



Consortium on Practices of Wellbeing & Resilience in Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Families and Communities (Co-POWeR)

[Co-POWeR](#) is a study of the combined impacts of COVID-19 and racial discrimination on groups who have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. This is an interdisciplinary collaboration across several universities, divided into research teams. Our focus is children, young people and families in multi-cultural regions across the UK.

Children, young people and families

UK health data shows the pandemic has exacerbated existing inequalities. Our study translates these statistics into stories about what COVID-19 has meant for families who identify as Black or Asian or mixed Black or Asian heritage. We are focusing on the experiences of parents/carers, young people aged 12 to 18, and professionals working in children and family services. Discussions will explore changes in the social, cultural and economic aspects of family life. This extends beyond physical and emotional health to the effects of COVID-19 on education, leisure, housing, nutrition, behaviour and religion.



Photo credit: [August de Richelieu](#)

Our team, led by [Prof Anna Gupta](#) (Royal Holloway, University of London), [Prof. Claudia Bernard](#) (Goldsmiths, University of London) and [Prof. Monica Lakharpaul](#) (University College London - UCL), is taking a participatory approach. Building on their prior links with community-based groups, the team are partnering with local networks to co-design the study. This includes a panel of young people to help ensure the project includes a diverse range of voices and reaches people who may not otherwise engage with academic research. We are working with a creative team to disseminate findings online using multimedia. Policy recommendations will outline how to 'build back better' in a culturally responsive way that meets the needs of ethnic minority families in multi-cultural cities. The study began in February 2021 and ends in August 2022, although we aim to forge long-term relationships with communities that extend beyond the project cycle.

To become involved in the study on **children, young people and families**, email Teresa.Peres@rhul.ac.uk or Anita.Sharma@rhul.ac.uk and we will be in touch with more information. To stay updated on the Co-POWeR project, follow [@The_CoPOWeR](#) or read posts on [social media](#) or visit the website <https://co-power.leeds.ac.uk>.

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