The work of the Unit is mainly concerned with research on child development, with particular emphasis on the growth and influence of parent-child relationships and the effect of medical practice on children and parents. The Unit is associated with the Medical School (Regius Professor of Physic, Professor Sir John Butterfield, Professor of Paediatrics, Professor J.A. Davies) and the Social & Political Sciences Committee. In several projects we work closely with the Consultant Paediatricians (Dr. N.R.C. Robertson and Dr. N. Barnes) at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Much of our work is supported by grants from the Social Science Research Council, the Department of Health and Social Security and through studentships from the Medical Research Council and the Social Science Research Council. Members of the Unit teach for various departments in the University, especially Social & Political Sciences, Experimental Psychology and the Medical Sciences Tripos.

The largest study currently in progress is a longitudinal study of mother-child relationships and aspects of child development. This project, which was initiated in 1968, will be concluded within the next year, 'follow-up' data was gathered at the later ages.

Ronald Albing is attempting to identify and to explicate some of the intuitive rules of data collection and the attribution of mental predicates implied in recent empirical work on early mother-child interaction. He is interested in the application of findings in child development to improving the condition of children of impoverished urban immigrant populations.

Roger Bacon is working on a 3½ year project for the DHSS on the identification, management and treatment of child abuse in Cambridgeshire. His particular area of interest is in social work and child-care services, and the attitudes of abusing and 'at risk' parents and families.

Frances Barnes is engaged on a study of the children in the longitudinal study at 2½-3 years - focussing on patterns of communication in the family, in as far as it is informative about underlying relationships. Work continues on the relationships between the children's status at birth and their later development.

Denise Campbell is working on a study to evaluate the effectiveness of Special Care Baby Units with the aim of investigating the effects of perinatal factors on neonatal morbidity and mortality. Particular emphasis will be placed on understanding why admission and discharge policies differ between units and whether these differences are associated with varying mortality and morbidity rates.

Shelley Day is beginning a study of the psychological effects on women of obstetric medicine, with interest in the outcomes of both home and hospital deliveries, focussing on "post-natal depression": the psychology and politics of childbirth/motherhood/mental health.

Iain Farquhar is completing his thesis on Transcendental Meditation, and is also employed on the DHSS project headed by Roger Bacon (see above).

Chris Henshall is working on a study of children's concepts of gender and gender roles, and the relationship of these concepts to their own behaviour and to their parents' behaviour and attitudes.

Elspeth Highkin is studying the way Cambridge students see themselves within the University, and the ways in which they cope with severe stress.

* Please see foot of next page for Antonis - omitted in error.
Cornelius Katona is working on a study of primiparous women having their babies in Cambridge. He is interested in their initial expectations and final assessment of antenatal classes and the relationship between the actual influence the classes have and the aims of the staff who conduct them.

Jane Kenrick is working on family ideology, concentrating on the impact of separation and divorce on couples with children.

Marshall Klaus is a paediatrician whose major research interest is the process of parent to infant attachment. He is beginning studies of early proximal parent to infant communication. He is continuing his work on the effect of a Doula on the length of labour and foetal asphyxial complications.

Roland Klepzig is conducting a theoretical study into the concept of 'consciousness'. He is especially concentrating on its relation to the developments of concepts, language and the 'self', during the first years of life. An attempt is being made to fuse aspects of developmental psychology, phenomenology, psychoanalysis and marxism with insights of the nature of consciousness described in the original revelations of certain spiritual traditions.

Martin Richards (with Jane Kenrick) is working under a contract from the SSRC on a study of ideologies of parenthood. The aim is to describe the ways in which parents conceptualise their own views of childrearing and the development of their children. The project is partially historical and will look at changes in England since 1940. An analysis will be made of documentary evidence (e.g. Reports of Royal Commissions, Family Law, books written for parents, etc.) over the relevant period.

Jane Selby is working on the social and psychological issues of being a career woman, especially in academia as research students. Also the methodological issues in social psychology.

Stephen Scott is investigating the effect of a change of bedding texture on the behaviour of premature babies in incubators. Preliminary findings show that a switch from cotton to lambswool leads the babies to grow more quickly (weight gain rate increases by 30% or more) and to be calmer (rapid movements reduced by 60% or more). He is also involved in organising discussion groups for hospital personnel at all levels to explore feelings which arise while working with patients.

Anne Weissman is observing potential differences in interactions between depressed mothers and their infant, and non-depressed mothers and their infant, the impact of maternal depression on the infant's early cognitive development - for instance, on the formation of object concept - will be examined.

*Omitted from previous page*

Barbara Antonis is working on the social and cognitive development of the 5½ year olds in the longitudinal study and how this development relates to parental and child measures at earlier ages, including the mothers' pregnancies.
Recent and forthcoming publications by members of the Unit


Bacon, R. Organization and Practice. Adoption and Fostering.

Bacon, R. 'Breaking Cycles'- a Review of 'Cycles of Disadvantage'. Adoption & Fostering.


Barnes, F. Birth of a Ngoni child. Man, 49.


Barnes, F. Accidents in the first three years of life. Child: care, health and development 1975, 1, 421-433.


Dunn (Bernal) J.F. Crying during the first 10 days of life, and maternal responses. Developm. Med. Child Neurol. 14, 362-72,1972


Richards M.P.M. History and the Study of Child Development. Presented at the 3rd Biennial Conf. of the ISSBD, Guildford, July 1975.


Richards, M.P.M. & Roberton, N.R.C. Admission and discharge policies for special care baby units. In Brimblecombe, Richards and Roberton (eds.) (see below).


Hawthorne, J.T., Richards, M.P.M. & Callon, M. Parental visiting of children in a special care nursery. In Brimblecombe, Richards & Roberton (eds.) (see below).


CURRENTLY WORKING IN THE MEDICAL PSYCHOLOGY UNIT

RONALD ALBINO, Professor & Head of Dept. of Psychology, Univ. of Natal. (visiting until December 1979).

BARBARA ANTONIS, B.Sc. The first pregnancy and attitudes to mothering of working and non-working women. Follow-up at 4 and 5½ years of the 100 longitudinal study children.

ROGER BACON, M.A., Ph.D. Non-accidental injury to children.

FRANCES BARNES, M.B., B.Chir. Follow-up at 3 years of the 100 longitudinal study children. Development of autonomy in children and patterns of communication within the family.

JILL BROWN, Assistant Secretary.

DENISE CAMPBELL, M.A. 3rd year research student. Epidemiology of Perinatal Mortality.


CHRIS HENSHALL, B.A. 3th year research student, SSRC. Gender & sex-role development.

ELSPETH HICHKIN, 2nd year research student. Studying stress in university students.


JANE KENRICK, Research Assistant. Working on family ideologies.

MARSHALL KLAUS, Professor. On Sabbatical from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine (visiting until August 1980).

ROLAND KLEPZIG, Research Student, undertaking a theoretical study of the concept of consciousness.

PHYLLIS OSBORN, Unit Secretary.


JANE SELBY, M.A. 3rd year graduate student, SSRC. Working on the social and psychological issues of being a career woman.

ANNE WEISSMANN, 1st year Research Student, observing the potential differences in interaction between depressed/non-depressed mothers and their infants.

SHELLEY DAY, 1st year Research Student, studying the psychological effects of obstetric medicine on women.
ASSOCIATED

DAVID INGLEBY, Social & Political Sciences, Free School Lane, Cambridge.
AIDAN MACFARLANE, Paediatric Consultant, 6 Cobden Crescent, Oxford.
ELENA LIEVEN, Dept. of Psychology, Univ. of Manchester.

ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNIT IN THE RECENT PAST
HEALTH EDUCATION COUNCIL - DENTAL HEALTH PROJECT.

Mike, Craft, Ray Croucher and Ann Gilbert. Now at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Trumpington Street, Cambridge.

PAST RESEARCH STUDENTS

TONY BOOTH, now a tutor at the Open University, Milton Keynes.
JENNY CORRIGALL, now at the Rees Thomas School, Cambridge.
JUDY DUNN (formerly BERNAL), now at the Sub-department of Animal
Behaviour, High Street, Madingley, Cambridge.
JOANNA HAWTHORNE, now living in Chicago.
NICHOLA JACQUES, now at the Paediatric Research Unit, Royal Devon &
Exeter Hospital (Heavitree), Gladstone Road, Exeter, Devon.
GRAHAM RICHARDSON, now at 25 Falkland House, Marloes Road,
London W8 5LF.
CATHY URWIN, now at the University of Warwick, Coventry.
MIKE WOOD, now at 654 Finchley Road, London, NW11 7NT.