

Self-description

Multinational Qualitative Study »Children's Understandings of Well-being – Global and Local Contexts«

Germany/Wuppertal Team

Doris (Bühler-Niederberger), Ekaterina (Chicherina), Jessica (Schwittek) belong to the research team in Wuppertal (see the photos of us ...)

Dear friends, let us shortly introduce ourselves. We represent the research team from the University of Wuppertal. Wuppertal is a city in the North Rhine-Westphalia federal state in Germany with a population of about 350 thousand people. We are working at the University of Wuppertal, where around 20 thousand students are studying at present.

Research on childhood is the main interest of our work. We are interested on how you understand your own well-being. What makes you feel good? What kind of activities, hobbies, occasions are fun for you or play a significant role in your life? What would you like to change in your life? And many other questions which will help us to understand your world.

We are working not only in Germany but in some other countries as well, for example, Kyrgyzstan. (One of our team members is coming from this beautiful country, so if you have any questions concerning the life of people there, don't hesitate to ask).

Kyrgyzstan is situated in Central Asia. Compared to Germany, the population of Kyrgyzstan is not as big – only 6 million people. In the previous research that we conducted in this country, children from kindergartens and primary schools were involved. We played together, drew pictures together, and had a lot of fun. Today our focus is on children who are older, around 11-12 years old. The study, with you, is a very interesting and useful experience for us. And during this work we will need your assistance and guidance.

Why do we want you to actively participate in this research? Your role in the research is important – you are the main players in this process. What do we mean when we say – participation? It does not mean just answering our questions. We really need you to talk to us, to share your opinion concerning our topic, research questions, as well as the whole research process. We would be very glad to hear your comments and suggestions about the process of data collection for our study. Is there anything that we should ask you first of all? Is there anything that we shouldn't discuss with you and why? Or maybe you know the way that would make the research process easier and with much more fun for all of us. You are welcome to share your ideas with us. Your participation in our research will help the students to develop their scientific journey.

Your active involvement is very important to us, and we are looking forward to seeing you among our cooperation partners.

With our best regards,

Doris (Bühler-Niederberger), Ekaterina (Chicherina), Jessica (Schwittek)