



TEDS RESEARCH CENTRE  
Dept. Box No. P083  
Freepost LON7567  
London SE5 8AF

Freephone 0800 317 029  
Email: [teds-project@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:teds-project@kcl.ac.uk)

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Dear <twins forename>,

We would like to invite you to take part in the TEDS Social Networks project, led by Dr Claire Haworth and Dr Oliver Davis.

### **What is the study about?**

Our social relationships with friends and family are important and are related to our health and wellbeing. This project aims to understand more about social relationships, including face to face interactions and online social networks. You have been invited to take part in this questionnaire study because you and/or your co-twin have sent us your Twitter username(s).

### **Why are we doing the study and why should I take part?**

Very little is understood about how offline social networks relate to the interactions you have with your online social networks. By taking part in this study, you'll be helping us to understand these links. In addition, we want to understand how these different networks relate to your wellbeing during this critical stage of life.

This research has been funded as part of a series of studies to showcase the Medical Research Council's work in their centenary year in 2013, so the results should receive high profile coverage as part of the celebrations. This research will help to highlight the importance of both online and offline communities for health and wellbeing to policy makers.

### **What does the study involve?**

The study involves completing a questionnaire about social networks and wellbeing. It is up to you to decide whether to take part or not. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw yourself and your data from the study at any time without giving a reason.

### **Deadline**

The deadline for returning the questionnaires to us is **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2013**.

### **Thank you!**

We are extremely grateful for your help with our work. To say thank you, once you return the completed questionnaire booklet we will send you a voucher worth £10 for either iTunes or Love2Shop.

In addition, we really want both you and your co-twin to take part, so we will enter you into a **prize draw for a pair of iPad minis** if you both complete the study. The prize draw will be held once the study is complete, and the winners' names will be posted on Twitter (@TedsProject) and the TEDS website ([www.teds.ac.uk](http://www.teds.ac.uk)).

<Twin ID number>

## Confidentiality

All the data that you provide are strictly confidential, and you are identified only by a number in the datasets. The TEDS data are sometimes shared with other researchers and used in further studies, but only after removing identifying information about the participants. We will not pass your information on to any other organisations.

## What will we do with the results?

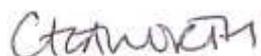
The results from this study will be published in peer-reviewed scientific journals, as well as being featured on the TEDS website, and in the annual TEDS newsletter. We will tweet links to any publications featuring this research.

## Queries

If you have any questions or feel that this study has harmed you in any way you can contact the TEDS team, including the Principal Investigators Dr Claire Haworth and Dr Oliver Davis, by emailing [teds-project@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:teds-project@kcl.ac.uk), calling our freephone 0800 317 029, or writing to us at TEDS, PO83, Freepost LON7567, London SE5 8AF.

A big thank you and best wishes from the TEDS Team.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Claire Haworth  
Deputy Director, Twins Early Development Study