

---

# Press Release

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NEW STUDY IS EXAMINING THE MOTIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN UK RIOTS

NatCen has recently begun an in depth rapid research project, commissioned by the Cabinet Office, with young people who were involved in or affected by the August riots in England. The research is already well underway in five of the affected areas and is due to report in October.

NatCen's researchers are in Tottenham, Peckham and Clapham in London as well as Salford and Birmingham. They will also visit two areas unaffected by the riots in an attempt to understand why they didn't occur in those places.

Decision makers urgently need clear, independent evidence on what happened and the motivations behind it.

The study will:

- Set out the views of young people involved in or affected by the riots
- Gather the views of young people from areas where riots didn't take place
- Collect the views of residents, parents, business owners and community leaders on what they think led to the riots and why young people became involved

NatCen is Britain's leading independent social research organisation and has no political affiliation. We have been conducting research with the British public for over 40 years. We have conducted studies with young people on a wide range of topics, often on the most sensitive issues in today's society. All of the young people who take part in this study will do so in complete confidence and anonymity.

Penny Young, Chief Executive of NatCen said:

"The riots in English cities in August shocked the nation. Our research which is now underway will bring experiences and views direct to senior policy makers."

**ENDS**

Notes to the Editors

1. NatCen, Britain's largest independent social research organisation, aims to promote a better-informed society through high quality social research ([www.natcen.ac.uk](http://www.natcen.ac.uk)).
2. You can find out more information about this study at

---

UNCLASSIFIED

020 7240 1866 35 Northampton Square London EC1V 0AX  
Fax : 020 7250 1524 info@natcen.ac.uk [www.natcen.ac.uk](http://www.natcen.ac.uk)

A Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No. 4392418 Charity No. 1091768

---

# Press Release

<http://www.natcen.ac.uk/study/study-of-august-riots-in-england->

3. NatCen is using the following methods to conduct this study:
  - in depth interviews and small discussions groups with young people in 5 areas of the country that were affected by the riots
  - discussion groups with young people in 2 areas of the country unaffected by the riots
  - discussion groups with community stakeholders.

**Press Contact:**

Anne Summers

Communications Manager

National Centre for Social Research

E: [anne.summers@natcen.ac.uk](mailto:anne.summers@natcen.ac.uk)

T: 0207 549 9565