

## RESEARCH DESCRIPTION

This project looks at how parents' and children's thoughts about each other are related to their behaviours and relationships. In particular, we are interested in the links between mothers', fathers' and children's explanations for each other's behaviour and how these explanations are related to parenting behaviours and child outcomes. We are interested in how these thoughts and behaviours may be different in families of children with ADHD and families of children without ADHD. We hope that this research will provide important information to assist families in promoting positive child outcomes. Your participation will involve both you and your child answering questionnaires and participating in two videotaped interactions in the UBC Parenting Lab. We will also ask your husband to complete the same questionnaires at home and return them by mail. Finally, you will be answering questions about your child's behaviour and your parenting in a phone interview conducted 6 months after the first part of the study. This project is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

During your visit to the laboratory, you will complete questionnaires providing general information about your family (e.g., occupation, education, and ethnicity) and about your son's behaviour. Other questionnaires ask about your parenting behaviours and your explanations for your son's behaviour. Finally, there are questionnaires that ask about your marital relationship and your psychological functioning. Your son will complete questionnaires that ask about his views of your parenting behaviour. A copy of these child questionnaires is available for you to review before your son completes them. The questionnaires take each person about 45 minutes. You also will spend 20 minutes interacting with your son, first during play and then while working on tasks such as simple math tasks, sorting tasks, and clean-up. This interaction will be videotaped and later coded for the style of parent-child interaction by trained research assistants. In a second interaction, you and your son will engage in a series of tasks that require you to take turns (e.g., selecting gifts and chores for each other). This interaction will also be videotaped and after the interaction, you and your son will separately watch the videotape and be asked to describe what the other was doing in the interaction and why. The responses given by both yourself and your son will be audiotaped and coded later by trained research assistants. This interaction and reviewing of the videotape will take 30 to 45 minutes. The total length of the visit will be approximately 2.5 hours.

During the 6 month follow-up phone interview, your participation will involve answering questions about your son's behaviour and your parenting.

We will ask for your consent to contact another adult who you identify as having regular contact with your son (teacher or babysitter) and ask that person to complete a brief questionnaire about your child's behaviour. This information allows us to ascertain a more complete description of your son's behaviour.

All information gathered in this study will be treated with the strictest confidence. Your responses will be identified by code numbers rather than names and identifying information will be stored in locked files. Research information will be available only to personnel involved in the research project. However, should the researcher suspect or have information disclosed to them about possible child abuse or neglect, he/she is required by law to report that information to the proper child authorities.

Your participation in this project is strictly voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time.

You will receive \$35 for your participation in this research and your son will receive a UBC T-shirt. If your partner chooses to participate and complete questionnaires by mail, he would receive \$15.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Charlotte Johnston if you have any questions (604-822-6771) about the research. If you have any concerns about your treatment or rights as a research subject, please contact the Research Subject Information Line at the Office of Research Services at the University of British Columbia, 604- 822-8598.