



Notes for the questionnaires

There are three questionnaires, one for each age group (12, 10, and 8 years-old). The questionnaires differ in the number of items, with longer questionnaire for older ages. A file that summarizes the domains and items included in the 3 questionnaires is attached. The 8 years-old questionnaire also includes a distinct 5 point happiness response scale of emoticons.

As noted in the Information Pack it is very important for comparison purposes that the response options for each question remain consistent, and no modifications should be made without prior agreement with the international research group.

Some questions from the survey questionnaire may need to be omitted in some countries for translation or cultural reasons. However, to ensure we have comparable data across countries we would request that questions are not omitted for other reasons and that all questionnaires use at least 75% of the questions from the standard survey questionnaire.

Please also see the attached file that describes the validated scales included in the questionnaires, and lists the items belonging to each of the scales. It is important that these items will not be deleted in order to allow comparison between countries.

We would like to draw your attention to some comments on specific questions in the questionnaires:

(a) Two items are included, which are not necessarily needed in all countries. These items are marked in **yellow**. Each country shall decide whether it is necessary to include them in the questionnaire.

- *"I live in another type of home"* (question 6 Item d in the 12 & 10 years-old questionnaires). This item will not be needed in countries where other types of home do not exist.
- *"A television at home that you can use"* (12 years-old: question 12 Item i; 10 years-old: question 11 Item l; 8 years-old: question 8 Item e). This item is important in countries where television is not common in homes. One reason is to better interpret the item on television viewing habits.



(b) Questions 5-7 (10 & 12 years old questionnaires) refer to the child's living arrangements. The word used to describe the place of residence should have a physical meaning. In some countries an alternatives such as "Place" would be preferable to use.

(c) A short version of Russell's Core Affect scale (question 33 in the 12 years old questionnaire; question 31 in the 10 years old questionnaire) with six emotions is included. These emotions were chosen based on two scales suggested by Russell (Pleasant – Unpleasant; Activated – Deactivated). Taking into consideration culture and vocabulary more emotions may be added (e.g. Fortunate, Enthusiastic, Alert and etc). More information about this scale can be found in: Russell, J. A. (2003). Core affect and the psychological construction of emotion. *Psychological Review*, 110, 145–172.

(d) The two last questions in the 12 years old questionnaire (questions 34 and 35) are optional questions (thus marked in **yellow**). They offer new areas in the study of subjective well-being with children. Question 34 deals with the Eudemonic dimension of subjective well-being. Question 35 offers new method - Anamnestic Comparative Self Assessment (ACSA) - to examine subjective well-being by comparing the current state to memories of their best and worst periods in life. More information about this method can be found In: Bernheim J L., Theuns, P., Mazaheri, M., Hofmans, J., Fliege, H., & Rose, M. (2006). The potential of Anamnestic Comparative Self-Assessment (ACSA) to reduce bias in the measurement of Subjective Well-Being. *Journal of Happiness Studies* 7(2): 227-250.