

Title: The Psychological Adjustment of Siblings of Children with a Disability: The Role of the Family and the Wider Social Context	
Institution	RMIT University
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Outline of Research	<p>Previous research indicates that different factors, particularly those at a family level are associated with sibling psychological adjustment. However, the risk and protective factors within the social environment have been largely overlooked in the research. The aim of this project is to focus on the wider social community, and better understand sibling experiences outside the family home. More specifically, this study will focus on sibling experiences in terms of informing friends, community acceptance and available supports. We are hoping to recruit 10 siblings of children with a developmental delay or disability aged between 8 and 16 years. The study is qualitative in nature, and will be conducted in the way of a mini interview (requiring approximately 30-45 minutes) at a convenient location for the family. It is anticipated that the information obtained from this study will help develop a questionnaire that can be used to help identify how to best support siblings of children with a disability and enhance their psychological well-being.</p>
Findings to date	N/A
Expected start and finish dates	Start Date = March 2008; Finish Date = December 2009