

APPENDIX 2.

LETTER OF INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN GROUP

Dear

You are invited by the Hey Dad WA program of Ngala Family Service Centre to participate in a research project about fathers' roles in bringing up a child under two years of age.

The project, which is funded by the Lotteries Commission of WA, is setting out to:

- explore the differing expectations, experiences and visions which fathers and mothers with children under two years of age have of being a parent,
- develop ways to encourage men to participate fully in early parenting

You are invited because you are a Mum with a child who is, or has recently been under two, and because you have a real contribution to make to the research. Nine other women are being invited to join the group, which will meet for three hours on each of two occasions.

(1) WED. SEPT. 25, FROM 9.30 AM - 12.30, AT LADY GOWRIE, 3 YARALLA ST.,
(2) (RECENTLY RENAMED AS 61 LOWAN LOOP), KARAWARA, AND (2) SAT. OCT. 5 FROM 9.30 AM - 12.30,
AT NGALA FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE, 9, GEORGE ST., KENSINGTON.

The group will have two facilitators Anne Beach, a staff member at Ngala, and myself. I have been engaged by Ngala to conduct the research.

The group sessions will be focussed around three themes:

- (1) Before you started your relationship, what did you expect the child's father would do as a dad if and when you became a parent?
- (2) What does or did he actually do as a dad during the baby's first two years?
- (3) What is my vision about how a dad's role will develop in the future?

We will ask you and the other group members to keep **very strictly confidential**, any information or comments made by members of the group. The researchers will be writing a report summarising what group members say about the three themes. Even though we will ask for your name on a questionnaire, your name will not be included in the report, nor in any publication or conference presentation made on the study.

Your group will be one of six groups, which are designed to cover a spectrum of parenting situations. A copy of the complete project outline is available for you to read by requesting it from Evyn Webster, Coordinator of Ngala's Hey Dad WA program (9368 9379).

If you are able to accept the invitation, please fill out the attached Acceptance and Consent Form and the Questionnaire, and bring them to the group meeting. If you are not able to join, please let Evyn know. This is an exciting area of new research and I look forward to having you with us.

With best wishes

Denis Ladbrook
Research Associate
September 23, 2002

APPENDIX 3.

ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT FORM

I accept the invitation from the Hey Dad WA Program of Ngala Family Resource Centre, to participate in a research project organised into two group meetings to be held on 23rd and 30th April, 2002. I understand that the focal theme of the project is to explore my expectations, actual experiences and visions of a father's role as dad to a child under two years of age.

I accept that I will contribute my ideas, views and experiences within a group of ten similarly situated mothers. I agree that I will maintain confidentiality of any information or viewpoint expressed by any member of the group.

I understand and accept that this is a research project, and that the researchers, who will facilitate the group events, will be writing a report. The report will summarise the views of the group as a whole and may include verbatim quotations from individuals, possibly including me. I understand that no names will be attached to such quotations in any product of the research project, and that they will be used for research and educational purposes only.

I accept that parts of the group may be tape-recorded and that permission may be sought to photocopy anything that I may write. However, the researchers will not copy any of my material unless I give my permission. I understand that any tape recording or photocopy will be retained in the project archives and will not be available to persons unconnected with the project.

The project has been approved by the Murdoch University Human Research Ethics Committee and all aspects of the project will be conducted according to the strictest ethical standards.

I understand that I may withdraw from participating in the project at any time and that I will receive a photocopy of my signed Acceptance and Consent Form.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

NAME IN CAPITAL LETTERS : _____

The Board of Ngala Family Resource Centre requires that all participants are informed that if they have any complaints regarding the manner in which a research project is conducted, that they may be given to the Project Director (Ms. Helen Mein) or, alternatively, to the Executive Director of Ngala Family Resource Centre, 9 George St., Kensington WA 6151, tel. 9368 9368.

For further information on the research project or queries about this form, please contact the Research Associate, Denis Ladbrook, on 9336 2924.

APPENDIX 4.

QUESTIONNAIRE (GROUP 6)

There are two purposes for this questionnaire: (1) for the research team to get to know you and your background a bit, and (2) to assist them in comparing information from this study with that from others. This will always be done without any identification of yourself by name. Should you wish not to answer any questions, it's OK to leave them blank, and if you have any queries regarding the questionnaire, please contact Denis Ladbrook, on 9336.2924.

Snapshot of your childhood

Where did you live for the longest period as a child?

Perth ___ Other WA ___ Other Aust. ___ Other country (which?) _____

Who were the children in your childhood family? Put M (male) or F (female) next to No.

Children: (Circle Yourself)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Year of Birth						

Snapshot of your Father and Mother

	Your Father	Your Mother
Year of Birth		
Where born?		
Highest educational qualification		
Usual Occupation		

Snapshot of you and your child's father

	Yourself	Your Child's Father
No. Years Married/Partnered if any		
Age when first child was born		
Occupation		
Full-time, PT or not in Labour For		
Highest Educational Qualification		
No. months since relationship ended		

Snapshot of your present household

Who lives in Your Household? Self _ Child 1 _ Child 2 _ Others (who) _____

Your children: **Child 1** - DoB ___ M/F **Ch 2** - DoB ___ M/F **Ch 3** - DoB ___ M/F

Gross Annual Income	Yourself	Child's father (if known)
Up to \$25,000		
\$25,001 – 50,000		
Over \$50,000		

Percent of Your Income: Own Business ___ Job ___ Centrelink ___ Parents ___ Ex ___ Other ___

Who has residency of the child? I do ___ Father has ___ Joint ___ Other (who) _____

How often does the father see the child? Daily ___ Weekly ___ Fortnightly ___ Never ___ Other ___

Has a restraining order been issued? Y _ N _ Against whom? _____ Is it current? Y _ N _

Were you and the Child's father: Married, Partnered, Casually related, Other? (Underline one)

Are you now: Single (never married), separated, divorced, widowed, repartnered, other? (Underline one)

YOUR NAME (optional) _____ Date _____

Thank you for answering these questions.

Denis Ladbrook, **Research Associate**, Sept. 23, 2002

APPENDIX 5.

FEEDBACK FORM

Thank you for sharing your ideas and life experience in this group. We would value a few comments on your assessment of the group experience.

The group focussed on three themes. How valuable to you were the discussions of these three themes?

	Not at all Valuable	Not very Valuable	Somewhat Valuable	Very Val.	Extremely Valuable
What I had expected from my husband as a dad	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
What he actually does as dad	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
My vision for him as a dad	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

What did you like best about taking part in this research? _____

What did you like least about taking part in this research? _____

To what degree does the Draft Report accurately and comprehensively record the views expressed? _____

What would you like to add to, or correct in, the Report? (attach a separate page if you like)

What would you like to say to the Group facilitators? _____

Name (Optional) _____ Date _____

Thank you for your feedback. The Project team wishes you a great future as a mother and as a family.

Denis and Anne

Please return this to Eryn Webster, Ngala Family Resource Centre, 9 George St., Kensington, 6151, by June 30, 2002.

Denis would welcome a phone call after June 27 2002 on 9336 2924.