

the good childhood  
conversation



The  
Children's  
Society

**Our community** should

I just want to be able to hang out with my mates

I don't like it when mum and dad argue

be a haven for kids

## A Good Childhood Conversation

Making childhood better in our community



**children today**  
**grow up in a world**  
**where the only**  
**constant**  
**is**  
**CHANGE**

**Name this country...**

- ✓ **Richest in the world**
- ✓ **Centre of world business and finance**
- ✓ **World centre of innovation**
- ✓ **Strongest education system in the world**
- ✓ **Highest standard of living**

# Great Britain ...in 1900



During the course  
of the next 5 minutes...



**15 babies**

**Will be born in the UK**

**244 babies**

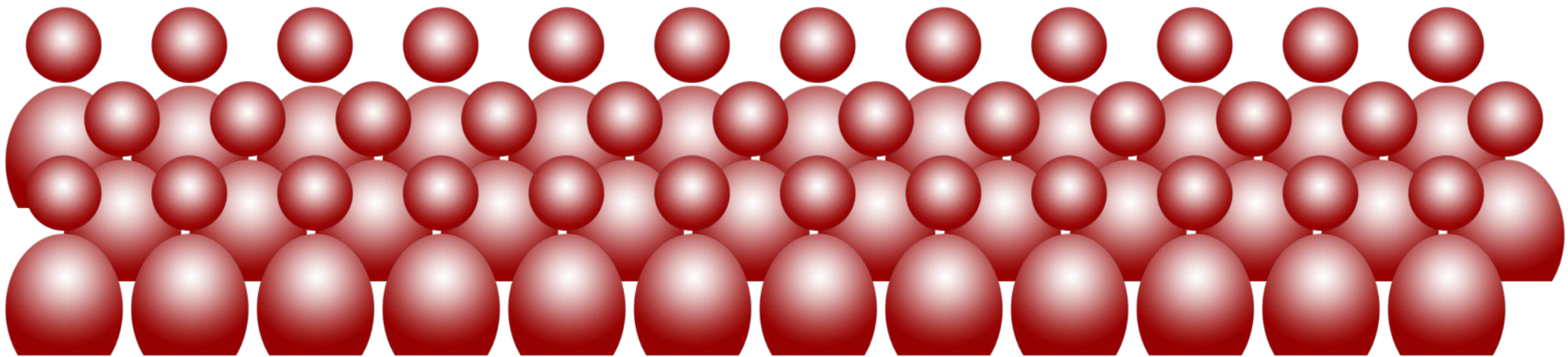
**Will be born in China**

**351 babies**

**Will be born in India**



**By 2031 the population of the UK  
will have grown to 67 million**





**In 2006 25% of babies born in  
the UK had a  
foreign mother or father...**



...but **50%**  
of the population  
view immigrants  
**negatively**



**In 1971 25% of the population  
was under 16**

**in 2003 the figure was 20%**



**by 2031 it's  
predicted to  
be 17%**

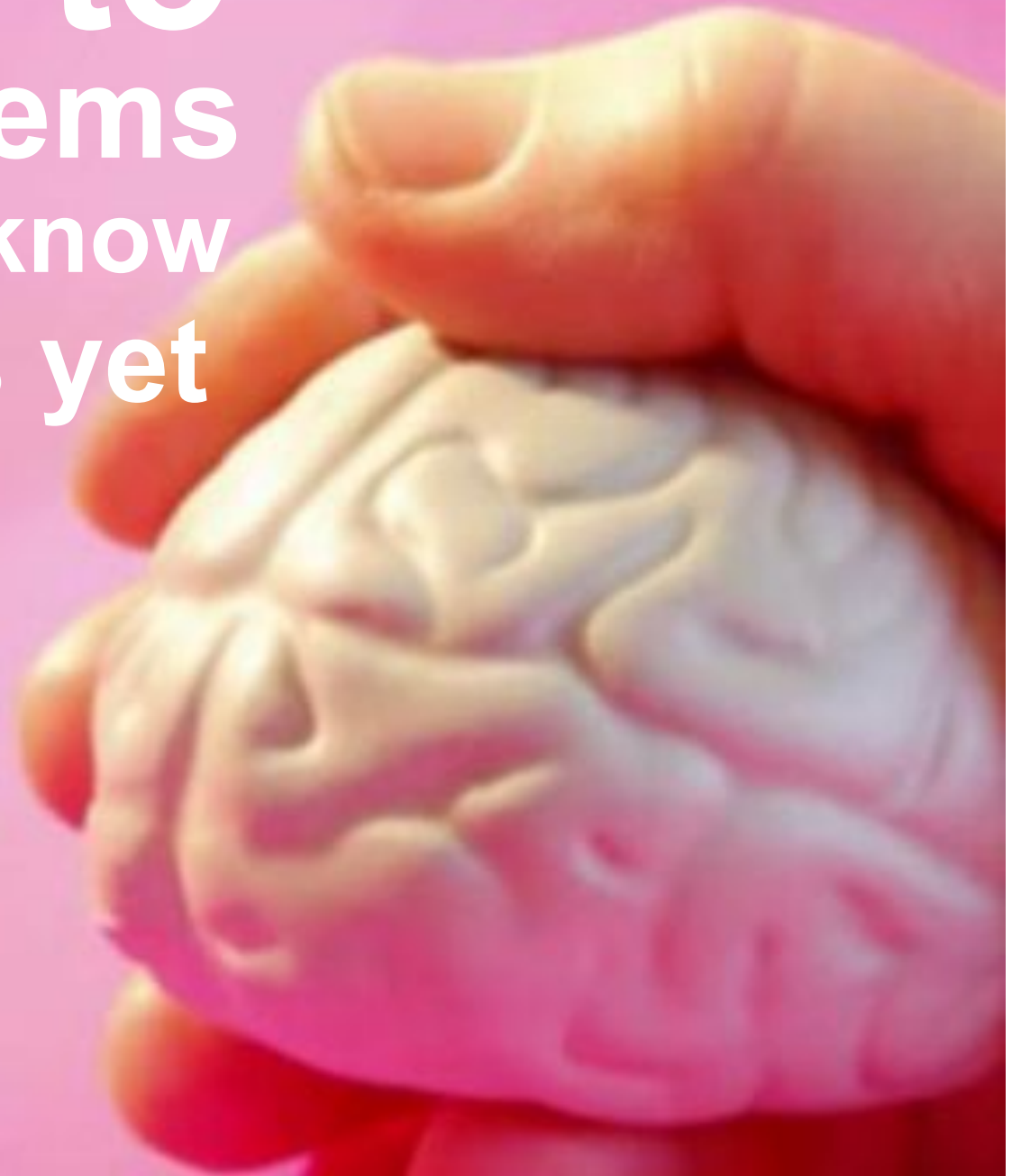
The image shows a classroom environment. In the foreground, the backs of two red, padded chairs with black metal frames are visible. The background is a solid green wall. In the upper left corner, a portion of a whiteboard or chalkboard is visible. Overlaid on the green wall is a large block of white text.

**We are currently  
preparing students  
for jobs that  
don't yet exist...**

using technologies  
**that haven't**  
been invented...



**in order to  
solve problems  
we don't even know  
are problems yet**





“ We can't solve problems  
by using the same kind  
of thinking we used when  
we created them. ”

Albert Einstein



In the UK,  
**98%** of 12 year-olds  
want  
**“to do well at school”**





And yet,  
**62%** of 12 year-olds  
don't like going to  
school



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There are over **300 million**  
active users of **Facebook**



with more than **6 billion**  
minutes spent on  
**Facebook** everyday



If **Facebook** were a country,  
it would be the **4<sup>th</sup> largest in the world**

(between Indonesia and USA)





**49%** of 8-17 year olds **are signed up** to a social networking site

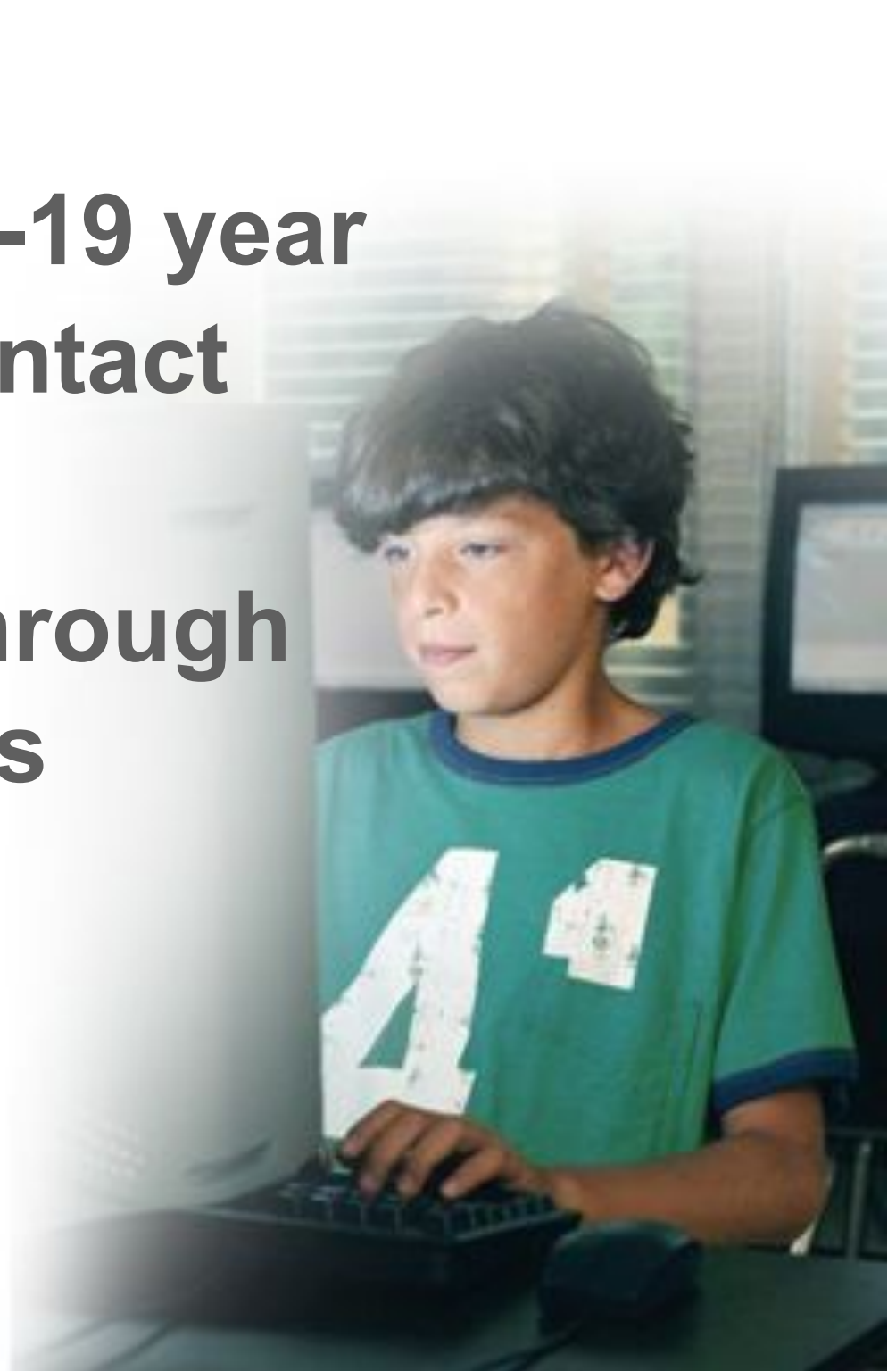
what happens to the **51%** of those that **are not** ?



**23%** of 7-16 year  
olds say **no**  
**one** has talked  
to them about  
online safety



**One** in **four** 9-19 year olds have had contact with **online pornography** through unsolicited emails





Nearly 350,000  
**children** aged under  
20 have **parents** with  
**alcohol** or **drug**  
related problems



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**What would you change about  
your life if you  
could?**

**‘Be a better  
person’**

11 year old boy

**Children absorb  
and learn their  
values from those  
around them**



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**30%** of 10 to 17 year olds in receipt of an ASBO had a diagnosed **mental health** disorder or **learning difficulty**

What makes a good life for young people?

**‘To socialise and not to be discriminated against because we are young. We are not all thugs and vandals’**

anonymous



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In 2008, **51%** of  
young people were  
the **victim** of a  
crime...



The number of text messages  
sent and received every day  
**exceeds the total  
population of the planet**







Technology is  
**transforming** the  
concept of  
**learning**

Children who have never held a  
textbook will soon hold the world



and be CONNECTED





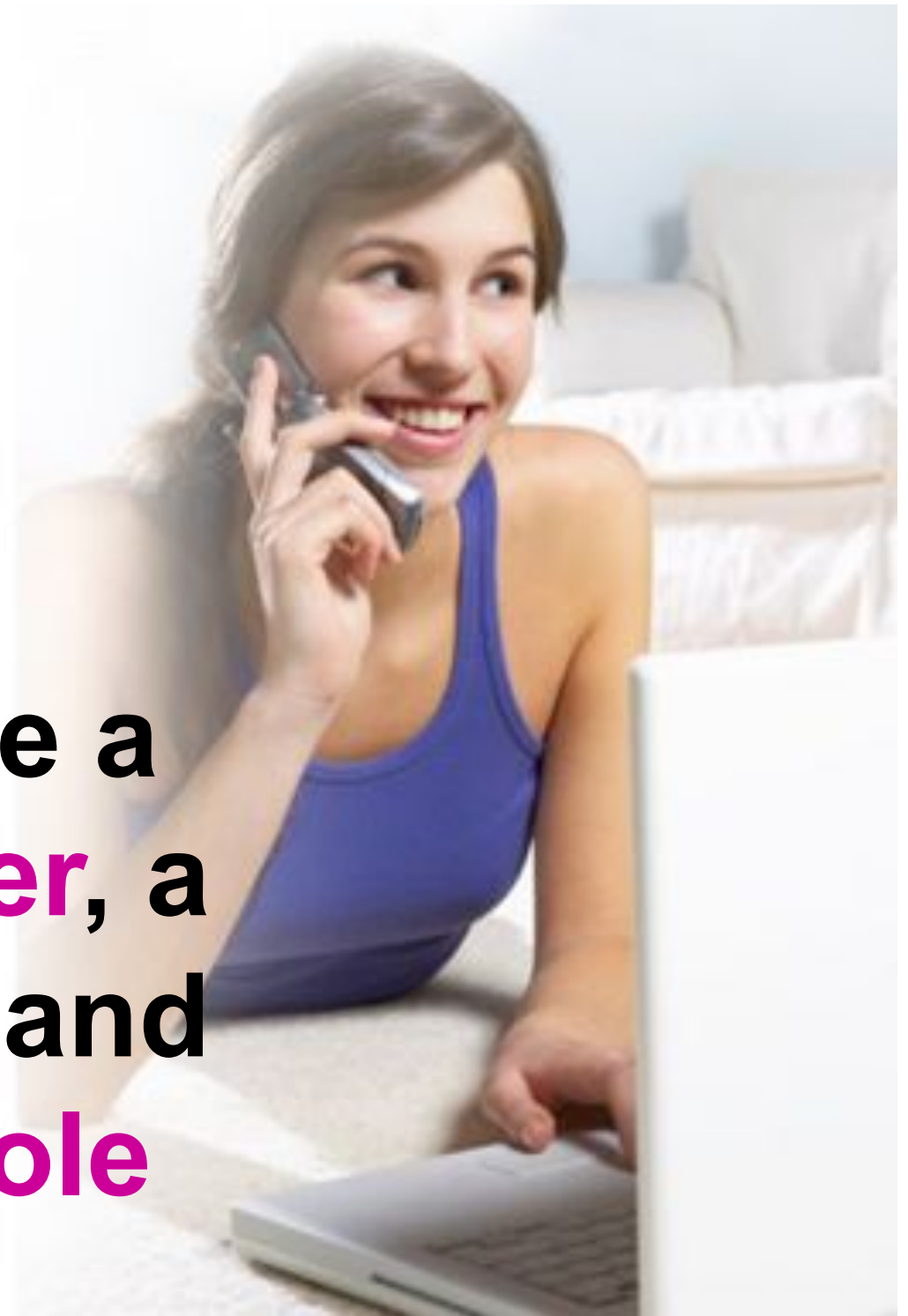
Children aged **5-16** spend an  
**average** of almost  
**6 hours** a day  
In front of a **screen**



Half of 5-10 year olds and  
**95%** of 11-16 year olds  
own a **mobile** phone



**9 out of 10  
teenagers have a  
home computer, a  
mobile phone and  
a games console**



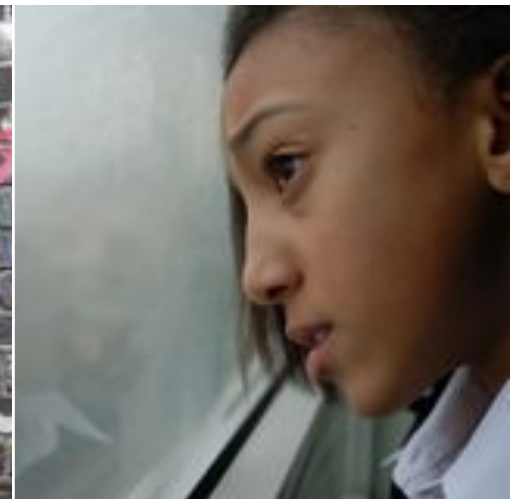
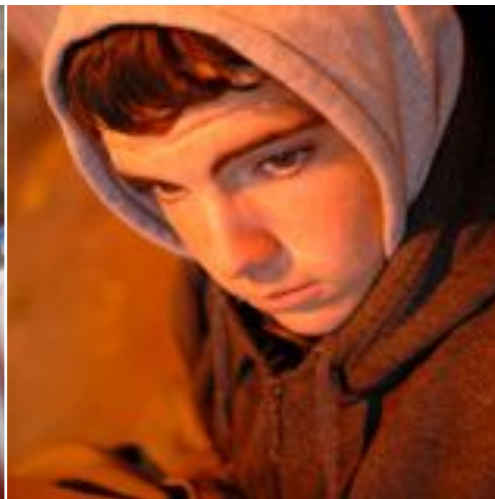
And they have sent/received  
**250,000 emails**  
or instant messages



**Isn't this worth talking  
about?**







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**Original content for video by Karl Fisch and Scott  
McLeod. Design and development by XPLANE.**

**Additional content supplied by The Children's Society**

**“Clocks”**

**Performed by Coldplay**

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