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Title: Children's Well-Being in Germany – Results of the "LBS-Kinderbarometer Deutschland"

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How do German children experience their environment, society and their own life? Which factors are crucial for their well-being and what kind of attitudes and wishes do they have?

Answers to these questions are given by the "LBS-Kinderbarometer Deutschland", a nationwide quantitative survey with more than 10,000 participating children aged nine to 14 years. The study started in 2007 (previous surveys have taken place since 1997, but these weren't nationwide) and is carried out biannually. The study design allows representative cross-sectional analyses for Germany as a whole and every federal state on its own. Aspects concerning family, health, school, peer group, media, living environment as well as safety and their impact on the children's well-being in different areas of life have been investigated.

The results indicate that the children's overall well-being in 2009 is good (\bar{x} = 5.6 on a seven point well-being scale). But still there is an alarming rate of children (7%) who describe their overall well-being as negative. Well-being in family and school does affect the children's overall well-being most. Concerning school, results show a drastically decrease in well-being with increasing age and a discrepancy between boys and girls, whereas German girls feel better in school, even though they experience more fear of tests. Factors affecting children's well-being in their family are amongst others: arguments, shared hobbies, and an appropriate parental degree of interest in their child.

The aim of the study is an exploration of the well-being of children and a closer look at factors which directly affect their general well-being and well-being in important areas of their lives (school, family, peer group, living environment).

The presentation will propose the survey questionnaire and show the most significant results of the "LBS-Kinderbarometer Deutschland 2009". As a future prospect there may be first results from the enquiry in 2011.