

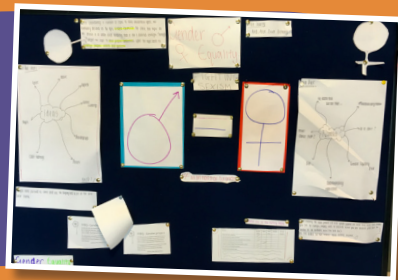
RESEARCH



Social science researchers investigate how people relate to one another and try to use their findings to make the world a fairer place. There are many different ways to research the social world, from interviews and surveys to observations and creative methods, like drawings or digital story telling.

Four Year 10 students made a **Flashcard Story** about why schools should be doing more to address gender equality, violence against women and girls, and gender-based and sexual violence. To get some feedback from their project and campaign, they used a range of methods.

They designed a short tick-box questionnaire and included a space to add longer written comments. Staff and students were also invited to complete a 'speech bubble' on how their project made them feel (e.g. "happy, sad, shocked"). Asking everyone not to "write their name" on the forms ensured that all responses were anonymous – an important part of their **research ethics**.



The Open University **Children's Research Centre** has many examples of how children and young people have been carrying out their own research into areas that interest them.

The **What Kids Can Do project** has useful guidance for carrying out a community research project, including how to take action with your research findings.



Katie and Craig from a primary school in Scotland wrote a letter to a major card company asking them to produce less stereotypically boy and girl cards based upon their online survey. Their research found that nearly 60% of girls preferred blue to pink and more than half would choose a Marvel character over Barbie. It also showed nearly 60% of boys asked liked dancing.

Read more about their research and its impact [here](#).