Suggested Reference


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Fathers play a crucial role in the lives of children. We want to find out how they shape their children’s early development, health & wellbeing.

‘Who are Today’s Dads?’ is a Centre for Longitudinal Research project related to the Growing Up in New Zealand study. The ‘Dads’ of 4000 6 year olds completed an online questionnaire about themselves & their relationship with their children.

We are exploring the diversity of individuals who are ‘father’ figures to contemporary NZ children with a focus on work, parenting family, & how involved fathers are with their Growing Up in New Zealand child.

We are interested in all ‘Dads’ not just biological fathers but also step-fathers, co-mums, foster & adoptive parents, & other family members who fulfill a ‘Dad’ role.

Another important focus is the extent to which NZ children experience a change of ‘father’

How can we support availability, engagement & responsibility among fathers?

Our key aim is to determine how policy can be developed to enhance the role that modern fathers can play to contribute positively to children’s early development.

Results available from Fathers Day/September 2016