**Lucy Hadfield**

**Field note for final interview with Saffron Wagland 29/11/2014**

**Setting up the interview**

Took a while to set up the interview with Saffron’s mum via email. Finally set a date for a week before the launch. Saffron is unable to attend the launch as she is going to a pantomine. In preparation for the interview I sent the link to the Motherhood project website and asked Tina to look at the data/ multi media presentations before the interview, first alone and then with Saffron if she felt okay about Saffron viewing the material. I said that in particular I was concerned with the recording of Saffron’s step grandfather’s voice in the video as he talks about her mother being ill and I was unsure how much Saffron knew and if he would consent to it being shown. I also prepared a Powerpoint workbook with snippits of data to show Saffron to inform her about the wider project over time. I sent Tina the quotes in advance (from her own interviews) to check she was okay with Saffron seeing them.

**The Interview**

The interview took place in Saffron’s home in the living room. Saffron sat on the sofa with her mother next to her and I sat on the floor with the laptop on the coffee table in front of us. There was a very easy dynamic in the interview between Saffron, Tina and myself. The experience of sharing past data with both Tina and Saffron was really enjoyable. Saffron did not know (or at least understand - as I had explained in past interviews) about the previous interviews with family members until the previous weekend when Tina had explained it to her. She looked quite stunned and slightly overwhelmed when I began the presentation and Tina read the quotes from her previous interviews although reassured us she was okay and interested. Saffron had not known about her birth so we talked about that and Tina recounted who was there (her mother) and why (because she came quickly). I was a bit unsure about how Tina’s quote (about not wanting to just be a mummy) would be received by both of them but Tina took the opportunity to explain it to Saffron – that being a working mum is much ‘easier’ than not working. She asked Saffron what she would do when she became a mum and Saffron was very certain she would work.

When I asked Tina how it felt to hear the quotes again she said to me – it must be strange for you revisiting this data as a mother. I had thought about this and said it was interesting how I looked at the data in a different way. For example in the first day in the life (extract selected) I am anxious (and slightly proud) of the way the children are left with me to supervise. And yet returning to the data I identify with Tina who must have relished the chance to get a minute or two to herself whilst someone else is responsible! I share this with Tina and we laugh. I also say that I am able to see much more clearly in the data the work Tina does to both create a bond with Saffron (natural birth and breastfeeding) whilst at the same time fostering a shared project of enabling independence both for herself and Saffron through work, childcare and the influence of the extended family.

Saffron seemed to enjoy the snippits of data which showed her younger self as headstrong (wanting to get out of the buggy) and ‘fearless’. We talked about what she could remember from nursery. Tina was surprised she couldn’t remember much. But as the interview progressed Saffron began to remember more and told us at various points about her two friends and her peg. Talking about the day in the life age 2 helped spark these memories.

Saffron and Tina had already watch the video of the more recent day in the life and both thought it was great. Saffron said she liked it and there was nothing she would change. I asked her about the ICT lesson and she said she made an ap about a hippo. When the teachers quotes (about letting your imagination run riot in the creation of aps) came up I asked her if she felt that you could be creative with ap building in the same way you can with a drawing or poem. Saffron thought you could and said she enjoyed the lessons. We talked about how she found the collage activity boring. I asked her about her new teacher and she said she was less strict than the one I met in the day in the life. The friend in the day in the life who she reads with and does lunch with was not her friend on the day of the interview but was a couple of weeks before. Saffron explained who her best friend was (the girl she skipped with).

Tina said how strange it was to see what goes on in school as you never see that. Even though she had gone on school trips she said that the way your children behave when you are around is different. For Tina it was not so much what Saffron did in the day which was strange to see but seeing the different settings. She explained she was looking at the still of Saffron’s shoes on the mat thinking that is not my doormat and then realizing it was her mother’s that felt strange. She also told me that although her sister and father had been visiting the sweet shop for two years with the children that it was only this week that the shop keeper had realized they were related to Tina (they know each other through a community event). Both Saffron and Tina were happy for the day in the life to go on the website and did not want to change anything. Saffron felt happy with the idea of both friends and teachers seeing the video. Tina explained that her mother and her partner would be looking at the website that evening to check they were happy with it and she would let me know if there was anything they didn’t like.

I explained to Saffron and Tina about the Mass Observation archive and the Everyday Childhoods project. Saffron understood and Tina explained that Saffron had done her own research project for school interviewing her grandmother’s friend about the Second- World- War. Saffron enjoyed being a researcher and we wondered if that was what she would do when she was older and work at the same place as her mum. Her mum said lots of people have their children work in the same place. Saffron wants a computer for Xmas and they explained this is so she can make presentations on PowerPoint. I said that would be great for the next stage of the project. Saffron and Tina were both keen on the idea of Saffron being a ‘child expert in research’ (phrase borrowed from Rachel!) and being a consultant for the archiving project.

At the end of the interview I asked Saffron and Tina to check both the PowerPoint and Prezzi presentations and to let me know by email if they were happy with the content. I also asked them to read my (edited) fieldnotes for the day in the life and let me know before the launch event if they were happy for them to go on the website.

Tina asked me to sign two copies of the Making of Modern Motherhoods book, one with a personalized message for Tina and Saffron and one for Patricia (her mother). This felt like a lovely way to close the interview and for now the research relationship.

Unfortunately about half way through the interview I realized that the digital recorder had failed as it displayed the text message that the memory card was full. I had to record the second half of the interview in note form typing verbatim what was said (these will be added to the transcript).