  

**Research study: How credible are child witnesses?**

To take part in this research study, you must be eligible for jury service in the UK. To be eligible for jury service, you must meet the criteria listed in the box below.

**Eligibility for jury service:**

You could be selected to serve on a jury in the UK if you:

* Are aged between 18 and 69 years old;
* Are registered on your local government’s electoral register;
* Have lived in the UK, the Channel Isles or the Isle of Man for the last five years since you were 13 years old.

You are disqualified from jury service if:

* You lack the mental capacity to do so. Mental capacity is the ability to make a decision for yourself. People who cannot do this are said to ‘lack capacity’ under the Mental Capacity Act 2005. This must be due to an impairment of or disturbance in the functioning of the mind or brain which may be due to illness, injury, learning disability, or mental health problems.
* To have capacity a person must be able to:
	+ Understand the information that is relevant to the decision they want to make.
	+ Retain the information long enough to be able to make the decision.
	+ Weigh up the information available to make the decision.
	+ Communicate the decision by any means.

You are disqualified from jury service if you are currently on bail in criminal proceedings. You are also disqualified if:

* you have ever been sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more
* If you have been imprisoned at all in the last 10 years

**Do you meet the criteria for serving on a jury (please circle)?**

 Yes No

  

**Now we would like to ask some more questions about you…**

**How old are you?**

\_\_\_\_\_ years old

**What is your gender?**

* Male
* Female
* Other (please specify):

**What is your ethnicity?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * White British
* White Irish
* Any other White background
 | * Asian or Asian British
* Asian Indian
* Asian Pakistani
* Asian Bangladeshi
* Any other Asian background
 |
| * Black or Black British
* Black Caribbean
* Black African
* Any other Black background
 | * Mixed White and Black Caribbean
* Mixed White and Black African
* Mixed White and Asian
* Any other Mixed background
 |
| * Chinese
* Any other Ethnic group
 |  |

**NOW WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO WATCH A SHORT VIDEO CLIP OF A CHILD BEING INTERVIEWED ABOUT AN EVENT THEY HAVE SEEN.**

**The child in the video is assisted by an intermediary. Intermediaries facilitate communication with vulnerable people (e.g., children) in the criminal justice system.**

* **Prior to interview, intermediaries conduct an assessment with the child.**
* **Based on this report (as well as other reports from professionals about the needs of the witness), the intermediary provides the interviewer with a report to enable the interviewer to effectively plan for the interview.**
* **The intermediary may also make other recommendations for the interview (e.g., the use of interview props such as pencils for drawing, the use or avoidance of particular language, how to ensure the witness stays calm and engaged).**
* **Intermediaries are also present during the interview to advise and assist with communication, if required.**

**ONCE YOU HAVE WATCHED THE VIDEO, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how **accurate** the child’s account was

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all accurate |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely accurate |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how **convincing** the child was in their account

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all convincing |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely convincing |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how **confident** the child appeared **in what they said** in their account

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all confident |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely confident |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how **confident** the child appeared in **their general demeanour**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all confident |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely confident |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how **competent** the child appeared in their account

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all competent |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely competent |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how **honest** the child appeared

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all honest |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely honest |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how **believable** the child appeared

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all believable |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely believable |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best representshow **complete** the child’s account appeared

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all complete |  |  |  |  |  | Very complete |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best representsthe child’s overall **level of cognitive functioning** (i.e., their ability to think, reason and remember)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very poor cognitive functioning |  |  |  |  |  | Excellent cognitive functioning |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best representsthe child’s **capability to testify**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very poor capability to testify  |  |  |  |  |  | Excellent capability to testify |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best represents how good this child was as a witness **OVERALL**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all credible |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely credible |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

  

**Thank you for taking part in this study.**

**We just have a couple more quick questions for you…**

1. Did you guess that the child witness you were watching had autism before you read the debrief form (please circle)?

Yes No

1. **Before** taking part in this study, how much knowledge and/or experience would you say you had of autism (please circle one)?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No knowledge or experience |  |  |  | Extensive knowledge or experience |

Please give details (if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all accurate |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely accurate |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all believable |  |  |  |  |  | Extremely believable |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

1. Please circle the number that you feel best representshow **complete** the child’s account appeared

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all complete |  |  |  |  |  | Very complete |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very poor cognitive functioning |  |  |  |  |  | Excellent cognitive functioning |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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Yes No

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|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Please give details (if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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