



Angewandte Psychologie
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Information on the research study 'Smart Toddlers: Parental smartphone use, parent-child interaction, and child development in the toddler years - an observational longitudinal follow-up study'

Dear Research Study Participant,

This letter provides information on the Smart Toddlers research study and explains how the surveys will be conducted.

Aim of the Research Study

This study will look at parents' smartphone use and see how it affects parent-child interactions and child development in early childhood. We may use this information in the future to provide parents with better advice regarding their smartphone use in their children's early years.

Your Participation and Contribution

As a study participant, you will take part in three surveys: the first when your child is 14 months old, the second 6 months later, and the last when your child is 3 years old. For all three surveys, you will complete a questionnaire that can be filled out online. In addition, for the second and third surveys we plan to record two short videos (one with mother, one with father) at your home while you are playing with your child. Some mothers will be asked to additionally take part in a total of two more in-depth interviews, when their child is 18 and 36 months old, to expand on some of the research topics. The two interviews will be conducted at a location of your choice, and they will be recorded and then transcribed.

Data Protection and Confidentiality

Data collection (questionnaires, videos, and interviews) will protect confidentiality and adhere to the federal laws and regulations in place for data privacy and protection. Personal information will be kept confidential and stored securely and separately from the research data at the ZHAW. No persons other than the researchers will have access to the videos, and they will be used only for the purposes of this study. The transcribed interviews will be assigned a code and encrypted — that is, pseudonymized. Names and any information that could be used to identify you will be replaced. You will not be identified or identifiable in any publication from this study. Should the data should be used for possible secondary analysis or for instructional purposes at a later time, protection (or pseudonymization) of the personal data will be maintained.



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Benefits

For you as a study participant, there will be no particular benefits or disadvantages from participating in this study. You may feel good about helping the research efforts to learn more about parents' smartphone use.

Rights

Participation is voluntary. Participants free to withdraw from the study at any time and without giving a reason. Data collected prior to a participant's withdrawal will be utilized for the research study.

Financing of the research study

This study, *Smart Toddlers: Parental smartphone use, parent-child interaction, and child development in the toddler years - an observational longitudinal follow-up study*, is being funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (www.snf.ch).

Contact

If you have questions at any time about this study, please contact the project coordinators:

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Thank you for your interest in our research study. Your participation would be much appreciated.

ZHAW Project coordinators

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. von Wyl'.

Prof. Dr. Agnes von Wyl

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Gemperle'.

Dr. Michael Gemperle