

WHY IS THIS STUDY IMPORTANT?

The information collected will help researchers and policy makers understand the way people's lives are changing, and how these changes differ between various groups in Australia. It will help them answer questions such as:

- How do changes like leaving school, starting a new job or retiring affect people's lives?
- How are attitudes changing over time?
- How do people balance the changing demands of work and family?
- How do changes in the economy and in people's lives affect their spending?

As the study is funded by the Commonwealth Government, the results will help improve the social and economic policies that affect all Australians.

WHO IS CARRYING OUT THIS STUDY?

The Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research at the University of Melbourne leads a research group that is designing and managing the study. The other partners in the group are the Australian Council for Educational Research and the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

ACNielsen, Australia's largest private social research organisation, has been contracted to carry out the interviews. ACNielsen is well respected for its integrity and independence.

www.livinginaustralia.org

More information:

1800 656 670



Questions & Answers

*Help us Shape
Australia's Future*



08/2001

LIVING IN AUSTRALIA STUDY

The Living in Australia study aims to improve our understanding of what is happening in the lives of people in Australia. By taking part in this study, you are helping one of Australia's most important social research projects.

The information that you and thousands of others provide will help in planning for better education, employment, housing, pensions and social services.

WHY MY HOUSEHOLD?

To get an accurate picture of people's lives, the study needs to include a wide cross-section of the Australian population.

Your household was randomly selected using strict statistical procedures. We cannot replace your household with any other household.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?

In the next few weeks an interviewer from ACNielsen will visit your household.

If it's convenient, they will conduct the interview with you then. If not, they will make an appointment to do the interview at a time that suits you better.

The interviewer will ask everyone in your household, aged 15 years and older, to

answer some questions. This should take about 30 minutes. The questions cover a range of topics including education, employment, retirement, income, family life, and how you feel about various aspects of your life.

One person will also be asked some questions about your household.

In appreciation of your help with this study, all households that participate will be sent a cheque for at least \$20. \$50 will be sent to households where interviews are completed with ALL household members.

We will also send you a newsletter to keep you up-to-date with the outcomes of the study and, as this is a study about change, we would like to interview you again next year.

WHO WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION I PROVIDE?

Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

ACNielsen will remove all personal and any identifying information given during your interview, before passing your answers to



the Melbourne Institute. Users of these data will not know who has participated.

Melbourne Institute operates within the University's Ethics Guidelines. ACNielsen operates under the International Code of Marketing and Social Research Practice, which has strict protocols for ensuring personal information remains entirely anonymous.

All members of the group and researchers involved in the project must comply with the Privacy Act (1988).

IS THIS STUDY VOLUNTARY?

Yes, this study is voluntary. However, we hope you can help us. Your response is important in getting a complete picture and will help develop better policies for Australians.

MORE INFORMATION

If you want any more information, have any special needs (such as help with speaking English) or don't want to participate, we can make the arrangements.

Please telephone 1800 656 670, visit our web site www.livinginaustralia.org or let our interviewer know when they visit you.