

Apprise Timeline of FUNKY MONKEY

Funky Monkey, in his early thirties, was in the 6th year of his PhD in Canada when he joined this project. Prior to doctoral work, he held a job as a lab tech, but felt that he needed further education in order to advance in his career and provide for his girlfriend. When Funky Monkey joined this study, he was in the process of collecting data. Data collection took longer than expected due to failed experiments. During this time, he married his girlfriend. Though he initially wanted a career in academia, after being in the PhD he no longer saw academia as a feasible career due to the limited number of positions and poor work-life balance. Still, he took a post-doc contract in a nearby university and experienced the same disillusionment as during the PhD. In the second year, he and his partner had a child which made him re-orient his priorities. What struck us about Funky Monkey's story was:

Reliance on family support; marriage and birth of child (personal)

Trouble with experiments, and pressure to publish (work experience)

Decision to not pursue academia, viewing it as an unrealistic choice (career thinking)

