties will access confidential data. To minimise that risk, respondents' user identification will be encrypted. All personal information collected will be kept confidential as far as allowed by law and it will not be possible to identify individuals. At the end of the research only aggregate results will be presented and no one will be identified. The information will be stored in a secure location for at least five years following publications arising from the research.
- There are some questions for separated parents about their relationship with the other parent. Answering these questions may upset some respondents. That said, there are no compulsory questions in the survey, and details of support services are provided below and again at the end of the survey.
- **Confidentiality:** The Australian National University treats the privacy and security of all respondents with the greatest concern. Respondents' user identification will be encrypted, until all respondents have completed the survey (and any responses retrieved and destroyed upon request), and all identifying information can be destroyed. Only once that information is destroyed will the remaining data be moved from the Social Research Centre's secure server. Only the anonymised data will be made available to the primary investigator and to other researchers. The data will only be reported in aggregate form.
- For more information about the additional protections for participants in the Life in Australia panel, please follow the link on the Social Research Centre's website - <https://www.srcentre.com.au/our-research/life-in-australia-study>

In collecting your personal information within this research, the ANU must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppi/document/ANUP_010007 and it contains information about how a person can:

- Access or seek correction to their personal information;
 - Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.
- **Where:** The data collected in this survey will be anonymised (i.e. any identifying information will be removed and destroyed) and stored securely by the Social Research Centre. The anonymised data will then be archived in the Australian Data Archive for at least five years from following publication of the results.
 - **Additional support:** If you would like to talk to someone about any issues that have arisen from participating in this survey, about how you have been feeling, or if you have any concerns about your mental health or questions related to current or past relationships, please seek support from one of the services listed below:

beyondblue

www.beyondblue.org.au
Phone: 1300 22 4636

Lifeline

www.lifeline.org.au
Phone: 13 11 14

1800RESPECT

www.1800respect.org.au
Phone: 1800 737 732



Australian
National
University

Headspace

headspace.org.au

Phone: 1800 650 890

Kids Helpline

www.kidshelpline.com.au

Phone: 1800 551 800

13YARN

www.13yarn.org.au

Phone: 13 92 76

Queries and Concerns:

- **Contact Details for More Information:**

For any further information, queries, or complaints, please contact:

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Ethics Committee Clearance:

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol 2021/430). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee
The Australian National University
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427
Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au