



**NZUSA 2006 Student Parent Survey:**  
A survey on the needs of students who care  
for children

Brought to you by the Tertiary Women's Focus Group  
and the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations



Kia ora katou

Thank you for participating in this survey of student parent's needs. We acknowledge that as both students and parents you have less time to spare than others, and we particularly thank you for taking the time out of your day to contribute to this survey.

This survey is brought to you by women in students associations around the country, officially called the Tertiary Women's Focus Group (TWFG). We are the women's policy and campaigns group of the New Zealand Union of Student's Association, the national representative body for tertiary students in Aotearoa New Zealand. For more information please visit our website [www.students.org.nz](http://www.students.org.nz).

The results of this survey will be posted on this website, and will also be available from your local students association. This survey was also conducted in 2003, and there will be comparative results available.

Thanks to the Women's Rights Officers and Women's Representatives on each participating Student's Association for distributing and helping organise this survey.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Jones', with a stylized, flowing script.

Jennifer Jones  
National Women's Rights Officer 2006  
New Zealand Union of Student's Associations

## **Introduction**

There are two parts to this survey. Section A asks questions about issues you face as a student parents. Section B asks information about you, to help us understand who student parents are. We are also surveying institutions in a separate survey to find out what services and facilities are available to student parents, but at the end of section A there is an opportunity for you to write comments about the major challenges you face as a student parent. Please use this section to make additional comments about services available to you (or not as the case may be).

## **Section A**

This section is about issues you face as a student parent.

On multiple choice questions, circle the answer that is most appropriate to you.

**Q.1 How many children do you have in your care?**

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 4+

**Q.2 How old are the children in your care? (circle all that apply)**

- a. 0-5
- b. 6-10
- c. 11-13
- d. 14 and over

**Q.3 Do you share responsibility of care for your child/ren**

- a. yes
- b. no

**Q.4 How often do you bring your child to campus with you?**

- a. Never
- b. Daily
- c. Weekly
- d. Fortnightly
- e. Monthly
- f. School holidays only
- g. Only when no child care is available

**Q.5 How often do you use childcare?**

- a. Never
- b. Daily
- c. Weekly
- d. Fortnightly
- e. Monthly

**Q.6 Please specify how many hours and days a week you usually use childcare for:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.7 What do you use for childcare? (circle all that apply)**

- a. Nothing
- b. Kohanga reo
- c. Pre-school or nursery
- d. Primary/intermediate school
- e. Secondary school
- f. Kindergarten

- g. Play centre
- h. Montessori
- i. Family/Whanau
- j. Friends
- k. After school care
- l. Home-based care
- m. Private paid care
- n. Other on campus
- o. Other off campus

**Q.8 What stops you from accessing childcare (or as much as you need)?**

- a. Cost of the childcare
- b. Distance – too far
- c. Cant afford travel costs
- d. Other – please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.9 Were you on the waiting list for your childcare?**

(If yes please specify how long)

- a. No
- b. Yes \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.10 Please rank your need for childcare at the following times**

(Please rank from 1 to 5, with 1 being the highest need time)

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Weekdays         | Weekend evenings |
| Weekends         | School holidays  |
| Weekday evenings |                  |

**Q.11 What do you use childcare for? (circle all that applies)**

- a. Attending lectures/classes
- b. Attending labs/tutorials
- c. Going to the library/studying on campus
- d. Paid work
- e. Unpaid/volunteer work
- f. Social Time
- g. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.12 Has childcare had an effect for you on any of these choices:**

(circle all that apply)

- a. Qualification type (i.e. degree, diploma)
- b. Subject area (i.e. law, science)
- c. Specific papers (i.e. POLS 111, BIOL 243)
- d. Institution type (i.e. university, teachers college)
- e. Institution (i.e. AUT, Victoria University)
- f. Taking a paid job



**Q.13 Do you live with the child/ren you care for?**

- a. Yes – all the time
- b. Yes – some of the time
- c. No

**Q.14a Do you think your institution is child friendly or supportive of student parents?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**Q.14b In what ways are they child friendly or not?** e.g. changing tables, child friendly study space in library, highchairs, attitude of lecturers etc

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**Q.15 Do you feel you have an adequate place in which to study?**

- a. No
- b. Yes – at home
- c. Yes – at my institution (describe)\_\_\_\_\_

**Q.16 Is there a parent’s support group you attend or are a member of?**  
(for example for social activities, help with study, organising funding, car-pooling)

- a. No
  - b. Yes – please explain \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- 

**Q.17a If your institution has a Parent’s Room how often do you use it?**

- a. Daily
- b. Weekly
- c. Fortnightly
- d. Monthly
- e. School holidays only
- f. There is no parents room on my campus (go to Q18)

**Q.17b What do you use the Parent’s Room for?**

- a. Feeding my child/ren
- b. Breastfeeding
- c. Taking time out
- d. Changing nappies
- e. Studying when my children are with me on campus
- f. Other – please describe\_\_\_\_\_



**PART B – Questions about You**

These are questions about you, so we can learn more about who student parents are. On multiple choice questions, please circle the answer most appropriate to you.

**Q.1 Which tertiary institution do you attend?** (Please give the name e.g. Victoria University of Wellington)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Q.2 How old are you?**

- |             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| a. Under 20 | d. 36-50 |
| b. 20-25    | e. 50+   |
| c. 26-35    |          |

**Q.3 What is your gender?**

- a. Female  
b. Male  
c. Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.4a How do you study?**

- a. Part Time  
b. Full Time

**Q.4b How many hours would you spend studying and/or in class?**

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Less than 5 hours a week | e. 20-25 hours a week |
| b. 5-10 hours a week        | f. 25-30 hours a week |
| c. 10-15 hours a week       | g. 30-35 hours a week |
| d. 15-20 hours a week       | h. 35-40 hours a week |
|                             | i. 40+ hours a week   |

**Q.5 What type of study are you undertaking?**

Qualification \_\_\_\_\_  
Major/s \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.6 Which of these best described your current living arrangements**

- a. Living with my parents  
b. In a flat with others  
c. In a hall of residence  
d. Living with my partner/spouse  
e. Living by myself  
f. Other – please describe \_\_\_\_\_



- Q.7a What sources of income do you receive?** (circle all that apply)
- a. Own paid employment
  - b. Partner or spouse's paid employment
  - c. Family assistance
  - d. Working for Families assistance
  - e. Student support (Student loans and allowances)
  - f. WINZ Benefit (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Q.7b Student Support – please circle any of the following that you receive:**
- a. Student Loan (fees and course costs)
  - b. Student Loan living costs (i.e. borrowing up to \$150 p/w)
  - c. Student Allowance
  - d. Training Incentive Allowance
  - e. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Q.7c Please indicate how much you receive per week in total (after tax)**
- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Under \$100   | f. \$300 – \$350         |
| b. \$100 – \$150 | g. \$350 – \$400         |
| c. \$150 – \$200 | h. \$400 +               |
| d. \$200 – \$250 | i. Do not wish to answer |
| e. \$250 – \$300 |                          |
- Q.8 Is your income sufficient for your needs as a student parent?**
- a. Yes
  - b. No
- Q.9 How much is your shortfall a week?** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Q.10 Please circle any group that you identify with**
- a. Pakeha/European
  - b. Māori
  - c. Pasifika
  - d. Asian (specify if you want) \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Other \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 2006 STUDENT PARENT SURVEY, WE REALLY APPRECIATE IT!**

**Please return your completed form to your local Student's Association.**

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