Steven Kull, director of the University of Maryland's Program on International Policy Attitudes, who conducts regular public opinion surveys on America's role in the world, said he thought the 9/11 attacks greatly reduced whatever true isolationism was left in the United States. Since 1945, he said, the program's polls have asked, "Should the United States take an active role in world affairs or stay out of world affairs?" "In the last few decades," Mr. Kull said, "it's been bumping up and down in the 60 percent range saying we should take an active part. After Sept. 11, that shot up to 81 percent, which is the highest ever recorded."

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June 2, 2002

U.S. WEB BROWSERS CONTINUE A GLOBAL TURN

By BARBARA CROSSETTE

UNITED NATIONS, May 31 -- It was not surprising that many Americans took a greater interest in foreign affairs after the attacks on the United States last September. But what does surprise foreign policy experts is that an eagerness to comprehend the world remains high nearly nine months later.

Several leading foreign policy organizations say their Web sites are getting several million hits a month, up substantially from the period before Sept. 11, and polling organizations say they are finding strong support for greater international cooperation on major issues.

"People are still searching for some answers to some big questions," said Marshall Bouton, president of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, an independent organization with about 6,500 members. The council, with one-third of its members under 40 years old and its membership drawn from a broad spectrum of backgrounds, will publish a survey of American opinions on foreign affairs this summer.
"We experienced a huge upsurge of interest in the first three months after 9/11," Mr. Bouton said, adding that hits on the council's Web site, www.globalchicago.org, shot up. "We saw great attendance at our programs. In the last four or five months, we've seen a sustained level of interest when the discussion is framed very broadly and we have a speaker whom people recognize."

Interest in American foreign policy also rose in smaller world affairs councils around the country and in local chapters of the United Nations Association of the United States. "Our chapters want us to get stuff up on our Web site right away," said William H. Luers, president of the national association. Its Web site is www.unausa.org.

The Web sites of two other foreign affairs organizations are attracting many hits. A new site for the Council on Foreign Relations in New York devoted to information on terrorism, www.terrorismanswers.com, has been attracting half a million hits a month. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, in Washington, was receiving 3 million hits a month on its Web site, www.ceip.org, in the first months after Sept. 11. It now gets about 2.5 million, still higher than before the September attacks.

Steven Kull, who is director of the University of Maryland's Program on International Policy Attitudes and conducts regular public opinion surveys on America's role in the world, said he thought the attacks greatly reduced whatever true isolationism was left in the United States.

Since 1945, he said, the program's polls have asked, "Should the United States take an active role in world affairs or stay out of world affairs?"

"In the last few decades," Mr. Kull said, "it's been bumping up and down in the 60 percent range saying we should take an active part. After Sept. 11, that shot up to 81 percent, which is the highest ever recorded."

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www.nytimes.com/2002/06/02/international/02NATI.html

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Date: Sun, 2 Jun 2002 21:40:14 +0300
From: "Vladimir I. Paniotto" <paniotto@kmis.kiev.ua>
X-Mailer: The Bat! (v1.47 Halloween Edition) Personal
Reply-To: "Vladimir I. Paniotto" <paniotto@kmis.kiev.ua>
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
Message-ID: <7629951926.20020602214014@kmis.kiev.ua>
To: AAPOR Network <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Coming down after St. Pete Beach
In-reply-To: <3CF4AC91.A716246C@hp.ufl.edu>
References: <3CF4AC91.A716246C@hp.ufl.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Thank you for your words, I feel the same. Even more. For me it was opportunity to return to scientific research world (I have published 8 books before started my own business 11 years ago and no books after that). The sessions were really stimulating. Besides I have opportunity to see famous sociologists, i just read their books before. The full professor in Ukraine receives 80 dollars per month, the own business gives opportunity to receive 20 times more and to take part in such conferences. That's why choice between research and business is very difficult. I am happy to know, that "nostalgia for research community" it's not just Ukrainian peculiarity. I would like also to thank all you for wonderful opportunity to enjoy your community.

Volodimir

Wednesday, May 29, 2002, 1:25:21 PM, you wrote:

CKP> So I'm wondering if I am the only one who experienced a big THUNK at coming back to real life after such a wonderful conference.
CKP> For a few days, we got to stop and think about what we do, instead of just doing and doing, driven by deadlines.
CKP> For those of us who are "the research guy" in an organization and mostly work with non-survey types, it was a joy to be around folks who spoke this special language. I could babble away in acronyms and slang, and y'all still understood what I was saying!!
CKP> The sessions were stimulating, and the surroundings were very pleasant. If I close my eyes, I can still see the sunset over the ocean.
CKP> Thanks again to all those who worked so hard to make the conference happen.

CKP> Colleen K. Porter
CKP> Project Coordinator
CKP> cporter@hp.ufl.edu
CKP> phone: 352/392-6919, fax: 352/392-7109
CKP> University of Florida,
CKP> Department of Health Services Administration
CKP> Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-015
CKP> Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195

Volodimir Paniotto, Director of KIIS
(Kiev International Institute of Sociology)
Milchakova 1/18, kv.11, Kiev-02002, UKRAINE
Phone (380-44)-463-5868,238-2567,238-2568 (office)
Phone (380-44)-517-3949 (home)
Fax (380-44)-263-3458, phone-fax 463-5868
E-mail: paniotto@kmis.kiev.ua
Colleagues,

We are exploring the acquisition of a T-ACASI or IVR system for the administration of sensitive telephone surveys with adolescents. I am looking for information on systems, costs, and experiences (both good and bad). Thanks in advance for your help. I'll post a review of responses to the list. Thank you.

-- Mary Losch

================================

Mary E. Losch, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Assistant Director
Department of Psychology/Center for Social and Behavioral Research
221 Sabin Hall
Cedar Falls, IA  50614
(319) 273-2105
mary.losch@uni.edu


The Pollster Who Answered a Higher Calling

By Richard Morin
Washington Post Staff Writer
Monday, June 3, 2002; Page C01

Pollster John Zogby had a problem: Too many political conservatives and not enough lefties were signing up to participate in his online surveys of
Rob Kampia of the Marijuana Policy Project also had a problem: He didn't know what Americans really thought about legalizing the five-leafed devil weed.

But both problems went up in smoke recently when Zogby's polling firm approached Kampia's Marijuana Policy Project with a novel proposition: Help us recruit smokers and their pals to participate in our cyber-surveys, and we'll let you add a few dope questions to our national polls.

Kampia jumped at the chance for free market research. And suddenly, Zogby International, a high-profile polling firm that has worked for some of the biggest names in the media, politics and corporate America, became a player in the pot lobby's ongoing war on the war on drugs.

John Zogby, the president and founder of the polling firm, downplays the arrangement. "'Relationship' may be too strong a word," Zogby says. "We have reached out to all sorts of groups to increase our e-mail channel: conservatives, liberals, libertarians, even normal-type people in both senses of the word," a reference to NORML, the country's best-known group seeking to change drug laws.

Word of the deal instantly sent pot opponents eight miles high.

"The insidious inroads that the small but heavily financed drug culture continues to make into the fabric of society is truly frightening," said Charles Perkins, president of Drug Watch International, in a prepared statement. "It is time for the media to expose these lobbyists, just as they would expose pedophiles who try to influence child abuse laws and enforcement."

Even some of his professional colleagues wonder what Zogby had been smoking when he signed on the Marijuana Policy Project to recruit poll respondents. "You wonder if they'll remember the question long enough" to answer it, chuckles Andrew Kohut, director of the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press.

Meanwhile, officials at the marijuana group couldn't be more pleased. In a "Dear Friend" letter sent to its online mailing list, executive director Kampia explained details of the arrangement, which were confirmed by Zogby officials:

"You now have a chance to . . . make your opinions count, and help the Marijuana Policy Project get professional polling done for free! . . . MPP is teaming up with one of the nation's most accurate and prestigious polling organizations, Zogby International."

Kampia went on to note that Zogby is developing a panel of thousands of individuals who agree to participate in Zogby polls. Participants will be e-mailed two surveys a month, "which will take a few minutes each to complete," Kampia wrote. Then he urged pot proponents to register for the panel online.

"For every 500 registrants we supply, Zogby will place a marijuana polling question for MPP in one of its nationwide polls -- both online and via traditional telephone survey methods. Each question would normally cost MPP
$1,000 or more. With more than 12,000 people now subscribed to this MPPupdates e-mail list, we have the opportunity to get [thousands of dollars' worth] worth of free survey research -- research that could greatly benefit our efforts to end the war on marijuana users."

Zogby says the marijuana group does not have carte blanche to ask anything it wants on his firm's polls. "They submit ideas. But they have to pass our smell test: The questions have to be balanced, they can't be loaded," he says. "This is a legitimate public issue."

He says his firm struck the deal after "we became concerned that we were getting a lot of conservatives" volunteering to participate in online surveys. "Our e-poll group is very young and very aggressive."

And very successful. Already, more than 1,000 people solicited by MPP have signed up to participate in the Zogby Interactive Panel, and the firm already has asked "a few" questions on marijuana issues, he says.

Zogby isn't concerned that the panel will somehow be flooded by marijuana participants. "We have more than 100,000 participants now," Zogby says. "There's just not enough to skew things."

Besides, Zogby would make the same offer to an anti-marijuana group, if they approached him. "If indeed an anti-marijuana group came to us, great, we would welcome them. There would be some groups we would refuse, but if they are in the legitimate marketplace of ideas, that's fine."

Some pollsters question Zogby's recruiting methods. A ferocious debate currently rages in the polling community about the accuracy and reliability of Internet surveys, virtually all of which are based on Internet users who volunteer to participate rather than people selected at random.

Adding to the problem is the fact that Internet users tend to be disproportionately male, white, young and better educated than the rest of the population. Internet pollsters attempt to correct for the difference by statistically adjusting their samples to contain the right proportion of women, older people and those with less education.

But these corrective measures aren't enough, critics charge.

"I could run up and down K Street and select a lot of people and collect their opinions and statistically manipulate that sample to look like the United States in terms of race, sex, income and education," says the Pew Center's Kohut, former president of the Gallup Organization. "But in the end, it would still be a sample of K Street and the people would still reflect a different set of views from the country as a whole. It doesn't work."

But others aren't so sure -- at least not yet. "I don't think we should shut the door on anything, nor embrace it out of hand," says Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist Institute for Public Opinion at Marist College in New York.

Zogby International is now among the most visible private survey companies in the country. Its client list includes congressional candidates from both parties as well as Microsoft and Cisco Systems, the U.S. Census Bureau, Chrysler Corp., State Farm Insurance, USA Today, the New York Post, Gannett
Is he worried that some of his corporate clients might be spooked by his association with a drug group?

"Not particularly," Zogby says. "We're liked by a broad spectrum and reviled by a broad spectrum. So I think we must be doing exactly what we should be doing."

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AAPOR is trying to compile a list of the annual T-shirt slogans and winners. The contest started in 1989 and we are missing the information for 1994, 1995, and 1999. If you know the slogan and/or the winner, please contact me.

The 4th annual EXPLOR Forum is coming up on November 21 and 22 in Chicago. This conference recognizes outstanding work in online research and leadership in the field. The website listed below gives you an overview of the conference and speakers lined up so far. The conference is sponsored by the American Marketing Association and is an excellent way to hear from leaders in the field of online research.

In addition, the site contains an RFP to conduct an online survey to evaluate the conference.

Francis Fullam
QSystems Consulting
EXPLOR Forum Conference Committee Member

The Urban Institute is a non-profit, non-partisan public policy research organization whose objectives are to sharpen thinking about society's problems and efforts to solve them, improve government decisions and their implementation, and increase citizens' awareness about important public choices. We are currently seeking to fill an open position, described below, in our Assessing the New Federalism project.
Located in downtown Washington, DC, The Urban Institute is convenient to public transportation, shopping, restaurants and other amenities. We offer an environment which is informal, flexible and collegial. Our benefits include prepaid tuition assistance, generous retirement, annual leave and competitive salaries.

For more information on The Urban Institute and for a complete listing of job openings, please visit our website at http://www.urban.org.

best, Adam

*****

Job Title: Research Assistant (R01)
Job Number: 02041-ANF
Status: Regular, Full-time
Center: Executive Office Research-Assessing the New Federalism
Reports To: Senior Research Associate

JOB SUMMARY

Performs a combination of tasks in support of the preparation of analysis files from a large, multi-year survey. Serving as resource for internal data users; using statistical software to tabulate data for analytic purposes; assisting in checking, recoding, and editing survey data; testing public use files created from survey data; providing support for data imputation and weighting. Assists in the writing of methodology reports and other survey related documentation. Provides support for research presented at professional conferences.

EXPERIENCE

Ability to work independently, strong problem solver and strong interest in learning about survey methodology, primary data collection and data preparation. SAS programming skills strongly desired, good organizational skills, proficient in MS Office and solid technical writing skills. Any experience working with survey data is extremely helpful.

EDUCATION

BS in Economics, Statistics, Mathematics, Survey Methodology or related Social Sciences

HOW TO APPLY

Send resume, cover letter, transcripts, and writing sample to:

The Urban Institute
Search Committee - Job #02041-ANF
2100 M Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20037
For those who have not already heard, David Mingay died in Bowie, Maryland on April 26 after being struck by a train. David had been an active presence at AAPOR conferences over the last fifteen years. During the course of his career he specialized in cognitive interviewing and, more recently, in usability testing of new data collection methodologies. His published work is in survey methodology, primarily in the area of cognitive interviewing.

David grew up in England and received his education at Cambridge University, a remarkable achievement for someone from his modest background. He came to the US to work at NCHS in 1985 in their Office of Research and Methodology. He was among the first in this country to utilize the cognitive interviewing technique for questionnaire development. At NCHS, he worked on cognitive interviewing projects such as the cognitive aspects of interviewing older adults, and on experimental projects in cognition and survey responding on topics such as the order of recall of medical visits and dietary recall.

David then came to NORC where he worked from 1989 until 1994, largely doing cognitive testing of questionnaires. Some of the more notable projects he worked on while at NORC consisted of trying to resolve the male/female discrepancy in sex partner reporting and in studying the accuracy of physician reports of the cause of death on death certificates.

In 1994 he was hired by the University of Chicago Department of Anesthesiology where he studied different ways to measure pain. It was during this time that he began his work testing automated methodologies for the collection of medical information from pre-surgical patients. During his time in Chicago David was active
as a volunteer in a local community soup kitchen and served as the host of a university radio talk show. David went to work at the Census Bureau in November, 2000.

David is survived by a mother and sister who both live in England. Those who knew him will remember his gentle cheerfulness, his considerable knowledge of the cognitive psychology and the survey methodology literatures, and his passion for asking questions and discussing ideas.

Date: Wed, 05 Jun 2002 10:25:31 -0400
From: "Colleen Porter" <cporter@hp.ufl.edu>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: surveying dentists
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="=_CC910379.54354ADB"

This is a MIME message. If you are reading this text, you may want to consider changing to a mail reader or gateway that understands how to properly handle MIME multipart messages.

--- CC910379.54354ADB
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

We are considering a series of projects that would involve surveys of dentists. I would love to talk with anyone with experience and expertise in this area. =20

Thanks much,

Colleen

Colleen K. Porter
Project Coordinator
cporter@hp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/392-6919, fax: 352/392-7109
University of Florida,
Department of Health Services Administration
Location: 1600 SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-015
Mailing Address:  P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL  32610-0195

--- CC910379.54354ADB
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
* ---REMAININDER 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 *
It is so tragic and sad that David passed away .....  
He was a good colleague of mine, discussing various issues of  
cognitive interviewing as you stated well. In one AAPOR session I  
presented on the survey of North Korean people, a very rare group for  
surveying, David personally came to me asking questions and suggesting some  
fine ideas for doing a study for a rare populaton... He was very gentle and  
thoughtful.  

It is a great loss to the cognitive interviewing and survye research methodology community.... Is there any way we AAPORites would honor David and his work, and are considerate of his survivors as well? An AAPOR session in 2003in honor of his work on cognitive interviewing is one way I can think of.  
Any other thoughts?  

In AAPOR spirit of learning from others,

Young Chun, Senior Research Scientist  
American Institutes for Research  
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20006  

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain privileged or  
confidential information. It is solely for use by the individual for whom  
it is intended, even if addressed incorrectly. If you received this e-mail  
in error, please notify the sender; do not disclose, copy, distribute, or  
take any action in reliance on the contents of this information; and delete  
it from your system. Any other use of this e-mail is prohibited. Thank you  
for your compliance.

-----Original Message-----  
From: rasinski@norcmail.uchicago.edu  
Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2002 9:06 PM  
To: aapornet@usc.edu
For those who have not already heard, David Mingay died in Bowie, Maryland on April 26 after being struck by a train. David had been an active presence at AAPOR conferences over the last fifteen years. During the course of his career he specialized in cognitive interviewing and, more recently, in usability testing of new data collection methodologies. His published work is in survey methodology, primarily in the area of cognitive interviewing.

David grew up in England and received his education at Cambridge University, a remarkable achievement for someone from his modest background. He came to the US to work at NCHS in 1985 in their Office of Research and Methodology. He was among the first in this country to utilize the cognitive interviewing technique for questionnaire development. At NCHS, he worked on cognitive interviewing projects such as the cognitive aspects of interviewing older adults, and on experimental projects in cognition and survey responding on topics such as the order of recall of medical visits and dietary recall.

David then came to NORC where he worked from 1989 until 1994, largely doing cognitive testing of questionnaires. Some of the more notable projects he worked on while at NORC consisted of trying to resolve the male/female discrepancy in sex partner reporting and in studying the accuracy of physician reports of the cause of death on death certificates.

In 1994 he was hired by the University of Chicago Department of Anesthesiology where he studied different ways to measure pain. It was during this time that he began his work testing automated methodologies for the collection of medical information from pre-surgical patients. During his time in Chicago David was active as a volunteer in a local community soup kitchen and served as the host of a university radio talk show. David went to work at the Census Bureau in November, 2000.

David is survived by a mother and sister who both live in England. Those who knew him will remember his gentle cheerfulness, his considerable knowledge of the cognitive psychology and the survey methodology literatures, and his passion for asking questions and discussing ideas.
Thanks.

Nick

========================================================================= 
Date: Wed, 05 Jun 2002 17:57:43 -0500 
To: rasinski@norcmail.uchicago.edu, <aapornet@usc.edu> 
From: Joan Law <joanlaw@ix.netcom.com> 
Subject: Re: David Mingay 
In-Reply-To: <0206041023.AA1023239140@norcmail.uchicago.edu> 
Mime-Version: 1.0 
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii" 
Message-Id: <E17Fjen-0001D6-00@mclean.mail.mindspring.net> 

Does anyone have the names and addresses of David's mother and sister? I would like to send a card.

David was a truly unique individual.

At 08:05 PM 6/4/02 -0500, rasinski@norcmail.uchicago.edu wrote:
> For those who have not already heard, David Mingay died in Bowie, Maryland on April 26 after being struck by a train. David had been an active presence at AAPOR conferences over the last fifteen years. During the course of his career he specialized in cognitive interviewing and, more recently, in usability testing of new data collection methodologies. His published work is in survey methodology, primarily in the area of cognitive interviewing. 
> 
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> 
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David is survived by a mother and sister who both live in England. Those who knew him will remember his gentle cheerfulness, his considerable knowledge of the cognitive psychology and the survey methodology literatures, and his passion for asking questions and discussing ideas.

---

Date: Thu, 6 Jun 2002 10:37:24 -0400
From: "Andy White" <awhite@nas.edu>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Message-ID: <85256BD0.005054C1.00@smtpmta.nas.edu>
Subject: Rodney Cocking
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

I don't know how many knew Rod, but the DC science ommunity has been quite upset about his disappearance. This is not the closure we hoped for.

--

NEWS RELEASE
DEPARTMENT OF
MARYLAND STATE POLICE
Headquarters: Pikesville, MD 21208-3899
(410) 486-3101   TTY For Deaf (410) 486-0677
Toll Free: 1-800-525-5555
__________________________________________
__________________________________________

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 5, 2002

ARREST MADE FOR MURDER OF MISSING PSYCHOLOGIST

(Mt. Airy, MD) - Maryland State Police today arrested a Mr. Airy man for the murder of a psychologist who has been missing from his Carroll County home since February.

Randall H. Gerlach, 56, of the 13000-block of Manor Drive, Mt. Airy, Md., was arrested without incident as he left his home shortly after 7:00 a.m. today. He is charged with first degree murder. After processing at the Westminster Barracks, he will be taken to the Carroll County Central Booking Center to await an initial appearance before a court commissioner.

Gerlach is charged with the murder of Dr. Rodney R. Cocking, 59, who lived in the 2800-block of Sams Creek Road, New Windsor, Md. Dr. Cocking was a psychologist who worked for the National Science Foundation in Arlington, Va.

On February 23, 2002, Maryland State Police at the Westminster
Barracks were contacted by a friend of the victim who reported him missing
due to his absence for a scheduled meeting. The victim's 2000
Lexus SUV was found abandoned in the Mt. Airy Shopping Center parking lot
the next day.

Members of the State Police Special Investigative Support Unit
(SISU) and investigators from the Westminster Barracks served a search
warrant at the victim's home on February 25th, and found what appeared to
be blood stains in the garage and a trail of suspected blood down the
driveway. There was also evidence someone had attempted to clean up the
scene.

A forensic examination of the victim's computer found evidence that
he was owed more than $300,000 by the accused and expected payment in full
by February 1, 2002. The investigation showed the victim had made numerous
loans to the accused over a period of years, apparently with the
understanding the loans were "investments" in Gerlach's land development
business.

Investigators learned Gerlach met with the victim at the victim's
house on the morning of February 23, 2002. Later that day, witnesses told
police two men were seen driving a pickup truck and the victim's Lexus
from his driveway.

On March 1, 2002, State Police from the Westminster Barracks and
SISU investigators served a search warrant on Gerlach's 1993 Toyota pickup
truck. Suspected blood evidence was found in the bed and on the
undercarriage of the truck. A loaded .22 caliber Marlin rifle and
ammunition was also found in the truck. It is not known if this weapon was
used to murder the victim.

The blood evidence from the victim's home and Gerlach's truck was
examined by the DNA unit at the Maryland State Police Crime Laboratory.
Through DNA testing, forensic chemists determined the blood found at the
victim's home and in Gerlach's truck was from the same source and that DNA
from the blood matched the DNA of the victim.

Investigators believe the evidence indicates the victim was wounded
or killed at his home on February 23, 2002. They believe the victim's body
was taken from the scene in Gerlach's truck and disposed of. At this time,
the victim's body has not been recovered.

After a review of the evidence with the Carroll County State's
Attorney's Office, State Police SISU investigators obtained a warrant,
charging the accused with murder. The investigation into the homicide is
continuing. Additional arrests are possible.

CONTACT:     Major Greg Shipley  Mr. Jerry Barnes
Office of Media Communications      Carroll County State's Attorney
- at Westminster Barracks     410-386-2671
410-386-3000
Hi,

We're planning a survey of cardiologists and primary care doctors. Can anyone recommend a set of questions to ask about the quality of work life for physicians?

I'll be happy to summarize any responses that come to me off-line, but this may be a topic of relatively general interest, where replies to the list are appropriate.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Trish

Patricia M. Gallagher, PhD
Center for Survey Research
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd, Boston MA 02125
617-287-7200; fax: 617-287-7210
We are considering a series of projects that would involve surveys of dentists. I would love to talk with anyone with experience and expertise in this area.

Thanks much,

Colleen

Colleen K. Porter
Project Coordinator
cporter@hp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/392-6919, fax: 352/392-7109
University of Florida,
Department of Health Services Administration
Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-015
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195

============================================================================
Date: Thu, 6 Jun 2002 20:09:18 -0700 (PDT)
From: Eleanor Hall <eleahall@yahoo.com>
Subject: David Mingay
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

One of David's many activities outside his job--I worked with David several years ago on a project which involved interviewing older people about their life stories as a legacy for children and grandchildren (his idea). It was such a rewarding experience; one series of interviews has become a self-published autobiography. He was always interested in striking out in new directions, and was a very kind and helpful person as well.

Do You Yahoo!?  
Yahoo! - Official partner of 2002 FIFA World Cup
http://fifaworldcup.yahoo.com

============================================================================
Date: Fri, 7 Jun 2002 08:00:08 -0400
From: "Willis, Gordon (NCI)" <willisg@mail.nih.gov>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: David Mingay
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2655.55)
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"

In the spirit of contributing to an online memorial to David -

What I remember most from our days at the National Center for Health Statistics is his sense of humor -- David could be a pretty imaginative practical joker. One time he freaked out a colleague by leaving a note suggesting that the person had received an inquiry from the Inspector General's office... on another occasion he edited my name and a fabricated
paper title into a program for an upcoming conference, and then left a copy on my desk with a note wishing me luck with my "upcoming presentation."

Despite the effectiveness of these ploys, I believe that the victims have somehow managed to get over it... David surely will be missed by all who knew him.

Gordon Willis, Ph.D.
Applied Research Program
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, NCI
(301) 594-6652
willisg@mail.nih.gov

-----Original Message-----
From: Eleanor Hall [mailto:eleahall@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2002 11:09 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: David Mingay

One of David's many activities outside his job-- I worked with David several years ago on a project which involved interviewing older people about their life stories as a legacy for children and grandchildren (his idea). It was such a rewarding experience; one series of interviews has become a self-published autobiography. He was always interested in striking out in new directions, and was a very kind and helpful person as well.

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APologies for Cross-Posting....

Register now for GSS Roundtable Luncheons at the ASA Meetings in NYC!

Make the most of your trip to ASA this year by attending one of the
exciting roundtable luncheons sponsored by the Government Statistics Section. This is your chance to hear the experts in a small group setting. Hurry, spaces are limited and filling up quickly! Read more in the registration booklet at www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2002/registration/Regbook.pdf

Monday, August 12:


Charles Alexander (Census) will host "Estimates from the American Community Survey Rolling Sample Design." (Luncheon Code M-04).

Nancy Kirkendall (EIA) will host "OMB's Information Quality Guidelines -- Collaboration of Statistical Agencies." (Luncheon Code M-06).

Tuesday, August 13

Stephanie Shipp (NIST) will host "The Advance Technology Program: Technical and Economic Criteria." (Luncheon Code T-03).

Brian Harris-Kojetin (OMB) will host "Incentives in Government Surveys." (Luncheon Code T-04).

Wednesday, August 14

Laura Zayatz (Census) will host "Have You Done Enough to Disclosure Proof Your Public Use File?" (Luncheon Code W-06).

Elizabeth Dimler (Census) will host "Contracting for Government Research and Development Services." (Luncheon Code W-05).

Questions? e-mail Nancy.A.Bates@census.gov (program chair-elect GSS 2003).

---

Date: Mon, 10 Jun 2002 11:01:30 -0500
From: smitht@norcemil.uchicago.edu
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: '94 T-shirt
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Description: "cc:Mail Note Part"

Looking for the t-shirt slogan for the 1994 conference in Danvers:

Do you know the winning slogan and/or who submitted it?

---

Date: Mon, 10 Jun 2002 14:40:35 -0400 (Eastern Daylight Time)
From: <tmglp@t.mail.virginia.edu>
To: "Smith, Tom" <smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu>
Cc: AAPORnet List server <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: '94 T-shirt

X-Mailer: Simeon for Win32 Version 4.1.4 Build (40)
X-Authentication: IMSP
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; CHARSET=US-ASCII

Tom:

I have before me a 1994 AAPOR T-shirt. It is navy blue with a white, circular emblem depicting castellated battlements. And the slogan is . . . nonexistent. The back of the T-shirt is entirely blank.

Tom

PS: I wasn't at the Danvers conference. Bought the T-shirt the following year when they were selling them off at Fort Lauderdale.

On Mon, 10 Jun 2002 11:01:30 -0500 smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu wrote:

> Looking for the t-shirt slogan for the 1994 conference in Danvers:
> Do you know the winning slogan and/or who submitted it?

Thomas M. Guterbock
Voice: (434) 243-5223
NOTE: NEW TELEPHONE AREA CODE CSR Main Number: (434) 243-5222
Center for Survey Research FAX: (434) 243-5233
University of Virginia EXPRESS DELIVERY: 2205 Fontaine Ave
P. O. Box 400767 Suite 303
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4767 e-mail: TomG@virginia.edu

The lack of a slogan was partly compensated by the novelty value of spelling "research" wrong in the writing round the castle

I have before me a 1994 AAPOR T-shirt. It is navy blue with a white, circular emblem depicting castellated battlements. And the slogan is . . . nonexistent. The back of the T-shirt is entirely blank.

******************************************************************
Any views or opinions are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of NOP World or any of its associated companies.
******************************************************************
Here's how one company does it... -- Jim

******

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with the chance to win $1,000 just for registering to join!

http://click.dailyfindmail.com/cgi-bin/t.pl?id=15930:17502564

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Best regards,
Janet Hall
Research Director, NPD Online Research
janet_hall@npd.com

Remove yourself from this recurring list by sending a blank email to mailto:unsub-17502564-1546@mail1.dailyfindmail.com

OR Sending a postal mail to CustomerService, Box 202885, Austin, TX 78720

This message was sent to address beniger@usc.edu

********

Date: Tue, 11 Jun 2002 08:49:19 -0400
From: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>
To: <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>, "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Your Opinion Could Be Worth...$1,000 (fwd)
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MMSend-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.3110.1
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3

There are many such offers floating around the net, including one I saw
recently promising a steady stream of income ("cash for your opinions") for those willing to, say, complete one survey daily (different research companies) after paying a fee for all the addresses and instructions on how to enroll. In the direct marketing business these consumers are referred to as Opportunity Seekers and anyone with experience in that industry will confirm that their behavior (opinions?) differs from that of those not on such lists. It's hard to believe that demographic weighting alone can correct for such factors. And the burden of proof should be on those claiming that they can.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
Voice (610) 408-8800
Fax (610) 408-8802
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com
-----Original Message-----
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2002 12:23 AM
Subject: Your Opinion Could Be Worth...$1,000 (fwd)

> 
> 
> Here's how one company does it... -- Jim
> 
> ******
> 
>----------------------------------------------------------------------
> 
> Date: Mon, 10 Jun 2002 19:31:23 UT
> From: The Daily Find <reply-17502564-1546@mail1.dailyfindmail.com>
> To: "beniger@usc.edu" <beniger@usc.edu>
> Subject: Your Opinion Could Be Worth...$1,000
> 
> You are receiving this offer as a member of The Daily Find because you signed up with our partner on 05/08/2002 16:48.
> 
> To unsubscribe, please see below.
> 
> I don't know too many people who can't use an extra $1,000. If you join NPD's Online Research Team in the next ten days, you could win $1,000!
> 
> The NPD Group is a top ten marketing research company and we are looking for people just like YOU. Your attitudes and opinions are especially valuable. By joining this Team, your insights, combined with other Team members, will give worldwide manufacturers and service providers the opportunity to listen to you first hand. This enables them to create better products and services, that meet the real needs of consumers, just like you. And, you'll have a chance to win some great prizes - starting with the chance to win $1,000 just for registering to join!
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> http://click.dailyfindmail.com/cgi-bin/t.pl?id=15930:17502564
> 
> A VERY IMPORTANT NOTE
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you anything, and we will never sell your personal information.
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on that.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?
If you're interested in answering online surveys, and would like the
chance to win CASH, please visit us at:

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REMEMBER... This offer expires soon, so join today! See our site for
Official Sweepstakes rules.

Take a Chance. Join the Team. Make a Difference.

Best regards,
Janet Hall
Research Director, NPD Online Research
janet_hall@npd.com

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mailto:unsub-17502564-1546@mail1.dailyfindmail.com

OR Sending a postal mail to CustomerService, Box 202885, Austin, TX 78720

This message was sent to address beniger@usc.edu

Date: Tue, 11 Jun 2002 11:18:47 -0400
From: "Chun, Young" <YChun@air.org>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Research Associate at American Institutes for Research
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
    boundary="----=_NextPart_000_01C2115B.487A35A0"

This message is in MIME format. Since your mail reader does not understand
this format, some or all of this message may not be legible.

----=_NextPart_000_01C2115B.487A35A0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Greetings,
See the attached or below.

<<Research Associate CCD.doc>>

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

The Education Statistics Services Institute of the American Institutes for Research, a well-established not-for-profit social science research and development organization, seeks a Research Associate to support its client, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

The Research Associate will work on survey operations and quality improvement for the two fiscal collections (local education agency and state) of the Common Core of Data (CCD) Survey System. Duties include performing data quality checks; reviewing CCD fiscal reports for understandability, accuracy, and adherence to standards; monitoring the production of survey files and file documentation; assistance in follow-up communications with state education agencies; maintaining data plans; and assistance in planning and implementing activities to follow up on suggestions for CCD improvements.

Successful candidate must be proficient in SAS programming; experience manipulating large data sets preferred. Master's degree or Bachelor's with a minimum of two years' related experience required. Knowledge of Excel table preparation and file management required. Excellent writing and communication skills, the ability to work within a team environment, and attention to detail required. Experience and/or interest in education issues and/or fiscal data a plus. AIR offers an excellent compensation package and benefits including tuition reimbursement and transportation subsidy. Convenient location in downtown DC. Please forward resume with cover letter, independently written and edited writing sample, and availability to:

Human Resources - CCD
American Institutes for Research
Education Statistics Services Institute
1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
resumes@air.org
Fax: 202-944-5454
Website: www.air.org
EOE

Young Chun, Senior Research Scientist
American Institutes for Research
Education Statistics Services Institute
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20006
ychun@AIR.org
202 944 5325

**************************************************************************
This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain privileged
JERUSALEM (Reuters) - A majority of Palestinians believe the aim of
their 20-month-old uprising should be to eliminate Israel and not just end Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, an opinion poll released Tuesday showed.

The survey also showed almost half of all respondents believed Palestinian President Yasser Arafat would win elections he has proposed holding early next year and that more than half wanted reforms of his Palestinian Authority.

The poll by the Palestinian Jerusalem Media and Communication Center (JMCC) highlighted a radicalization of views as 20 months of Israeli-Palestinian violence worsens.

The JMCC interviewed 1,179 people in the West Bank and Gaza in late May and early June. The poll had a three percent margin of error.

Fifty-one percent of people surveyed said the end result of the uprising should be "liberating all of historic Palestine," referring to British-mandate Palestine, part of which was recognized as Israel in 1948.

Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the 1967 Middle East war and these territories have since been the focus of internationally sponsored peace negotiations for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Forty-three percent of respondents said the aim of the uprising was to end Israeli occupation and establish a state only in the West Bank and Gaza.

This compared with a poll taken in December in which 48 percent said the uprising's goal was to end the occupation compared with 44 percent who said the aim should be to eliminate Israel, the JMCC said.

BROAD SUPPORT FOR UPRISING

The uprising continued to have broad support. Seventy-nine percent of people surveyed said they back the revolt in some way and 68 percent said they approved of suicide bombings against Israeli civilians, down slightly from 74 percent in December.

Fewer than half the respondents supported Arafat, despite Israeli attempts to isolate him by besieging his headquarters and restricting his movement.

Some 41 percent of people surveyed gave Arafat favorable marks, compared with 29 percent who said he was a bad leader.

Most of the people polled said Israeli raids had reduced their support for the Palestinian Authority and its security forces, and also dented their support for holding peace talks with Israel.

Fifty-nine percent of respondents said the Israeli raids had boosted their approval of the militant Islamic group Hamas, which opposes Israel's existence, and 66 percent said the army operations increased their backing for suicide bombings.
A large majority -- 58 percent -- said they supported domestic reform within the Palestinian Authority, and 42 percent said the best way to accomplish reform was through free democratic elections.

Arafat was expected to win elections by 48 percent of those surveyed.

Overall, 25 percent of Palestinians said they trusted Arafat more than any other politician, followed by 24 percent who said they trust no one and nine percent who put their faith in Hamas' spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin.

###

Greetings,

Below (http://www.edweek.org/ew/newstory.cfm?slug=39schaps.h21) is an article discussing question wording issues in high-stakes education surveys.

This piece reminds us well of the issues discussed in Schuman and Presser ..... 

Young Chun, Senior Research Scientist
American Institutes for Research
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20006

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In March, the Public Agenda research organization published its fifth annual Reality Check survey, which asked middle and high school students about their experiences with achievement testing. ("Public Agenda: Reality Check 2002," March 6, 2002.) Public Agenda described the survey's results with a headline proclaiming that "... few students are unsettled by testing " and a conclusion saying that "... public school students nationwide appear to be adjusting comfortably to the new status quo." IBM chief executive officer Louis V. Gerstner followed immediately with a pro-testing editorial in The New York Times, in which he cited Public Agenda's survey as proving that "the great majority of middle and high school students are comfortable with the increased testing in public schools."

(See the report "Reality Check 2002," from Education Week and Public Agenda. )
http://www.publicagenda.org/specials/rcheck2002/reality.htm

A closer look at the data on which these conclusions are based reveals that they are unjustified. Probing a bit on Public Agenda's Web site, we find that the actual wording of the key question was this:

Which best describes how nervous you get when you take standardized tests?
(a) I don't get nervous at all.
(b) I get nervous but I can handle it.
(c) I get so nervous that I can't take the test.

Of the national sample of 600 students, 23 percent chose (a), 73 percent selected (b), and 5 percent checked (c).

Nearly three of every four students responded that they do get nervous at testing time but "handle it." What does this tell us? Very little, given the wording of the question, because we have no way of knowing how students were distributed across the spectrum of stress levels. Students who are terrified but somehow manage to take their test would pick this response alternative, as would students who experience only a twinge of anxiety. But for Public Agenda, the popularity of this response proves only that "few students are unsettled." For Mr. Gerstner, it translates as "a great majority" being "comfortable."

Public Agenda describes the response rate for (c) thusly, "Only a handful of students (5 percent) say they 'get so nervous' that they can't take the tests." This "handful" would amount to 135,000 students in California.
alone. Public Agenda may regard this problem as a small price to pay in pursuit of accountability, and indeed, it offers no expression of concern, no comment of any kind. Many of the rest of us, however, will be less sanguine that one or sometimes two students in a typical classroom are so overwhelmed by anxiety that they can't function at all at testing time.

Public Agenda phrased some questions in an impartial way. For example, it asked, "Do you think you have to take too many of these tests, too few, or are things about right?" Here, 25 percent of respondents answered "too many," 4 percent answered "too few," and 71 percent answered "about right."

But more often Public Agenda's phrasing of questions, and its description of results, reflect a pro-testing bias. For example, it asked:

"Do your teachers focus so much on preparing for these standardized tests that they neglect other important topics, or does this usually not happen?"

Here, bad-news responses are effectively minimized by the use of "usually," by the either/or syntax, and by the fact that students are unlikely to know what additional topics would have been covered in the absence of test-preparation activities. Unsurprisingly, 78 percent of students answered, "This usually does not happen." Again, this tells us little.

More revealing is that on two other questions, 80 percent of students answered that "... [my] teachers usually spend class time helping students prepare for these tests," and 45 percent agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, "My school places far too much emphasis on standardized test scores." These response rates ought to raise concerns, especially given the insertion of "usually" and "far," which work to reduce the frequency of agreement.

Despite this mixed and perhaps contradictory set of results, Public Agenda paints a rosy picture. "Reality Check picks up very little evidence of strain," it concludes.

Perhaps what is most important to recognize is that Public Agenda did not survey the students most vulnerable to testing stress—those in elementary schools. Younger students are more likely to lack the cognitive and emotional skills for dealing with high-pressure situations. Under the recently enacted reauthorization of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, we are about to begin testing nationally from 8th down through 3rd grade. Some states, including California, are already testing 2nd graders.

Why isn't Public Agenda interested in the testing experiences of elementary students? If elementary students are considered old enough to take the tests, they ought to be old enough to be surveyed, especially by telephone, which was the method used here.

Whatever Public Agenda's failings, we as a nation face a much larger problem than hidden bias in a single survey or even a series of surveys from such a high-profile source. We suffer from a dearth of solid information about the broader effects of high-stakes testing. While we have a wide array of data to assess the intended effects of testing—reducing the "achievement gap" or ensuring that high school graduates possess specified skills and knowledge, for example—we have very little to help us assess the unintended effects. We can, for instance, readily determine whether
reported achievement gains in Texas are real by comparing Texas Assessment of Academic Skills scores with the state's National Assessment of Educational Progress and SAT scores, and by also using trend data on student demographics, retention-in-grade rates, special education placements, and dropout rates. (Many of the reported TAAS gains do not hold up under scrutiny.) But we have almost no systematic data, in Texas or anywhere else, to help us assess testing's effects on teacher morale and retention rates, school climate, time spent teaching different subjects, quality and depth of instruction, and many other pivotal dimensions of schooling.

> From my own vantage point, working closely over time with a small number of school districts scattered across the country, the negative effects of testing are serious and are growing steadily. More and more class time consumed by test-prep activities. More instruction of the drill-and-kill variety. The short-shrifting of untested subjects such as science and history, not to mention art and music. More teacher frustration and resentment, and early retirement by some of our best veteran teachers. A shortage of highly qualified candidates for principalships. Gerrymandering of special education placements, interschool transfers, and even, in one instance, school attendance boundaries.

But, of course, these are only my personal observations and should not be taken any more seriously than the observations of someone who has witnessed a range of positive effects in other settings. Individually, we each can see only a small part of the elephant, and inescapably, we do so through our own subjective lens.

High-stakes testing is a radical change. It is an unprecedented centralization of power at the state and federal levels. It is an unprecedented form of pressure on districts, schools, teachers, and students. We would be arrogant or naive to think that we can know in advance all the consequences of such a swift and drastic policy shift. Many dollars are going to study the intended effects of this change; virtually none are going to track its broader effects, positive or negative. It's high time we carefully and objectively assess all the important consequences of our new assessment practices.

Eric Schaps is the founder and president of the Developmental Studies Center in Oakland, Calif.

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© 2002 Editorial Projects in Education Vol. 21, number 39, page 30
Greetings,

http://www.edweek.org/ew/newstory.cfm?slug=40sass.h21

The link above or the text below summarizes the latest finding from "the Schools and Staffing Survey" representing "the most extensive set of data on the country's education workforce."

Young Chun, Senior Research Scientist
American Institutes for Research
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20006

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==========================
Qualifications of Teachers
Falling Short

By Catherine Gewertz
Education Week
June 12, 2002

More than half the nation's middle school students and a quarter of its high school students are learning core academic subjects from teachers who lack certification in those subjects and did not major in them in college, a new federal survey shows.


A report drawn from data in the Schools and Staffing Survey outlines the phenomenon of out-of-field teaching, in which educators are assigned to teach classes for which they are not formally trained.

Researchers had eagerly awaited the SASS data—released by the U.S. Department of Education on May 31—since the survey is conducted only every six years and represents the most extensive set of data on the country's education workforce.

The new figures arrive amid mounting concern that lagging teacher quality
could be hindering student achievement. That worry has fueled debate about how to ensure that all classrooms are staffed with capable teachers. The concern is reflected in the requirement in the federal "No Child Left Behind" Act of 2001 that every classroom be staffed by a "highly qualified" teacher by the end of the 2005-06 school year.

"The rate of out-of-field teaching is an unacceptable situation," said Tom G. Carroll, the executive director of the National Commission on Teaching & America's Future, a Washington-based organization that advocates more stringent standards of quality for teachers.

"There is clear evidence that knowledge of content makes a difference to student achievement," Mr. Carroll said. "If we find we have such high numbers of out-of-field teachers, our children are not being well served."

Little Improvement
The SASS analysis compared rates of out-of-field teaching in 1999-2000 with those in 1987-88, and found the problem to have improved in some areas, such as high school English and bilingual education.

During the 1999-2000 school year, 58 percent of middle schoolers were learning English from teachers without a major or credential in that subject, and 57 percent were learning science from similarly underqualified teachers, according to the report. The numbers were higher in history (71 percent), foreign language (61 percent), and math (69 percent). And they were particularly high in some subfields of science; the figure for physical science was 93 percent.

Other data in the report show that out-of-field teaching extends to the high school level, though the problem is not as pronounced as in middle school. One-quarter to two-thirds of high school students study most of their core subjects with teachers who lack certification in those fields and did not major in them in college.

On the elementary level, out-of-field teaching appeared somewhat harder to define, since K-5 teachers typically teach multiple subjects. One-fifth of teachers who said elementary education was their main assignment were certified in that area without having majored in it in college. That figure rose to half of elementary teachers in English and two-thirds in math.

Those who study the issue of out-of-field teaching offered varying analyses of the dynamics that produce the assignment patterns.

Some took the view that it is not a significant problem, and pointed to studies that found no strong link between teachers' subject-matter expertise and the achievement of their students.

In an article in the June-July 2000 issue of Educational Researcher, Stephen J. Friedman, a professor of educational measurement and statistics at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, cited seven studies that examined the importance of teachers' qualifications in the classroom.

"I would like to believe that subject knowledge is an important (maybe the most important) influence on student learning," Mr. Friedman wrote. "However, based on the evidence in the literature ... its impact has been demonstrated to be of little consequence."
Deployment Problem?
Mr. Friedman's article was in response to a March 1999 article in the same journal by Richard M. Ingersoll, who contended that out-of-field teaching hampers student achievement and cited studies supporting his view.

Mr. Ingersoll, an associate professor of education at the University of Pennsylvania, noted that while teacher training is often weak, the schism outlined in the SASS report is not related to how teachers are trained, but to how they are deployed in schools.

The solution, he said in an interview last week, is not to beef up teacher training, but to revamp how administrators use their personnel.

"Why is this problem so prevalent? Because it's cheaper and more expedient than the alternatives," said Mr. Ingersoll. "Say you're a principal and you have a full-time music teacher, but there is only enough demand for three classes. What do you do? You assign them to teach English."

Fueling the out-of-field phenomenon are the beliefs that teaching is not worthy of much respect, and that little real expertise is needed to teach, Mr. Ingersoll said.

"We don't have the assumption of expertise in schools," he said. "In hospitals, except in an emergency, you won't see a cardiologist delivering a baby. But in schools, the assumption is, 'Oh, gosh, you don't have to be that smart. Teaching English, teaching math, what's the difference?'"

Mr. Carroll of the National Commission on Teaching & America's Future said that schools and districts must insist on hiring only teachers properly trained for the jobs available, and must practice a strict policy of assigning teachers only to their chosen subject areas.

To keep those staff members—and reduce the retention problem Mr. Carroll believes contributes to misassignment—working conditions must be improved, with better salaries, more teacher control over instructional decisions, and a more collegial work environment, he said.

Disparate Impact
Of particular concern to some analysts is a pattern revealed by previous research showing that schools that serve students from low-income families in urban areas have higher rates of out-of-field teaching than those in wealthier areas. That pattern increases the likelihood that children with greater challenges to learning could experience repeated years of teaching by instructors less qualified to teach core subjects, Mr. Carroll said.

The 1999-2000 SASS data do not show whether low-income schools or students of specific racial groups experience higher rates of out-of-field teaching, but officials at the Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics, which published the report, plan to release such breakdowns.

People working to improve the quality of education for middle schoolers lamented the SASS findings, though they came as no surprise. Nancy Ames, a founding member of the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform, an advocacy group based in Newton, Mass., said the report "gives us the
hard data to support what we've known all along."

"Middle-grade students do not get the special focus that they deserve," she said. "They are the linchpin in the education system. In the middle grades is where we lose a lot of kids who eventually drop out of school, or drop out of learning by becoming unmotivated and not taking rigorous courses."

Ms. Ames said that while 43 states and the District of Columbia offer teaching certification for middle school, only 23 states require middle-level teachers to have such licensure. Many states offer certificates that span wide grade ranges, such as K-8 or 7-12, and do not require in-depth study of the developmental needs of young adolescents, she said.

Craig D. Jerald, a senior policy analyst at the Washington-based Education Trust, a research group that advocates strong academic programs for poor and minority students, said current licensure policies are out of step with the drive to higher state academic standards. Substantial subject-area expertise should be required for certification, he said.

"States are putting in place rigorous subject-area standards for kids," he said. "We're demanding a whole lot more of kids, but not demanding it of teachers."

On the Web
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The Department of Education provides the complete text of the "No Child Left Behind" Act of 2001. See "Title I Part A-Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies," Sec. 1119, for the teacher quality requirements.

"Revisiting What States Are Doing to Improve the Quality of Teaching: An Update of Patterns and Trends," February 2001, from the Center for the Study of Teaching and Policy, takes a look at recent developments in state policy related to teaching quality. (Requires Adobe's Acrobat Reader.)

Read the report "The Status of the Teaching Profession 2001," from the California Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning. The report looks at how many fully-qualified teachers are currently in the state's schools, and how to improve on that number. (Requires Adobe's Acrobat Reader.)

Read Stephen J. Friedman's and Richard M. Ingersoll's back-and-forth articles, from the journal Educational Researcher:

"The Problem of Underqualified Teachers in American Secondary Schools," (Ingersoll), March 1999;
"How Much of a Problem? A Reply to Ingersoll's 'The Problem of Underqualified Teachers in American Secondary Schools'" (Friedman) June-July 2000; and

>From the National Forum to Accelerate Middle- Grades Reform, read an April 2002 policy statement "Teacher Preparation, Licensure, and Recruitment." The statement calls for the specialized preparation of middle-grades
educators at both the pre-service and graduate levels and describes what
the organization sees as essential elements of a middle-level teacher
preparation program.

© 2002 Editorial Projects in Education Vol. 21, number 40, page 1,18

The Science and Human Rights Program of the American Association for
the Advancement of Science is seeking an open source systems
administrator ("computer specialist III") to work with us on the
application of information management and statistics to human rights.

We're looking for someone who loves free software, wants to support
human rights, and is eager to travel some of the most difficult places
in the world.

You need to be very comfortable with GNU/Linux systems. In particular,
some of the skills you should have include a mastery of GNU/Linux
installations, boot loaders, and init scripts; a wide knowledge of
system demons; experience installing, configuring, and deploying free
software office & productivity applications; script experience (perl,
Python, shell); and at minimum, a working understanding of SQL, free
software implementations of SQL back ends (MySQL, PostgreSQL), and of
rapid ways to provide UIs to SQL systems (glade, PHP/HTML).

You also need to be willing to learn about human rights ideas, to travel
all over the world, to learn about other cultures, and to work hard when
you get there.

This job is located in Washington, DC -- telecommuting is NOT an
option. AAAS provides a non-smoking work environment. EOE, of course.

If this sounds good, you can get LOTS more information (including how
to apply) at:

http://shr.aaas.org/sysad

The deadline for resumes is 2 July 2002.
The latest edition of The Poll Watchers column is available at

Topics include:
*The Catholic Church in Crisis
*Time to retire RDD in pre-election polls?
*FROM THE POLL VAULT: Should restaurants serve Negroes and Whites?

Hi,

I am looking for any survey data related to public opinion on euthanasia in order to compare them with the results of my student's survey on the question. If you are aware of available public data, even old one, can you please send me the information or tell me how I can get it?

Thanks a lot

Claire Durand
Claire.Durand@umontreal.ca
http://www.fas.umontreal.ca/socio/durandc/

Université de Montréal, dept. de sociologie,
C.P. 6128, succ. Centre-ville,
Montréal, Québec, Canada, H3C 3J7
(514) 343-7447
Hi,

The General Social Survey survey data (available from the ICPSR archives at http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/GSS/ and these data have information about Americans' attitudes toward euthanasia--they may be of some help.

Best,
Allan

On Fri, 14 Jun 2002, Claire Durand wrote:

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> --

I want to publicly thank Marc Zwelling, Larry Hembroff, and Karen Bogen; they generously responded to my request for suggestions for quality of physician
work life items. The denizens of AAPORNET are a most collegial group.

Their responses:

1) Possibly you've thought of contacting the AMA and state AMA's. In Canada the doctors' associations have done such studies, but not my firm.

Marc Zwelling

2) For about 8 years now, the American Board of Emergency Physicians has been conducting a panel study of emergency physicians. The questionnaire is about 37 pages long and includes questions on a variety of worklife related issues. Since I'm not a principal investigator -- only a contractor who helped design the questionnaire -- I'd suggest you contact Dr. Marianne Reinhart at the American Board of Emergency Medicine in Lansing, Michigan. She would likely be willing to send you a copy of the questions included.

Larry Hembroff

3) ... work done by Rosalind Barnett. I think she's at Boston College, though it could be Boston University. She does work-family research, and she has been developing a scale about work-family "fit". I know some of her research is on physicians.

Karen Bogen

-----Original Message-----
From: Patricia Gallagher
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2002 10:54 AM
To: Aapornet (E-mail)
Subject: Request for quality of physician work life questions

Hi,

We're planning a survey of cardiologists and primary care doctors. Can anyone recommend a set of questions to ask about the quality of work life for physicians?

I'll be happy to summarize any responses that come to me off-line, but this may be a topic of relatively general interest, where replies to the list are appropriate.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Trish

Patricia M. Gallagher, PhD
Center for Survey Research
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd, Boston MA 02125
617-287-7200; fax: 617-287-7210
See the following from The Harris Poll:


-----Original Message-----
From: Claire Durand [mailto:Claire.Durand@UMontreal.CA]
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2002 9:49 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: euthanasia

Hi,

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But that provenance-be-damned attitude hardly ended with the Great Communicator's retirement. CNN political analyst William Schneider, an authority on opinion polling, believes that highly charged political issues or campaigns are particularly prone to spin off fictional study results, which then take on a life of their own.

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All fair points. But in their support Cole cited "a nationwide survey recently commissioned by Columbia Law School," which he said, "found that almost two-thirds of all Americans think Karl Marx's dogma, 'From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs,' was or may
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Commentary pages are the soft underbelly of American journalism. Their writers, however self-interested, are held to a different, which is to say lower, standard of proof because of their presumed expertise. In fact, they are responsible for regularly injecting false information of this sort into our public discourse. In the marketplace of ideas, as on the used car lot, caveat emptor still is the best policy.

http://www.thirdmil.org/publications/surveys/surv7.html

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

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> information of
> this sort into our public discourse. In the marketplace of
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Mea Culpa.

A quick Google for Elvis and Social Security tells me that John McCain said this during the GOP debate in NH in Jan of 2000:

"But at the same time, people are telling me: save Social Security; put some money into Medicare and pay down that debt. And don’t put that burden on future generations of Americans. More young Americans believe Elvis is alive than believe that they’ll ever see a Social Security check."

And here is a possible source circa 1997 for that factoid:
http://www.60plus.org/socialsecurity.asp?docID=194

"Let me point out how 60 Plus became engaged on this issue. A few years ago the Third Millennium, Generation X'ers in the 18-34 age group, announced the startling news that most X'ers believed more in UFOs than that the system would be around when they retired. I responded on a radio talk show that seniors are also aware that the system is headed for bankruptcy. Then I added, somewhat flippantly, perhaps, that seniors believe more in the second coming (has it been 20 years this week?) of Elvis Presley than in the system's future solvency and that seniors might also prefer changes. After a few call-ins and further discussion of UFOs and Elvis, I decided to poll senior citizens. Our poll to approximately 100,000 seniors found that, by a surprising 3-to-1 margin, seniors preferred a privatized system. We then commissioned a survey by pollster Frank Luntz, an excerpt of which is in the study we've released. The Luntz poll confirmed our 3-to-1 ratio. " 
Note this from their press release:
http://www.60plus.org/socialsecurity.asp?docID=196

"Now, the results show that many voters think it is more or equally likely that intelligent aliens from another world, like the "second coming of Elvis", will land on Earth and contact human beings than Social Security being there for them when they retire."

It is curious that Frank Luntz appears to be involved in both of these surveys.

There is also this one:
http://www.publicampaign.org/pubop.html#elvis

Do you think you are more likely to see Elvis or see real campaign finance reform?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elvis</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign finance reform</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither (volunteered)</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both (volunteered)</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I think I see a scary trend.

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

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Nathaniel Ehrlich [mailto:nehrlich@isr.umich.edu]
> Sent: Friday, June 14, 2002 11:35 AM
> To: 'simonetta@artsci.com'; 'AAPORNET'
> Subject: RE: Surveying a Problem With Polls (T Rutten LATimes)
> 
> I think I recall the Elvis myth [but I certainly wouldn't swear to it].
> Reminds me of an old beer commercial, for Altes beer, where they reported
> that two thirds of people taking a blind taste-test 'EITHER PREFERRED
> ALTES TO THEIR FAVORITE BEER OR COULDN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE'. As I
> used to point
> out to my statistics classes, you could have 100 beer drinkers, 33 of whom
> preferred their favorite beer, none who preferred Altes, and 67 who were too
> drunk or otherwise insensate who couldn't tell beer from any other cold
> liquid.
> 
> This in addition to the other factors that the 'researchers'
> might have
> played with, e.g. the temperature of the beers: first do a pre-test to
> determine which of two temperatures people prefer, then make
> sure that your
> target beer is at the more preferred temperature and all the
> others aren't.
>
> Nat Ehrlich
> Senior Research Associate
> University of Michigan Institute for Social Research
> 1230 Eisenhower Place, Room 427
> Phone: 734-222-8660
> Fax: 734-222-1543
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Leo Simonetta [mailto:simonetta@artsci.com]
> Sent: Friday, June 14, 2002 11:23 AM
> To: 'AAPORNET'
> Subject: RE: Surveying a Problem With Polls (T Rutten LATimes)
>
> In the first instance I believe that they are misremembering the Third
> Millennium study that found in 1994 that more 18-34 believed
> UFOs existed
> (46%) than believed Social Security will exist by the time they retire
> (28%).
>
> http://www.thirdmil.org/publications/surveys/surv7.html
>
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>
> --
> Leo G. Simonetta
> Art & Science Group, LLC
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>
> ------------
> Copyright 2002 Los Angeles Times
> ------------
> June 14 2002
>
> REGARDING MEDIA
>
> Surveying a Problem With Polls
>
> By TIM RUTTEN
>
> TIMES STAFF WRITER
>
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I am trying to evaluate the monitoring procedures for our CATI Facility. I know that validation is many times done on a specific percentage of all completed interviews (such as 5%), but I have not seen much discussion of monitoring for quality control while calls are in progress. Does anyone have any feedback or sources for information on this topic, including suggested methods of documentation.

Thanks in advance! Patricia

Patricia Commiskey, MA
Research Director - CATI Facility
Center for Health Policy / Health Services Research
University of Maryland School of Medicine
(410) 706-6753 / Fax: (410) 706-4702
pcommiskey@som.umaryland.edu

I received the following message from the Census Bureau.

From the desk of Tommy Wright (Chief, SRD, U.S. Census Bureau)...

We are deeply saddened to report that David Mingay died on May 26 in Bowie, MD. David was a research psychologist in the Human

David's funeral is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday in Grimsby, England. His family is requesting that instead of flowers, those who wish can make a donation in David's name to Oxfam America, 26 West Street, Boston, MA 02111. Oxfam America is an international development organization dedicated to creating lasting solutions to hunger, poverty, and social injustice around the world.

A local memorial service for David will be held on Tuesday, June 18 from 3:30 to 4:30 at the U.S. Census Bureau in the Conrad Taeuber Room in the Conference Center of building #3 in Suitland, Maryland. A condolence book will be available which will then be forwarded to David's family in England.

For those external to the Census Bureau who wish to attend the service, please Email Barbara Palumbo (barbara.a.palumbo@census.gov) or phone Barbara at 301-457-4974 by c.o.b. Monday, June 17. Include your full name and the name of your agency. For those who are unable to attend but who would like to pass along some remembrances of David, you are welcome to email them to us and we will include them in the condolence book we send to his family. Your emails can be sent to: jennifer.m.rothgeb@census.gov

========================================================================
Date: Fri, 14 Jun 2002 12:27:30 -0400
From: "Marc Zwelling" <vector@sympatico.ca>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Vector Research - polling Catholics
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
   boundary="----=_NextPart_000_002B_01C2139E.DA4969C0"
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

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

------=_NextPart_000_002B_01C2139E.DA4969C0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Anyone have access to lists in the U.S. and Canada of Catholics, especially parents with children in Catholic schools?

Culling Catholic school parents from the general population is problematic due to the low incidence, so lists my clients can access seem to be a way to hold down costs.

Thanks, AAPORNet.

========================================================================
The following is a comment on the reporting about the Gallup poll of Muslims. Gallup published a methodological statement about how the poll was conducted. The description made the work seem reasonable. It was a poll of all people in the selected countries, not just Muslims. The criticism was over Gallup's aggregating of the results from the various counties. Each country was treated equally. The Zogby poll, if my understanding is correct, was conducted in more Muslim countries, but in only one city per country. This should be verified with Zogby. If so, the Gallup and Zogby polls are not comparable.

Warren Mitofsky

A statement by the National Council on Public Polls' Polling Review Board

MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE GALLUP POLL OF "THE ISLAMIC WORLD"
March 6, 2002

Gallup did an important and fascinating study of reaction to the terrorist attacks on the United States on 9/11. The study drew such wide attention President Bush, according to USA Today, said we "must do more to improve [our] image in the Islamic world." A State Department spokesman also commented on the study. Given this study's prominent attention the National Council on Public Polls feels some comments are in order.
News stories based on the Gallup poll reported results in the aggregate without regard to the population of the countries they represent. Kuwait, with less than 2 million Muslims, was treated the same as Indonesia, which has over 200 million Muslims. The "aggregate" quoted in the media was actually the average for the countries surveyed regardless of the size of their populations.

The nine countries in the Gallup study do not represent the Muslim world. Gallup never claimed it had a representative sample of Muslim countries. However its findings, as reported by USA Today, claims to be a study of the Muslim world. CNN also reported a single number that represented Muslims. The aggregate figures do not even represent the results across the nine countries. The nine countries in the Gallup study comprise only about 40% of the world's Muslim population. Four of the excluded countries had larger populations of Muslims than many of those that were included. Excluded were India, Bangladesh, Egypt and Nigeria. On the other hand almost two thirds of the Muslims in the nine countries Gallup studied live in Indonesia and Pakistan. (Note: both CNN and USA Today did report results for the nine countries in addition to the aggregate data.)

The surveys were samples of all residents of the countries surveyed, not only Muslims.

We must rely on the news organizations that have reported the study, and our comments relate to the ways in which the research results have been reported in the media. Nothing in this statement is intended to be critical of this important research.

For more information about this and other polling issues, contact the NCPP Polling Review Board. www.ncpp.org

Mitofsky International
1 East 53rd Street - 5th Floor
New York, NY 10022

212 980-3031 Phone
212 980-3107 FAX
mitofsky@mindspring.com
http://www.MitofskyInternational.com
I believe nearly all academically-based survey research organizations conduct on-going visual and auditory monitoring at all times that interviewing is in process, including the use of quality control checklists that cover issues of reading the question as worded, probing inadequate answers, appropriate entry of response category, maintaining interpersonal neutrality, and the like. The high degree of variability regarding the extent of visual and auditory monitoring is obviously tied to budget and to standards set by the survey research organization. As a basic introduction, Fowler & Mangione ("Standard Survey Interviewing: Minimizing Interviewer-Related Error," Sage, 1990) and Lavrakas ("Telephone Survey Methods: Sampling, Selection, and Supervision," Sage 1989) are good introductory references. ----- Original Message ----- From: "Commiskey, Patricia" <PCommiskey@som.umaryland.edu> To: "AAPORnet (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu> Sent: Friday, June 14, 2002 9:12 AM Subject: A question...

> I am trying to evaluate the monitoring procedures for our CATI Facility. I know that validation is many times done on a specific percentage of all completed interviews (such as 5%), but I have not seen much discussion of monitoring for quality control while calls are in progress. Does anyone have any feedback or sources for information on this topic, including suggested methods of documentation.
>
> Thanks in advance! Patricia
>
> Patricia Commiskey, MA
> Research Director - CATI Facility
> Center for Health Policy / Health Services Research
> University of Maryland School of Medicine
> (410) 706-6753 / Fax: (410) 706-4702
> pcommiskey@som.umaryland.edu
>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Job Opening at Princeton University Survey Research Center
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
   boundary="------------57AE3778FEAD1A5A33E6DBA6"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.
------------57AE3778FEAD1A5A33E6DBA6
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   *
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
------------57AE3778FEAD1A5A33E6DBA6--

========================================================================
Date: Mon, 17 Jun 2002 14:28:56 -0400
From: "Marc D. Weiner" <mdweiner@Princeton.EDU>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.79 [en] (Windows NT 5.0; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Job Opening at Princeton University Survey Research Center
Content-Type: text/html; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

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   *
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

========================================================================
Date: Mon, 17 Jun 2002 12:19:42 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Job opening at Princeton University SRC
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206171215270.5940-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=X-UNKNOWN
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8BIT
Hi Jim,

Could I trouble you to post this to the list for me?

Thanks,

Marc Weiner
Staff Supervisor, Princeton University Survey Research Center

Internet Survey Specialist, Survey Research Center

The Survey Research Center (SRC) seeks a full-time Internet Survey Specialist (ISS) to process and deliver its on-line social science survey research activities. The ISS will be primarily responsible for developing and executing approximately twenty time-sensitive on-line survey data collection efforts per year. The ISS will create all necessary components of on-line surveys including access pages, directions, security features, and data value selection devices. The ISS will develop and create websites to support each on-line survey data collection effort, and will prepare and execute HTML e-mail notifications. The ISS will secure and deliver collected data to the SRC’s associate director. The ISS will also be responsible for managing the SRC’s on-line and phone survey MS Access databases consistent with the best practices of database administration.

This position requires strong computing skills, including proven experience in website design, development and authorship, web security features management, and database design, management and troubleshooting. Extensive HTML, FTP, CSS, Adobe Photoshop, and related applications experience required. Experience with statistical software such as SPSS or STATA preferred. Experience with Microsoft Office Suite, include Word and Excel required, and proven extensive MS Access database development and management experience required. This position also requires good judgment, creativity, and problem solving ability, as well as excellent interpersonal, organizational, communication and writing skills. The ability and proven experience to prioritize and balance multiple projects, to take direction from a wide range of social science researchers, and to work both collaboratively and independently in a social science research setting will be crucial. An undergraduate degree in computer or social science and three to five years' related experience are required, and experience in an academic social science research setting is highly preferred.

Consideration of resumes, cover letters, and three professional references will begin on June 21st, 2002. please submit cover letter and resume to: humanres@princeton.edu with Req. 02-0002426 in the subject
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
DIRECTOR OF SURVEY OPERATIONS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

The Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of California, Berkeley seeks candidates for the Director of Survey Operations (DSO). Along with the faculty Director of the SRC, the DSO has primary responsibility for developing and selecting projects based upon their scientific merit and technical feasibility. The DSO directs the SRC’s survey operations including fieldwork and administrative, statistical, and technical services. Candidates must have substantial experience and background managing survey research operations employing all types of samples and methodologies (e.g., list and RDD samples; mail, telephone, and in-person surveys). They should be familiar with survey research involving multi-language and hard-to-reach populations, sensitive topics, and embedded experiments and complex flow. Specialized knowledge of CATI instrumentation, especially CASES, is highly desirable. Candidates must have extensive knowledge of social science research designs and analysis, factors determining survey costs, and proven ability to manage multi-million dollar contract and grant research projects. Advanced degree in the social sciences or equivalent work experience is required. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Send CV to: SRC, c/o Fern Glover, 2538 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94720
For further information, contact Professor Henry Brady, Director of the Survey Research Center at 510-642-3008 or hbrady@csm.berkeley.edu. EEO/AA.

*******

Fern Glover
THERE was something almost Dickensian about a report issued in New York the other day by the Anti-Defamation League, on the state of anti-Semitism in America as reflected in a new opinion poll. This was Dickensian in the "best of times, worst of times" sense. You could go either way, depending on how you looked at the numbers.

The worst news spoke for itself.

If the defamation league's figures are right, Jews have lost ground on the bigotry front. The survey found 17 percent of Americans holding "hard-core" anti-Semitic views, as measured by reactions to an array of time-tested stereotypes about Jews: they have too much power, they're not honest in business, their first loyalties lie with Israel, and so on. Four years ago, a similar poll pegged that hard core at only 12 percent.

Obviously, this is not progress. Nor is a finding that anti-Semitic attitudes are disproportionately strong among blacks and foreign-born Latinos (many of whom, it seems, have yet to catch up with Vatican teachings that the Jews did not kill Jesus).
On the plus side, the 17 percent figure is still better than the 20 percent that was found in a 1992 survey.

And another conclusion pointed to good times. At colleges, only 3 percent of students and 5 percent of professors qualified as "most anti-Semitic."

Considering the anecdotal evidence of anti-Jewish feelings on campus because of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, this discovery was counterintuitive. You could almost say, "What the Dickens?"

Enough with the numbers. The point is, while the overall trend may be disheartening, it seems too early to reach for panic buttons.

This is important to more than just Jews, who may be considered the canary in the coal mine for a range of minority groups. People who think ill of Jews because they're Jews are also likely to believe that blacks are mentally inferior and violence-prone, that Latinos are no better and that gays are degenerates who get what they deserve when they die of AIDS.

A new wrinkle, one that can't be Botoxed away, is the Israeli-Palestinian violence. For the first time, the league said, anti-Israel feelings are being translated into harsh attitudes about Jews in general.

This gets tricky. Can't one find fault with Israel, not to mention with the iron-fisted policies of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, without being labeled an anti-Semite?

Sure, said Abraham H. Foxman, the league's national director. But the lines between criticizing Israel and disliking Jews have blurred, he said. Witness recent anti-Jewish acts in Europe and elsewhere. In this country, too, he said, hard feelings about Israel are used "to fuel, legitimize and rationalize anti-Semitism."

In so many respects, you could say that Jews in the United States have never had it better. They fill the upper ranks of professions that were closed to them a generation or two ago. Ten of the 100 United States senators are Jewish. Just 19 months ago, a Jew was popularly elected vice president. It wasn't the American people who kept Senator Joseph I. Lieberman from sitting in the West Wing.

Yet an "end is at hand" fear has spread among American Jews.

European anti-Semitism, the endless suicide bombings by Palestinians against Israelis, the propaganda believed by many Muslims that a Zionist conspiracy was responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks -- all have contributed to the queasiness.

Some even see a "second Holocaust" on the way. "It's coming sooner or later," the writer Ron Rosenbaum said recently in The New York Observer. "It's not whether, but when."

Slow down, others say, among them Leon Wieseltier, literary editor of The New Republic. In an essay last month that ran under the headline "Hitler Is Dead," he cautioned against "a Jewish panic."
A minority group that accepts that life is better -- that "has taken yes for an answer" -- is going to be "always anxious that it may have been tricked," Mr. Wieseltier said. Jews are not alone on this score.

All the same, "pessimism is an injustice that we do to ourselves," he wrote.

It does not mean everything is fine, Mr. Wieseltier said yesterday in an interview. But Jews, he said, are "supposed to be connoisseurs of adversity," a skill acquired through centuries of oppression.

A connoisseur can tell the good from the bad. By the same token, "a connoisseur should know the difference between the bad and the worst."

---

Public Opinion Researcher Needed for Ongoing, Freelance Work.

We are a three person department made up of professional, public opinion researchers. Our function is part of the corporate affairs department at Philip Morris Management Corporation, the parent company of Kraft Foods, Miller Beer and Philip Morris tobacco. Our role is to undertake public opinion research to help support the development of corporate affairs strategies and tactics for the parent company (Philip Morris Companies), and our operating companies.

We operate as an in-house opinion research firm. Many of our projects are conducted in conjunction with well known opinion research firms, however we also do a number of projects "in-house."

We are looking for an experienced public opinion researcher to work on a freelance, project-by-project basis. The ideal candidate would possess the following:

* A minimum of 3 years experience working with a research agency (the more the better)
* Experience working on political & public policy issues, advertising development and/or corporate reputation projects
* Survey design, data analysis, report writing and presentation development skills a must
* Ability to work independently
* Experience with international research a plus

Our office is located in mid-town Manhattan. However, living in the metro-New York City area is not necessary (but it is helpful).

If you are interested in possibly working with us, please contact David Sylvia via email (david.sylvia@us.pm.com).

David Sylvia
Director, Global Public Opinion & Trend Research
Philip Morris Management Corporation
120 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10017
ph - 917.663.2175
fx - 917.663.5424
cell - 917.596.4672
pager - 888.578.7415
David.Sylvia@us.pm.com

=========================================================================
Date: Tue, 18 Jun 2002 11:47:21 -0500
From: Mary Losch <losch@csbr.csbs.uni.edu>
Subject: Re: Panel studies of high school/college students
To: aapornet@usc.EDU
Message-id: <3D0F1DA8.7501.1F586876@localhost>
MIME-version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Pegasus Mail for Win32 (v3.12c)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Colleagues,
I am looking for information (suggestions, pitfalls to avoid) about conducting a panel with adolescents. We are designing a study that matches high school juniors and seniors with one parent and includes yearly interviews with each group for 3 years. This becomes particularly challenging since the majority of the teen participants will change residences during the project period. The interviews do not address sensitive or illegal behaviors. We have not made the final decision about self-administered versus phone mode.

Any wise words from experience about effective incentives, strategies and the like would be much appreciated. Please respond to me directly and I will post a summary to the list.

Thanks. Mary Losch

***********************
Mary E. Losch, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Assistant Director
Department of Psychology/Center for Social and Behavioral Research
221 Sabin Hall
U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS GROUP, INC. v. BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB CO. (06/12/02 - No. 00-3802)

Questions that a pharmaceutical company used in research surveys were not trade secrets, because they were readily ascertainable in public sources, and its use of three of the questions in a follow-up survey did not breach an agreement with a market research company.

To read the full text of this opinion, go to: [PDF File]

-------------------------------------------------------------

Allan L McCutcheon
amccutch@unlserve.unl.edu

Call for Papers--Deadline June 30

Conflict and Consent: Public Opinion in Times of Transition

Annual Conference of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research

November 22-23, 2002
Radisson Hotel & Suites, Chicago

Public opinion research is particularly relevant in time of transition—from elections, to protests, to war. The methodological tools and theoretical models of public opinion research can lead to meaningful explanations, insightful interpretations, and sound decisions that are desperately needed during uncertain times. MAPOR invites proposals addressing the conference theme, as well as any area related to public opinion methodology, theory, and analysis of data. MAPOR is a chapter of the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:

All paper and panel proposals (see below) must be received by 8 p.m. CDT on June 30, 2002. Please send each submission only once, either by fax, mail or email. Mail submissions should include four copies of the
abstract.

SEND ALL SUBMISSIONS TO:

Allan McCutcheon
Gallup Research Center
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
200 North 11th Street
Lincoln, NE 68588-0241
USA
Fax: 402/458-2038       Telephone: 402/458-2035
Email: amccutcheon1@unl.edu

RESEARCH PAPERS

Submission must be abstracts no longer than two (2) typed, double-spaced pages. No full-length papers will be reviewed.

Please list the name(s) of the author(s) and affiliation on a separate page (for blind reviewing). Include your full mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address. Student submission should be identified as such on a separate page. Indicate if you would prefer to present your paper in the poster session.

You will receive notification of the action on your proposal by August 15.

Student authors are encouraged to participate in the MAPOR Fellow Student Paper Competition. (See our web site for more details. <www.MAPOR.org>)

PANEL PROPOSALS

Submit a written proposal (up to two double-spaced pages). Proposals should identify the topic, explain its importance, and list the potential panelists and their areas of expertise. Panels related to the conference theme are particularly encouraged.

>>> Check the MAPOR web site for conference news: www.MAPOR.org <<<

---

Date: Wed, 19 Jun 2002 09:15:34 -0500 (CDT)
From: ALLAN L MCCUTCHEON <amccutch@uniserve.unl.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Call for Student Papers--Deadline June 30
Message-ID: <Pine.A41.4.02.10206190915060.95348-100000@uniserve.unl.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

>>> MAPOR Fellow Student Paper Competition <<<
Conflict and Consent: Public Opinion in Times of Transition

Annual Conference of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research

November 22-23, 2002
Radisson Hotel & Suites, Chicago

The first place winner will receive an award of $200, a free conference registration, and a free ticket to the Friday MAPOR luncheon. Any other top-quality papers judged Honorable Mention will earn authors free conference registration and a free luncheon ticket.

A committee composed of MAPOR Fellows will make the awards. Winners will be announced at MAPOR’s 27th annual conference.

ELIGIBILITY

For the purposes of this competition, a student is someone who is currently enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program. A paper authored by more than one person is a student paper if all parties are a student according to the above definition. Students need not be members of MAPOR.

The topic of the paper must conform to the general areas of scholarship that MAPOR addresses, which are (1) public opinion and (2) survey methods. The papers need not be quantitative nor must they report data in order to qualify for consideration in this competition.

PROCEDURES

Students first need to submit an abstract of their paper to the conference program chair, Allan McCutcheon, conforming to the 2002 MAPOR Call for Papers.

DEADLINE

The deadline for submission of abstracts is 8 p.m. CDT on June 30, 2002. Students should specify on a page accompanying the abstract that they are students.

Send all abstracts to:

Allan McCutcheon
Gallup Research Center
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
200 North 11th Street
Lincoln, NE 68588-0241
USA

Fax: 402/458-2038 Telephone: 402/458-2035
Email: amccutcheon1@unl.edu
Once a student has been informed that his/her paper has been accepted for the 2002 conference, then the student will need to submit a full paper by October 1, to be eligible for consideration for the 2002 competition.

Three (3) hard copies of the full paper with full contact information including name, surface mail address, e-mail address, and telephone number must be submitted by mail to Mark Miller and must be received not later than October 1.

M. Mark Miller
School of Journalism
University of Tennessee
330 Communications Building
Knoxville, TN  37996-0330
e-mail:  mmmiller@utk.edu

>>> Check the MAPOR web site for conference news:  www.MAPOR.org <<<

Date: Fri, 21 Jun 2002 16:33:01 -0500
From: "Elizabeth Kelly" <Elizabeth_Kelly@baylor.edu>
To: <beniger@almaak.usc.edu>, "'AAPORNET'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Director of Survey Operations, UC, Berkeley
Message-ID: <000001c2196b$38ed3520$54a63e81@baylor.edu>
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 CWS, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)
In-Reply-To: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206171641590.6785-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4807.1700

I am looking for statistics on the number of missing children worldwide?
Elizabeth Kelly

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of James Beniger
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2002 6:48 PM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: Job: Director of Survey Operations, UC, Berkeley

Date: Mon, 17 Jun 2002 16:41:13 -0700
 JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
DIRECTOR OF SURVEY OPERATIONS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

The Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of California, Berkeley seeks candidates for the Director of Survey Operations (DSO). Along with the faculty Director of the SRC, the DSO has primary responsibility for developing and selecting projects based upon their scientific merit and technical feasibility. The DSO directs the SRCs survey operations including fieldwork and administrative, statistical, and technical services. Candidates must have substantial experience and background managing survey research operations employing all types of samples and methodologies (e.g., list and RDD samples; mail, telephone, and in-person surveys). They should be familiar with survey research involving multi-language and hard-to-reach populations, sensitive topics, and embedded experiments and complex flow. Specialized knowledge of CATI instrumentation, especially CASES, is highly desirable. Candidates must have extensive knowledge of social science research designs and analysis, factors determining survey costs, and proven ability to manage multi-million dollar contract and grant research projects. Advanced degree in the social sciences or equivalent work experience is required. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Send CV to: SRC, c/o Fern Glover, 2538 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94720
For further information, contact Professor Henry Brady, Director of the Survey Research Center at 510-642-3008 or hbrady@csd.berkeley.edu. EEO/AA.

*******

Fern Glover
Senior Administrative Analyst
UC DATA/Survey Research Center
University of California, Berkeley
2538 Channing Way #5100
Berkeley, CA 94720-5100
Phone: (510) 642-2337
Fax: (510) 643-8292
areita@uclink.berkeley.edu

*******
LAND OF FEAR: AMERICANS SEE FOURTH OF JULY TERROR LIKELY

Half of Americans (57%) surveyed by TIME magazine and CNN believe a terrorist attack on the 4th of July is very or somewhat likely (13% and 44% respectively; 11% say "not at all likely," 27% say "not very likely"). Americans think that overall, the U.S. has risk of a terrorist attack is "high" (39%) or "significant" (29%).

Americans favor Tom Ridge over Rudy Giuliani to head a new cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security. The current director of the office of Homeland Security gets 39% support, while New York City's former mayor gets 35%. (Nine percent say "neither," 17% are "not sure").

Two-in-three (69%) want Congress to create the new cabinet-level department (23% do not). Americans believe the new department would make the U.S. more secure from future terrorist attacks (71% yes, 24%); make them more secure personally (58% yes, 37% no).

But many fear a new Department of Homeland Security would cost too much (57% yes, 35% no) and create too much bureaucracy (52% yes, 39% no).

Other poll results include:

MIDDLE EAST:

* Two-thirds (66%) say Bush should offer his own peace plan (27% say no).

* Israel's decision to send in troops to re-occupy Palestinian territory makes it more difficult to achieve peace, according to 60% (28% said it would not be more difficult).

* Americans are split on whether or not a Palestinian state should be created (40% favor, 35% oppose, 25% not sure).

* They also are split on whether a Palestinian state would make peace more difficult to achieve (40% say yes, 44% say no).

* Equal percentages of Americans consider themselves supporters of Israel (44%) and not supporters; 14% are unsure.

* More say the U.S. provides Israel with the "right amount" of support (45%) than too much (35%).
U.S. POLITICS:

* Bush's job approval rating is at 70% (down from a one-year high of 89% Oct. 12).

* Important midterm election issues will be domestic, say 54% (30% chose foreign policy).

WORLD CUP SOCCER:

* 3 in 4 Americans are not following the event (72%) v. 26 percent who are following soccer.

Poll Results will appear in the upcoming issue of TIME, on newsstands Monday, June 24. The TIME/CNN survey was conducted by Harris Interactive by telephone among 1,003 adult Americans June 19-20, 2002. The margin of error for the total sample is plus or minus 3.1.

END

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SURVEY ABSTRACT

The habits and attitudes of train riders emerged in a quarterly survey of 5,271 riders conducted in April by Metro-North, which serves about 120,000 customers a day from New York City's northern suburbs. It was the first time that Metro-North included questions about cellphones in its survey; the results were similar to those of a smaller survey done two years ago by a commuters group on the Long Island Rail Road. The Metro-North results, released this week, found that 76 percent of customers carried a cellphone. Of those, 55 percent reported using their phones on the train "occasionally" (for emergencies or at most once a week); 29 percent, "moderately" (more than once a week, but less than once every trip); and 6 percent, "frequently" (one or more calls per trip). Asked to gauge their annoyance with cellphones, 13 percent of those same customers said they were never bothered by them. But 87 percent said they were bothered: 55
percent said "sometimes"; 20 percent said "most of the time"; and 12 percent said "all of the time."

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**www.nytimes.com/2002/06/22/nyregion/22CELL.html**

June 22, 2002

**TRAIN RIDERS LAMENT USE OF (OTHERS') CELLPHONES**

By LISA W. FODERARO

**WHITE PLAINS, June 21 --** Marian Lewis is among the three-quarters of riders on the Metro-North Railroad with a cellphone. She uses it occasionally to contact a family member in an emergency. She considers it a necessity, an unalienable right, and balks at the idea of segregating users in specified cars, like the smoking sections of yore.

But Ms. Lewis is mightily annoyed at everyone else yakking on the phone around her. In this, she is like the majority of her fellow commuters: she relies on her cellphone and resents everybody else's.

"If I wrote novels I'd try to pick up vignettes, but the conversations are always so boring," said Ms. Lewis, a special referee for the Supreme Court of New York who commutes from White Plains. "Everybody is always talking about their nanny or what tunnel they're headed into. And too loud and too long always seem to go together."

The habits and attitudes of riders emerged in a quarterly survey of 5,271 riders conducted in April by Metro-North, which serves about 120,000 customers a day from New York City's northern suburbs. It was the first time that Metro-North included questions about cellphones in its survey; the results were similar to those of a smaller survey done two years ago by a commuters group on the Long Island Rail Road.

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Asked to gauge their annoyance with cellphones, 13 percent of those same customers said they were never bothered by them. But 87 percent said they were bothered: 55 percent said "sometimes"; 20 percent said "most of the time"; and 12 percent said "all of the time."

What to do? Here's where it gets fuzzy, in part because respondents could choose more than one option. The clear majority, 81 percent, wanted Metro-North to continue to educate riders on "considerate usage." Other options were limiting cellphone use to door areas (34 percent), limiting
phone use to designated cars (27 percent) and prohibiting cellphones on trains (6 percent).

Daniel Brucker, a Metro-North spokesman, said the railroad was not planning to experiment with designating certain cars for cellphones.

Jim Cameron, vice chairman of the Connecticut Metro-North Rail Commuter Council, a watchdog group, said that rather than ask if cellphones should be restricted to some cars, Metro-North should have raised the possibility of a single quiet car. "The question they ask gives the implication that only one or two cars would be usable for cellphones," said Mr. Cameron, who owned up to being interviewed on his own cellphone, though not aboard Metro-North.

He pointed to the implementation of a quiet car on Amtrak, which he rode this week, so popular as an experiment that it became a feature on most weekday trains in the Northeast Corridor and on the Empire line.

Metro-North officials said that such a solution was not practical on its trains, which run at capacity, with many riders sprinting toward the cars as the doors are closing.

Metro-North also said that its conductors would be overwhelmed trying to police passengers who sneaked a call aboard "quiet" cars, especially those who had been unable to find a seat on the rest of the train.

Last year Metro-North launched a courtesy campaign, which, among other things, encouraged cellphone users to keep their voices down and to move to the vestibule areas for longer conversations. Since then, the number of complaints has dropped to 3 to 5 a month from about 10 a month.

Some of those complaints come from aboard the trains, one cellphone user ratting on another. "They are fearful that they are going to lose their right to use their cellphone because others are abusing them," said Ted Bowen, the railroad's manager of customer relations.

One commuter, Gregory Jeffries of Mamaroneck, who averages about one call during his 40-minute trip, said the inconsiderate camp of cellphone users threatened to ruin things for the courteous camp, to which he claimed to belong. "I don't understand the way people use cellphones sometimes," he said. "They talk louder than normal and pretend there is no one else around."


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*****
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'He was the pitcher and I was his catcher, and that's pretty much how it's always been,'" John said about James.

Their involvement in Arab-American causes stems from their experiences together in the 1960s, first as opponents of the war in Vietnam, then as proponents of expanding civil rights for minorities and women.

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But James' close association with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his spirited defense of the Palestinian leader amid the escalation of suicide bombings in Israel give Zogby critics new opportunities to denounce his work.

"Do I know [Arafat]? Sure, I do," James said. "Do I disagree with him? Sure, I do. Do I feel enormous pain when I see him humiliated? Sure, I do. I feel terrible pain for that. No leader of a people should have to endure that. It's a hate crime what's been done to him because it says to his
people you are all being treated this way. He's not a monster by any
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ajc/services/info/services.html#reprint>The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

To all native and second-language speakers
of Mandarin Chinese, and to the people who love them:

How would you distinguish among the English-language
translations of the following Mandarin terms which
more or less--you tell me, please--approximate the most common usage of the English term "public opinion," as in "AAPOR: American Association for Public Opinion Research"?

Gonggong Yulun
Min Yi
Min Yin
Yu Lun

Which of these terms--if any--might have a negative connotation, in your own opinion?

Any additional Mandarin terms you might think roughly approximate the AAPOR meaning of "public opinion" would also be welcomed.

Please reply to me directly, and *not* to the list--I'll pass along anything I might learn as a single message to our list.

Thank you for your kind consideration, and for any help at all you might have to offer a Gringo like me.

-- Jim

******

This article might be considered reasonably balanced except for one really bizarre aspect: quotes by spokesmen for two extreme right-wing Jewish groups are presented without any identification as to the nature of these organizations. This is a little like asking spokesmen from the Aryan Nation and the KKK about the NAACP and treating their remarks as representative of white American opinion.

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</ajc/services/info/services.html#reprint>The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

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Three other polls were closer than Zogby's.

http://www.ncpp.org/poll_perform.htm

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The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

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Date: Sun, 23 Jun 2002 21:09:08 -0400
From: "Ward Kay" <wkay@adirondack-inc.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Defining regions
Message-ID: <000001c21b1b$c14d22c0$6501a8c0@Ward>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
   boundary="----=_NextPart_000_0001_01C21AFA.3A3DCCB0"
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook, Build 10.0.2627
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

------- NextPart_000 0001_01C21AFA.3A3DCCB0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I would like aapornet's help in a little study I am doing for my own curiosity and as a paper idea for the MAPOR conference in Chicago, next November (abstract deadline June 30).

I would like to compile a list of how opinion research organizations break the country down by regions. If you do national surveys that look at regional differences, I would like to see how you define regions.

The genesis of this study comes from two areas. First, there have been informal talks at MAPOR (Midwest AAPOR chapter) conferences about "What is the Midwest?" MAPOR regularly draws participants from Syracuse, DC, Tennessee, Texas, Colorado and Washington state. MAPOR considers the Midwest a state of mind. I think it will be interesting. I also
remember a graphic from American Demographics in the 80s that showed the Midwest was defined differently as the respondents moved westward.

Second, in many studies, I have found it difficult to classify Texas in any regional scheme. It is not similar to the rest of the South, nor to the Southwest, nor to the Midwest. Texas is a world unto itself (and large enough to make a significant difference). I am especially curious on where other organizations classify Texas regionally. And I would welcome any anecdotes on how Texas affected regional results.

Please send a list of states within regions, using whatever title for the region that you use, to me either by fax (703) 242-9351 or my email: wkay@adirondack-inc.com.

I thank you in advance for your help.

Ward Kay
Vice President for Research
Adirondack Communications
wkay@adirondack-inc.com

------=_NextPart_000_0001_01C21AFA.3A3DCCB0
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_0001_01C21AFA.3A3DCCB0--

========================================================================
Date: Sun, 23 Jun 2002 18:14:09 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNENET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: The Bible and the Apocalypse (N Gibbs TIME.com)
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206231803400.21706-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

POLLING ABSTRACT

A TIME/CNN poll finds that more than one-third of Americans say they are paying more attention now to how the news might relate to the end of the world, and have talked about what the Bible has to say on the subject. Fully 59% say they believe the events in Revelation are going to come
true, and nearly one-quarter think the Bible predicted the Sept. 11
attack.

-- Jim

The Bible and the Apocalypse

The biggest book of the summer is about the end of the world.
It's also a sign of our troubled times.

BY NANCY GIBBS

What do you watch for, when you are watching the news? Signs that
interest rates might be climbing, maybe it's time to refinance. Signs of
global warming, maybe forget that new SUV. Signs of new terrorist
activity, maybe think twice about that flight to Chicago.

Or signs that the world may be coming to an end, and the last battle
between good and evil is about to unfold?

For evangelical Christians with an interest in prophecy, the headlines
always come with asterisks pointing to scriptural footnotes. That is how
Todd Strandberg reads his paper. By day, he is fixing planes at Offutt
Air Force Base in Bellevue, Neb. But in his off-hours, he's the webmaster
at raptureready.com and the inventor of the Rapture Index, which he calls
a "Dow Jones Industrial Average of End Time activity." Instead of stocks,
it tracks prophecies: earthquakes, floods, plagues, crime, false prophets
and economic measurements like unemployment that add to instability and
civil unrest, thereby easing the way for the Antichrist. In other words,
how close are we to the end of the world? The index hit an all-time high
of 182 on Sept. 24, as the bandwidth nearly melted under the weight of 8
million visitors: any reading over 145, Strandberg says, means "Fasten
your seat belt."

It's not the end of the world, our mothers always told us. This was
helpful for putting spilled milk in perspective, but it was also our
introduction to a basic human reference point. We seem to be born with an
instinct that the end is out there somewhere. We have a cultural impulse
to imagine it -- and keep it at bay. Just as all cultures have their
creation stories, so too they have their visions of the end, from the
Bible to the Mayan millennial stories. Usually the fables dwell in the
back of the mind, or not at all, since we go about our lives conditioned
to think that however bad things get, it's not you know what. But there
are times in human history when instinct, faith, myth and current events
work together to create a perfect storm of preoccupation. Visions of an
end point lodge in people's minds in many forms, ranging from
entertainment to superstitious fascination to earnest belief. Now seems
to be one of those times.

The experience of last fall -- the terrorist attacks, the anthrax
deaths -- not only deepened the interest among Christians fluent in the language of Armageddon and Apocalypse. It broadened it as well, to an audience that had never paid much attention to the predictions of the doomsday prophet Nostradamus, or been worried about an epic battle that marks the end of time, or for that matter, read the Book of Revelation. Since Sept. 11, people from cooler corners of Christianity have begun asking questions about what the Bible has to say about how the world ends, and preachers have answered their questions with sermons they could not have imagined giving a year ago. And even among more secular Americans, there were some who were primed to see an omen in the smoke of the flaming towers -- though it had more to do with their beach reading than with their Bible studies.

That is because among the best-selling fiction books of our times -- right up there with Tom Clancy and Stephen King -- is a series about the End Times, written by Tim F. LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins, based on the Book of Revelation. That part of the Bible has always held its mysteries, but for millions of people the code was broken in 1995, when LaHaye and Jenkins published Left Behind: A Novel of the Earth's Last Days. People who haven't read the book and its sequels often haven't even heard of them, yet their success provides new evidence that interest in the End Times is no fringe phenomenon. Only about half of Left Behind readers are Evangelicals, which suggests there is a broader audience of people who are having this conversation.

A TIME/CNN poll finds that more than one-third of Americans say they are paying more attention now to how the news might relate to the end of the world, and have talked about what the Bible has to say on the subject. Fully 59% say they believe the events in Revelation are going to come true, and nearly one-quarter think the Bible predicted the Sept. 11 attack.

Some of that interest is fueled by faith, some by fear, some by imagination, but all three are fed by the Left Behind series. The books offer readers a vivid, violent and utterly detailed description of just what happens to those who are left behind on earth to fight the Antichrist after Jesus raptures, or lifts, the faithful up to heaven. At the start of Book 1, on a 747 bound for Heathrow from Chicago, the flight attendants suddenly find about half the seats empty, except for the clothes and wedding rings and dental fillings of the believers who have suddenly been swept up to heaven. Down on the ground, cars are crashing, husbands are waking up to find only a nightgown in bed next to them, and all children under 12 have disappeared as well. The next nine books chronicle the tribulations suffered by those left behind and their struggle to be saved.

The series has sold some 32 million copies -- 50 million if you count the graphic novels and children's versions -- and sales jumped 60% after Sept. 11. Book 9, published in October, was the best-selling novel of 2001. Evangelical pastors promote the books as devotional reading; mainline pastors read them to find out what their congregations are thinking, as do politicians and scholars and people whose job it is to know what fears and hopes are settling in the back of people's minds in a time of deep uncertainty.

Now the 10th book, The Remnant, is arriving in stores, a breathtaking 2.75 million hard-cover copies, and its impact may be felt far beyond the
book clubs and Bible classes. To some evangelical readers, the Left Behind books provide more than a spiritual guide: they are a political agenda. When they read in the papers about the growing threats to Israel, they are not only concerned for a fellow democratic ally in the war against terror; they are also worried about God's chosen people and the fate of the land where events must unfold in a specific way for Jesus to return. That combination helps explain why some Christian leaders have not only bonded with Jews this winter as rarely before but have also pressed their case in the Bush White House as if their salvation depended on it.

Walter Russell Mead is sitting in his office at the Council on Foreign Relations in midtown Manhattan on a soft June afternoon, at work on a book that was born last September. He published an acclaimed history of U.S. foreign policy last year and was working on a study about building a global middle class. But he has put that aside. Piled around him now are the Koran, a Bible, books on technology and a stack of Left Behind books. When Mead predicts that our century will be remembered as the Age of Apocalypse, he does not mean to suggest that the world will soon end in a fiery holocaust. "The word apocalypse," he observes, "comes from a Greek word that literally means 'lifting of the veil.' In an apocalyptic age, people feel that the veil of normal, secular reality is lifting, and we can see behind the scenes, see where God and the devil, good and evil are fighting to control the future." To the extent that more people in the U.S. and around the world believe history is accelerating, that ancient prophecies are being fulfilled in real time, "it changes the way people feel about their circumstances, and the way they act. The grays are beginning to leak out of the way people view the world, and they're seeing things in more black-and-white terms."

At the religious extremes within Islam, that means we see more suicide bombers: if God's judgment is just around the corner, martyrdom has a special appeal. The more they cast their cause as a fight against the Great Satan, the more they reinforce the belief in some U.S. quarters that the war on terror is not one that can ever end with a treaty or communiqué, only total victory or defeat. Extremists on each side look to contemporary events as validation of their sacred texts; each uses the others to define its view of the divine scheme.

In such a time of uncertainty, it's a natural human instinct to look for some good purpose in the shadows of even the scariest events -- and for some readers the theology of the Left Behind books provides it. Some stumbled on the series by accident, and were hooked. Deborah Vargas, 46, of San Francisco bought her first Left Behind book in January at a Target, looking for a good read. She got much more than she had bargained for, especially after Sept. 11. "It was almost a message right out of the Bible," she says. "Something within me started to change, and I started to question myself. What was I waiting for? A sign?" Since then, she says, her life has been transformed, and she is now a regular in the Left Behind chat rooms. "I want to talk about it all the time."

Talk to the people who were already inclined to read omens in the headlines, and you hear their excitement, even eagerness to see what happens next. "We sense we are very close to something apocalyptic, but that something positive will come out of it," says Doron Schneider, an Evangelical based in Jerusalem. "It's like a woman having labor pains. A woman can feel this pain reaching its height when the child is
born -- and then doesn't feel the pain anymore, only the joy of the happy event." Even the horror of Sept. 11 was experienced differently by people primed to see God's hand in all things. Strandberg admits that he was "joyful" that the attacks could be a sign that the End Times were at hand. "A lot of prophetic commentators have what I consider a phony sadness over certain events," he says. "In their hearts they know it means them getting closer to their ultimate desire."

People who were strangers to prophecy don't always find as much comfort there. When Dave Cheadle, a Denver lay pastor at an inner-city ministry, sent out an Internet letter after 9/11 suggesting that Revelation was the relevant text for understanding what was happening, he got a huge -- and frightened -- response: "People were asking themselves whether they were ready to die. Very sane, well-educated people have gone back to the storm-cellar thing to make sure they have water and freeze-dried stuff in their basements." Some had trouble reconciling their warm image of a merciful God with the chilling warnings they were reading. "They're asking people to believe that we have a God who simply can't wait to zap the Christian flight crew out of jets so they crash?" asks Paul Maier, a professor of ancient history at Western Michigan University and an author of Christian fiction, who finds in the Left Behind books a deity he does not recognize. "You can't believe in a God who would do this kind of thing."

Others, already believers, have come away from this past winter feeling a need to change tactics, change jobs, find a new way to get the urgent message across. Rick Scarborough, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Pearland, Texas, a Houston suburb, resigned his pulpit this month to put all his energy into recruiting Christians to become politically involved. "I am mobilizing Christians and getting more Christians to vote. I am preparing a beachhead of righteousness," he says. Meanwhile Wyoming state senator Carroll Miller, a popular legislator from Big Horn County, announced his retirement from politics in part so that he could spend more time speaking at churches and men's clubs, helping people come to grips with the prospect of the Second Coming. "It's very important that we as a Christian nation know what the Scriptures have said about these days," he says. "I'm putting forth my personal effort for my own sake as well as for my family and friends."

Miller knows people who have prepared Bibles with the relevant passages indexed about what will occur during the Tribulation, so that their left-behind friends and relatives will know to prepare for the earthquakes and locusts and scorpions: when "the sun became as black as sackcloth and the moon became as blood." After a while, sightings of the Antichrist come naturally: when U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan tells the World Economic Forum that globalization is the best hope to solve the world's problems, when the forum floats the idea of a "united nations of major religions," when privacy is sacrificed to security, the headlines are listed on the prophecy websites as signs that the Antichrist is busy about his business. "He's probably a good-looking man," says Kelly Sellers, who runs a decorative-stone business in Minneapolis, Minn. "I'm sure he's in politics right now and probably in the public eye a little bit." Sellers has read every Left Behind book and is waiting for the next one -- "anxiously." "It helped me to look at the news that's going on about Israel and Palestine," which, he believes, "is just ushering in the End Times, and it's exciting for me."
His sister-in-law Jodie thinks technology is a key to hastening the End Times. "When Christ returns, every eye shall see Him," she quotes from Revelation. Thanks to CNN and the Internet, "we're getting to a place where every eye could actually behold such an event." The books were enough to persuade Sandra Keathley, a Boeing employee in Wichita, Kans., not to buy Microsoft's Windows XP, because she has heard rumors that it carries a method of tracking e-mail. (In fact, the software had an instant-messaging bug that was later fixed.) If the Antichrist were to come, she fears, "and you want to contact another Christian, they could see that, trace it."

The growing audience for apocalyterature extends even into mainline Protestantism, a tradition that has spent little time on fire and brimstone. "I would go for years without anyone asking about the End Times," says Thomas Tewell, senior minister of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in midtown Manhattan -- hardly a hothouse of apocalyptic fervor. "But since Sept. 11, hard-core, crusty, cynical New York lawyers and stockbrokers who are not moved by anything are saying, 'Is the world going to end?' 'Are all the events of the Bible coming true?' They want to get right with God. I've never seen anything like it in my 30 years in ministry."

There has never really been a common religious experience in America, and that is as true as ever now: some ministers report that these days when they announce they will be preaching on the Apocalypse, attendance jumps at least 20%. But elsewhere church attendance is back down to where it was before Sept. 11, and those pastors see little sign of existential dread. Pastor Ted Haggard, who started a church in his Colorado Springs, Colo., basement that now has 9,000 members, attributes the surge in End Times interest to the Christian media empire as much as anything else: "Because of the theology of our church, I don't think we're close to a Second Coming," he says. "But many of the major Christian media outlets believe that there is fulfillment, and people respond to that. People love gloom and doom. People love pending judgment. No. 1, they long to see Jesus, and No. 2, they look for the justice that Jesus will bring to the earth in his Second Coming."

Go into a seminary library, and it's hard to find scholarly books on apocalyptic theology; academics tend to treat this tradition as sociology. They see End Times interest rising and falling on waves of cataclysm and calm. Masses of people became convinced the end was nigh when Rome was sacked in 410, when the Black Death wiped out one-third of the population of 14th century Europe, when the tectonic shudders of the Lisbon earthquake in 1755 caused church bells to ring as far away as England, and certainly after 1945, when for the first time human beings harnessed the power to bring about their total destruction, not an act of God, but an act of mankind.

America, a country born with a sense that divine providence was paying close attention from the start, has always had a weakness for prophecy. With its deep religious history but no established church, this country welcomes religious free-lancers and entrepreneurs. Both the visionaries and the con artists have access to the altar. It took the shocking events of the last mid-century to draw apocalyptic thinking off the Fundamentalist margins and into the mainstream. The rise of Hitler, a wicked man who wanted to murder the Jews, read like a Bible story: his utter destruction, and the subsequent return of the Jews to Israel after
2,000 years and the capture of Jerusalem's Old City by the Israelis in 1967, were taken by devout Christians and Jews alike as evidence of God's handiwork. Israel once again controlled the Temple Mount, a site so holy to Islam and Christianity as well as Judaism that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's simple act of visiting the mount was sufficient to ignite the current Palestinian uprising. The Temple Mount is the location of al-Aqsa Mosque, one of the holiest sites in Islam, and is also the very place where Christians and Jews believe a new temple must one day be rebuilt before the Messiah can come. An Australian Evangelical once set fire to the mosque to clear the way, and to this day security remains exceptionally tight for fear that those who take Scripture literally might not just believe in what the prophets promised, but might also try to help it along.

But it took something more, a pre-eminent theological entrepreneur, to bring a wider American audience to the apocalyptic tradition. Hal Lindsey's The Late Great Planet Earth, published in 1970, became the best-selling nonfiction book of its decade; Time called Lindsey "the Jeremiah of our generation" for his detailed argument that the end was approaching. "That's the first book I ever read about last days, and it changed my life," says George Morrison, pastor of Faith Bible Chapel in Arvada, Colo., where average Sunday-morning attendance is 4,000. "All of a sudden, I was made aware that wow, there's an order to this thing." Lindsey's explanation of the Bible's warnings came just as a backlash was stirring against '60s liberalism, an echo of the 18th century reaction to the Enlightenment. Lindsey caught the moment that launched a decade of evangelical resurgence, when for the first time in generations believers organized to put their stamp on this world, rather than the next.

The election of Ronald Reagan brought "Christian Zionism" deeper into the White House: Lindsey served as a consultant on Middle East affairs to the Pentagon and the Israeli government. Interior Secretary James Watt, a Pentecostalist, in discussing environmental concerns, observed, "I don't know how many future generations we can count on until the Lord returns." Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger affirmed, "I have read the Book of Revelation, and, yes, I believe the world is going to end -- by an act of God, I hope -- but every day I think time is running out." It was no accident that Reagan made his "evil empire" speech at a meeting of the National Association of Evangelicals.

It never seemed to hurt that Lindsey's predictions passed their "sell by" date: during the Gulf War, sales of his book jumped 83%, as people feared Saddam Hussein was rebuilding Babylon and dragging the world to its last battle. Nowadays Lindsey sees his early warnings being vindicated almost daily. "The Muslim terrorists are going to strike the U.S. again and strike us hard so that we cease to be one of the world's great powers," he says. "It's not far off." When he wrote his best seller, he says, not many people took prophecy seriously. "I was called a false prophet for saying there'd be a United States of Europe back in 1970, but there is one now. People have watched this scenario continue to come together, and that's why so many people today are believing we are in the midst of last days."

Actually, the more Evangelicals became involved in politics, the more they engaged with the world here and now, the more interest in End Times theology drifted back into the realm of entertainment. And many argued that was a healthy sign. Not all Evangelicals embrace End Times theology,
and some see in it a dangerous distraction. Jesus said that when it comes to the time of judgment, "no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, but My Father only." In that light, if Christians are called to put their faith in Christ, whatever trials they face, then it undermines that trust to try to read the signs, unlock the code, focus on what can't be known rather than on what must be done: heal the sick, tend the poor, spread the Gospel.

It is one thing to become politically active to deploy that Gospel to improve people's lives, another to try to promote a specific religious scenario. Intercessors for America, a 30-year-old prayer ministry, helps keep people politically connected through e-mail alerts and telephone-prayer chains. The June 11 Prayer Alert implored, "Lord, raise up government leaders in Israel, the United States (and worldwide) who will not seek to 'divide the land,' and who would recognize the unique significance of Jerusalem in God's end-time purposes." A refusal to consider Israel's withdrawal from any occupied territory would tend to complicate the peace process: virtually every proposal has involved a land-for-peace swap. Yet at the same time, "if this wave of terrorism continues without a meaningful peace treaty soon," predicts John Hagee, pastor of the 17,000-member Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas, "the sparks of war will produce a third world war. And that will be the coming of the End Times. That will be the end of the world as we know it."

To the true believers, that seems less a threat than the fulfillment of a promise. "If we keep our eyes on Israel, we will know about the return of Christ," says Oleeta Herrmann, 77, of Xenia, Ohio. "Everything that is happening -- wars, rumors of war -- in the Middle East is happening according to Scripture." Herrmann is a member of the End-Time Handmaidens and Servants, a group of global missionaries who preach the Gospel with an emphasis on End Times teachings. Sept. 11 is proof of her belief that the Second Coming of Christ is "closer than it ever has been," Herrmann says.

And therein lies the central paradox in this wave of End Times interest. If you believe the end is near, is the reaction hope, or dread? "Even though the Left Behind series has been popular, many people still think of the End Times as negative," wrote Kyle Watson on his prophecy news website, AtlantaChristianWeekly.com. He thinks believers should be excited about the end of the world. "Try viewing prophecy and current events [as] how much closer we are to being with Christ in heaven."

That impulse to hope for a good ending is one Cal Thomas, the conservative columnist, sees even in the disciples' questions for Jesus. He cites Bible passages in which the Apostles press Jesus for clues about how the future unfolds. "This is intellectual comfort food, the whole Left Behind phenomenon, because it says to people, in a popularized way, it's all going to pan out in the end," he says. "It assures them, in the midst of a general cultural breakdown and a time of growing danger, that God is going to redeem the time." Evangelicals who had felt somehow left behind in secular terms, by a coarse culture and a fear of general moral decay, welcome arguments that even the most tragic events may be evidence of God's larger plan. In fact, you don't have to be religious to be hoping for that as well.
FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT GAY OFFICEHOLDERS

The Associated Press

Some facts and figures regarding openly gay and lesbian elected officials in the United States:

NUMBERS: Of 511,039 elected federal, state and local officials, 218 are openly gay or lesbian. Of the group, 149 are men, 69 women; 207 are Democrats, 11 Republicans. Three serve in the U.S. House, 47 are state legislators, and the rest are local officials.

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CONGRESS: The openly gay members of Congress are Reps. Barney Frank, D-Mass.; Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz.; and Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis. A Maine legislator, Susan Longley, hoped to join Baldwin as the second un closeted lesbian in Congress, but narrowly lost the Democratic primary June 11.

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MAYORS: Tempe, Ariz., population 158,000, is the largest city with an openly gay mayor. An openly gay candidate lost a runoff election June 4 in his bid to become mayor of Long Beach, Calif., population 461,000.

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LEGISLATORS: Noteworthy gay legislators include Illinois state Rep. Larry McKeon, who is HIV positive; state Rep. Glen Maxey, who is stepping down after 10 years as the only openly gay legislator in Texas; and Carole Migden, who is leaving her San Francisco-area assembly seat to run for statewide office.

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Source: Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

AP-ES-06-23-02 2108 EDT

ap.tbo.com/ap/breaking/MGAB3SMNT2D.html

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Date: Sun, 23 Jun 2002 21:12:21 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Land of Fear: Americans See Fourth of July Terror Likely (TIME/CNN)
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206232109140.11520-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

LAND OF FEAR: AMERICANS SEE FOURTH OF JULY TERROR LIKELY

Half of Americans (57%) surveyed by TIME magazine and CNN believe a terrorist attack on the 4th of July is very or somewhat likely (13% and 44% respectively; 11% say "not at all likely," 27% say "not very likely"). Americans think that overall, the U.S. has risk of a terrorist attack is "high" (39%) or "significant" (29%).
Americans favor Tom Ridge over Rudy Giuliani to head a new cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security. The current director of the office of Homeland Security gets 39% support, while New York City's former mayor gets 35%. (Nine percent say "neither," 17% are "not sure").

Two-in-three (69%) want Congress to create the new cabinet-level department (23% do not). Americans believe the new department would make the U.S. more secure from future terrorist attacks (71% yes, 24%); make them more secure personally (58% yes, 37% no).

But many fear a new Department of Homeland Security would cost too much (57% yes, 35% no) and create too much bureaucracy (52% yes, 39% no).

Other poll results include:

MIDDLE EAST:

* Two-thirds (66%) say Bush should offer his own peace plan (27% say no).

* Israel's decision to send in troops to re-occupy Palestinian territory makes it more difficult to achieve peace, according to 60% (28% said it would not be more difficult).

* Americans are split on whether or not a Palestinian state should be created (40% favor, 35% oppose, 25% not sure).

* They also are split on whether a Palestinian state would make peace more difficult to achieve (40% say yes, 44% say no).

* Equal percentages of Americans consider themselves supporters of Israel (44%) and not supporters; 14% are unsure.

* More say the U.S. provides Israel with the "right amount" of support (45%) than too much (35%).

U.S. POLITICS:

* Bush's job approval rating is at 70% (down from a one-year high of 89% Oct. 12).

* Important midterm election issues will be domestic, say 54% (30% chose foreign policy).

WORLD CUP SOCCER:

* 3 in 4 Americans are not following the event (72%) v. 26 percent who are following soccer.

Poll Results will appear in the upcoming issue of TIME, on newsstands Monday, June 24. The TIME/CNN survey was conducted by Harris Interactive by telephone among 1,003 adult Americans June 19-20, 2002. The margin of error for the total sample is plus or minus 3.1%. 
On Sun, 23 Jun 2002, James Beniger wrote:

How can Mr Drudge copyright a Time and CNN poll? H. Gans

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www.drudgereport.com/flash1.htm

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Quoting someone from the JDL was just assinine reporting. Perhaps that was the journalist's way of emphasizing his views of the Zogbys as extreme. Perhaps the journalist though, 'why not quote someone on "the other side"', as journalists are wont to do.

But Jan, "two extreme right-wing Jewish groups"? Why do you say "two"?

Do you consider the ZOA an "extreme right-wing" group? If so, please explain why.

Sincerely,
Howard Fienberg
STATS

-----Original Message-----
From: Jan Werner [mailto:jwerner@jwdp.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 22, 2002 9:23 PM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: Re: Zogbys

This article might be considered reasonably balanced except for one really bizarre aspect: quotes by spokesmen for two extreme right-wing Jewish groups are presented without any identification as to the nature of these organizations. This is a little like asking spokesmen from the Aryan Nation and the KKK about the NAACP and treating their remarks as representative of white American opinion.

The Jewish Defense League, founded by the Meir Kahane, is on the FBI's list of terrorist organizations, and its current president, Irv Rubin, was indicted last December for plotting to bomb a mosque and a congressman's office in California.

Surely this reporter could have found someone more representative of the American Jewish community to comment on the Zogbys.

Jan Werner
jwerner@jwdp.com

dick halpern wrote:
> Zogby is a well known pollster....and our local paper, The Atlanta Journal
> and Constitution published this on their front page. This is posted out of
> interest and is not intended as a criticism of Zogby's polling techniques
James Zogby is the most recognized political voice of the Arab-American community, a key player in trying to reshape American policy in the Middle East.

His brother John has made the Zogby name an internationally recognized trademark, the result of his success as a political and corporate pollster. James, 56, is founder and president of the Arab American Institute, a Washington-based organization that not only promotes the political interests of Americans of Arab descent but also works to promote American understanding of Arab interests in the Middle East conflict.

The organization runs on a $1 million annual budget, about 30 percent of which comes from foreign sources --- individuals, not governments.

John, 53, is an integral part of the work of the 17-year-old institute, even as he continues to expand the reach and services of his firm, Zogby International, from polling to public relations and telemarketing, from its base in Utica, N.Y., to clients on five continents.

"They have become major power brokers in American politics," said Darrell West, a political science professor at Brown University. They are beginning to "alter the course of public discussion about the Middle East."

Neither has felt any sibling rivalry, they insist. "He's the closest thing that there ever was to me," James said about John.

"He was the pitcher and I was his catcher, and that's pretty much how it's always been," John said about James.

Their involvement in Arab-American causes stems from their experiences together in the 1960s, first as opponents of the war in Vietnam, then as proponents of expanding civil rights for minorities and women.

The turning point for James was the time he spent living with Palestinian refugees in 1971 as a graduate student on his way toward a doctorate in religion from Temple University. The experience of life in the Palestinian camps "has never left me," he said.

For John, the turning point was his anti-war activism. "I saw how some of the Jewish kids could be anti-war and passivists and, at the same time, just relish the idea of kicking the hell out of the Arabs," he said.

John strayed into business beginning in the early 1980s while teaching college and losing his campaign for mayor of Utica. "The polling my students and I did showed me just how badly I was going to lose," he recalled. "I thought, 'Hey, this is fun.' Maybe I can make a living doing this."
He has, becoming a respected pollster, with his accurate predictions in the 1996 and 2000 presidential contests. He alone predicted a razor-thin Gore victory in the popular vote. During an election eve phone call from Gore, he also cautioned the Democratic nominee about the vote in Florida being a little difficult to measure.

Agents of change

As with so many things involving ethnic politics and, especially, the Middle East, the Zogby brothers are not without critics, especially since Sept. 11.

James is "a rabid Jew hater and Israel basher," and John displays "familial bias" even while attempting to "operate under the guise of professionalism," Ari Rubin, a spokesman for the Jewish Defense League, said this week in response to questions about the Zogbys.

Morton Klein, national president of the Zionist Organization of America, claims James Zogby "praises terrorist killers of Americans," a reference to a Zogby statement once describing the violence in the Middle East as the product of "pent-up Palestinian desperation."

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the largest pro-Israel organization in the United States, declined to comment about the Zogbys.

But Gore, when he appointed James to a senior advisory post in his presidential campaign, credited him with "mainstreaming" Arab-Americans in American politics.

James dismisses the criticism, just as he has weathered repeated death threats since Sept. 11. "My values are here; my priorities are here," he said. "But I want America to be true to its values, true to its role. And I want America to be better respected in the Middle East. I want America to be understood."

But James' close association with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his spirited defense of the Palestinian leader amid the escalation of suicide bombings in Israel give Zogby critics new opportunities to denounce his work.

"Do I know [Arafat]? Sure, I do," James said. "Do I disagree with him? Sure, I do. Do I feel enormous pain when I see him humiliated? Sure, I do. I feel terrible pain for that. No leader of a people should have to endure that. It's a hate crime what's been done to him because it says to his people you are all being treated this way. He's not a monster by any stretch of the imagination. He is a very willful man. He wants his people free."

Focus of anger

For more than two decades, James has been involved in Arab-American causes and U.S.-Middle Eastern politics, much of it with John. And in the process, both --- but especially James --- have become a focus of anger, particularly in the pro-Israeli community.

James said the work of his institute, from the beginning, has been "a
bridge-building exercise,'" helping Arab-Americans to '"function as full
participants in American politics'" while also acting as an '"interlocutor
on the Middle East,'" explaining '"what's going on in the Middle East to
America'" and '"explaining America to people in the Middle East.'"

He travels extensively in the Middle East, often giving speeches under the
sponsorship or approval of the State Department. He writes a weekly
newspaper column, '"Washington Watch,'" which is distributed to
publications in 14 Arab countries. And he hosts a television program
"'Viewpoint With James Zogby'" on Abu Dhabi Television.

Sometimes the brothers find the challenge daunting.

"'Is it an exhausting effort? Yes,'" James said. "'Do you feel that the
bridge is you and you're being walked on and maybe crumbling under the
pressure? Yes. Sometimes the stretch is a tough one. But as long as it's
needed, we continue to do it. I think the need is greater than ever
before. But the opportunities to speak out and be received are greater
than ever before.'"

© 2002 <http://www.accessatlanta.com/ajc/epaper>
/r/editions/today/news_d341b17ac4135 18d0044.html
/>/ajc/services/info/services.html#reprint>The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

=====================================================================

Date: Mon, 24 Jun 2002 12:35:19 -0400
From: Jan Werner <jwerner@jwdp.com>
Reply-To: jwerner@jwdp.com
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.79 [en] (Windows NT 5.0; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: HFienberg@stats.org
CC: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Zogbys
References: <2B415613DF0BA44F98C54F828F9D0F96049FA7@CMPA01.smallbusiness.local>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

I guess my scale was not granular enough for all tastes.

Perhaps I should have said "one extreme and one very right-wing Jewish
group" since ZOA, a lobbyist organization for Israeli right-wing
political causes, certainly does not endorse the bombing of mosques in
this country.

The main point is that there did not appear to be any effort to obtain a
more balanced statement from any moderate or left-wing Jewish groups.
Even if the reporter was totally ignorant on this subject, an editor
should have caught this before it got into print.

I am appalled that the Atlanta Journal & Constitution, a supposedly
respectable newspaper, should allowed this junk on their front page
without checking it.
Howard Fienberg wrote:

> Quoting someone from the JDL was just assinine reporting. Perhaps that was the journalist's way of emphasizing his views of the Zogbys as extreme. Perhaps the journalist though, 'why not quote someone on "the other side"' as journalists are wont to do.

> But Jan, "two extreme right-wing Jewish groups"? Why do you say "two"?

> Do you consider the ZOA an "extreme right-wing" group? If so, please explain why.

> Sincerely,
> Howard Fienberg
> STATS
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Jan Werner [mailto:jwerner@jwdp.com]
> Sent: Saturday, June 22, 2002 9:23 PM
> To: AAPORNет
> Subject: Re: Zogbys

> This article might be considered reasonably balanced except for one really bizarre aspect: quotes by spokesmen for two extreme right-wing Jewish groups are presented without any identification as to the nature of these organizations. This is a little like asking spokesmen from the Aryan Nation and the KKK about the NAACP and treating their remarks as representative of white American opinion.

> The Jewish Defense League, founded by the Meir Kahane, is on the FBI's list of terrorist organizations, and its current president, Irv Rubin, was indicted last December for plotting to bomb a mosque and a congressman's office in California.

> Surely this reporter could have found someone more representative of the American Jewish community to comment on the Zogbys.

> Jan Werner
> jwerner@jwdp.com

> dick halpern wrote:
> >
> > Zogby is a well known pollster....and our local paper, The Atlanta Journal
> > and Constitution published this on their front page. This is posted out of interest and is not intended as a criticism of Zogby's polling techniques or of their interpretation of data.
> >
> > Dick Halpern
Zogby's a voice for Arabs
Brothers put key issues before public
Scott Shepard - Cox Washington Bureau
Saturday, June 22, 2002, Atlanta Journal and Constitution

James Zogby is the most recognized political voice of the Arab-American community, a key player in trying to reshape American policy in the Middle East.

His brother John has made the Zogby name an internationally recognized trademark, the result of his success as a political and corporate pollster. James, 56, is founder and president of the Arab American Institute, a Washington-based organization that not only promotes the political interests of Americans of Arab descent but also works to promote American understanding of Arab interests in the Middle East conflict.

The organization runs on a $1 million annual budget, about 30 percent of which comes from foreign sources --- individuals, not governments.

John, 53, is an integral part of the work of the 17-year-old institute, even as he continues to expand the reach and services of his firm, Zogby International, from polling to public relations and telemarketing, from its base in Utica, N.Y., to clients on five continents.

"They have become major power brokers in American politics," said Darrell West, a political science professor at Brown University. They are beginning to "alter the course of public discussion about the Middle East."

Neither has felt any sibling rivalry, they insist. "He's the closest thing that there ever was to me," James said about John.

"He was the pitcher and I was his catcher, and that's pretty much how it's always been," John said about James.

Their involvement in Arab-American causes stems from their experiences together in the 1960s, first as opponents of the war in Vietnam, then as proponents of expanding civil rights for minorities and women.

The turning point for James was the time he spent living with Palestinian refugees in 1971 as a graduate student on his way toward a doctorate in religion from Temple University. The experience of life in the Palestinian camps "has never left me," he said.

For John, the turning point was his anti-war activism. "I saw how some of the Jewish kids could be anti-war and passivists and, at the same time, just relish the idea of kicking the hell out of the Arabs," he said.

John strayed into business beginning in the early 1980s while teaching college and losing his campaign for mayor of Utica. "The polling my
students and I did showed me just how badly I was going to lose,'" he recalled. 'I thought, 'Hey, this is fun.' Maybe I can make a living doing this.'

He has, becoming a respected pollster, with his accurate predictions in the 1996 and 2000 presidential contests. He alone predicted a razor-thin Gore victory in the popular vote. During an election eve phone call from Gore, he also cautioned the Democratic nominee about the vote in Florida being a little difficult to measure.

Agents of change

As with so many things involving ethnic politics and, especially, the Middle East, the Zogby brothers are not without critics, especially since Sept. 11.

James is 'a rabid Jew hater and Israel basher,' and John displays "familial bias" even while attempting to "operate under the guise of professionalism," Ari Rubin, a spokesman for the Jewish Defense League, said this week in response to questions about the Zogbys.

Morton Klein, national president of the Zionist Organization of America, claims James Zogby "praises terrorist killers of Americans," a reference to a Zogby statement once describing the violence in the Middle East as the product of "pent-up Palestinian desperation."

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the largest pro-Israel organization in the United States, declined to comment about the Zogbys.

But Gore, when he appointed James to a senior advisory post in his presidential campaign, credited him with "mainstreaming" Arab-Americans in American politics.

James dismisses the criticism, just as he has weathered repeated death threats since Sept. 11. "My values are here; my priorities are here," he said. "But I want America to be true to its values, true to its role. And I want America to be better respected in the Middle East. I want America to be understood."

But James' close association with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his spirited defense of the Palestinian leader amid the escalation of suicide bombings in Israel give Zogby critics new opportunities to denounce his work.


I feel terrible pain for that. No leader of a people should have to endure
that. It's a hate crime what's been done to him because it says to his people you are all being treated this way. He's not a monster by any stretch of the imagination. He is a very willful man. He wants his people free.''

Focus of anger

For more than two decades, James has been involved in Arab-American causes and U.S.-Middle Eastern politics, much of it with John. And in the process, both --- but especially James --- have become a focus of anger, particularly in the pro-Israeli community.

James said the work of his institute, from the beginning, has been "a bridge-building exercise," helping Arab-Americans to "function as full participants in American politics" while also acting as an "interlocutor on the Middle East," explaining "what's going on in the Middle East to America" and "explaining America to people in the Middle East."

He travels extensively in the Middle East, often giving speeches under the sponsorship or approval of the State Department. He writes a weekly newspaper column, "Washington Watch," which is distributed to publications in 14 Arab countries. And he hosts a television program "Viewpoint With James Zogby" on Abu Dhabi Television.

Sometimes the brothers find the challenge daunting.

"Is it an exhausting effort? Yes," James said. "Do you feel that the bridge is you and you're being walked on and maybe crumbling under the pressure? Yes. Sometimes the stretch is a tough one. But as long as it's needed, we continue to do it. I think the need is greater than ever before. But the opportunities to speak out and be received are greater than ever before."


Date: Mon, 24 Jun 2002 16:40:00 -0400
From: "Cralley, Marla" <Marla.Cralley@arbitron.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Cc: "Martin, Jessica" <Jessica.Martin@arbitron.com>
Subject: Position Available: Vice President and Chief Statistical Officer: Arbitron Inc.
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.2653.19)
Content-Type: text/plain;
      charset="windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id
I have been asked to post this available position on AAPORNET. Contact information is located at the end of the announcement.

Marla

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* Consulting broadly throughout the company on statistical matters;
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Rose Garden Address Today, by President Bush, on a New Middle East

Remarks delivered June 24, 2002 at the Rose Garden

For too long, the citizens of the Middle East have lived in the midst of death and fear. The hatred of a few holds the hopes of many hostage. The forces of extremism and terror are attempting to kill progress and peace by killing the innocent. And this casts a dark shadow over an entire region.

For the sake of all humanity, things must change in the Middle East. It is untenable for Israeli citizens to live in terror. It is untenable for Palestinians to live in squalor and occupation. And the current situation offers no prospect that life will improve. Israeli citizens will continue to be victimized by terrorists, and so Israel will continue to defend herself, and the situation of the Palestinian people will grow more and more miserable.

My vision is two states, living side by side, in peace and security. There is simply no way to achieve that peace until all parties fight terror.

Yet at this critical moment, if all parties will break with the past and set out on a new path, we can overcome the darkness with the light of hope.

Peace requires a new and different Palestinian leadership, so that a Palestinian state can be born. I call on the Palestinian people to elect new leaders, leaders not compromised by terror.
I call upon them to build a practicing democracy based on tolerance and liberty.

If the Palestinian people actively pursue these goals, America and the world will actively support their efforts. If the Palestinian people meet these goals, they will be able to reach agreement with Israel and Egypt and Jordan on security and other arrangements for independence.

And when the Palestinian people have new leaders, new institutions and new security arrangements with their neighbors, the United States of America will support the creation of a Palestinian state, whose borders and certain aspects of its sovereignty will be provisional until resolved as part of a final settlement in the Middle East.

In the work ahead, we all have responsibilities. The Palestinian people are gifted and capable and I'm confident they can achieve a new birth for their nation.

A Palestinian state will never be created by terror. It will be built through reform. And reform must be more than cosmetic change or a veiled attempt to preserve the status quo. True reform will require entirely new political and economic institutions based on democracy, market economics and action against terrorism.

Today the elected Palestinian legislature has no authority and power is concentrated in the hands of an unaccountable few. A Palestinian state can only serve its citizens with a new constitution which separates the powers of government.

The Palestinian parliament should have the full authority of a legislative body. Local officials and government ministers need authority of their own and the independence to govern effectively.

The United States, along with the European Union and Arab states, will work with Palestinian leaders to create a new constitutional framework and a working democracy for the Palestinian people. And the United States, along with others in the international community, will help the Palestinians organize and monitor fair, multiparty local elections by the end of the year with national elections to follow.

Today, the Palestinian people live in economic stagnation, made worse by official corruption. A Palestinian state will require a vibrant economy, where honest enterprise is encouraged by honest government.

The United States, the international donor community and the World Bank stand ready to work with Palestinians on a major project of economic reform and development. The United States, the EU, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund are willing to oversee reforms in Palestinian finances, encouraging transparency and independent auditing. And the United States, along with our partners in the developed world, will increase our humanitarian assistance to relieve Palestinian suffering.

Today, the Palestinian people lack effective courts of law and have no means to defend and vindicate their rights. A Palestinian state will require a system of reliable justice to punish those who prey on the innocent. The United States and members of the international community stand ready to work with Palestinian leaders to establish, finance and
monitor a truly independent judiciary.

Today, Palestinian authorities are encouraging, not opposing terrorism.

This is unacceptable. And the United States will not support the establishment of a Palestinian state until its leaders engage in a sustained fight against the terrorists and dismantle their infrastructure.

This will require an externally supervised effort to rebuild and reform the Palestinian security services. The security system must have clear lines of authority and accountability and a unified chain of command.

America is pursuing this reform along with key regional states. The world is prepared to help, yet ultimately these steps toward statehood depend on the Palestinian people and their leaders. If they energetically take the path of reform, the rewards can come quickly. If Palestinians embrace democracy, confront corruption and firmly reject terror, they can count on American support for the creation of a provisional state of Palestine.

With a dedicated effort, this state could rise rapidly, as it comes to terms with Israel, Egypt and Jordan on practical issues such as security. The final borders, the capital and other aspects of this state's sovereignty will be negotiated between the parties as part of a final settlement.

Arab states have offered their help in this process, and their help is needed.

I've said in the past that nations are either with us or against us in the war on terror. To be counted on the side of peace, nations must act. Every leader actually committed to peace will end incitement to violence in official media and publicly denounce homicide bombings. Every nation actually committed to peace will stop the flow of money, equipment and recruits to terrorist groups seeking the destruction of Israel, including Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Hezbollah.

Every nation actually committed to peace must block the shipment of Iranian supplies to these groups and oppose regimes that promote terror, like Iraq.

And Syria must choose the right side in the war on terror by closing terrorist camps and expelling terrorist organizations.

Leaders who want to be included in the peace process must show by their deeds and undivided support for peace.

And as we move toward a peaceful solution, Arab states will be expected to build closer ties of diplomacy and commerce with Israel, leading to full normalization of relations between Israel and the entire Arab world.

Israel also has a large stake in the success of a democratic Palestine. Permanent occupation threatens Israel's identity and democracy. A stable, peaceful Palestinian state is necessary to achieve the security that Israel longs for.

So I challenge Israel to take concrete steps to support the emergence of
a viable, credible Palestinian state.

As we make progress toward security, Israel forces need to withdraw fully to positions they held prior to Sept. 28, 2000. And consistent with the recommendations of the Mitchell committee, Israeli settlement activity in the occupied territories must stop.

The Palestinian economy must be allowed to develop. As violence subsides, freedom of movement should be restored, permitting innocent Palestinians to resume work and normal life. Palestinian legislators and officials, humanitarian and international workers, must be allowed to go about the business of building a better future. And Israel should release frozen Palestinian revenues into honest, accountable hands.

I've asked Secretary Powell to work intensively with Middle Eastern and international leaders to realize the vision of a Palestinian state, focusing them on a comprehensive plan to support Palestinian reform and institution building.

Ultimately, Israelis and Palestinians must address the core issues that divide them if there is to be a real peace, resolving all claims and ending the conflict between them.

This means that the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 will be ended through a settlement negotiated between the parties, based on U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, with Israeli withdrawal to secure and recognized borders.

We must also resolve questions concerning Jerusalem, the plight and future of Palestinian refugees, and a final peace between Israel and Lebanon and Israel and a Syria that supports peace and fights terror.

All who are familiar with the history of the Middle East realize that there may be setbacks in this process. Trained and determined killers, as we have seen, want to stop it. Yet the Egyptian and Jordanian peace treaties with Israel remind us that, with determined and responsible leadership, progress can come quickly.

As new Palestinian institutions and new leaders emerge, demonstrating real performance on security and reform, I expect Israel to respond and work toward a final status agreement.

With intensive effort by all of us, agreement could be reached within three years from now. And I and my country will actively lead toward that goal.

I can understand the deep anger and anguish of the Israeli people. You've lived too long with fear and funerals, having to avoid markets and public transportation, and forced to put armed guards in kindergarten classrooms. The Palestinian Authority has rejected your offered hand and trafficked with terrorists. You have a right to a normal life. You have a right to security. And I deeply believe that you need a reformed, responsible Palestinian partner to achieve that security.

I can understand the deep anger and despair of the Palestinian people. For decades you've been treated as pawns in the Middle East conflict. Your interests have been held hostage to a comprehensive peace agreement
that never seems to come, as your lives get worse year by year.

You deserve democracy and the rule of law. You deserve an open society and a thriving economy. You deserve a life of hope for your children.

An end to occupation and a peaceful democratic Palestinian state may seem distant, but America and our partners throughout the world stand ready to help, help you make them possible as soon as possible.

If liberty can blossom in the rocky soil of the West Bank in Gaza, it will inspire millions of men and women around the globe, who are equally weary of poverty and oppression, equally entitled to the benefits of democratic government.

I have a hope for the people of Muslim countries. Your commitments to morality and learning and tolerance lead to great historical achievements, and those values are alive in the Islamic world today. You have a rich culture, and you share the aspirations of men and women in every culture. Prosperity and freedom and dignity are not just American hopes or Western hopes, they are universal human hopes. And even in the violence and turmoil of the Middle East, America believes those hopes have the power to transform lives and nations.

This moment is both an opportunity and a test for all parties in the Middle East: an opportunity to lay the foundations for future peace, a test to show who's serious about peace and who is not.

The choice here is stark and simple, the Bible says, "I have set before you life and death, therefore choose life." The time has arrived for everyone in this conflict to choose peace and hope --- and life.

http://jewishworldreview.com/0602/bush_arab_speech.asp

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*****
Assistant Director for Business Development and Administration
Odum Institute for Research in Social Science
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Full description: www.odum.unc.edu (under SS News)

Date: Wed, 26 Jun 2002 13:50:57 -0500
From: "Barbara Burrell" <TI0BCB1@wpo.cso.niu.edu>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Atkins v. Virginia
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

I haven't noticed any reference to last week's Supreme Court decision ruling that the death penalty for mentally retarded individuals was unconstitutional on this list.

In ruling the death penalty for mentally retarded to be unconstitutional the court majority the development of a national consensus and evolving standards of decency against the death penalty for the mentally retarded. In support of the idea of a national consensus, the Justice Stevens writing for the majority noted the actions of state legislatures. Entered into evidence were the results of a number of national and public opinion polls.

In his dissent, Chief Justice Rehnquist questioned the methodology and validity of the polls. According to Chief Justice Rehnquist

"Even if I were to accept the legitimacy of the Courts decision to reach beyond the product of legislatures and practices of sentencing juries to discern a national standard of decency, I would take issue with the blind-faith credence it accords the opinion polls brought to our attention. An extensive body of social science literature describes how methodological and other errors can affect the reliability and validity of estimates about the opinions and attitudes of a population derived from various sampling techniques. Everything from variations in the survey methodology, such as the choice of the target population, the sampling design used, the questions asked, and the statistical analyses used to interpret the data can skew the results. See, e.g., R. Groves, Survey Errors and Survey Costs (1989); 1 C. Turner & E. Martin, Surveying Subjective Phenomena
The Federal Judicial Centers Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence 221271 (1994) and its Manual for Complex Litigation 21.493 pp. 101103 (3d ed. 1995), offer helpful suggestions to judges called upon to assess the weight and admissibility of survey evidence on a factual issue before a court. Looking at the polling data (reproduced in the Appendix to this opinion) in light of these factors, one cannot help but observe how unlikely it is that the data could support a valid inference about the question presented by this case. For example, the questions reported to have been asked in the various polls do not appear designed to gauge whether the respondents might find the death penalty an acceptable punishment for mentally retarded offenders in rare cases. Most are categorical (e.g., Do you think that persons convicted of murder who are mentally retarded should or should not receive the death penalty?), and, as such, would not elicit whether the respondent might agree or disagree that all mentally retarded people by definition can never act with the level of culpability associated with the death penalty, regardless of the severity of their impairment or the individual circumstances of their crime. Second, none of the 27 polls cited disclose the targeted survey population or the sampling techniques used by those who conducted the research. Thus, even if one accepts that the survey instruments were adequately designed to address a relevant question, it is impossible to know whether the sample was representative enough or the methodology sufficiently sound to tell us anything about the opinions of the citizens of a particular State or the American public at large. Finally, the information provided to us does not indicate why a particular survey was conducted or, in a few cases, by whom, factors which also can bear on the objectivity of the results. In order to be credited here, such surveys should be offered as evidence at trial, where their sponsors can be examined and cross-examined about these matters."

A challenge to us.

Go to http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com
to find the whole decision.

Barbara Burrell

Barbara Burrell
Associate Director
Public Opinion Laboratory
and
Associate Professor
Political Science
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115
815-753-9657
Greetings,

"In a close (5 - 4) decision, the United States Supreme Court upheld on June 20 the Census Bureau's use of hot-deck imputation to count some people who census takers cannot reach through direct enumeration methods ....."

You may find the actual Court findings below or at: http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/01-714.2S.html.

Has AAPOR made any standing on the issue under discussion in the past?

Young Chun, Senior Research Scientist
American Institutes for Research
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20006
ychun@AIR.org
202 944 5325
The Census Bureau derives most census information from forms it mails to a nationwide list of addresses. If no one replies to a particular form or the information supplied is confusing, contradictory, or incomplete, the Bureau follows up with visits by its field personnel. Occasionally, despite the visits, the Bureau may still have conflicting indications about, e.g., whether a listed address is a housing unit, office building, or vacant lot, whether a residence is vacant or occupied, or the number of persons in a unit. The Bureau may then use a methodology called "imputation," by which it infers that the address or unit about which it is uncertain has the same population characteristics as those of its geographically closest neighbor of the same type (i.e., apartment or single-family dwelling) that did not return a form. In the year 2000 census, the Bureau used "hot-deck imputation" to increase the total population count by about 0.4%. But because this small percentage was spread unevenly across the country, it made a difference in the apportionment of congressional Representatives. In particular, imputation increased North Carolina's population by 0.4% while increasing Utah's by only 0.2%, so that North Carolina will receive one more Representative and Utah one less than if the Bureau had simply filled relevant informational gaps by counting the related number of individuals as zero. Utah brought this suit against respondents, the officials charged with conducting the census, claiming that the Bureau's use of "hot-deck imputation" violates 13 U.S. C. §195, which prohibits use of "the statistical method known as 'sampling,' " and is inconsistent with the Constitution's statement that an "actual Enumeration be made," U.S. Const., Art. I, §2, cl. 3. Utah sought an injunction compelling respondents to change the official census results. North Carolina intervened. The District Court found for the Bureau.

Held:

1. The Court rejects North Carolina's argument that Utah lacks standing because this action is not a "Case" or "Controversy," Art. III, §2, in that the federal courts do not have the power to "redress" the "injury" that respondents allegedly "caused" Utah, e.g., Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife, 504 U.S. 555, 561. Because there is no significant difference between Utah and the plaintiff in Franklin v. Massachusetts, 505 U.S. 788, in which the Court rejected a similar standing argument, North Carolina must convince the Court that it should reconsider Franklin. It has not done so. It argues that ordering respondents to recalculate the census numbers and recertify the official result cannot help Utah because North Carolina is "entitled" to the number of Representatives already certified to it under the statutes that require a decennial census, 13 U.S.C. § 141(a); mandate that the results be reported to the President, 141(b); obligate the President to send Congress a statement showing the number of Representatives to which each State is "entitled" by the census data, 2 U.S. C. §2a(a); and specify that the House must then send each State a certificate of the number of Representatives to which it is "entitled." The statutes also say that once all that is done, each State "shall be entitled" to the number of Representatives the "certificate" specifies. §2a(b). Unlike North Carolina, the Court does not read these statutes as absolutely barring a certificate's revision in all cases. The statutes do not expressly address what is to occur in the case of a serious mistake—say, a clerical, mathematical, or calculation error in census data or in its transposition. Guided by Franklin, which found standing despite §2a's presence, the Court
reads the statute as permitting certificate revision in such cases of error, including cases of court-determined legal error leading to a court-required revision of the underlying census report. So read, the statute poses no legal bar to "redress." Nor does Pub. L. 105-119, Title II, §209(b), 111 Stat. 2481, which entitles "[a]ny person aggrieved by the use of any [unlawful] statistical method" to bring "a civil action" for declaratory or injunctive "relief against the use of such method." Despite North Carolina's argument that this statute implicitly forbids a suit after the census' conclusion, the statute does not say that and does not explain why Congress would wish to deprive of its day in court a State that did not learn of a counting method's representational consequences until after the census' completion-and hence had little, if any, incentive to bring a precensus action. The Court reads limitations on its jurisdiction narrowly, see, e.g., Webster v. Doe, 486 U.S. 592, 603, and will not read into a statute an unexpressed congressional intent to bar jurisdiction the Court has previously exercised, e.g., Franklin, supra. Because neither statute poses an absolute legal barrier to relief, it is likely that Utah's victory here would bring about the ultimate relief it seeks. See id., at 803. Thus, Utah has standing. Pp. 4-9.

2. The Bureau's use of "hot-deck imputation" does not violate 13 U.S.C. § 195 which "authorize[s] the use of the statistical method known as 'sampling,' " "[e]xcept for the determination of population for purposes of apportionment of Representatives." Bureau imputation in the year 2000 census differs from sampling in several critical respects: (1) As to the nature of the enterprise, sampling seeks to extrapolate the features of a large population from a small one, but the Bureau's imputation process sought simply to fill in missing data as part of an effort to count individuals one by one. (2) As to methodology, sampling seeks to find a subset that will resemble a whole through the use of artificial, random selection processes, whereas the Bureau's methodology was not that typically used by statisticians, but that used to assure that an individual unit (not a "subset"), chosen nonrandomly, will resemble other individuals (not a "whole") selected by the fortuitous unavailability of data. (3) As to the immediate objective, sampling seeks to extrapolate the sample's relevant population characteristics to the whole population, while the Bureau seeks simply to determine the characteristics of missing individual data. These differences, whether of degree or of kind, are important enough to place imputation outside the scope of §195's phrase "the statistical method known as 'sampling.' " That phrase-using the words "known as" and the quotation marks around "sampling"-suggests a term of art with a technical meaning. And the technical literature, which the Court has examined, see Corning Glass Works v. Brennan, 417 U.S. 188, 201, contains definitions that focus upon the sorts of differences discussed above. Also, insofar as the parties rely on statisticians' expert opinion, that opinion uniformly favors the Government. Further, §195's legislative history suggests that the "sampling" to which the statute refers is the practice that the Secretary called "sampling" in 1958 when Congress wrote that law, and that the statutory word does not apply to imputation, which Congress did not consider. Finally, Utah provides no satisfactory alternative account of the meaning of the phrase "the statistical method known as 'sampling.' " Its several arguments-that "sampling" occurs whenever information on a portion of the population is used to infer information about the whole population; that the Court found that two methods, allegedly virtually identical to imputation, constituted "sampling" in Department of Commerce v. United States House of Representatives, 525 U.S. 316, 324-326; that the Bureau, if authorized to engage in imputation, might
engage in wide-scale substitution of imputation for person-by-person counting; and that two of the Bureau's imputation methods are inaccurate—are not convincing. Utah has failed to overcome the fact that the Bureau has long and consistently interpreted §195 as permitting imputation, while Congress, aware of this interpretation, has enacted related legislation without changing the statute. Pp. 9-18.

3. The Bureau's use of "hot-deck imputation" does not violate the Census Clause, which requires the "actual Enumeration" of each State's population "within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress ..., in such Manner as they shall by Law direct." Utah argues that the words "actual Enumeration" require the Census Bureau to seek out each individual and prohibit it from relying on imputation, but the Constitution's text does not make the distinction that Utah seeks to draw. Rather, it uses a general word, "enumeration," that refers to a counting process without describing the count's methodological details. The textual word "actual" refers in context to the enumeration that would be used for apportioning the Third Congress, succinctly clarifying the fact that the constitutionally described basis for apportionment would not apply to the First and Second Congresses. The final part of the sentence says that the "actual Enumeration" shall take place "in such Manner as" Congress itself "shall by Law direct," thereby suggesting the breadth of congressional methodological authority, rather than its limitation. See, e.g., Wisconsin v. City of New York, 517 U.S. 1, 19. This understanding of the text is supported by the history of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, which demonstrates that "actual Enumeration" does not limit census methodology as Utah proposes, but was intended to distinguish the census from the apportionment process for the First Congress, which was based on conjecture rather than a deliberately taken count. Further support is added by contemporaneous general usage, as exemplified by late-18th-century dictionaries defining "enumeration" simply as an act of numbering or counting over, without reference to counting methodology, and by contemporaneous legal documents, in which "enumeration" does not require contact between a census taker and each enumerated individual, but is used almost interchangeably with the phrase "cause the number of the inhabitants ... to be taken." Indeed, the Bureau's imputation method is similar in principle to other efforts used since 1800 to determine the number of missing persons, including asking heads of households, neighbors, landlords, postal workers, or other proxies about the number of inhabitants in a particular place. Nor can Utah draw support from the Census Clause's basic purposes: to use population rather than wealth to determine representation, to tie taxes and representation together, to insist upon periodic recounts of the population, and to take from the States the power to determine the manner of conducting the census. Those matters of general principle do not directly help determine the issue of detailed methodology before the Court. Nonetheless, certain basic constitutional choices may prove relevant. The decisions, for example, to use population rather than wealth, to tie taxes and representation together, to insist upon periodic recounts, and to take from the States the power to determine methodology all suggest a strong constitutional interest in accuracy. And an interest in accuracy here favors the Bureau, which uses imputation as a last resort after other methods have failed. The Court need not decide here the precise methodological limits foreseen by the Census Clause. It need say only that in this instance, where all efforts have been made to reach every household, where the methods used consist not of statistical sampling but of inference, where that inference involves a tiny percent of the population, where the alternative is to make a far less accurate assessment
of the population, and where consequently manipulation of the method is highly unlikely, those limits are not exceeded. Pp. 18-24.

182 F. Supp. 2d 1165, affirmed.

Breyer, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which Rehnquist, C. J. and Stevens, Souter, and Ginsburg, JJ., joined, and in which O'Connor, J., joined as to Parts I and II. O'Connor, J., filed an opinion concurring in part and dissenting in part. Thomas, J., filed an opinion concurring in part and dissenting in part, in which Kennedy, J., joined. Scalia, J., filed a dissenting opinion.

---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
I don’t care for the death penalty for anyone, but I must say, Rehnquist’s criticism about the use of the polls is right on target. He is absolutely right in his evaluation of the information presented to the court.

warren mitofsky

At 01:50 PM 6/26/02 -0500, you wrote:
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adequately designed to address a relevant question, it is impossible to
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Barbara Burrell

Barbara Burrell
Associate Director
Public Opinion Laboratory
and
Associate Professor
Political Science
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115
815-753-9657

Warren J. Mitofsky
140 Riverside Drive, Apt 18N
New York, NY 10024
212 496-2945
212 496-0846 FAX
email: mitofsky@mindspring.com
You membership should be MORE important to you during a period of transition. Don't say goodbye!

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

-----Original Message-----
From: Teresa Hottle <teresa.hottle@wright.edu>
To: aapornet@usc.edu <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: Wednesday, June 26, 2002 3:58 PM
Subject: job opportunity

>I was just informed that due to budget cuts, I will no longer be
>employed at our Center or a member of AAPOR. Our Center is shutting down
>our telephone survey lab so I am a "logical" cut from the budget. If
>anyone has any job leads in the Dayton/Columbus/Cincinnati area I would
>really appreciate it.
>
>Thanks for all the good conversations on the listserv as well as at the
>conference. It has truly been a pleasure and I have learned a great deal
>from AAPOR.
>
>Thanks,
>Terrie

>
I don't care for the death penalty or for the logic of Rehnquist's opinion, but I agree that his comments on surveys are on target.

However, I wonder if Rehnquist has actually read any of Robert Groves' book "Survey Errors and Survey Costs" and if he did, whether he understood what he read or simply looked for convenient passages to support his positions.

As an aside, Groves' book is one of the truly essential texts in our field and I find it obscene that it currently costs $185, which puts it out of the reach of many who should have their own copy close at hand. While I don't expect it will ever make the best seller lists, there should at least be a somewhat more reasonably priced paperback edition available.

Jan Werner
jwerner@jwdp.com

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The Federal Judicial Centers Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence 221271 (1994) and its Manual for Complex Litigation 21.493 pp. 101103 (3d ed. 1995), offer helpful suggestions to judges called upon to assess the weight and admissibility of survey evidence on a factual issue before a court. Looking at the polling data (reproduced in the Appendix to this opinion) in light of these factors, one cannot help but observe how unlikely it is that the data could support a valid inference about the question presented by this case. For example, the questions reported to have been asked in the various polls do not appear designed to gauge whether the respondents might find the death penalty an acceptable punishment for mentally retarded offenders in rare cases. Most are categorical (e.g., Do you think that persons convicted of murder who are mentally retarded should or should not receive the death penalty?), and, as such, would not elicit whether the respondent might agree or disagree that all mentally retarded people by definition can never act with the level of culpability associated with the death penalty, regardless of the severity of their impairment or the individual circumstances of their crime. Second, none of the 27 polls cited disclose the targeted survey population or the sampling techniques used by those who conducted the research. Thus, even if one accepts that the survey instruments were adequately designed to address a relevant question, it is impossible to know whether the sample was representative enough or the methodology sufficiently sound to tell us anything about the opinions of the citizens of a particular State or the American public at large. Finally, the information provided to us does not indicate why a particular survey was conducted or, in a few cases, by whom, factors which also can bear on the objectivity of the results. In order to be credited here, such surveys should be offered as evidence at trial, where their sponsors can be examined and cross-examined about these matters.

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Barbara Burrell
Associate Director
Public Opinion Laboratory
After about two sentences I felt certain that a clerk wrote the section in its entirety. Or maybe a consultant. It just doesn't sound like a judge.

John Wiley is the culprit. Many titles in their Practical Resources in Survey Research series are close to, or above, $100. Some of their academic journals costs thousands.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
Voice (610) 408-8800
Fax (610) 408-8802
jmpmurphy@jpmurphy.com
-----Original Message-----
From: Jan Werner <jwerner@jwp.com>
To: mitofsky@mindspring.com <mitofsky@mindspring.com>
Cc: aapornet@usc.edu <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: Wednesday, June 26, 2002 7:26 PM
Subject: Re: Atkins v. Virginia

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DeKalb, Illinois 60115

815-753-9657

Warren J. Mitofsky

140 Riverside Drive, Apt 18N

New York, NY 10024

212 496-2945

212 496-0846 FAX
Hi friends and colleagues,

There were a number of interesting papers presented at AAPOR's national conference about experiences with using survey research as legal evidence, interesting experiences. (I don't have the program in front of me.) I'd like to hear their thoughts on this Atkins v. Virginia topic..............

Jan Werner is right about the value of Robert Groves book—everyone should have it in his or her library. I was given this book when I enrolled in a Robert Groves' survey research course! (Maybe AAPOR membership could have some book discount benefits associated?????)

The annual AAPOR conference was excellent—one of the best IMO. I have great appreciation for those of you who attended, presented, told funny stories in the hot tub, and contributed time, effort, and intellectual ideas. It was a pleasure to see and hear what you're doing and catch up, put faces with names.

Jim Murphy gives good advice to Teresa Hottle: AAPOR is a good place to be and especially in times of transition. Career advice is a good topic to add to the website. (I also note that I think I saw Jim signing up new DC AAPOR members at the DC Chapter's event last night, which was in one of DC's old Post Offices. The Postal service was lavish in its day, but now so many are malls and hotels, just like our train station! We ate spicy food in 100-degree humid weather, for those who are curious. It was a nice event.)

All the best..........................
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Associate Director
Public Opinion Laboratory
and
Associate Professor
Political Science
Northern Illinois University
Dear AAPOR & SRMS-friends

First an apology for any cross-posting. I know many of you are on both lists, but I really appreciate all the input I can get of everyone!

We need your help as expert in survey methodology.

Recently the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) published a jubilee volume titled "Landmark Papers in Survey Statistics."

The reprints start with Neyman (1934) on stratified sampling and end with SE4rndal et al (1989) on variance estimation. A really great book, but highly statistical. That is why the IASS decided to publish a second volume, focusing on survey methodology. The editorial committee chaired by Lars Lyberg is now looking for potential highly influential (landmark) papers in survey methodology.

Please help us by naming candidates for landmark papers. Take five minutes and send me your top ten (or top three, or top one) of those papers that influenced YOUR work as survey methodologist most. What where for you personally the most influential, inspirational papers?

They may be chapters in monographs, published papers in journals, papers of a colleague, etc. If a paper was highly influential in the past, but less today, please include it too. The basic question is: what are in your opinion the papers in survey methodology that influenced your work most.

Based on your input the committee will make a short list for the second IASS volume on "Landmark Papers in Survey Methodology"

Thanking you in advance,

Warm personal regards,

Edith
Thanks to everyone for all their concerns, suggestions and help with my new job search!

Terrie

CLOSED STANDARDS. BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS
Thu 19th September, 2002
Alexander Fleming Building, Imperial College, London

CALL FOR PAPERS (Reminder)

Just a brief reminder that the deadline for proposals for presentations to the conference is fast approaching (June 30).
Many different data formats, protocols and proprietary systems are used by the various software packages for survey research. The resulting barriers to the free movement of data and information have historically been difficult and expensive to overcome.

The conference aims critically to examine the variety of standards which have emerged and are still emerging in response to these challenges, benefiting users in all sectors and appealing to managers and practitioners at all levels.

Abstracts are invited from both authors and users of standards. In refereeing submissions, some preference will be given to papers which demonstrate the real practical use of standards in survey research. Case studies in particular will be welcome.

Further information is available from our web pages ...

    http://www.asc.org.uk

... or you can always contact our Administrator, Diana Elder, at the address below.

Thank you.

Please reply to:

    Diana Elder, Administrator (admin@asc.org.uk)
    ASC, PO Box 60, Chesham, Bucks, UK HP5 3QH
tel/fax: +44 (0)1494 793033
    http://www.asc.org.uk

This message has been sent on behalf the ASC by:

    Randy Banks (randy@essex.ac.uk)
    Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER)
    University of Essex, Colchester, UK CO4 3SQ

******

Date: Thu, 27 Jun 2002 06:53:27 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Fw: Atkins v. Virginia (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206270647360.2073-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

------- Forwarded message -------
Date: Wed, 26 Jun 2002 20:11:04 -0400
From: Jack Elinson <jelinson@juno.com>
To: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Subject: Fw: Atkins v. Virginia

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: "Barbara Burrell" <TI0BCB1@wpo.cso.niu.edu>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: Wed, 26 Jun 2002 13:50:57 -0500
Subject: Atkins v. Virginia
Message-ID: <sd19c6d5.055@wpo.cso.niu.edu>

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crime. Second, none of the 27 polls cited disclose the targeted survey population or the sampling techniques used by those who conducted the research. Thus, even if one accepts that the survey instruments were adequately designed to address a relevant question, it is impossible to know whether the sample was representative enough or the methodology sufficiently sound to tell us anything about the opinions of the citizens of a particular State or the American public at large. Finally, the information provided to us does not indicate why a particular survey was conducted or, in a few cases, by whom, factors which also can bear on the objectivity of the results. In order to be credited here, such surveys should be offered as evidence at trial, where their sponsors can be examined and cross-examined about these matters."

A challenge to us.

Go to http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com to find the whole decision.

Barbara Burrell

Barbara Burrell
Associate Director
Public Opinion Laboratory
and
Associate Professor
Political Science
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115
815-753-9657

******

Date: Thu, 27 Jun 2002 10:06:52 -0400
From: "Mark David Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: AAPOR, the place to be
Message-ID: <JAEPJNNBGDEENLLCIIIBCEELEHAA.mark@bisconti.com>
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)
In-Reply-To: <JAEPJNNBGDEENLLCIIIBEEECEHAA.mark@bisconti.com>
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000
X-Rcpt-To: <aapornet@usc.edu>

Regarding the DC AAPOR event I mentioned, a correction: Jim Caplan was doing the good work of signing new members! Sorry for confusion :) ... mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of Mark David Richards
Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2002 9:49 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Hi friends and colleagues,

There were a number of interesting papers presented at AAPOR's national conference about experiences with using survey research as legal evidence, interesting experiences. (I don't have the program in front of me.) I'd like to hear their thoughts on this Atkins v. Virginia topic.

Jan Werner is right about the value of Robert Groves book—everyone should have it in his or her library. I was given this book when I enrolled in a Robert Groves' survey research course! (Maybe AAPOR membership could have some book discount benefits associated???)

The annual AAPOR conference was excellent—one of the best IMO. I have great appreciation for those of you who attended, presented, told funny stories in the hot tub, and contributed time, effort, and intellectual ideas. It was a pleasure to see and hear what you're doing and catch up, put faces with names.

Jim Murphy gives good advice to Teresa Hottle: AAPOR is a good place to be and especially in times of transition. Career advice is a good topic to add to the website. (I also note that I think I saw Jim signing up new DC AAPOR members at the DC Chapter's event last night, which was in one of DC's old Post Offices. The Postal service was lavish in its day, but now so many are malls and hotels, just like our train station! We ate spicy food in 100-degree humid weather, for those who are curious. It was a nice event.)

All the best.

Mark Richards

In the wake of a wave of anti-Semitic violence in Europe not seen since the end of World War II, an Anti-Defamation League (ADL) opinion survey found 30% of Europeans cling to traditional anti-Jewish stereotypes, while 62% believe the recent violence against Jews is the result of anti-Israel sentiment. European Attitudes Towards Jews, Israel and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict,
a survey of 2,500 -- 500 each in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany and the United Kingdom -- was conducted by telephone in the native language of each of the countries May 16-June 4, 2002 by First International Resources for ADL. http://www.adl.org/PresRele/ASInt_13/4118_13.asp

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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: Thu, 27 Jun 2002 09:58:07 -0700 (PDT)
>From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
>To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
>Subject: Jeanne Anderson, Re: Atkins v. Virginia
>Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206270954370.25147-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

From ande271@attglobal.net Thu Jun 27 09:54:37 2002
Date: Thu, 27 Jun 2002 12:06:55 -0700
From: Jeanne Anderson Research <ande271@attglobal.net>
To: Beniger@rcf.usc.edu
Subject: [Fwd: Returned mail: delivery problems encountered]

Jim,

I'm sorry to have to send you this, but I'd like to add to the discussion of Atkins v. Virginia.

Jeanne Anderson

*****

>Date: Wed, 26 Jun 2002 16:57:53 -0700
From: Jeanne Anderson Research <ande271@attglobal.net>
To: mitofsky@mindspring.com
Cc: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Atkins v. Virginia

Yes, but perhaps we could ask which social scientist, if any, Rehnquist consulted in arriving at his evaluation of the poll data. After all, he seems to have been working from a list of possible errors in Groves' book, but also doesn't seem to have information on the purpose,
sponsorship, design, etc. of each of the polls cited. Would a social science consultant have been helpful in getting and then reviewing this information? Or should a Chief Justice reject a citation of a poll *on the grounds* that the background information was not supplied by the pleader? That is, is the *burden of proof* on the side of the party who cites the poll?

Justices of the Supreme Court don't have to make general statements about polls (possible sources of error, for instance) if they have consulted professional people who can provide statements for them about a specific poll after reviewing the data.

Warren Mitofsky wrote:

> I don't care for the death penalty for anyone, but I must say, Rehnquist's criticism about the use of the polls is right on target. He is absolutely right in his evaluation of the information presented to the court.
>
> Warren Mitofsky
>
> At 01:50 PM 6/26/02 -0500, you wrote:
> > I haven't noticed any reference to last week's Supreme Court decision ruling that the death penalty for mentally retarded individuals was unconstitutional on this list.
> >
> > In ruling the death penalty for mentally retarded to be unconstitutional the court majority the development of a national consensus and evolving standards of decency against the death penalty for the mentally retarded. In support of the idea of a national consensus, the Justice Stevens writing for the majority noted the actions of state legislatures. Entered into evidence were the results of a number of national and public opinion polls.
> >
> > In his dissent, Chief Justice Rehnquist questioned the methodology and validity of the polls. According to Chief Justice Rehnquist
> >
> > "Even if I were to accept the legitimacy of the Courts decision to reach beyond the product of legislatures and practices of sentencing juries to discern a national standard of decency, I would take issue with the blind-faith credence it accords the opinion polls brought to our attention. An extensive body of social science literature describes how methodological and other errors can affect the reliability and validity of estimates about the opinions and attitudes of a population derived from various sampling techniques. Everything from variations in the survey methodology, such as the choice of the target population, the sampling design used, the questions asked, and the statistical analyses used to interpret the data can skew the results. See, e.g., R. Groves, Survey Errors and Survey Costs (1989); 1 C. Turner & E. Martin, Surveying Subjective Phenomena (1984).
> >
> > The Federal Judicial Centers Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence 221271 (1994) and its Manual for Complex Litigation 21.493 pp. 101103 (3d ed. 1995), offer helpful suggestions to judges called upon to assess the weight and admissibility of survey evidence on a factual issue before a court. Looking at the polling data (reproduced in the Appendix to this opinion) in light of these factors, one cannot help but observe
how unlikely it is that the data could support a valid inference about the question presented by this case. For example, the questions reported to have been asked in the various polls do not appear designed to gauge whether the respondents might find the death penalty an acceptable punishment for mentally retarded offenders in rare cases. Most are categorical (e.g., Do you think that persons convicted of murder who are mentally retarded should or should not receive the death penalty?), and, as such, would not elicit whether the respondent might agree or disagree that all mentally retarded people by definition can never act with the level of culpability associated with the death penalty, regardless of the severity of their impairment or the individual circumstances of their crime. Second, none of the 27 polls cited disclose the targeted survey population or the sampling techniques used by those who conducted the research. Thus, even if one accepts that the survey instruments were adequately designed to address a relevant question, it is impossible to know whether the sample was representative enough or the methodology sufficiently sound to tell us anything about the opinions of the citizens of a particular State or the American public at large. Finally, the information provided to us does not indicate why a particular survey was conducted or, in a few cases, by whom, factors which also can bear on the objectivity of the results. In order to be credited here, such surveys should be offered as evidence at trial, where their sponsors can be examined and cross-examined about these matters."

A challenge to us.

Go to http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com to find the whole decision.

Barbara Burrell

Associate Director

Public Opinion Laboratory

and

Associate Professor

Political Science

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, Illinois 60115

815-753-9657

Warren J. Mitofsky

140 Riverside Drive, Apt 18N

New York, NY 10024

212 496-2945

212 496-0846 FAX

email: mitofsky@mindspring.com
PRIVATE/EU: CAPPATO "ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL APPROVES TELECOM DATA RETENTION DIRECTIVE WITHOUT DISCUSSION—WE WILL DEBATE ABOUT IT ON THE 10TH OF JULY AT THE CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM AND THE INTERNET"

Brussels, 27 June 2002

Declaration by Marco Cappato MEP, former EP rapporteur on the directive on privacy in electronic communications:

"I take note of the fact that the Environment Council of the 25th of June has approved almost unanimously—only Luxembourg voted against—and without any discussion the directive on privacy in electronic communications on which I have been EP rapporteur until the plenary vote that completely reversed the position the EP had taken until that moment.

Environment Ministers probably do not know much about telecommunications, privacy, data retention and mass surveillance, and they are probably not even allowed to discuss about the contents of the directive and their effects on citizens' privacy. The opposition of 17 thousands people that signed against data retention on the site www.stop1984.com have not been considered, neither by the Council, nor by the majority of the European Parliament: it is now up to Member States to decide whether to introduce such measures, and our campaign to protect citizens' privacy against State intrusions will continue at the national level.

In order to organise this opposition to such measures, the Radical MEPs along with the Transnational Radical Party and the Radicalli Italiani will hold a conference titled "Democracy, freedom and the Internet" that will take place in the EP (room 5G3) on the 10th of July, from 9 am to 6 pm. The Conference will analyse the issues of privacy in the EU, data retention (Europol documents and the draft framework decision on data retention), cybercrime and e-democracy. MEPs and key actors from civil
liberties groups will participate. The detailed programme will be released tomorrow and will be available from the site www.radicalparty.org.

For more information on the conference:
Gianluca Eramo, Ottavio Marzocchi:
0032 2 2847496
mcappato@europarl.eu.int

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Kristin Raymond of the National Science Foundation asked us to post the following on AAPORNET.

Dear Colleagues,

The Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences at NSF would like to alert you to the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Sites Program. The REU program supports active research participation by undergraduate students in any of the areas of science funded by NSF. REU Sites typically support 8-12 students for 10-12 weeks during the summer. Sites are typically focused around a common discipline or theme and should show plans for moving undergraduates from a dependent to an independent researcher status. Recruitment should focus on underrepresented minorities and those students who may not have access to research experiences; typically at least half of the students come from outside the host institution. The deadline for proposals is September 15, and the program announcement is located at http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02136/nsf02136.htm. A listing of the current REU Sites in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences is located at http://www.nsf.gov/home/crsspr!gm/reu/reu98sber.htm.

For additional information, please consult the website www.nsf.gov/reu or contact the Cross-Directorate Activities program -- Kristin Raymond (kraymond@nsf.gov, 703-292-7323) or Bonney Sheahan (bsheahan@nsf.gov, 703-292-7291).

Kristin Raymond
Science Assistant
Cross-Directorate Activities
Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences
i agree that the majority's use of polls is a little cavalier. on the other hand, the questions are not all as poorly-worded as the one rehnquist cites, and the difference in results between the poorly-worded and more thoughtful questions is not all that large. furthermore, it's hard to tell from the appendix if there has been a trend over time. if there has been such a trend--controlling for question-wording--it would support the majority's "evolving standards" claim. the polls may not be definitive, but it doesn't seem wrong to include them in a larger set of evidence.

eric mcghee

Warren Mitofsky wrote:

> I don't care for the death penalty for anyone, but I must say, Rehnquist's > criticism about the use of the polls is right on target. He is absolutely > right in his evaluation of the information presented to the court. > warren mitofsky
> > At 01:50 PM 6/26/02 -0500, you wrote:
> > >I haven't noticed any reference to last week's Supreme Court decision
ruling that the death penalty for mentally retarded individuals was unconstitutional on this list.

In ruling the death penalty for mentally retarded to be unconstitutional the court majority found that the development of a national consensus and evolving standards of decency against the death penalty for the mentally retarded. In support of the idea of a national consensus, the Justice Stevens writing for the majority noted the actions of state legislatures. Entered into evidence were the results of a number of national and public opinion polls.

In his dissent, Chief Justice Rehnquist questioned the methodology and validity of the polls. According to Chief Justice Rehnquist:

"Even if I were to accept the legitimacy of the Court's decision to reach beyond the product of legislatures and practices of sentencing juries to discern a national standard of decency, I would take issue with the blind-faith credence it accords the opinion polls brought to our attention. An extensive body of social science literature describes how methodological and other errors can affect the reliability and validity of estimates about the opinions and attitudes of a population derived from various sampling techniques. Everything from variations in the survey methodology, such as the choice of the target population, the sampling design used, the questions asked, and the statistical analyses used to interpret the data can skew the results. See, e.g., R. Groves, Survey Errors and Survey Costs (1989); 1 C. Turner & E. Martin, Surveying Subjective Phenomena.

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> by whom, factors which also can bear on the objectivity of the results. 
> In order to be credited here, such surveys should be offered as evidence 
> at trial, where their sponsors can be examined and cross-examined about 
> these 
> matters."
> >
> > A challenge to us.
> >
> > Go to http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com
> >
> > to find the whole decision.
> >
> > Barbara Burrell
> >
> > Barbara Burrell
> > Associate Director
> > Public Opinion Laboratory
> > and
> > Associate Professor
> > Political Science
> > Northern Illinois University
> > DeKalb, Illinois 60115
> > 815-753-9657
> >
> > 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: Thu, 27 Jun 2002 14:48:24 -0500
From: "Rob Daves" <daves@startribune.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Robert D. Coursen, 1921-2002
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 g5RJnae01016

Colleagues,

Former Gallup researcher and Minnesota Poll director Bob Coursen died June 18 here in Minneapolis. I thought that some of you who knew and worked with Bob would be interested. His obituary was published this morning, and is online at www.startribune.com You can use the search engine on the obituary page to find it.
One of our staff writers, Trudi Hahn, is doing a story about Bob, and would be interested in hearing any anecdotes or observations you might have. You can reach her at thanh@startribune.com or 612-673-7272. She would need to hear from you today.

Rob Daves, director
The Minnesota Poll

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Howard Fienberg
Senior Analyst
The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300
Washington, DC 20037
(ph) 202-223-3193

CA: Connerly Delays Initiative To Prohibit Collection Of Racial Data To 2004. The Sacramento Bee
http://www.sacbee.com/content/politics/story/3363116p-4390717c.html
(6/27, Fletcher) reports, "Anti-affirmative action activist Ward Connerly's initiative to prevent state and local governments from collecting racial data will not make the November ballot, election officials said Wednesday. The initiative, which Connerly says will lead to a 'colorblind' society in California, likely will be on the 2004 presidential primary ballot instead. ... Connerly said the Racial Privacy Initiative is better suited for the 2004 ballot. ... The plan, according to Connerly, was to turn in enough valid signatures for the initiative to qualify via a slower counting process in order to push it off what will likely be 2004. If backers had turned in enough signatures to qualify for the faster signature count, the measure could have been on the Nov. 5 ballot, as Connerly initially envisioned. ... The move, Connerly said, saved him from raising and spending the $200,000 it would have to hire additional signature gatherers to qualify for the fast count. It also gives Connerly more time to raise money to support the initiative. ... The measure would expressly prohibit government from collecting data on race, ethnicity, color or national origin in most cases. Connerly said it has exemptions that would allow the collection of data for medical and law enforcement purposes and the reporting of some education information to the federal government. Lawmakers and the governor could exempt other areas, but not education or state hiring and contracting."

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Research Associate Opening for Fall 2002

The Public Opinion Laboratory of Northern Illinois seeks to appoint a Research Associate who will serve as a project manager for surveys and work with staff to develop research projects.

This person will work with survey sponsors to conduct studies including questionnaire design, data analysis and report writing. The research associate will set up computer assisted telephone surveys using our electronic questionnaire software and work as part of a team in the collection of data involving telephone and mail surveys. This position may also include constructing and managing web-based surveys and participation in focus groups.

Experience in some or all the following areas is desired:
Questionnaire design
Data analysis and interpretation
Strong communications skills including report writing for professional and public audiences
Ability to make presentations to clients
Working knowledge of Microsoft applications
Demonstrated experience in SAS or SPSS
Experience in programming web-based surveys is highly desirable.

Minimum Qualifications:
Demonstrated knowledge of survey research methods
Bachelor's degree in a social science field; Masters degree strongly preferred.

Interested persons should submit a letter of application and resume describing qualifications and experience suitable for the position, with names of three references to:

Director, Public Opinion Laboratory
Northern Illinois University
148 No. 3rd Street
DeKalb, IL 60115

Deadline: August 16, 2002

This is a full time supportive professional staff position. Northern Illinois University offers an attractive package of benefits and educational opportunities, and is a member of the State Universities Retirement System. NIU is an affirmative action/equal employment opportunity institution.

Barbara Burrell
Associate Director
Public Opinion Laboratory
and
Associate Professor
Political Science
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115
815-753-9657

Date: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 12:01:00 -0400
From: Teresa Hottle <teresa.hottle@wright.edu>
Subject: center closing
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Message-id: <3D1C883C.77979D61@wright.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.73 [en] (Win98; I)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
X-Accept-Language: en

My boss just asked me to clear up a misunderstanding from my previous posting. Our Center here at Wright State is not closing, the Center will just not be focusing on telephone data collection - hence me losing my job. They will do surveys on an as needed basis and if a project calls for a sizeable amount of data collection that they can't handle they will subcontract.

Thanks,
Terrie

Date: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 10:48:05 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Health Policy Survey Position: Harvard Sch of Publ Health
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206281034130.22696-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
I post the following message on behalf of Diane O'Rourke.

Please send all responses to her, at addresses to be found below...

-- Jim

******

From DOrourke@srl.uic.edu Fri Jun 28 10:33:57 2002
Date: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 12:18:07 -0500
From: Diane O'Rourke <DOrourke@srl.uic.edu>
To: beniger@rcf.usc.edu
Subject: Re: Position at Harvard

Harvard School of Public Health
Department of Health Policy and Management

Assistant or Associate Professor in health policy survey research

The Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health, is seeking to recruit an assistant or associate professor specializing in the conduct of survey research on health policy issues. Candidates should possess a broad knowledge of the use of survey methodologies. Ideally the candidate would be equipped to develop indicators that could assess patients' experience with the health care system including outcomes, satisfaction and indicators of quality, public and health professional policy preferences and perceptions, and experience related to current and emerging health policy issues. Relevant research includes the review, design, conduct, and quantitative analysis of surveys and polls on access to health, studies of the impact of health services innovations in organization and/or finance, and views of major health policy debates. Candidates should have demonstrated experience and skills to play a central role in the research and teaching program in the Department.

Candidates should hold a doctoral degree in health policy, sociology, social psychology, political science, survey research, or other closely related social science discipline. Other qualifications include the demonstrated capacity to manage national and international survey projects, to collaborate with professionals in other disciplines, and to teach health policy survey methods at the graduate level.

Please send a letter of application and the names of three references to:

Chair, Search Committee/Health Policy Survey Research
Department of Health Policy and Management
Harvard School of Public Health
677 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

Harvard University is committed to increasing representation of women
and minority members among its faculty and particularly encourages applications from such candidates. EOE

Diane O'Rourke
Survey Research Laboratory
University of Illinois
505 E. Green Street, Suite 3
Champaign, IL 61820-5723
217-333-7170 (phone)
217-244-4408 (fax)
dianeo@srl.uic.edu

*****

Date: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 14:27:13 -0400
From: "Caplan, James R ,,DMDCEAST" <Caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil>
To: "'AAPORNENET'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Nonresponse questions

I have been trying to find examples of nonresponse questionnaires, i.e. short follow-up surveys asking sample members who didn't respond to explain why they couldn't or wouldn't complete the original (too long and boring, away on deployment, etc.). So far, I've struck out. Most researchers want to know about responders but care little about nonresponders or feel that if people didn't answer the first time, they probably won't later. If you have any items or instruments you can share, please do. Thanks. Jim Caplan

Reply to:
James R. Caplan, Ph.D.
Survey Technology Branch
Defense Manpower Data Center
703.696.5848
caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil <mailto:caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil>

-----Original Message-----
From: James Beniger [SMTP:beniger@rcf.usc.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2002 1:48 PM
To: AAPORNENET
Subject: Health Policy Survey Position: Harvard Sch of Publ

I post the following message on behalf of Diane O'Rourke.

Please send all responses to her, at addresses to be found below...
Harvard School of Public Health
Department of Health Policy and Management

Assistant or Associate Professor in health policy survey research

The Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health, is seeking to recruit an assistant or associate professor specializing in the conduct of survey research on health policy issues.

Candidates should possess a broad knowledge of the use of survey methodologies. Ideally the candidate would be equipped to develop indicators that could assess patients' experience with the health care system including outcomes, satisfaction and indicators of quality, public and health professional policy preferences and perceptions, and experience related to current and emerging health policy issues. Relevant research includes the review, design, conduct, and quantitative analysis of surveys and polls on access to health, studies of the impact of health services innovations in organization and/or finance, and views of major health policy debates. Candidates should have demonstrated experience and skills to play a central role in the research and teaching program in the Department.

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Boston, MA 02115

Harvard University is committed to increasing representation of women and minority members among its faculty and particularly encourages applications from such candidates. EOE

Diane O'Rourke
Survey Research Laboratory
University of Illinois
505 E. Green Street, Suite 3
Champaign, IL 61820-5723
217-333-7170 (phone)
217-244-4408 (fax)
dianeo@srl.uic.edu

*****

I once drafted such an instrument but didn't use it. To the best of my recollection, it asked nonresponders to check all that applied from:
(Items in ( )s were not included)

- no interest in this subject (relevance)
- I never complete surveys (principle)
- too lengthy or complicated (burden)
- requested information too personal (NOYB)
- insufficient compensation for my time ($ incentive)
- might lead to follow-up contacts (sugging)
- other/specify

We should be doing more of this. As we constantly raise incentives and look for more effective ways to differentiate surveys from marketing, I think more and more of the public are turning us down because of perceived irrelevance and/or excessive burden.

A double postcard is a good and inexpensive way to field such a follow up.
> I have been trying to find examples of nonresponse questionnaires, i.e. 
> short follow-up surveys asking sample members who didn't respond to explain 
> why they couldn't or wouldn't complete the original (too long and boring, 
> away on deployment, etc.). So far, I've struck out. Most researchers want 
> to know about responders but care little about nonresponders or feel that 
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> people didn't answer the first time, they probably won't later. If you 
> have 
> any items or instruments you can share, please do. Thanks. 
> Jim Caplan 
> 
> Reply to:  
> James R. Caplan, Ph.D.  
> Survey Technology Branch  
> Defense Manpower Data Center  
> 703.696.5848  
> caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil <mailto:caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil> 
> 
> -----Original Message----- 
> From: James Beniger [SMTP:beniger@rcf.usc.edu] 
> Sent: Friday, June 28, 2002 1:48 PM 
> To: AAPORNET 
> Subject: Health Policy Survey Position: Harvard Sch of Publ 
> Health 
> 
> I post the following message on behalf of Diane O'Rourke. 
> 
> Please send all responses to her, at addresses to be found 
> below...  
> 
> -- Jim 
> 
> ****** 
> 
> From DOrourke@srl.uic.edu Fri Jun 28 10:33:57 2002 
> Date: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 12:18:07 -0500 
> From: Diane O'Rourke <DOrourke@srl.uic.edu> 
> To: beniger@rcf.usc.edu 
> Subject: Re: Position at Harvard 
> 
> Harvard School of Public Health
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Please send a letter of application and the names of three references to:

Chair, Search Committee/Health Policy Survey Research
Department of Health Policy and Management
Harvard School of Public Health
677 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

Harvard University is committed to increasing representation of women and minority members among its faculty and particularly encourages applications from such candidates. EOE
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Jan Werner
jwerner@jwdp.com

---

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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: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 18:04:33 -0500
Message-ID: <ED720F725E79F4CBA32FF9694DE1CDA65F6C0KC-MAIL2.kc.umkc.edu>
X-MS-Has-Attach:
X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:
From: "Kropf, Martha E." <kropfm@umkc.edu>
To: <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>, <Caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil>, "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 28 Jun 2002 23:04:34.0380 (UTC) FILETIME=
[281C68C0:01C21EF8]
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from base64 to 8bit by listproc.usc.edu id gSN4Ye24313

Hello:
I'm curious about this topic myself. Does anyone know of more general literature about non-response follow-ups (incentives or whatever)? The only thing I can recall is a (I think) Fowler paper comparing respondents and non-respondents on their responses to a health interview surveys (probably from AAPOR, though I don't have it in front of me).

Martha Kropf
I once drafted such an instrument but didn't use it. To the best of my recollection, it asked nonresponders to check all that applied from:

(Items in ( )s were not included)
- no interest in this subject (relevance)
- I never complete surveys (principle)
- too lengthy or complicated (burden)
- requested information too personal (NOYB)
- insufficient compensation for my time ($ incentive)
- might lead to follow-up contacts (sugging)
- other/specify

We should be doing more of this. As we constantly raise incentives and look for more effective ways to differentiate surveys from marketing, I think more and more of the public are turning us down because of perceived irrelevance and/or excessive burden.

A double postcard is a good and inexpensive way to field such a follow up.

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

---Original Message-----
From: Caplan, James R , , ,NDCEAST <Caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil>
To: 'AAPORNET' <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: Friday, June 28, 2002 2:29 PM
Subject: Nonresponse questions

>I have been trying to find examples of nonresponse questionnaires, i.e.
>short follow-up surveys asking sample members who didn't respond to explain
>why they couldn't or wouldn't complete the original (too long and boring,
>away on deployment, etc.). So far, I've struck out. Most researchers want
>to know about responders but care little about nonresponders or feel that
>people didn't answer the first time, they probably won't later. If you
have
>any items or instruments you can share, please do. Thanks.
>Jim Caplan
>
>Reply to:
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Department of Health Policy and Management

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Diane O'Rourke
Survey Research Laboratory
University of Illinois
505 E. Green Street, Suite 3
Champaign, IL 61820-5723
217-333-7170 (phone)
217-244-4408 (fax)
dianeo@srl.uic.edu

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> >
> > ---------------------
> > 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

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Date: Sat, 29 Jun 2002 09:24:39 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: German Leader Hopes Soccer Will Lift His Standing in Polls (S Erlanger
NYTimes)
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.33.0206290922471.26299-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=X-UNKNOWN
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8BIT

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June 29, 2002

GERMAN LEADER HOPES SOCCER WILL LIFT HIS STANDING IN POLLS

By STEVEN ERLANGER

BERLIN, June 28 -- Although the German election is still nearly three months away, there is anxiety in the camp of Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, whose Social Democrats continue to trail their conservative opponents, led by Edmund Stoiber, in the polls.

Mr. Schröder, renowned as a good campaigner with sure populist instincts, has seized on Germany's unexpectedly good showing in the World Cup soccer championships to try to associate himself with the team's grit and
success. John V. Lindsay did much the same with the "Miracle Mets" in 1969, riding New Yorkers' euphoria about the Mets' winning the World Series that year to a surprising re-election as mayor.

Mr. Schröder hitched a ride for himself to Japan today, after the Group of 8 summit meeting in Canada, on the official plane of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, to see the Germans play Brazil in the final match on Sunday in Yokohama.

The German government has also chartered a plane to take senior leaders and politicians to the championship match.

Not to be outdone, Mr. Stoiber is going, too, and then returning to Germany with the team. That brought some sniffs from one of Mr. Schröder's spokesmen, Bela Anda, who said, "The chancellor firmly believes that the team has earned the right to celebrate on its own and that politicians should keep their distance."

Mr. Stoiber, the candidate of the Christian Democratic Union and Christian Social Union, emphasized that he was traveling at his own expense.

The newspaper Handelsblatt had the inevitable cartoon showing the two candidates, in German soccer uniforms, racing from an airplane. The candidates are bound to overshadow President Johannes Rau, Germany's official representative, who had been scheduled to attend because Germany will be the host of the next World Cup, in 2006.

But the soccer pitch is not the only current battleground. Mr. Schröder is trying to take the initiative on more substantive issues, too, in a campaign that so far centers on unemployment and economic competence -- areas where Mr. Stoiber, however stiff, is thought to have the advantage.

Mr. Schröder has sought to counter the stain of having four million people unemployed by embracing an official commission on labor-market reform -- and ensuring that its findings were publicized even before their scheduled publication in mid-August.

The commission is run by Peter Hartz, personnel director of Volkswagen, a company on whose board Mr. Schröder used to sit. As leaked and then discussed by Mr. Hartz in interviews, the proposals are advertised as being able to cut unemployment by half in three years and the cost of unemployment benefits by two-thirds.

The central idea is to use the government's regional employment offices as employers, functioning as agencies for temporary workers. Anyone who remains unemployed after looking for a job for six months would work for the employment office, subject to assignment for short-term labor, or lose benefits.

The commission also wants to simplify the payment of unemployment benefits and reduce them for the long-term unemployed, proposals that have generated some protest.

Mr. Schröder praised the proposals in general, saying, "This is a great chance to bring movement to the German labor market without a risk to social cohesion."
But he was careful not to endorse the whole report, saying he opposed cutting unemployment benefits. He needs the support of labor unions, which have been striking for pay increases beyond inflation levels.

"This is clearly a public relations campaign coming out of the chancellor's office to try to regain the initiative on labor issues," said Peter Lösche, a political scientist at Göttingen University. "Schröder is trying to go on the offensive and show voters that he has a concept to reduce unemployment."

But the mood in the chancellor's office, Mr. Lösche said, is "graying and pessimistic, and I think they've made a number of mistakes." The worst, he said, was to misjudge Mr. Stoiber. "They ridiculously thought he would go to the right instead of doing the sensible thing, moving to the center."

Mr. Stoiber, who favors deregulation, called the promise to halve unemployment in three years "the biggest bluff there is," while endorsing the thrust of the proposals.

Mr. Stoiber sought to take advantage of another report, issued by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, that ranked the German states in terms of education programs, which come under state jurisdiction. The state he runs, Bavaria, came first, followed by another conservative-run state, Baden-Württemberg. Saxony and Thuringia, two eastern states run by the conservatives, also did well. Northern states, generally run by the Social Democrats, did not.

For Mr. Lösche, the school report was not so important. The election remains to be won, he said. But with Mr. Stoiber's conservatives still keeping a lead of five to seven percentage points in the polls, he said that Chancellor Schröder "cannot simply sit back and wait for Stoiber to make big mistakes" or depend on his winning personality in television debates.
Al,
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warren

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A flurry of polls shows general confidence in new sex abuse policies adopted by the nation's Roman Catholic bishops, but overwhelmingly strong
support for removing bishops who tried to cover up the scandal.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a policy June 14 that removes from ministry any priest who has sexually abused a minor. It does not call for automatic removal from the priesthood, but that remains an option for an individual bishop to pursue.

Though American Catholics generally support the new policy, 66% of U.S. Catholics think it does not go far enough, according to a survey of 1,004 adults by the Washington Post. Eighty-two percent of Catholics said bishops who tried to cover up the problem should resign, and 86% said the pope should remove them if they refuse to resign. Penalties for bishops found even greater support in a Le Moyne College/Zogby International poll, which found that 96% of Catholics want "disciplinary action" against bishops who failed to remove known abusive priests from their pulpits. Only the pope can remove a bishop from office. A review panel will name which bishops are in compliance with the new rules and may use public pressure to seek the removal of some bishops.

The Le Moyne/Zogby poll found that 79% of Catholics endorsed the new policy, and 89% agree that abusive priests should be removed from the priesthood, as well as from public ministry.

A similar USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll found slightly more support for the policy. Fifty-six percent of Catholics approved of the policy, and 63% said it would be effective. That poll indicated that 90% want bishops who hid the problem to be removed from office.

The overwhelming majority of Catholics say their faith has not been tested by the current crisis, although their faith in the institution has. The USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll found that 22% have questioned whether they should leave the church because of it.


Copyrignt 2002 Los Angeles Times
Warren,

Thanks for quick reply.

Questions:

1. What was shown by an analogous attempt to assess how results of the Gallup Muslim poll were affected by non-weighting?
2. Isn't the ADL release open to an analogous criticism to NCPP's criticism of the over-generalized labelling of the Gallup survey? [The nine countries in the Gallup study do not represent the Muslim world."--NCPP release]
3. Isn't the ADL release shy of meeting minimum method disclosure standards while the Gallup release was not?

Al

Albert D. Biderman
abider@american.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Warren Mitofsky" <mitofsky@mindspring.com>
To: "Albert Biderman" <abider@american.edu>; "AAPORNET (E-mail)"
<aapornet@usc.edu>
Sent: Saturday, June 29, 2002 12:28 PM
Subject: Re: ADL survey of anti-semitism in Europe

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> >of the Gallup survey, as communicated in a message to Aapor from Mitofsky,
> >Subject: NCPP on Gallup Muslim poll, 14 Jun 2002.
> >
> >Can anyone provide me with a more adequate source for the methods and
> >instrument of the ADL survey than the "Full Text!" PDF file linked at the
> >ADL site.
> >
> >I find it amusing that the ADL release and its poll attempt to render
> >inseparable "views of Jews" and reactions to what the Israeli government
> >does in the current Mid-East conflict while at the very time Arab
> >propagandists work as vigorously to deny any linkage of attitudes toward
> >Jews and toward Israel or "Zionism."
Furthermore, the ADL breathes new life into what had become a rather tired genre of Yiddish humor. One version of best of such stories is about the guy who gets on the commuter train each morning and notices that his friend, Schmuel, regularly reads a newspaper with pronounced neo-Nazi tendencies. He confronts him one day:

Schmuel, don't you know that's a neo-Nazi paper?

Sure, but I like better reading the news in the Nazi paper than in the Jewish paper.

Are you meshugge or something?

No, no. In the Jewish paper there's nothing but terrible news.

Anti-Semitism is rampant all over the world; Jews are getting killed, synagogues burned, all sorts of terrible things. In the Nazi paper, they tell me Jews control Wall Street, Jews run all the big businesses, Jews are controlling the media. Jews are getting all the breaks. The news is much better in the Nazi paper.

I suspect my friends who did research on ethnic prejudice some years ago would be astonished at what the ADL release labels "harboring traditional anti-Semitic views." So would my Jewish mother who lived her earliest years in Russian Poland in the 1880's and 1890's. For a reminder of what more recent traditional anti-Semitism was like, I looked at the interview schedule in Bettelheim and Janowitz, Dynamics of Prejudice, 1950, which had some direct questioning about Jews only at the very end after extensive use of "projective questions" capable of eliciting expressions of prejudice, subtle or not:

"Should Jews be forced to leave the country? . . . be prevented from intermarriage? . . . a Jew moving in next door to your house? . . . work on the same job? . . . eat in a restaurant where Jews were served?"
The "analysis" is little more than an anti-European rant. For example, we read in the full report that:

A new form of anti-Semitism seems to be taking hold in Europe, one that is fueled by anti-Israel sentiment and questions the loyalty of Jewish citizens.

A plurality of Europeans, 45 percent, believe that Jewish citizens in their respective countries are more loyal to Israel than to the country they live in.

But the ADL's parallel survey of American attitudes, conducted last year, shows 33% of Americans sharing the same view. And what is 45% a "plurality" of anyway? The question asked which of a series of statements a respondent thinks are "probably true" or "probably false" but we are only given the one figure and never the percentage answering.

In any event, the use of the weasel word "probably" as a response qualifier is a sure indicator that the designers were trying to garner as many "true" responses as they could to bolster their claims.

If one is to believe either of these surveys, they actually show more Americans (19%) than Europeans (16%) saying that "Jews are more willing than others to use shady practices to get what they want."

Perhaps that is because more Americans than Europeans are aware of the organized campaign, of which this is an example, to equate opposition to the current Israeli government's policies with anti-Semitism.

Jan Werner
jwerner@jwdp.com

Howard Fienberg wrote:

In the wake of a wave of anti-Semitic violence in Europe not seen since the end of World War II, an Anti-Defamation League (ADL) opinion survey found 30% of Europeans cling to traditional anti-Jewish stereotypes, while 62% believe the recent violence against Jews is the result of anti-Israel sentiment. European Attitudes Towards Jews, Israel and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict, a survey of 2,500 -- 500 each in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany and the United Kingdom -- was conducted by telephone in the native language of each of the countries May 16-June 4, 2002 by First International Resources for ADL.

http://www.adl.org/PresRele/ASInt_13/4118_13.asp

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Howard Fienberg
Senior Analyst
The Statistical Assessment Service (STATS)
2100 L. St. NW Suite 300
Washington, DC 20037
Date: Sun, 30 Jun 2002 16:29:50 -0400
From: "Marc Zwelling" <vector@sympatico.ca>
To: <kropfm@umkc.edu>, <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>, <Caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil>,
   "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Nonresponse questions

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="utf-8"
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

See "Non-Responders: An Opportunity to Look into Their Hearts and Souls,"
by Withers and Thompson, Canadian Journal of Marketing Research, Vol. 20.1,
2002 (Professional Marketing Research Society, Toronto).

- Marc Zwelling -
Vector Research + Development Inc.
Phone: 416 - 733 - 2320
Fax: 416 - 733 - 4991

See what's new at Vector:
http://www.vectorresearch.com

----- Original Message -----
From: "Kropf, Martha E." <kropfm@umkc.edu>
To: <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>; <Caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil>; "AAPORNET"
   <aapornet@usc.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2002 7:04 PM
Subject: RE: Nonresponse questions

> Hello:
> I'm curious about this topic myself. Does anyone know of more general
literature about non-response follow-ups (incentives or whatever)? The only
thing I can recall is a (I think) Fowler paper comparing respondents and non-respondents on their responses to a health interview surveys (probably from AAPOR, though I don't have it in front of me).

I once drafted such an instrument but didn't use it. To the best of my recollection, it asked nonresponders to check all that applied from: (Items in ( )s were not included)

- no interest in this subject (relevance)
- I never complete surveys (principle)
- too lengthy or complicated (burden)
- requested information too personal (NOYB)
- insufficient compensation for my time ($ incentive)
- might lead to follow-up contacts (sugging)
- other/specify

We should be doing more of this. As we constantly raise incentives and look for more effective ways to differentiate surveys from marketing, I think more and more of the public are turning us down because of perceived irrelevance and/or excessive burden.

A double postcard is a good and inexpensive way to field such a follow up.

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

I have been trying to find examples of nonresponse questionnaires, i.e. short follow-up surveys asking sample members who didn't respond to explain why they couldn't or wouldn't complete the original (too long and boring, away on deployment, etc.). So far, I've struck out. Most researchers want to know about responders but care little about nonresponders or feel that if people didn't answer the first time, they probably won't later. If you
any items or instruments you can share, please do. Thanks.

Jim Caplan

> Reply to:
> James R. Caplan, Ph.D.
> Survey Technology Branch
> Defense Manpower Data Center
> 703.696.5848
> caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil <mailto:caplanjr@osd.pentagon.mil>

-----Original Message-----
From: James Beniger [SMTP:beniger@rcf.usc.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2002 1:48 PM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: Health Policy Survey Position: Harvard Sch of Publ

I post the following message on behalf of Diane O'Rourke.

Please send all responses to her, at addresses to be found below...

-- Jim

*****

From DOrourke@srl.uic.edu Fri Jun 28 10:33:57 2002
Date: Fri, 28 Jun 2002 12:18:07 -0500
From: Diane O'Rourke <DOrourke@srl.uic.edu>
To: beniger@rcf.usc.edu
Subject: Re: Position at Harvard

Harvard School of Public Health
Department of Health Policy and Management

Assistant or Associate Professor in health policy survey research

The Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health, is seeking to recruit an assistant or associate professor specializing in the conduct of survey research on health policy issues.
Candidates should possess a broad knowledge of the use of survey methodologies. Ideally the candidate would be equipped to develop indicators that could assess patients' experience with the health care system including outcomes, satisfaction and indicators of quality, public and health professional policy preferences and perceptions, and
experience related to current and emerging health policy issues. Relevant research includes the review, design, conduct, and quantitative analysis of surveys and polls on access to health, studies of the impact of health services innovations in organization and/or finance, and views of major health policy debates. Candidates should have demonstrated experience and skills to play a central role in the research and teaching program in the Department.

Candidates should hold a doctoral degree in health policy, sociology, social psychology, political science, survey research, or other closely related social science discipline. Other qualifications include the demonstrated capacity to manage national and international survey projects, to collaborate with professionals in other disciplines, and to teach health policy survey methods at the graduate level.

Please send a letter of application and the names of three references to:

Chair, Search Committee/Health Policy Survey Research
Department of Health Policy and Management
Harvard School of Public Health
677 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

Harvard University is committed to increasing representation of women and minority members among its faculty and particularly encourages applications from such candidates. EOE

Diane O'Rourke
Survey Research Laboratory
University of Illinois
505 E. Green Street, Suite 3
Champaign, IL 61820-5723
217-333-7170 (phone)
217-244-4408 (fax)
dianeo@srl.uic.edu

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