

Information about the study

ELSA – Experiences and life situations of people experiencing (un)planned pregnancies

Who is running the study? The department of “Health Science and Empirical Social Research” at Fulda University of Applied Sciences is managing the ELSA study as part of a research group comprising multiple universities and research institutes. Kantar Public has been commissioned with carrying out the interviews. The study is receiving funding from the Federal Ministry of Health (Bundesministerium für Gesundheit). The Ministry will use the results for its work in the field of health promotion and the prevention of issues associated with unplanned pregnancies.

Has the study been reviewed by an independent body? Yes, the ethics commission at Fulda University of Applied Sciences has approved the implementation of the study. You can trust that our work meets the most stringent scientific requirements and ethical standards.

What is the purpose of the study? The study is intended to provide information for the improvement of health and psychosocial care during and after a/an (unplanned) pregnancy on the basis of scientific and empirical findings. The data is vital for health promotion in Germany.

How will the survey be carried out? From November 2021, approx. 12,000 women will complete the survey throughout Germany. The survey takes approx. 30 to 45 minutes to complete.

What questions will I have to answer in the survey? During the survey, you will be asked to provide information about pregnancies you have carried to term or pregnancies which were terminated, on your wellbeing in these phases of your life and on your personal, family and professional circumstances.

How will my data be protected? The data protection provisions will be complied with at all times. Your address details (name and address) will be stored separately from your answers provided in the interview and erased at the end of the study.

The enclosed data protection information document confirms that no commercial interests are associated with this scientific study and that you will not be entering into any obligations in connection with your participation in the study. The registration offices are only authorised to provide us with addresses for scientific studies because we conscientiously ensure compliance with all data protection provisions.

For this study, we asked the registration office for the names of the female legal representatives of children born in 2015 and thereafter, so we were given your name. This took place on the basis of Section 46 of the Federal Registration Act (Bundesmeldegesetz) as part of group information.

Do I have to participate in the study if I have been invited? Participation in the study is, of course, voluntary. You can stop participating in the survey at any time without having to provide reasons for this and without being disadvantaged in any way. You may leave questions unanswered and you can ask questions at any time.

Do you have any more questions?

We are happy to answer any questions you may have about the study at 0661 9640-6243

Or you can visit our website: <https://elsa-studie.de>