

=====  
Date: Mon, 1 Jul 2002 13:54:34 -0400  
From: "Richard Morin" <morinr@washpost.com>  
Subject: New Poll Watchers column at Washingtonpost.com  
Message-ID: <OFD3408DC3.D4B29C64-ON85256BE9.00612757@washpost.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

The new Poll Wachers column is available at:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A8418-2002Jul1.html>

In the latest Poll Watchers:

New Post/ABC News Poll: No Big Political Payoff from Corporate Scandals--Yet

Public Says Keep God in the Pledge

U.S. Supreme Court on Public Opinion Polling

The Poll Vault, 1939: Is Premarital Sex Wicked or Merely Unfortunate?

=====  
Date: Tue, 2 Jul 2002 14:02:57 -0500 (CDT)  
From: Linda L Hawkins <lhawkins@csd.uwm.edu>  
Reply-To: Linda L Hawkins <lhawkins@csd.uwm.edu>  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
cc: Swarnjit S Arora <ssa2@csd.uwm.edu>  
Subject: Employment Opportunity  
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.96.1020702125617.8475B-100000@alpha3.csd.uwm.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Official Position Title: Information Processing Consultant  
Working Title: Sample Survey Specialist  
School, College, Division/Department: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
College of Letters and Science  
Institute for Survey and Policy Research  
Appointment Type/Percent: Academic Staff - Probationary/100%  
Starting Date: October 1, 2002

Description of Principal Duties:

- 1) Questionnaire development, sample design, survey methodology, information technology applications (e.g., CAPI, CATI, WEB based surveys), quality assurance methods, designing, analyzing and reporting methodological studies
- 2) Consulting with faculty, students and clients regarding data analysis and statistical software
- 3) Microcomputing and internet instruction
- 4) Miscellaneous duties, including backup for various ISPR projects and the microcomputer labs

Minimum Qualifications:

A Masters degree, Ph.D. preferred, in Social Science, with an extensive background in Microcomputer applications, sample surveys and social science research methods. Candidate must have experience in designing and implementing large sample surveys, preferably in the field of Health, and working on social science research projects, and should be able to interact with faculty, students and clients in their applied research and teaching.

Salary/Pay basis:

Actual salary commensurate with qualifications.  
Annual 12 month pay basis.

Application Procedure:

Send resume, official transcript, three letters of reference, and a sample of your work to:

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Swarnjit S. Arora, Director  
Institute for Survey and Policy Research  
P.O. Box 413  
Milwaukee, WI 53201

To be considered, Application Must be Postmarked By: September 9, 2002

UWM is an AA/EO employer and educator strongly committed to maintaining a climate supporting equality of opportunity and respect for difference based on gender, culture, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, and lawful activities. We particularly encourage applications from individuals who would enhance and diversify our workplace.

Linda Hawkins

Senior Information Processing Consultant  
Institute for Survey and Policy Research  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

EMAIL: lhawkins@uwm.edu  
PHONE: 414-229-4199  
FAX: 414-229-2579

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Date: Tue, 02 Jul 2002 22:00:35 -0400  
From: Colleen Kay Porter <cporter@hp.ufl.edu>  
Reply-To: cporter@hp.ufl.edu  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.61 (Macintosh; I; PPC)  
X-Accept-Language: en  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: July 4 greetings  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Scanned-By: NERDC Open Systems Group (<http://open-systems.ufl.edu/services/virus-scan/>)

Just wanted to pass on best wishes for a safe and wonderful Independence Day holiday to those of you in the U.S.

I had the opportunity to write Thursday's lead editorial in our newspaper, and this is part of what I said:

In a Time/CNN poll conducted a few weeks ago, more than half of Americans (57 percent) said it is likely that an act of terrorism will occur in the United States on the 4th of July. But most Americans are not staying home today out of fear; they are continuing to live their lives.

Other holidays like Veteran's Day and Memorial Day honor those who wear our nation's uniform and fight for freedom on the battlefield. But on this Independence Day, we celebrate all Americans who stand for the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Many of us have the opportunity to fight for freedom in our everyday lives, using weapons like words, kindness or a handshake. Heroes who stand for freedom include underpaid public defenders who ensure that every American has their day in court, dedicated teachers who help nurture a literate citizenry, friendly waitresses who treat all their customers with respect irregardless of the color of their skin, and journalists who try to bring the truth to the American people, even at risk of their own lives (as in the case of Daniel Pearl).

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Well, I won't quote the entire editorial, of course, but that's the idea. And while I didn't specifically mention survey researchers in the list of those who get to stand for freedom in their everyday life, I do think that we fill a role in our democratic system by giving everyone a voice and

giving policymakers good information.

If we lived in a very efficient society, like in the movie GATTACA (where every human was identified down to the DNA) there would be no need for a census or the information-gathering surveys that some of us do. And it would be a world that is far less free.

I'm so glad to be here, and to be able to do what we do for a living. Hope y'all have a wonderful holiday, and travel safely.

Colleen

Colleen K. Porter  
Project Coordinator  
cporter@hp.ufl.edu  
phone: 352/392-6919, Fax: 352/392-7109  
UF Department of Health Services Administration  
Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-009  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195

=====  
Date: Wed, 03 Jul 2002 17:27:33 -0400  
From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@artsci.com>  
Subject: A MAJORITY OF COLLEGE STUDENTS graduate without learning a clear distinction between right and wrong  
To: "Aapornet (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <000001c222d8\$734b7300\$0d0a010a@leo>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
X-MIMEOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook CWS, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=Windows-1252  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT  
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)  
X-MSMail-priority: Normal

Good day!

Here are news bulletins from The Chronicle of Higher Education for Wednesday, July 3.

\* A MAJORITY OF COLLEGE STUDENTS graduate without learning a clear distinction between right and wrong, according to a report released Tuesday by the National Association of Scholars and Zogby International, a polling company. Most of the students surveyed, however, agreed that their college education had prepared them to "behave ethically" in their careers.

Here is the National Assoc of Scholars

[http://www.nas.org/reports/zogethics\\_poll/zogby\\_ethics\\_report.htm](http://www.nas.org/reports/zogethics_poll/zogby_ethics_report.htm)

Ethics, Enron, and American Higher Education:  
An NAS/Zogby Poll of College Seniors

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JULY 2002 -- A large majority of this year's college graduates report that their professors tell them there are no clear and uniform standards of right and wrong. A similarly large majority report that they've been taught that corporate policies furthering "progressive" social and political goals are more important than those ensuring that stockholders and creditors receive accurate accounts of a firm's finances. Yet nearly all these students believe that their college studies have prepared them to behave ethically in their professional lives.

--  
Leo G. Simonetta  
Art & Science Group, LLC  
simonetta@artsci.com

=====  
Date: Fri, 5 Jul 2002 19:14:01 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>  
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: More Girls Saying No To Sex (NBC4.TV - Health)  
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207051908370.8099-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Anyone know anything more about this research? There's an embarrassing lack of detail in this report, as you can see from the first word of the second sentence.

-- Jim

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[www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html](http://www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html)

POSTED: 12:55 p.m. EDT July 5, 2002

More Girls Saying No To Sex

Study Shows Their Attitude Is Changing

CLEVELAND -- In the last 10 years, the number of teens, ages 15 to 17 who had intercourse dropped from 54 percent to 48 percent.

Strong said this reversed a trend that is decades old. Many experts said

the key reason is girls are more confident and are setting strong boundaries.

Whether it is at a party, hanging out on a Friday night or in school parking lots, girls are not pressured by guys to fool around and have sex.

But more than ever, the answer is "No."

"After you keep that standard for yourself all the time then other will learn to accept it," Tasleem Jadabji said.

Guys are also changing.

"Guys are becoming more, I don't want to say tolerant (maybe) patient and aware of the fact that there are girls who don't want to have sex and that the pressure is not going to change their mind," Kristen Baker said.

According to research from the American Sociological Association, girls are becoming more outspoken about who they are and what they want.

"Girls are starting to watch programs that empower them," said Sharina Prince, a health educator. "(The programs) say, 'Hey it's OK to be free to respect your body to respect yourself,' and I think they're also becoming more aware that not everyone is having sex."

And they aren't standing up for themselves just about sex.

"We don't just go along with whatever, and we speak our minds more instead of just letting someone else tell us what to do about everything," Courtney McIntosh said.

Parents can also play a key role.

[www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html](http://www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html)

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Date: Fri, 5 Jul 2002 20:06:40 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Eleanor Hall <eleahall@yahoo.com>  
Subject: Re: More Girls Saying No To Sex (NBC4.TV)--ASA article  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
In-Reply-To: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207051908370.8099-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Information on the American Sociological Association article referred to is at <http://www.asanet.org/media/cntrisman.html>. It indicates that the drop in sexual activity is occurring in boys and in



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> [www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html](http://www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html)  
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Sign up for SBC Yahoo! Dial - First Month Free <http://sbc.yahoo.com>

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Date: Sat, 6 Jul 2002 14:30:10 EDT  
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com  
Subject: "Do You Yahoo!? Rise in Numbers of Middle-Teens Who Do Levels Off"  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
CC: TW\_COLEMAN@MSN.COM, HigginsHarding@aol.com, Dulcet777@aol.com  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="part1\_1be.6acb5.2a589132\_boundary"  
X-Mailer: AOL 7.0 for Windows US sub 10512

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Content-Type: text/plain; charset="UTF-8"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable  
Content-Language: en

<A HREF="http://www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html">Click here: NBC  
4=20=  
- Health - More Girls Saying No To Sex</A>=20

<A HREF="http://www.asanet.org/media/cntrisman.html">Click here: The  
Sexua= 1 Revolution and Teen Dating Trends is Explored in ASA=E2=80=99s=20  
Magazine, Contexts</A>

MY SUBJECT LINE MAKES A MUCH BETTER HEADLINE, DON'T YOU THINK? BETTER  
AND=20 MORE ACCURATE, SINCE A CHANGE UP OR DOWN OF SIX PERCENTAGE POINTS  
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EITHER=20 SOURCE AS TO SAMPLE SIZE -- ISN'T APT TO BE STATISTICALLY  
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NBC-TV'S SUMMARY=20 STATEMENT, "More Girls Saying No To Sex," IS EVEN MORE  
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WHICH THIS ISSUE OF ASA NEWS=20 LINKS ITS READERS.

PHIL HARDING

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--part1\_1be.6acb5.2a589132\_boundary  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*  
\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
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Date: Sat, 6 Jul 2002 14:35:23 EDT  
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com  
Subject: "Do You Yahoo!? Rise in Numbers of Middle-Teens Who Do Levels Off"  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
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X-Mailer: AOL 7.0 for Windows US sub 10512

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Content-Type: text/plain; charset="UTF-8"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable  
Content-Language: en

<A HREF=3D"http://www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html">Click here: NBC  
4=20=  
- Health - More Girls Saying No To Sex</A>=20

<A HREF=3D"http://www.asanet.org/media/cntrisman.html">Click here: The  
Sexua= 1 Revolution and Teen Dating Trends is Explored in ASA=E2=80=99s=20  
Magazine, Contexts</A>

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PHIL HARDING

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Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
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\* \* \* \* \*

--part1\_48.df62601.2a58926b\_boundary--

=====  
Date: Sat, 06 Jul 2002 15:20:20 -0400  
From: "Andrew A. Beveridge" <andy@troll.soc.qc.edu>  
Subject: FW: Sociologists not NBC may have gotten this wrong  
To: "Aapornet@Usc. Edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <KLEOLNOOPOCIGAODMGOHGDEAA.andy@troll.soc.qc.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
X-MIMEOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8  
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)

X-MSMail-priority: Normal  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g66JKFe24803

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrew A. Beveridge [mailto:andy@troll.soc.qc.edu]  
Sent: Saturday, July 06, 2002 3:19 PM  
To: PAHARDING7@aol.com  
Cc: hillsman@asanet.org  
Subject: Sociologists not NBC may have gotten this wrong

Dear All:

I was refraining from commenting, card carrying sociologist that I am, but the ASA's new pop and media oriented journal, Contexts, is not off to a promising start given the conclusions drawn and reported by their own press release and Journal

I have taken the liberty of CC'ing the ASA headquarters with Harding's comments, and I suggest that any comments be directed to them.

The new executive director is Sally Hillsman, and the editor of the Journal is Claude Fischer. It includes pretty pictures and pop renditions of research findings.

Andy Beveridge

Andrew A. Beveridge  
Professor of Sociology  
Queens College and Grad Ctr CUNY  
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6237  
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8210  
Phone: 718-997-2837  
beveridg@optonline.net  
FAX: 718-997-2820  
email andy@troll.soc.qc.edu  
<http://histmaps.research.cuny.edu>

Home office  
50 Merriam Avenue  
Bronxville, NY 10708-  
Phone: 914-337-  
FAX: 914-337-  
email  
web:

> -----Original Message-----

> From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu] On Behalf  
> Of PAHARDING7@aol.com  
> Sent: Saturday, July 06, 2002 2:35 PM  
> To: aapornet@usc.edu  
> Subject: "Do You Yahoo!? Rise in Numbers of Middle-Teens Who Do Levels  
> Off"  
>  
>

> <A HREF="http://www.nbc4.tv/health/1545285/detail.html">Click here:  
> NBC 4 - Health - More Girls Saying No To Sex</A>  
>  
> <A HREF="http://www.asanet.org/media/cntrisman.html">Click here:  
> The Sexual Revolution and Teen Dating Trends is Explored in ASA's  
> Magazine, Contexts</A>  
>  
> MY SUBJECT LINE MAKES A MUCH BETTER HEADLINE, DON'T YOU THINK? BETTER  
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Date: Sat, 06 Jul 2002 23:07:36 -0400  
From: Colleen Kay Porter <cporter@hp.ufl.edu>

Reply-To: cporter@hp.ufl.edu  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.61 (Macintosh; I; PPC)  
X-Accept-Language: en  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: Re: FW: Sociologists not NBC may have gotten this wrong  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Scanned-By: NERDC Open Systems Group (<http://open-systems.ufl.edu/services/virus-scan/>)

Um, folks, there actually was some real data here.

According to the lead author's university's press release at

[http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/univ\\_relations/news\\_services/press\\_releases/02\\_05/145.htm](http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/univ_relations/news_services/press_releases/02_05/145.htm)

it says the authors analyzed data from the "Center for Disease Control's Youth Risk Behavior Study."

Ignore for a minute that it is really Centers with an S and Surveillance System rather than Study, but the sample size (over 10,000 interviews) do match.

BTW, the data from the 2001 YRBSS was released just a week or so ago and is at

[http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/info\\_results.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/info_results.htm)

Okay, raise your hand if you are an AAPOR member and worked on this program. It's pretty reliable data.

However, these authors only used the NUMBERS from the YRBSS data. Their theories as to WHY the rates of sexual activity are declining seems to be a lot of guesswork. Which is okay in my book as long as it is labelled as such, especially for a "think piece" like this. I can't tell how their article reads, because I couldn't access the full text online (so tell your sociologist friends about that, Andy).

If we'd been able to read the full text of the article instead of having to settle for the press release, we'd have known the data source right away and been less skeptical about the whole thing.

As a journalist, I wouldn't have written about it unless I'd been able to read the entire paper, charts and all. But then when I write it for my newspapers, I may end up cutting the full citation of the paper as I bump up against my word limit.

All of the editorials I write quote some kind of percent this or that, but I don't always have room to give as much about my source as I would like. For my July 4th

piece, I vaged out and said something about poll data finding that most U.S. citizens are proud to live in America. I was looking at some Harris data, but there just was not room to say it all, and a reader could have thought I was making it up.

However, on Sunday we ran a piece on health care reform and talked quite a bit about Bob Blendon et al's fascinating five-country survey on access to and satisfaction with health care. Because it was such an integral part of the story, I did spend the words to mention the "current issue of the journal Health Affairs," and so interested readers could easily find the full report.

I dunno, I can see both sides of the "stupid media messing up survey findings" issue, since I walk down both sides of that street.

Colleen K. Porter  
project coordinator, University of Florida  
Colleen Kay Porter  
editorial writer and columnist, The Gainesville Sun

=====  
Date: Sun, 7 Jul 2002 13:25:18 EDT  
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com  
Subject: Fwd: FW: Sociologists not NBC may have gotten this wrong  
To: TW\_COLEMAN@MSN.COM, HigginsHarding@aol.com, Dulcet777@aol.com  
CC: cporter@hp.ufl.edu, aapornet@usc.edu  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;  
boundary="part1\_14c.10728660.2a59d37e\_boundary"  
X-Mailer: AOL 7.0 for Windows US sub 10512

--part1\_14c.10728660.2a59d37e\_boundary  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This is a response to my bitch-and-moan e-mail of yesterday re the study of teens' sexual practices. I send it along because Colleen is herself a print media person and therefore an unwitting and unintended target of my wrath. Still, she introduces a refreshing take on the real constraints faced by journalists when they're forced to report about serious research studies. Of course, their situation is not improved when, as she points out,

....if we'd been able to read the full text of the article instead of having to settle for the press release, we'd have known the data source right away and been less skeptical about the whole thing.

My reservations about the significance of a six-percentage-point change from ten years ago rested in large part on the absence of any reference to sample size, which I therefore assumed was likely to be smaller than larger. I suppose I'm losing it at a faster rate than even I suspected, but I swear I combed thoroughly the two links to the study, and nowhere did

I see anything that touched on Colleen's "the sample size (over 10,000 interviews)" phrase. Obviously, for a sample of that magnitude, the confidence interval approaches plus-or-minus zip, and so we can't chalk up a six-point spread as the result of chance alone.

Phearless Phil

--part1\_14c.10728660.2a59d37e\_boundary  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

```
* * * * *
*      ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED---      *
*      This post contains a forbidden message format      *
*      (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) *
*      This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT      *
*      If your postings display this message your mail program *
*      is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *
```

--part1\_14c.10728660.2a59d37e\_boundary--

=====  
Date: Sun, 7 Jul 2002 13:52:22 -0400  
From: "Ratledge, Edward" <ratledge@UDel.Edu>  
To: "'PAHARDING7@aol.com'" <PAHARDING7@aol.com>, aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: RE: FW: Sociologists not NBC may have gotten this wrong  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

The real issue isn't the sample size with the YBRSS over time, its the differential response rates and the differences in the weighting schemes. These will vary from year to year so even using complex sampling design methods like those provided by SUDAAN will not necessarily give you appropriate standard errors. If anything I would say today's YBRSS is substantially better than those of even 5 years ago. But the questions are of the type which may lead to exaggeration by the student. The direction of that exaggeration may depend on what is seen as appropriate/cool behavior the time of the interview.

Ed Ratledge  
University of Delaware

-----Original Message-----

From: PAHARDING7@aol.com [mailto:PAHARDING7@aol.com]  
Sent: Sunday, July 07, 2002 1:25 PM  
To: TW\_COLEMAN@MSN.COM; HigginsHarding@aol.com; Dulcet777@aol.com  
Cc: cporter@hp.ufl.edu; aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: Fwd: FW: Sociologists not NBC may have gotten this wrong

This is a response to my bitch-and-moan e-mail of yesterday re the study of teens' sexual practices. I send it along because Colleen is herself a print



media person and therefore an unwitting and unintended target of my wrath. Still, she introduces a refreshing take on the real constraints faced by journalists when they're forced to report about serious research studies. Of course, their situation is not improved when, as she points out,

....if we'd been able to read the full text of the article instead of having to settle for the press release, we'd have known the data source right away and been less skeptical about the whole thing.

My reservations about the significance of a six-percentage-point change from ten years ago rested in large part on the absence of any reference to sample size, which I therefore assumed was likely to be smaller than larger. I suppose I'm losing it at a faster rate than even I suspected, but I swear I combed thoroughly the two links to the study, and nowhere did I see anything that touched on Colleen's "the sample size (over 10,000 interviews)" phrase.

Obviously, for a sample of that magnitude, the confidence interval approaches plus-or-minus zip, and so we can't chalk up a six-point spread as the result of chance alone.

Phearless Phil

---

Date: Sun, 7 Jul 2002 16:08:58 -0400  
From: "Ken Sherrill" <ken@kensherrill.com>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Hunter Poll: Director of Internal Operations  
Message-ID: <NFBBKGDIMDAGNLHBFKIIKEKDGEAA.ken@kensherrill.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
    boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_002B\_01C225D0.99DCB9C0"  
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)  
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----\_NextPart\_000\_002B\_01C225D0.99DCB9C0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
    charset="Windows-1252"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I need to hire a Director of Internal Operations for the Hunter Poll. A job description appears below. We would want the person to start by the beginning of August and the position, which may or may not be renewable, will run through the end of the 2002-2003 academic year. Pay will be approximately \$35,000 and there will be fringe benefits. If you know any qualified applicants, please have them send me their resumes as quickly as possible. Hunter College is an AA/EO employer.

Ken Sherrill

The Director of Internal Operations will be responsible for the implementation of the computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) software including installation, testing, programming interviews, and overseeing its operation during polls. The incumbent will be responsible for all poll logistics and act as liaison to the testing center for use of the center's resources. The incumbent will monitor the Poll's budget and expenditures and process all necessary paperwork required by the College regarding the Poll's operations. Under the direction of the Poll's advisory committee and executive director, the incumbent will assist with identifying and applying for future sources of funding.

I think the only vital piece of getting the poll up and running for the fall is learning the CATI software inside and out and performing at least a limited mock poll on multiple workstations to make sure that the software is functioning properly.

\*\*\*\*\*

Kenneth Sherrill  
Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science  
Hunter College, CUNY  
1724 West Building  
695 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10021

phone:212 772 5798  
fax: 212 650 3669

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_002B\_01C225D0.99DCB9C0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*  
\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_002B\_01C225D0.99DCB9C0--

=====  
Date: Mon, 08 Jul 2002 10:15:28 -0500  
From: Nick Panagakis <mail@marketsharescorp.com>  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)  
X-Accept-Language: en,pdf  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: FBI Data Mining  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

FBI has eye on business databases

Goal: ID terrorists from their habits

By Frank James  
Washington Bureau

July 8, 2002

WASHINGTON -- Many of the nation's businesses have long trolled through commercial databases hoping to divine which consumers are likeliest to buy a particular luxury car or life insurance policy. Now, the FBI hopes to explore the same information to uncover terrorists before they strike.

Atty. Gen. John Ashcroft recently announced that the Justice Department was loosening its guidelines to allow FBI agents to, among other things, dig into the vast commercial treasure house of data on consumers' buying habits, preferences and traits.

Such databases often link a person and Social Security number to information such as whether the person smokes; clothing size; any arrest records; household income; magazine subscriptions; height and weight; contributions to religious, political or charitable groups; chronic health conditions like diabetes or asthma; the books the person reads; and a host of other characteristics.

Privacy advocates worry the FBI's use of such databases could lead to intrusions on the privacy of innocent people. Inaccuracies in the databases could lead the FBI down blind alleys, they added.

While the FBI hasn't publicly specified how agents would use the data, experts say the bureau likely would employ a sophisticated technique called data mining to spot relationships in enormous amounts of data no human could possibly detect. The technique uses formulas, called algorithms, artificial intelligence and high-powered computers to tease out patterns.

Cost-cutting method

Businesses increasingly use data mining to reduce their sales costs through more precise targeting of consumers most likely to respond positively to marketing pitches or to predict what will keep current customers happy. They comb consumer databases containing staggering amounts of detail obtained when people make purchases or complete marketing surveys.

The previous guidelines, which agents viewed as limiting their use of such databases, had grown from efforts to prevent the kind of FBI surveillance abuses that occurred in the 1960s and 1970s. At that time the bureau kept dossiers on civil rights and anti-war activists.

The Bush administration, however, believed those guidelines would hamper the nation's domestic war on terrorism.

"We're talking about the databases and the data accessible to the business public," Ashcroft said. "The same unrestrained access that's available to businesses should be available to the FBI to thwart further acts of terrorism."

Law-enforcement and intelligence agencies have used other forms of data

mining. For instance, some police departments have used the technique to sift crime data for trends to predict where future crimes are most likely to occur.

Such agencies also have used data mining techniques on intelligence information, though not as effectively as they might have. For instance, FBI Director Robert Mueller has said that the Sept. 11 attacks might have been thwarted if intelligence agencies had better integrated and mined data to discern patterns.

Meanwhile, the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service have used private "look-up" services such as ChoicePoint Inc. in Alpharetta, Ga., that collect and sort information about most Americans to find fugitives, illegal immigrants and other subjects of investigations.

But mining commercial databases would take the practice even further, which raises concerns for privacy advocates.

"The detail goes very deep, all sorts of information that people do not know is collected and tracked," said Chris Hufnagle, a staff member at the Electronic Privacy Information Center in Washington.

Terrorists are consumers too

Because terrorists buy products, rent apartments and use credit cards, experts said the FBI hopes that analyzing the data would reveal patterns that could help prevent future attacks.

For instance, the Sept. 11 hijackers flew together on numerous occasions as they cased airlines in preparation, sometimes buying tickets with credit cards. Some also shared apartments, opened bank accounts, took flying lessons, rented cars and went to health clubs. All of those could easily be captured in consumer databases, experts said. Privacy advocates fear some activities by innocent consumers could raise FBI suspicions.

"The problem is any number of innocent events can trigger a suspicion algorithm," Hufnagle said. Someone who travels on short notice and uses a credit card in two cities on the same day, withdraws a large amount of money from a bank or who moves frequently might draw suspicion even though they had legitimate reasons for doing so.

A critique of the Justice Department's new guidelines by the Center for Democracy and Technology, an advocacy group, said the "FBI will now be conducting fishing expeditions using the services of the people who decide what catalogs to send you or what spam e-mail you will be interested in."

FBI's imperfect record

The group's analysis said, "The problem is, the direct marketers can only call you during dinner time or mail you another credit card offer based on that information--the FBI can arrest you. And since Sept. 11 the FBI has in fact arrested and held people based on innocent activity."

Such fears are unwarranted, said Paula DeLucas, public safety strategist with SAS Institute Inc., a company in North Carolina that makes data mining computer programs.

"You would use massive amounts of data to create suspects," she said. "Then you could drill down into the specifics of that data."

"It's only in those cases where the outcome substantiates further identification" of individuals, that investigators are likely to unearth more details on specific individuals, she said.

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Date: Mon, 8 Jul 2002 08:17:06 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>  
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: public opinion institutions (fwd) -- from John Geer, Vanderbilt  
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207080812240.4617-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

AAPORNETters,

If you are interested in writing a chapter for John Geer's volume on survey research, on the "key institutional features of the field," please contact him directly, at his email address below...

-- Jim

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Mon, 8 Jul 2002 09:33:47 -0500 (Central Daylight Time)  
From: "Geer, John G" <john.g.geer@vanderbilt.edu>  
To: beniger@almaak.usc.edu  
Subject: public opinion institutions

Jim,

I need an essay for my volume that covers the key institutional features of the field--such as aapor, nes, norc, etc. Who would be someone who could craft such an essay? It need only be 3000 words.

Many thanks, John

---

Geer, John G  
Vanderbilt University  
Email: john.g.geer@Vanderbilt.Edu

---

Date: Mon, 08 Jul 2002 12:30:08 -0700  
From: Kristi Hagen <kristi.hagen@NAU.EDU>  
Subject: response rates for social network survey

X-Sender: kkh3@jan.ucc.nau.edu  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Message-id: <4.3.2.7.2.20020708122613.00b5eb90@jan.ucc.nau.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed

I am sending this in for a colleague. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

I need any references that establish what the best empirical response rates are for a special type of survey. The survey is being sent to individuals within a corporation, and to individuals who are working in collaborative laboratories that are linked to the corporation. The survey is basically a social network survey, with a set of demographic and relational questions. I would appreciate any citations that would indicate what poor, good, and excellent response rates are for similar types of surveys (ones done in a corporation, social network surveys, etc., university surveys).

Please respond directly to me. Thanks very much!

~~~~~  
Kristi Kay Hagen, MA, MA  
Research Operations Manager  
Social Research Laboratory,  
Northern Arizona University  
PO Box 15301, Flagstaff AZ 86011-5301  
PH: 928-523-1515  
Fax:928-523-6654

=====  
Date: Mon, 8 Jul 2002 18:22:30 EDT  
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com  
Subject: Re: FW: Sociologists not NBC may have gotten this wrong  
To: ratledge@UDel.Edu  
CC: TW\_COLEMAN@MSN.COM, HigginsHarding@aol.com, Dulcet777@aol.com,  
cporter@hp.ufl.edu, aapornet@usc.edu  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Mailer: AOL 7.0 for Windows US sub 10512

Yesterday (7) you wrote, "But the questions are of the type which may lead to exaggeration by the student. The direction of that exaggeration may depend on what is seen as appropriate/cool behavior the time of the interview." And that could easily be the most contaminating variable of all -- which, to be honest (but also as a result of my not having looked at the question wording itself), did flash across my mind once, but never to return.

Of course you're right. The question still remains, however: what, other than outright lying, does "exaggeration by the student" mean in the context of sexual activity. If the peer milieu were such as to promote/applaud promiscuity, respondents (some of them) would thereby feel pushed to exaggerate their sexual activity, and the data obtained would overstate truth. It's perhaps more difficult, however, to exaggerate nonpractice of a behavior in question. If a respondent is asked whether he or she has had

sexual intercourse, is or has been pregnant, and the presence or absence of virginity, and the answers are "no," no" and "no," what's to exaggerate?

The investigators believe their data suggest that the peer milieu (my term, not theirs) may be changing, moving in a direction where maybe somewhat fewer kids find it a little less cool/hip/whatever to engage in such behavior. Directionality based on sheer incidence of the behavior under study, which seems to me a little simplistic, given the nature and complexity of "sexual activity."

I'm reminded of the early measures of marijuana use by the young: the percentages yielded by these studies told you how many kids were now smoking or had ever smoked it, but there was so much more to know about usage patterns of the deadly weed. Frequency of use was a natural in starting to flesh out drug-related behaviors. The frequency of engaging in sexual intercourse by the significantly but marginally smaller (than 10 years ago) proportion who do so today seems to me a sine qua non to understanding the nature of "sexual activity." From what I can see, you've got no more here than a headcount of those who reported that they do and don't engage in that practice, who disclose with regret or great pride the loss of their virginity, and (in the case of female respondents) who have or haven't experienced pregnancy.

Phil Harding  
paharding7@aol.com

---

Date: Mon, 8 Jul 2002 16:08:12 -0700  
From: Jim Lemert <jlemert@ballmer.uoregon.edu>  
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Change Status  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)  
Content-Type: text/plain

Please change my settings to receive only the online digest. Thank you.  
Dr. James Lemert

---

Date: Mon, 08 Jul 2002 23:12:32 -0400  
To: kristi.hagen@NAU.EDU, aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
Subject: Re: response rates for social network survey  
In-Reply-To: <4.3.2.7.2.20020708122613.00b5eb90@jan.ucc.nau.edu>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

It is not reasonable to compare response rates for surveys conducted with different sample design methods, especially if some of the surveys have non-probability selection at one or more stages of the sample selection. If you are going to go through with this exercise you should get the sample

design for each survey along with the response rates. Then you might only want to compare surveys with comparable methods.  
warren mitofsky

At 12:30 PM 7/8/02 -0700, Kristi Hagen wrote:

>I am sending this in for a colleague. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

>

>I need any references that establish what the best empirical response rates are for a special type of survey. The survey is being sent to individuals within a corporation, and to individuals who are working in collaborative laboratories that are linked to the corporation. The survey is basically a social network survey, with a set of demographic and relational questions. I would appreciate any citations that would indicate what poor, good, and excellent response rates are for similar types of surveys (ones done in a corporation, social network surveys, etc., university surveys).

>

> Please respond directly to me. Thanks very much!

>

>~~~~~

>Kristi Kay Hagen, MA, MA  
>Research Operations Manager  
>Social Research Laboratory,  
>Northern Arizona University  
>PO Box 15301, Flagstaff AZ 86011-5301  
>PH: 928-523-1515  
>Fax:928-523-6654

Warren J. Mitofsky  
140 Riverside Drive, Apt 18N  
New York, NY 10024

212 496-2945  
212 496-0846 FAX

email: mitofsky@mindspring.com <http://www.mitofskyinternational.com>

---

Date: Tue, 9 Jul 2002 08:43:22 -0500  
From: "Hogan, Sean" <Hogan.Sean@uis.edu>  
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: digest  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Please change my settings to receive only the online digest. Thank you--Sean Hogan.

Sean O. Hogan, Ph.D.



Assistant Director  
Survey Research Office  
Institute for Public Affairs  
University of Illinois at Springfield  
P.O. Box 19243  
Springfield, IL 62794  
217/206-6591  
hogan.sean@uis.edu  
sro.uis.edu

---

Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 10:26:58 -0400  
Message-ID:  
<2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96038D7F@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
From: "Howard Fienberg" <HFienberg@stats.org>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6AETLD15897

Scam artists using "Do Not Call List" ruse. The FTC has warned consumers about calls from persons who pretend to be calling on behalf of a "Do Not Call" registry and asks for personal information, such as their Social Security, bank account, credit card, or telephone calling card number, supposedly to verify that you are on the "Do Not Call" list. The personal information is then used to run up debts in the victim's name or otherwise steal the victim's identity. The agency advises that once a consumer signs up with a state's actual "Do Not Call" registry, there is no need to confirm personal information. [Scam artists use do not call registry to commit fraud. FTC news release, June 25, 2002]  
<http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2002/06/donotcallscam.htm>

---

Howard Fienberg  
Senior Analyst  
The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)  
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20037  
(ph) 202-223-3193  
(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) hfienberg@stats.org  
<http://www.stats.org>

---

Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 10:51:07 -0400  
From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@artsci.com>  
Subject: Income level  
To: "Aapornet (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>

Message-id: <001301c22821\$39a76a20\$0d0a010a@leo>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
X-MIMEOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook CWS, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT  
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)  
X-MSMail-priority: Normal

I hope someone can help me.

I have searched the census site and have found lots of info on the top quintile (starts at \$81,900) and even the top 5% (\$145,500) but I need to cut it a little finer: I am looking to find out the income level that defines the lowest range of the top 1% of households in the US.

--

Leo G. Simonetta  
Art & Science Group, LLC  
simonetta@artsci.com

=====  
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 11:09:18 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Melissa Bradley <mbradley@rand.org>  
Subject: Position Open: Manager of Survey Operations (RAND/Santa Monica, CA)  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii" ; format="flowed"  
X-BigFish: v

Location: RAND, Santa Monica, CA

Position Open: Manager of Survey Operations (Santa Monica, CA/exempt)

Summary: The Manager of Survey Operations will work collaboratively with other members of a management team to oversee data collection operations that support a range of social research projects. Primary responsibilities will include project forecasting, working with internal and external clients to plan and staff data collection projects, assistance with project budgeting, training and oversight of survey operations supervisors and junior managers, insuring the implementation of data safeguarding and quality control procedures. Additional responsibilities include routine review and updating of training protocols for data collection staff and survey processing staff, conducting annual performance appraisals of survey operations staff, and routine review of current and future operations space needs.

Education: Minimum BA/BS.

Experience and Qualifications: Job candidates must have three to five years of experience as a supervisor or manager of data collection operations across multiple modes of data collection (mail surveys, telephone surveys, in-person interviews). The position requires experience with at least one computer-assisted interview application. Job candidates

must have familiarity with Microsoft Access, and be an advanced user of Microsoft office.

Job candidates must demonstrate experience working across multiple projects and tasks, must demonstrate experience in recruitment and training of data collection staff, and should possess a minimum two years' experience budgeting or monitoring cost and performance.

For additional information, contact: Julie Brown, Director RAND Survey Research Group 310-393-0411, ext. 6212 or Email to [Julie\\_Brown@rand.org](mailto:Julie_Brown@rand.org).

```
=====  
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 13:26:04 -0400  
From: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>  
To: <simonetta@artsci.com>, "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Re: Income level  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Priority: 3  
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.3110.1  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3
```

Try the federal income tax-related advocacy groups that study the X percent of the returns (households, generally) that pay Y percent of the taxes. For example, something like the top 1 or 2 percent of households pay 20 or 30 (whatever) percent of all funds collected from individual returns. They should have tables with the articulation you need. (Of course the base would be households filing, not total households, but you would still have the actual numbers.)

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.  
Voice (610) 408-8800  
Fax (610) 408-8802  
[jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com](mailto:jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@artsci.com>  
To: Aapornet (E-mail) <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2002 12:44 PM  
Subject: Income level

I hope someone can help me.

I have searched the census site and have found lots of info on the top quintile (starts at \$81,900) and even the top 5% (\$145,500) but I need to cut it a little finer: I am looking to find out the income level that defines the lowest range of the top 1% of households in the US.

--

Leo G. Simonetta  
Art & Science Group, LLC  
[simonetta@artsci.com](mailto:simonetta@artsci.com)

=====  
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 14:26:45 -0400  
From: "Butterworth, Michael" <MXB@cbsnews.com>  
To: "'jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com'" <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>, simonetta@artsci.com,  
AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: RE: Income level  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

IRS data is based on returns, not households, families or individuals (at least, this was true many years ago when I used their data). One problem is that many low income people are not required to file returns. Another is that Census and IRS definitions of income differ. One strategy would be to use census data to define the income cut-off for the top 5%, then look for the 20th percentile of all IRS returns above that income. By narrowing consideration to only high income returns, you are dealing with a somewhat more homogeneous population. But I think you will need some model of income distributions, if only to interpolate the available data.

The public use microsample data is more direct, but it's not available for 2000. Look at [www.ipums.umn.edu](http://www.ipums.umn.edu). You might want to use your combined census/IRS method (or maybe IRS alone) for 1990, and compare it to the 1990 public use sample; if they agree, you could have some confidence in the census/IRS method for 2000.

-----Original Message-----

From: James P. Murphy [mailto:jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2002 1:26 PM  
To: simonetta@artsci.com; AAPORNET  
Subject: Re: Income level

Try the federal income tax-related advocacy groups that study the X percent of the returns (households, generally) that pay Y percent of the taxes. For example, something like the top 1 or 2 percent of households pay 20 or 30 (whatever) percent of all funds collected from individual returns. They should have tables with the articulation you need. (Of course the base would be households filing, not total households, but you would still have the actual numbers.)

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.  
Voice (610) 408-8800  
Fax (610) 408-8802  
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@artsci.com>  
To: Aapornet (E-mail) <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2002 12:44 PM  
Subject: Income level

I hope someone can help me.

I have searched the census site and have found lots of info on the top quintile (starts at \$81,900) and even the top 5% (\$145,500) but I need to cut it a little finer: I am looking to find out the income level that defines the lowest range of the top 1% of households in the US.

--

Leo G. Simonetta  
Art & Science Group, LLC  
simonetta@artsci.com

=====  
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 14:37:30 -0400  
From: "Andy White" <awhite@nas.edu>  
To: "Andy White" <awhite@nas.edu>  
Message-ID: <85256BF2.0066490E.15@smtpmta.nas.edu>  
Subject: Announcement for Sept. Public Domain Symposium  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: multipart/mixed;  
Boundary="0\_\_=1k0aOkPnTrOkof089Narg1RMV6H3I32CZ9UxSVZX5nki19moNFaMd911"  
Content-Disposition: inline

--0\_\_=1k0aOkPnTrOkof089Narg1RMV6H3I32CZ9UxSVZX5nki19moNFaMd911  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Although the Committee on National Statistics is not directly involved with producing this symposium, I want to bring it to your attention. Please excuse multiple copies.

+++++

The SYMPOSIUM ON THE ROLE OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL DATA AND INFORMATION IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN will be held 5-6 September 2002, at the National Academy of Sciences Auditorium, 2100 C Street NW, in Washington, DC. The Symposium will bring together leading experts and managers from the public and private sectors who are involved in the creation, dissemination, and use of STI to discuss: the role, value, and limits of public-domain STI in the research and education context; the various legal, economic, and technological pressures on producers of public domain STI, and their potential effects on research and education; the existing and proposed approaches for preserving the public domain or providing "open access" to STI in the United States; and other important issues in this area that may benefit from further analysis. The meeting will be free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For additional information and registration, please visit the Symposium web site at:  
<http://www7.nationalacademies.org/biso/Public%20Domain%20Symposium%20Announcement.html>  
or contact the project director, Paul Uhler, tel. (202) 334 2807; e-mail: [puhler@nas.edu](mailto:puhler@nas.edu).

(See attached file: Public Domain Symposium info.doc)

Regards,

Andy

Andrew A. White  
Director  
Committee on National Statistics  
The National Academies  
500 Fifth Street, N.W., Rm. 1056  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
202-334-3096  
202-334-3751 fax  
awhite@nas.edu  
www.national-academies.edu/CNSTAT

-----

--0\_\_=lk0aOkPnTrOkof089Narg1RMV6H3I32CZ9UxSVZX5nki19moNFaMd911  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*  
\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

--0\_\_=lk0aOkPnTrOkof089Narg1RMV6H3I32CZ9UxSVZX5nki19moNFaMd911--

=====  
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 15:23:22 -0400  
From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@artsci.com>  
Subject: Many thanks  
To: "Aapornet (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <002d01c22847\$42a20a60\$0d0a010a@leo>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
X-MIMEOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook CWS, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT  
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)  
X-MSMail-priority: Normal

As I expected combined knowledge of AAPOR was able to answer my question.

Thanks to all of those who responded either via AAPORnet or via email.

--  
Leo G. Simonetta  
Art & Science Group, LLC  
simonetta@artsci.com

=====  
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 16:40:19 -0700

From: Jeanne Anderson Research <ande271@attglobal.net>  
Reply-To: ande271@attglobal.net  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 [en]C-CCK-MCD {TLC;RETAIL} (Win95; U)  
X-Accept-Language: en  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: simonetta@artsci.com  
CC: "Aapornet (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Re: Income level  
References: <001301c22821\$39a76a20\$0d0a010a@leo>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Have you called the Census Bureau? They probably have a tab. Your regional Census Bureau office may not have that tab, . but the DC office should know whether the lower limit of the top 1% can be found anywhere.

Leo Simonetta wrote:

> I hope someone can help me.  
>  
> I have searched the census site and have found lots of info on the top  
> quintile (starts at \$81,900) and even the top 5% (\$145,500) but I need  
> to cut it a little finer: I am looking to find out the income level  
> that defines the lowest range of the top 1% of households in the US.  
>  
> --  
> Leo G. Simonetta  
> Art & Science Group, LLC  
> simonetta@artsci.com

=====  
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 2002 22:10:35 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: dick halpern <dhalpern@bellsouth.net>  
Subject: American Religious Attitudes  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Interesting study on how American religious attitudes.....

Truth Is Relative, Say Americans

In two national surveys conducted by Barna Research, one among adults and one among teenagers, people were asked if they believe that there are moral absolutes that are unchanging or that moral truth is relative to the circumstances. By a 3-to-1 margin (64% vs. 22%) adults said truth is always relative to the person and their situation. The perspective was even more lopsided among teenagers, 83% of whom said moral truth depends on the circumstances, and only 6% of whom said moral truth is absolute.

For the rest of the study see:

<http://www.barna.org/cgi-bin/PagePressRelease.asp?PressReleaseID=106&Reference=B>

=====  
Date: Thu, 11 Jul 2002 11:46:39 -0500  
From: sfrank@stcloudstate.edu  
Subject: computer bartender  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>, <mkasim@sccd.ctc.edu>, <mkasim@sccd.ctc.edu>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=\_NextPart\_001\_01C228FA.86FB6036  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

for Kelila

o, you've finally planned your extravagant cocktail party, complete with =  
dress code and hors d'oeuvres. Don't mess it up by handing your guests a =  
beer. Impress them with your knowledge of more than 250 classic drinks =  
and nonalcoholic mixtures (1000 recipes in the registered version). You =  
can also add your own recipes to the database. Search for a particular =  
mix by liquor, other ingredients, type of drink, glassware, season, or =  
temperature.=20 If you can't (or don't want to) keep your computer handy  
during your = party, you can print the recipes onto full sheets or index  
cards. You = also get handy charts of bottle sizes, bar measurements, and  
metric = conversions. May you and your guests never thirst.=20 Version: 2.3  
Price: \$20 Download Professional Bartender now at:  
<[http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file\\_description/0,fid,8162,tk,hsx,00.a=](http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,8162,tk,hsx,00.a=sp)  
sp>=20

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=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D

Dr. Steve Frank, Department of Political Science-Professor & Chair St.  
Cloud State University St. Cloud, MN. 56301=20 FAX (320)-654-5422 VOICE  
(320)-255-4131 =20 email : sfsurvey@stcloudstate.edu Homepage:  
<http://web.stcloudstate.edu/sfrank> Prelaw Homepage:  
<http://web.stcloudstate.edu/prelaw> SCSU Survey Homepage:  
<http://web.stcloudstate.edu/scsusurvey>=20

-----  
So what this Jefferson dude was saying is: We left this England place =  
because it was bogus.=20 If we don't get us some cool rules pronto, we'll  
just be bogus too.=20 Jeff Spicoli Fast Times At Ridgemont High

-----=\_NextPart\_001\_01C228FA.86FB6036  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*



\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

-----=\_NextPart\_001\_01C228FA.86FB6036--

=====  
Date: Thu, 11 Jul 2002 12:11:19 -0500  
From: sfrank@stcloudstate.edu  
Subject: stupid posting  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>

I sure hope my private message to one of my Seattle sisters did not get =  
posted to the list. If it did I am sorry. One of my nieces has a summer =  
bartending job in Seattle and the post dealt with a computer program on =  
bartending. How the aapor email address got to the list is still beyond =  
me.=20

sorry

Dr. Steve Frank, Department of Political Science-Professor & Chair St.  
Cloud State University St. Cloud, MN. 56301=20 FAX (320)-654-5422 VOICE  
(320)-255-4131 =20 email : sfsurvey@stcloudstate.edu Homepage:  
<http://web.stcloudstate.edu/sfrank> Prelaw Homepage:  
<http://web.stcloudstate.edu/prelaw> SCSU Survey Homepage:  
<http://web.stcloudstate.edu/scsusurvey>=20

-----  
So what this Jefferson dude was saying is: We left this England place =  
because it was bogus.=20 If we don't get us some cool rules pronto, we'll  
just be bogus too.=20 Jeff Spicoli Fast Times At Ridgemont High

=====  
Date: Fri, 12 Jul 2002 10:20:31 -0400  
Message-ID:  
<2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96049FDB@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
From: "Howard Fienberg" <HFienberg@stats.org>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6CEMND18960

White House Aims to Expand Data Sharing Among Agencies

July 11, 2002 -- DOW JONES NEWSWIRES

WASHINGTON -- The White House launched an effort to allow statistical agencies to share economic data. The plan would allow the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Census Bureau to share data from the surveys they conduct. Current law restricts sharing of raw data. Congress would have to pass legislation before the plan could be implemented. "Data sharing would allow these agencies to resolve existing and growing anomalies that raise questions about the accuracy of economic statistics," said the Council of Economic Advisers. The plan could also save money, according to Randall Kroszner, a member of the Council of Economic Advisers. A number of economists have in recent years worried that insufficient spending by the government on its statistical agencies was compromising the quality of their output. Mr. Kroszner said the proposal

would help to address those concerns by saving money through streamlining the data-collection process. "There's strong interest on the Hill" in the bill, Mr. Kroszner said. "I'm hopeful we'll get it through this year." URL: <<http://online.wsj.com/article/0,,SB1026432544484820040.djm,00.html> >

-----  
Howard Fienberg  
Senior Analyst  
The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)  
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20037  
(ph) 202-223-3193  
(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) [hfienberg@stats.org](mailto:hfienberg@stats.org)  
<http://www.stats.org>

=====  
Date: Fri, 12 Jul 2002 11:04:19 -0400  
Message-ID:  
<2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96038DC8@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
From: "Howard Fienberg" <[HFienberg@stats.org](mailto:HFienberg@stats.org)>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <[aapornet@usc.edu](mailto:aapornet@usc.edu)>  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6CF66D22584

Anyone know of survey data on whether or not airplane pilots should be armed?

In it's absence, we're left to rely on the grey old lady's anecdote compilations...

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/12/national/12PILO.html>  
"In nearly four dozen interviews in seven major airports, opponents of the idea outnumbered supporters by a ratio of roughly 3 to 2, and expressed deep concern about the consequences of using a gun on an airplane. ... The idea that pilots might also take on crucial security duties struck some travelers today as an extreme response, perhaps foolhardy."

-----  
Howard Fienberg  
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The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)  
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20037  
(ph) 202-223-3193  
(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) [hfienberg@stats.org](mailto:hfienberg@stats.org)  
<http://www.stats.org>

=====  
Date: Fri, 12 Jul 2002 12:44:52 -0400  
Message-ID:  
<2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96038DD0@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
From: "Howard Fienberg" <HFienberg@stats.org>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6CGkdd29379

"Nonrespondents and Nonresponse Bias: Evidence from a Survey of Former Welfare Recipients in Iowa." Jacqueline Kauff, Robert Olsen, and Thomas Fraker, June 2002. Examines whether differences between respondents and nonrespondents in a survey of Iowa families that left TANF resulted in findings that overstated the economic well-being of these families. Finds that nonrespondents were less likely to have health insurance and more likely to have housing-related problems than respondents. Concludes that the nonresponse bias was small despite differences between respondents and nonrespondents, and that findings from the study would not have been much different if the response rate (76%) had been considerably higher.  
[www.mathematica-mpr.com/PDFs/redirect.asp?strSite=nonresponse.pdf](http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/PDFs/redirect.asp?strSite=nonresponse.pdf)

ORDERING COPIES: Contact Publications, 609-275-2350,  
[jallen@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:jallen@mathematica-mpr.com).

-----  
Howard Fienberg  
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The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)  
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20037  
(ph) 202-223-3193  
(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) [hfienberg@stats.org](mailto:hfienberg@stats.org)  
<http://www.stats.org>

=====  
Date: Mon, 15 Jul 2002 07:06:04 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <[beniger@almaak.usc.edu](mailto:beniger@almaak.usc.edu)>  
Subject: Open recruitment for the NCHS/Academy fellowship (fwd)  
To: AAPORNET <[aapornet@usc.edu](mailto:aapornet@usc.edu)>  
Message-id: <[Pine.GSO.4.33.0207150704250.13635-100000@almaak.usc.edu](mailto:Pine.GSO.4.33.0207150704250.13635-100000@almaak.usc.edu)>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Mon, 15 Jul 2002 08:33:46 -0400

Subject: Open recruitment for the NCHS/Academy fellowship

> NCHS/ACADEMY HEALTH POLICY FELLOWSHIP: 2003 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS  
> Application Deadline: January 10, 2003 Fellowship Commencement:  
> September, 2003  
>  
> The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for  
> Health Statistics (NCHS) and the Academy for Health Services Research  
> and Health Policy are seeking applicants for the second cycle of the  
> NCHS/Academy Health Policy Fellowship. This program brings visiting  
> scholars in health services research related disciplines to NCHS to  
> collaborate on studies of interest to policymakers and the health  
> services research community using NCHS data systems.  
>  
> For more information regarding the Fellowship and a copy of the Call  
> for Applications, which describes the application requirements, visit  
> <http://www.academyhealth.org/nchs/index.htm> or email the Academy at  
> [nchs@ahsrhp.org](mailto:nchs@ahsrhp.org).  
>  
>  
>  
> Thanks  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> Irma E. Arispe, Ph.D.  
> Associate Director for Science  
> Division of Health Care Statistics  
> National Center for Health Statistics  
> 6525 Belcrest Rd., Room 970  
> Hyattsville, Md. 20782  
> 301 458-4076  
> 301 458-4032 fax

=====  
Date: Mon, 15 Jul 2002 11:18:13 -0400

To: [aapornet@usc.edu](mailto:aapornet@usc.edu)

From: dick halpern <[dhalpern@bellsouth.net](mailto:dhalpern@bellsouth.net)>

Subject: Ethics are made easy when anything goes - Zogby poll

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;

boundary="=====\_3502942==.ALT"

-----=\_3502942==.ALT

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"; format=flowed

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Something to ponder about....

Ethics are made easy when anything goes

John Leo ([townhall.com](http://townhall.com))

July 15, 2002

A Zogby International poll of college seniors came up with a fascinating finding. Almost all of the 401 randomly selected students around the country -- 97 percent -- said their college studies had prepared them to behave ethically in their future work lives. So far so good. But 73 percent of the students said that when their professors taught about ethical issues, the usual message was that uniform standards of right and wrong don't exist ("What is right and wrong depends on differences in individual values and cultural diversity").

It's not news that today's campuses are drenched in moral relativism. But we are allowed to be surprised that college students report they are being well-prepared ethically by teachers who tell them, in effect, that there are no real ethical standards, so anything goes.

Stephen Balch of the National Association of Scholars (NAS), which commissioned the survey, says the results show the dominance on campuses of postmodern thought, including the belief that objective standards are a sham perpetrated by the powerful to serve their own interests.

Because of cost constraints, the survey did not ask what the students think of their no-standards professors. Chances are, though, that a large percentage of students would score high on moral relativism, too, given the atmosphere at colleges today.

Several years ago, a college professor in upstate New York reported that 10 percent to 20 percent of his students could not bring themselves to criticize the Nazi extermination of Europe's Jews. Some students expressed personal distaste for what the Nazis did. But they were not willing to say that the Nazis were wrong, since no culture can be judged from the outside and no individual can challenge the moral worldview of another.

College students are rarely taught this directly, but they absorb it as part of the multiculturally tolerant, non-judgmental campus culture. Deferring to the moral compass of mass murderers is a drastic step, even for collegians steeped in moral relativism. But many were willing to do so at a non-elite campus years ago, and since postmodernism is far stronger today in the schools, presumably more would be willing now.

Postmodernists see individuals as products of a specific culture who must guard against the temptation to inflate their own norms into universal standards and dress up their own interests as objectivity. To claim knowledge as universal truth is impossible. There is no truth, just narratives and stories that "work" for particular communities. This belief has turned the study of history on campus into politically empowering, feel-good exercises and provided intellectual justification for the politicization of all studies on campus.

Since "truth" is an act of community empowerment, truth is whatever the tribe or the individual says it is. This is why debate and argument have disappeared from the modern campus -- to criticize anyone's ideas is a personal assault, like attacking someone for liking chocolate ice cream. This notion that disagreement is an assault helps explain the venomous treatment of dissenters on campus -- canceled speakers, stolen newspapers, ripped-down posters, implausible hate-speech violations, and many other hallmarks of the modern campus.

If all beliefs are equally valid, there is nothing to debate about. Nothing separates a personal "truth" from self-delusion. Cultures can't be criticized for what most of us consider horrendous acts, like the recent gang-rape in Pakistan of an 18-year-old girl as punishment for her brother's flirting with a woman of high status. Journalist Andrew Sullivan saw an opening to taunt postmodern guru Stanley Fish about this case. Is Fish willing to come out against gang-rape as punishment? Yes, he told me; he doesn't believe that any culture is above criticism.

Postmodernists are not consistent about their dogma that other cultures are not to be criticized. Particularly on issues of race and gender, postmodernists can be as judgmental as everyone else, particularly when discussions turn to genital mutilation, the jailing or execution of homosexuals, or the Taliban practice of beating women on the street. Similarly, the deeply held belief that all cultures are valid on their own terms is rarely applied to the United States. Perhaps inevitably, however, we have heard a lot of postmodern defenses of the validity of terrorist attacks on the West.

Do parents know what they are paying for when they ship their sons and daughters off to Postmodern U.? Probably not. But the notion that truth is simply a personal preference is often part of what they are buying.

NAS said this of its poll: If students leave college convinced that ethical standards are simply a matter of individual choice, they are less likely to be reliably ethical in their subsequent careers. This seems like understatement. The nation is currently outraged about the moral shenanigans of the tycoon class, but it's hard to see how things will improve if we teach the next generation that standards don't exist and moral debate is a personal violation and a sham.

<mailto:webmaster@uexpress.com?subject=3DTo John Leo>Contact John Leo | <http://www.townhall.com/columnists/BIOS/cbleo.htm>Read his biography

=A92002 Universal Press Syndicate

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Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*

\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

-----\_3502942==.ALT--

=====  
Date: Tue, 16 Jul 2002 09:42:07 -0400  
From: "Richard M. Perloff" <r.perloff@csuohio.edu>  
Subject: Re: Ethics are made easy when anything goes - Zogby poll  
In-reply-to: <5.1.1.5.2.20020715111507.023999c0@pop3.norton.antivirus>  
X-Sender: r.perloff@popmail.csuohio.edu (Unverified)  
To: dhalpern@bellsouth.net, aapornet@usc.edu  
Message-id: <3.0.3.32.20020716094207.0087d4cc@popmail.csuohio.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Light Version 3.0.3 (32)  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6GDYxD26683

Dick makes a valuable point. Still, even for those of us who don't like postmodernism or believe that guru Stanley F. is more foul than Fish, there may be something extreme in the report of "Postmodern U." After all, the notion that right or wrong depends on culture goes back to the situationism of Joseph Fletcher. There is also a good side in telling students that ethics hinge on cultural values, as this builds tolerance and understanding among students who too often know only their own points of view. Still, Dick Halpern's points are helpful correctives.

-- Rick Perloff

At 11:18 AM 7/15/2002 -0400, dick halpern wrote:  
>Something to ponder about....  
>  
>Ethics are made easy when anything goes  
>John Leo (townhall.com)  
>  
>July 15, 2002  
>  
>A Zogby International poll of college seniors came up with a  
>fascinating  
>finding. Almost all of the 401 randomly selected students around the  
>country -- 97 percent -- said their college studies had prepared them to  
>behave ethically in their future work lives. So far so good. But 73 percent  
>of the students said that when their professors taught about ethical  
>issues, the usual message was that uniform standards of right and wrong  
>don't exist ("What is right and wrong depends on differences in individual  
>values and cultural diversity").  
>  
>It's not news that today's campuses are drenched in moral relativism.  
>But  
>we are allowed to be surprised that college students report they are being  
>well-prepared ethically by teachers who tell them, in effect, that there  
>are no real ethical standards, so anything goes.

>  
>Stephen Balch of the National Association of Scholars (NAS), which  
>commissioned the survey, says the results show the dominance on campuses of  
>postmodern thought, including the belief that objective standards are a  
>sham perpetrated by the powerful to serve their own interests.  
>  
>Because of cost constraints, the survey did not ask what the students  
>think  
>of their no-standards professors. Chances are, though, that a large  
>percentage of students would score high on moral relativism, too, given the  
>atmosphere at colleges today.  
>  
>Several years ago, a college professor in upstate New York reported  
>that 10  
>percent to 20 percent of his students could not bring themselves to  
>criticize the Nazi extermination of Europe's Jews. Some students expressed  
>personal distaste for what the Nazis did. But they were not willing to say  
>that the Nazis were wrong, since no culture can be judged from the outside  
>and no individual can challenge the moral worldview of another.  
>  
>College students are rarely taught this directly, but they absorb it as  
>part of the multiculturally tolerant, non-judgmental campus culture.  
>Deferring to the moral compass of mass murderers is a drastic step, even  
>for collegians steeped in moral relativism. But many were willing to do so  
>at a non-elite campus years ago, and since postmodernism is far stronger  
>today in the schools, presumably more would be willing now.  
>  
>Postmodernists see individuals as products of a specific culture who  
>must  
>guard against the temptation to inflate their own norms into universal  
>standards and dress up their own interests as objectivity. To claim  
>knowledge as universal truth is impossible. There is no truth, just  
>narratives and stories that "work" for particular communities. This belief  
>has turned the study of history on campus into politically empowering,  
>feel-good exercises and provided intellectual justification for the  
>politicization of all studies on campus.  
>  
>Since "truth" is an act of community empowerment, truth is whatever the  
>tribe or the individual says it is. This is why debate and argument have  
>disappeared from the modern campus -- to criticize anyone's ideas is a  
>personal assault, like attacking someone for liking chocolate ice cream.  
>This notion that disagreement is an assault helps explain the venomous  
>treatment of dissenters on campus -- canceled speakers, stolen newspapers,  
>ripped-down posters, implausible hate-speech violations, and many other  
>hallmarks of the modern campus.  
>  
>If all beliefs are equally valid, there is nothing to debate about.  
>Nothing  
>separates a personal "truth" from self-delusion. Cultures can't be  
>criticized for what most of us consider horrendous acts, like the recent  
>gang-rape in Pakistan of an 18-year-old girl as punishment for her  
>brother's flirting with a woman of high status. Journalist Andrew Sullivan  
>saw an opening to taunt postmodern guru Stanley Fish about this case. Is  
>Fish willing to come out against gang-rape as punishment? Yes, he told me;  
>he doesn't believe that any culture is above criticism.  
>  
>Postmodernists are not consistent about their dogma that other cultures



>are  
>not to be criticized. Particularly on issues of race and gender,  
>postmodernists can be as judgmental as everyone else, particularly when  
>discussions turn to genital mutilation, the jailing or execution of  
>homosexuals, or the Taliban practice of beating women on the street.  
>Similarly, the deeply held belief that all cultures are valid on their own  
>terms is rarely applied to the United States. Perhaps inevitably, however,  
>we have heard a lot of postmodern defenses of the validity of terrorist  
>attacks on the West.  
>  
>Do parents know what they are paying for when they ship their sons and  
>daughters off to Postmodern U.? Probably not. But the notion that truth is  
>simply a personal preference is often part of what they are buying.  
>  
>NAS said this of its poll: If students leave college convinced that  
>ethical  
>standards are simply a matter of individual choice, they are less likely to  
>be reliably ethical in their subsequent careers. This seems like  
>understatement. The nation is currently outraged about the moral  
>shenanigans of the tycoon class, but it's hard to see how things will  
>improve if we teach the next generation that standards don't exist and  
>moral debate is a personal violation and a sham.  
>  
><[mailto:webmaster@uexpress.com?subject=To John Leo](mailto:webmaster@uexpress.com?subject=To%20John%20Leo)>Contact John Leo |  
><<http://www.townhall.com/columnists/BIOS/cbleo.htm>>Read his biography  
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>/news>NEWS | <<http://www.townhall.com/columnists/johnleo/printj120020715.shtml>  
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>/chat/>CHAT |  
><<http://www.townhall.com/columnists/johnleo/printj120020715.shtml>  
>/whatsnew/>WHAT'S NEW  
>

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Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2002 14:03:36 GMT  
From: skull@pipa.org  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: trust in corporations  
X-Posting-IP: 206.66.32.176  
X-Mailer: Endymion MailMan Standard Edition v3.2.9

ABC News has released findings showing that there is a sharp discrepancy between their trust in corporate executives and corporate financial reports in general and their own employer's executives and financial reports.

Distrust

Trust

|                                       |     |    |
|---------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Corporate executives                  | 11% | 88 |
| Your own employer's executives        | 63  | 35 |
| Corporate financial reports           | 16  | 82 |
| Your own employer's financial reports | 73  | 25 |

This often elicits a chortle, implying that, because this a nationwide sample, the public must be misperceiving (just as they have said this kind of thing on crime, schools etc.). This is not necessarily the case. The question about trust in corporations is not a question about a randomly chosen corporation but of corporations in general. Thus the question is, what percentage of corporations would need to be perceived as untrustworthy for corporations to be generally rated as untrustworthy. If just 11-16% of corporations are perceived as untrustworthy (the percentage who say this about their own employer) , it would not be surprising that the majority would not feel like saying that they trust corporations. Would you say you trust a surgeon for whom 11-16% of his patients die?

This same dynamic applies to the proverbial disjunction about perceptions of schools and crime. If, say 80% of the public says that schools and crime are fine in their area, but they perceive that 20% of the country has bad schools and excessive crime, it is not illogical for them to say that there is a problem in the country as a whole.

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This message was sent from webmail.his.com.  
<http://www.his.com/>

=====  
Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2002 14:13:16 GMT  
From: "Steven Kull" <skull@pipa.org>  
Subject: trust in corporations  
X-Posting-IP: 206.66.32.176  
X-Mailer: Endymion MailMan Standard Edition v3.2.9

-----  
This message was sent from webmail.his.com.  
<http://www.his.com/>

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Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2002 09:17:32 -0500  
From: smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu  
To: <skull@pipa.org>, <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Re: No subject given  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
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For some more on the local vs. national distinction see

"Why Our Neck of the Woods Is Better than the Forrest," Public Perspective, 9 (June/July, 1998), 50-53.

---

Reply Separator

---

Subject: No subject given  
Author: <skull@pipa.org> at INTERNET  
Date: 7/17/02 2:03 PM

ABC News has released findings showing that there is a sharp discrepancy between their trust in corporate executives and corporate financial reports in general and their own employer's executives and financial reports.

|                                       |     | Trust |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|
| Distrust                              |     |       |
| Corporate executives                  | 11% | 88    |
| Your own employer's executives        | 63  | 35    |
| Corporate financial reports           | 16  | 82    |
| Your own employer's financial reports | 73  | 25    |

This often elicits a chortle, implying that, because this a nationwide sample, the public must be misperceiving (just as they have said this kind of thing on crime, schools etc.). This is not necessarily the case. The question about trust in corporations is not a question about a randomly chosen corporation but of corporations in general. Thus the question is, what percentage of corporations would need to be perceived as untrustworthy for corporations to be generally rated as untrustworthy. If just 11-16% of corporations are perceived as untrustworthy (the percentage who say this about their own employer) , it would not be surprising that the majority would not feel like saying that they trust corporations. Would you say you trust a surgeon for whom 11-16% of his patients die?

This same dynamic applies to the proverbial disjunction about perceptions of schools and crime. If, say 80% of the public says that schools and crime are fine in their area, but they perceive that 20% of the country has bad schools and excessive crime, it is not illogical for them to say that there is a problem in the country as a whole.

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This message was sent from webmail.his.com.  
<http://www.his.com/>

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Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2002 10:37:20 -0400

Message-ID:

<2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96038E3F@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>

X-MS-Has-Attach:

X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:

From: "Howard Fienberg" <HFienberg@stats.org>

To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6HEdID13428

The Sioux Falls Argus Leader

<<http://www.argusleader.com/news/Wednesdayarticle1.shtml>> /Gannett (7/17, Raasch) reports, "Though nicked by financial worries that have hit the United States in recent weeks, President Bush still remains a formidable candidate against likely Democratic challengers in 2004, even in their home states. Only Sens. Joe Lieberman and Chris Dodd in Connecticut and John Kerry in Massachusetts had advantages over Bush in their home states, according to nine state polls released Tuesday by the political Web site Hotline. ... Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle trailed Bush by 18 percentage points in his home state of South Dakota, and Al Gore had a 16-point deficit in Tennessee, according to Hotline polls taken in late June and early July. ... But Bush's lead was so large in some states that it graphically showed the uphill road faced by potential Democratic challengers. Bush's approval rating was at 70 percent or more in most recent polls. But respondents have begun looking less favorably on his handling of the economy." Among the specific findings, the Argus-Leader reports: ABCNEWS.com's "The Note"

<<http://abcnews.go.com/sections/politics/dailynews/thenote.html>> (7/16, Halperin, Wilner, Ambinder) reports that a poll "pitting Bush against each of the Democratic wannabes in the wannabes' home states" shows that only "two Democrats led Bush in hypothetical 2004 matchups." Sen. John Kerry "led Bush by 23 points in Massachusetts, and Senator Joe Lieberman led the President by three points in Connecticut. Not too surprising. Much more notable: Bush performed best in South Dakota -- better than in North Carolina, Georgia, or Tennessee." CBSNews.com's "Washington Wrap" <<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2002/02/26/politics/main502099.shtml>> (Lynch, Fulk, Kiker, Semeleer) reports, "Once again, Al Gore would lose Tennessee, right now by 16 points; far worse than the 51%-47% margin he lost by in 2000. Sen. John Edwards would lose North Carolina by 17 points, while House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt trails in Missouri by 14 points. The toughest home state sell would be Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle's. He's now running 18 points behind the President." The Washington Post <<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A12524-2002Jul16.html>> (7/17, A14, Broder) reports, "It has been a rough week on Wall Street, but President Bush might find comfort in a series of polls recently commissioned by the political newsletter Hotline. The surveys asked voters in the home states of 10 potential Democratic presidential candidates whom they preferred: Bush or their native son (or, in Connecticut, either of two native sons)." South Dakota. "In a survey taken July 9 and 10 of 400 South Dakotans, Bush led Daschle 56 percent to 38 percent. It's similar to the margin of 60 percent to 38 percent Bush ran up over Gore in the state in 2000." Tennessee. "Bush had a lead over Gore of 55 percent to 39 percent in a survey of 601 taken June 25-27. This was just as Gore was preparing to have fundraising and strategy sessions in New York and Tennessee." Connecticut. "Lieberman's 45 percent to 42 percent lead was within the

error margin in a survey of 600 taken June 28-July 2. Lieberman's advantage came from an 8 percentage point lead among independents." North Carolina. "A July 3-5 survey of 604 voters had Bush at 55 percent and Sen. John Edwards at 38 percent." Wisconsin. "At 38 percent, Sen. Russ Feingold trailed Bush, who got 52 percent, in a poll of 598 taken July 1-3." Vermont. "A poll conducted June 6-10 for the Rutland Herald and WCAX-TV showed Bush leading Gov. Howard Dean 45 percent to 40 percent." Missouri. "In a mock race with House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, Bush won 53 percent to 39 percent, according to a July 1-3 poll of 599." Georgia. "In a 600-person survey taken July 8-10, Bush led 54 percent to 37 percent over Gov. Roy Barnes. Bush led nearly 2-1 among white respondents, but Barnes won 82 percent to 4 percent among blacks." Massachusetts. "One of the most Democratic states gave its favorite son, Kerry, a convincing 58 percent to 35 percent lead over Bush in a poll taken July 8 and 9. Sample size: 498. ...Bush lost to Gore 60 percent to 33 percent in this state in 2000."

-----  
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(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) hfienberg@stats.org  
<http://www.stats.org>

=====  
Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2002 11:58:32 -0400  
Message-ID: <F078EEE4D799064E95F003CFD9B4C7FC01276CD6@UMBE2K1>  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
From: "Patricia Gallagher" <Patricia.Gallagher@umb.edu>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Cc: "Susan Hynek" <Susan.Hynek@umb.edu>  
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 17 Jul 2002 15:58:32.0574 (UTC) FILETIME=  
[CCEF99E0:01C22DAA]  
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X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6HFwZD17158

Hi,

One of our most valued telephone interviewers is moving to San Diego. If anyone in the area has use for a great guy who has proven abilities with RDD samples and REF conversion, please get in touch with Susan Hynek [CC'd] or me.

Thanks,

Trish

---

Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2002 10:00:42 -0700  
From: "Ellen Gordon" <gordon.e@ghc.org>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Assessing literacy  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-Disposition: inline  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6HH11D21616

Hi.

Does anyone have experience assessing literacy via a phone interview? We're going to be recruiting subjects for a study that involves reading print materials that will be sent to them in the mail. The possibilities we've come up with thus far are:

1. Asking respondents their education level and coding as eligible those with a minimum of an 8th grade education.
2. Mailing potential respondents (we working with lists) something in advance of the initial screening and have them read it to the interviewers over the phone. Two common literacy tests that would be easy to administer are the REALM and the WRAT.
3. Crafting a short paragraph at the 5-6th grade reading level to be included in the initial letter we send out. We would then ask respondents to read this paragraph to the interviewer. To make it seem less like a reading test, we'd craft this as part of a consent statement with a simple explanation that we'd like them to read it aloud to be sure they understand the study details. The disadvantage to this approach is that it is not validated like the REALM and WRAT.

Thanks very much.

Ellen

Ellen J. Gordon, Ph.D.  
Survey Research Program Director  
Center for Health Studies  
1730 Minor Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98101  
gordon.e@ghc.org  
(206) 442-4041

---

Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2002 14:50:37 -0400  
Subject: USA Today Snapshots poll  
From: "Howard Fienberg" <HFienberg@stats.org>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6HIqaD08259

Professor/Blogger Eugene Volokh hurls abuse at the USA Today "Snapshots" graphic, from Tuesday's front page:

<[http://volokh.blogspot.com/2002\\_07\\_14\\_volokh\\_archive.html#85254868](http://volokh.blogspot.com/2002_07_14_volokh_archive.html#85254868)>

-----  
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(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) hfienberg@stats.org  
<http://www.stats.org>

=====  
Date: Thu, 18 Jul 2002 11:05:23 -0400  
Subject: New Poll Watchers column at Washingtonpost.com  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: "Richard Morin" <morinr@washpost.com>  
Message-ID: <OFCC914B9C.97C15E5E-ON85256BFA.00524637@washpost.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

The latest Poll Watchers column is available at:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A24208-2002Jul18.html>

In this Poll Watchers:

- \*The Democrats' Nightmare Ticket
- \*The Link between Consumer Confidence and the Stock Market
- \*Budget Woes Mean Political Trouble for Governors
- \*POLL VAULT: The Most Sexist Question Ever Asked?

=====  
Date: Thu, 18 Jul 2002 17:29:54 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: dick halpern <dhalpern@bellsouth.net>  
Subject: Poll Finds Concerns That Bush Is Overly Influenced by Business  
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New York Times, July 18, 2002

## Poll Finds Concerns That Bush Is Overly Influenced by Business

By RICHARD W. STEVENSON and JANET ELDER

Americans worry that President Bush and his administration are too heavily influenced by big business, fear that Mr. Bush is hiding something about his own corporate past and judge the economy to be in its worst shape since 1994, the latest New York Times/CBS News Poll shows.

The survey suggests that the unfolding revelations about corporate misconduct and inflated earnings hold considerable peril for the White House and Mr. Bush's party in this Congressional election year. Not surprisingly, Democrats sounded particularly troubled about the administration's handling of the corporate issue, but even Republicans shared many of the concerns.

By more than two to one, the poll's respondents said the administration was more interested in protecting the interests of large companies than those of ordinary Americans. That concern was expressed by more than a third of Republicans and an overwhelming majority of Democrats.

Two-thirds of all respondents, and slightly more than half of Republicans, said business interests had too much influence on the Republican Party. Slightly less than half of all those polled said business exerted too much influence over the Democrats. Many Americans also expressed concerns that Mr. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney had not been sufficiently forthcoming about their own past business dealings.

With the stock market falling, concern about the economy intensifying and the United States facing the continued threat of terrorist attacks, the poll found a surge since the start of the year in the percentage of people who think the country is on the wrong track. It also found that Americans' trust in government, which climbed after Sept. 11, has slid significantly.

For all the reservations respondents expressed about the administration's commitment to looking out for them and about the business ethics of administration officials when they were in the private sector, Mr. Bush remains personally popular. His approval rating stands at 70 percent, continuing a steady decline from its peak of 89 percent after Sept. 11, but still impressive by any standard.

Asked whether Mr. Bush "cares about the needs and problems of people



like yourself," 68 percent responded yes.

The nationwide telephone poll of 1,000 adults was conducted Saturday through Tuesday. It has a sampling error of plus or minus three percentage points.

People who participated in the poll and agreed to follow-up interviews said that they often separated Mr. Bush's performance as commander in chief from his performance on domestic issues, and that they tended to give greater weight to the fight on terrorism in judging him.

"Bush is doing his job well in Afghanistan, but the economy is falling down around us," said Debbie Wilson, 40, an unemployed hairdresser from Elmira, N.Y.

"As far as big business's influence on the administration, it's hard to be sure of what is really going on," Ms. Wilson, a Democrat, said. "I watch the news about him and Cheney and the tycoons, and you don't know where you're at. The whole country seems to be too influenced by business, but there is not enough information given to the public."

Paula Pittman-Troisi, 40, of Birmingham, Ala., said she thought Mr. Bush had been a great leader in the fight against terrorism. But she had questions about the influence of campaign contributors and big business on government.

"Though the intertwining of raising campaign funds and big business worries me, it doesn't worry me enough to lose my faith in George Bush," said Ms. Pittman-Troisi, a part-time securities saleswoman who is an independent voter.

Still, among the survey's most striking findings were the responses concerning the past business practices of Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney. Though most of those polled said that they did not know much about the business dealings of the two, the respondents expressed skepticism about whether the president and vice president were being candid and open.

Asked whether Mr. Bush was telling the truth about his dealings at Harken Energy, an oil company where he was a director and consultant from 1986 to 1993, 48 percent of those surveyed said that they believed Mr. Bush was hiding something; another 9 percent said they thought he was mostly lying. Seventeen percent said they believed that Mr. Bush was telling the entire truth.

Yet when asked whether they thought Mr. Bush had acted honestly and ethically in his business practices while in the corporate world, 43 percent of the survey's respondents said yes, more than double than the 21 percent who said no.

Mr. Bush has maintained that all his actions at Harken were proper, and at a White House news conference yesterday he reiterated that a Securities and Exchange Commission investigation into his sale of Harken stock in 1990 ended with no action taken against him.

Mr. Cheney's role as chief executive of the Halliburton Company, the oil

services giant whose accounting practices during Mr. Cheney's tenure are being investigated by the S.E.C., drew similarly skeptical responses. Forty-three percent of those polled said they thought Mr. Cheney was hiding something, 10 percent said they thought he was mostly lying and 11 percent said they thought he was telling the entire truth.

Asked specifically whether they thought Mr. Cheney had done anything unethical while running Halliburton, 23 percent said yes and 32 percent said no.

Mr. Cheney has declined to comment on his involvement in Halliburton's accounting policies, citing the S.E.C. inquiry. Asked about Mr. Cheney yesterday, Mr. Bush defended him as a "fine business leader."

While questions about the corporate careers of Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney were most pronounced among Democrats and independents, Republicans also expressed concern. Thirty-nine percent of the Republicans polled said that Mr. Bush was hiding something; 37 percent said Mr. Cheney was doing so.

Ari Fleischer, Mr. Bush's spokesman, said the poll results were evidence "of a nation that continues to strongly approve of the job the president is doing and a nation that knows the president is honest and ethical and shares the nation's moral values."

Mr. Bush registered positive approval ratings for his handling of foreign policy. Also, 80 percent of those polled said that Mr. Bush shared the moral values most Americans try to live by.

At the same time, people remained split about whether Mr. Bush is really in charge of what goes on in his administration.

The corporate scandals and the questions about the honesty of corporate earnings reports are clearly touching the public. Sixty-two percent of those surveyed called the issues very serious, and another 29 percent said they were somewhat serious.

The poll also found that 43 percent of respondents did not think Mr. Bush's proposals for addressing the problems went far enough, but 36 percent said they were about right.

The poll found that 58 percent of all respondents and 38 percent of the Republicans said that business has too much influence on Mr. Bush himself. Two-thirds of all those surveyed, and slightly more than half the Republicans, said business has too much influence on the administration generally.

Few administrations have come to office with more corporate experience than Mr. Bush's. But with both politics and the economic outlook being recast by the volatility on Wall Street and the reports of malfeasance within corporations, business experience that had once been the highlight of the administration's résumé has increasingly given Democrats an opportunity to

portray Republicans as detached from the concerns of average people, the poll showed.

Those surveyed were divided over whether Mr. Bush was personally more interested in helping corporations than in helping ordinary people, but 58 percent said the Republican party was primarily interested in protecting big business. Slightly more than half the Republicans polled said that business interests had too much influence with their own party.

The poll found that big business is held in relatively low regard. More than a third said they have very little confidence in big business, and 71 percent said business does only a fair or poor job of making sure executives adhere to ethical and legal standards.

The survey's findings about the business scandals were mirrored by general declines in trust in government and in views about the economic outlook.

Asked to rate the state of the economy, 49 percent said very good or fairly good, while 49 percent said fairly bad or very bad. It was the most pessimistic assessment since early 1994, when the economic boom of the last decade was just getting under way.

Larry Shepler, 42, of Chesapeake, Va., a high school teacher, said in a follow-up interview that he thought Mr. Bush was doing a good job because the country was moving in the right direction, the economy had stabilized and the war on terrorism was going reasonably well.

Mr. Shepler, a Republican, said: "Though big business has always been too involved in the government because lobbyists for big business have always had too much influence and carry more weight than the average person, it is only coming out now because companies are in financial trouble and people are being made more aware of it."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/18/politics/18poll.html?pagewanted=print&position=top/ref/membercenter/help/copyright.html> Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

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*      This post contains a forbidden message format      *
*      (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) *
*      This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT      *
*      If your postings display this message your mail program *
*      is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *
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====\_7909148==.ALT--

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Date: Sat, 20 Jul 2002 18:30:28 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>  
Subject: `Martyrdom' Dreams Take Root Early in the West Bank (B Demick

LATimes)

To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>

Message-id: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207201822230.8694-100000@almaak.usc.edu>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Can anyone reading this give all the rest of us on AAPORNET more information on the two polls, and/or other polls of Palestinians on similar questions?

-- Jim

TWO POLLS:

Two polls published last month show that more than 60% of Palestinians support suicide bombings within Israel. But many are also concerned about the phenomenon and its impact on their children.

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[www.latimes.com/news/printedition/la-fg-martyr20jul20015033.story](http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/la-fg-martyr20jul20015033.story)

July 20 2002

THE WORLD

'Martyrdom' Dreams Take Root Early in the West Bank

By BARBARA DEMICK  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

JERUSALEM -- A winsome 11-year-old girl smiles shyly at a talk-show moderator and answers questions about her ambitions.

"Martyrdom is a beautiful thing. Everyone longs for martyrdom," the girl says. "What could be better than going to paradise?"

The show aired early last month on the official television station of the Palestinian Authority and is just one example of how thoroughly the concept of the martyr has infused Palestinian culture and the official media. Suicide bombers are celebrated in television programming, popular music, religious sermons and textbooks. A poem in a seventh-grade reading book says, "I see my death, but I hasten my steps toward it." The unlined faces of the latest "martyrs" smile with childish innocence from posters plastered on the walls of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A furor erupted last month when the Israeli army released a photograph, seized during a West Bank raid, of a Palestinian infant dressed in the outfit of a suicide bomber, with a red scarf around his head and a belt of fake explosives around his waist. Although a relative dismissed it as a gag photograph snapped at a family party, the "baby bomber," as he was

dubbed by the Israeli media, struck Israelis as proof positive of a deadly craze.

"This madness has become an epidemic in Palestinian society. In other places they want to become football players. Here they want to blow themselves up," said Eran Lehrman, a former Israeli army intelligence officer who works for the American Jewish Committee in Jerusalem.

Many Israelis charge that the Palestinian leadership under Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat has deliberately cultivated the culture of the martyr in an attempt to recruit children as terrorists.

Two polls published last month show that more than 60% of Palestinians support suicide bombings within Israel. But many are also concerned about the phenomenon and its impact on their children.

"I am afraid to let my son watch television," said a Palestinian translator, who asked not to be quoted by name. "My son is only 4 years old. All the time, he used to say that he wants to be a journalist when he grows up. His grandfather--he is a cardiologist--keeps saying, no, he should be a doctor. We were joking with him a few days ago, asking which will it be? And he says, 'I want to be a shahid [a martyr].' ... I really went nuts. I couldn't believe it."

Palestinian Media Watch, an Israeli group that scans the Arab media for examples of incitement, released a report last week accusing the Palestinian Authority of using ancient religious concepts of human sacrifice for political purposes.

Among the examples was the talk show "Letters From Our People," which aired last month on the authority's Palestinian Broadcasting Corp. The show featured Palestinian youths, ranging in age from 11 to 19, who were discussing suicide bombing.

According to a transcript released by the group, 11-year-old Wala is asked by a moderator, "What is better, peace and full rights for the Palestinian people or martyrdom?"

"Martyrdom," the girl replies.

"Of course martyrdom is better," Yussra, 11, adds. "We don't want this world, we want the afterlife.... Every Palestinian child ... says, 'O Lord, I would like to become a shahid.' "

Palestinian television also aired a provocative Islamic sermon in March, shortly before a deadly wave of bombings. "We must yearn for martyrdom and request it from God," declared cleric Ahmed Abdul Razek. "God planted within our youth the love of jihad [holy struggle], the love of martyrdom. Our youth have turned into bombs. They blow themselves up day and night."

Itamar Marcus, director of Palestinian Media Watch, said the broadcasts go a long way toward explaining how it is that so many youths have volunteered to become suicide bombers.

"There is no doubt that the people who carry out suicide bombings believe they are doing what is expected of them by their society and their God.

It is what they are taught by Palestinian television. They are brainwashed. They need deprogramming of the most urgent nature," Marcus said.

Palestinian broadcasting executives counter that their programming simply mirrors the sentiments of society at large.

"We have to reflect what is going on and what the people believe in," said Saadu Sabawi, chief news editor and director of foreign news coverage for the Palestinian Broadcasting Corp. "We are not inventing the crisis. The children who become martyrs don't do it because of television. They do it because of what the Israelis are doing to them ... because of the violence and the humiliation."

Sabawi said he was not familiar with the particular programs the Israelis criticized but said they did not sound unusual.

Israelis have frequently complained about the Palestinian media. In October 2000, a few weeks into the wave of violence that has engulfed the region for nearly 22 months, one of the first targets of Israeli bombing was the main broadcasting tower for the West Bank. The Palestinian Broadcasting Corp., which was briefly off the air, has since moved its operations to the Gaza Strip.

At the Dahaisha refugee camp near the West Bank city of Bethlehem recently, several boys recited song lyrics about the heroics of self-sacrifice that they said they heard on a private Christian-owned station in Bethlehem called Nativity Television. "Atef challenged the enemy fire by himself, and the enemy was defeated," one song goes.

Many of the boys said that although they admired those held up as martyrs, they wouldn't necessarily want to be one. But there were exceptions. Mutasem abu Ajamiyya, 9, spoke with a seriousness that made it seem entirely plausible that he would carry out his ambition.

"I want to become a suicide bomber. I want to kill as many of them as possible. I will go to the bus station and explode myself in front of them," Mutasem said, adding that he has not told his parents of his plans. "This is my wish. I will keep it to myself until I grow up."

Among Palestinian adults, the debate over suicide bombings focuses not on ethics but on the effectiveness of this type of "military operation." They rarely use the term "suicide bombing."

"These operations do not help our national plan for freedom and independence. On the contrary, they strengthen the enemies of peace and give pretexts to the aggressive government of [Israeli Prime Minister] Ariel Sharon to pursue his furious war against our people," read an open letter that was published last month in the Jerusalem newspaper Al Quds with the signatures of 55 prominent Palestinians.

But even some of those who signed the petition refuse to condemn the bombers themselves and believe that there is some merit to the attacks. "It is frustrating to see them [Israelis] having a relaxed life, going to the beach, going to the cafes when their sons in the army are doing these atrocities," said Isla Jad, a professor at Ramallah's Birzeit University.

And many Palestinians who had been considered prominent in the peace movement in the past refused to sign.

"People were laughing at those 55 who signed the petition. It was an embarrassment," said Mahdi Abdul Hadi, the director of Passia, a respected Palestinian think tank in Jerusalem.

Over the last two years, Israel has counted 91 Palestinian suicide bombers and says it has captured 42 would-be bombers. The youngest one taken was 14. Israeli military intelligence believes that there is a virtually unlimited pool of Palestinians ready to sacrifice their lives.

In April, the Israeli army seized a videotape in Nablus that contains a nearly three-hour lesson on making a suicide bomb. In the highly technical tape, a masked instructor demonstrates how to construct a belt of explosives and lectures on the best place to stand on a bus to cause the maximum casualties. The cassette, which also includes Islamic prayers, is believed to have been made by the military wing of Hamas, an Islamic militant movement.

An Israeli military intelligence officer who spoke on condition of anonymity said the logistics of carrying out a suicide bombing are still so difficult that a rash of attacks carried out by freelance operatives is unlikely.

"They have more potential bombers than they have explosives," said the officer. "They think of it [suicide bombing] as their only weapons. A great weapon, a cheap weapon ... but it still requires an infrastructure, money, materials."

[www.latimes.com/news/printedition/la-fg-martyr20jul20015033.story](http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/la-fg-martyr20jul20015033.story)

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=====
Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2002 10:06:15 -0400
From: "Safir, Adam" <ASafir@ui.urban.org>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Cc: "'kshikaki@pcpsr.org'" <kshikaki@pcpsr.org>,
    "'kshikaki@yahoo.com'"
Subject: RE: `Martyrdom' Dreams Take Root Early in the West Bank (B Demick
        LATimes)
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
```

Results from two recent (May/June) Palestinian public opinion polls are copied below. These may or may not be the polls referred to in the LA

Times piece. I have not yet had a chance to read through the design of either survey, although specifics on sample size and methodology are available on the respective websites.

Dr. Khalil Shikaki (PSR director) and the contact for JMCC are copied on this e-mail, should either want to provide additional comment on their polls.

Adam Safir  
The Urban Institute

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[1] Results of opinion poll #4, conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR).

<http://www.pcpsr.org/survey/polls/2002/p4a.html#armed>

"Support for bombing attacks inside Israel increases in the Gaza Strip (59%) compared to the West Bank (47%), in Tulkarm (60%) compared to Jerusalem (35%), in refugee camps (65%) compared to cities and villages (50%), among the young (61%) compared to the old (43%), among refugees (58%) compared to non-refugees (47%), among holders of BA degree (57%) compared to illiterates (47%), among students (66%) compared to retired persons (25%), among those with the lowest income (55%) compared to those with highest income (28%), and among supporters of Hamas (70%) compared to supporters of Fateh (47%)."

[2] Results of Jerusalem Media and Communication Centre Public Opinion Poll No. 45, conducted May 29-June 2, 2002.

<http://www.jmcc.org/publicpoll/results/2002/no45.htm>

Q.11 What is your feeling towards suicide bombing operations against Israeli civilians, do you support it or oppose it?

| Total                    | West Bank | Gaza  |      |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|------|
| N=1179                   | N=739     | N=440 |      |
| Strongly support         | 38.8      | 35.6  | 44.3 |
| Somewhat support         | 29.3      | 30.9  | 26.6 |
| Strongly oppose          | 16.2      | 16.8  | 15.2 |
| Somewhat oppose          | 9.8       | 9.2   | 10.7 |
| I Don't Know/ No opinion | 5.2       | 6.8   | 2.5  |
| No answer                | 0.7       | 0.8   | 0.7  |

>-----Original Message-----

>From: James Beniger [mailto:beniger@almaak.usc.edu]

>Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2002 9:30 PM

>To: AAPORNET

>Subject: `Martyrdom' Dreams Take Root Early in the West Bank (B Demick >LATimes)

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=====  
Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2002 13:06:31 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
Subject: Consumer Confidence  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
    boundary="=====\_150025207==\_ .ALT"  
  
-----\_150025207==\_ .ALT  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

From the New York Times

To the Editor:  
The University of Michigan's poll reporting a decline in  
consumer confidence (front page, July 13) may grossly  
exaggerate the problem. Rather than a decline of 5.9 points  
during the last month, consumer confidence may have  
increased. We know that survey results are only  
approximations. This one may be off by as much as 10 points  
in either direction, according to Michigan's own methods  
statement.

The preliminary results from this poll are nothing more  
than replies from the 250 people who were easiest to reach  
from a larger sample. Given the widespread influence this  
poll has with market analysts, the Fed and others,

preliminary results should have never been released. It would take a sample of at least 750 before one could reach a credible conclusion that consumer confidence declined this much.

WARREN MITOFSKY

New York, July 13, 2002

The writer is a founder of the CBS/New York Times Poll.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/20/opinion/L20POLL.html?ex=1028356599&ei=1&en=fbbfe4706bf2d074>

-----=\_150025207==\_.ALT  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*  
\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

-----=\_150025207==\_.ALT--

=====  
Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2002 22:18:28 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
Subject: Consumer confidence  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

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[http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/20/opinion/L20POLL.html?](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/20/opinion/L20POLL.html?ex=1028356599&ei=1&en=fbffe4706bf2d074)

[ex=1028356599&ei=1&en=fbffe4706bf2d074](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/20/opinion/L20POLL.html?ex=1028356599&ei=1&en=fbffe4706bf2d074)

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Date: Tue, 23 Jul 2002 07:02:28 -0700  
From: "Dr. Judy Calder" <calder@scs.unr.edu>  
To: <mitofsky@mindspring.com>, <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Re: Consumer confidence  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
    charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Priority: 3  
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2600.0000  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000

Warren,

Your comments ought to be the lead headline in every financial newspaper in  
the country. As ever, your are right on target!

----- Original Message -----

From: "Warren Mitofsky" <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2002 7:18 PM  
Subject: Consumer confidence

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>  
>

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Date: Tue, 23 Jul 2002 12:49:08 -0400  
From: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>  
To: "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Nihil Obstat for Surveys  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Priority: 3  
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.3110.1  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3

In a recent press release on an expected upturn in demand for managers and professionals, Management Recruiters International, which claims to be the largest US company of its type, used the following language to characterize the survey upon which its predictions are based:

"This is the 49th in an ongoing series of polls conducted by Management Recruiters International, Inc. (MRI). The survey was conducted in accordance with the professional and ethical standards of the American Marketing Association and the Marketing Research Association."

<http://www.cdicorp.com/newsrelease.asp?id=149>

Neither of these otherwise reputable and professional organizations, to this member, has the expertise of AAPOR (or CASRO, I guess) in the area of survey methodology. This looks like an opportunity that is slipping away.

The fact that at least some corporate communications (PR) types would use this language (modeled on the accounting lingo) in today's climate of accounting scandals suggests that the need for this type of reader guidance is considerable.

While our securities are tanking, someone is eating our lunch.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.  
Voice (610) 408-8800  
Fax (610) 408-8802  
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com



=====  
Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 09:14:26 -0400  
Subject: `But Officer, I Didn't Do Anything!'  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft Exchange V6.0.5762.3  
Message-ID:  
<2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96038F1F@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
From: "Howard Fienberg" <HFienberg@stats.org>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6ODGDI00094

by Jim Sloan, Tampa Tribune  
<<http://tampatrib.com/MGA5WPU8Z3D.html>>  
They call it a ``Voluntary Roadside Interview.``  
But for hundreds of motorists flagged down by state troopers Monday on  
Interstate 4, there was nothing voluntary about it. Off-duty troopers,  
hired at \$30 an hour, picked motorists at random and directed them to pull  
off the interstate into a rest stop, where Palm Pilot- toting interviewers  
waited. No, this roadside checkpoint wasn't looking for drunken drivers.  
The survey, which will cost about \$150,000, was commissioned by the Florida  
High Speed Rail Authority to gauge public interest in riding a proposed 120  
mph bullet train. The experience left some motorists wondering what's next:  
Publix hiring troopers to corral interstate travelers for a marketing  
survey? .....

And here is some legal commentary on the story from Eugene Volokh:  
<[http://volokh.blogspot.com/2002\\_07\\_21\\_volokh\\_archive.html#85276225](http://volokh.blogspot.com/2002_07_21_volokh_archive.html#85276225)>

-----  
Howard Fienberg  
Senior Analyst  
The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)  
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20037  
(ph) 202-223-3193  
(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) hfienberg@stats.org  
<http://www.stats.org>

=====  
Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 09:39:50 -0400  
From: "Zapolsky, Sarah E." <SZapolsky@aarp.org>  
To: "'HFienberg@stats.org'" <HFienberg@stats.org>,  
"AAPORNET (E-mail)"  
Subject: RE: `But Officer, I Didn't Do Anything!'  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Wow! What a great idea! Never worry about response rates again.

=====

The views, opinions, and judgments expressed are solely my own. Message contents have not been reviewed or approved by AARP.

-----Original Message-----

From: Howard Fienberg [mailto:HFienberg@stats.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2002 9:14 AM  
To: AAPORNET (E-mail)  
Subject: `But Officer, I Didn't Do Anything!'

by Jim Sloan, Tampa Tribune  
<<http://tampatrib.com/MGA5WPU8Z3D.html>>  
They call it a ``Voluntary Roadside Interview.``  
But for hundreds of motorists flagged down by state troopers Monday on Interstate 4, there was nothing voluntary about it. Off-duty troopers, hired at \$30 an hour, picked motorists at random and directed them to pull off the interstate into a rest stop, where Palm Pilot-toting interviewers waited. No, this roadside checkpoint wasn't looking for drunken drivers. The survey, which will cost about \$150,000, was commissioned by the Florida High Speed Rail Authority to gauge public interest in riding a proposed 120 mph bullet train. The experience left some motorists wondering what's next: Publix hiring troopers to corral interstate travelers for a marketing survey?  
.....

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<[http://volokh.blogspot.com/2002\\_07\\_21\\_volokh\\_archive.html#85276225](http://volokh.blogspot.com/2002_07_21_volokh_archive.html#85276225)>

-----  
Howard Fienberg  
Senior Analyst  
The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)  
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20037  
(ph) 202-223-3193  
(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) hfienberg@stats.org  
<http://www.stats.org>

=====

Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 07:09:35 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>  
Subject: Columbia U Pres. Suspends Search for Dean of Journalism School (NYT)  
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207240702530.26236-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Do any of you NYC AAPORNETers know anything more about this interesting story in this morning's Times? I can't help but think there's more to this than the Times has seen fit to print.

-- Jim

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[www.nytimes.com/2002/07/24/education/24COLU.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/24/education/24COLU.html)

July 24, 2002

COLUMBIA PRESIDENT SUSPENDS SEARCH FOR NEW DEAN OF JOURNALISM SCHOOL

By KAREN W. ARENSON

The search for a new dean to lead Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism was abruptly suspended yesterday by the university's new president. He said the school, long regarded as a leader in its field, needed to rethink its mission and curriculum and place less emphasis on teaching skills like reporting and editing.

In an e-mail message announcing his decision to faculty, students and staff of the school, the new president, Lee C. Bollinger, said, "To teach the craft of journalism is a worthy goal, but clearly insufficient in this new world and within the setting of a great university."

Mr. Bollinger, the former president of the University of Michigan, who took the helm at Columbia only a few weeks ago, said he believed the school -- which publishes The Columbia Journalism Review and administers the Pulitzer Prizes -- should be more academic and delve more deeply into substantive issues like changes in communications and the role of a free press.

"The teaching of the craft is important," he said. "The question is balance."

Mr. Bollinger said he would appoint a task force to study the school and report back before the end of the fall semester. He named David A. Klatell, the school's associate dean, as acting dean. Mr. Klatell planned to meet with faculty members today to discuss the task force.

Tom Goldstein, the school's most recent dean, left in June to join his family on the West Coast, and Mr. Bollinger had been expected to act quickly to appoint a new dean from among candidates put forward recently by a search committee. It had forwarded the names of two candidates to Mr. Bollinger: James Fallows, a correspondent for The Atlantic Monthly and former editor of U.S. News & World Report, and Alex S. Jones, director of the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard University, who won a Pulitzer prize as a reporter for The New York Times.

The committee had also favored Jay T. Harris, the former publisher of The San Jose Mercury News and now at the University of California at Berkeley, but he told Columbia that he did not want to be considered.

Both Mr. Jones and Mr. Fallows said yesterday that Mr. Bollinger's desire to think more about the school's direction before naming a new dean made sense to them.

"The potential future of the journalism school is an interesting topic," Mr. Fallows said. "I think he's doing the right thing."

Mr. Jones said yesterday that he had a "very high regard for the role Columbia has played in training journalists" but thought it "quite appropriate" to add other dimensions and more specialization.

Mr. Bollinger, a legal scholar who has written extensively on the First Amendment, said the candidates were "outstanding." Talking to them, he said, "led me to think more about the role of a journalism school at a first-rate university, and what its curriculum should be."

He said he hoped that the faculty, who have been deeply divided on the school's future direction, would be able to reach a consensus.

The journalism school last year had 207 full-time students in its 10-month master's degree program, 96 part-time master's students and 17 others in its Ph.D. program.

When the school year begins next week, there will be 206 full-time master's degree students, selected from a record 1,700 applications.

Mr. Klatell, the acting dean, said there were categories of students the school would like who typically do not apply, like top student editors. "They may go to law school or business school or right into the craft," he said. "If you are the editor of The Columbia Spectator or The Harvard Crimson, you may leap right into a job. But we'd like to figure out ways to attract more of these people into the school. They can bring interesting ideas to the school, and we can provide them with added value that will make them more desirable."

In his e-mail message, Mr. Bollinger wrote, "We live in an age in which the system of communications is widely understood to be undergoing revolutionary changes, and, at the same time, is the critical element in forging democracies, markets, culture, and the phenomenon of globalization."

With an historically important role and a location in the "media capital of the world," he said, it "should continue to be the leading school of its kind in the world."

[www.nytimes.com/2002/07/24/education/24COLU.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/24/education/24COLU.html)

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=====  
Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 10:41:29 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Eric Plutzer <expl2@psu.edu>  
Subject: Seeking help/advice: creating a single PDF doc from Word &  
Excel files  
In-Reply-To: <200207230704.g6N74uI13563@listproc.usc.edu>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Colleagues,

I typically write my conference and other academic papers using MS Word for the body of the paper and MS Excel for the tables. Pasting Excel tables into Word never seems satisfactory -- formatting gets changed, large tables no longer "just fit" onto a page, shifting from portrait to landscape and back becomes cumbersome, etc.

Using two packages works fine for hard copy. But I haven't figured out a way to create a single PDF file out of two original files. I haven't come across a way to merge two PDF files into one -- though this would seem to be the easiest solution. I hoping someone on the list has confronted this, solved it, or can otherwise provide me with some useful suggestions. Any ideas?

-- Eric

=====  
Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 11:22:43 -0400  
From: "Mike Donatello" <Mike.Donatello@MarketDataAnalysis.com>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: RE: Seeking help/advice: creating a single PDF doc from Word &  
Excel  
files  
Message-ID:  
<DDEEKMOJPLLPKOLPFCNEEGCDBAA.Mike.Donatello@MarketDataAnalysis.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)  
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000  
In-Reply-To: <5.1.0.14.2.20020724103359.030e3c88@mail.psu.edu>

Eric,

If the tables are on separate pages (i.e., not integrated with the Word-based text), you could always use Acrobat's Insert Pages or Replace Pages commands. If, however, everything's integrated, your better option

is to go with a standard page layout program, which will give you more flexibility (or perhaps the same flexibility, more easily accessed) than Word alone.

--

Mike Donatello  
Senior Partner, Vice President of Research  
Borrell Associates Inc.  
Digital Direction for Media Companies  
2902 Mother Well Ct., Oak Hill, VA 20171-4065  
V 703.582.5680 F 703.832.8630  
MDonatello@borrellassociates.com

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu] On Behalf Of Eric Plutzer  
Sent: 24 July, 2002 10:41  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: Seeking help/advice: creating a single PDF doc from Word & Excel files

Colleagues,

I typically write my conference and other academic papers using MS Word for the body of the paper and MS Excel for the tables. Pasting Excel tables into Word never seems satisfactory -- formatting gets changed, large tables no longer "just fit" onto a page, shifting from portrait to landscape and back becomes cumbersome, etc.

Using two packages works fine for hard copy. But I haven't figured out a way to create a single PDF file out of two original files. I haven't come across a way to merge two PDF files into one -- though this would seem to be the easiest solution. I hoping someone on the list has confronted this, solved it, or can otherwise provide me with some useful suggestions. Any ideas?

-- Eric

---

Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 17:41:24 -0700  
From: "Jon S. Ebeling" <ebeling@mail.csuchico.edu>  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.76 [en] (Win98; U)  
X-Accept-Language: en  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: HI all  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Can anyone direct me to a critical analysis of the sampling problems when using the internet as the basis for a sample? I have my views that the system has problems such as loss of the data collection instrument, lack of representation of the general population and such. If there are some factors that I might consider I would appreciate it if someone might direct me to a cogent and succinct article on the matter.

thanks so much.

jon ebeling  
Professor Emeritus Political Science

CSU, Chico.

---

Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 19:45:30 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>  
Subject: Who will lead an Arab renaissance? (John Hughes, csmonitor.com)  
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207241919310.27377-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Here is an analysis and interpretation of public opinion by John Hughes, former editor of the Christian ScienceMonitor, and current editor and chief operating officer of the Deseret News.

I welcome your own opinions of this, as an analysis of public opinion, but without a scientific survey of any opinions.

-- Jim

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[www.csmonitor.com/2002/0724/p11s01-cojh.html](http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/0724/p11s01-cojh.html)

July 24, 2002 edition

WHO WILL LEAD AN ARAB RENAISSANCE?

By John Hughes

SALT LAKE CITY - As promised in an earlier column, here is an update on what must be done to draw the Arab lands out of their backwardness and set them upon the road to freedom and prosperity that would make them less dangerous, and more agreeable, citizen-states of the world.

The war against terrorism is a new kind of war such as Americans have never before experienced. It is multifaceted and requires new methods, new thinking.

Obviously, much of the war requires military effort. That was brought to bear brilliantly in Afghanistan, combining small special operations units with new, sophisticated, remote-controlled weaponry against a fairly easily identified enemy. But with the Taliban eliminated and Al Qaeda dispersed, the military effort has plateaued, entering a new, twilight phase against small, hidden terrorist cells.

Another important aspect of the war is diplomacy. But this, too, has stalled, because, for the Arab lands from whence most terrorists come, the critical issue is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which has gone from bad to worse, and proved stubbornly resistant to American efforts at peacemaking. The perceived American championship of Israel is a huge roadblock on the road to winning over Arab public opinion.

Meantime, the United States is cranking up its public diplomacy, or informational campaign, designed to counter decades of hate-filled anti-American brainwashing in Islamic fundamental schools, and to dispel such ludicrous fantasies as that it was the Israelis who attacked and brought down the World Trade Center towers.

The campaign to draw the Arab lands into the modern world is much longer term and more difficult.

A recent report by the UN Development Program makes it clear how gargantuan this task will be. The report is significant because it is not the work of outside bureaucrats, but of reputable Arab scholars taking a hard look at their own region's deficiencies.

\* Per-capita growth in the 22 Arab countries surveyed is lower than anywhere except in sub-Saharan Africa. It will take the average Arab citizen 140 years to double his or her income. Other parts of the world will do it in fewer than 10 years.

\* Of the 280 million Arabs in the region, 65 million are illiterate. Two-thirds of these are women.

\* The GDP of all these Arab states combined is less than that of Spain.

\* One out of every 5 Arabs lives on less than \$2 a day.

The report's brutal conclusion? This backwardness is the result of three huge deficiencies: of freedom, women's rights, and education.

As a powerful and wealthy nation, and a beacon of freedom for much of the world's oppressed people, the United States is well placed to encourage the campaign for reform in the Arab lands. Recently, President Bush pledged a \$10 billion increase by 2006 in US aid going to the poorer nations of the world. He was right in proclaiming that priority recipients would be those countries moving toward democracy.

But the war against terrorism is not America's alone. Terrorism rears its



head in Japan and South Korea, in Germany and Italy, and in other prosperous democracies that should have a self-interest in drawing out of their darkness the Arab lands that have spawned international terrorism.

Even countries without substantial resources could play an influential role. Pakistan and Indonesia are non-Arab countries with large Muslim populations. They themselves are struggling to find their way to democracy. They, along with other Islamic lands like Turkey, could show by example that Islam does not necessarily mean a descent into obsession with hatred.

Nor should we assume that the Arab lands living in economic backwardness and democratic darkness are without their own internal mutterings for reform.

There is intellectual pondering in Saudi Arabia and Egypt. The UN report found that 51 percent of older Arab adolescents, and 45 percent of younger ones, in the 22 countries surveyed, expressed a desire to emigrate, "clearly indicating dissatisfaction with current conditions and future prospects in their home countries." The very frankness of the Arab scholars who spent 18 months producing the hard-hitting report is a positive development.

As they concluded: "The Arab world is at a crossroads. The fundamental choice is whether its trajectory will remain marked by inertia, as reflected in much of the present institutional context, and by ineffective policies that have produced the substantial development challenges facing the region; or whether prospects for an Arab renaissance, anchored in human development, will be actively pursued."

-----

\* John Hughes, former editor of the Monitor, is editor and chief operating officer of the Deseret News.

[www.csmonitor.com/2002/0724/p11s01-cojh.html](http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/0724/p11s01-cojh.html)

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=====  
Date: Thu, 25 Jul 2002 06:54:50 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>  
Subject: Methodology Symposium organized by Statistics Canada (fwd)  
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207250653110.10866-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=X-UNKNOWN  
Content-transfer-encoding: 8BIT

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Thu, 25 Jul 2002 09:30:33 -0400  
From: David A. Binder <binddav@STATCAN.CA>  
Reply-To: Survey Research Methods Section of the ASA  
<SRMSNET@LISTSERV.UMD.EDU>  
To: SRMSNET@LISTSERV.UMD.EDU  
Subject: Methodology Symposium organized by Statistics Canada

I am sending this important announcement on behalf of the organizing committee of our next methodology symposium.

\*\*\*\*\*

A Methodology Symposium organized by Statistics Canada will take place from November 6 to November 8, 2002, at the Fairmont Château Laurier in Ottawa, Canada. This year the theme is "Modelling Survey Data for Social and Economic Research". The symposium is the 19th in a series that began in 1984 and continues to be an international event addressing issues of statistical methodology that are relevant to the work of a government statistical agency and to a broader statistical community including universities, industry, and other government organizations. This year, we plan to bring together statistical methodologists and analysts working in a variety of domains where survey data are used for analysis and inference.

The symposium will begin on Wednesday, November 6 with two daylong workshops on survey data analysis themes. They are: "Analysis of Complex Survey Data with Applications to Health Surveys", presented by Barry Graubard of the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics; and "Item Response Theory and Related Methods with Application to Complex Sample Surveys" by Roland Thomas of Carleton University and Bruno Zumbo of the University of British Columbia. Over the following two days of the Symposium, an exciting program of invited and a few contributed papers will be presented and discussed beginning with a keynote address by Professor Sir David Cox of Nuffield College, Oxford, England .

To find more information about the Symposium program as well as a Registration Form, please visit our web site at [www.statcan.ca/english/conferences/symposium2002](http://www.statcan.ca/english/conferences/symposium2002). Our email address is

[symposium2002@statcan.ca](mailto:symposium2002@statcan.ca)

We hope to meet you there.

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|                                 |  |                     |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| David A. Binder                 |  | binddav@statcan.ca  |
| Director General                |  | TEL: 1-613-951-0980 |
| Methodology Branch              |  | FAX: 1-613-951-5711 |
| 120 Parkdale Avenue             |  |                     |
| R.H. Coats Building 3-0         |  |                     |
| Statistics Canada               |  |                     |
| Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA K1A 0T6 |  |                     |

\*\*\*\*\*



\_\_\_\_\_, "Web Surveys, A Review of Issues and Approaches," Public Opinion Quarterly, Vol. 64, 2000, pp. 464-494.

Couper, M. P., M. Traugott, and M. Lamias, "Web Survey Design and Administration," Public Opinion Quarterly, Vol. 65, No. 2, 2001, pp. 230-253.

Crawford, S., M. P. Couper, and M. Lamias "Web Surveys: Perceptions of Burden," Social Science Computer Review, Vol. 19, No. 2, 2001, pp. 146-162.

Couper, Mick P. 2000. "Web Surveys: A Review of Issues and Approaches," Public Opinion Quarterly, 64(4): 464-494.

Sincerely yours,

Mark J. Lamias  
Statistical Consultant  
Grizzard Agency  
229 Peachtree Street - 12th Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30303

-----Original Message-----

From: Jon S. Ebeling [mailto:ebeling@mail.csuchico.edu]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2002 8:41 PM  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: HI all

Can anyone direct me to a critical analysis of the sampling problems when using the internet as the basis for a sample? I have my views that the system has problems such as loss of the data collection instrument, lack of representation of the general population and such. If there are some factors that I might consider I would appreciate it if someone might direct me to a cogent and succinct article on the matter.

thanks so much.

jon ebeling  
Professor Emeritus Political Science

CSU, Chico.

=====  
Date: Thu, 25 Jul 2002 14:29:29 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Eric Plutzer <expl2@psu.edu>  
Subject: Seeking help/advice: creating a single PDF doc from Word & Excel files  
In-Reply-To: <200207250705.g6P75FI15041@listproc.usc.edu>  
Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Much thanks to the two dozen aapornet colleagues who responded to my query. It's embarrassing to now see that there were two simple solutions. For the handful of other colleagues who asked me to forward the responses, here's a summary and step-by-step instructions.

1. Copy excel tables as IMAGES rather than as tables.

Several aapornet colleagues pointed out that there are two ways to import Excel tables into MSWord. The obvious way of copying table contents and then using the standard "paste" function converts the Excel table to an MS Word table -- often with unexpected and ugly results.

However, one can paste an image of the table by:

Click on EDIT

Click on PASTE SPECIAL

Click on the radio button for PASTE, and select PICTURE from the choice of image types.

This creates an embedded image that can be moved or resized just like any embedded object.

This seems like a good solution if you have a small number of tables or if they are interspersed in the body of the paper. Like any other image, substantial re-sizing will distort things so it is best to create the original as close to the correct size as possible.

2. Create two PDF files and combine them.

For standard conference papers or journal submissions, or when embedded tables each occupy an entire page (e.g., dissertations, book manuscripts, etc.) this seems like the best approach. It requires Adobe Acrobat, not simply the free program Adobe Reader that most people have plugged into their browser.

First, one must create a PDF document from the original Excel file and the MS Word file. (Note, if all the tables are to be appended at the end, you should check the radio button for ENTIRE WORKBOOK from the print dialog box before writing the file to the Adobe distiller).

Then, you should open the PDF file containing the body of the text using Adobe Acrobat. Then:

Click on DOCUMENT

Click on INSERT PAGES

Select the file containing table and hit SELECT

This brings up a dialog box that allows you to specify where in the document

you want the tables inserted. If you use page numbers,

be careful because unnumbered title pages are counted.

Save the new file.

Thanks again to everyone who responded!

-- Eric

~~~~~  
Eric Plutzer  
Associate Professor of Political Science & Sociology  
Penn State University

<http://polisci.la.psu.edu/faculty/plutzer/>

---

Date: Fri, 26 Jul 2002 10:14:14 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>  
Subject: PUBLIC CONFERENCE: PRIVACY, OPEN SOCIETY & THE CHALLENGE OF  
SEPTEMBER  
11th  
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207260959480.20201-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

---

PUBLIC CONFERENCE: PRIVACY, OPEN SOCIETY & THE CHALLENGE OF SEPTEMBER 11th

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<http://www.privacyinternational.org/conference/london2002/>

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

+ + + PLEASE DISTRIBUTE WIDELY + + +

PRIVACY, OPEN SOCIETY & THE CHALLENGE  
OF SEPTEMBER 11th

---

A one-day public conference organised by Privacy International &  
the Electronic Privacy Information Center

The Old Theatre, London School of Economics  
Friday 6th September 2002  
10.00 - 5.00

Hosted by the Department of Information Systems,  
London School of Economics

Admission - free

---

The events of September 11th have placed unprecedented pressures on such fundamental rights as privacy, freedom of association and freedom of expression. National security and law enforcement agencies have moved quickly to increase their mandate, often without the checks and balances of transparency and accountability. Legislators have rushed to promulgate security laws, often without open debate.

In an era of concern over public safety, what is the future for civil liberties and open society? One year after September 11th, this important conference brings together key figures from throughout the world to discuss these crucial issues.

Speakers and respondents will discuss developments in privacy and surveillance, free speech and censorship, national security, international government co-operation, freedom of information, law enforcement capability, financial privacy, identity and tracking systems and the role of civil society.

PLEASE MARK THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY!

A detailed programme will be circulated by August 15th

Anyone interested in attending this conference should email:

[london2002@privacy.org](mailto:london2002@privacy.org)

Media enquiries to Simon Davies at [pi-media@privacy.org](mailto:pi-media@privacy.org)

###

<http://www.privacyinternational.org/conference/london2002/>

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PUBLIC CONFERENCE: PRIVACY, OPEN SOCIETY & THE CHALLENGE OF SEPTEMBER 11th  
-----

\*\*\*\*\*

=====  
Date: Sun, 28 Jul 2002 07:18:19 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <[beniger@almaak.usc.edu](mailto:beniger@almaak.usc.edu)>  
Subject: Four articles on public opinion in today's NY Times  
To: AAPORNET <[aapornet@usc.edu](mailto:aapornet@usc.edu)>  
Message-id: <[Pine.GSO.4.33.0207280704480.890-100000@almaak.usc.edu](mailto:Pine.GSO.4.33.0207280704480.890-100000@almaak.usc.edu)>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Four articles on public opinion in today's New York Times...

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Sun Jul 28 05:25:19 2002  
-----

Week In Review: The Comic Side of Vincente Fox

By GINGER THOMPSON

With his popularity continuing a steady decline, Mexico's president turned to a team of cartoonists whose work for the creators of "The Simpsons" won them international acclaim.

[www.nytimes.com/2002/07/28/weekinreview/28THOM.html?tnmailto](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/28/weekinreview/28THOM.html?tnmailto)

-----

Sports: One Man Asks Fans at Shea for Opinions

By WILLIAM C. RHODEN

The William C. Rhoden Anonymous Informal Impromptu Attitude Survey was designed to get at why we continue to put up with baseball.

[www.nytimes.com/2002/07/28/sports/baseball/28RHOD.html?tnmailto](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/28/sports/baseball/28RHOD.html?tnmailto)

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International: New Zealand's Premier Wins 2nd Term,  
but Not Total Control

By JAMES BROOKE

Prime Minister Helen Clark won a second term for her center-left government in general elections on Saturday.

[www.nytimes.com/2002/07/28/international/28ZEAL.html?tnmailto](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/28/international/28ZEAL.html?tnmailto)

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Business: Accord on Margin Rule for Single-Stock Futures

By JEFF SOMMER

Two major regulatory agencies have agreed on a margin requirement for trading in single-stock futures, clearing the way for the start of the new vehicles.

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Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company  
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\*\*\*\*\*

=====  
Date: Mon, 29 Jul 2002 09:47:20 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: "Richard Clark" <clark@cviog.uga.edu>  
Subject: Quality of life indexes  
Mime-Version: 1.0



Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="====\_8328565==\_ .ALT"

====\_8328565==\_ .ALT  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Could anyone please steer me toward a reliable scale to help assess the perceived quality of life in an urban area? Is there an index that is common to citizen surveys?

--Rich Clark

---

Richard L. Clark, Ph.D.  
Manager of Survey Research / Data Services Unit  
Director, Peach State Poll  
Carl Vinson Institute of Government  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30677

(706) 542-2736 (main desk)  
(706) 542-9301 (fax)

<<http://www.cviog.uga.edu/programs/survey.html>><http://www.cviog.uga.edu/peachpoll>

====\_8328565==\_ .ALT  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*  
\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

====\_8328565==\_ .ALT--

---

Date: Mon, 29 Jul 2002 09:54:01 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: "Richard Clark" <[clark@cviog.uga.edu](mailto:clark@cviog.uga.edu)>  
Subject: Fwd: Quality of life indexes  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

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Athens, GA 30677

(706) 542-2736 (main desk)  
(706) 542-9301 (fax)  
<<http://www.cviog.uga.edu/programs/survey.html>><http://www.cviog.uga.edu/peachpoll>

---

Date: Mon, 29 Jul 2002 11:18:48 -0400  
Subject: Zogby in the Monitor  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft Exchange V6.0.5762.3  
Message-ID:  
<2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96038F90@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>  
X-MS-Has-Attach:  
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:  
From: "Howard Fienberg" <HFienberg@stats.org>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id  
g6TFKdI18816

Bush's polls and the law of gravity  
A decline in the president's approval ratings forecasts difficult times  
for the Republican party. By John Zogby  
<http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/0726/p11s03-coop.html>

---

Howard Fienberg  
Senior Analyst  
The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)  
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20037  
(ph) 202-223-3193  
(fax) 202-872-4014  
(e) [hfienberg@stats.org](mailto:hfienberg@stats.org)  
<http://www.stats.org>

---

Date: Mon, 29 Jul 2002 11:33:07 -0400  
From: "Frankovic, Kathleen" <KAF@cbsnews.com>  
To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Travel Surveys and Sponsorship  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

This is a link to the Houston Chronicle -- and is a travel writer's summary of a variety of travel poll results he's received in the last few months. It's moderately amusing, though it does underscore a serious point -- releasing poll results that benefit a survey's sponsor.

<http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/story.hts/travel/shattuck/1489942>

Kathy Frankovic

=====  
Date: Mon, 29 Jul 2002 08:56:36 -0700 (PDT)  
From: James Beniger <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>  
Subject: Two articles on public opinion in today's NY Times  
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Message-id: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207290847590.9259-100000@almaak.usc.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Two articles on public opinion in today's New York Times...

-----  
July 29, 2002  
-----

Politics: Corporate Abuses Cause Bipartisan Indignation

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

Voter after voter in a California suburb said that when it came to curbing abuses in corporate boardrooms, it made no difference which party was in power.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/29/politics/29VOIC.html?tntemail1>

-----  
International: Panel Urges U.S. to Revamp Efforts to Promote Image Abroad

By JAMES DAO

The United States is doing a poor job of countering growing anti-American sentiment overseas, the Council on Foreign Relations contends.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/29/international/29INFO.html?tntemail1>

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=====  
Date: Mon, 29 Jul 2002 15:59:01 -0400  
From: "Ashley Bowers" <afbowers@email.unc.edu>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: SAPOR 2002 Annual Conference: Call for Papers

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_016B\_01C23718.DB37B880  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
    charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Southern Association for Public Opinion Research  
2002 Annual Conference

October 3-4, 2002  
Raleigh, North Carolina

Proposals for papers or presentations are invited in all areas of =  
opinion and survey research, including public opinion, electoral =  
behavior, the media, political communication, market research and =  
consumer behavior, group differences in attitudes, evaluation research, =  
applied sampling, questionnaire design, survey methodology, focus =  
groups, web-based surveys, computer-assisted interviewing, field-based =  
studies, and alternative approaches to public opinion research. =20

This year we are also seeking topics of interest for one or two =  
roundtable discussions. Please contact Katherine Lind, SAPOR Conference =  
Committee Chair, with your ideas. =20

Please submit (via email, fax or regular mail) your proposal or abstract =  
of no more than 300 words by August 16, 2002, to SAPOR Conference =  
Committee Chair:

Katherine Lind  
University of South Carolina  
Institute for Public Service and Policy Research  
Survey Research Laboratory  
1504 Carolina Plaza  
Columbia, SC 29208  
Email: lind@iopa.sc.edu  
Fax: 803-777-4575  
Phone: 803-777-0351

Please fit your proposal onto one sheet of paper and include the name, =  
mailing address, telephone number, and email address of the principal =  
author. =20

If you have any questions about this year's conference or your =  
participation in it, please feel free to contact Dr. Lind. If you have =

general questions about SAPOR membership, please contact Ashley Bowers, =  
SAPOR Secretary, by phone at 919-966-0476 or by e-mail at =  
ashley\_bowers@unc.edu. =20

=20

We look forward to your participation in this year's conference!

=20

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_016B\_01C23718.DB37B880  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*  
\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_016B\_01C23718.DB37B880--

=====  
Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 10:54:01 -0400  
From: "Michael Cohen" <mcohen@fabmac.com>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Non-Voter Studies

Colleagues:

A potential client of ours is looking to do some research on non-voters in a particular congressional district as well as nationwide (USA). Specifically, he'd like two fairly simple questions answered:

Why don't adults register to vote?  
Why do some registered voters decide not to vote?

We are looking for open-ended responses that have been found before in academic or commercial studies. Any article citations would be especially welcome.

Thanks in advance for your ideas and help!

\*\*\*\*\*  
Michael D. Cohen, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Public Affairs  
Fabrizio, McLaughlin & Associates  
915 King Street, Second Floor  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 684-4510 Phone  
(703) 739-0664 Fax

=====

Date: Tue, 30 Jul 2002 13:12:26 -0500  
From: Nick Panagakakis <mail@marketsharescorp.com>  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)  
X-Accept-Language: en,pdf  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: mcohen@fabmac.com  
CC: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: Re: Non-Voter Studies  
References: <000d01c237d8\$f1b1cc20\$4997c0cf@COHEN>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You will find some answers on page 10 from the Census' 2000 voting/registration survey below.

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/p20-542.pdf>

Michael Cohen wrote:

>  
> Colleagues:  
>  
> A potential client of ours is looking to do some research on non-voters in  
> a  
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>  
> Why don't adults register to vote?  
> Why do some registered voters decide not to vote?  
>  
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> academic or commercial studies. Any article citations would be especially  
> welcome.  
>  
> Thanks in advance for your ideas and help!  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> Michael D. Cohen, Ph.D.  
> Vice President for Public Affairs  
> Fabrizio, McLaughlin & Associates  
> 915 King Street, Second Floor  
> Alexandria, VA 22314  
> (703) 684-4510 Phone  
> (703) 739-0664 Fax

---

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 09:58:24 -0400  
From: "Roger Tourangeau" <rtourangeau@survey.umd.edu>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Good News from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Disposition: inline

We are pleased to announce the appointments of Katharine Abraham and Partha Lahiri as full professors in the Joint Program in Survey Methodology. Both will be joining the JPSM faculty full-time this fall.

Katharine Abraham comes to the Joint Program from the Department of Labor, where she served as the Commissioner of Labor Statistics from 1993 to 2002. She received her Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard in 1982.

Professor Abraham is actually returning to the University of Maryland; she was a Professor of Economics here before her stint at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. She will be developing new courses in economic measurement at the Joint Program, including both semester-length courses and short courses.

Partha Lahiri comes to JSPM from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, where he was Milton Mohr Distinguished Professor of Statistics. He had been at UNL since he graduated from the University of Florida with a Ph.D. in Statistics in 1986. Professor Lahiri is very well known for his work in the areas of multi-level modeling, small-area estimation, and other model-based methods in survey sampling. He is already familiar to many of the students at the Joint Program; under an arrangement with UNL, he has been resident at the Joint Program for the past year.

As many of you know, the Joint Program in Survey Methodology is a consortium funded by the U.S. federal statistical agencies to provide graduate education in survey methodology. The consortium includes the University of Maryland (where JPSM is housed), the University of Michigan, and Westat. We are now entering our tenth year, offering Master's and Ph.D. degrees in survey methodology, as well as short courses and non-degree programs. We continue to share faculty and courses (via video link) with our sister program at the University of Michigan. In addition, we will be sharing courses in the coming year with the University of Nebraska and with the University of North Carolina. Our new faculty will help us expand our offerings, and we are very happy to have them aboard.

Roger Tourangeau  
Director, JPSM

```
=====
Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 07:33:32 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>
Subject: FLASH! Bomb at Hebrew University Kills 7 in Jerusalem; Hamas Claims
        Responsibility
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Message-id: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0207310732240.29903-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
```

[www.nytimes.com/2002/07/31/international/middleeast/31WIRE-MIDE.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/31/international/middleeast/31WIRE-MIDE.html)

July 31, 2002

## BOMB KILLS 7 IN JERUSALEM; HAMAS CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY

By TERENCE NEILAN

A bomb believed to be planted by a Palestinian group exploded in a crowded lunchtime cafeteria at Hebrew University in Jerusalem today, killing at least seven people, the Israeli police said. Estimates of the wounded ranged from at least 30 to 70, some critically hurt.

The blast ripped through the Frank Sinatra cafeteria, and although classrooms are not in session, many students are taking exams at the university and the room was busy.

Later the militant Islamist group Hamas claimed responsibility for the blast, saying it was in revenge for an Israeli air raid on Gaza City last week that killed a Hamas leader and 14 other people, including 9 children.

"It's a part of a series of responses that will take a long time and teach all Israelis," the group said in a statement faxed to news agencies.

A Jerusalem police spokesman, Kobi Zrihen, said: "We have not found a body that would match the description of a suicide bomber. It is therefore a bomb attack."

Police officials called the explosion a Palestinian attack but stopped short of saying they thought a suicide bomber was involved.

The bombing was condemned by the Palestinian Authority. But in a statement, the Authority, led by Yasir Arafat, said it considered the Israeli prime minister, Ariel Sharon, "as being responsible for this cycle of terror," including the Gaza raid.

Most of the students at the Hebrew University are Jewish, though a large number are Arabs. Israel's Channel 2 television said Arab students were believed to be among the casualties, The Associated Press reported.

The university is situated on the Mount Scopus campus near Arab East Jerusalem and close to West Jerusalem.

It was the second bombing attack in Jerusalem in two days. On Tuesday, in the first such attack in the city in more than a month, a 17-year-old Palestinian blew himself up at a falafel stand, killing himself and wounding five other people.

Today a witness to the university bombing, identified only as Shai, told Army Radio: "There is a lot of chaos, a lot of police. It's a mess, there's a lot of wounded."

Lee Seung Jae, a Korean student at the school, told Reuters, "There was a



boom, everything went up in the air."

"Around 1:40 p.m., an explosion was heard in a cafeteria on the campus," Jerusalem's deputy police chief, Ilan Franco, said. "There are several dead and dozens of wounded."

"Israel is fighting a pitched battle against terror and for the right to walk down the street, take a bus or sit in a cafeteria without the fear of being decimated by Palestinian terrorism," said David Baker, an official in Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office.

The bomber managed to evade security guards posted around the campus, even though Israel is on full alert for terror attacks.

[www.nytimes.com/2002/07/31/international/middleeast/31WIRE-MIDE.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/07/31/international/middleeast/31WIRE-MIDE.html)

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Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 13:44:03 -0400  
From: Howard Schuman <hschuman@umich.edu>  
X-Accept-Language: en-us  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: aapor <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Consumer Confidence  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Earlier this month, Warren Mitofsky sent a communication questioning a report of the mid-month results of the University of Michigan's Survey of Consumer Confidence (see Warren's original message below). I emailed a copy of Warren's message to Richard Curtin, Director of the Michigan survey, and his reply to me may be of interest to others, hence I transmit it without any comment of my own. -Howard

"We never release our preliminary results to the press. So his [Warren's] complaint is really with the Times for publishing something that was never publicly released. The preliminary figures however are a very good prediction of the final result---the mean differences is 0.0 and the median absolute difference is 1.0."

----- Original Message -----  
Subject: Consumer confidence  
Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2002 22:18:28 -0400  
From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>

Reply-To: mitofsky@mindspring.com  
To: aapornet@usc.edu

Subject: Consumer Confidence

From the New York Times

To the Editor:

The University of Michigan's poll reporting a decline in consumer confidence (front page, July 13) may grossly exaggerate the problem. Rather than a decline of 5.9 points during the last month, consumer confidence may have increased. We know that survey results are only approximations. This one may be off by as much as 10 points in either direction, according to Michigan's own methods statement.

The preliminary results from this poll are nothing more than replies from the 250 people who were easiest to reach from a larger sample. Given the widespread influence this poll has with market analysts, the Fed and others, preliminary results should have never been released. It would take a sample of at least 750 before one could reach a credible conclusion that consumer confidence declined this much.

WARREN MITOFSKY

New York, July 13, 2002

The writer is a founder of the CBS/New York Times Poll.

=====  
Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 15:31:57 -0500  
From: "Jan Kiley" <jankiley@soltec.net>  
To: "Aapornet" <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: incentive/mail survey

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=\_NextPart\_000\_0038\_01C238A7.67EA56E0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="Windows-1252"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A potential client (large law firm) has asked us to do a mail survey. Respondents will be both business and individual clients. Do any of you have experience with a similar kind of sample and what are your thoughts about including an incentive? Any suggestions about the amount of the incentive?

Thank you very much.

Jan Kiley

rss@soltec.net

-----\_NextPart\_000\_0038\_01C238A7.67EA56E0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- \*  
\* This post contains a forbidden message format \*  
\* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) \*  
\* This Mail List at USC.EDU only accepts PLAIN TEXT \*  
\* If your postings display this message your mail program \*  
\* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

-----\_NextPart\_000\_0038\_01C238A7.67EA56E0--

=====  
Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 17:30:59 -0400  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
Subject: Consumer Confidence  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I find it difficult to reconcile Richard Curtin's reply to Howard Schuman or his letter in the NY Times as a response to my letter to the Times. Mr. Curtin misses my point. My criticism was that releasing the results of the first 250 people from a 500 person sample has a huge error, if you assume it is a random sample. The release, which Mr. Curtin says was not given to the media, but presumably was given to his clients, showed a decline of 5.9 percentage points in the index.

According to Mr. Curtin's methods statement a difference such as this from random samples of 250 would have about a 10 point sampling error.

The marvelous record for similarity between preliminary and final results Mr. Curtin cites in Howard Schuman's posting (below) unfortunately was not the case this month. The preliminary number was 86.5. The final number was 88.1. That is hardly a 0.0 mean difference.

If my arithmetic is any good the index for the second 250 people interviewed was 89.7. Why didn't Mr. Curtin put out a press release saying CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REBOUNDED AT THE END OF JULY? Isn't that his most recent result?

My point is simple: 250 or even 500 is much too small a sample size to be publishing such an important index. Michigan's Consumer Confidence index has far too much influence in the financial markets for such puny sample sizes. Releasing half samples, even to private clients, not prudent, or worse. The last time I saw a half sample result from this survey was immediately following 9/11. That result was contradicted by at least two other measures of consumer confidence within days.  
warren mitofsky

At 01:44 PM 7/31/02 -0400, you wrote:  
Earlier this month, Warren Mitofsky sent a communication questioning a report of the mid-month results of the University of Michigan's Survey

of Consumer Confidence (see Warren's original message below). I emailed a copy of Warren's message to Richard Curtin, Director of the Michigan survey, and his reply to me may be of interest to others, hence I transmit it without any comment of my own. -Howard

"We never release our preliminary results to the press. So his [Warren's] complaint is really with the Times for publishing something that was never publicly released. The preliminary figures however are a very good prediction of the final result---the mean differences is 0.0 and the median absolute difference is 1.0."

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Subject: Consumer confidence  
Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2002 22:18:28 -0400  
From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
Reply-To: mitofsky@mindspring.com  
To: aapornet@usc.edu

Subject: Consumer Confidence

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WARREN MITOFSKY

New York, July 13, 2002

The writer is a founder of the CBS/New York Times Poll.

Warren J. Mitofsky  
140 Riverside Drive, Apt 18N  
New York, NY 10024

212 496-2945  
212 496-0846 FAX

email: mitofsky@mindspring.com  
http://www.mitofskyinternational.com

=====  
Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 17:39:48 -0400  
From: Howard Schuman <hschuman@umich.edu>  
X-Accept-Language: en-us  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: aapor <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Subject: Re: Consumer Confidence  
References: <5.1.0.14.2.20020731152546.032ddec0@pop.mindspring.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I am going to stop being a go-between in this matter, having done so only because Richard Curtin is not on aapornet. Others can communicate directly with the two parties, with aapornet, or with The New York Times.

But here was Curtin's letter in the Times (last Saturday, I believe, but I hadn't seen it myself at the time), part of which repeats what I forwarded earlier and presumably would elicit much the same response from Warren.

"A July 20 letter by Warren Mitofsky, a founder of the CBS/New York Times Poll, was critical of your publication of preliminary results from the Surveys of Consumers conducted by the University of Michigan. He wrote, 'Consumer confidence may have increased.' In fact, the sample size was sufficient to indicate that consumer confidence fell from the prior month at conventional levels of significance.

Over the past 10 years, the preliminary results have correctly anticipated the full survey findings, with the difference averaging less than one-tenth of a point. Perhaps this is why The Times as well as other media organizations publish the preliminary results despite the fact that the data are not publicly released.

RICHARD CURTIN

Ann Arbor, Mich., July 25, 2002

The writer

is director, Surveys of Consumers, University of Michigan."

And here was Curtin's further reaction to Warren's comments to aapornet:.

"I'm not sure where Mitofsky got his information on the survey, but it is wrong. I have never published a "standard" guideline that the Index has a 10 point standard error for 250 cases. Even his assumption about the sample size is wrong--it was 330 not 250 for the prelim he cites."

Warren Mitofsky wrote:

> I find it difficult to reconcile Richard Curtin's reply to Howard

> Schuman or his letter in the NY Times as a response to my letter to  
> the Times. Mr. Curtin misses my point. My criticism was that releasing  
> the results of the first 250 people from a 500 person sample has a  
> huge error, if you assume it is a random sample. The release, which  
> Mr. Curtin says was not given to the media, but presumably was given  
> to his clients, showed a decline of 5.9 percentage points in the index.  
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> from random samples of 250 would have about a 10 point sampling error.  
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> The marvelous record for similarity between preliminary and final  
> results Mr. Curtin cites in Howard Schuman's posting (below)  
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> warren mitofsky  
>  
> At 01:44 PM 7/31/02 -0400, you wrote:  
>  
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>> a report of the mid-month results of the University of Michigan's  
>> Survey of Consumer Confidence (see Warren's original message  
>> below). I emailed a copy of Warren's message to Richard Curtin,  
>> Director of the Michigan survey, and his reply to me may be of  
>> interest to others, hence I transmit it without any comment of my  
>> own. -Howard  
>>  
>> "We never release our preliminary results to the press. So his  
>> [Warren's] complaint is really with the Times for publishing  
>> something that was never publicly released. The preliminary figures  
>> however are a very good prediction of the final result---the mean  
>> differences is 0.0 and the median absolute difference is 1.0."  
>>  
>>  
>>  
>>  
>> ----- Original Message -----  
>> Subject: Consumer confidence  
>> Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2002 22:18:28 -0400  
>> From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
>> Reply-To: mitofsky@mindspring.com  
>> To: aapornet@usc.edu  
>>

>>  
>>  
>> Subject: Consumer Confidence  
>>  
>> From the New York Times  
>>  
>> To the Editor:  
>> The University of Michigan's poll reporting a decline in  
>> consumer confidence (front page, July 13) may grossly  
>> exaggerate the problem. Rather than a decline of 5.9 points  
>> during the last month, consumer confidence may have  
>> increased. We know that survey results are only  
>> approximations. This one may be off by as much as 10 points  
>> in either direction, according to Michigan's own methods  
>> statement.  
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>> The preliminary results from this poll are nothing more  
>> than replies from the 250 people who were easiest to reach  
>> from a larger sample. Given the widespread influence this  
>> poll has with market analysts, the Fed and others,  
>> preliminary results should have never been released. It  
>> would take a sample of at least 750 before one could reach  
>> a credible conclusion that consumer confidence declined  
>> this much.  
>> WARREN MITOFSKY  
>> New York, July 13, 2002  
>> The writer is a founder of the CBS/New York Times  
>> Poll.  
>  
>  
> Warren J. Mitofsky  
> 140 Riverside Drive, Apt 18N  
> New York, NY 10024  
>  
> 212 496-2945  
> 212 496-0846 FAX  
>  
> email: mitofsky@mindspring.com  
> http://www.mitofskyinternational.com  
>

---

Date: Wed, 31 Jul 2002 18:12:13 -0400  
To: hschuman@umich.edu, aapornet@usc.edu  
From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>  
Subject: Re: Consumer Confidence  
In-Reply-To: <3D485924.7040905@umich.edu>  
References: <5.1.0.14.2.20020731152546.032ddec0@pop.mindspring.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I guess Howard is still the go-between. Here is an answer to his latest post from Curtin.

For my sampling error statement see: SURVEY OF CONSUMERS by Richard T.

Curtin, Page 14, table 3 at the link below.  
<http://www.sca.isr.umich.edu/documents.php?c=i>  
warren mitofsky

At 05:39 PM 7/31/02 -0400, you wrote:

>I am going to stop being a go-between in this matter, having done so only  
>because Richard Curtin is not on aapornet. Others can communicate  
>directly with the two parties, with aapornet, or with The New York Times.  
>

>But here was Curtin's letter in the Times (last Saturday, I believe, but  
>I hadn't seen it myself at the time), part of which repeats what I  
>forwarded earlier and presumably would elicit much the same response from  
>Warren.

>  
>"A July 20 letter by Warren Mitofsky, a founder of the  
>CBS/New York Times Poll, was critical of your publication  
>of preliminary results from the Surveys of Consumers  
>conducted by the University of Michigan. He wrote, 'Consumer confidence  
>may have increased.' In fact, the sample size was sufficient to indicate  
>that consumer confidence fell from the prior month at conventional levels  
>of significance.

>Over the past 10 years, the preliminary results have  
>correctly anticipated the full survey findings, with the  
>difference averaging less than one-tenth of a point.  
>Perhaps this is why The Times as well as other media  
>organizations publish the preliminary results despite the  
>fact that the data are not publicly released.  
>RICHARD CURTIN Ann Arbor, Mich., July 25, 2002 The writer  
>is director, Surveys of Consumers, University of Michigan."

>  
>And here was Curtin's further reaction to Warren's comments to aapornet:.

>  
>"I'm not sure where Mitofsky got his information on the survey, but it is  
>wrong. I have never published a "standard" guideline that the Index has a  
>10 point standard error for 250 cases. Even his assumption about the sample  
>size is wrong--it was 330 not 250 for the prelim he cites."

>  
>Warren Mitofsky wrote:

>  
>>I find it difficult to reconcile Richard Curtin's reply to Howard Schuman  
>>or his letter in the NY Times as a response to my letter to the Times.  
>>Mr. Curtin misses my point. My criticism was that releasing the results  
>>of the first 250 people from a 500 person sample has a huge error, if you  
>>assume it is a random sample. The release, which Mr. Curtin says was not  
>>given to the media, but presumably was given to his clients, showed a  
>>decline of 5.9 percentage points in the index.

>>  
>>According to Mr. Curtin's methods statement a difference such as this  
>>from random samples of 250 would have about a 10 point sampling error.  
>>

>>The marvelous record for similarity between preliminary and final results  
>>Mr. Curtin cites in Howard Schuman's posting (below) unfortunately was  
>>not the case this month. The preliminary number was 86.5. The final  
>>number was 88.1. That is hardly a 0.0 mean difference.

>>  
>>If my arithmetic is any good the index for the second 250 people



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>>>New York, July 13, 2002

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