Questions + vignette that shall via an omnibus be sent to a representative sample of the population in Finland, Norway, England, and USA (CA)

ENGLAND:

1. The following description is a condensed version of the information in a child welfare agency's case file. Please read the case and answer the question below.

Benjamin, a 2 year old boy

Benjamin was born seven weeks prematurely and spent four weeks in the hospital before his parents could take him home. When Benjamin was ten months old, he was hospitalized. The medical examination indicated that he had been repeatedly physically abused. Due to the suspicion of physical abuse of Benjamin, and to his parents' drug misuse, the child welfare system removed Benjamin from his parents.

When Benjamin turns two years old, his parents are still misusing drugs, and the child welfare agency does not think it is realistic that Benjamin will be reunified with his parents. The child welfare agency therefore considers either adoption or foster home.

An adoption means that the biological parents' parental rights are terminated and transferred to the adoptive parents on a permanent basis. A foster home can be long term but is not permanent, and foster parents can terminate a contract about being foster parents for a child.

Based on the condensed information above, would you, as yourself, suggest adoption or foster home? (answer alternatives: adoption / foster home / I do not wish to answer)

2. Please tell us how much confidence you, yourself, have in: (answer alternatives: a great deal, quite a lot, some, very little, / (unsure))

The child welfare agencies that shall protect children

The child welfare workers that are working at these agencies

The judges in court that make decisions about care orders

3. A principal at a school in your region presents the following case. We ask you to read it and then considering five statements.

Jon (11) and Mira (9) are living with their parents. Both mother and father have learning difficulties and mental health problems. The school is very concerned about the situation, and a psychologist has examined the children. She has concluded that Jon and Mira have serious problems with learning and they lack social skills. They are clearly lagging behind their peers, and this is confirmed by their test scores. The psychologist has stated that this is due to lack of stimuli and help from the parents, and the children need a lot of help and support. Further, the psychologist stated that the children lack basic social skills, especially Mira (9). The parents are

socially withdrawn and cannot teach and show their children how to behave towards friends and other adults. The psychologist concludes that Mira and Jon are at significant risk of becoming as socially withdrawn as their parents.

Based on the limited information about these two children, please consider these five statements:

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither disagree nor agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1. It is my opinion that it is likely that Mira and Jon are being neglected by their parents	0	0	0	0	0
2. It is my opinion that without help now it is not likely that Jon and Mira will lead a well-functioning life as adults.	0	0	0	0	0
3. It is my opinion that without help now it is not likely that Jon and Mira will be able to gain employment as adults	0	0	0	0	0
4. It is my opinion that in this situation a child welfare agency should provide services for Jon and Mira	0	0	0	0	0
5. It is my opinion that in this situation a child welfare agency should consider care order	0	0	\circ	0	0

What is your gender?

- Male
- o Female

Where do you live?

- O East Midlands
- O East of England
- O London
- O North East
- O North West
- O South East
- O South West
- O West Midlands
- O Yorkshire and the Humber

You live in:
 London City with more than 50 000 inhabitants City with between 5000 and 50 000 inhabitants City/town (2000-4999 inhabitants) In a rural area Do not know
What year are you born? Use 4 digits.
How many people are in your household? 1 2 3 4 5 or more Do not wish to answer
How many people under the age of 18 are in your household? None 1 2 3 4 5 or more Do not wish to answer
When are the children in your household born? Child1: Child2: Child3: Child4: Child5:
What is your WEEKLY personal income (before taxes)? ○ Up to £180 ○ £180 - £240 ○ £240 - £299 ○ £300 - £360 ○ £362 - £440 ○ £440 - £528 ○ £528 - £634 ○ £634 - £788 ○ £788 - £1034 ○ More than £1034 ○ Do not wish to answer ○ Do not know
What is your highest level of completed education? O Secondary school O Further education (FE)

 University/college 1-3 years (Bachelor's/undergraduate degree) University/College/Graduate school, 4+ years (Master's degree) University/College/Graduate School, 5+ years (Doctorate, professor degree) Other
 What is your marital status? Single Married/Partnership/Domestic partnership (without kids in the household) Married/Partnership/Domestic partnership (with kids in the household) Living with parents Widow/Widower Other Do not wish to answer
If there were to be a political general election tomorrow, which party would you vote for? Green Party Plaid Cymru Scottish National Party Liberal Democrat Labour Conservative Other Do not wish to answer