

# **Parenting in ordinary families**

**Diversity, complexity and change**

## **Appendices**

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# Appendix 1: Validation of the aggregated parenting measure

## 1.1 Testing reliability and associations with child outcomes

**Table 1.1.1 Cronbach's alpha for items included in the composite parenting scale (reliability)**

Item	8 months			33 months		
	Correlations		Alpha	Correlations		Alpha
	Item-test	Item-retest		Item-test	Item-retest	
I enjoy this child	0.67	0.55	0.62	0.67	0.54	0.61
I feel confident with the child	0.48	0.34	0.67	0.57	0.42	0.63
I take pleasure in seeing the child develop	0.47	0.37	0.67	0.50	0.38	0.65
This child has made me more fulfilled	0.69	0.44	0.65	0.68	0.44	0.62
I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did	-0.46	-0.32	0.67	-0.39	-0.22	0.67
I hate the mess surrounding the child	-0.50	-0.31	0.68	-0.52	-0.33	0.65
I hate it when the child cries	-0.56	-0.34	0.67	-0.51	-0.26	0.67
I feel I have no time alone	-0.64	-0.44	0.64	-0.60	-0.39	0.67
	<i>Overall alpha</i>		<i>0.69</i>	<i>Overall alpha</i>		<i>0.67</i>

**Table 1.1.2 Correlation coefficients for aggregated parenting score and the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire at 47 and 81 months (validity)**

		Parenting 8m	Parenting 33m
<i>Parenting 8m</i>		-	0.54
SDQ 47m	Total	-0.20	-0.32
SDQ subscales	Prosocial	0.14	0.21
	Hyperactive	-0.13	-0.23
	Emotional	-0.13	-0.20
	Conduct	-0.14	-0.25
	Peer	-0.12	-0.18
SDQ 81m	Total	-0.19	-0.27
SDQ subscales	Prosocial	0.16	0.21
	Hyperactive	-0.13	-0.20
	Emotional	-0.14	-0.18
	Conduct	-0.12	-0.22
	Peer	-0.12	-0.14

**Table 1.1.3 Univariate analyses: the predictive effect of the derived parenting variable (33 months) on child outcomes (unadjusted)**

	Coefficient/OR	95% CI	p	R <sup>2</sup>
SDQ (47 months)	-.532	-.564–-.501	<.001	.113
SDQ (81 months)	-.480	-.516—-.444	<.001	.084
Maternal assessment of child health (81 months)	.945	.930–.961	<.001	.004
Maternal assessment of child health (91 months)	.942	.927–.958	<.001	.005
Number of conditions (81 months)	.985	.982–.988	<.001	.002
Number of conditions (91 months)	.993	.987–1.000	.063	.0002

## 1.2 Multivariate analyses with demographic variables at 8 months

**Table 1.2.1 SDQ (47 months)**

Block	1. Adjusted (demographic)			2. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic & support)			3. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic, support & child temperament)			
	Coeff	95% CI	p	Coeff	95% CI	p	Coeff	95% CI	p	R <sup>2</sup>
Parenting	-.559	-.591–-.528	<.001	-.515	-.500–-.481	<.001	-.455	-.497–-.413	<.001	.155
Mat. phys. health				.500	.053–.946	.028	.550	.013–1.087	.045	.170
Housing				.759	.487–1.030	<.001	.754	.433–1.075	<.001	
Mat. mental health				.699	.355–1.042	<.001	.549	.152–.946	.007	
Financial diffs				.467	.093–.839	.014			.080	
Social support				-.742	-1.266–-.218	.006			.192	

**Table 1.2.2 SDQ (81 months)**

Block	1. Adjusted (demographic)			2. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic & support)			3. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic, support & child temperament)			
	Coeff	95% CI	p	Coeff	95% CI	p	Coeff	95% CI	p	R <sup>2</sup>
Parenting	-.503	-.539–-.468	<.001	-.450	-.489–-.411	<.001	-.440	-.488–-.393	<.001	.105
Mat. phys. health				.887	.390–1.385	<.001	.748	.151–1.345	.014	.122
Housing				.491	.180–.803	.002	.447	.077–.818	.018	
Mat. mental health				.874	.485–1.262	<.001	.670	.219–1.121	.004	
Financial diffs				.792	.371–1.214	<.001	.720	.212–1.227	.005	
Social support				-.946	-.180–.803	.002			.108	

### 1.3 Multivariate analyses with demographic variables at 33 months

**Table 1.3.1 SDQ (47 months)**

Block	1. Adjusted (demographic)			2. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic & support)			3. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic, support & child temperament)		
	Coeff	95% CI	R <sup>2</sup>	Coeff	95% CI	R <sup>2</sup>	Coeff	95% CI	R <sup>2</sup>
Parenting	-.559	-.591–-.528	<.001	-.499	-.535–-.462	<.001	-.448	-.492–-.404	<.001
Mat. phys. health			.155	.703	.252–1.155	.002	.697	.155–1.239	.012
Housing				.772	.487–1.056	<.001	.727	.389–1.064	<.001
Mat. mental health				.652	.350–.954	<.001	.571	.220–.922	.001
Financial diffs				.477	.084–.870	.017			.300
Social support				-1.084	-1.681–-.487	<.001	-.842	-1.538–-.146	.018

**Table 1.3.2 SDQ (81 months)**

Block	1. Adjusted (demographic)			2. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic & support)			3. Adjusted (demographic, health, economic, support & child temperament)		
	Coeff	95% CI	R <sup>2</sup>	Coeff	95% CI	R <sup>2</sup>	Coeff	95% CI	R <sup>2</sup>
Parenting	-.503	-.539–-.468	<.001	-.449	-.489–-.408	<.001	-.441	-.491–-.392	<.001
Mat. phys. health			.105	.583	.069–1.097	.026			.281
Housing				.448	.122–.774	.007			.239
Mat. mental health				.895	.555–1.234	<.001	.882	.493–1.271	<.001
Financial diffs						.129			.067
Social support				-1.149	-1.822–-.476	.001	-1.166	-1.960–-.373	.004

## Appendix 2: Prevalence data for individual parenting items

**Table 2.1.1 Prevalence data (%) for individual items at 8 months (maternal self-report)**

	Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>
It is important to talk to babies of all ages	99.3	0.6	0.01	0.09	11,264
Cuddling a baby is very important	99.4	0.5	0.08	0.08	11,263
I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did	0.9	1.0	9.8	88.3	11,297
I enjoy this child	71.9	25.1	2.9	0.1	11,309
I feel confident with this child	82.4	15.7	1.3	0.6	11,309
I take pleasure in watching this child develop	92.8	6.2	0.8	0.3	11,314
Having this child makes me feel fulfilled	47.6	29.9	16.3	6.2	11,179
I can't bear hearing the child cry	3.7	7.6	54.0	34.7	11,291
I dislike the mess surrounding the child	1.2	3.1	30.9	64.8	11,264
I feel I have no time for myself	5.8	13.9	60.8	19.5	11,301

**Table 2.1.2 Prevalence data (%) for individual items at 8 months (paternal self-report)**

	Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>
I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did	1.5	1.1	9.6	87.8	7,116
I take pleasure in watching this child develop	89.8	8.3	1.6	0.3	7,133
I can't bear hearing the child cry	2.9	5.8	52.9	38.3	7,122
I dislike the mess surrounding the child	2.1	3.8	32.5	61.6	7,126

**Table 2.1.3 Prevalence data (%) for individual items at 18 months (maternal self-report)**

	Often	Sometimes	Never	N	
I ignore the child's tantrums	48.2	44.1	7.7	9,716	
I send the child away during tantrums	3.1	17.9	79.1	9,716	
I smack the child during tantrums	0.7	22.9	76.4	9,716	
I shout at the child during tantrums	3.2	55.3	41.4	9,716	
<i>(11.3% of mothers reported that the child did not have tantrums)</i>				1,252	
	No – no time	No – child too young	Yes, sometimes	Yes, often	N
I try to teach the child	2.8	0.4	36.7	60.2	11,037

**Table 2.1.4 Prevalence data (%) for individual items at 33 months (maternal self-report)**

	Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	N
I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did	1.9	1.1	7.2	89.8	9,662
I enjoy this child	72.4	23.8	3.6	0.1	9,687
I feel confident with this child	8.8	15.8	2.8	0.6	9,676
I take pleasure in watching this child develop	88.1	10.2	1.2	0.4	6,675
Having this child makes me feel fulfilled	49.1	28.6	16.9	5.6	9,599
I can't bear hearing the child cry	4.4	10.4	51.4	33.8	9,657
I dislike the mess surrounding the child	1.2	6.0	54.1	38.7	9,665
I feel I have no time for myself	6.6	15.0	61.0	17.4	9,662
	Often	Sometimes	Never		
I ignore the child's tantrums	42.2	52.6	5.2		8,927
I send the child away during tantrums	13.9	47.9	38.2		8,657

**Table 2.1.5 Prevalence data for individual items at 21 months (paternal self-report)**

	Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	N
I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did	1.1	3.5	9.1	86.4	6,177
I take pleasure in watching this child develop	89.8	8.7	1.3	0.1	6,190
I can't bear hearing the child cry	4.2	11.2	55.4	29.2	6,181
I dislike the mess surrounding the child	6.5	28.9	36.5	28.1	6,169

# Appendix 3: Parenting as a function of parental age

## 3.1 Maternal age at birth

**Table 3.1.1 It is important to talk to babies of all ages (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
Pregnancy (N=12,113; p<.001)	Agree	95.1	98.3	98.6	97.5
	Probably agree	4.9	1.5	1.4	2.5
	Probably disagree	0	0	0	0
	Disagree	0	0.1	0	0
<i>N</i>		345	6,146	4,337	1,285
8 months (N=11,264; p<.001)	Agree	98.1	99.4	99.5	98.9
	Probably agree	1.3	0.6	0.4	0.7
	Probably disagree	0.3	0	0	0
	Disagree	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3
<i>N</i>		309	5,985	4,285	685

**Table 3.1.2 Cuddling a baby is very important (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
Pregnancy (N=12,122; p<.001)	Agree	95.7	98.1	98.9	97.1
	Probably agree	4.3	1.8	1.0	2.3
	Probably disagree	0	0	0.1	0.1
	Disagree	0	0.1	0	0.5
<i>N</i>		346	6,150	4,335	1,291
8 months (N=11,263; p<.001)	Agree	96.8	99.3	99.7	98.8
	Probably agree	2.3	0.6	0.2	0.7
	Probably disagree	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3
	Disagree	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2
<i>N</i>		309	5,985	4,283	686

**Table 3.1.3 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,297; p<.001)	Agree	2.3	0.8	1.0	1.2
	Probably agree	4.5	1.0	0.7	2.5
	Probably disagree	26.8	10.0	7.9	11.9
	Disagree	66.5	88.3	90.5	84.5
<i>N</i>		310	5,998	4,301	688
33 months (N=9,662; p<.001)	Agree	4.1	1.8	1.8	3.0
	Probably agree	2.3	1.0	0.8	2.5
	Probably disagree	15.8	7.1	5.9	10.0
	Disagree	77.9	90.0	91.4	84.6
<i>N</i>		220	5,042	3,837	563

**Table 3.1.4 I enjoy this child (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,309; p<.015)	Feel exactly	76.8	72.9	70.5	69.5
	Often feel	21.0	24.3	26.1	27.3
	Sometimes feel	1.9	2.8	3.3	2.9
	Never feel	0.3	0	0.1	0.3
<i>N</i>		310	6,006	4,301	692
33 months (N=9,687; p<.845)	Feel exactly	75.2	72.7	72.0	71.8
	Often feel	20.7	23.4	24.5	24.2
	Sometimes feel	4.1	3.8	3.4	4.1
	Never feel	0	0.1	0.1	0
<i>N</i>		222	5,050	3,848	567

**Table 3.1.5 I feel confident with this child (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,309; p<.037)	Feel exactly	82.9	83.6	80.1	80.7
	Often feel	15.5	14.7	17.0	16.9
	Sometimes feel	1.3	1.2	1.4	2.0
	Never feel	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.3
<i>N</i>		309	6,007	4,303	690
33 months (N=9,676; p<.016)	Feel exactly	79.6	82.1	79.7	77.3
	Often feel	15.4	14.6	16.9	19.1
	Sometimes feel	3.6	2.8	2.7	3.5
	Never feel	1.4	0.5	0.7	0.2
<i>N</i>		221	5,049	3,839	567

**Table 3.1.6 I take pleasure in watching the child develop (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,314; p<.051)	Feel exactly	91.6	93.8	91.8	90.5
	Often feel	7.4	5.4	7.0	8.0
	Sometimes feel	0	0.7	0.9	1.2
	Never feel	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
<i>N</i>		311	6,006	4,305	692
33 months (N=9,675; p<.302)	Feel exactly	88.3	88.6	87.7	86.9
	Often feel	9.0	9.8	10.8	10.6
	Sometimes feel	1.8	1.3	1.1	1.4
	Never feel	0.9	0.4	0.4	1.1
<i>N</i>		223	5,042	3,884	566

**Table 3.1.7 Having this child makes me feel fulfilled (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,179; p<.001)	Feel exactly	51.0	49.9	44.0	48.2
	Often feel	29.9	29.5	30.5	29.6
	Sometimes feel	14.6	15.4	18.0	13.9
	Never feel	4.6	5.1	7.5	8.3
<i>N</i>		308	5,937	4,258	676
33 months (N=9,599; p<.001)	Feel exactly	48.4	50.6	47.2	48.1
	Often feel	29.9	29.0	28.1	27.6
	Sometimes feel	18.6	15.9	17.8	18.1
	Never feel	3.2	4.5	6.9	6.3
<i>N</i>		221	5,005	3,814	559

**Table 3.1.8 I try to teach my toddler (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
18 months (N=11,295; p=.001)	No – child too young	27.7	26.0	28.8	27.9
	No – don't have time	0	0.6	0.9	0.7
	Yes, sometimes	32.5	35.1	36.4	32.7
	Yes, often	39.9	38.2	33.9	38.7
<i>N</i>		311	5,997	4,256	731
30 months (N=11,037; p<.001)	No – child too young	3.2	2.4	3.2	3.7
	No – don't have time	0	0.4	0.4	0.8
	Yes, sometimes	36.9	34.8	39.5	34.9
	Yes, often	59.9	62.4	57.0	60.7
<i>N</i>		279	5,762	4,202	794

**Table 3.1.9 I can't bear hearing the child cry (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,291; p<.001)	Feel exactly	2.6	3.3	4.2	4.5
	Often feel	6.1	6.6	8.7	9.1
	Sometimes feel	53.2	54.0	55.3	46.3
	Never feel	38.1	36.0	31.8	40.1
<i>N</i>		310	5,999	4,239	689
33 months (N=9,657; p<.001)	Feel exactly	7.2	3.9	4.4	7.1
	Often feel	6.3	9.7	11.7	9.7
	Sometimes feel	46.6	51.0	52.4	49.9
	Never feel	39.9	35.4	31.5	33.3
<i>N</i>		223	5,030	3,839	565

**Table 3.1.10 I dislike the mess surrounding the child (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,264; p<.001)	Feel exactly	2.6	1.3	0.9	1.9
	Often feel	4.3	3.2	2.8	4.1
	Sometimes feel	25.6	29.5	33.9	27.5
	Never feel	67.5	66.1	62.4	66.6
<i>N</i>		305	5,980	4,294	685
33 months (N=9,665; p<.001)	Feel exactly	2.3	1.2	1.2	0.1
	Often feel	10.4	5.3	6.5	7.5
	Sometimes feel	41.6	53.0	57.1	49.3
	Never feel	45.7	40.5	35.3	42.4
<i>N</i>		221	5,041	3,839	564

**Table 3.1.11 I feel I have no time for myself (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=11,301; p<.001)	Feel exactly	1.9	4.7	7.35	7.1
	Often feel	8.7	12.1	17.0	13.8
	Sometimes feel	51.5	62.1	60.6	55.2
	Never feel	37.9	21.2	15.1	23.9
<i>N</i>		311	5,999	4,301	690
33 months (N=9,662; p<.001)	Feel exactly	4.0	5.6	7.9	7.1
	Often feel	12.9	13.2	17.5	15.8
	Sometimes feel	51.8	61.1	61.9	57.6
	Never feel	31.3	20.1	12.8	19.5
<i>N</i>		224	5,032	3,843	563

**Table 3.1.12 I ignore the child's tantrums (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
18 months (N=9,716; p<.001)	Often	56.8	51.3	43.3	46.3
	Sometimes	37.1	42.7	46.8	43.4
	Never	6.2	6.0	9.8	10.3
<i>N</i>		259	5,187	3,574	696
30 months (N=8,927; p<.001)	Often	47.2	44.0	40.1	38.0
	Sometimes	51.1	52.0	52.8	56.0
	Never	1.7	4.0	7.1	6.1
<i>N</i>		233	4,734	3,383	577

**Table 3.1.13 I send the child away during tantrums (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
18 months (N=9,716; p<.001)	Often	7.7	3.8	1.6	3.5
	Sometimes	28.2	19.3	14.9	18.4
	Never	64.1	76.9	83.5	78.2
<i>N</i>		259	5,187	3,574	696
30 months (N=8,657; p<.001)	Often	18.8	15.4	11.6	14.0
	Sometimes	59.8	50.0	44.5	45.2
	Never	21.4	34.6	43.9	40.8
<i>N</i>		229	4,598	3,266	564

**Table 3.1.14 I smack the child during tantrums (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
18 months (N=9,716; p<.001)	Often	1.5	0.9	0.4	0.3
	Sometimes	35.1	24.6	19.3	24.3
	Never	63.3	74.5	80.4	75.4
<i>N</i>		259	5,187	3,574	696

**Table 3.1.15 I shout at the child during tantrums (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
18 months (N=9,716; p<.001)	Often	6.6	3.7	2.2	3.5
	Sometimes	62.6	58.3	50.6	54.3
	Never	30.9	37.9	47.1	42.2
<i>N</i>		259	5,187	3,574	696

### 3.2 Partner's age at the child's birth

**Table 3.2.1 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
Pregnancy (N=4,051; p<.011)	Agree	0	1.1	1.2	1.4
	Probably agree	0	1.1	0.7	2.1
	Probably disagree	66.7	8.6	7.6	7.0
	Disagree	33.3	89.2	90.5	89.5
<i>N</i>		3	1,537	2,226	285
8 months (N=3,763; p<.201)	Agree	0	0.4	1.2	1.2
	Probably agree	0	3.1	3.2	3.1
	Probably disagree	33.3	8.2	9.3	11.6
	Disagree	66.7	88.3	86.2	84.2
<i>N</i>		3	1,403	2,098	259

**Table 3.2.2 I take pleasure in watching the child develop (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=4,058; p<.589)	Feel exactly	66.7	90.3	89.4	89.2
	Often feel	33.0	8.2	9.0	7.7
	Sometimes feel	0	1.4	1.4	2.8
	Never feel	0	0.2	0.2	0.4
<i>N</i>		3	1,540	2,229	286
21 months (N=3,761; p<.991)	Feel exactly	100	89.4	89.8	88.8
	Often feel	0	8.9	8.8	10.0
	Sometimes feel	0	1.4	1.2	0.8
	Never feel	0	0.2	0.2	0.4
<i>N</i>		3	1,399	2,100	259

**Table 3.2.3 I dislike the mess surrounding the child (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=4,055; p<.493)	Feel exactly	0	1.8	1.9	3.2
	Often feel	0	4.0	3.5	2.5
	Sometimes feel	66.7	33.7	35.5	31.2
	Never feel	33.3	60.5	59.0	63.2
<i>N</i>		3	1,540	2,227	285
21 months (N=3,751; p<.229)	Feel exactly	0	5.9	6.1	9.3
	Often feel	0	27.8	30.2	30.1
	Sometimes feel	66.7	37.9	38.2	33.2
	Never feel	33.3	28.3	25.5	27.4
<i>N</i>		3	1,398	2,091	259

**Table 3.2.4 I can't bear hearing the child cry (%)**

		<20	20–29	30–39	=>40
8 months (N=4,049; p<.138)	Feel exactly	0	2.6	2.6	2.1
	Often feel	33.3	5.0	5.9	5.2
	Sometimes feel	33.3	54.8	55.2	47.9
	Never feel	33.3	37.6	36.3	44.8
<i>N</i>		3	1,537	2,223	286
21 months (N=3,760; p<.049)	Feel exactly	33.3	3.7	3.1	6.2
	Often feel	0	11.1	11.6	8.5
	Sometimes feel	66.7	56.2	56.5	55.2
	Never feel	0	29.1	28.8	30.1
<i>N</i>		3	1,399	2,099	259

# Appendix 4: Parenting as a function of parental education

## 4.1 Maternal education

**Table 4.1.1 It is important to talk to babies of all ages (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
Pregnancy (N=12,043; p<.001)						
	Agree	97.1	97.4	98.6	98.8	98.7
	Probably agree	2.7	2.5	1.3	1.1	1.4
	Probably disagree	0.1	0	0	0.1	0
	Disagree	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0
<i>N</i>		2,370	1,192	4,195	2,727	1,559
8 months (N=10,819; p<.051)						
	Agree	99.0	98.9	99.5	99.7	99.3
	Probably agree	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.6
	Probably disagree	0	0	0	0	0
	Disagree	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<i>N</i>		1,908	1,023	3,841	2,552	1,495

**Table 4.1.2 Cuddling a baby is very important (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
Pregnancy (N=12,052; p<.001)						
	Agree	96.7	97.1	98.6	98.8	99.4
	Probably agree	3.0	2.9	1.3	1.1	0.6
	Probably disagree	0	0.1	0	0	0.1
	Disagree	0.3	0	0.1	0.1	0
<i>N</i>		2,376	1,191	4,199	2,727	1,559
8 months (N=10,848; p<.001)						
	Agree	98.6	99.0	99.6	99.6	99.9
	Probably agree	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.1
	Probably disagree	0.3	0.2	0	0	0
	Disagree	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	0
<i>N</i>		1,908	1,024	3,838	2,552	1,496

**Table 4.1.3 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=10,848; p<.003)						
	Agree	1.5	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.6
	Probably agree	1.6	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.5
	Probably disagree	9.1	10.3	10.1	8.8	10.2
	Disagree	87.8	88.1	88.4	89.2	88.7
	<i>N</i>	1,926	1,025	3,846	2,554	1,497
33 months (N=9,373; p<.145)						
	Agree	2.5	2.1	1.7	2.0	1.5
	Probably agree	1.3	1.2	1.3	0.8	0.7
	Probably disagree	7.7	6.7	7.5	7.0	5.7
	Disagree	88.5	90.1	89.6	90.2	92.1
	<i>N</i>	1,486	856	3,333	2,316	1,382

**Table 4.1.4 I enjoy this child (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=10,857; p<.001)						
	Feel exactly	76.8	76.0	71.7	69.8	65.6
	Often feel	20.4	20.6	25.4	27.3	30.6
	Sometimes feel	2.7	3.3	2.8	2.9	3.7
	Never feel	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0.1
	<i>N</i>	1,931	1,026	3,849	2,553	1,498
33 months (N=9,398; p<.001)						
	Feel exactly	76.2	73.5	72.4	71.0	69.7
	Often feel	19.0	21.8	24.3	25.3	26.9
	Sometimes feel	4.6	4.7	3.2	3.5	3.4
	Never feel	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0
	<i>N</i>	1,494	859	3,337	2,324	1,384

**Table 4.1.5 I feel confident with this child (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=10,859; p<.001)						
	Feel exactly	85.1	84.4	83.4	81.7	74.8
	Often feel	11.8	13.5	14.7	17.1	23.6
	Sometimes feel	2.0	1.4	1.4	0.9	1.1
	Never feel	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4
	<i>N</i>	1,929	1,027	3,849	2,556	1,498
33 months (N=9,388; p<.001)						
	Feel exactly	81.8	83.6	81.5	81.9	74.1
	Often feel	13.4	12.0	15.6	15.2	22.6
	Sometimes feel	3.8	3.6	2.3	2.7	2.9
	Never feel	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.4
	<i>N</i>	1,490	858	3,335	2,322	1,383

**Table 4.1.6 I take pleasure in watching the child develop (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months						
(N=10,864; p<.051)	Feel exactly	93.0	91.9	92.9	93.3	91.5
	Often feel	5.7	6.6	6.2	6.0	7.1
	Sometimes feel	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.1
	Never feel	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.3
<i>N</i>		1,930	1,030	3,851	2,555	1,498
33 months						
(N=9,386; p<.001)	Feel exactly	87.0	87.9	87.7	88.5	89.8
	Often feel	9.9	9.5	11.2	10.0	9.1
	Sometimes feel	2.1	2.0	0.9	1.0	0.9
	Never feel	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.1
<i>N</i>		1,489	860	3,333	2,323	1,381

**Table 4.1.7 Having this child makes me feel fulfilled (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months						
(N=10,741; p<.001)	Feel exactly	56.3	54.1	47.6	43.2	38.9
	Often feel	22.0	25.9	30.2	33.9	35.7
	Sometimes feel	14.7	14.7	15.9	17.5	18.6
	Never feel	6.9	5.2	6.3	5.3	6.8
<i>N</i>		1,889	1,013	3,815	2,527	1,487
33 months						
(N=9,315; p<.001)	Feel exactly	51.9	53.7	46.6	48.1	49.7
	Often feel	23.9	24.4	30.2	29.9	30.6
	Sometimes feel	18.1	15.4	17.5	17.1	13.9
	Never feel	6.0	6.5	5.7	4.9	5.8
<i>N</i>		1,467	851	3,313	2,313	1,371

**Table 4.1.8 I try to teach my toddler (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months						
(N=10,835; p<.001)	No – child is too young	32.1	27.7	26.8	24.0	25.8
	No – no time	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.4
	Yes, sometimes	35.7	36.9	35.5	34.7	37.0
	Yes, often	31.7	34.9	37.0	40.6	35.8
<i>N</i>		1,945	1,036	3,832	2,540	1,482
33 months						
(N=10,592; p<.001)	No – child is too young	3.8	2.2	2.7	2.39	2.8
	No – no time	0.8	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3
	Yes, sometimes	39.8	36.1	36.5	33.3	39.7
	Yes, often	55.6	61.6	60.5	64.2	57.2
<i>N</i>		1,825	1,006	3,773	2,515	1,473

**Table 4.1.9 I can't bear hearing the child cry (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months						
(N=10,841; p<.001)	Feel exactly	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.6	4.3
	Often feel	5.5	6.0	6.7	8.9	11.3
	Sometimes feel	43.4	51.1	55.2	57.5	63.7
	Never feel	47.5	39.1	34.7	29.9	20.8
<i>N</i>		1,920	1,027	3,847	2,553	1,494
33 months						
(N=9,370; p<.001)	Feel exactly	4.8	4.6	4.1	4.6	3.8
	Often feel	8.7	9.6	9.8	11.2	13.3
	Sometimes feel	43.6	48.4	51.7	54.3	56.5
	Never feel	42.9	37.5	34.5	29.9	26.5
<i>N</i>		1,485	858	3,331	2,320	1,376

**Table 4.1.10 I dislike the mess surrounding the child (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months						
(N=10,822; p<.001)	Feel exactly	1.5	1.9	1.0	0.9	1.1
	Often feel	3.5	3.5	2.9	3.1	2.4
	Sometimes feel	22.8	23.2	31.8	35.0	39.9
	Never feel	72.3	71.4	64.3	60.9	56.6
<i>N</i>		1,910	1,022	3,839	2,555	1,496
33 months						
(N=9,376; p<.001)	Feel exactly	1.5	1.4	0.9	0.9	1.5
	Often feel	5.3	5.3	5.8	6.6	6.9
	Sometimes feel	45.6	46.9	54.3	57.9	63.1
	Never feel	47.7	46.4	38.9	34.6	28.4
<i>N</i>		1,486	857	3,332	2,321	1,380

**Table 4.1.11 I feel I have no time for myself (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months						
(N=10,851; p<.001)	Feel exactly	5.3	5.1	5.1	7.0	7.0
	Often feel	9.8	9.7	12.8	16.9	21.4
	Sometimes feel	51.8	59.2	64.3	63.5	62.5
	Never feel	33.1	25.9	17.9	12.6	9.2
<i>N</i>		1,923	1,028	3,850	2,553	1,497
33 months						
(N=9,374; p<.001)	Feel exactly	6.1	5.4	6.0	6.5	8.7
	Often feel	11.4	10.5	13.9	18.2	20.3
	Sometimes feel	55.1	61.2	63.2	61.8	61.6
	Never feel	27.4	22.9	16.9	13.5	9.4
<i>N</i>		1,482	858	3,331	2,325	1,378

**Table 4.1.12 I ignore the child's tantrums (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
18 months (N=9,315; p=.001)						
	Often	48.0	51.6	49.1	48.3	42.8
	Sometimes	43.9	40.6	44.3	43.7	47.9
	Never	7.9	7.8	6.6	8.0	9.2
<i>N</i>		1,603	897	3,355	2,182	1,278
30 months (N=8,609; p=.002)						
	Often	43.4	45.9	43.2	41.5	37.8
	Sometimes	51.7	49.6	52.2	52.7	55.3
	Never	5.0	4.4	4.6	5.8	6.9
<i>N</i>		1,405	788	3,102	2,100	1,214

**Table 4.1.13 I send the child away during tantrums (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
18 months (N=9,315; p=.116)						
	Often	3.8	3.3	3.2	2.8	2.0
	Sometimes	17.5	18.8	17.1	18.5	16.9
	Never	78.7	77.8	79.7	78.7	81.1
<i>N</i>		1,603	897	3,355	2,182	1,278
30 months (N=8,344; p=.005)						
	Often	12.0	13.0	14.3	15.0	12.7
	Sometimes	45.4	49.1	47.6	49.5	49.2
	Never	42.7	37.9	38.1	35.5	38.2
<i>N</i>		1,336	752	3,019	2,055	1,182

**Table 4.1.14 I smack the child during tantrums (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=9,315; p<.001)						
	Often	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.3
	Sometimes	26.6	27.5	24.9	19.8	15.1
	Never	72.2	72.0	74.4	79.8	84.6
<i>N</i>		1,603	897	3,355	2,182	1,278

**Table 4.1.15 I shout at the child during tantrums (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=9,315; p<.001)						
	Often	4.6	3.7	3.4	2.9	1.0
	Sometimes	59.1	61.2	57.7	52.4	45.7
	Never	36.3	35.1	38.8	44.6	53.3
<i>N</i>		1,603	897	3,355	2,182	1,278

## 4.2 Partner's education

**Table 4.2.1 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
Pregnancy (N=4,236; p=.162)	Agree	1.0	1.6	1.1	1.6	0.7
	Probably agree	0.8	0.6	1.3	1.1	0.7
	Probably disagree	5.1	6.9	9.1	8.8	8.8
	Disagree	93.0	90.9	88.5	88.5	89.8
<i>N</i>		486	320	997	1,295	1,138
8 months (N=3,975; p=.191)	Agree	0.7	0.4	0.7	1.1	1.1
	Probably agree	3.6	3.6	2.9	3.3	3.0
	Probably disagree	6.8	5.8	9.7	8.4	10.9
	Disagree	88.9	90.3	86.7	87.2	84.9
<i>N</i>		442	278	916	1,243	1,096

**Table 4.2.2 I take pleasure in watching the child develop (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=4,421; p=.162)	Feel exactly	92.4	91.6	90.5	89.4	86.2
	Often feel	6.6	7.2	7.7	8.6	11.8
	Sometimes feel	0.6	0.6	1.6	1.9	1.8
	Never feel	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.3
<i>N</i>		488	321	999	1,296	1,137
21 months (N=3,972; p=.223)	Feel exactly	90.4	91.4	88.6	89.8	90.1
	Often feel	8.2	7.5	10.0	8.3	8.6
	Sometimes feel	0.7	1.1	1.2	1.8	1.3
	Never feel	0.7	0	0.2	0.2	0
<i>N</i>		439	279	917	1,239	1,098

**Table 4.2.3 I dislike the mess surrounding the child (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=4,239; p<.001)						
	Feel exactly	3.3	2.5	2.0	1.8	1.1
	Often feel	3.1	3.4	4.0	4.3	3.9
	Sometimes feel	23.2	33.0	32.6	35.6	42.6
	Never feel	70.5	61.1	61.4	58.3	52.4
	<i>N</i>	488	321	999	1,293	1,138
21 months (N=3,964; p<.001)						
	Feel exactly	8.2	6.5	5.4	6.3	4.7
	Often feel	26.3	28.8	30.8	30.3	31.4
	Sometimes feel	29.8	29.5	36.0	38.0	41.4
	Never feel	35.7	35.3	27.9	25.3	22.4
	<i>N</i>	437	278	915	1,236	1,098

**Table 4.2.4 I can't bear hearing the child cry (%)**

		None/CSE	Vocational	O level	A level	Degree
8 months (N=4,236; p<.001)						
	Feel exactly	2.7	3.7	2.6	2.9	1.7
	Often feel	3.5	6.9	6.4	4.4	6.2
	Sometimes feel	50.0	53.9	52.1	55.6	60.2
	Never feel	43.8	35.5	38.9	37.0	32.0
	<i>N</i>	486	321	999	1,294	1,136
21 months (N=3,971; p=.083)						
	Feel exactly	4.3	5.4	3.6	3.9	2.2
	Often feel	9.3	11.1	11.5	11.0	11.9
	Sometimes feel	52.2	54.6	56.6	56.7	58.4
	Never feel	34.2	28.9	28.3	28.4	27.4
	<i>N</i>	439	280	915	1,239	1,098

# **Appendix 5: Parenting as a function of parental ethnic group**

## 5.1 Maternal ethnic group

**Table 5.1.1 It is important to talk to babies of all ages (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
Pregnancy (N=12,016; p=.001)	98.3	100	100	97.6	100	90.5	80.0	96.7	97.3
Agree									
Probably agree	1.7	0	0	0	0	9.5	20.0	3.3	2.7
Probably disagree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disagree	0.1	0	0	2.4	0	0	0	0	0
N	11,710	75	11	41	49	21	5	30	74
8 months (N=10,768; p=.001)	99.4	100	90.0	97.3	100	100	100	100	98.4
Agree									
Probably agree	0.5	0	10.0	2.7	0	0	0	0	0
Probably disagree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disagree	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.6
N	10,532	56	10	37	37	12	2	21	61

**Table 5.1.2 Cuddling a baby is very important (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
Pregnancy (N=12,025; p<.001)	98.3	100	100	97.6	100	95.5	66.7	89.7	97.3
Agree									
Probably agree	1.6	0	0	0	0	4.6	16.7	6.9	1.3
Probably disagree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.3
Disagree	0.1	0	0	2.4	0	0	16.7	3.5	0
N	11,716	75	11	41	50	22	6	29	75
8 months (N=10,767; p=.030)	99.4	100	100	100	100	100	100	90.5	100
Agree									
Probably agree	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.5	0
Probably disagree	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disagree	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N	10,530	56	10	37	37	12	2	21	62

Table 5.1.3 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did (%)

	White	Black			Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
		Caribbean	African	Black (other)					
8 months (N=10,795; p=.697)	0.9	1.8	0	0	2.6	0	0	0	1.6
Probably agree	1.0	1.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probably disagree	9.6	16.1	20.0	21.6	13.2	8.3	50.0	14.3	11.5
Disagree	88.5	80.4	80.0	78.4	84.2	91.7	50.0	85.7	86.9
N	10,558	56	10	37	38	12	2	21	61
33 months (N=9,350; p=.837)	2.0	2.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probably agree	1.0	4.6	0	4.2	3.7	0	0	0	0
Probably disagree	7.1	6.8	14.3	8.3	11.1	0	0	0	10.9
Disagree	90.0	86.4	85.7	87.5	85.2	100	100	100	89.1
N	9,174	44	7	24	27	8	2	18	46

Table 5.1.4 I enjoy this child (%)

	White	Black			Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
		Caribbean	African	Black (other)					
8 months (N=10,803; p=.498)	71.7	75.0	60.0	81.1	71.1	58.3	100	38.1	72.1
Feel exactly	25.2	21.4	40.0	16.2	28.9	41.7	0	61.9	26.2
Often feel	3.0	3.6	0	2.7	0	0	0	0	1.6
Sometimes feel	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never feel	10,566	56	10	37	38	12	2	21	61
33 months (N=9,373; p=.710)	72.3	72.7	57.1	70.8	77.8	75.0	100	55.6	86.9
Feel exactly	23.9	25.0	42.9	16.7	22.2	25.0	0	44.4	13.0
Often feel	3.7	2.3	0	12.5	0	0	0	0	0
Sometimes feel	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never feel	9,197	44	7	24	27	8	2	18	46

**Table 5.1.5 I feel confident with this child (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=10,806; p<.001)									
Feel exactly	82.2	92.9	80.0	81.1	86.8	75.0	100	42.9	85.3
Often feel	15.9	5.4	20.0	18.9	13.2	8.3	0	47.6	11.5
Sometimes feel	1.3	1.8	0	0	0	16.7	0	4.8	1.6
Never feel	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.8	1.6
N	10,569	56	10	37	38	12	2	21	61
33 months (N=9,365; p=.009)									
Feel exactly	80.9	79.6	71.4	75.0	77.8	62.5	100	61.1	76.1
Often feel	15.7	20.5	14.3	25.0	22.2	37.5	0	38.9	23.9
Sometimes feel	2.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never feel	0.6	0	14.3	0	0	0	0	0	0
N	9,190	44	7	24	27	8	1	18	46

**Table 5.1.6 I take pleasure in watching the child develop (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=10,811; p=.816)									
Feel exactly	92.8	94.6	100	91.7	89.5	91.7	100	80.1	95.2
Often feel	6.2	3.6	0	8.3	10.5	8.3	0	19.1	3.2
Sometimes feel	0.8	1.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never feel	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.6
N	10,574	56	10	36	38	12	2	21	62
33 months (N=9,361; p=.997)									
Feel exactly	88.1	88.4	100	87.5	92.6	100	100	83.3	95.7
Often feel	10.3	9.3	0	8.3	7.4	0	0	16.7	4.4
Sometimes feel	1.2	2.3	0	4.2	0	0	0	0	0
Never feel	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N	9,187	43	7	24	27	7	2	18	46

Table 5.1.7 Having this child makes me feel fulfilled (%)

		White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=10,698; p=.819)	Feel exactly	47.4	50.9	50.0	47.2	56.8	41.7	50.0	33.3	56.5
	Often feel	30.1	24.5	30.0	22.2	24.3	33.3	0	23.8	29.0
	Sometimes feel	16.3	18.9	20.0	16.7	13.5	16.7	50.0	33.3	9.7
	Never feel	6.2	5.7	0	13.9	5.4	8.3	0	9.5	4.8
N		10,456	53	10	36	37	12	2	21	62
33 months (N=9,315; p<.001)	Feel exactly	48.9	51.2	42.9	54.2	53.9	28.6	0	27.8	56.5
	Often feel	28.6	21.9	28.6	20.8	26.9	57.1	0	55.6	32.6
	Sometimes feel	16.8	21.9	14.3	16.7	19.2	14.3	100	11.1	8.7
	Never feel	5.7	4.9	14.3	8.3	0	0	0	5.6	2.2
N		9,123	41	7	24	26	7	1	18	46

Table 5.1.8 I try to teach my toddler (%)

		White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=10,791; p=.432)	No – child is too young	27.1	29.1	22.2	13.3	31.7	50.0	66.7	26.3	24.6
	No – no time	0.7	0	0	0	0	7.14	0	0	0
	Yes, sometimes	35.7	34.6	55.6	36.7	31.7	21.4	0	47.4	34.4
	Yes, often	36.6	36.4	22.2	50.0	36.6	21.4	33.3	26.3	41.0
N		10,599	55	9	30	41	14	3	19	61
33 months (N=10,545; p<.001)	No – child is too young	2.7	3.9	0	0	5.3	30.0	33.3	5.6	8.1
	No – no time	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Yes, sometimes	36.7	54.9	50.0	39.4	42.1	40.0	66.7	27.8	33.9
	Yes, often	60.3	41.2	50.0	60.6	52.6	30.0	0	66.7	58.1
N		10,322	51	8	33	38	10	3	18	62

**Table 5.1.9 I can't bear hearing the child cry (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=10,791; p=.010)									
Feel exactly	3.7	5.4	0	2.7	8.11	16.7	0	4.8	0
Often feel	7.6	5.4	0	10.8	10.8	0	50.0	19.1	11.5
Sometimes feel	54.6	42.9	55.6	40.5	56.8	33.3	0	71.4	45.9
Never feel	34.2	46.4	44.4	45.9	24.3	50.0	50.0	4.8	42.6
<i>N</i>	10,556	56	9	37	37	12	2	21	61
33 months (N=9,344; p=.437)									
Feel exactly	4.3	11.6	0	4.2	0	12.5	0	0	4.4
Often feel	10.4	14.0	14.3	8.3	22.2	25.0	0	5.6	10.9
Sometimes feel	51.5	46.5	71.4	45.8	40.7	12.5	0	66.7	50.0
Never feel	33.8	27.9	14.3	41.7	37.0	50.0	100	27.8	34.8
<i>N</i>	9,170	43	7	24	27	8	1	18	46

**Table 5.1.10 I dislike the mess surrounding the child (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=10,770; p=.316)									
Feel exactly	1.1	1.8	0	2.8	5.3	8.3	0	0	1.6
Often feel	3.0	3.6	0	5.6	0	8.3	0	9.5	1.6
Sometimes feel	31.4	20.0	40.0	27.8	36.8	25.0	0	42.9	32.8
Never feel	64.6	74.6	60.0	63.9	57.9	58.3	100	47.6	63.9
<i>N</i>	10,536	55	10	36	38	12	1	21	61
33 months (N=9,351; p=.267)									
Feel exactly	1.1	4.9	0	4.2	3.7	0	0	0	
Often feel	5.9	7.3	14.3	4.2	14.8	0	0	11.1	6.5
Sometimes feel	54.6	48.8	71.4	29.2	40.7	37.5	100	61.1	50.0
Never feel	38.3	39.0	14.3	62.5	40.7	62.5	0	27.8	43.5
<i>N</i>	9,179	41	7	24	27	8	1	18	46

Table 5.1.11 I feel I have no time for myself (%)

		White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=10,799; p=.215)	Feel exactly	5.9	7.1	0	5.4	7.9	0	0	0	8.2
	Often feel	14.0	10.7	20.0	5.4	16.2	25.0	50.0	38.1	14.8
	Sometimes feel	61.3	53.6	60.0	62.2	60.5	33.3	50.0	52.4	57.4
	Never feel	18.8	28.6	20.0	27.0	18.4	41.7	0	9.5	19.7
N		10,562	56	10	37	38	12	2	21	61
33 months (N=9,351; p=0.798)	Feel exactly	6.5	4.8	0	8.7	7.4	0	0	5.6	4.4
	Often feel	15.1	16.7	14.3	8.7	18.5	28.6	50.0	27.8	15.2
	Sometimes feel	61.3	50.0	71.4	65.2	59.3	71.4	50.0	44.4	52.2
	Never feel	17.1	28.6	14.3	17.4	14.8	0	0	22.2	28.3
N		9,179	42	7	23	27	7	2	18	46

Table 5.1.12 I ignore the child's tantrums (%)

		White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
18 months (N=9,282; p=.007)	Often	48.3	33.3	16.7	53.6	50.0	28.6	0	20.0	40.7
	Sometimes	44.2	51.1	66.7	39.3	37.5	57.1	33.3	66.7	50.0
	Never	7.6	15.6	16.7	7.1	12.5	14.3	66.7	13.3	9.3
N		9,092	45	6	28	32	7	3	15	54
30 months (N=8,579; p=.109)	Often	42.4	34.3	37.5	47.6	50.0	50.0	50.0	12.5	26.7
	Sometimes	52.4	57.1	37.5	52.4	46.7	50.0	50.0	75.0	62.2
	Never	5.2	8.6	25.0	0	3.3	0	0	12.5	11.1
N		8,416	35	8	21	30	6	2	16	45

**Table 5.1.13 I send the child away during tantrums (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
18 months (N=9,282; p=.306)	3.0	4.4	0	10.7	0	0	0	6.7	1.9
Often	17.6	24.4	16.7	28.6	6.3	0	33.3	20.0	16.7
Sometimes	79.4	71.1	83.3	60.7	93.8	100	66.7	73.3	81.5
Never	9,092	45	6	28	32	7	3	15	54
30 months (N=8,320; p=.071)	13.8	24.3	12.5	25.0	7.1	0	0	6.7	18.2
Often	48.1	40.5	25.0	35.0	42.9	0	100	66.7	56.8
Sometimes	38.1	35.1	62.5	40.0	50.0	100	0	26.7	25.0
Never	8,162	37	8	20	28	5	1	15	44

**Table 5.1.14 I smack the child during tantrums (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
18 months (N=9,452; p=.306)	0.7	2.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Often	22.8	35.6	16.7	35.7	28.1	28.6	0	46.7	24.1
Sometimes	76.6	62.2	83.3	64.3	71.9	71.4	100	53.3	75.9
Never	9,092	45	6	28	32	7	3	15	54

**Table 5.1.15 I shout at the child during tantrums (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
18 months (N=9,282; p=.306)	3.2	4.4	0	7.1	6.3	0	0	0	1.9
Often	55.3	62.2	50.0	64.3	65.6	28.6	100	60	63.0
Sometimes	41.5	33.3	50.0	28.6	28.1	71.4	0	40	35.2
Never	9,092	45	6	28	32	7	3	15	54

## 5.2 Partner's ethnic group

Table 5.2.1 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did (%)

	Black							Other	
	White	Caribbean	African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi		Chinese
Pregnancy (N=4,604; p=.297)									
Agree	1.2	0	0	0	5.6	0	-	0	0
Probably agree	0.9	0	0	0	0	0	-	14.3	4.4
Probably disagree	8.5	0	0	0	16.7	0	-	0	8.7
Disagree	89.4	100	100	100	77.8	100	-	85.7	87.0
N	4,536	12	4	2	18	2	0	7	23
8 months (N=4,285; p=.100)									
Agree	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
Probably agree	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
Probably disagree	9.1	7.7	0	0	11.8	0	-	0	4.6
Disagree	86.8	92.3	100	100	88.2	100	-	100	95.5
N	4,221	13	3	2	17	2	0	5	22

Table 5.2.2 I take pleasure in watching the child develop (%)

	Black							Other	
	White	Caribbean	African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi		Chinese
8 months (N=4,613; p=.100)									
Feel exactly	89.3	91.7	100	100	83.3	100	-	85.7	95.7
Often feel	8.9	8.3	0	0	16.7	0	-	14.3	4.4
Sometimes feel	1.6	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
Never feel	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
N	4,545	12	4	2	18	2	0	7	23
21 months (N=4,284; p=.982)									
Feel exactly	89.7	100	100	50.0	100	100	-	100	95.5
Often feel	8.7	0	0	50.0	0	0	-	0	4.6
Sometimes feel	1.3	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
Never feel	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
N	4,220	13	3	2	17	2	0	5	22

**Table 5.2.3 I dislike the mess surrounding the child (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=4,610; p=.001)									
Feel exactly	2.0	8.3	0	50.0	5.6	0	-	0	4.4
Often feel	3.7	0	0	0	16.7	0	-	0	13.0
Sometimes feel	35.1	25.0	0	0	27.8	0	-	42.9	30.4
Never feel	59.2	66.7	100	50.0	50.0	100	-	57.1	52.2
N	4,542	12	4	2	18	2	0	7	23
21 months (N=4,273; p=.026)									
Feel exactly	5.8	7.7	33.3	0.0	23.5	0	-	20.0	4.6
Often feel	30.1	30.8	0	0	17.7	50.0	-	60.0	27.3
Sometimes feel	37.3	15.4	33.3	50.0	23.5	50.0	-	20.0	27.3
Never feel	26.8	46.2	33.3	0	35.3	0	-	0	40.9
N	4,209	13	3	2	17	2	0	5	22

**Table 5.2.4 I can't bear hearing the child cry (%)**

	White	Black Caribbean	Black African	Black (other)	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Other
8 months (N=4,604; p=0.036)									
Feel exactly	2.6	16.7	0	0	5.6	0	-	0	13.0
Often feel	5.5	8.3	0	0	0	0	-	14.3	4.4
Sometimes feel	55.1	33.3	0	100	38.9	50.0	-	57.1	43.5
Never feel	36.9	41.7	100	0	55.6	50.0	-	28.6	39.1
N	4,536	12	4	2	18	2	0	7	23
21 months (N=4,283; p=.672)									
Feel exactly	3.7	7.7	0	0	0	0	-	0	4.6
Often feel	11.1	15.4	0	0	11.8	0	-	20.0	13.6
Sometimes feel	56.4	38.5	0	0	47.1	50.0	-	60.0	50.0
Never feel	28.9	38.5	100	100	41.2	50.0	-	20.0	31.8
N	4,219	13	3	2	17	2	0	5	22

# Appendix 6: Individual parenting variables by mutable contextual factors

## 6.1 Maternal self-report at 8 months

**Table 6.1.1 It is important to talk to babies of all ages**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	99.4	0.5	0.01	0.1	10,570	0.440
	Single, divorced or separated	98.8	1.0	0	0.2	604	
Social support	High	99.4	0.5	0	0.1	9,952	0.352
	Low	99.0	0.8	0	0.2	474	
Financial difficulties	None/few	99.4	0.6	0.01	0.1	10,257	0.449
	Many	99.4	0.4	0	0.2	953	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	99.4	0.5	0	0.1	8,617	0.031
	Renting	99.0	0.1	0.04	0.2	2,555	
Physical health	Good	99.4	0.6	0.01	0.1	10,627	0.749
	Poor	99.0	0.8	0	0.2	613	
Mental health	Good	99.4	0.5	0.01	0.1	9,865	0.331
	Poor	99.0	0.9	0	0.2	1,262	

**Table 6.1.2 Cuddling a baby is very important**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	99.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	10,570	0.664
	Single, divorced or separated	99.2	0.7	0	0.2	602	
Social support	High	99.5	0.4	0.04	0.1	9,950	0.028
	Low	98.5	1.3	0	0.2	474	
Financial difficulties	None/few	99.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	10,256	0.237
	Many	99.5	0.3	0	0.2	952	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	99.6	0.3	0.02	0.03	8,614	<.001
	Renting	98.6	0.9	0.3	0.2	2,556	
Physical health	Good	99.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	10,626	0.782
	Poor	99.4	0.5	0	0.2	613	
Mental health	Good	99.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	9,864	0.364
	Poor	99.1	0.7	0.2	0.1	1,261	

**Table 6.1.3 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	0.9	1.0	9.5	88.7	10,600	<.001
	Single, divorced or separated	1.0	2.2	14.0	82.8	599	
Social support	High	0.7	0.9	8.7	89.8	9,957	<.001
	Low	3.2	2.7	22.8	71.3	474	
Financial difficulties	None/few	0.8	0.9	9.2	89.0	10,269	<.001
	Many	1.6	2.1	15.5	80.9	956	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	0.7	0.8	8.6	89.9	8,639	<.001
	Renting	1.7	1.8	13.5	82.9	2,559	
Physical health	Good	0.8	0.9	9.2	89.1	10,661	<.001
	Poor	2.3	3.9	20.3	73.5	612	
Mental health	Good	0.7	0.6	7.9	90.8	9,900	<.001
	Poor	2.2	4.5	24.2	69.1	1,257	

**Table 6.1.4 I enjoy this child**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	71.8	25.2	2.9	0.1	10,613	0.651
	Single, divorced or separated	73.1	23.6	3.3	0	598	
Social support	High	72.9	24.4	2.6	0.1	9,964	<.001
	Low	53.4	37.6	8.8	0.2	476	
Financial difficulties	None/few	72.9	24.5	2.6	0.1	10,282	<.001
	Many	61.7	31.4	6.8	0.1	953	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	71.2	25.6	3.1	0.1	8,639	0.048
	Renting	73.9	23.6	2.5	0.1	2,568	
Physical health	Good	73.1	24.5	2.4	0.1	10,669	<.001
	Poor	52.1	34.1	13.3	0.5	616	
Mental health	Good	75.1	23.0	1.8	0.1	9,903	<.001
	Poor	46.7	41.2	11.8	0.3	1,262	

**Table 6.1.5 I feel confident with this child**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	82.3	15.8	1.3	0.6	10,608	0.201
	Single, divorced or separated	83.6	14.8	2.0	0.2	602	
Social support	High	83.3	15.2	1.0	0.5	9,966	<.001
	Low	68.7	24.7	4.4	2.1	473	
Financial difficulties	None/few	82.8	15.5	1.1	0.6	10,278	<.001
	Many	78.7	17.8	2.9	0.6	956	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	81.8	16.6	1.2	0.5	8,646	<.001
	Renting	84.4	13.2	1.6	0.9	2,563	
Physical health	Good	83.2	15.2	1.0	0.6	10,671	<.001
	Poor	68.4	24.8	6.0	0.8	614	
Mental health	Good	84.8	14.1	0.7	0.5	9,905	<.001
	Poor	64.8	27.9	6.2	1.1	1,260	

**Table 6.1.6 I take pleasure in watching this child develop**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	92.9	6.1	0.8	0.3	10,613	0.123
	Single, divorced or separated	91.0	8.3	0.5	0.2	601	
Social support	High	93.7	5.6	0.6	0.2	9,971	<.001
	Low	79.6	14.1	5.1	1.3	475	
Financial difficulties	None/few	93.2	5.9	0.7	0.2	10,283	<.001
	Many	88.3	9.5	1.6	0.6	957	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	92.1	6.2	0.8	0.2	8,647	0.176
	Renting	92.7	6.3	0.6	0.4	2,565	
Physical health	Good	93.4	5.8	0.6	0.2	10,675	<.001
	Poor	82.0	13.2	4.1	0.8	615	
Mental health	Good	94.3	5.1	0.4	0.2	9,910	<.001
	Poor	81.1	14.7	3.7	0.5	1,262	

**Table 6.1.7 Having this child makes me feel fulfilled**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	47.4	30.1	16.4	6.1	10,487	0.283
	Single, divorced or separated	50.5	26.8	15.9	6.9	598	
Social support	High	48.1	30.5	15.7	5.7	9,868	<.001
	Low	31.2	25.0	30.1	13.7	468	
Financial difficulties	None/few	48.0	30.3	15.8	5.6	10,165	<.001
	Many	43.7	25.2	21.5	9.5	943	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	46.6	30.7	16.6	6.1	8,559	.001
	Renting	51.1	27.5	15.2	6.3	2,522	
Physical health	Good	48.6	29.9	15.8	5.7	10,550	<.001
	Poor	30.4	29.1	25.0	15.5	605	
Mental health	Good	50.1	30.1	14.6	5.2	9,802	<.001
	Poor	28.2	28.6	29.1	14.2	1,249	

**Table 6.1.8 I can't bear hearing the child cry**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	3.7	7.7	54.1	34.5	10,594	0.061
	Single, divorced or separated	4.2	5.8	51.0	39.0	600	
Social support	High	3.5	7.4	54.5	34.6	9,955	<.001
	Low	8.2	12.6	51.8	27.4	475	
Financial difficulties	None/few	3.6	7.3	53.9	35.2	10,263	<.001
	Many	4.4	11.0	55.7	29.0	956	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	3.6	8.0	55.4	33.1	8,636	<.001
	Renting	4.1	6.3	49.5	40.2	2,557	
Physical health	Good	3.4	7.3	53.8	35.5	10,653	<.001
	Poor	9.1	13.2	57.3	20.4	614	
Mental health	Good	3.3	6.7	53.2	36.9	9,892	<.001
	Poor	8.3	13.8	60.0	17.9	1,260	

**Table 6.1.9 I dislike the mess surrounding the child**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	1.2	3.1	31.3	64.4	10,570	0.012
	Single, divorced or separated	0.8	3.0	25.3	70.9	597	
Social support	High	1.0	3.0	31.3	64.8	9,942	<.001
	Low	4.3	4.9	30.6	60.3	471	
Financial difficulties	None/few	1.0	2.9	30.8	65.3	10,236	<.001
	Many	3.0	5.8	32.0	59.3	957	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	1.0	2.9	32.4	63.8	8,623	<.001
	Renting	1.9	4.1	26.4	67.7	2,543	
Physical health	Good	1.1	2.9	30.6	65.4	10,629	<.001
	Poor	2.9	7.7	36.0	53.4	611	
Mental health	Good	0.9	2.5	29.9	66.7	9,870	<.001
	Poor	3.3	7.6	38.9	50.2	1,256	

**Table 6.1.10 I feel I have no time for myself**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	5.8	14.1	61.2	18.9	10,602	<.001
	Single, divorced or separated	5.2	12.3	55.7	26.8	601	
Social support	High	5.4	13.9	61.7	19.0	9,962	<.001
	Low	15.4	21.1	49.3	14.3	475	
Financial difficulties	None/few	5.1	13.6	61.4	19.9	10,272	<.001
	Many	13.0	18.0	54.8	14.2	955	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	6.0	14.9	62.4	16.7	8,643	<.001
	Renting	4.9	11.1	55.6	28.4	2,559	
Physical health	Good	5.1	13.2	61.7	20.1	10,664	<.001
	Poor	17.8	27.9	45.4	9.0	613	
Mental health	Good	4.1	12.5	62.6	20.8	9,899	<.001
	Poor	18.8	25.9	46.6	8.6	1,261	

## 6.2 Maternal self-report at 33 months

**Table 6.2.1 I would have preferred not to have had this baby when we did**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	1.9	0.9	6.5	90.7	8,371	<.001
	Single, divorced or separated	1.2	1.2	14.2	83.4	507	
Social support	High	1.8	0.8	6.3	91.2	8,055	<.001
	Low	2.6	4.4	12.6	80.4	270	
Financial difficulties	None/few	1.8	0.9	6.7	90.7	8,795	<.001
	Many	3.9	2.7	12.6	80.9	852	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	1.7	0.9	6.3	91.1	7,690	0.001
	Renting	2.8	1.8	10.8	84.7	1,945	
Physical health	Good	1.9	1.0	6.9	90.2	8,917	<.001
	Poor	3.4	2.0	11.8	82.9	508	
Mental health	Good	1.7	0.1	5.8	91.9	8,109	<.001
	Poor	3.2	3.5	14.8	78.5	1,503	

**Table 6.2.2 I enjoy this child**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	72.7	23.6	3.5	0.1	8,388	0.018
	Single, divorced or separated	66.9	29.6	3.5	0	514	
Social support	High	73.4	23.3	3.2	0.1	8,070	<.001
	Low	53.5	35.8	10.7	0	271	
Financial difficulties	None/few	72.9	23.6	3.4	0.1	8,818	<.001
	Many	67.3	26.2	6.1	0.4	854	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	72.4	24.1	3.5	0.1	7,706	0.236
	Renting	72.5	23.0	4.4	0.1	1,953	
Physical health	Good	73.3	23.3	3.3	0.1	8,940	<.001
	Poor	58.8	31.0	10.0	0.2	510	
Mental health	Good	75.8	21.7	2.5	0.1	8,129	<.001
	Poor	54.5	35.2	9.9	0.4	1,508	

**Table 6.2.3 I feel confident with this child**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	80.9	15.8	2.7	0.6	8,381	0.099
	Single, divorced or separated	79.9	14.8	4.1	1.2	513	
Social support	High	81.9	15.2	2.4	0.5	8,063	<.001
	Low	60.5	26.2	10.0	3.3	271	
Financial difficulties	None/few	81.3	15.5	2.6	0.6	8,807	<.001
	Many	75.4	18.7	4.9	0.9	854	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	80.9	16.0	2.6	0.5	7,697	0.006
	Renting	80.3	15.0	3.8	0.8	1,952	
Physical health	Good	81.7	15.3	2.5	0.6	8,903	<.001
	Poor	67.0	24.0	7.7	1.4	509	
Mental health	Good	84.2	13.8	1.6	0.5	8,123	<.001
	Poor	62.8	26.4	9.5	1.4	1,503	

**Table 6.2.4 I take pleasure in watching this child develop**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	88.5	9.9	1.2	0.4	8,382	.001
	Single, divorced or separated	82.6	14.7	1.8	1.0	512	
Social support	High	89.4	9.3	0.9	0.4	8,066	<.001
	Low	68.5	24.1	7.4	0	270	
Financial difficulties	None/few	88.6	9.9	1.1	0.4	8,805	0.005
	Many	83.4	13.5	2.6	0.6	853	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	88.5	10.1	1.1	0.4	7,696	0.001
	Renting	86.5	10.8	1.9	0.8	1,951	
Physical health	Good	88.7	9.8	1.1	0.5	8,927	<.001
	Poor	80.7	15.6	3.3	0.4	512	
Mental health	Good	90.1	8.7	0.7	0.5	8,119	<.001
	Poor	77.6	18.1	4.0	0.3	1,508	

**Table 6.2.5 Having this child makes me feel fulfilled**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	49.1	28.9	16.6	5.4	8,325	0.003
	Single, divorced or separated	44.5	26.5	22.0	7.1	510	
Social support	High	25.5	26.6	30.3	17.6	8,017	<.001
	Low	50.0	29.0	15.9	5.1	267	
Financial difficulties	None/few	49.7	28.7	16.2	5.4	8,736	<.001
	Many	41.9	27.5	23.4	7.2	847	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	49.2	29.0	16.2	5.6	7,642	0.009
	Renting	48.2	27.0	19.4	5.4	1,931	
Physical health	Good	49.8	28.7	16.2	5.3	8,861	<.001
	Poor	37.5	25.8	28.0	8.7	504	
Mental health	Good	52.0	28.4	14.7	4.5	8,065	<.001
	Poor	32.8	29.8	28.3	9.2	1,489	

**Table 6.2.6 I can't bear hearing the child cry**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	4.2	10.6	51.6	33.6	8,363	0.531
	Single, divorced or separated	5.5	9.5	51.6	33.5	514	
Social support	High	4.0	10.3	51.7	34.1	8,050	<.001
	Low	10.4	17.8	49.1	22.7	269	
Financial difficulties	None/few	4.1	10.0	51.2	34.6	8,787	<.001
	Many	6.7	15.0	53.2	25.1	853	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	4.3	10.6	52.0	33.1	7,680	0.020
	Renting	4.7	9.8	49.0	36.6	1,949	
Physical health	Good	4.2	10.0	51.5	34.3	8,910	<.001
	Poor	7.6	17.0	50.4	25.0	512	
Mental health	Good	3.6	9.2	50.6	36.7	8,104	<.001
	Poor	8.4	17.3	55.8	18.5	1,506	

**Table 6.2.7 I dislike the mess surrounding the child**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	1.1	5.9	54.9	38.1	8,374	0.004
	Single, divorced or separated	1.0	5.1	47.8	46.2	513	
Social support	High	1.0	5.5	55.1	38.4	8,057	<.001
	Low	1.9	17.0	52.2	28.9	270	
Financial difficulties	None/few	1.1	5.5	54.6	38.9	8,794	<.001
	Many	1.8	12.1	50.4	35.8	854	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	1.0	6.1	55.9	37.2	7,689	<.001
	Renting	2.0	5.9	47.7	44.5	1,950	
Physical health	Good	1.0	5.8	54.1	39.1	8,917	<.001
	Poor	3.9	10.0	56.1	30.1	512	
Mental health	Good	0.9	4.8	53.9	40.4	8,111	<.001
	Poor	2.5	12.5	55.8	29.2	1,507	

**Table 6.2.8 I feel I have no time for myself**

		Agree	Probably agree	Probably disagree	Disagree	<i>N</i>	<i>p</i>
Marital status	Married	6.5	15.2	61.2	17.1	8,374	0.293
	Single, divorced or separated	7.3	16.1	57.1	19.6	510	
Social support	High	6.0	14.9	62.0	17.1	8,058	<.001
	Low	20.5	21.6	48.5	9.3	268	
Financial difficulties	None/few	5.8	14.5	61.7	17.9	8,794	<.001
	Many	14.1	20.2	53.7	12.0	851	
Housing tenure	Homeowner	6.5	15.6	62.2	15.6	7,690	<.001
	Renting	6.7	12.6	56.1	24.5	1,944	
Physical health	Good	5.9	14.4	61.8	17.9	8,916	<.001
	Poor	16.4	25.9	48.2	9.6	513	
Mental health	Good	4.4	13.2	63.1	19.3	8,107	<.001
	Poor	17.8	25.1	49.8	7.4	1,509	

# Appendix 7: Technical Appendix – Validation of the aggregated parenting measure

One remit of this report was to examine differences in parenting as a function of immutable factors (parental age, education and ethnic group) and changes in parenting over time as a function of mutable factors: housing tenure, marital status, social support, financial circumstance, mental health and physical health. To do this we developed an aggregated measure of parenting derived by adding scores for both positive and negative aspects of the parent–child relationship: confidence with and enjoyment of the child, pleasure and fulfilment in seeing the child develop, regretting the timing of the child’s birth, disliking the child’s crying and the mess it creates and perceiving no time for oneself. Scores for each of these items were added together to produce a measure of parenting available when the child was 8 and 33 months old. In order to be certain that this overall score was valid, we tested both its reliability and its validity in several stages.

## Reliability

First, the eight items from each time point were entered into a factor analysis which showed that they could be combined into a single factor with all items loading  $>0.35$ . Second, to confirm that all items were measuring the same construct and to support their combination into a single factor, their internal consistency was tested using Cronbach’s alpha. The overall alpha was 0.69 for the measure at 8 months and 0.67 at 33 months (see Table 1.1.1 in Appendix 1). This confirmed that the items could be combined into a single measure of parenting at each time point with a range of scores from 8 to 32 (a high score represents desirable parenting). The correlation between the parenting measures at each time point was 0.54 (Table 1.1.2).

## Criterion validity

We assessed the correlation between the parenting measure itself and another measure of parenting from the ALSPAC study although it should be noted that there is no generally accepted ‘gold standard’ parenting measure. When the children within the ALSPAC cohort were 6 months of age, mothers were asked to complete

a set of twelve questions about activities undertaken with the child, some of which were taken from the HOME inventory (Bradley and Corwyn, 2005). These twelve items were combined to produce two scores: a HOME score (Does the child have cuddly/push and pull/co-ordination toys and books? Do you try to teach the child/talk to the child while you work in the home?) and a parenting score (How often do you play/sing/look at picture books/play with toys together/engage in physical play/go for walks with your child?). Correlations between these existing measures of parenting and the parenting score developed for this report indicate the level of criterion validity of the new measure. While we would expect some level of correlation between each of these measures, we would not expect this to be high as each deals with different aspects of parenting. As predicted, there was some correlation between the parenting measure at both 8 and 33 months, the HOME score (0.100 and 0.115 respectively,  $p < .001$ ) and the existing parenting score (0.126 and 0.136 respectively,  $p < .001$ ).

## **Predictive validity**

We were also interested in the ability of the parenting scores to predict child outcomes known, from other studies, to be associated with parenting. The first step in this process was to assess the correlations between the parenting measure at each time point and the total score on the Goodman Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ: Goodman, 1999, 2001), a child outcome which might be expected to be related to parenting. Parenting scores at both 8 and 33 months were moderately associated with the total SDQ score at 47 and 81 months of age (0.20 and 0.19 respectively for the 8-month parenting score and 0.32 and 0.27 respectively for the 33-month score: see Table 1.1.2 in Appendix 1). Table 1.1.2 also presents the correlations between the parenting score and the different subscales of the SDQ. It is reassuring that the strongest associations were observed for the parenting score measured at 33 months (Table 1.1.2) and that higher parenting scores were associated with improved child outcomes.

The next stage in testing predictive validity was to undertake univariable regression analyses, entering parenting into the model on its own (see Table 1.1.3 in Appendix 1). Parenting scores at both 8 and 33 months predicted SDQ scores at both 47 and 81 months. Next, we began to develop the overall model, adjusting for demographic factors (maternal age and education) at every stage (there was no association between ethnic group and child outcomes). The parenting variable was entered into the model after adjusting for maternal age and education and the results of this stage of the analyses are shown in block 1 of Tables 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.3.1 and 1.3.2 in

Appendix 1. In each case, the negative value of the coefficient predicts that, for every point increase in the parenting score, there is a reduction in the total SDQ score of around half a point. In other words, as the parenting score increases there is a reduction in child behavioural and emotional problems. Next the parenting variable was entered into the model after adjusting for the demographic variables described above and potentially confounding socio-economic variables measured at 8 months (Tables 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 in Appendix 1) and at 33 months (Tables 1.3.1 and 1.3.2). These were maternal mental and physical health, housing tenure, financial difficulties and social support. As above, even after adjusting for all of these confounders, a point increase in parenting score predicts a reduction in the total SDQ score of around 0.4–0.5 in each case.

It was also important to adjust for child characteristics as parenting is a reciprocal process between parent and child: a child's behaviour is influenced by the parenting he or she receives *and* the child's behaviour affects the way that the parent responds to the child. We adjusted for child temperament measured at 6 months using the items comprising Carey's Infant Temperament Questionnaire (Carey and McDevitt, 1977), as this was the earliest appropriate measure of child characteristics. (However, we do acknowledge that by 6 months parenting will have had some influence on child behaviour.) Block 3 of each table shows the independent effect of parenting on child outcomes after adjusting for the effect of maternal demographic, social, economic and health variables and also child temperament: again a single point increase in the parenting score predicts a reduction in the total SDQ score of 0.4–0.5 points.

The contribution of parenting in each model is remarkably consistent regardless of which other variables are included. This suggests that our derived measure of parenting is a valid measure.

## References

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