## Migrant Mothers in London: Belonging, Citizenship and Mobility Topic guide

**Methods-Migration to bringing up children, to couple views, to involvement, support, belonging, rights, discrimination).**

**Methods**

**How did you find the theatre workshops?**

Things you liked/ didn’t like

**How did you find sharing/listening to the stories and experiences in the group?**

**How did you find learning about other women’s experiences?**

**What do you think are the benefits of Playback?**

* **anything you didn’t like about playback**

**Intergenerational Day.**

* **How did you find playing out the scenes in front of the girls?**
* **How did you find sharing each other’s stories? Benefirs/challenges**
* **Something that you have not been expected from this coming together event?**

**Walking Maps**

**What did you like about the walks?**

**Did you learn something new from others and by thinking about your own experiences of living in the neighbourhood?**

**Anything you can suggest to work on?**

**What did you think of the experience of intervening in the theatre scenes?**

Did you intervene and how did it feel?

If you didn’t intervene, what are your reasons for this? How did you feel about that?

**The theatre scenes and the possibility to intervene in them can be seen as rehearsals for acting in real life. Do you think that you feel differently now, after the workshops, in situations like talking with the GP receptionist, husband, girls?**

**What is different in using these methods to other ways like just talking in a group, or interviews?**

**Do you think the workshops were useful and how?**

**If you had the opportunity to participate in the theatre workshops again, what topics would you like to work on?**

**Would you like to participate in another workshop?**

**Migration**

**Can you tell me about your migration to the UK?**

When/ migrated to other countries? Reasons for coming to UK

**How did the idea of migrating to the UK come up?**

**What was your family situation like at the time of migration?**

Did that play a role in your decision to migrate?

**What were your hopes and expectations before you migrated?**

Seeing a new place/ Improving economically/ Gaining more opportunities for education / Gaining more opportunities as a woman

**Can you describe the first months when you arrived in the UK?**

What were the difficulties? Job/. Housing/ child care/ schooling/ health?

How did you make your first contacts? Neighbours/ colleagues/ friends/ family/ feeling isolated/ community centre?

**Who has helped with you with finding out about how things (school/ childcare/ health/ etc) work in this country?**

**Looking back what has been changed?**

Work / Housing / Children / Partner/ Marriage/ Divorce / Family back home

**LIVING IN LONDON**

**What is your neighbourhood (eg Hackney) like? Like/dislikes about living here**

**What do you like about living in London?**

cultural participation/ ethnic diversity/ subcultures/

**What do you find difficult about living in London/ dislike?**

**Do you sometimes compare this with your life before coming to London?**

**Would you consider going back or migrating elsewhere?**

**Mothering**

**How old are your children?**

**Are you involved in bringing up other children (nieces, nephews, grandchildren, friends’ children)**

**Apart from you, who else plays an important role in bringing up your children? What is your partner’s role in bringing up your children?**

Would you like him to play more of a role? In what ways?

Would you like him to do things differently?

**Are there any issues in which you and your partner/ the children’s father think differently about bringing up your children?**

How do you resolve these differences?

Childcare?

School choice?

Afterschool activities?

**VALUES**

**What values do you find important in bringing up your children?**

Language (which language?) / Culture / Religion / Other

**How do you go about teaching your children these values?**

Can you give examples? (e.g. Saturday schools, folklore groups, socializing with co-ethnics)

**Do you feel these values are easy to teach your children or is it difficult?**

**Do you feel your environment (school/ friends/ family) share these values?**

If not, does this cause difficulties in bringing up your children?

**How do you think your children see their ethnic identity?**

Country of mothers’ origin/ British / Mixed / Do you talk with your children about this?

**Has becoming/ being a mother changed the way you think about yourself more generally?**

In what ways? Can you give examples?

**How do you see your own ethnic identity? Have your children changed the way you think about your ethnic identity?**

**When you think about yourself, how do you see your involvement in the UK:**

(in the neighbourhood, ethnic community, other: cultural activities, volunteering, political activities)?

**Do you feel you are part of this society?**

In which ways? Can you give examples?

**Are there ways in which you feel you are not part of this society?**

Can you give examples?

**Do you feel your children are part of this society?**

In which ways? Can you give examples?

**Are there ways in which you feel your children are not part of this society?**

Can you give examples?

**Do you feel you are part of the ethnic minority community in this country and in which ways?**

**Do you feel your children are part of the ethnic minority community in this country and in which ways?**

**Do you feel you are part of other (ethnic/ social/ cultural/ religious) communities in this country, and in which ways?**

**Do you feel your children are part of other (ethnic/ social/ cultural/ religious) communities in this country, and in which ways?**

**Do you feel there are differences or similarities between you and your children in relation to**

Language

Culture

Religion

Values

Belonging in this country/ to the ethnic community/ to the home country?

And how do you feel about this?

**Does this ever lead to conflicts? How do you negotiate these conflicts?**

Can you give examples?

**SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT**

**Since having children, have you become more involved**

**- with the ethnic community?**

In what ways?

**- with cultural activities?**

**- the local community** **where you live?**

**- people of other ethnic backgrounds?**

In what ways?

**- involved with British institutions? In what ways?** (e.g. after school activities, play groups, Saturday Schools, Sure Start, any other)

**We want to find out where mothers can get support from for different problems they face in their lives, whether they have help from family members, British institutions, or ethnic minority groups and how helpful they are. Who do you turn to when you need support:**

e.g. help with childcare?

Questions about children’s health?

Questions about children’s education?

A conflict with your children?

A conflict with your partner?

Money worries

**Citizenship**

**How do you see your children’s future :**

Here/ home country/ elsewhere

With respect to education and job opportunities?

Belonging?

Safety?

Realising their potential/ making something of themselves?

**There is a lot of talk in the media about the rights and obligations of migrants in the UK. What do you think about this with respect to yourself:**

**Do you think you should have a right to:**

Benefits/ Housing/ Education/ Health/ Political Participation

**Do you think you are contributing to this society through**

Political participation / In parties / In voluntary organizations /Parent Teacher Associations / Other Cultural activities?

**Do you think that bringing up children is part of your contribution to this society? In which ways?**

**Do you think you have any obligations to this society? Can you give examples?**

**Do you have British Citizenship or would you like to apply for British Citizenship?**

Any problems?

**Racism and racial discrimination**

Have you ever been treated differently because of your race and/or being a migrant

Have you ever experiences racial discrimination? How did you feel? What did you do? Looking back on this experience, would you have done things differently

* children/family members experiences of racial discrimination

How do you feel migrants and minority ethnic people are viewed in UK society?

**Is there anything you would like to add?**

**Thank you very much for the interview.**