**Growing Up in Ireland** – national longitudinal study of children and young people

**Strictly Confidential**

Questionnaire for parent not living with 17-year-old

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area Code</th>
<th>Household Code</th>
<th>Date: ____ day ____ month ____ year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Please Read This First**

This questionnaire should be accompanied by an information sheet. It is important that you read this information before filling out the questionnaire. If you have any questions, please ring (01) 8632000 and ask for the *Growing Up in Ireland* team.

**If you would prefer to complete the questionnaire with an interviewer over the phone, please call (01) 8632000 during office hours**

**First of all, we would like to ask you a few questions about the time you spend with your 17-year-old**

Q1. How long is it since you last saw your 17-year-old? _______ days _______ weeks _______ months

Q2. Does your 17-year-old usually live with:
   - His/her mother .................
   - His/her father ...................
   - In his/her own accommodation ....
   - Other (please specify) ........

Q3. How many nights do you and your 17-year-old spend together in a typical month?

   ___________ nights

Q4. Which of the following would best describe your usual pattern of contact with your 17-year-old?
   - Weekdays ......................
   - Weekends ......................
   - Week on/week off ............
   - As it suits us both ..........
   - Other (please specify) ....

Q5. How long does a typical contact last? _______ days or _______ hours

Q6. How do you feel about the **amount** of time you spend with your 17-year-old? Please tick one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nowhere near enough</th>
<th>Not quite enough</th>
<th>About right</th>
<th>A little too much</th>
<th>Way too much</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q7. If you feel that you do **not** spend enough time with your 17-year-old, what do you think is the reason for this situation? If more than one reason, please tick the main reason.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My work commitments</th>
<th>Court-imposed custody rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My commitments to other family/new partner</th>
<th>Young person doesn't have the time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical distance between me and my teenager</th>
<th>Young person doesn't want to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other parent is uncooperative</th>
<th>Other (please specify)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q8. When you are spending time with your 17-year-old, where do you tend to go with him/her? A list of places is given below. Please place a ‘1’ beside the location where you spend most time, a ‘2’ beside the next most used location and so on. If there are any locations that you do not visit, just leave them blank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>my home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the other parent’s home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>another relative’s home (e.g. grandparents)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the young person’s own home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>recreational/amenity area (e.g. park, swimming pool)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>restaurant or other social event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sporting events (e.g. football match)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other (please specify)__________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q9. Do you use any of the following to communicate with your 17-year-old? Please tick all that apply.

- Phone
- Text
- Internet chat-room
- Skype or similar video call
- Email
- Social networking sites (e.g., Facebook)
- Other messaging service (WhatsApp, Viber etc.)
- Other (please specify)__________________________________________________

Q10. How many hours of communication, outside of personal visits, do you have with your 17-year-old in a typical month? (Your best estimate is fine)

_________ number of hours

Q11. We would like to get a sense of how you rate the quality of the time you spend with your 17-year-old. Please tick one box to indicate a rating of between 1 and 5, where ‘1’ is “excellent” and ‘5’ is “very poor”.

- Excellent
- Very Poor
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Q12. Do you currently pay anything directly towards the rent or mortgage due on the home of your 17-year-old’s mother (i.e. the house or apartment where he/she resides with his or her mother, NOT your own home)?

- Yes, I pay the full amount due ............................................
- Yes, I pay a contribution ....................................................
- No, I don’t pay towards the rent or mortgage directly ..........
- There is no rent or mortgage owing on the home ............

Q13. If you pay all or part of the mortgage or rent, how much do you pay per month?

€ ________ per month (Please Go to Q14)

Q14. Do you provide financial support to your 17-year-old’s MOTHER (other than a direct rent or mortgage payment)?

- Never ....
- Yes. ....  REGULAR payment of €___________ per month (excluding direct rent/mortgage payment)
- Yes. ...... an IRREGULAR payment, as required (e.g. back to school) to the approximate value of €___________ per year

Q15. If you give a regular payment as in Q14 above, how did you decide on the amount/schedule?

(Please tick one box only)

- Your decision ...............................................................  
- Mutual agreement with mother .........................................
- Legally imposed arrangement ...........................................
Q15. Do you provide financial support DIRECTLY TO YOUR 17-YEAR-OLD?

Never .... [ ]

Yes. ........ [ ] REGULAR payment of €___________ per month

Yes. ........ [ ] an IRREGULAR payment, as required to the approximate value of €________ per year

Q17. Do you provide any support (other than financial) to where the 17-year-old lives, e.g. home repairs, minding the family pet, generally “being there” when needed, etc?

Never ....... [ ]1 Yes, occasionally ....... [ ]2 Yes, frequently ........ [ ]3

Q18. What age was your 17-year-old when you stopped living with him/her?

AGE ________ years

Q19. Why did you stop living with him/her at that time? Please specify as fully as possible.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Q20. How often do you talk about your 17-year-old with his/her mother?

Every day ............................................. [ ]1

Several times a week ................................ [ ]2

About once a week .................................. [ ]3

A few times a month ................................... [ ]4

Several times a year .................................... [ ]5

Not at all .......................................................... [ ]6

Q21. How well do you get on with your 17-year-old’s mother? Would you say your relationship is . . .?

Very positive .......................................... [ ]1

Somewhat positive .................................... [ ]2

Neutral ...................................................... [ ]3

Somewhat negative ................................... [ ]4

Very negative ........................................... [ ]5

Q22. Often parents have to make major decisions concerning the child, such as about education. Please indicate the degree of influence you feel you have in major decisions concerning your 17-year-old in terms of:

A lot of influence Some influence No influence

Health care ........................................... [ ]1 [ ]2 [ ]3

Education ............................................... [ ]1 [ ]2 [ ]3

Values and attitudes................................. [ ]1 [ ]2 [ ]3

Friends .................................................... [ ]1 [ ]2 [ ]3

Relationships .......................................... [ ]1 [ ]2 [ ]3

Lifestyle ................................................... [ ]1 [ ]2 [ ]3

Activities .................................................. [ ]1 [ ]2 [ ]3

Q23a. Thinking back over the last two years, would you say that your relationship with your 17-year-old has:

got better; stayed the same; or got worse?

Got better ........ [ ]2 Stayed the same ......... [ ]1 Got worse......... [ ]3

Q23b. Why do you think it has got better / got worse? Please elaborate as fully as possible.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________
Finally, we just have a few questions about you.

Q24. What is your date of birth?  

Day  Month  Year

Q25. How old were you when your first ever child was born? ______ years

Q26. How would you describe your current employment status?

Working for payment or profit  □ 1  Retired from employment  □ 6
Looking for first regular job  □ 2  Unable to work due to permanent
Unemployed  □ 3  sickness or disability  □ 7
Student or pupil  □ 4  Other (please specify)  □ 8
Looking after home/family  □ 5

Q27. What is (was) your occupation in your main job? Please describe as fully as possible.

___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Q28. What is the highest level of education that you have completed? (Please tick one box only)

No formal education  □ 1  Certificate  □ 6
Primary  □ 2  Diploma  □ 7
Junior Cert. or equivalent  □ 3  Degree  □ 8
Leaving Cert. or equivalent  □ 4  Postgraduate Degree  □ 9
Trade Qualification  □ 5

Q29. Which of the following best describes your current marital status?

Single  □ 1  Separated  □ 4
First marriage  □ 2  Divorced  □ 5
Remarried following divorce  □ 3  Widowed  □ 6
Remarried following Widowhood  □ 7

Q30. Are you currently living with a spouse or partner?

Yes  □ 1  No  □ 2 Please go to Q32

Q31. If yes, how long have you been in this relationship?  ______ years or _______ months

Q32. How many other children (not including the study child) do you have?

None  □ 1  ______ by same parent as Study Child  ______ by a different partner(s)

Q33. Were you born in Ireland?

Yes  □ 1  No  □ 2

Q34. Which country were you born in?

__________________________________________

Q35. When did you come to live in Ireland?

__________________________ (please record year)

Q36. What is your nationality?

__________________________________________

Q37. How would you describe your general state of health?

Excellent  □ 1  Very good  □ 2  Good  □ 3  Fair  □ 4  Poor  □ 5

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TAKING PART IN THIS PROJECT. 
PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE ENCLOSED PRE-PAID ENVELOPE. 
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS PROJECT PLEASE PHONE 
THE GROWING UP IN IRELAND TEAM AT 01-8632000