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**This is your**

**original copy.**

G2588

April 9, 1979

DOUGLAS COLLEGE  
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SURVEY OF STUDENTS ENROLLED AT DOUGLAS COLLEGE

This questionnaire was developed to provide a description of women students, especially those returning after some years at home. All the questions have been carefully chosen according to the issues that seem to make a difference in the experience of returning to school. Being able to compare the answers of mature students and recent graduates will be a valuable aspect. The pressures and resources in your lives directly affect your ability to do well in the classroom, whether it be your confidence level, concern over children or finances, or the encouragement from family and friends. The more that educators know about what does make a difference, and for who, the more we can help reduce the strains and encourage the strengths for all students.

You are, of course, under no obligation to answer the questions. However, I would ask you to remember that all the responses are anonymous and confidential, and that the information gathered will be used for the benefit of women like yourself. As well as simply writing about the results, I hope to use them to increase the level of service to women. In addition, the total results will be available to your programme, and yourselves, to use as feedback.

I expect the questionnaire will take 20-30 minutes to complete. I will be present to answer any of your questions. Please do work quickly, although you may find yourself wanting to think about some of the issues at greater length afterwards. And please feel free to add comments at any point on the questionnaire.

In most of the questions, you are asked to check the items that apply to you. Many of them will ask you, in addition, to circle the responses that are particularly strong, such as a 'Very important' reason or change. At times you are asked to consider your answers for both now and for the first few weeks you were at college. Please begin.

Conducted by Margaretha Hoek

SURVEY OF STUDENTS ENROLLED  
AT DOUGLAS COLLEGE

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I. This section deals with your experiences and reactions while a student at the college.

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1. When you first made contact with the college, how long had it been since you last took an academic or vocational course?

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than one year | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 - 10 years  | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 - 30 years      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 3 years        | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 - 15 years | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 30 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 - 5 years        | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 - 20 years |   |

2. Consider the objectives you had when coming to college.

- a. Check (✓) any of the following items that were important to you. Do this first.
- b. Now go over the items you have checked as important, and circle the check (⊙) to any that are VERY important.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> to prepare for a job                              | <input type="checkbox"/> to qualify for a promotion   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> to become more educated                           | <input type="checkbox"/> to receive a degree, certificate or college credit.                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> to challenge myself                               | <input type="checkbox"/> to make contact with other people                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> to receive counselling about career opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> to achieve independence  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> to enter the job market quickly                   | <input type="checkbox"/> to develop skills to become more effective with my family or community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> for personal growth                               |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) _____                             |   |

3. Consider the factors that led you to decide to attend college at this time.

- a. Check (✓) any of the following items that were important in your decision. Do this first.
- b. Now circle the checks (⊙) to any that are VERY important.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> dissatisfaction with my job                   | <input type="checkbox"/> in a rut at home                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lessening of home responsibilities and duties | <input type="checkbox"/> family or marital changes (including divorce) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> serious illness or death in the family        | <input type="checkbox"/> moving close to the college                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> availability of funds                         | <input type="checkbox"/> not happy with myself                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> economic need to work                         | <input type="checkbox"/> encouragement and advice from others          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> intrinsic appeal of the courses offered       | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) _____                         |
-

4. In what ways have your experiences with the college influenced you?

- a. Check the items that reflect important changes in your self
- b. Circle the checks to any items that are VERY important.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I feel more confused about my goals               | <input type="checkbox"/> I know what is important to me and what I want to do |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gave me self-respect and self confidence          | <input type="checkbox"/> informed me of alternatives and options              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I regret some loss of femininity                  | <input type="checkbox"/> I feel more restless and discontent                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I feel better educated                            | <input type="checkbox"/> increased self-awareness and insight                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> caused me to seek employment                      | <input type="checkbox"/> I am a happier woman                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have raised my goals and am more ambitious      | <input type="checkbox"/> I have become more open to new ideas and people      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I feel tired and depressed                        | <input type="checkbox"/> decreased my self-confidence                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I feel good about doing well in my classes        | <input type="checkbox"/> I have developed employable skills                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> made me decide that my place is at home           | <input type="checkbox"/> increased my respect and liking for other women      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have difficulty deciding on my daily priorities | <input type="checkbox"/> nothing has really changed for me                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) _____                             |   |

5. Indicate your degree of overall satisfaction with your college experience. (Check one)

- very satisfied
- satisfied
- neutral
- dissatisfied
- very dissatisfied

6. Consider the changes you would like to see at the College.

- a. Check those items you think need improving or changing.
- b. Circle the checks to those items you consider need major or urgent change.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lower tuition  | <input type="checkbox"/> provide help with educational and career planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> provide more financial aid   | <input type="checkbox"/> provide child care                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reach and enroll a wider population (men, native Indians, mature students, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> improve quality of instructors                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> provide for more social contacts for students                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> increase publicity about offerings and services   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> make personal counselling more easily available                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> have more locations                               |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> greater variety of courses                        |

6. (continued)

- provide or improve job placement
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide training in job application and interviewing skills
- allow for part-time study in all programmes

7. Do you have any concerns about your ability to finance your return to college? (Check one)

- none (I am confident that I will have enough funds)
- some concern (but I will probably have enough funds)
- some concern (but with my Canada Employment Centre allowance I will probably have enough funds)
- major concern (not sure I will have enough funds to complete my training)

8. Indicate the major sources of financing for your courses.

- employer subsidy
- spouse
- Canada Employment Centre allowance
- insurance, pension, social security, alimony
- other
- loan or loan/grant
- own part or full-time job
- family (parents and other relatives)
- scholarship or bursary
- Savings and investments

9. How familiar are you with the Career Alternative Programme?

- I took it and found it very useful
- I took it and found it moderately useful
- I took it and did not like it
- I decided I did not need to take it
- I do not know what it is

II. This section deals with your experiences and reactions while enrolled at Douglas College.

10. Consider your reasons for choosing the course or Programme you are taking.

- a. Check the reasons that were important to your decision.
- b. Circle the checks to those items that were VERY important.

- job opportunities are good
- prior job or educational experience
- can afford the training costs
- it suits my abilities and personality
- I didn't consider any other kinds of training
- interested in the work
- it suits my need for flexible work times
- good place to begin my career
- training time is short
- I like the people who do this work
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

11. How long have you been in the Programme? (check one)

- Less than 4 weeks       4 - 6 weeks       6 - 8 weeks
- 2 -3 months       3 - 4 months       4 - 6 months
- More than 6 months

12. What is your training speciality? (Check one)

- Clerk typist       General upgrading       Stenographer
- Accounting       Bookkeeper       Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

13. What is your present grade average? (Check one)

- excellent       unsatisfactory
- satisfactory       I have received no grades

14. Consider the aspects of lyour training that create pressures or anxieties for you.

- a. Check the items that have been an important concern for you.
- b. Circle the checks to those items that are VERY important concerns.
- examinations       timed assignments and quizzes
  - conflicting demands on my time (home, job, school)       understanding what I read or needing to read faster
  - lengthy homework assignments       speaking before a class
  - lack of skills       inadequate preparation in math
  - some instructors' attitudes       grades, evaluation
  - no private place to study       organizing my time
  - lack of self-discipline or concentration       some instructors' ways of presenting subject matter
  - OTHER (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

15. Consider the elements of the programme that have helped you succeed, both during the first few weeks and at present.

- a. Check the items that have been helpful at any time.
- b. Circle the checks to those itmes that have been VERY helpfull

	<u>at present</u>	<u>when first enrolled</u>
instructors' concern for their students	_____	_____
orientation sessions	_____	_____
friendliness of other students	_____	_____
smallness of the classes	_____	_____
quality of books and equipment	_____	_____
staying with a familiar group	_____	_____
professionalism of instructors	_____	_____
well-planned lessons	_____	_____
knowing the course is Short	_____	_____
relaxed atmosphere of classes	_____	_____
other (specify) _____	_____	_____

16. Consider the non-academic pressures that you have to deal with.  
 a. Check the items that have been an important concern for you at any time.  
 b. Circle the checks to those items that are VERY important concerns.

	<u>at present</u>	<u>when first enrolled</u>
obtaining child care	—	—
location, transportation	—	—
time of day of classes	—	—
costs	—	—
lack of self-confidence	—	—
lack of direction or purpose	—	—
nonsupportive family attitudes	—	—
meeting family care obligations	—	—
meeting housework obligations	—	—
lack of time	—	—
lack of energy	—	—
guilt about money	—	—
guilt about neglect of children	—	—
job responsibilities	—	—
medical reasons, self or family	—	—
worry about getting a job	—	—
elimination of social life, hobbies	—	—

17. Consider how the people around you have responded to your being at college.  
 a. Check those changes that have been important to you.  
 b. Circle the checks to those items that have been VERY important to you.

<input type="checkbox"/> family has less time together	<input type="checkbox"/> family has become more self-reliant and organized
<input type="checkbox"/> family has become closer, tends to talk things over more	<input type="checkbox"/> family is sharing more household chores
<input type="checkbox"/> marital relations improved, greater rapport with spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> marital tensions and difficulties grew
<input type="checkbox"/> my children's respect and regard toward me have increased	<input type="checkbox"/> my children are upset and resent my involvement
<input type="checkbox"/> improved status on the job	<input type="checkbox"/> coworkers disapprove of my involvement
<input type="checkbox"/> less time for social life	<input type="checkbox"/> other people respect me more
<input type="checkbox"/> some friends and neighbors are disapproving or distant	<input type="checkbox"/> other(specify) _____

18. Consider how supportive people have been of your decision to contact or participate at the college. Omit any that do not apply to you.
- Check the individuals who have been supportive of you at any time.
  - Circle the checks to those individuals who have been VERY supportive.

	<u>at present</u>	<u>when first enrolled</u>
husband	—	—
children	—	—
mother	—	—
father	—	—
brothers and sisters	—	—
female friends	—	—
male friends	—	—
employer	—	—
other relatives	—	—
instructors	—	—
classmates	—	—
neighbors	—	—

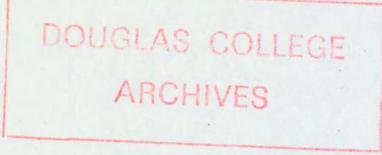
III. This section deals with questions regarding your education and work experiences.

19. What was the highest level of education reached by you and, if applicable, by your spouse? (Check once for each person)

	<u>self</u>	<u>husband</u>
less than high school	—	—
high school graduation	—	—
high school equivalent diploma	—	—
technical or trade school	—	—
business training	—	—
some college or university	—	—
Bachelor's degree	—	—
Master's degree	—	—
Professional degree(MD, DDS, LLB)	—	—
other(specify) _____	—	—

20. If you did not continue your schooling after high school, indicate the primary reasons.

<input type="checkbox"/> wanted to work	<input type="checkbox"/> parents not in favour of girls' education
<input type="checkbox"/> illness(self or family)	<input type="checkbox"/> funds not available
<input type="checkbox"/> lack of interest or motivation	<input type="checkbox"/> wanted to test myself in the 'real world' first
<input type="checkbox"/> marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> pregnancy
<input type="checkbox"/> other(specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> did not think I had the ability



21. What was your approximate grade average during your last years at school?

\_\_\_ A                    \_\_\_ B                    \_\_\_ C                    \_\_\_ below C                    \_\_\_ don't know

22. Please list the main jobs you have had in the past. Maximum three.

<u>name of jobs</u>	<u>length of time at the job</u>	<u>amount of time since leaving job</u>	<u>full or part time</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

23. Please list the job you have at present, if employed.

<u>name of job</u>	<u>length of time at the job</u>	<u>full or part time</u>
_____	_____	_____

24. Please list the jobs you would ultimately like to get(dream a little!).

<u>name of jobs</u>	<u>full or part time</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

25. Please list the job your husband has at present, if you are married.

name of job: \_\_\_\_\_

26. What is the approximate family income? (Check once for each person)

	<u>self</u>	<u>husband</u>
None	___	___
\$4,999 or less	___	___
\$5,000-9,999	___	___
\$10,000-14,999	___	___
\$15,000-19,999	___	___
\$20,000-29,999	___	___
\$30,999-39,999	___	___
\$40,000 or more	___	___

27. If you have not been recently employed, please check your primary reasons.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ___ no desire to work                   | ___ no financial need to work                  |
| ___ was too busy                        | ___ scarce job opportunities in my field       |
| ___ inadequate training                 | ___ found volunteer work was satisfying enough |
| ___ husband's objections or preferences | ___ not sure I could handle it                 |

27.cont'd

- was too tired
- was unclear about goals
- was not sure I could cope
- children's needs and preferences
- difficulties and costs of household maintenance and childcare arrangements
- found it was hard to get out of the house
- other(specify) \_\_\_\_\_

IV. This section covers a variety of questions about your background and attitudes.

28. What is your age?

- 20 or under
- 21-25
- 26-30
- 31-35
- 36-40
- 41-45
- 46-50
- 51-55
- 56-60
- 61-65
- 66 or over

29. What is your marital status?

- single(never married)
- separated or divorced
- married
- other
- widowed

30. How many children do you have?

- none
- one
- two
- three
- four
- five
- six or more

31. Indicate whether you have children in any of the following age categories:

- no children
- Birth-3 years
- 4-6 years
- 6-12 years
- 13-17 years
- 18-22 years
- 23 years and over

32. How important is it for your own self-fulfillment to have a career in addition to being a wife and mother?

- very important
- important
- neutral
- relatively unimportant
- totally unimportant

33. How old did you feel the child(ren) had to be before you returned to school/work?

- Infancy
- ages 2-5
- age 6 (school entry)
- ages 7-12
- ages 13-17
- age 18 or older

34. Was your mother employed while you were growing up (before you were 18)?  
\_\_\_yes \_\_\_no \_\_\_don't know

35. If you ever married, to what extent did you and your husband discuss your educational and occupational plans before you were married?

- \_\_\_not at all, because it was already understood that I would be continuing work or school
- \_\_\_not at all, because it was already understood that I would not be continuing work or school
- \_\_\_we discussed it a little
- \_\_\_we discussed it extensively
- \_\_\_not married or in a serious relationship

36. Consider the qualities that you have when compared with other women of your age. Rate yourself ~~on the following traits~~ as you really think you are. You may use each rating as many or as few times as you wish. You must rate each item once.

- 1=excellent for women my age
- 2=good for women my age
- 3=average for women my age
- 4=below average for women my age
- 5=terrible for women my age

- |                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ___physical appearance          | ___social self-confidence          |
| ___intellectual self-confidence | ___sensitivity to criticism        |
| ___popularity with men          | ___popularity with women           |
| ___leadership ability           | ___academic ability                |
| ___effectiveness on the job     | ___success as a wife               |
| ___homemaking ability           | ___success as a mother             |
| ___athletic ability             | ___femininity                      |
| ___originality                  | ___drive to achieve                |
| ___assertiveness                | ___cheerfulness                    |
| ___public speaking ability      | ___mental and emotional well-being |
| ___artistic ability             | ___writing ability                 |
| ___independence                 | ___mathematical ability            |
| ___close to my ideal self       | ___physical stamina                |

THAT COMPLETES THE QUESTIONNAIRE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.

If you would be willing to give a followup interview, please add your name and phone # below

Any further comments would be welcome: