

Contents

[ARK – welcome to the essential resource for students!](#)

[About ARK](#)

[Surveys – what does the public think?](#)

[Conflict Archive on the Internet \(CAIN\)](#)

[Online Research Bank \(ORB\)](#)

[Publications](#)

[Contact us](#)

Welcome to the ARK E-type student newsletter!

ARK provides free access to social and political material on Northern Ireland. Many of its resources may prove to be invaluable for your coursework, dissertations and preparation for tutorials and seminars. This newsletter for students focuses on ARK's key activities, and we are certain that whatever your area of study, you will find them useful and informative.

[Back to top](#)

About ARK

ARK is a joint initiative between Queen's University and the University of Ulster, and began in 2000. Our mission is to make social science knowledge on Northern Ireland easily accessible to the widest possible audience. Most of our dissemination is via our website at www.ark.ac.uk, which includes the following useful resources:

- [Attitude surveys of adults, 16 year olds and children in Primary 7](#)
- [Conflict Archive on the Internet \(CAIN\)](#)
- [Online databases of research summaries \(ORB\)](#)
- [Publications and online seminars](#)

[Back to top](#)

Surveys - what does the public think?

ARK runs three surveys exploring the attitudes of people living in Northern Ireland to a wide range of social issues:

- [Northern Ireland Life and Times \(NILT\)](#) – attitudes of adults aged 18 or over
- [Young Life and Times \(YLT\)](#) – attitudes of young people aged 16
- [Kids' Life and Times \(KLT\)](#) – attitudes of children in Primary 7 (aged 10 or 11)

[Back to top](#)

NILT

NILT has been running annually since 1998 and over the years has included topics such as community relations, health and wellbeing, disability, politics, racism, and leisure time and sport to name but a few!! The results of all the NILT surveys are available as summary tables broken down by gender, age and religion. However, the datasets for each year of the survey are also available for those of you who would like to carry out your own analysis.

Visit the NILT site at www.ark.ac.uk/nilt to find out more about the survey.

[Back to top](#)

YLT

All too often the opinions of young people are ignored when decisions are made about many of the issues involving them. YLT has been running annually since 2003, and gives 16 year olds the opportunity to express their views on a range of topics including school, politics, sectarianism, self-harm, stress and depression, community relations and many other social issues. Tables of results and data to download are available from www.ark.ac.uk/ylt

[Back to top](#)

KLT

The newest 'animal' on ARK is KLT which began in 2008. KLT is an annual online survey of Primary 7 children in Northern Ireland. The topics that are covered in the survey are relevant to children of this age group and have included bullying, happiness at school, health and wellbeing, and the use of new technologies. The 2010 survey included questions about the new transfer system in Northern Ireland. Like NILT and YLT, the KLT website includes tables of results and data to download and these can be accessed at

www.ark.ac.uk/klt

[Back to top](#)

Conflict Archive on the Internet (CAIN)

CAIN contains information and source material on 'the Troubles' and politics in Northern Ireland from 1968 to the present day. There is also a section on Northern Ireland society. The site contains extracts from books, reports, photographs and murals, and much, much more! The CAIN website has won many accolades for its comprehensive coverage of the Troubles and attracts visitors from across the world. A visit to the CAIN website is essential if you are interested in finding out about Northern Ireland conflict and society – visit

www.ark.ac.uk/cain

[Back to top](#)

Online Research Bank (ORB)

ORB contains two searchable databases containing bibliographies and lay-friendly summaries of research that has been carried out in Northern Ireland. The Social Policy Research Database focuses on social policy research undertaken since 1990, whilst the Children's Research Database concentrates on research carried out with children and young people since 2000. These databases can be searched by author name, year, subject area, groups or title, as well as a combination of any or all of these so that you can focus your search. The summaries consist of background information, the research method employed and key findings. ORB should be your starting point for literature reviews and tutorial preparations on issues relating to Northern Ireland, and can be accessed at

www.ark.ac.uk/orb

[Back to top](#)

Publications

ARK disseminates information in a wide variety of formats and we are sure that you will find something useful in the Publications section of our website. There are Research Updates on key topics from all three of ARK's surveys, occasional papers, factsheets and policy briefs on a range of issues, as well as innovative comic-style publications of results from the KLT survey designed especially for children. We run a series of seminars each year, which you are very welcome to attend. If you can't be there in person, we video each seminar, which you can watch on our website. Whichever medium you prefer, the ARK website is an essential resource for students across a range of disciplines. See the Publications section on the ARK website at <http://www.ark.ac.uk/publications/>

[Back to top](#)

Contact us

For more information on ARK, please visit our website at www.ark.ac.uk
If you have any ideas, suggestions or comments, please email us at info@ark.ac.uk
You can also follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

[Back to top](#)