

Urbanization, Population and Health Dynamics Research Project

Transitions to Adulthood Sub-Component Qualitative Interview Guide

Introduction

My name is **[Name]** and I work with **[Institution]**. Today I would like to have a group discussion with you based on what it means to be a young person growing up in this area.

We're interested in learning about the aspirations and concerns of young people in this area. Today I'd like to ask you some questions about your experiences living in this area. Questions may include your aspirations for the future, schooling questions and what you are most concerned about living in this neighbourhood. This is very informal; you can talk about anything you think is important for us to know. We hope this discussion will help us better understand young people's experiences. We will use this information to inform policy makers and other organisations about the needs of young people in this area.

I also want to remind you that everything we talk about today is confidential. We will be taking down notes as we discuss, and we will also tape record the conversation. However no one will see our notes or listen to the tape except for people working on the project. Whenever we write a report, we will not use names in the report so no one can identify you. If there are any questions you'd rather not answer, just let me know -- that's fine.

✓ Give a few minutes for answering any questions regarding the interview

Finally, I would like to point out that your frank responses and discussion will be most helpful to us as we try to really understand the lives of young people in this area. Remember, your answers to our questions will not be considered "right" or "wrong." They are merely information you will provide based on your experiences, observations, or feelings.

"I have been given an opportunity to ask any questions I may have, and all such questions or inquiries have been answered to my satisfaction. I hereby give my consent to participate in this study".

Participant's Name: -----

Signature: ----- Date: -----
OR

Signature of witness/interviewer in case the participant cannot write & Date
(Certifying that informed consent has been given verbally by respondent)

Interviewer's Declaration

I, Date
Hereby declare that I have explained clearly to the participant the aims, objectives, and benefits of participating in the study. I have received his/her consent.

To begin with can you please tell me a little about yourself? (Follow attached respondent description form)

Now I would like to understand more about your views of adulthood.

Views about Adulthood

1. What in your opinion distinguishes adults from non-adults/children?
(Probe for Age, Livelihoods (Employment), Marriage, Parenthood, Leaving home, Education, Having sexual intercourse, Dependence versus non-dependence, Taking responsibility for actions, Physical maturity, Circumcision, Others – in addition to all these things what other things define adulthood)
2. Taking into account all the things that differentiate adults from children, how does one become an adult (probe for sequencing of events and reasons for this sequencing?)
3. Looking at yourself today, how do you see yourself in relation to adulthood?
4. What are the things that you currently do/happen around your life that make you feel like an adult?
5. What are the things that you currently do/happen around your life that do not make you feel like an adult?
6. What are the things that you like about being an adult?
7. What are the things that you do not like about being an adult?
8. What would you consider to be the most significant event of your life? Probe for when it happened and why it is important

Growing Up

Now I would like us to talk about your parents and growing up in your family

9. Who do you currently live with?
10. In what ways are your parents currently involved in your life? (Probe for influences on major decisions, sustenance, providing accommodation, etc.)
11. What areas of life do your parents advice you on?
12. What kinds of advice do your parents normally give you? (Probe: schooling, relationship, religion, sexual behavior, drug use, marriage, etc.)
13. What kind of issues would you (seek examples)
 - a. Approach your parent for?
 - b. Not approach your parents for?
14. What kind would you not approach them for and why If you have problems of a personal nature would approach your parents for help.
15. How do your parents normally discipline you when you do something they do not approve of? (probe for a variety of transgressions and accompanying punishments)

16. [Except for your parents], which other people influence your life? (Probe for friends, siblings, teachers, pastors)
 - a. Probe for siblings' influence on respondent's behavior, aspirations regarding education, employment, marital, relationship, etc.)
 - b. Probe for friends' influence on respondent's behavior, aspirations regarding education, employment, marital, relationship, etc.)
17. Describe the worst trouble/problem that your siblings/friends has ever been involved in (Probe: pregnancy outside marriage, dropping out of school, crime, drug use, etc).
18. Do you see yourself being in a similar kind of problem? Why?
19. What kind of issues would make you approach someone, other than your parent, for help (probe for marital decisions, pregnancy, problems at school, relationship problems, aspirations, health, etc)
20. Who would you approach and why?

Now I would like us to talk about growing up in this neighbourhood.

21. Tell me about the key challenges that young people living in this neighbourhood, face? (probe violence, harassment, insecurity, lack of employment, school drop outs, poverty, HIV, ill health, etc)
22. What are some of the strategies that young people, in this neighbourhood, use to cope with these challenges? (Probe for specific examples based on responses to previous question)
23. Where would you want to live [probe for type of neighborhood]? Why?
24. How do you see your chances of ever living in this dream place? Why?

Education, Aspirations and Plans

25. What is the most important thing you want to achieve in your life and why
26. What efforts are you making to achieve this?
27. What things would prevent you from achieving this? (Also probe for efforts to overcome these challenges)
28. What level of education do you need to achieve your life goals and aspirations? Why?
29. Do you think you will achieve this level of education? Why?
30. Are you currently in school?
31. What career do you plan to pursue? Why? (probe for what drives this decision)
32. Who is the most important person you have you talked to about your career choice and what did they say?

For those who are not going to school

33. Why aren't you going to school?

34. Do you have plans to return to school? Why?

Leisure time and work

35. Have you ever worked before? (If yes, probe for age when respondent started working for pay, work experiences, reasons for working, and timing of first job)

36. If you are currently involved in any income-generating activities, what do you do, and why are you involved in this particular activity?

37. How much do you earn in a month and what do you use your money for?

38. In this community what does it mean to be successful?

39. Describe a person in this community who is successful (probe for what the person does, how the person lives, person's behavior, possessions, career, family life, etc.?)

40. What makes a young person successful?

41. What distinguishes a well-behaved young person from others (probe for what the person does or doesn't, how he/she copes with challenges/pressures facing young people or avoid bad behaviors)?

Family life Living situation and Marriage

If currently living alone (or with a spouse) (Refer to Question 8)

42. Where are your parents now (probe where the parents stay to establish whether they are in the rural area or stay in the urban area; when they started staying alone or with their spouse)?

43. What are the reasons that made you leave your home?

44. Describe your experience of leaving home for the first time (probe for age when person moved, fear, harassment, excitement, etc.)

45. How do you feel about living alone (probe whether s/he considers herself an adult because s/he lives alone)?

46. What challenges do you face as young person living alone?

47. (For those who are still at home) How much longer do you plan to leave here (probe for age when they plan to leave) and why? What would determine when you will leave or what needs to happen for you to leave?

48. How important is it to you (and maybe to your family, community) to get married? Why is marriage important or unimportant?

For those who are married

49. When did you get married (probe for age and reason for marriage) and how did you choose your marriage partner?

50. How do you feel about being married (probe whether s/he considers herself an adult because of marriage)?

51. What challenges do you face as married person at your age?

For those who are not married

- 52. When do you plan to get married and why (probe for what would determine the decision and timing of marriage)?
- 53. What kind of person would you like to get married to? (Probe for age difference, ethnicity, socio-economic status, etc)

Romantic relationships and first sex

Now let's talk about issues concerning relationships. As I said whatever we discuss here will not be told to anyone.

- 54. Have you ever had a Boyfriend/Girlfriend?

For those who have NEVER had BFs and GFs

- 55. I know some people of your age have had boyfriends/girlfriends, why haven't you?

For those who have had a boyfriend/girlfriend

- 56. Describe your very first relationship (Probe for age, partner's age, where they met, how relationship started, marital aspirations, current status of relationship, whether others knew about the relationship, and general feelings about the relationship)

First sex

- 57. Have you ever had sex?

For those who have NEVER had sex

- 58. Why haven't you had sex yet?
- 59. When do you anticipate your first sex and why?
- 60. How do you feel about not having sexual intercourse (happy, regrets probe why)?

For those who have had sex

- 61. Describe your first sexual experience (probe for age, partner's age, where they met, current status of partnership, what led you to have sex with this person)
- 62. Did you use protection at any time in your relationship? (if yes, probe for kind of protection, how decision to use protection was made, and how communication between partners about protection was achieved).
- 63. What of the times that you did not use protection, why didn't you?

Parenthood

For those with children

- 64. When did you get your first baby?
- 65. Describe your experiences surrounding your first pregnancy/ partner's pregnancy (Probe for whether pregnancy was planned and if not, why. If pregnancy was planned probe why the decision was made to have the child at that time?)
- 66. How do you feel about being a parent (probe whether s/he considers herself an adult because of parenthood?)
- 67. What challenges do you face as a parent?
- 68. How do you feel about others your age or in similar circumstances being parents? (probe frustrations, worries, joys, pains)

For those with no children

- 69. Are you planning to have children and why?
- 70. When do you think will be an appropriate time to begin childbearing? Why?

Other Challenges including post election violence

- 71. How did the post-election violence affect you? (Probe for direct effects on the person, on family members, livelihood activities, friends, living arrangements etc)
- 72. How did you deal with the uncertainties surrounding this period?
- 73. What did you not particularly like about the post-election period?
- 74. What did you like about the post-election period?

Respondent Description Form (IDI)

- Name of respondent:
- Age of respondent:
- Job/Position title/Occupation:
- Educational Level:
- Ethnic group:
- Marital Status:
- Number of children:
- Name of slum:
- Name of Village:

IDI Description Form/QMS

Interview Type: Indepth Interview
Date Conducted:
Venue:
Interviewer:

Background Information

What were the main issues that struck you during this interview/discussion?

Concerns