



THE
FOSTER CARE
ALUMNI STUDIES
STORIES FROM THE PAST TO SHAPE THE FUTURE

Foster Care Alumni Studies Final Production Copy Interview¹

Introduction

In order to build on and compare to previous work, the Alumni Studies interview was largely composed of measures and items from earlier projects in child welfare, psychology, and epidemiology. For specific sources, please see the variables list available at www.casey.org/research/alumni_studies/methods.htm

The interview was developed by the project team to assess current psychological, health, financial, and social functioning, education and employment, birth and foster family history, services received, recent stressors, and perceptions of the foster care agency staff and foster parents. Average administration time was two to two and a half hours. Interviewing was conducted by trained interviewers from the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan. A respondent booklet, containing response scales and options, was used with many questions to provide visual reference for participants.

¹ Revised: March 17, 2003. Compiled by Peter J. Pecora, A. Chris Downs, Ronald Kessler, Nathaniel Ehrlich, Steven Heeringa, Diana English, James White, Jason Williams, Carol Brandford, and Alisa McWilliams. For more information, please contact Peter J. Pecora, Research Services, Casey Family Programs, 1300 Dexter Avenue North, 3rd Floor, Seattle, WA 98109-3547 206/282-7300 www.casey.org/research.

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The Foster Care Alumni Study



VOLUNTARY STATEMENT: MUST BE READ TO EVERY RESPONDENT BEFORE THE INTERVIEW IS BEGUN

Before we begin, I want to remind you that this interview is completely voluntary and confidential. If we should come to any questions which you do not want to answer, just let me know and we will go on to the next question.

SAMPLE ID: ___/___/___/___/___/___

DATE OF INTERVIEW: ___/___/___

INTERVIEWER ID: ___/___/___/___

INTERVIEW LENGTH: _____ MINUTES

EDIT LENGTH: _____ MINUTES

MODE OF INTERVIEW: _____ IN PERSON _____ PHONE

REVIEWED BY:

SUPERVISOR ___/___/___
 M D Y

EDITOR ___/___/___
 M D Y

**VOLUNTARY STATEMENT: MUST BE READ TO EVERY RESPONDENT
BEFORE THE INTERVIEW IS BEGUN**

Before we begin, I want to remind you that this interview is completely voluntary and confidential. If we should come to any question which you do not want to answer, just let me know and we will go on to the next question.

SECTION A

A0 EXACT TIME NOW: _____

A1 (READ SLOWLY) This interview asks about your physical and emotional well-being, about your foster care experience and childhood, and about areas of your life that could affect your physical and emotional well-being. It is important for us to get accurate information. In order to do this, you will need to think carefully before answering the questions in this interview. Are you willing to do this?

YES 1...(GO TO A2)

NO.....5

A1a When would be a better time for us to do the interview?

MAKE APPOINTMENT FOR A TIME WHEN R IS ABLE TO TAKE
TIME TO GIVE ACCURATE INFORMATION.

A2 I would like to begin the interview by getting a listing of all the people who live with you in this household. I don't need names, just their age and relationship to you. Let's start with you – how old are you? (Are there any other people living with you?)

RELATIONSHIP TO R	AGE(YRS)	MALE	FEMALE
1. RESPONDENT		1	2
2. SPOUSE/DOMESTIC PARTNER		1	2
3.		1	2
4.		1	2
5.		1	2
6.		1	2
7.		1	2
8.		1	2

A3 Do you have any (other) biological children under the age of 18 who are **not** currently living with you?

YES1...(Go To 3a)

NO.....5

A3a. How old are these children?

Relationship to R	Age (Yrs)	Male	Female
1.		1	2
2.		1	2
3.		1	2
4.		1	2
5.		1	2
6.		1	2

A4 (Let me verify,) Are you currently **married, separated, divorced, widowed**, or have you **never been married**?

MARRIED 1

SEPARATED..... 2

DIVORCED..... 3

WIDOWED..... 4

NEVER MARRIED 5

A5 INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT: (SEE A2, A3)

DOES R HAVE ANY CHILDREN?

YES1

NO.....5...(GO TO A7)

A6 Have any of your children ever been placed in foster care?

YES1

NO.....5

A7 INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT

IF R IS MALE 1...(GO TO A12)

IF R IS FEMALE..... 2

A8 How many times have you been pregnant?

_____ (NUMBER OF PREGNANCIES)

A9 INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT

HAS R HAD ANY PREGNANCIES?

YES..... 1

NO 5..... (GO TO A14)

A10 How old were you when you (first) became pregnant?_____ (AGE AT 1ST PREGNANCY)

A11 INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT

IF R IS FEMALE.....1 (GO TO A14)

IF R IS MALE..... 2

A12 Did you ever get anyone pregnant? (DO NOT PROBE “DON’T KNOW” ANSWER)

YES 1

NO.....5...(GO TO A14)

DON’T KNOW.....8...(GO TO A14)

A13 How old were you the first time you got someone pregnant?_____ (AGE AT 1ST PREGNANCY)

A14 INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT: (SEE A2 AND A3)

DOES R HAVE CHILD(REN) BETWEEN THE AGES OF 3 AND 17 YEARS OLD?

NOTE: CHILD CAN BE BIOLOGICAL, OR FOSTER, OR ADOPTED CHILD.

YES 1

NO.....5...(GO TO A17)

A15 (RB, P. 1) Now I'd like to ask about things you and your child(ren) usually did together in the past month. These things might be done together anywhere, they don't have to be done at home. For each please tell me if you **did not do it in the past month** with your child(ren), did it **one or two times** in the past month, **about once a week, several times a week, or every day**.

(How often in the past month have you...)	NOT IN THE PAST MONTH	1 OR 2 TIMES IN THE PAST MONTH	ABOUT ONCE A WEEK	SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK	EVERY DAY
a Washed or folded clothes together?	1	2	3	4	5
b Done dishes together?	1	2	3	4	5
c Gone to the store with your child(ren)?	1	2	3	4	5
d Looked at books or read stories with (him/her/them)?	1	2	3	4	5
e Talked to (him/her/them) about your family?	1	2	3	4	5
f Prepared food together?	1	2	3	4	5
g Done arts and crafts together?	1	2	3	4	5
h Played sports or done outdoor activities together?	1	2	3	4	5
i Cleaned the house together?	1	2	3	4	5
j Built or repaired something together?	1	2	3	4	5
k Worked or played on a computer or played video games with your child(ren)?	1	2	3	4	5
l Worked on homework with (him/her/them)?	1	2	3	4	5
m Played a board game or card game or done puzzles with (him/her/them)?	1	2	3	4	5
n Watched television together?	1	2	3	4	5

A16 (RB, P. 1) About how often in the past month have you:	NOT IN THE PAST MONTH	1 OR 2 TIMES IN THE PAST MONTH	ABOUT ONCE A WEEK	SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK	EVERY DAY
a Hugged or shown physical affection to your child(ren)? (Would you say not in the past month, one or two times in the past month, about once a week, several times a week, or every day?)	1	2	3	4	5
b Told your child(ren) that you loved (him/her/them)?	1	2	3	4	5
c Spent time with your child(ren) doing one of (his/her/their) favorite activities?	1	2	3	4	5
d Joked or played with your child(ren)?	1	2	3	4	5
e Talked with (him/her/them) about things (he is/she is/they are) especially interested in?	1	2	3	4	5
f Told your child(ren) you appreciated something (he/she/they) did?	1	2	3	4	5

A17 Are you **Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?**

YES1

NO.....5...(GO TO A18)

A17a Are you **Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or something else?**

MEXICAN 1

PUERTO RICAN2

CUBAN3

OTHER (SPECIFY)_____ ...7

A18 (RB, P. 2) What is your race? Please choose from the list on page 2 of your booklet. PROBE (Any others?) UNTIL RESPONDENT ANSWERS "NO."

CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY

WHITE A

BLACK, AFRICAN AMERICAN, NEGRO B

AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE
(SPECIFY TRIBE:_____) C

ASIAN INDIAN (FROM INDIA)..... D

JAPANESE..... E

NATIVE HAWAIIAN..... F

CHINESE..... G

KOREAN H

GUAMANIAN OR CHAMORRO..... I

FILIPINO..... J

VIETNAMESE..... K

SAMOAN L

OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER
(SPECIFY:_____)..... M

OTHER RACE (SPECIFY:_____).... N

A19 INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT:

DOES R HAVE MORE THAN ONE RACE CIRCLED?

ONE RACE CIRCLED AT A18 1...(GO TO A21)

MORE THAN ONE RACE CIRCLED AT A18 2

A20 (RB, P. 2) Do you consider any of these to be your primary race or ethnicity?
(Which one?)

WHITE..... 1 (A)

BLACK, AFRICAN AMERICAN, NEGRO 2 (B)

AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE
(SPECIFY TRIBE: _____)..... 3 (C)

ASIAN INDIAN (FROM INDIA) 4 (D)

JAPANESE 5 (E)

NATIVE HAWAIIAN 6 (F)

CHINESE..... 7 (G)

KOREAN 8 (H)

GUAMANIAN OR CHAMORRO 9 (I)

PHILIPINO 10 (J)

VIETNAMESE 11 (K)

SAMOAN..... 12 (L)

OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER
(SPECIFY: _____) 13 (M)

OTHER RACE (SPECIFY: _____) 14 (N)

A21 How closely do you identify with other people who are of the same (racial/ethnic)
descent as yourself: **very closely, somewhat closely, not very closely, or not at all
closely?**

VERY CLOSELY 1

SOMEWHAT CLOSELY 2

NOT VERY CLOSELY 3

NOT AT ALL CLOSELY 4

A22 How close do you feel in your ideas and feelings about things compared to other people of the same (racial/and/ethnic) descent: **very close, somewhat close, not very close, or not at all close?**

VERY CLOSE1

SOMEWHAT CLOSE.....2

NOT VERY CLOSE.....3

NOT AT ALL CLOSE.....4

A23 If you could choose, how much time would you like to spend with other people who are of your same (racial/and/ethnic) group: **a lot of the time, some, a little, or none of the time?**

A LOT OF THE TIME1

SOME2

A LITTLE3

NONE4

A24 How important do you think it is for people who are from your (racial/and/ethnic) group to marry other people who are also from this group: **very important, somewhat, not very, or not at all important?**

VERY IMPORTANT1

SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT.....2

NOT VERY IMPORTANT3

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT.....4

A25 On a scale from one to five, where **one is do not fit in, and five fit in well**, to what extent do you feel like you fit into groups of people from **only** your own (ethnicity/ethnicities)? You may choose any number between one and five.

DO NOT FIT IN1

.....2

.....3

.....4

FIT IN WELL5

A26 INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT: (SEE A 18)

ONLY WHITE (A) CIRCLED AT A18.....1...(GO TO A28)

ALL OTHERS.....2

A27 Using the same scale, where **one is do not fit in, and five is fit in well**, to what extent do you feel like you fit into an **only** white group of people?

DO NOT FIT IN 1

..... 2

..... 3

..... 4

FIT IN WELL 5

A28 How often do you usually attend religious services – **more than once a week, about once a week, 1 to 3 times a month, less than once a month, or never?**

MORE THAN ONCE/WEEK..... 1

ABOUT ONCE/WEEK..... 2

1-3 TIMES/MONTH..... 3

LESS THAN ONCE/MONTH..... 4

NEVER 5

A29 When you have problems or difficulties in your family, work, or personal life, how often do you seek spiritual comfort – **almost always, often, sometimes, rarely, or never?**

ALMOST ALWAYS 1

OFTEN 2

SOMETIMES 3

RARELY..... 4

NEVER..... 5

A30 Now I would like to ask you some questions about your education. Did you receive a **high school diploma** or **GED**? (Which one did you receive?)

HS DIPLOMA..... 1

GED..... 2

NEITHER 3

A31 What is the highest grade of school or year of college you have completed?

- GRADE SCHOOL (ENTER # YRS):_____ ... (GO TO A32)
- HIGH SCHOOL..... 09...(GO TO A32)
- HIGH SCHOOL..... 10...(GO TO A32)
- HIGH SCHOOL..... 11...(GO TO A32)
- HIGH SCHOOL..... 12...(GO TO A32)
- COLLEGE 13...(GO TO A32)
- COLLEGE 14
- COLLEGE 15
- COLLEGE 16
- POST COLLEGE..... 17+
- DON'T KNOW..... 98

A31a. What is the highest degree you have earned?

- ASSOCIATES DEGREE..... 1
 - BA/BS 2
 - MA/MS..... 3
 - PHD 4
 - MD/DO..... 5
 - OTHER (SPECIFY):
_____..... 7
-

A32 Are you currently enrolled in school – either **regular school** or **some other educational program** such as a **GED class** or **vocational training or college**?

YES 1

NO.....5...(GO TO A33)

A32a. Are you enrolled in **regular school, a GED class, a trade or technical school, college, or something else**?

REG SCHOOL..... 1

GED.....2

TRADE, TECH.....3...(GO TO A33a)

COLLEGE.....4

OTHER (SPECIFY)

_____.....7

A33 Have you ever attended a vocational or technical school?

YES 1

NO.....5...(GO TO A34)

A33a Did you receive a degree from a vocational or technical school?

YES 1

NO.....5...(GO TO A34)

A33b What degree did you receive?

HIGH SCHOOL.....1

ASSOCIATES.....2

OTHER (SPECIFY)

_____.....7

A34 While you were in school, were you ever enrolled in enrichment classes for advanced or gifted students?

YES 1

NO..... 5

A35 Were you ever enrolled in any other type of special education classes for students needing extra help?

YES.....1

NO5

A36 Did you ever repeat a grade in school?

YES.....1

NO.....5

A37 How many different elementary schools did you attend?

_____ NUMBER OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

A38 How many different junior high or middle schools did you attend?

_____ NUMBER OF JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOLS

A39 How many different high schools did you attend?

_____ NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOLS

A40 Were you ever legally adopted?

YES1

NO.....5...(GO TO SECTION B)

A40a How old were you (when you were adopted)?

_____ YEARS OLD

A41 Did you ever stop living with your adoptive parents because of some difficulties?

YES.....1

NO5
