

# Stop press

# What do you think?



# living

in Australia Study

## ➡ Your impact

Articles published in numerous daily papers in 2005 report work being done using data from the Living in Australia study. Have a look at our website to read more [www.livinginaustralia.org](http://www.livinginaustralia.org).

For example, one article discussed how the government is using the data to consider possible changes to the family law system.

By taking part, you have made a significant contribution to such progress. If you have not taken part in an interview, you still have a chance to become involved and make a difference! An ACNielsen interviewer will be calling again in the next few days.

The ability to look at the data over time is what makes the Living in Australia study so important.

## ➡ Thank you

This year we will send a \$25 cheque to each person who participates. Once everybody in your household has taken part, your household will receive a bonus \$25.

## ➡ Recent quotes

We asked some survey participants how they felt about taking part in the Living in Australia study.

“We feel privileged to be asked to be a part of this study. It is very worthwhile.”

“My first language is not English but with help from my family I can do the interview and am happy to be a part of the Living in Australia study.”

“We are happy to be able to contribute and be counted.”

## ➡ Contact us

- Do you have any concerns or questions?
- Would you like to know more?
- Do you need to contact your interviewer?

We would like to hear from you and can be contacted on free-call **1800 656 670** or via email [livinginaustralia@acnielsen.com.au](mailto:livinginaustralia@acnielsen.com.au)



# Message from the Project Director

# In the news



The Living in Australia study is unique in the information it provides about Australian life.

There is strong interest in the findings from many areas, including policy makers in government,

academics, and the media.

I am delighted to see results from the study reported in the newspapers and hope you find the examples included in this newsletter interesting.

Thank you for your vital contribution to this unique study.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark P. Wooden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Professor Mark Wooden

HILDA Project Director

Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and  
Social Research

University of Melbourne

If you have been reading the press lately you may well have come across references to the latest Living in Australia data.

The Sydney Morning Herald, for example, recently led with this headline:

**‘Why poverty exists - even in the boom times’**

Professor Peter Saunders, Director of the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of NSW, shows that the understanding we have about households experiencing low income has been increased dramatically by data from the Living in Australia study.

Professor Saunders’ report shows that “the findings cast a disturbing light on the social consequences of the economic boom that Australia was enjoying in this period. One wonders how many Australians knew in 2000 that there was a one in five chance that they and their families would have to spend one of the next three years of economic prosperity living below the poverty line.”

The Professor also states that although the study has only been in existence for a short period it is raising important issues that need to feature in current debates and policy development in industrial relations, tax and welfare reform.

Clearly the Living in Australia study is having an impact – and we have you to thank for that. Your contribution ensures that policy makers have a greater understanding of what’s happening in Australian households.