



智經研究中心

Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre

校園驗毒試行計劃 意見調查報告

Trial Scheme on School Drug Testing Survey Report

2009年9月

September 2009

**A Survey Report on
THE SCHOOL DRUG TESTING SCHEME**

*Submitted to
Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre*

September 2009

Survey on the School Drug Testing Scheme

1. Survey Objective and Methods

The Public Governance Programme of Lingnan University was commissioned by the Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre to conduct Survey on the School Drug Testing Scheme (hereafter, the Survey). The Survey's objective is to understand the views of parents whose children are secondary students on the School Drug Testing Scheme. Data was collected by means of a telephone survey between August 26 and September 5, 2009. Target respondents are the parents / guardians of students studying in secondary schools or in programs leading to qualification equivalent to secondary education.

Two stages of random sampling were used to ensure the representativeness of the samples. To select a random sample for the telephone survey, the Chinese computer-aided-telephone interviewing (CATI) system automatically generated phone samples from the telephone pool created from the Hong Kong Telephone Directory. The last two digits of the telephone numbers were replaced by two random numbers. The second stage of random sampling involved the selection of eligible samples within households. The computer selected randomly the father or mother as our interviewee (in case of a single parent, that single parent was invited to be our interviewee).

We successfully interviewed a total of 719 respondents. The response rate is 30.1%. The margins of error were estimated to be $\pm 3.5\%$ at 95% confidence level. The English version of the questionnaire can be found in *Appendix 1* and the socio-economic background of the respondents was described in *Appendix 2*.

2. Findings

2.1 Have you discussed the School Drug Testing Scheme with your children?

	N	%
Yes	295	41.0
No	418	58.1
Forgotten	4	0.6
Declined to answer	2	0.3
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 41.0% of the respondents answered that they had discussed the School Drug Testing Scheme with their children, and 58.1% answered they had not.

2.2 As far as you know, do your children support the School Drug Testing Scheme?

	N	%
Yes	358	49.8
Fifty-fifty	43	6.0
No	53	7.4
Children have different opinions [more than 1 child]	18	2.5
Don't know / No comments	243	33.8
Declined to answer	4	0.6
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 49.8% of the respondents answered that their children supported the School Drug Testing Scheme and 33.8% answered they did not know whether their children supported the Scheme. Only 7.4% of the respondents answered their children did not support the Scheme.

2.3 Do you support the School Drug Testing Scheme [as you know it]?

	N	%
Yes	511	71.0
Fifty-fifty	58	8.1
No	71	9.9
Don't know / No comments	79	11.0
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 71.0% of the respondents said they supported the School Drug Testing Scheme, and 9.9% said they did not.

2.4 Do you understand the School Drug Testing Scheme proposed by the government?

	N	%
Yes	260	36.1
Fifty-fifty	275	38.2
No	159	22.1
Don't know / No comments	25	3.5
Total	719	100.0

Survey result show that 36.1% of the respondents answered that they understood the School Drug Testing Scheme proposed by the government, and 22.1% answered that they did not. 38.2% of the respondents answered “fifty-fifty”.

- 2.5 Do you support, conditionally support or not support the idea that parents' consent has to be sought before a student receives a test?

	N	%
Support	508	70.7
Conditionally support	36	5.0
Do not support	138	19.2
Don't know / No comments	37	5.1
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 70.7% of the respondents answered that they supported the idea that parents' consent has to be sought before a student receives a test, and 19.2% answered they did not.

- 2.6 Do you support, conditionally support or not support the idea that student's consent has to be sought before a student receives a test?

	N	%
Support	445	61.9
Conditionally support	33	4.6
Do not support	205	28.5
Don't know / No comments	35	4.9
Declined to answer	1	0.1
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 61.9% of the respondents answered that they supported the idea that student's consent has to be sought before a student receives a test, and 28.5% answered they did not.

2.7 Which parties should know students' drug test results?

	N	%
Parents	667	92.8
The student himself/herself	585	81.4
School social workers	504	69.7
School principal	464	64.5
Class teacher	449	62.4
Teachers responsible for student counseling	410	57.0
Police liaison officer [at school]	282	39.2
Others	18	2.5
Don't know / No comments	21	2.9
Declined to answer	4	0.6
Total	719*	*

* Respondents were allowed to give more than one answer, so the sum of the frequencies and percentages may exceed the total number of samples and 100%, respectively.

Survey results show that 92.8% and 81.4% of the respondents answered respectively that parents and students should know students' drug test results. Some 60 to 70-odd percent of the respondents answered that school social workers, school principal and class teacher should know the test results. 57.0% said that teachers responsible for student counseling should know the test results. 39.2% of the respondents answered that the police liaison officer [at school] should know the test results.

- 2.8 Are you confident that students' drug test results will not be made known to those who are not supposed to know the results?

	N	%
Yes	279	38.8
Fifty-fifty	118	16.4
No	249	34.6
Don't know / No comments	66	9.2
Declined to answer	7	1.0
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 38.8% of the respondents were confident that students' drug test results would not be made known to those who were not supposed to know the results, and 34.6% were not. 16.4% of the respondents answered "fifty-fifty".

- 2.9 Do you agree that the personal records of the drug test results should be destroyed after completing all the necessary procedures?

	N	%
Yes	542	75.4
Fifty-fifty	44	6.1
No	92	12.8
Don't know / No comments	38	5.3
Declined to answer	3	0.4
Total	719	100.0

Survey show that 75.4% of the respondents agreed that the personal records of the drug test results should be destroyed after completing all the necessary procedures, and 12.8% did not.

2.10 Do you agree that students with a positive drug test result should receive counseling in drug treatment?

	N	%
Yes	647	90.0
Fifty-fifty	28	3.9
No	23	3.2
Don't know / No comments	19	2.6
Declined to answer	2	0.3
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 90.0% of the respondents agreed that students with a positive drug test result should receive counseling in drug treatment, and only 3.2% did not.

2.11 Do you agree that the police should question those students with a positive drug test result about the drug sources?

	N	%
Yes	481	66.9
Fifty-fifty	68	9.5
No	130	18.1
Don't know / No comments	36	5.0
Declined to answer	4	0.6
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 66.9% of the respondents agreed that the police should question those students with a positive drug test result about the drug sources, and 18.1% did not. 9.5% answered "fifty-fifty".

2.12 Are you worried that those students who have taken drugs will use various methods to manipulate the drug test, thus affecting the accuracy of the test results?

	N	%
Yes	406	56.5
Fifty-fifty	61	8.5
No	183	25.5
Don't know / No comments	66	9.2
Declined to answer	3	0.4
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 56.5% of the respondents were worried that those students who had taken drugs would use various methods to manipulate the drug test, thus affecting the accuracy of the test results, and 25.5% were not. 8.5% of the respondents answered “fifty-fifty”.

2.13 In the case that the drug test results are found to be positive, are you confident that the schools concerned will not put pressure on those students and expel them from the school by certain means?

	N	%
Yes	262	36.4
Fifty-fifty	144	20.0
No	243	33.8
Don't know / No comments	66	9.2
Declined to answer	4	0.6
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 36.4% of the respondents were confident that the schools concerned would not put pressure on students with a positive test result and expel them from the school by certain means, and 33.8% were not. 20.0% of the respondents answered “fifty-fifty”.

2.14 Does the School Drug Testing Scheme create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the school?

	N	%
Yes	333	46.3
No	300	41.7
Don't know / No comments	84	11.7
Declined to answer	2	0.3
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 46.3% of the respondents answered that the School Drug Testing Scheme would create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the school, and 41.7% answered it would not.

2.15 Does the School Drug Testing Scheme create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the parents?

	N	%
Yes	271	37.7
No	371	51.6
Don't know / No comments	76	10.6
Declined to answer	1	0.1
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 37.7% of the respondents answered that the School Drug Testing Scheme would create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the parents, and 51.6% answered it would not.

2.16 Is the School Drug Testing Scheme effective in preventing secondary students from taking drugs?

	N	%
Yes	490	68.2
Fifty-fifty	110	15.3
No	98	13.6
Don't know / No comments	20	2.8
Declined to answer	1	0.1
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 68.2% of the respondents answered that the School Drug Testing Scheme is effective in preventing secondary students from taking drugs, and 13.6% answered it is not. 15.3% of the respondents answered “fifty-fifty”.

2.17 Is the School Drug Testing Scheme effective in promoting anti-drug consciousness among secondary students?

	N	%
Yes	511	71.1
Fifty-fifty	106	14.7
No	80	11.1
Don't know / No comments	20	2.8
Declined to answer	2	0.3
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 71.1% of the respondents answered that the School Drug Testing Scheme is effective in promoting anti-drug consciousness among secondary students, and 11.1% answered it is not. 14.7% of the respondents answered “fifty-fifty”.

2.18 Did your children mention to you that some students in their school took drugs?

	N	%
Yes	78	10.8
No	624	86.8
Forgotten	7	1.0
Declined to answer	10	1.4
Total	719	100.0

Survey results show that 10.8% of the respondents answered that their children had mentioned to them that some students in their school took drugs, and 86.8% answered that their children had not.

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3. Observations

We have the following preliminary observations from the survey findings:

- About 40% of the respondents answered that they had discussed the School Drug Testing Scheme with their children, and about 60% answered they had not (paragraph 2.1);
- About 70% and 50% of the respondents answered respectively that they and their children supported the School Drug Testing Scheme (paragraphs 2.2 – 2.3);
- 36.1% of the respondents answered that they understood the School Drug Testing Scheme proposed by the government, and 22.1% answered that they did not (paragraph 2.4);
- When asked whether they supported the idea that parents' consent has to be sought before a student receives a test, about 70% of the respondents answered yes and about 20% answered no. When asked whether they supported the idea that student's consent has to be sought before a student receives a test, about 60% of the respondents answered yes and about 30% answered no (paragraphs 2.5 – 2.6);
- About 90% and 80% of the respondents answered respectively that parents and students should know students' drug test results. Some 60 to 70-odd percent of the respondents answered that school social workers, school principal and class teacher should know the test results. About 60% said that teachers responsible for student counseling should know the test results. About 40% of the respondents answered that the police liaison officer [at school] should know the test results (paragraph 2.7);
- About 40% of the respondents were confident that students' drug test results would not be made known to those who were not supposed to know the results, and about one-third were not (paragraph 2.8);

- Some 75% of the respondents agreed that the personal records of the drug test results should be destroyed after completing all the necessary procedures, and 12.8% did not (paragraph 2.9);
- 90% of the respondents agreed that students with a positive drug test result should receive counseling in drug treatment, and only 3.2% did not (paragraph 2.10);
- About two-thirds of the respondents agreed that the police should question those students with a positive drug test result about the drug sources, and about 20% did not (paragraph 2.11);
- More than half of the respondents were worried that those students who had taken drugs would use various methods to manipulate the drug tests, thus affecting the accuracy of the test results, and one-fourth were not (paragraph 2.12);
- More than one-third of the respondents were confident that the schools concerned would not put pressure on students with a positive test result and expel them from the school by certain means, and about one-third were not (paragraph 2.13);
- When asked whether the School Drug Testing Scheme would create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the school, 46.3% of the respondents answered yes and 41.7% answered no. When asked whether the School Drug Testing Scheme would create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the parents, 37.7% of the respondents answered yes and 51.6% answered no (paragraphs 2.14 – 2.15);
- When asked whether the School Drug Testing Scheme is effective in preventing secondary students from taking drugs, 68.2% of the respondents answered yes and 13.6% answered it is not. When asked whether the School Drug Testing Scheme is effective in promoting anti-drug consciousness among secondary students, 71.1% of the respondents answered yes and 11.1% answered no (paragraphs 2.16 – 2.17);

- 10.8% of the respondents answered that their children had mentioned to them that some students in their school took drugs (paragraph 2.18).

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Appendix 1 : Questionnaire

Are there any persons in your household who are studying in a secondary school?

If yes, invite the student parents / guardians to be our interviewee.

[The computer selects randomly the father or mother as our interviewee.

In case of a single parent, invite that single parent to be our interviewee.]

If no, ask: are there any persons in your household who are studying in programs leading to qualification equivalent to secondary education [Project Yi Jin, Pre-Associate Degree, Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education Diploma (S7 or lower)]?

If yes, invite the student parents / guardians to be our interviewee.

[The computer selects randomly the father or mother as our interviewee.

In case of a single parent, invite that single parent to be our interviewee.]

If no, say “thank you”, and the interview stops.

1. Have you discussed the School Drug Testing Scheme with your children?
(1) Yes (2) No (7) Forgotten (8) Declined to answer

2. As far as you know, do your children support the School Drug Testing Scheme?
[If answer “yes”, “no” or “fifty-fifty”, ask further whether there is only 1 child or more than 1 child.]
(01) Yes [one child] (02) Fifty-fifty [one child] (03) No [one child]
(04) Yes [more than 1 child]
(05) Fifty-fifty [more than 1 child]
(06) No [more than 1 child]
(07) Children have different opinions
(97) Don't know / No comments (98) Declined to answer

3. Do you support the School Drug Testing Scheme [as you know it]?
(1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

4. Do you understand the School Drug Testing Scheme proposed by the government?
(1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

5. Do you support, conditionally support or not support the idea that parents' consent has to be sought before a student receives a test?
[If answer "conditionally support", ask what the condition is.]
(1) Support
(2) Conditionally support, and the condition is _____
(3) Do not support
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer
6. Do you support, conditionally support or not support the idea that student's consent has to be sought before a student receives a test?
[If answer "conditionally support", ask what the condition is.]
(1) Support
(2) Conditionally support, and the condition is _____
(3) Do not support
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer
7. Which parties should know students' drug test results?
[Answers 1 – 7 appear in random order.]
[Read answers 1 – 7 according to the order of appearance.]
[A maximum of 8 answers are allowed.]
(01) The student himself/herself (02) Parents (03) School principal
(04) Teachers responsible for student counseling
(05) Class teacher (06) School social workers
(07) Police Liaison Officer [at school]
(08) Others _____
(97) Don't know / No comments (98) Declined to answer
8. Are you confident that students' drug test results will not be made known to those who are not supposed to know the results?
(1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer
9. Do you agree that the personal records of the drug test results should be destroyed after completing all the necessary procedures?
(1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer
10. Do you agree that students with a positive drug test result should receive counseling in drug treatment?
(1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

11. Do you agree that the police should question those students with a positive drug test result about the drug sources?

- (1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

12. Are you worried that those students who have taken drugs will use various methods to manipulate the drug test, thus affecting the accuracy of the test results?

- (1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

13. In the case that the drug test results are found to be positive, are you confident that the schools concerned will not put pressure on those students and expel them from the school by certain means?

- (1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

14. Does the School Drug Testing Scheme create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the school?

- (1) Yes (2) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

15. Does the School Drug Testing Scheme create or sharpen the conflict between the students and the parents?

- (1) Yes (2) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

16. Is the School Drug Testing Scheme effective in preventing secondary students from taking drugs?

- (1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

17. Is the School Drug Testing Scheme effective in promoting anti-drug consciousness among secondary students?

- (1) Yes (2) Fifty-fifty (3) No
(7) Don't know / No comments (8) Declined to answer

18. Did your children mention to you that some students in their school took drugs?

- (1) Yes (2) No (7) Forgotten (8) Declined to answer

19. Age

- (01) 18-19 (02) 20-24 (03) 25-29
 (04) 30-34 (05) 35-39 (06) 40-44
 (07) 45-49 (08) 50-54 (09) 55-59
 (10) 60-64 (11) 65 or older
 (98) Declined to answer

20. Educational attainment

- (01) No formal education (02) Primary education
 (03) S1 – S3 (junior high) (04) S4 – S5 (senior high)
 (05) Matriculated (06) Post-secondary (Diploma)
 (07) University or above (08) Others
 (98) Declined to answer

21. Average personal monthly income

- (00) No income
 (01) \$4,999 or less (02) \$5,000 - 9,999
 (03) \$10,000 - 14,999 (04) \$15,000 - 19,999
 (05) \$20,000 - 29,999 (06) \$30,000 - 39,999
 (07) \$40,000 - 49,999 (08) \$50,000 or more
 (09) No fixed income
 (97) Don't know (98) Declined to answer

22. Employment status

- (1) Full-time worker (2) Part-time worker (3) Unemployed
 (4) Student (5) Housewife (6) Retired
 (8) Declined to answer

23. Classes your children are in

- [A maximum of 5 answers are allowed.]
 (01) S1 (02) S2 (03) S3 (04) S4
 (05) S5 (06) S6 (07) S7
 (08) Project Yi Jin
 (09) Pre-Associate Degree
 (10) Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education Diploma (S7 or lower)
 (11) Others
 (98) Declined to answer

-- The End --

Appendix 2 : Socio-economic Background of Respondents

A2.1 Age

	N	%
25-29	8	1.1
30-34	24	3.3
35-39	57	7.9
40-44	237	33.0
45-49	184	25.6
50-54	136	18.9
55-59	27	3.8
60-64	12	1.7
65 or old	9	1.3
Declined to answer	25	3.5
Total	719	100.0

A2.2 Educational attainment

	N	%
No formal education	14	1.9
Primary education	93	12.9
S1 to S3 (junior high)	144	20.0
S4 to S5 (senior high)	260	36.2
Matriculated	52	7.2
Post-secondary (diploma)	57	7.9
University or above	74	10.3
Others	4	0.6
Declined to answer	21	2.9
Total	719	100.0

A2.3 Average personal monthly income

	N	%
No income	153	21.3
\$4,999 or less	23	3.2
\$5,000 - 9,999	85	11.8
\$10,000 - 14,999	93	12.9
\$15,000 - 19,999	48	6.7
\$20,000 - 29,999	72	10.0
\$30,000 - 39,999	34	4.7
\$40,000 - 49,999	11	1.5
\$50,000 or more	23	3.2
No fixed income	27	3.8
Don't know	14	1.9
Declined to answer	136	18.9
Total	719	100.0

A2.4 Employment status

	N	%
Full-time worker	398	55.4
Part-time worker	54	7.5
Unemployed	13	1.8
Housewives	198	27.5
Retired	20	2.8
Declined to answer	36	5.0
Total	719	100.0

A2.5 Classes respondents' children were in

	N	%
S1	114	15.9
S2	111	15.4
S3	139	19.3
S4	140	19.5
S5	160	22.3
S6	73	10.2
S7	55	7.6
Project Yi Jin	7	1.0
Pre-Associate Degree	7	1.0
Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education Diploma (S7 or lower)	26	3.6
Others	10	1.4
Declined to answer	26	3.6
Total	719*	*

* Respondents were allowed to give more than one answer, so the sum of the frequencies and percentages may exceed the total number of samples and 100%, respectively.

A2.6 Sex

	N	%
Male	239	33.2
Female	480	66.8
Total	719	100.0

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