What do I have to do?

If an interviewer from Roy Morgan Research phones you in the next few weeks, all you need to do is answer the survey questions as well as you can. There will also be a questionnaire sent to young people to fill out and return, either online or by mail.

The telephone interview will take about 25 minutes, and will be conducted at a time convenient for you. We anticipate that it will take about 10 minutes to fill in the written questionnaire.

It will be really valuable for this research if young people continue to participate over the next two years, and agree to be involved in two more short interviews. Parents or guardians of young people will only be interviewed once, in 2006.

How will I be contacted?

Roy Morgan Research will contact you by telephone.

When they call, Roy Morgan Research will seek your agreement to having your survey answers linked to your Centrelink record. Combining these information sources means that we will be able to build an accurate picture of what life is like for young Australians and their families without having to take up too much of your time with survey questions!

Roy Morgan Research will stay in touch with young people by mail and phone over the next couple of years in relation to Youth in Focus.

Please call us on 1800 643 783, or send an e-mail to yif@facsia.gov.au if:

- you would like more information;
- your phone number or address have changed;
- you need assistance to participate in the survey;
- you don’t want to participate in the survey; or
- you have complaints regarding the survey.

Calls are free, except from mobiles.

Note that if we don’t hear from you by the date set out in your survey invitation letter, we will assume you are willing to participate in Youth in Focus and will pass your name and contact details to Roy Morgan Research so they can call you for your survey interview.
What is Youth in Focus?
Youth in Focus is a new and exciting survey about the experiences of young Australians and their families. It will ask questions about your family background, living arrangements, education, work, income, relationships, health, values and attitudes.

People aged 18, and one of their parents or guardians, have been invited to take part in Youth in Focus. While parents and guardians will only be interviewed once (this year), young people will be interviewed three times in total (this year, next year and the year after).

Who is conducting the survey?
A research team at the Australian National University (ANU) is managing the survey as part of a broader research project about young people and their families. Roy Morgan Research is conducting the survey on behalf of the ANU.

Why should I help?
We want to hear from young people and parents and guardians from all walks of life in this survey.

A better understanding of the experiences, attitudes and needs of young people and their families will help us develop more effective ways of providing assistance and services.

How was I selected?
People aged 18, and one of their parents or guardians, were randomly selected from Centrelink records to be invited to participate in Youth in Focus.

Parents or guardians may have a Centrelink record because they have applied for family assistance at some point in the past. Young people may also have a Centrelink record for this reason. Alternatively, young people may have a Centrelink record because they’ve applied for a payment in their own right, such as Youth Allowance.

How will my privacy be protected?
Youth in Focus is being conducted in accordance with social security and family assistance law, and meets the requirements set out in the Privacy Act 1998.

Your contact details (such as your name, address and phone number) will only ever be used to get in touch with you. If you call or e-mail to say you don’t want to participate in the survey, these will not be made available to Roy Morgan Research.

If you agree to participate in the survey, the answers you provide will be treated as strictly confidential, and your contact details will be removed before your survey information is passed to the researchers at the ANU. Information collected during the survey will be used for research purposes only, and no information will be released in a way that would allow survey participants or their families to be identified.