

This was an interview that I conducted with my friend's sister, who is a 7 year old named Lyra. I wanted to try and change my topic a little bit from "pros and cons of having babies" to "how do people of different ages decide if they will or will not have a baby" or exploring the pros and cons of having a baby from people of different age groups.

The first person I interviewed for this project was Lyra because she is seven. She is a highly opinionated and incredibly smart child who makes rational decisions based on facts. When I first originally asked her about if she was going to have any babies when she grew up she put down a very heavy "NO!" She continued on with the fact that babies are often very messy - as in they often throw food on the ground during their toddler years and they also can knock down towers and stomp on things. This seemed to be a prominent issue for Lyra and one that she could resonate with personally as she is in the First grade, and thus has been able to spend time in daycares and have a closer memory experience to what it is like for other children to be in the daycare. Lyra during this interview also expressed that when she grows up she would like to have two jobs, an artist who sells paintings and a daycare teacher who watches over her classroom of younger students. When pressed further into providing more details as to why she desired to become a daycare attendant when she was older if she didn't want to have any kids of her own, she expressed that when you have your own baby you do not get to decide if your baby is going to be an ugly messy stinky baby or a pretty well behaved one. But as a daycare attendant you have the ability to further control the situation to decide what kind of babies you want to be let into your school. I thought this was incredibly insightful to her, especially considering her own age, and it makes me want to investigate more into how other children her age perceive the pros and cons of having children. I asked a little further to try and see if she could provide any more details on if she might be open to changing her mind in the future. She expressed that if she grows up to be an adult without any babies she will never have to clean up any stinky diapers and she can do more "adult things" instead. I asked her what she considered adult things and Lyra started listing off hobbies such as making art and going out to restaurants. This shows that although she is quite a long way from adulthood, she is under the impression that when adults have babies they do not have a lot of free time to themselves to do things that they might enjoy - and that this was the primary reason - other than the fact that "babies are GROSS! And they poop in your face!" - that Lyra did not want to have any babies when she grew up, and even if she did want to be around children because she enjoys the experience, she would like to confine it to a controlled environment that is strictly within her desired 9-5.