This is the USC Listproc archive of AAPORNET messages for this entire month. It is one big message, in chronological order, just the way the USC archive stored it. You can search within this month with your browser's search function (usually Ctrl-F).

Turning this into individual messages that ASU's Listserv software can index and sort means a lot of reformatting. We will do this as time permits.

New messages are of course automatically formatted correctly, and I have converted November 1994 through January 1995 and June 2002 to the present.

Shap Wolf
Survey Research Laboratory
Arizona State University
shap.wolf@asu.edu
AAPORNET volunteer host

Begin archive:

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Archive aapornet, file log0003.
Part 1/1, total size 910438 bytes:
>From mkshares@mcs.net Wed Mar 1 05:17:51 2000
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  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id FAA18244 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 05:17:50 -0800 
(PST)
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  by Kitten.mcs.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id HAA81167
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 07:17:48 -0600 (CST)
  (envelope-from mkshares@mcs.net)
Message-ID: <38BCC419.2E9B5A39@mcs.net>
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 2000 07:17:51 +0000
From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
Reply-To: mkshares@mcs.net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: Virginia
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  x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

After the Michigan GOP primary, Republicans cried Ι¿½foul and said Democrats and independents had invaded their party. (You would cry too if it happened to you.) They claimed these voters showed up not in support of McCain but to cast a vote for the "weaker" opponent against Gore in November.
In Virginia, VNS asked GOP primary voters how they would vote in November. (These exact numbers don't appear in the exit polls but can be derived from the data.)

Among McCain voters, 11% would vote for Gore in November in a match-up against Gore. (Among Bush voters, 3% would vote for Gore in November.)

11% doesn't sound much like an invasion, more like a skirmish. Moreover, we can't necessarily impute an improper motive to all of these voters. It is perfectly reasonable to assume that some McCain backers, if deprived of the chance to vote for him in November, would shift their support to Gore.

>From RFunk787@aol.com Wed Mar 1 05:22:51 2000
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(PST)
From: RFunk787@aol.com
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    by imo21.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.c9.1b3a5bd (4544)
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 08:22:13 -0500 (EST)
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To: aapornet@usc.edu
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Re: Colleen Porter's question about avoiding asking bad questions

One tactic I've used, when a client insisted on including an "impossible" question in a survey, is to ask the client if he can accurately answer the question about himself. E.g., once I was involved in a survey of poor Appalachian families about family finances and economics. The client (an academic economist) insisted that we ask questions like "What percentages of your disposable income are devoted to each of your children?" I asked him if he could answer it about his own family, and he admitted that he couldn't. However, in this case the **** still insisted that our interviewers go into poor Appalachian homes and ask it -- BECAUSE HE WANTED THE DATA ! I finally talked him out of it (logic was surely on my side -- if he of all people couldn't answer the question, how could he expect it of those respondents?), but -- here's the risk to using that tactic -- he wasn't a happy camper about it. I guess it comes down to a weighing a non-methodological trade-off: When you reach the end of your diplomatic skills, you may have to choose between (1) alienating a client and (2) burdening your interviewers and embarrassing your respondents, not to mention perpetrating fallacious "data" on the unsuspecting world.

Ray Funkhouser
FYI -- Nancy Belden

The Cult of Zogby
Why does the media treat this pollster like a god?=20

By Joshua Micah Marshall
Joshua Micah Marshall is the Washington editor of the American =
Prospect. Posted Tuesday, Feb. 29, 2000, at 4:30 p.m. PT
E-Mail This Article=20
Sign Up for Free E-Mail Auto-Delivery=20

Two nights before the New Hampshire primary, I was sitting = in
a Manchester bar arguing with a fellow reporter about the latest Al =
Gore-Bill Bradley polls. "I'm not gonna believe any poll," my colleague =
told me, "until I see John Zogby's name on it." A little-known = independent
pollster based in Utica, N.Y., Zogby rocketed to fame by = correctly
predicting the results of the 1996 presidential election. But = like all
religions, the cult of Zogby relies on myths about his feats = and denial
Zogby's dead-on prediction in 1996—he forecast Bill Clinton's eight-point win over Bob Dole, while most pollsters expected a much wider Clinton margin—won him a burst of media attention. What is odd is how Zogby's reputation has mushroomed ever since. Pundits, reporters, and chat show hosts now routinely genuflect to him. "Joining us now from Detroit is the nation's most accurate pollster, John Zogby," said Bill O'Reilly of Fox News Channel's The O'Reilly Factor in November. Robert Novak calls him "the country's hottest pollster." Dick Morris says he's "New York's most accurate pollster." The Washington Times' Wes Pruden bows to the "the hottest (and most accurate) = pollster." Chris Matthews, a leading Zogby acolyte, welcomed him to Hardball in 1998 by saying, "John Zogby, you're the best pollster."

The cult grows despite Zogby's embarrassing miscues. He stumbled several times during the 1998 election cycle, the only big = election since his 1996 triumph. One of the closest Senate races that year was the Al D'Amato-Charles Schumer contest in Zogby's home state of New York. Most polls found Schumer opening up a discernible lead in the final days of the campaign. Not Zogby, who predicted a D'Amato victory = after his final numbers showed D'Amato holding a razor-thin lead. = Schumer trounced D'Amato by 11 points.

Zogby went out on another limb in Illinois, where one-term = Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun faced a tough fight against conservative = challenger Peter Fitzgerald. Though Moseley-Braun managed a small = comeback in the campaign's final days, most polls showed her trailing by = as much as 10 points. But numbers released by Zogby International Nov. 3 = gave Moseley-Braun a three-point lead. Mort Kondracke enthused the night = before the election, "If Carol Moseley-Braun wins in Illinois and Al = D'Amato wins in New York, John Zogby is going to go . right into the = Polling Hall of Fame . because nobody agrees with him." Fitzgerald beat = Moseley-Braun by three points.
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- **John Zogby,** King of the Polls
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- **New Crossword Puzzle:** Swooning for McCain

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calculations as electoral truth revealed from on high. But what's the media's excuse??
I work at a non-profit, professional association. We would very much like to speak with someone who has experience with internet surveys at (other) professional associations.

Thanks,

Jeanette Janota

Jeanette Janota, Ph.D.
Coordinator, Survey Research Activities
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
10801 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852
Phone: (301) 897-5700, ext. 4175
Fax: (301) 897-7358
Email: jjanota@asha.org

I agree with Nick's point that Democrats are not "raiding" the Republican primaries for the purpose of making mischief. But in fact only about half of McCain voters yesterday in Virginia (48%) said they would vote for Bush against Gore in the fall. Forty-one percent would vote for Gore. Not surprisingly, most of the likely defectors were Democrats or independents. But it's not clear that these are troublemakers. Among Democrats who voted for McCain, 53% would vote for...
McCain if he got the nomination against Gore (33% would vote for Gore). But even though some would defect, virtually all of the "McCain Democrats" (95%) had a favorable impression of him. They really like the guy.

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Scott Keeter
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On Wed, 1 Mar 2000, Nick Panagakis wrote:

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(envelope-from mkshares@mcs.net)
Message-ID: <38BCFD9B.6FC943B9@mcs.net>
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 2000 11:23:27 +0000
From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
Reply-To: mkshares@mcs.net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
X-Accept-Language: en
You are reading the percentages incorrectly. As presented, they are to be read horizontally. The bases for your percents are *not* McCain or Bush voters in the primary.

As I said, those percentages have to derived from the data.

Among McCain primary voters, 11% would vote for Gore in November and 89% for McCain if that was the match-up. Among Bush primary voters, 3% would vote for Gore and 97% for Bush if those two were the choices.

There are no data for undecideds by primary vote for Bush and McCain so these are "decided" voter bases. It is interesting that among all GOP primary voters, only 6% would be undecided in Bush v. Gore contest while 13% would be undecided in Bush v. McCain contest. I guess that is consistent with the findings above.

Scott Keeter wrote:

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VNS has succeeded in preventing Jack Shafer from posting exit poll results on the Slate web site before the polls close.

Warren Mitofsky, who is quoted in a quite different context by Mr. Shafer, has pointed out that the results of the exit polls are copyrighted materials belonging to VNS, and that publishing them without permission is a theft of intellectual property, as he was able to prove in a court case of his own.

This brings up a lot of interesting questions, such as who owns the right to the actual opinions being collected in a poll, if the results are commercial property which the polling entity can charge for, and at what point those results constitute news, as opposed to commercial information.

As far as I am aware, and unlike market research surveys, no political or exit polls get signed releases from respondents to use their data, nor, with the exception of the InterSurvey polls now being used by the Washington
Post, do they pay for the responses (which is another violation of the journalistic principles espoused by the Post, but that is another story).

This issue was raised by Max Frankel of the NY Times a few years ago, when he took the personal position that he would not answer surveys unless he were paid for his time to do so.

I'll let Mr. Shafer give his opinion of the members of the VNS consortium and their approach to freedom of the press, but I'm afraid that these issues are going to create a lot of fascinating problems for the survey industry.

Jan Werner

The Slate article follows:

PRESS BOX
No Exit
Jack Shafer
Posted Tuesday, Feb. 29, 2000, at 3:27 p.m. PT

It's midafternoon and I've got the exit poll numbers from today's Virginia primary. I'd love to publish them, just as I have for the last three presidential primaries. But I can't. The lawyers from the Voter News Service--the ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, Fox News, CNN, and the Associated Press media consortium that produces the exit polls--have threatened to sue Slate if we continue to do so.

While my heart lusts for a battlefield pulped crimson with bodies from the legal departments of Microsoft and VNS, we have capitulated. Although we think VNS is stupid and wrong to want to keep this information secret, and to use the law against a publication that dares to disagree, the question of their legal right to do so is more complicated. So we stand censored.

For those joining the exit poll controversy late, here's a quick primer: VNS polls a sample of voters after they cast their ballots. By combining these exit poll results with historical data, real returns from sample precincts, pre-election polls, and the tail of a newt, VNS and the broadcasters predict--or to use their preferred terminology, "project"--winners of the various contests.

The VNS information cartel suppresses exit poll data and waits until polls close to project winners because they fear members of Congress who say such news depresses voter turnout. (Take my word for it, there's no sound evidence that it does.) What the broadcasters fear most is that the government will pass pestering laws against exit polls. After that, they worry that the government will ultimately mess with their federal broadcast licenses. In a compromise struck with the government in the mid-'80s, the information cartel requires its members to keep the exit poll data secret until the affected state's polls close.
Some secret! On Election Day, newsmen sanctioned by VNS break the embargo again and again, ladling the numbers out to the political and media elite who then pass the numbers along. (One political scrivener of my acquaintance telephones his White House sources for the numbers!) And all of this embargo-busting predates the Internet. In 1988, veteran pollster Warren Mitofsky was already talking about the "underground commerce" in Election Day exit polls.

So, when Slate started publishing exit poll numbers as we received them, our motivations were many. First, we wanted to expose the TV anchors and talking heads as actors—rotten actors—who feign ignorance about the election's direction. Most election-night coverage, down to the fancy spinning video effects and the high-tech sets, is pure theater. The real story is usually over by dinner time, and the networks know it. But—seeking to extend the cheap drama while not offending the government—they filibuster on.

Second, and most important, we wanted readers to know that the broadcasters suppress the news—the exit polls—out of fear of government retaliation. This self-censorship is the real fraud. If the American voter is mature enough to handle tracking polls the day before an election, he's mature enough to handle exit polls at 2 p.m. the day of an election.

In threatening legal action against Slate, the biggest arrow VNS's lawyers drew from their quiver was a thing called the "hot news doctrine." The hot news doctrine grows out of a 1918 case that prevents free-riders from pinching news from the wire services while the news is still "hot." The ironies of the VNS hot news claim are so rich they deserve enumeration:

1) If VNS reported its exit polls in a timely fashion, one could have sympathy for their hot news claim. Instead, they're invoking the doctrine to shield their news until its temperature reaches absolute zero.

2) Ordinarily, VNS members wave the First Amendment flag against all comers. But in the case of the exit polls, they issue threats of legal action to suppress the news.

3) If VNS ends up prosecuting a hot news claim, how happy will its members feel if the result is a legal precedent that comes back to bite them in the ass? If media corporations can claim that information they produce is "hot news" and therefore the government must help them suppress it until it's cold, non-media corporations can make the same claim.

Anyway, the exit poll genie is now out of the bottle. I wish VNS the very best of luck in policing the Internet this election season to prevent the posting of the exit poll numbers. Early this afternoon, in fact, the National Review Web site [http://www.nationalreview.com/] posted the early exit poll figures from Virginia. For earlier Press Box takes on the exit poll controversy, see "Exit Poll Fetishism
Jan,

If I sit on a park bench and sketch people in the park, do the intellectual property rights to my drawings belong to me or to the people I depict? I think clearly they belong to me, and to me alone.

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> results on the Slate web site before the polls close.
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The VNS information cartel suppresses exit poll data and waits until polls close to project winners because they fear members of Congress who say such news depresses voter turnout. (Take my word for it, there's no sound evidence that it does.) What the broadcasters fear most is that the government will pass pestering laws against exit polls. After that, they worry that the government will ultimately mess with their federal broadcast licenses. In a compromise struck with the government in the mid-'80s, the information cartel requires its members to keep the exit poll data secret until the affected state's polls close.

Some secret! On Election Day, newsmen sanctioned by VNS break the embargo again and again, ladling the numbers out to the political and media elite who then pass the numbers along. (One political scrivener of my acquaintance telephones his White House sources for the numbers!) And all of this embargo-busting predates the Internet. In 1988, veteran pollster Warren Mitofsky was already talking about the "underground commerce" in Election Day exit polls.

So, when Slate started publishing exit poll numbers as we received them, our motivations were many. First, we wanted to expose the TV anchors and talking heads as actors—rotten actors—who feign ignorance about the election's direction. Most election-night coverage, down to the fancy spinning video effects and the high-tech sets, is pure theater. The real story is usually over by dinner time, and the networks know it. But—seeking to extend the cheap drama while not offending the government—they filibuster on.

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1) If VNS reported its exit polls in a timely fashion, one could have sympathy for their hot news claim. Instead, they're invoking the doctrine to shield their news until its temperature reaches absolute zero.

2) Ordinarily, VNS members wave the First Amendment flag against all comers. But in the case of the exit polls, they issue threats of legal action to suppress the news.

3) If VNS ends up prosecuting a hot news claim, how happy will its members feel if the result is a legal precedent that comes back to bite them in the ass? If media corporations can claim that information they produce is "hot news" and therefore the government must help them suppress it until it's cold, non-media corporations can make the same claim.

Anyway, the exit poll genie is now out of the bottle. I wish VNS the very best of luck in policing the Internet this election season to prevent the posting of the exit poll numbers. Early this afternoon, in fact, the National Review Web site [http://www.nationalreview.com/] posted the early exit poll figures from Virginia. For earlier Press Box takes on the exit poll controversy, see "Exit Poll Fetishism"


From jwerner@jwdp.com Wed Mar  1 11:35:48 2000
Received: from vger.vgernet.net (root@vgernet.net [205.219.186.1]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id LAA24747 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 11:35:35 -0800 (PST)
Received: from jwdp.com (plp11.vgernet.net [205.219.186.111]) by vger.vgernet.net (8.8.8/8.8.5) with ESMTP id PAA03148; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 15:46:14 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <38BD70C3.8D8D2149@jwdp.com>
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 2000 14:34:27 -0500
From: Jan Werner <jwerner@jwdp.com>
Reply-To: jwerner@jwdp.com
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (Win98; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: James Beniger <beniger@rcf-fs.usc.edu>
You might think so, but the courts have actually found otherwise in a case strikingly similar to the example you give.

Some thirty-odd years ago, the Macmillan publishing company lost on that very point in a case involving the book "Manchild in the Promised Land", a best selling autobiographical account of a young black man growing up in a desolate landscape of drugs and violence.

The publishers had used a news archive photograph of some young men on the streets of Harlem on the dust jacket, without obtaining a formal release from the persons depicted, and one of them sued.

Market research surveys routinely compensate respondents for participation, which is considered fair because the results are known by the respondents to be of commercial value to whoever is conducting the survey.

But people are not generally aware that political polls and public opinion surveys are commercially valuable property to those selling the results, and I don't think that they would be quite as free in responding if they knew just how much money the polling organizations get for their answers.

Bluntly, if (or rather, when) respondents in the general population become better informed about just how much value data collectors place on their responses, they will feel perfectly justified in negotiating the best possible price for whatever information they choose to supply.

Jan Werner

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I was discussing the question of who participates in primaries with my classes, outlining the pros and cons of closed primaries. As everyone knows, a closed primary does prevent voters from choosing the "best" candidates for President (at least as they perceive them) regardless of party; however, a closed primary also guarantees that the people in a given party are the ones choosing who their party's nominee should be.

There is another wrinkle in the open primary debate, however-- it has a tendency to reveal Condorcet problems in voting. For instance, if there were a national open primary, or if the results of open state primaries
could be aggregated into national results, one could end up with a result like this:

33% who prefer Gore to Bush to McCain
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(Let's leave the 1% extra to other candidates).

Hence, Bush would beat McCain in the primaries, Gore would beat Bush in the general election, but McCain would beat Gore in the general election. Of course, this could easily happen in voter preferences anyway, but it would be more evident with national open primaries on both sides. (It becomes even more likely if one adds in Bradley, or other candidates).

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Rider University

Nick Panagakis wrote:

> After the Michigan GOP primary, Republicans cried "foul" and said Democrats and Independents had invaded their party. (You would cry too if it happened to you.)
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>From losch@csbr.csbs.uni.edu Wed Mar  1 14:29:35 2000
Received: from iscssun.uni.edu (iscssun.uni.edu [134.161.14.20]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id OAA17966 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 14:28:46 -0800 (PST)
Received: from csbr.csbs.uni.edu (csbr.csbs.uni.edu [134.161.220.3]) by iscssun.uni.edu (iscssun.uni.edu [134.161.14.20]) with ESMTP id QAA07161 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 16:28:40 -0600 (CST)
Received: from CSBR/SpoolDir by csbr.csbs.uni.edu (Mercury 1.47); 1 Mar 00 16:28:41 -0600
Received: from SpoolDir by CSBR (Mercury 1.47); 1 Mar 00 16:28:18 -0600
From: "Mary Losch" <losch@csbr.csbs.uni.edu>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 2000 16:28:08 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
Barbara,

I sent the query out last fall about possible effects of time of data collection and found that no one knew of any systematic data. We'll be presenting a study at the AAPOR meeting in May and are completing the analyses now. I have not completed the literature review but early indications are that there are few published findings.

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

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: Re: Virginia
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 2000 16:18:17 -0500
From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
Reply-To: mkshares@mcs.net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Content-Text: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Approval Voting by Steven Brams & Peter Fishburn (Birkhauser, 1983) analyzes a number of voting methods in multi-candidate races which may be of interest. As I recall, the Condorcet outcome is discussed along with alternative voting systems.

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>From abider@american.edu Wed Mar 1 15:12:40 2000
Np sooner did I switch to the news from Jim's evocation of the FF's that
this greeted my I:

A Private Matter
FTC Tells Credit Bureau: Stop Selling Personal Data

By Ted Bridis
The Associated Press
W A S H I N G T O N, March 1 ï¿½ The Federal Trade
Commission is ordering Trans Union Corp.,
one of the nation's largest credit bureaus, to
stop its contested practice of selling private
financial details about its customers to
third-party marketers. <SNIP>

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No Exit

> Jack Shafer
> Posted Tuesday, Feb. 29, 2000, at 3:27 p.m. PT

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

From skeeter@osf1.gmu.edu Wed Mar 1 15:13:33 2000
Received: from osf1.gmu.edu (osf1.gmu.edu [129.174.1.13])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
VNS reports the data percentagized horizontally and vertically. I AM talking about the vertical percentages... 48% of McCain voters would vote for Bush against Gore; 41% would "defect" to Gore (table below).

Perhaps I did not understand your point and we are talking past one another. Your original message contained this statement, which has Gore pitted against Gore:

> > > Among McCain voters, 11% would vote for Gore in November in a match-up against Gore. (Among Bush voters, 3% would vote for Gore in November.)

My point is that while most McCain voters would stick with him against Gore, many would not vote Republican if Bush wins the nomination. Bush and his supporters don't like these Democrats and independents coming in and meddling, of course, but the analysis I reported in my earlier message indicates that most of these "meddlers" are pro-McCain and not anti-Republican.

Virginia Republican Primary 2000
Vertical %
Voted today for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALL</th>
<th>Bush</th>
<th>McCain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GORE VS BUSH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gore</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bush</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORE VS MCCAIN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORE 11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCCAIN 76</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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> You are reading the percentages incorrectly. As presented, they are to be read horizontally. The bases for your percents are *not* McCain or Bush voters in the primary.
> As I said, those percentages have to derived from the data.
> Among McCain primary voters, 11% would vote for Gore in November and 89%
for McCain if that was the match-up. Among Bush primary voters, 3% would vote for Gore and 97% for Bush if those two were the choices.

There are no data for undecideds by primary vote for Bush and McCain so these are "decided" voter bases. It is interesting that among all GOP primary voters, only 6% would be undecided in Bush v. Gore contest while 13% would be undecided in Bush v. McCain contest. I guess that is consistent with the findings above.

Scott Keeter wrote:

I agree with Nick's point that Democrats are not "raiding" the Republican primaries for the purpose of making mischief. But in fact only about half of McCain voters yesterday in Virginia (48%) said they would vote for Bush against Gore in the fall. Forty-one percent would vote for Gore. Not surprisingly, most of the likely defectors were Democrats or independents. But it's not clear that these are troublemakers. Among Democrats who voted for McCain, 53% would vote for McCain if he got the nomination against Gore (33% would vote for Gore). But even though some would defect, virtually all of the "McCain Democrats" (95%) had a favorable impression of him. They really like the guy.

Scott Keeter
Dept. of Public and International Affairs
George Mason University MSN 3F4
Fairfax, VA 22030-4444
Voice 703 993 1412
Department fax 703 993 1399
Personal fax 703 832 0209
E-mail skeeter@gmu.edu
Web site http://mason.gmu.edu/~skeeter

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11% doesn't sound much like an invasion, more like a skirmish. Moreover, we can't necessarily impute an improper motive to all of these voters. It is perfectly reasonable to assume that some McCain backers, if deprived of the chance to vote for him in November, would shift their support to Gore.

Greetings to my AAPOR colleagues.
I am writing to inform you about our opening for a Research Analyst/Project Manager at Communication Sciences Group in San Francisco. We are seeking an experienced quantitative analyst with a solid survey research background and project management skills. Interest and/or training in health issues would also be desirable. Since we may not be able to easily find candidates with all three skill sets, I would welcome inquiries from individuals with a good record on two of the three: project management, research design and analysis, or health communication. CSG is a small well-respected firm that provides high quality research services to academic, government and private organizations in California and nationwide. Special areas of expertise include multi-cultural/multi-lingual research, hard-to-locate populations and sensitive topic research.

Salaries are competitive and benefits are excellent. Professional development is supported and valued.

And today it's 62 and sunny in downtown San Francisco...

To receive a copy of the job description please email me privately. PLEASE don't hit 'reply'--just email to:

kathrync@socialresearch.com

Thanks in advance for sharing this message with prospective applicants.

Best regards,
Kathy

Kathryn Cirksena, Ph.D.
Research Services Manager
Communication Sciences Group/
Survey Methods Group
140 Second Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 495-6692 ext. 269

----- _=_NextPart_000_01BF83D8.103AC5C8
Content-Type: application/ms-tnef
Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64
"Private financial details" "belong" to individuals and are directly linked to a person's identity. "Poll data" are customarily used in some type of aggregate and details of a person's identity are supposed to be confidential and not disclosed to third parties.

Nope, I'm back with Jim.

Susan

At 06:14 PM 3/1/2000 -0500, you wrote:
>No sooner did I switch to the news from Jim's evocation of the FF's that
>this greeted my I:
> 
>       A Private Matter  
>       FTC Tells Credit Bureau: Stop Selling Personal Data  
>       By Ted Bridis  
>       The Associated Press  
>       W A S H I N G T O N, March 1 î½ The Federal Trade  
>       Commission is ordering Trans Union Corp,.  
>       one of the nationî½s largest credit bureaus, to  
>       stop its contested practice of selling private  
>       financial details about its customers to  
>       third-party marketers. <SNIP>
> >James Beniger wrote:
> >> Jan,
> >> 
> >> If I sit on a park bench and sketch people in the park, do the  
> >> intellectual property rights to my drawings belong to me or to the people  
> >> I depict? I think clearly they belong to me, and to me alone.  
> >> 
> >> Similarly, if someone employed by Gallup sits on a park bench and guesses  
> >> the age of each person who walks by, do the intellectual property rights  
> >> to the recorded guesses belong to the passersby, or to Gallup? I think  
> >> clearly they belong to Gallup.  
> >> 
> >> Intellectual property accrues to those who create, originate or generate  
> >> information, not to those described by the information (there are, of  
> >> course, various exceptions, e.g., those involving privacy and celebrity).  
> >> Intellectual property explains why, for example, at least the better  
> >> artists can earn substantially more than do their models.  
> >> 
> >> Gallup holds the intellectual property rights to the ages given by  
> >> respondents to its formal surveys no less than it does to the ages of  
> >> people it guesses in the park. Public opinion research, like both public  
> >> sketching and recording of guesses, does create original information to  
> >> which intellectual property rights accrue.  
> >> 
> >> The founders of the United States valued intellectual property rights  
> >> enough to include them in the first of the original seven articles of the
U.S. Constitution. Article I, Section 8, which delineates the various powers of Congress, describes as that body's eighth such power:

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.

I think that survey research finds its place among "Science and useful Arts," and that those who earn their living conducting survey research might be seen as "Authors and Inventors" who deserve "exclusive Right" to their "Writings and Discoveries."

Don't you? -- Jim

On Wed, 1 Mar 2000, Jan Werner wrote:

VNS has succeeded in preventing Jack Shafer from posting exit poll results on the Slate web site before the polls close.

Warren Mitofsky, who is quoted in a quite different context by Mr. Shafer, has pointed out that the results of the exit polls are copyrighted materials belonging to VNS, and that publishing them without permission is a theft of intellectual property, as he was able to prove in a court case of his own.

This brings up a lot of interesting questions, such as who owns the right to the actual opinions being collected in a poll, if the results are commercial property which the polling entity can charge for, and at what point those results constitute news, as opposed to commercial information.

As far as I am aware, and unlike market research surveys, no political or exit polls get signed releases from respondents to use their data, nor, with the exception of the InterSurvey polls now being used by the Washington Post, do they pay for the responses (which is another violation of the journalistic principles espoused by the Post, but that is another story).

This issue was raised by Max Frankel of the NY Times a few years ago, when he took the personal position that he would not answer surveys unless he were paid for his time to do so.

I'll let Mr. Shafer give his opinion of the members of the VNS consortium and their approach to freedom of the press, but I'm afraid that these issues are going to create a lot of fascinating problems for the survey industry.

Jan Werner

The Slate article follows:

----------------------------------------------------------------
PRESS BOX
No Exit
Jack Shafer
It's midafternoon and I've got the exit poll numbers from today's Virginia primary. I'd love to publish them, just as I have for the last three presidential primaries. But I can't. The lawyers from the Voter News Service—the ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, Fox News, CNN, and the Associated Press media consortium that produces the exit polls—have threatened to sue Slate if we continue to do so.

While my heart lusts for a battlefield pulped crimson with bodies from the legal departments of Microsoft and VNS, we have capitulated. Although we think VNS is stupid and wrong to want to keep this information secret, and to use the law against a publication that dares to disagree, the question of their legal right to do so is more complicated. So we stand censored.

For those joining the exit poll controversy late, here's a quick primer: VNS polls a sample of voters after they cast their ballots. By combining these exit poll results with historical data, real returns from sample precincts, pre-election polls, and the tail of a newt, VNS and the broadcasters predict—or to use their preferred terminology, "project"—winners of the various contests.

The VNS information cartel suppresses exit poll data and waits until polls close to project winners because they fear members of Congress who say such news depresses voter turnout. (Take my word for it, there's no sound evidence that it does.) What the broadcasters fear most is that the government will pass pestering laws against exit polls. After that, they worry that the government will ultimately mess with their federal broadcast licenses. In a compromise struck with the government in the mid-'80s, the information cartel requires its members to keep the exit poll data secret until the affected state's polls close.

Some secret! On Election Day, newsmen sanctioned by VNS break the embargo again and again, ladling the numbers out to the political and media elite who then pass the numbers along. (One political scrivener of my acquaintance telephones his White House sources for the numbers!) And all of this embargo-busting predates the Internet. In 1988, veteran pollster Warren Mitofsky was already talking about the "underground commerce" in Election Day exit polls.

So, when Slate started publishing exit poll numbers as we received them, our motivations were many. First, we wanted to expose the TV anchors and talking heads as actors—rotten actors—who feign ignorance about the election's direction. Most election-night coverage, down to the fancy spinning video effects and the high-tech sets, is pure theater. The real story is usually over by dinner time, and the networks know it. But—seeking to extend the cheap drama while not offending the government—they filibuster on.
Second, and most important, we wanted readers to know that the broadcasters suppress the news--the exit polls--out of fear of government retaliation. This self-censorship is the real fraud. If the American voter is mature enough to handle tracking polls the day before an election, he's mature enough to handle exit polls at 2 p.m. the day of an election.

In threatening legal action against Slate, the biggest arrow VNS's lawyers drew from their quiver was a thing called the "hot news doctrine." The hot news doctrine grows out of a 1918 case that prevents free-riders from pinching news from the wire services while the news is still "hot." The ironies of the VNS hot news claim are so rich they deserve enumeration:

1) If VNS reported its exit polls in a timely fashion, one could have sympathy for their hot news claim. Instead, they're invoking the doctrine to shield their news until its temperature reaches absolute zero.

2) Ordinarily, VNS members wave the First Amendment flag against all comers. But in the case of the exit polls, they issue threats of legal action to suppress the news.

3) If VNS ends up prosecuting a hot news claim, how happy will its members feel if the result is a legal precedent that comes back to bite them in the ass? If media corporations can claim that information they produce is "hot news" and therefore the government must help them suppress it until it's cold, non-media corporations can make the same claim.

Anyway, the exit poll genie is now out of the bottle. I wish VNS the very best of luck in policing the Internet this election season to prevent the posting of the exit poll numbers. Early this afternoon, in fact, the National Review Web site posted the early exit poll figures from Virginia. For earlier Press Box takes on the exit poll controversy, see "Exit Poll Fetishism" [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/22/00&idMessage=4661] and "Peter Jennings, Embargo Criminal [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/23/00&idMessage=4675]."
I AM NOW IN TRANSITION TO:

The Department of Educational Research
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

850-644-4592 Educational Research Office
FAX 850-644-8776

FROM:

The Department of Sociology
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-2270

850-644-6416 Sociology Office
FAX 850-644-6208

> From Smarcy715@aol.com Wed Mar  1 16:33:11 2000
Received: from imo-d02.mx.aol.com (imo-d02.mx.aol.com [205.188.157.34])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id QAA03779 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 16:24:44 -0800
    (PST)
From: Smarcy715@aol.com
Received: from Smarcy715@aol.com
    by imo-d02.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.d9.1cc1df0 (4422)
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 1 Mar 2000 19:21:25 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <d9.1cc1df0.25ef0e05@aol.com>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 2000 19:21:25 EST
Subject: Handheld electronic survey research devices
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 5.0 for Windows sub 67

Query: would any of you be willing to recommend a vendor or vendors for
handheld electronic survey research devices? We are looking for a vendor
that offers a good product and has good service. Price is not a barrier.
Thanks in advance!

Sherry Marcy
Parke-Davis Pharmaceuticals Research

> From ande271@attglobal.net Thu Mar  2 07:42:41 2000
Received: from prserv.net (out2.prserv.net [32.97.166.32])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
That happened to me once. I included the question, then in the report included a "section" on the topic. The "section" which was duly included in the Table of Contents, consisted of one statement to the effect that since the data were not valid no analysis was possible. It worked in the sense that the report was accepted. I never knew whether anyone had read it.

I do think that researchers should take more risks in alienating clients. We could compile a series of "case studies" with no names attached that each AAPOR member could whip out in difficult situations to show to clients.

RFunk787@aol.com wrote:

> Re: Colleen Porter's question about avoiding asking bad questions
> One tactic I've used, when a client insisted on including an "impossible" question in a survey, is to ask the client if he can accurately answer the question about himself. E.g., once I was involved in a survey of poor Appalachian families about family finances and economics. The client (an academic economist) insisted that we ask questions like "What percentages of your disposable income are devoted to each of your children?" I asked him if he could answer it about his own family, and he admitted that he couldn't. However, in this case the **** still insisted that our interviewers go into poor Appalachian homes and ask it -- BECAUSE HE WANTED THE DATA ! I finally talked him out of it (logic was surely on my side -- if he of all people couldn't answer the question, how could he expect it of those respondents?), but -- here's the risk to using that tactic -- he wasn't a happy camper about it. I guess it comes down to a weighing a non-methodological trade-off: When you reach the end of your diplomatic skills, you may have to choose
between (1) alienating a client and (2) burdening your interviewers and
embarrassing your respondents, not to mention perpetrating fallacious "data"
on the unsuspecting world.

Ray Funkhouser

From jtyoung@hsph.harvard.edu Thu Mar  2 07:59:42 2000
Received: from hsph.harvard.edu (hsph.harvard.edu [128.103.75.21])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id HAA29993 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 2 Mar 2000 07:59:37 -0800
(PST)
Received: from fgsdfg.harvard.edu (sph186-72.harvard.edu [134.174.186.72])
    by hsph.harvard.edu (8.9.3+Sun/8.9.1) with ESMTP id KAA24490
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 2 Mar 2000 10:59:08 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000302102235.00964ad0@hsph.harvard.edu>
X-Sender: jtyoung@hsph.harvard.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Thu, 02 Mar 2000 10:53:43 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: "John T. Young" <jtyoung@hsph.harvard.edu>
Subject: Re: Virginia
In-Reply-To: <38BD8919.8444BC5F@rider.edu>
References: <38BCC419.2E9B5A39@mcs.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

frank rusciano's case is a great illustration of kenneth arrow's
impossibility theorem and i assume of condorcet's problem. however,
arrow, assumed fixed preferences. given this campaign so far, that would
be a doubtful assumption. for months, bush had a large lead over gore (as
late as 12/12/99 bush 55 gore 39 abc/wp; now, 2/24-27/00, bush 50 gore 44,
abc/wp) and if the campaign were to focus more on mccain's policy
preferences, many of independents, and disaffected democrats might well
defect from their current choice. still, as frank points out, at this
point the virginia results show that there is no majority winner.

john t. young
jtyoung@hsph.harvard.edu

At 04:18 PM 03/01/2000 -0500, you wrote:
I was discussing the question of who participates in primaries with my
classes, outlining the pros and cons of closed primaries. As everyone
knows, a closed primary does prevent voters from choosing the "best"
candidates for President (at least as they perceive them) regardless of
party; however, a closed primary also guarantees that the people in a given
party are the ones choosing who their party's nominee should be.

There is another wrinkle in the open primary debate, however-- it has a
tendency to reveal condorcet problems in voting. For instance, if there
were a national open primary, or if the results of open state primaries
could be aggregated into national results, one could end up with a result
like this:

33% who prefer Gore to Bush to McCain
>33% who prefer Bush to McCain to Gore
>
>33% who prefer McCain to Gore to Bush
>
>(Let's leave the 1% extra to other candidates).
>
>Hence, Bush would beat McCain in the primaries, Gore would beat Bush in the
general election, but McCain would beat Gore in the general election. Of
course, this could easily happen in voter preferences anyway, but it would
be more evident with national open primaries on both sides. (It becomes
even more likely if one adds in Bradley, or other candidates).
>
>Frank Rusciano
>Rider University
>
>Nick Panagakis wrote:
>
> > After the Michigan GOP primary, Republicans cried "foul" and said
> > Democrats and Independents had invaded their party. (You would cry too
> > if it happened to you.)
> >
> > They claimed these voters showed up not in support of McCain but to cast
> > a vote for the "weaker" opponent against Gore in November.
> >
> > In Virginia, VNS asked GOP primary voters how they would vote in
> > November. (These exact numbers don't appear in the exit polls but can be
> > derived form the data.)
> >
> > Among McCain voters, 11% would vote for Gore in November in a match-up
> > against Gore. (Among Bush voters, 3% would vote for Gore in November.)
> >
> > 11% doesn't sound much like an invasion, more like a skirmish.
> > Moreover, we can't necessarily impute an improper motive to all of these
> > voters. It is perfectly reasonable to assume that some McCain backers,
> > if deprived of the chance to vote for him in November, would shift their
> > support to Gore.

>From Simonetta@artsci.com Thu Mar  2 08:29:20 2000
Received: from as_server.artsci.com ([207.140.81.19])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA13504 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 2 Mar 2000 08:29:09 -0800
(PST)
Received: by AS_SERVER with Internet Mail Service (5.0.1460.8)
    id <1TW99X2J>; Thu, 2 Mar 2000 11:21:43 -0500
Message-ID: <8125C7B601A9D011943A0060975E6BA92ACB6A@AS_SERVER>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@artsci.com>
To: "aapornet (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: FW: Article from Lone Star Report on attack spam incident.
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 2000 11:21:41 -0500
X-Priority: 3
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.0.1460.8)
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by usc.edu id IAA13523
I realize that this is somewhat off-topic but I hope that the list's general interest about things Internet and political will absolve me.

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

> -----Original Message-----
> 
> ----------------------------------------
>             THE LONE STAR REPORT
>             Essential news and commentary about Texas politics.
> 
> ----------------------------------------
>  Vol. 4, Iss. 20  E-mail edition  February 4, 2000
> 
> Thoede accuses rival of dirty campaign tactics
> by James A. Cooley and David Guenthner
> 
> The intense Republican primary election to replace the retiring John Culberson in HD 130 turned ugly this week when candidate Aubrey Thoede formally accused GOP rival Corbin Van Arsdale of being behind a mysterious e-mail used to smear him.
> 
> A January 21 e-mail from "Brittani Carruth" began by describing the writer as a former supporter who had reconsidered after "learning some things about Aubrey."
> 
> The e-mail accused Thoede of being arrested for DWI in April, 1998, refusing a sobriety test, and being "belligerent" with two Houston police officers; having three state tax liens against him; and having his supporters steal campaign signs.
> 
> Recipients of the message included Thoede supporters and financial contributors, selected Austin lobbyists, and various members of the political media (including two LSR writers).
> 
> The e-mail itself contained no political disclaimer of any kind or contact information on the sender other than a Yahoo e-mail address.
> 
> LSR requests for corroboration from Ms. Carruth went unanswered.
> 
> Thoede told LSR the e-mail's accusations ranged from the misleading to the outright false. He admitted to the arrest but said a jury acquitted him of the charge, which the judge then ordered expunged from his record. The tax liens, which amounted to around $1,000 in disputes, had been settled, he said. Thoede noted that he pays at least $350,000 annually in federal, state, and local taxes.
After being alerted to the e-mail, Thoede's campaign checked its records and found that almost a year earlier "Brittani Smith" had signed up at the campaign's web site as a supporter and asked to receive e-mail updates. The campaign initially sent all these updates without masking recipient addresses, which meant the shadowy Smith was accidentally supplied with a complete e-mail list.

The same Yahoo e-mail address originally used by Brittani Smith to sign up as a Thoede supporter was later employed by Brittani Carruth to distribute the attack e-mail. Thoede said his campaign could find no indication that Brittani, either Smith or Carruth, really exists.

However, the campaign's Internet detective work turned up some very interesting leads.

The Internet uses a system called Internet Protocol (IP) addressing to direct all traffic. Every e-mail has a record attached that indicates each stop along the way from the originator's IP address to the final recipient. What most casual users don't realize is how easy it is to view this routing information and track e-mail back to its original IP address.

In this case, the routing information showed the message originating from an IP address in the net block reserved by the Longshore Institute, a subsidiary of Fitzhugh & Elliott, Van Arsdale's law firm.

The domain registration lookup showed an e-mail contact address belonging to the firm. The lawyers.com web site shows Thomas C. Fitzhugh, III, a partner in Van Arsdale's law firm, as president of the Longshore Institute. The web site further shows Van Arsdale himself as affiliated with the Institute through his law firm, and sporting a longshore.org e-mail address.

Thoede's evidence includes several documents from Van Arsdale that display the same office phone numbers and postal mail address found in the contact information from the IP address lookup. LSR independently verified the IP address lookup and could find no indications the original routing information had been forged.

Further LSR research involving a Domain Name System (DNS) search on the Carruth email IP address displayed a "Hostname" of JCVA. By coincidence, this same 4-letter designation is echoed in Van Arsdale's email address of jcva@longshore.org.

The noise of backfire reverberated this week through both campaigns. An offended Thoede charged in a Feb. 1 letter to Van Arsdale that the "e-mail originated from you or with your knowledge and in coordination with your campaign." The letter further accused Van Arsdale of "subsidizing your campaign by using your law firm equipment and
Thoede said he may seek civil and criminal penalties against the e-mail's author.

Van Arsdale's consultant, Allen Blakemore, insists that he has no "personal knowledge" of anyone associated with the campaign sending the e-mail. He says Van Arsdale has assured him that he also knows nothing about it. Blakemore repeatedly stressed that reporters should not dwell on how the e-mail originated, but instead that Thoede had not denied its charges.

Van Arsdale, in a written statement received shortly before press time, denied sending the e-mails personally. "A computer guy I know confirmed that the routers on the e-mail do indeed trace back to our domain," he said. "But he also said that anyone with one of my business cards (and that's a lot of people) and a little computer savvy could have done that. I have been told that I can't prove it did not come from our domain. But if the e-mail came from my office, no one will admit to it."

Van Arsdale also denied circulating expunged records or having his law firm subsidize campaign expenses. He also said he had looked into the allegations and "one of them is almost certainly true and the rest are them in fact true."

Harris County Republican Chairman Gary Polland told LSR he had been briefed on the matter last weekend. "I am disappointed in this sort of campaign tactics," Polland said. "There is no place for it in a Republican primary."

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Posted this to everyone as I thought the list might be interested in knowing this research technology is available. Apologies in advance if anyone is offended.

Sherry,

I met a gentleman at the Southwest Chapter meeting of the MRA last month who was demoing his hand-held CAPI technology. Name's Michael King with Triton Technology. His equipment and software were top notch. He will program your survey on his Palm Pilots or Newtons and mail the machines to you for your use. You then send it back when you're done and he pulls it all into a single database for you.

We've never used his service, but CMOR thought enough of it to have him involved in one of their projects. I recommend talking to him. Michael's e-mail is mikkel@market-research.com. Phone (213) 488-2811. He may have an on-line demo at www.market-research.com, though I haven't looked yet.

Best of luck!

Karl Feld
Western Wats Opinion Research Center, LC

Get free email and a permanent address at http://www.amexmail.com/?A=1

>From PAHARDING7@aol.com Thu Mar 2 10:02:04 2000
Received: from imo18.mx.aol.com (imo18.mx.aol.com [152.163.225.8])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
      id KAA11001 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 2 Mar 2000 10:01:50 -0800
(PST)
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com
Received: from PAHARDING7@aol.com
   by imo18.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.9d.28c0337 (4205)
      for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 2 Mar 2000 12:56:46 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <9d.28c0337.25f0055d@aol.com>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 2000 12:56:45 EST
Subject: Humor for an Otherwise Serious Website
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 5.0 for Windows sub 66

Anyone with access to the March 6 New Yorker might enjoy the cartoon on P.
Al Biderman astutely points us all to the heart of the battle over ownership of poll results: the battle over what is to be public and what private. Again, this is why I set my original two examples, of artistic sketching and guessing ages, in public parks.

Luis Brandeis (as I subsequently mentioned in reply to Jan Werner) argued that our photographic image, as we walk down even a public street, belongs to us, and the public discussion this generated eventually inspired what few rights of privacy we have today.

When I purchase something in a public establishment, and possibly borrow money from a public company in order to do so, and one or both businesses involved invest their own money in collecting, processing and commodifying that information, who then has intellectual property rights to the data so generated--do I or do they?

As Al tells us, the FTC has just said to Trans Union Corp. that, in effect, we retain a right of *privacy* in our personal financial and credit information that overrides the *intellectual property* rights of the collectors or generators of that information as established by the original signers of the U.S. Constitution.

I personally find this welcome news. It means, for example, that survey researchers and public opinion pollsters must continue to maintain the confidentiality of all data collected (who among us would disagree with that?)? It also means that we might sell our individual rights to our own financial and credit information, and also that those selected in survey samples might increasingly demand payment for their responses.
Because the Web makes such transfers of funds so easy (even in fractions of a cent), as survey and market research and polling move inevitably to the Web, payment of respondents will become ever more common, and also cheaper as a result, not the least as a result of the new technology. Or at least so I predicted in my 1998 presidential address.

If there were ever to be a second American Revolution, it would begin, I imagine, not again with tea into the sea, but over where to draw the line between public and private, and over what are to be our own public and private parts.

-- Jim

******

On Wed, 1 Mar 2000, Albert D. Biderman wrote:

> Np sooner did I switch to the news from Jim's evocation of the FF's that
> this greeted my I:
>
> A Private Matter
> FTC Tells Credit Bureau: Stop Selling Personal Data

> By Ted Bridis
> The Associated Press
> W A S H I N G T O N, March 1 i/4 The Federal Trade
> Commission is ordering Trans Union Corp.,
> one of the nationi;4s largest credit bureaus, to
> stop its contested practice of selling private
> financial details about its customers to
> third-party marketers. <SNIP>

> James Beniger wrote:
> >
> > Jan,
> >
> > If I sit on a park bench and sketch people in the park, do the
> > intellectual property rights to my drawings belong to me or to the
> > people
> > I depict? I think clearly they belong to me, and to me alone.
> >
> > Similarly, if someone employed by Gallup sits on a park bench and
> > guesses
> > the age of each person who walks by, do the intellectual property rights
> > to the recorded guesses belong to the passersby, or to Gallup? I think
> > clearly they belong to Gallup.
> >
> > Intellectual property accrues to those who create, originate or generate
> > information, not to those described by the information (there are, of
> > course, various exceptions, e.g., those involving privacy and
> > celebrity).
> >
> > Intellectual property explains why, for example, at least the better
> > artists can earn substantially more than do their models.
> >
> > Gallup holds the intellectual property rights to the ages given by
> > respondents to its formal surveys no less than it does to the ages of
> > people it guesses in the park. Public opinion research, like both
The founders of the United States valued intellectual property rights enough to include them in the first of the original seven articles of the Constitution. Article I, Section 8, which delineates the various powers of Congress, describes as that body's eighth such power:

   To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.

I think that survey research finds its place among "Science and useful Arts," and that those who earn their living conducting survey research might be seen as "Authors and Inventors" who deserve "exclusive Right" to their "Writings and Discoveries."

Don't you?

-- Jim

On Wed, 1 Mar 2000, Jan Werner wrote:

VNS has succeeded in preventing Jack Shafer from posting exit poll results on the Slate web site before the polls close.

Warren Mitofsky, who is quoted in a quite different context by Mr. Shafer, has pointed out that the results of the exit polls are copyrighted materials belonging to VNS, and that publishing them without permission is a theft of intellectual property, as he was able to prove in a court case of his own.

This brings up a lot of interesting questions, such as who owns the right to the actual opinions being collected in a poll, if the results are commercial property which the polling entity can charge for, and at what point those results constitute news, as opposed to commercial information.

As far as I am aware, and unlike market research surveys, no political or exit polls get signed releases from respondents to use their data, nor, with the exception of the InterSurvey polls now being used by the Washington Post, do they pay for the responses (which is another violation of the journalistic principles espoused by the Post, but that is another story).

This issue was raised by Max Frankel of the NY Times a few years ago, when he took the personal position that he would not answer surveys unless he were paid for his time to do so.

I'll let Mr. Shafer give his opinion of the members of the VNS
Jan Werner

The Slate article follows:

PRESS BOX
No Exit
Jack Shafer

Posted Tuesday, Feb. 29, 2000, at 3:27 p.m. PT

It's midafternoon and I've got the exit poll numbers from today's Virginia primary. I'd love to publish them, just as I have for the last three presidential primaries. But I can't. The lawyers from the Voter News Service--the ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, Fox News, CNN, and the Associated Press media consortium that produces the exit polls--have threatened to sue Slate if we continue to do so.

While my heart lusts for a battlefield pulped crimson with bodies from the legal departments of Microsoft and VNS, we have capitulated. Although we think VNS is stupid and wrong to want to keep this information secret, and to use the law against a publication that dares to disagree, the question of their legal right to do so is more complicated. So we stand censored.

For those joining the exit poll controversy late, here's a quick primer: VNS polls a sample of voters after they cast their ballots. By combining these exit poll results with historical data, real returns from sample precincts, pre-election polls, and the tail of a newt, VNS and the broadcasters predict--or to use their preferred terminology, "project"--winners of the various contests.

The VNS information cartel suppresses exit poll data and waits until polls close to project winners because they fear members of Congress who say such news depresses voter turnout. (Take my word for it, there's no sound evidence that it does.) What the broadcasters fear most is that the government will pass pestering laws against exit polls. After that, they worry that the government will ultimately mess with their federal broadcast licenses. In a compromise struck with the government in the mid-'80s, the information cartel requires its members to keep the exit poll data secret until the affected state's polls close.

Some secret! On Election Day, newsmen sanctioned by VNS break the embargo again and again, ladling the numbers out to the political and media elite who then pass the numbers along. (One political scrivener of my acquaintance telephones his White House sources for the numbers!) And all of this embargo-busting predates the Internet. In 1988, veteran
pollster Warren Mitofsky was already talking about the "underground commerce" in Election Day exit polls.

So, when Slate started publishing exit poll numbers as we received them, our motivations were many. First, we wanted to expose the TV anchors and talking heads as actors--rotten actors--who feign ignorance about the election's direction. Most election-night coverage, down to the fancy spinning video effects and the high-tech sets, is pure theater. The real story is usually over by dinner time, and the networks know it. But--seeking to extend the cheap drama while not offending the government--they filibuster on.

Second, and most important, we wanted readers to know that the broadcasters suppress the news--the exit polls--out of fear of government retaliation. This self-censorship is the real fraud. If the American voter is mature enough to handle tracking polls the day before an election, he's mature enough to handle exit polls at 2 p.m. the day of an election.

In threatening legal action against Slate, the biggest arrow VNS's lawyers drew from their quiver was a thing called the "hot news doctrine." The hot news doctrine grows out of a 1918 case that prevents free-riders from pinching news from the wire services while the news is still "hot." The ironies of the VNS hot news claim are so rich they deserve enumeration:

1) If VNS reported its exit polls in a timely fashion, one could have sympathy for their hot news claim. Instead, they're invoking the doctrine to shield their news until its temperature reaches absolute zero.

2) Ordinarily, VNS members wave the First Amendment flag against all comers. But in the case of the exit polls, they issue threats of legal action to suppress the news.

3) If VNS ends up prosecuting a hot news claim, how happy will its members feel if the result is a legal precedent that comes back to bite them in the ass? If media corporations can claim that information they produce is "hot news" and therefore the government must help them suppress it until it's cold, non-media corporations can make the same claim.

Anyway, the exit poll genie is now out of the bottle. I wish VNS the very best of luck in policing the Internet this election season to prevent the posting of the exit poll numbers. Early this afternoon, in fact, the National Review Web site posted the early exit poll figures from Virginia. For earlier Press Box takes on the exit poll controversy, see "Exit Poll Fetishism" [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/22/00&idMessage=4661] and "Peter Jennings, Embargo Criminal" [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/23/00&idMessage=4675]
The Polling Review Board of the National Council on Public Polls has sent out the following four releases:

- A press warning about "push polls" - this release (except for a date change) is the same one we sent out in May of 1995. The issue hasn't changed.
- Statement about internet polls
- The polls and the presidential primaries
- Statement to the Commission on Presidential Debates

There is also the announcement of the establishment of the Polling Review Board (found under "election 2000 update")

The National Council on Public Polls website is www.ncpp.org
I received a little "survey" yesterday from the Democratic National Committee. They said they're conducting this survey to clean up their registration lists (who knows, maybe they heard I've been flirting with Republicans and hadn't gotten around to changing my registration?!) and for learning about policy priorities. Mid-way through the few (almost meaningless) questions, they solicit money. They had the nerve to ask about my Congressional voting intent. The DNC is not conducting a poll—they are being dishonest. They are using something that looks like a poll as a fundraising gimmick. Mark Richards

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of HOneill536@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2000 5:04 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: NCPP website

The Polling Review Board of the National Council on Public Polls has sent out the following four releases:
  A press warning about "push polls" - this release (except for a date change) is the same one we sent out in May of 1995. The issue hasn't changed.
  Statement about internet polls
  The polls and the presidential primaries
  Statement to the Commission on Presidential Debates

There is also the announcement of the establishment of the Polling Review Board (found under "election 2000 update")

The National Council on Public Polls website is www.ncpp.org

>From BCox@Mathematica-Mpr.com Fri Mar  3 16:15:42 2000
Received: from math3a.mathinc.com ([206.3.62.37])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id QAA27551 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 3 Mar 2000 16:15:41 -0800 (PST)
Received: by MATH3A with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
  id <FQYYP913>; Fri, 3 Mar 2000 19:15:39 -0500
Message-ID: <09F7D5E5A777D3118DF90008C7CFEE373D1436@MATH3A>
From: Brenda Cox <BCox@Mathematica-Mpr.com>
To: "aapornet@usc.edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Registration for the 2nd International Conference on Establishment Surveys
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 2000 19:15:37 -0500
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)

> Registration for the Second Conference on Establishment Surveys (ICES-II) >
> It's time to register for the Second International Conference on Establishment Surveys (ICES-II), which will be held on June 18-21, 2000,
> at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo, New York. The first ICES in June
> 1993 convened more than 400 experts in the design and conduct of business,
> agricultural, and institutional surveys from 35 countries around the
> globe. The first conference formally documented the state of the art in
> 1993. Practitioners have implemented many new techniques since then.
> With the new millennium upon us, ICES-II is taking a forward look at
> methods for surveying businesses, farms, and institutions. Both invited
> as well as contributed sessions will occur at ICES-II, in addition to
> short courses and software demonstrations. Registration materials can be
> found at the conference home page http://www.eia.doe.gov/ices2/ , as well
> as the program of invited courses, software demonstrations, and short
> courses. The program listings for contributed papers and sightseeing
> tours of Niagara Falls will be added shortly.
>
> For more information, please contact ICES II Organizing Committee Chair at
>
> John G. Kovar
> Statistics Canada
> 3-A, R.H. Coats Bldg.
> 120 Parkdale Avenue
> Ottawa, Ontario
> K1A 0T6, CANADA
> kovar@statcan.ca
> (613) 951-8615 (voice)
> (613) 951-5711 (fax)
>
> or any of the other members of the organizing committee:
>
> David Archer, Statistics New Zealand
> Silvia Biffignandi, Università degli studi di Bergamo, Italia
> David Binder, Statistics Canada
> Patrick J. Cantwell, U.S. Bureau of the Census
> Lynda T. Carlson, U.S. Energy Information Administration
> John Charlton, U.K. Office of National Statistics
> Brenda G. Cox, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.
> Eva Elvers, Statistics Sweden
> Carol C. House, U.S. National Agricultural Statistics Service
> Daniel Kasprzyk, U.S. National Center for Education Statistics
> Peter Kooiman, Statistics Netherlands
> Geoff Lee, Australian Bureau of Statistics
> Carl Ramirez, U.S. General Accounting Office
> Stuart Scott, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
>
> We look forward to seeing you there!

>From RobFarbman@aol.com Sat Mar  4 07:24:44 2000
Received: from imo-d07.mx.aol.com (imo-d07.mx.aol.com [205.188.157.39])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id HAA06253 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 4 Mar 2000 07:24:43 -0800
(PST)
From: RobFarbman@aol.com
Received: from RobFarbman@aol.com
    by imo-d07.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.57.29feeb5 (4012)
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 4 Mar 2000 10:24:06 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <57.29feeb5.25f28496@aol.com>
Date: Sat, 4 Mar 2000 10:24:06 EST
Subject: re: The DNC joins the "let's pretend we're polling" club
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 41

I received the same DNC "survey" (4 or 5 ridiculous self-serving questions
and a solicitation). I was moved (almost) to write a sarcastic response but
decided against it.

The kicker in that solicitation dressed as a survey - if you can't afford to
donate, they ask "please send $7 to defray the cost of processing this
survey"

>From mkshares@mcs.net Sat Mar  4 08:46:11 2000
Received: from Kitten.mcs.net (Kitten.mcs.com [192.160.127.90])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA17385 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 4 Mar 2000 08:46:11 -0800
(PST)
Received: from mcs.net (P26-Chi-Dial-4.pool.mcs.net [205.253.224.218])
    by Kitten.mcs.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id KAA93135
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 4 Mar 2000 10:46:09 -0600 (CST)
    (envelope-from mkshares@mcs.net)
Message-ID: <38C0E96D.E52774AC@mcs.net>
Date: Sat, 04 Mar 2000 10:46:18 +0000
From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
Reply-To: mkshares@mcs.net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: The DNC joins the "let's pretend we're polling" club
References: <57.29f6eeb5.25f28496@aol.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"
    x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Why don't you offer to process the survey for $6 per.

RobFarbman@aol.com wrote:

> I received the same DNC "survey" (4 or 5 ridiculous self-serving questions
> and a solicitation). I was moved (almost) to write a sarcastic response but
> decided against it.
> > The kicker in that solicitation dressed as a survey - if you can't afford to
> > donate, they ask "please send $7 to defray the cost of processing this
> > survey"

>From sandra.smith@abs.gov.au Sat Mar  4 22:36:10 2000
Received: from godavari.abs.gov.au (godavari.abs.gov.au [144.53.251.2])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id WAA15028 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 4 Mar 2000 22:36:07 -0800
(PST)
Fellow-AAPORneters:

I am involved in a project with emergency management agencies in Australia to measure a) how aware the community is about potential risks of disasters and b) what actions the community has taken to prepare. Part of the agencies' request is to measure "what does it take to get people to prepare appropriately and in particular, what is the effect of having previously been affected by a disaster".

I am interested in any prior research into measuring these items as well as any prior work on designing questions to measure items such as: how safe people feel (in relation to disasters, NOT crime); whether they feel safe because they are ignorant of dangers vs because they are prepared; terminology in regards to risks, disasters, emergencies etc..

There is some indication that risk awareness and preparation needs to be measured on a micro, rather than macro, scale, as different areas are susceptible to different types of disasters. I would like to confirm or debunk this hypothesis if possible.

Any help you can offer is gratefully accepted. Please respond to me: sandra.smith@abs.gov.au

Thanks for your assistance,

Sandra Smith
The primary election story below shows that Bush's lead over McCain is down to 45%/35% as non-GOP voters in that primary advanced to 31%, up from 20% in a pre-Iowa caucus poll. No change in the non-Dem vote in the Democratic primary means McCain is winning the battle for independents. But McCain must win greater support from Republicans; even when non-GOP voters are weighted to an unlikely 40%, he would still fall 5 percentage points short.

McCain's greater appeal than Bush to voters outside his party is revealed in general election match-ups. Very few McCain primary voters (8%) would switch to Gore in November but more would withhold support if their man was not on the ballot unlike Bush primary voters who would remain loyal under the same circumstances. (As background: although Illinois has voted with the nation all but twice in the last century, Clinton's winning margins were among the strongest in the nation and Bush won the state by only 2 points in 1988.)


The Gov. George Ryan job approval story below shows one of the lowest approval ratings we have ever seen here (32% approve/46% disapprove). The bribes for truckers licenses saga continues as federal indictments of Secretary of State officials when Ryan held that office continue upward in the chain of command and stories about highway fatalities involving illegally licensed drivers continue.

I will post the following to NPR unless AAPORNET colleagues dissuade me from so doing:

While I applaud the NPR-Kennedy School effort to explore the "Digital Divide" between blacks and whites in its poll, I fear that the discussion broadcast today may have been incautious in its readiness to dismiss the importance of economic means (what one can afford to buy) as a source of the differences. There are two reasons for my suggesting this.

First, while income is about as good a single measure of economic means as we ordinarily have available in a survey, it is a very crude one. Wealth (stored up economic means) can be extremely important. So, too, are life situations as determinative of what one has to buy and how much one has to pay for it. To invoke stereotypes, one can contrast the situations of a lower-income couple living in a home inherited from parents in a rural community in Oregon enjoying relatively good public services with that of the single mother in the heart of Washington, DC deeply in debt to the corner grocery and credit furniture store and who spends $30 a week for a few minutes of phone calling to the father the state has transferred to a prison in another part of the country. We know from many sources that blacks are at relatively greater disadvantage than whites with regard to wealth, needs and "costs of living."

Secondly, the analysis that seeks to compare "low-income" blacks with "low-income" whites doubtless lumps up respondents into an income category (less than $30,000/a) that is far too broad for the purpose. It seems likely to hide actual relations of computer use to income within the lower-income category that seem even more pronounced than among the population as whole. The poorer of the poor probably are less into computers and more predominantly black than the not-so-poor poor. In point of fact, the lower you go in the income distribution, the more pronounced the racial lopsided-ness tends to get and I, suspect, keyboarding as well. The relative shapes of the income distributions
and computer usage for the $30,000 and above class doubtless makes for misleading minimization of the differences there as well. A more simplistic analysis in this instance probably would have come closer to the truth.

The dismissal of economic differences by overly-aggregated analyses in this report is innocuous as compared with the same fault in some prominent studies on some more ideologically charged subjects. Perhaps I take the trouble of commenting because I get more upset about misleading survey statistics when the "good-guys" do it and do so because we "experts" have been urging less simplistic survey analysis.

Albert D. Biderman
abider@american.edu

>From mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu Sun Mar 5 13:29:20 2000
Received: from smtp-out1.bellatlantic.net (smtp-out1.bellatlantic.net [199.45.39.156])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTPl id NAA02799 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 5 Mar 2000 13:29:19 -0800 (PST)
Received: from kathman.bellatlantic.com (adsl-151-202-23-5.bellatlantic.net [151.202.23.5])
   by smtp-out1.bellatlantic.net (8.9.1/8.9.1) with ESMTPl id QAA08340 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 5 Mar 2000 16:29:10 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <4.2.2.20000305162852.00acde50@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>
X-Sender: mkuechle@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.2
Date: Sun, 05 Mar 2000 16:29:04 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Manfred Kuechler <mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu>
Subject: Re: NPR-Kennedy Technology Poll
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 12:20 PM 3/5/00 -0500, Albert D. Biderman wrote:
> .... While I applaud the NPR-Kennedy School effort to explore the
> "Digital Divide" between blacks and whites in its poll, I fear that the
> discussion broadcast today may have been incautious in its readiness to
> dismiss the importance of economic means (what one can afford to buy) as
> a source of the differences. ..... 

The NPR-Kaiser Foundation-KSG survey (conducted via telephone in November/December 1999 with N=1506 adults including an unspecified "oversample" of African-Americans, but results released only last week) takes a much more cautious approach to the "Digital Divide" question than the survey conducted at SIQSS (Stanford University under the direction of Norman H. Nie) this January. The latter simply declares the "Digital Divide" as a myth. While the front page coverage in NYT focused on the "social isolation" that computers and the Internet presumably produce and while it compared this study (and its main author) to David Riesman's classic the "Lonely Crowd" -- a simply marvelous piece of PR and shoddy journalistic work at the same time, John Markoff focused on the "Myth of the Digital Divide" a few days later in the business section of the NYT. So, while I sympathize with Albert Biderman's concerns, I think that the NPR study is much more careful in both its analysis and its way to present the findings to the larger public.
Both studies, however, and a few more that came out earlier tend to pay insufficient attention to several issues connected to the "Digital Divide".

1. Access at work is not a functional equivalent to access at home -- as it is often restricted to purely work-related e-mail communication with sometime heavy penalties for private use.

2. While all major studies point to income as a major factor determining home access to the Internet and the monetary cost of home Internet access is indeed decreasing (falling hardware prices, free ISPs, etc -- thus indicating that the issue may just go way without any need for intervention and/or public policy), income is just a relatively easy to measure proxy for selective spending decisions which in turn are based on perceived value of certain purchases/investments. So, we need to pay more attention to possible cultural and/or group-specific barriers to embrace these new technologies -- and ways to overcome them. And just buying a bunch of hardware and "putting them in very classroom in America" will not do much by itself.

3. Rather than just counting hardware, genuine "access" includes the knowledge (and training/education leading to such knowledge) in making full use of Internet related services especially recognizing their value for education and personal development.

There seems to be relatively little interest on AAPORNET to engage in a sustained scholarly discussion of these issues, but for those you want to take a look at the sources, here are the links to the NPR study:
http://www.npr.org/programs/specials/poll/technology/
This is -- by and large -- the press release, additional information is available at:
http://www.kff.org/content/2000/20000228a/TechnologyToplines.PDF
And, for those who did not save a previous posting of mine, the Nie/Stanford study at:
http://www.stanford.edu/group/siqss/
(They seem to be still hiding from the "bots" of the search engines and are therefore hard to find.)

M.
May I do my own rejoinder? On re-reading, I realize I omitted from another of my favorite peeves about such analyses--the individualistic fallacy. It is not only one's own poverty that counts but the poverty of those one lives amongst and with whom one interacts most. That's true of school, workplace, shopping area, whatever. Socially segregated poor folks are isolated from the networks of diffusion, hand-me-downs and modeling that can promote tech diffusion. This was a point the NPR--Kennedy School survey made in another way by speaking of culture and community. Its analyses by income, however, obscured the role of means in these respects.

"Albert D. Biderman" wrote:

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> survey statistics when the "good-guys" do it and do so because we
> "experts" have been urging less simplistic survey analysis.
>
> Albert D. Biderman
> abider@american.edu
>
> From oneil@speedchoice.com Sun Mar 5 13:51:54 2000
> Received: from mail.phoenix.speedchoice.com (mail.phoenix.speedchoice.com
> [24.221.30.31])
> by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
> id NAA09555 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 5 Mar 2000 13:51:53 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: from mike (hybrid-024-221-015-217.phoenix.speedchoice.com
> [24.221.15.217]) by mail.phoenix.speedchoice.com (8.9.3/) with SMTP id
> OAA08191 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 5 Mar 2000 14:51:50 -0700 (MST)
> Message-ID: <003e01bf86ed$a03719c0$d90fdd18@phoenix.speedchoice.com>
> From: "Michael O'Neil" <oneil@speedchoice.com>
> To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
> Subject: Need Interviewing in Several Languages
> Date: Sun, 5 Mar 2000 14:56:03 -0700
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
> boundary="----=_NextPart_000_003B_01BF86B2.ED43AFC0"
> X-Priority: 3
> X-MSSMail-Priority: Normal
> X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2615.200
> X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2615.200

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-------------NextPart_000_003B_01BF86B2.ED43AFC0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Subject: Need Interviewing in Several Languages

We need to subcontract interviewing in the following languages: Haitian =
Creole, Portuguese, Cantonese, Vietnamese.
Need to identify a firm with interviewing capabilities in these =
languages. We will provide an English language questionnaire (and a =
self-executing CATI program in English). Need a translation and =
interviews in these languages. Interviewing to begin very shortly and =
extend over the course of the next year.

Michael J. O'Neil, Ph.D.
oneil@oneilresearch.com
www.oneilresearch.com

-------------NextPart_000_003B_01BF86B2.ED43AFC0
Content-Type: text/html;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Subject: Need Interviewing in Several Languages

We need to subcontract interviewing in the following languages:
Hatian Creole, Portuguese, Cantonese, Vietnamese.

Need to identify a firm with interviewing capabilities in these languages. We will provide an English language questionnaire (and a self-executing CATI program in English). Need a translation and interviews in these languages. Interviewing to begin very shortly and extend over the course of the next year.

Michael J. O'Neil, Ph.D.
oneil@oneilresearch.com
www.oneilresearch.com

-----=_NextPart_000_003B_01BF86B2.ED43AFC0--

>From Goldenberg_K@bls.gov Mon Mar  6 06:15:55 2000
Received: from dcgate.bls.gov (dcgate.bls.gov [146.142.4.13])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id GAA04333 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 6 Mar 2000 06:15:54 -0800
(PST)
Received: from psbmail3.psb.bls.gov (psbmail3.psb.bls.gov [146.142.42.25])
  by dcgate.bls.gov (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id JAA02406
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 6 Mar 2000 09:15:23 -0500 (EST)
Received: by PSBMAIL3 with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
  id <GJCVXL0J>; Mon, 6 Mar 2000 09:15:20 -0500
From: Goldenberg_K <Goldenberg_K@bls.gov>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: The DNC joins the "let's pretend we're polling" club
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 2000 09:15:10 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
This isn't news--I don't know if the DNC is a charter member of the "let's pretend" club, but they've been at this for at least a few years. My parents received such a FRUG from the DNC three or four years go, and at the time I turned it over to the AAPOR standards chair. But FRUGgers aren't swayed by letters from AAPOR. They keep at it, apparently, because it works. I had a hard time convincing my folks that what they received was not a true survey, even when I pointed out the badly biased questions and the fact that their name appeared on every page.

How to stop it? What we need is an "anti-fund-raising under the guise" campaign directed at advocacy and not-for-profit organizations, a pro-active action. But I think it can only work if we can offer a viable alternative, and I don't know what that would be. Somebody out there in AAPOR-land must have some ideas!

As for Mark's DNC mailing: Why don't you ask the DNC who they're supporting in DC's Congressional elections? I'd be interested in seeing what they say!

Karen Goldenberg
goldenberg_k@bls.gov

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> From:  Mark Richards[SMTP:mark@bisconti.com]
> Sent:   Friday, March 03, 2000 5:38 PM
> To:     aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: The DNC joins the "let's pretend we're polling" club
>
> I received a little "survey" yesterday from the Democratic National
> Committee. They said they're conducting this survey to clean up their
> registration lists (who knows, maybe they heard I've been flirting with
> Republicans and hadn't gotten around to changing my registration?!) and
> for
> learning about policy priorities. Mid-way through the few (almost
> meaningless) questions, they solicit money. They had the nerve to ask
> about
> my Congressional voting intent. The DNC is not conducting a poll--they are
> being dishonest. They are using something that looks like a poll as a
> fundraising gimmick. Mark Richards
>
>From mark@bisconti.com Mon Mar  6 08:17:16 2000
Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA12153 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 6 Mar 2000 08:16:58 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from markbri (ip28.washington13.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET [38.30.214.28])
    by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service
    Version 5.5.2232.9)
    id F6Z2P2B3; Mon, 6 Mar 2000 11:17:05 -0500
From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Exit Polling in The Wash. Post
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 2000 11:13:14 -0500
Message-ID: <NCBBKJCKFPDCKOFNAEECEEEICPAA.mark@bisconti.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
An editorial and an op-ed by Richard Morin in today's Post:

Press Versus Press

Monday, March 6, 2000; Page A18

IF ONE group in America might be expected to respect the right of news organizations to publish what they please it is the news organizations themselves. But on Tuesday, Voters News Service (VNS)--a consortium of TV networks and the Associated Press that does Election Day exit polling--prevented the online magazine Slate from publishing its Virginia numbers. VNS sells this data to news groups (including The Post) on an embargoed basis; the information can't be used until polls close.

Slate, however, is not a subscriber to the service and isn't bound by the embargo. The magazine (whose editor, Michael Kinsley, writes a column published in The Post) got the numbers through leaks and published them as part of a critique of VNS and the TV networks. Slate complains that television reporters have access to the numbers yet pretend not to know who's winning a given race, that news organizations should make public information that they have and that there's no strong evidence that releasing exit polls early depresses voter turnout. Slate's critics say that releasing the data early could affect the election, while also prompting Congress to ban exit polling.

Whatever one thinks of Slate's decision (for one view, see Richard Morin's article on the facing page), it had a right to publish the data. Yet VNS lawyers threatened to sue. As Slate writer Jack Shafer described the threat in an article last week, the lawyers relied on a narrow legal doctrine that protects one company's "hot news" from misappropriation by another to contend that Slate's publication of the numbers violated its intellectual property rights. Slate pulled back.

If Slate was correct that the case was close enough to the legal line for publication to be dangerous, perhaps the line is in the wrong place. The notion that a magazine, having used traditional news-gathering techniques to obtain facts, could be barred from publishing them is disturbing. Also troubling is that a media organization would seek to prevent another from reporting on its affairs. If Slate's efforts to publish the polls are legally questionable, a lot of media reporting (of which The Post is both subject and publisher) would be similarly so. Media reporting often entails discussing other news groups' as yet unpublished stories. The press should not be less subject to media scrutiny than everyone else.

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Why Exit Polls Face Extinction

By Richard Morin
Are we nearing the exit of exit polling from the political scene?

I say, yes. Exit polling, at least as we know it, is all but dead, mortally wounded by a handful of irresponsible news organizations and self-aggrandizing 'Net journalists who gleefully have reported the early results of exit polling even before the polls close.

It's only a matter of time before Congress--acting on a 1985 promise by network executives not to release exit poll results until the polls close--maneuvers to kill off exit polling for good. Rest in Peace.

Perhaps I exaggerate. But only because I love exit polls, the single best window we have on voting behavior. Even their immense value to journalists and political scientists may not rescue them from the current lunacy, though--a frenzy that is fed by the worst instincts of the news media and the Internet culture.

Slate, the Web magazine, started the trend by posting exit poll results based on early voting in New Hampshire long before the polls closed, then following up with early exit poll results in South Carolina and Michigan. The perp was columnist Jack Shafer, who claimed that the networks' promise to keep early exit poll numbers out of the public eye "places a terrible burden on reporters, who are paid to disseminate information and are rotten at keeping secrets."

Shafer says he gets his numbers from "friends, enemies and acquaintances in the media." He sometimes posted the wrong numbers. No matter; he's got his 15 minutes in the media spotlight and has been hailed by some as a cyber-defender of the people's right to know.

His joy ride ended on Feb. 29, primary day in Virginia, North Dakota and Washington state. But let Shafer tell the story: "It's midafternoon, and I've got the exit poll numbers from today's Virginia primary," Shafer wrote in his Slate column. "I'd love to publish them, just as I have for the last three presidential primaries. But I can't. The lawyers from the Voter News Service--the ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, Fox News, CNN and the Associated Press media consortium that produces the exit polls--have threatened to sue Slate if we continue to do so."

Bill Headline, the executive director of VNS, would not say what actions, if any, his organization had taken against Slate or against Shafer.

VNS, or at least its ranking members, is far from blameless. The television networks routinely bend--if not break--their own vow to Congress not to disclose the results. Some of the most hilarious moments on network television occur on election nights in the hour before poll closing, when overpaid anchors find new and creative ways to hint at the outcome they know.

Sometimes they don't even bother to hint. Consider these comments made by ABC's Peter Jennings, even as voters streamed to the polls in Michigan: "At the time we are writing this, we are seeing the first wave of exit polls from the Michigan Republican primary," he wrote in a preview of the evening news that was posted on the ABC Web site. "... Right now, John McCain and George W. Bush are statistically dead even--not a deep breath between them."
Excuse me, but what's the difference between Jennings's ramble and Shafer's Web posting, which read in full: "John McCain 48 percent; George W. Bush 46 percent"? The correct answer: Nothing.

"I don't want to comment on what one of ABC's people did," said Headline, who later noted the "inherent tension" between the news-gathering and reporting side of network news operations.

There are three ways to deal directly with the problem, and all are problematic.

The first is to lock up the poll results until the polls close. No hints about upsets or reports of gender gaps or crossover voting--nothing to nobody. The problem is that most polls close after the evening news hour, meaning the big news shows would be bereft of any real election news. It also would prevent news organizations from using early voting trends to plan election coverage.

Alternately, VNS could work to persuade Congress to let everybody release everything as soon as it's available. It can cite the research, which has failed to prove that early release of exit poll data depresses turnout. Good luck: Congress is filled with members who remain terrified that early release will squelch turnout.

VNS also could more strictly police users to prevent leaks. There are significant First Amendment problems, but this might work--if the networks seek stiff legal penalties for individuals or Web sites that display early exit poll results. The problem is that the Internet is this millennium's version of the Wild, Wild West.

"If you guys are so ticked about this, then don't tell me," said Rich Lowry, editor of National Review, which posted Virginia early exit poll results at 3 p.m. on election day and then called reporters, including this writer, to publicize the scoop. "Have a gag order? You'll never be able to do that."

He's right. Shafer, Lowry and others will continue to make mischief with exit polls, then cheerfully dance on their grave. Common sense and pleas for restraint are no match for the anarchy of the 'Net in league with the arrogance of the media.

The writer is The Post's director of polling.

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mark@bisconti.com
The Survey Research Laboratory of the University of Illinois has an immediate opening for a Visiting Field Coordinator (full-time academic professional position) at its Urbana office, to hire, train, and supervise telephone and face-to-face interviewers and supervisors for academic survey projects. Minimum requirements: Bachelor’s degree in social science or related area with survey research related courses, or bachelor’s degree plus equivalent experience. Must be assertive, articulate, organized, computer literate, and have supervisory experience. Must be available for occasional interviewer training evenings and weekends. Must have driver’s license for occasional travel in central Illinois. For full consideration, send resume by March 31 to Kris Hertenstein, Survey Research Lab., 909 W. Oregon, Suite 300, Urbana, IL 61801. The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Daniel Schorr has a commentary on this issue (and on Rich Morin's comments) on today's edition of All Things Considered on National Public Radio. He concludes by calling for the end of the embargo.

If you missed it, the commentary may be available tomorrow on the NPR web site (www.npr.org) in RealAudio sound.

Jan Werner
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The writer is The Post's director of polling.

The Washington Post Company

mark@bisconti.com

From Susan.Pinkus@latimes.com Mon Mar 6 17:01:36 2000

Hi Mike:

Try ISA (Interviewing Service of America, Inc) - I've used them for my Vietnamese, Korean Chinese and Filipino studies. It is expensive, but they have interviewers in a lot of languages. Their number is 818-989-1044, ask for Michael Halberstam (Pres) and you can give him my name as a reference.

Good Luck,

Susan

-----Original Message-----
From: Michael O'Neil [SMTP:oneil@speedchoice.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 05, 2000 1:56 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Need Interviewing in Several Languages

Subject: Need Interviewing in Several Languages

We need to subcontract interviewing in the following languages:
Hatian Creole, Portuguese, Cantonese, Vietnamese.

Need to identify a firm with interviewing capabilities in these languages. We will provide an English language questionnaire (and a self-executing CATI program in English). Need a translation and interviews in these languages. Interviewing to begin very shortly and extend over the course of the next year.

-------------------------------
Michael J. O'Neil, Ph.D.
oneil@oneilresearch.com <mailto:oneil@oneilresearch.com>
www.oneilresearch.com <http://www.oneilresearch.com>
-------------------------------

>From rshalpern@mindspring.com Mon Mar  6 22:01:18 2000
Received: from fb01.eng00.mindspring.net (fb01.eng00.mindspring.net [207.69.229.19])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id WAA19859 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 6 Mar 2000 22:01:17 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from smtp6.mindspring.com (smtp6.mindspring.com [207.69.200.110])
   by fb01.eng00.mindspring.net (8.9.3/8.8.5) with ESMTP id BAA05037
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 01:01:16 -0500 (EST)
Received: from w5y0s9 (user-37ka2on.dialup.mindspring.com [207.69.11.23])
   by smtp6.mindspring.com (8.9.3/8.8.5) with ESMTP id BAA00876
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 01:01:14 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000306231023.00b2e530@mail.mindspring.com>
X-Sender: rshalpern@mail.mindspring.com
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Mon, 06 Mar 2000 23:13:22 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: dick halpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com>
Subject: Presidential Poll
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
    boundary="="
--"="
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Life can get too serious sometimes and we all need a chuckle or two:

On the heels of ABC's "Millionaire" smash and Fox's "Marry a Millionaire" nightmare, comes the questionnaire, "Who Wants to Marry a Presidential Candidate?" Republican pollster Frank Lutz asked all sorts of random questions like those you might catch Regis asking contestants. Results:

Which one of the four candidates would you most want as your father?
35.9% John McCain
24.2% George Bush
18.9% Al Gore
13.7% Bill Bradley

If you had to choose, which of the four candidates do you
think had the most problems getting a date to their senior prom?
33.5% Al Gore
23.2% Bill Bradley
20.3% George Bush
17.2% John McCain

If you had to choose, which of the four would you most want to marry?
28.7% George Bush
23.5% Al Gore
21.8% John McCain
11.6% Bill Bradley

Which of the four candidates would you be most likely to use as a "Lifeline" if you were on the TV show "Who Wants to Be A Millionaire?"
25.2% Al Gore
23.9% George Bush
23.7% John McCain
20.2% Bill Bradley

If you had an important exam and you hadn't studied at all, but you absolutely had to pass, which of the four would you most want to sit next to and cheat off of?
28.5% Al Gore
21.2% Bill Bradley
20.1% George Bush
18% John McCain

And which one of the four do you think would have been most likely to cheat in college?
45.8% George Bush
29.9% Al Gore
6.8% Bill Bradley
5.9% John McCain

And today, which of the four do you think is the most likely to cheat at golf?
36.4% George Bush
30.1% Al Gore
9.8% John McCain
8.8% Bill Bradley

If you were five miles away from your home and the only transportation you had was the offer of a motorcycle ride from one of the four individuals, which one would you ride with? Or would you rather walk?
25.1% John McCain
25% I'd walk
20.4% George Bush
16.2% Al Gore
11.5% Bill Bradley

Which of the four candidates do you think is most likely to be audited by the IRS?
46% George Bush
29.2% Al Gore
10.4% Bill Bradley
8.3% John McCain

Which of the four would you rather kill yourself than be stuck alone with for a week?
39.6% Al Gore
27.6% George Bush
9.5% Bill Bradley
9.1% John McCain

Which of the four individuals would be most likely to end up on the Jerry Springer Show?
29.9% Al Gore
28.2% George Bush
17.8% John McCain
12.3% Bill Bradley

Which of the four do you think would be the most painfully awful to listen to if they were to sing "Feelings" at a karaoke bar?
36.3% Al Gore
22.8% George Bush
22.7% Bill Bradley
12.1% John McCain

If you had to choose, which of the four do you think is most likely to be an alien?
38.9% Al Gore
20.8% George Bush
17.3% Bill Bradley
14% John McCain

Ed's note: This would make for a fun "Man on the Street" piece, especially with Super Tuesday pending.
If you had to choose, which of the four candidates do you think had the most problems getting a date to their senior prom?

- 18.9% Al Gore
- 13.7% Bill Bradley
- 33.5% Al Gore
- 23.2% Bill Bradley
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If you had to choose, which of the four would you most want to marry?

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If you had an important exam and you hadn't studied at all, but you absolutely had to pass, which of the four would you most want to sit next to and cheat off of?

- 28.5% Al Gore
- 21.2% Bill Bradley
- 20.1% George Bush
- 18% John McCain

And which one of the four do you think would have been most likely to cheat in college?

- 45.8% George Bush
- 29.9% Al Gore
- 6.8% Bill Bradley
- 5.9% John McCain

And today, which of the four do you think is the most likely to cheat at golf?

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If you were five miles away from your home and the only transportation you had was the offer of a motorcycle ride from one of the four individuals, which one would you ride with? Or would you rather walk?

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For those who have interest in this, our current poll results for the Tribune appears below. Missing from this internet edition is a graphic which includes a statement saying the two question versions were asked of split samples.


Were these asked in a sample survey of some sort, or of a focus group? Inquiring minds want to know.
Life can get too serious sometimes and we all need a chuckle or two:

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11.5% Bill Bradley

Which of the four candidates do you think is most likely to be audited by the IRS?
46% George Bush
29.2% Al Gore
10.4% Bill Bradley
8.3% John McCain

Which of the four would you rather kill yourself than be stuck alone with for a week?
39.6% Al Gore
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Which of the four individuals would be most likely to end up on the Jerry Springer Show?
29.9% Al Gore
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Which of the four do you think would be the most painfully awful to listen to if they were to sing "Feelings" at a karaoke bar?
36.3% Al Gore
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22.7% Bill Bradley
12.1% John McCain

If you had to choose, which of the four do you think is most likely to be an alien?
38.9% Al Gore
20.8% George Bush
17.3% Bill Bradley
14% John McCain

Ed's note: This would make for a fun "Man on the Street" piece, especially with Super Tuesday pending.
Don't tell me Frank Luntz has violated the Code again by not disclosing sampling, etc.?

dick halpern wrote:

> Part 1.1Type: Plain Text (text/plain)
> From mark@bisconti.com Tue Mar  7 07:31:11 2000
> Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
>     by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
>     id HAA16233 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 07:31:10 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: from markbri (ip193.washington13.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET
> [38.30.214.193]) by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange
> Internet Mail Service Version 5.5.2232.9)
>     id F6ZXF2N2; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 10:31:18 -0500
> From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
> To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
> Subject: RE: Presidential Poll
> Date: Tue, 7 Mar 2000 10:27:11 -0500
> Message-ID: <NCBBKJCJKFIDCK0FNAEDEEFCPPAA.mark@bisconti.com>
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: text/plain;
>   charset="iso-8859-1"
>   Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
> X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
> X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
> X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
> X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.0.0.2314.1300
> In-Reply-To: <38C51DD2.7D70995A@american.edu>

Last night, CNBC ran a piece (10-15 min.) on the Hispanic vote, provided by Frank Luntz. A sort of focus group in which Frank led the discussion and interacted with participants. It was interesting and his sample of a dozen or so was televised for all to see! They were mostly favorable to McCain.
To keep things balanced, Leno invited George W. over for a laugh or two, so he got in some heavy GRPs, too. cheers, mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of Albert D. Biderman
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2000 10:19 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Presidential Poll

Don't tell me Frank Luntz has violated the Code again by not disclosing sampling, etc.?

dick halpern wrote:
>

> Part 1.1Type: Plain Text (text/plain)
>
>From mbocian@intersurvey.com Tue Mar 7 08:26:03 2000
Received: from nt-exchange.intersurvey.com ([63.86.24.2])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
id IAA07634 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 08:26:02 -0800 
(PST)
Message-ID: <a541cb0f83dbfbd25a7f6f5dc1c4b38c52d92@inter-survey.com>
From: Mike Bocian <mbocian@intersurvey.com>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Ownership of poll "results"
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 2000 08:25:22 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"

I'm surprised by the comment that "market research surveys routinely compensate respondents for participation." For regular phone surveys, I think this is not generally the case. Do others on this list routinely compensate respondents for market research phone surveys?

Mike Bocian

-----Original Message-----
From: Jan Werner [mailto:jwerner@jwdp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2000 2:34 PM
To: James Beniger
Cc: AAPORNET
Subject: Re: Ownership of poll "results"

You might think so, but the courts have actually found otherwise in a case strikingly similar to the example you give.

Some thirty-odd years ago, the Macmillan publishing company lost on that very point in a case involving the book "Manchild in the Promised Land", a best selling autobiographical account of a young black man growing up in a desolate landscape of drugs and violence.

The publishers had used a news archive photograph of some young men on the streets of Harlem on the dust jacket, without obtaining a formal
release from the persons depicted, and one of them sued.

Market research surveys routinely compensate respondents for participation, which is considered fair because the results are known by the respondents to be of commercial value to whoever is conducting the survey.

But people are not generally aware that political polls and public opinion surveys are commercially valuable property to those selling the results, and I don't think that they would be quite as free in responding if they knew just how much money the polling organizations get for their answers.

Bluntly, if (or rather, when) respondents in the general population become better informed about just how much value data collectors place on their responses, they will feel perfectly justified in negotiating the best possible price for whatever information they choose to supply.

Jan Werner

James Beniger wrote:
>
> If I sit on a park bench and sketch people in the park, do the intellectual property rights to my drawings belong to me or to the people I depict? I think clearly they belong to me, and to me alone.
>
> Similarly, if someone employed by Gallup sits on a park bench and guesses the age of each person who walks by, do the intellectual property rights to the recorded guesses belong to the passersby, or to Gallup? I think clearly they belong to Gallup.
>
> Intellectual property accrues to those who create, originate or generate information, not to those described by the information (there are, of course, various exceptions, e.g., those involving privacy and celebrity). Intellectual property explains why, for example, at least the better artists can earn substantially more than do their models.
>
> Gallup holds the intellectual property rights to the ages given by respondents to its formal surveys no less than it does to the ages of people it guesses in the park. Public opinion research, like both public sketching and recording of guesses, does create original information to which intellectual property rights accrue.
>
> The founders of the United States valued intellectual property rights enough to include them in the first of the original seven articles of the U.S. Constitution. Article I, Section 8, which delineates the various powers of Congress, describes as that body's eighth such power:
>
> To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.
>
> I think that survey research finds its place among "Science and useful Arts," and that those who earn their living conducting survey research
might be seen as "Authors and Inventors" who deserve "exclusive Right" to their "Writings and Discoveries."

Don't you?

-- Jim

No, not in my experience. We usually only do so for mall/in person/product test research or if we survey hard to reach populations. General public telephone surveys aren't usually given incentives.

Mike Bocian <mbocian@intersurvey.com> on 03/07/2000 11:25:22 AM

Please respond to aapornet@usc.edu

To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
cc: (bcc: Bill Thompson/DRI)

Subject: RE: Ownership of poll "results"

I'm surprised by the comment that "market research surveys routinely compensate respondents for participation." For regular phone surveys, I think this is not generally the case. Do others on this list routinely compensate respondents for market research phone surveys?

Mike Bocian
-----Original Message-----
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Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2000 2:34 PM
To: James Beniger
Cc: AAPORNET
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The publishers had used a news archive photograph of some young men on
the streets of Harlem on the dust jacket, without obtaining a formal
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participation, which is considered fair because the results are known by
the respondents to be of commercial value to whoever is conducting the
survey.

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opinion surveys are commercially valuable property to those selling the
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get for their answers.

Bluntly, if (or rather, when) respondents in the general population
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Jan Werner

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

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>
> Jan,
> 
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> I depict? I think clearly they belong to me, and to me alone.
>
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>
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> Intellectual property explains why, for example, at least the better
artists can earn substantially more than do their models.

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I think that survey research finds its place among "Science and useful Arts," and that those who earn their living conducting survey research might be seen as "Authors and Inventors" who deserve "exclusive Right" to their "Writings and Discoveries."

Don't you?

-- Jim
Dear Sir/Madam,

IRIB (Islamic Republic of Iran's Broadcasting) is searching on new resources on Evaluation and Quality Assessment, during its recent project. Our aim is to design a mechanism, which can accomplish Evaluation methods, systematically on production of Radio and TV programs. The other aim is to know different meanings and dimensions of Quality on Radio and TV programs.

Is there possible to use different ways of Assessment in an inclusive form of channel programs or groups'?

- What are the latest software Quality Assessment methods in Radio and TV programs?
- What are the published sources in this field since 1990?
- Do you know any qualified research Institute or expert on Quality Assessment of Radio and TV programs?
- Do you know any Radio and TV organizations, which carry out Evaluation and Quality Assessment on their productions, systematically?

We will appreciate each kind of information, which can help us in this regard. Thanks for your time and we will be waiting for your answer.

Sincerely Yours,
Rashidian
Manager of comparative research of Quality assessment systems

MailCity. Secure Email Anywhere, Anytime!
http://www.mailcity.com
Compensation is not routine for phone surveys, but it is for focus groups ($40 is going rate in Chapel Hill) and mail surveys (a new $2 bill boosts response according to Dillman).

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism  Voice: 919 962-4085
CB 3365 Carroll Hall  Fax: 919 962-1549
University of North Carolina  Cell: 919 906-3425
Chapel Hill NC 27599-3365  http://www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

>From caplanjr@bellsouth.net Tue Mar  7 09:39:30 2000
Received: from mail2.mia.bellsouth.net (mail2.mia.bellsouth.net [205.152.16.14])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id JAA22074 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 09:39:22 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from bellsouth (ads1-61-113-61.mia.bellsouth.net [208.61.113.61])
   by mail2.mia.bellsouth.net (3.3.5alt/0.75.2) with SMTP id MAA17867
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 12:38:59 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <018001bf885c$0da8d380$5393fea9@net.JRC>
Reply-To: "caplanjr@bellsouth" <caplanjr@iname.com>
From: "caplanjr@bellsouth" <caplanjr@bellsouth.net>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
References: <s8c4c605.066@mail.startribune.com>
Subject: Re: Presidential Poll
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 2000 12:39:09 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2919.6600
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2919.6600

Not only funny, but darned insightful if the sample was adequate.

Jim Caplan
Miami
----- Original Message -----
From: "Rob Daves" <daves@startribune.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2000 10:03 AM
Subject: Re: Presidential Poll

> Were these asked in a sample survey of some sort, or of a focus group? Inquiring minds want to know.
> Rob Daves
> >>> dick halpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com> 03/06 10:13 PM >>>
> Life can get too serious sometimes and we all need a chuckle or two:
>
On the heels of ABC's "Millionaire" smash and Fox's "Marry a Millionaire" nightmare, comes the questionnaire, "Who Wants to Marry a Presidential Candidate?" Republican pollster Frank Lutz asked all sorts of random questions like those you might catch Regis asking contestants. Results:

Which one of the four candidates would you most want as your father?
35.9% John McCain
24.2% George Bush
18.9% Al Gore
13.7% Bill Bradley

If you had to choose, which of the four candidates do you think had the most problems getting a date to their senior prom?
33.5% Al Gore
23.2% Bill Bradley
20.3% George Bush
17.2% John McCain

If you had to choose, which of the four would you most want to marry?
28.7% George Bush
23.5% Al Gore
21.8% John McCain
11.6% Bill Bradley

Which of the four candidates would you be most likely to use as a "Lifeline" if you were on the TV show "Who Wants to Be A Millionaire?"
25.2% Al Gore
23.9% George Bush
23.7% John McCain
20.2% Bill Bradley

If you had an important exam and you hadn't studied at all, but you absolutely had to pass, which of the four would you most want to sit next to and cheat off of?
28.5% Al Gore
21.2% Bill Bradley
20.1% George Bush
18% John McCain

And which one of the four do you think would have been most likely to cheat in college?
45.8% George Bush
29.9% Al Gore
6.8% Bill Bradley
5.9% John McCain

And today, which of the four do you think is the most likely to cheat at golf?
36.4% George Bush
30.1% Al Gore
If you were five miles away from your home and the only transportation you had was the offer of a motorcycle ride from one of the four individuals, which one would you ride with? Or would you rather walk?

- 25.1% John McCain
- 25% I'd walk
- 20.4% George Bush
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Which of the four candidates do you think is most likely to be audited by the IRS?

- 46% George Bush
- 29.2% Al Gore
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- 8.3% John McCain

Which of the four would you rather kill yourself than be stuck alone with for a week?

- 39.6% Al Gore
- 27.6% George Bush
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Which of the four individuals would be most likely to end up on the Jerry Springer Show?

- 29.9% Al Gore
- 28.2% George Bush
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Which of the four do you think would be the most painfully awful to listen to if they were to sing "Feelings" at a karaoke bar?

- 36.3% Al Gore
- 22.8% George Bush
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- 12.1% John McCain

If you had to choose, which of the four do you think is most likely to be an alien?

- 38.9% Al Gore
- 20.8% George Bush
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- 14% John McCain

Ed's note: This would make for a fun "Man on the Street" piece, especially with Super Tuesday pending.
Has anyone asked if respondents believe that a defendant sentenced to life imprisonment without parole will actually serve a life sentence and never get out of jail? There is a great deal of cynicism about sentencing and some might favor the death penalty because of its finality.

----- Original Message -----  
From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>  
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>  
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2000 3:53 AM  
Subject: Death Penalty Ques: IL  

> > For those who have interest in this, our current poll results for the > Tribune appears below. Missing from this internet edition is a graphic > which includes a statement saying the two question versions were asked > of split samples. > > http://www.chicago.tribune.com/news/metro/chicago/article/0,2669,ART-43052,FF.html > > > >

> From: rusciiano@rider.edu Tue Mar  7 10:05:41 2000  
Received: from enigma.rider.edu (enigma.rider.edu [192.107.45.2])  
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP  
   id KAA10098 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 10:05:37 -0800  
(PST)  
Received: from CONVERSION-DAEMON by enigma.rider.edu (PMDF V5.2-31 #37528)  
   id <01JMR3JWDBQ0006vDA@enigma.rider.edu> for aapornet@usc.edu; Tue,  
   7 Mar 2000 13:05:38 EST
This is not a Presidential election poll, but Michael Moore (the filmmaker who made "Roger and Me" about the GM plant closings in Flint, Michigan) does these polls where he asks questions just to see the responses. The sampling and other methodology is apparently legitimate (although the questions themselves may be a little strange). My two favorite results are below:

21% of Americans believe we should use military action against Sweden if the sanctions are not effective.

60% of Americans believe that frozen pizza will always taste bad, and there is nothing science can do about it.

Frank Rusciano

Rob Daves wrote:

> Were these asked in a sample survey of some sort, or of a focus group? Inquiring minds want to know.
> >
> > Rob Daves
> >
> >>> dick halpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com> 03/06 10:13 PM >>>
> > Life can get too serious sometimes and we all need a chuckle or two:
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>
> Ed's note: This would make for a fun "Man on the Street"
> piece, especially with Super Tuesday pending.

>From DOrourke@SRL.UIC.EDU Tue Mar 7 10:47:56 2000
Received: from eeyore.cc.uic.edu (eeyore.cc.uic.edu [128.248.171.51])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id KAA06051 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 10:47:55 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from SRL.UIC.EDU (smtp.srl.uic.edu [131.193.93.96])
   by eeyore.cc.uic.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id MAA00702
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 12:45:05 -0600 (CST)
Received: from main-Message_Server by SRL.UIC.EDU
   with Novell GroupWise; Tue, 07 Mar 2000 12:46:00 -0600
Message-Id: <s8c4fa08.000@SRL.UIC.EDU>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 4.1
Date: Tue, 07 Mar 2000 12:45:17 -0600
From: "Diane O'Rourke" <DOrourke@SRL.UIC.EDU>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Cc: jpa1@columbia.edu
Subject: Interviewer training videos

Is anyone aware of a training video for phone or face-to-face
interviewing that is publicly available?
Stephen,

I agree that there is a great deal of cynicism about sentencing. Judging from what I routinely hear from my single best source of hopelessly biased survey data, radio talk shows, many people are also cynical about prison life itself, in which some imagine murderers actually live better than does "the average taxpayer"--complete with cafeteria meals, expensive exercise equipment, endless card games and television, and free courses offered for college credit by attractive young instructors from the local university (this does indeed sound a lot like undergraduate dorm life--most undergraduates being themselves not yet taxpayers).

My guess is that, if some one of us could figure out how to write the appropriate non-leading questions, we would learn that a substantial number of Americans do now favor replacing both the death penalty and life sentencing--to prisons as they are imagined to be today--with a daily regimen of physical torture, in order to make murderers "suffer as much as do the family and friends of those they killed."

Perhaps I have a biased sense of my fellow citizens. If so, all I can say, in my own defense, is that the American founders were similarly biased in writing, as the eighth of ten amendments in their Bill of Rights: "Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted." And these are essentially the ideas of no saner or wiser a person than one George Mason of Virginia, who first included them in the Declaration of Rights of Virginia, written by him in 1776.

-- Jim

*******

On Tue, 7 Mar 2000, Stephen Salmore wrote:
Has anyone asked if respondents believe that a defendant sentenced to life imprisonment without parole will actually serve a life sentence and never get out of jail? There is a great deal of cynicism about sentencing and some might favor the death penalty because of its finality.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2000 3:53 AM
Subject: Death Penalty Ques: IL

> For those who have interest in this, our current poll results for the Tribune appears below. Missing from this internet edition is a graphic which includes a statement saying the two question versions were asked of split samples.


I'd like to clear up some confusion about the recent closing of one of the research organizations at the University of Wisconsin. In January, it was announced the The University of Wisconsin-Extensions' Wisconsin Survey Research Laboratory (WSRL) would be closing it doors. Our organization, The University of Wisconsin Survey Center (UWSC), remains open. We currently have over 30 projects active of the 60-70 we do every year. We currently have a staff of 18 professional staff, over
100 interviewers, and about 35 calling stations. We conduct mail, CATI and personal interview survey projects, as well as conducting focus groups, large coding projects and having state-of-the-art locating facilities.

We will continue to serve university faculty and administration as well as state federal and local governments and not-for-profits. We are currently conducting a large scale evaluation of welfare reform in Wisconsin (N=approx 5,500), and will begin work on the National Survey of Families and Households (NSFH) in the fall.

We mean no disrespect to our esteemed colleagues at WSRL, but felt the need to post this because we have received numerous calls asking us when we are closing.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Debra Wright
(608) 265-9885
Project Director
UW-Survey Center
dwright@ssc.wisc.edu
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

>From HOneill536@aol.com Tue Mar  7 15:54:21 2000
Received: from imo-d02.mx.aol.com (imo-d02.mx.aol.com [205.188.157.34])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id PAA16517 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 15:54:20 -0800
(PST)
From: HOneill536@aol.com
Received: from HOneill536@aol.com
    by imo-d02.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.df.2194a91 (4592)
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 7 Mar 2000 18:53:47 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <df.2194a91.25f6f08a@aol.com>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 2000 18:53:46 EST
Subject: Re: Interviewer training videos
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 61

such a training video is available from the Market Research Association

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Mar  8 09:47:01 2000
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To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
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March 8, 2000

THE EXIT POLLS

Voter Survey Data Is Held Back to Avoid Leaks

By PETER MARKS

Seeking to stop early leaks by online publications, the organization that conducts Election Day exit polls yesterday delayed the release of its findings by two hours. The later distribution caused hardship for some subscribers in the news business that depend on the data to help devise news coverage.

The Voter News Service, whose exit polling is jointly administered by ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, CNN, Fox News Channel and The Associated Press, pushed back the release of its first wave of polling information to 4 p.m. from 2 p.m.

The action was taken, news executives said, because Web sites like Slate and The National Review's NR Online had disclosed the numbers hours before the polls closed on recent primary election days.

"The real issue is, the dot-coms have broken the rules," said Roger Ailes, chairman of the Fox News Channel. "The 4 o'clock release is just an effort to shut down the leaking."

Lawyers for the surveying organization had sent letters both to Slate and to the National Review,
demanding that they stop publishing the data. Yesterday, neither site posted the numbers early, but the Drudge Report, a politically oriented Website, did post exit poll numbers yesterday afternoon.

The delay caused other problems. Rich Morin, director of polling for The Washington Post, said the decision was not only inconvenient, but it also "punishes people who have used the data responsibly in the past."

Mr. Morin explained, for instance, that in its coverage of the Virginia primary last week, The Post found a gender gap in the statistics from the earliest exit polls, which allowed the newspaper to dispatch reporters in time to prepare an article for the next morning.

"Our corporate counsel made several phone calls eloquently expressing our displeasure," Mr. Morin said.

The members of the service's governing board were not subject to the delay; it affected only subscriber organizations across the country, including The New York Times.

********

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Mar  8 09:52:04 2000
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To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: And Now--The REST of the Story
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10003080947370.29596-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
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THE NEWS MEDIA

Two Were Counted Out Before the Count Was In

By PETER MARKS

The eulogies began at dusk.

"Even he sounded uncertain his campaign would survive," John King, the CNN correspondent assigned to Senator John McCain, said just after 5 p.m., as the cable network's Super Tuesday coverage got under way.

Mr. King's CNN colleague, Jeanne Meserve, was equally downbeat about the candidate on her watch, former Senator Bill Bradley. She reported that he had spent the day "trying not to appear that the handwriting was on the wall."

So went the gloomy preambles to an evening of primary election returns on television and the Internet, a night that progressed as a kind of death knell for insurgency in the 2000 campaign. Across the networks and the all-news cable channels, the punditcasts and the political Web sites, the commentary and the reporting concentrated on the next-step questions: when would Mr. McCain and Mr. Bradley make their exits, and which of the survivors, Gov. George W. Bush or Vice President Al Gore, would have a tougher time uniting his party? And this was before the first vote was counted, at 7 p.m.

John Gibson, the host of an hourlong show on MSNBC, said at 5:36 p.m. that polls showed that Mr. McCain was "going to come up short."

At 5:55, Chris Matthews said to Mr. Gibson: "Right now, I think it's not going to be McCain. I don't think he's done what he had to do, which was upset the heir apparent of the Republican Party."

Just after 6 p.m., three hours before the New York polls closed, Marcia Kramer was reporting on
the CBS affiliate an ominous exit poll trend for Mr. McCain: Catholic voters in the state were backing his opponent by 49 percent to 47 percent.

Exit polls have become such a sophisticated craft, and the commentators so confident in the projections, that election night coverage now has an odd seamlessness, a sense of expectations fulfilled before the viewer digests the very first statistics.

In fact, the competition to call the races in the early hours of the coverage was something of a yawn. At 7 p.m., for example, when polls closed in the first of the 16 states to report, Georgia and Vermont, the network and cable channels went on the air with identical reports: Georgia in the Gore and Bush columns and Vermont for Mr. McCain, with the Democratic race there too close to call.

"The Georgia peach goes to Bush," Dan Rather declared. "Goregantuan!" was the headline on the ABC News Web site after Mr. Gore swept four or five more states in the coast-to-coast shellacking he was dealing Mr. Bradley. CBS, NBC and ABC broke in each half hour with more races. The heavy-duty analysis was left to the commentators recruited for cable, where the pundits dismissed Mr. Bradley's chances and set the bar for Mr. McCain at a surprise victory somewhere, like Missouri or Ohio, to prove that he was not a regional candidate.

When those did not materialize, the political talkers on television were writing the Arizona senator off, even though Californians were still voting and New York remained a tossup. "McCain had to do two things simultaneously, appeal to independents and Democrats and reassure Republicans," Newt Gingrich, the former speaker of the House, said on Fox News Channel at 9:10 p.m. "He only got one of those jobs done. He closed the door on himself."

How, a viewer might have wondered, had Mr. McCain sunk so far so fast?

"A lot of reporters fear severe withdrawal in their lives if John McCain loses," Fred Barnes observed on Fox.

Dick Morris, the political consultant, suggested that the senator lost the race back in South Carolina, when he failed to respond to Mr. Bush's newly aggressive campaign. To Mr. McCain, Mr. Morris offered "the Mike Dukakis award: he did not answer an attack."
The cable channels all had moments of insight.

On CNN, Candy Crowley reported after the first polls closed that the Bush campaign would perhaps look to Senator Phil Gramm of Texas, a friend of both candidates, to "play some sort of role" of mediation between the estranged rivals.

On MSNBC, Lisa Myers got an advance bite from Mr. Bush's victory speech, in which she reported that he would suggest that "soon our party will unite."

And Fox scored a bit of a coup by snaring the first television interview of the night with Pat Robertson, the religious broadcaster who came under attack from Mr. McCain in a speech delivered in the preacher's hometown. Mr. Robertson said he was out of the country when Mr. McCain spoke in Virginia Beach, calling him and the Rev. Jerry Falwell "agents of intolerance."

"I was just absolutely dumbfounded," Mr. Robertson said.

He subscribed to the consensus of Republican commentary, that Mr. McCain's speech was a kamikaze mission, because "to attack 25, 30 percent of your base just isn't smart."

There were some oddities of the evening as well. Fox, for instance, was tabulating results from Massachusetts at the bottom of its screen 20 minutes before the polls closed.

As Mr. Gore and Mr. Bush racked up wins, the television focus shifted rapidly to fall. William Schneider, a political analyst for CNN, pointed out the challenge facing Mr. Bush. In Maryland, example, he noted that exit polls reflected the enmity in the Republican race: 61 percent of those who voted for Mr. McCain held an unfavorable opinion of Mr. Bush, and 59 percent of Bush voters felt the same about Mr. McCain.

"Both parties wanted exactly this, they wanted to consolidate around a candidate early," Mike McCurry, the former spokesman for President Clinton, said on CNN. "I think in some ways Senator McCain and Senator Bradley awakened something in this electorate. That constituency is still out there."

As for the Democratic race, virtually every station showed Hillary Rodham Clinton at a polling place in Chappaqua, where she cast her
first ballot as a New York resident. "I voted for Al Gore," she said, which placed her firmly in the majority.

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Glad that the "Presidential Poll" produced by Frank Luntz produced some good chuckles. Unfortunately, I have no information regarding sample size, representativeness, etc.

On a more serious note...think for a moment about how this kind of "information", assuming it was appropriately gathered, might be used by those on both sides of the political aisle and by the media in some future election. The spins that might be generated boggle the mind. A bit scary.....and not terribly constructive in helping to address the serious issues of the day. All good science can produce evil. Along that line I heard from a very conservative acquaintance that the inspiration for Luntz was provided by none other than Rush Limbaugh. He said that Limbaugh did a parody of many of these questions weeks ago. I report this but I can't verify it -- but it doesn't seem too far fetched.
Is the questionnaire used in the VNS exit polls this year publicly available and also is their data collection strategy available, e.g., how they choose key precincts, how data are collected at key precincts, etc? I would like this information for teaching purposes.

Barbara Burrell

Barbara Burrell
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DeKalb, Illinois 60115
815-753-9657
I'm seeing census ads on TV lately—they seem quite good, provocative. Received a post card telling me the census is coming. And, seeing lots of posters plastered around the neighborhood, both in English and Spanish. Our non-voting Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton got TV time to announce that only about 60% of DC residents were counted last round, resulting in significant revenue losses that might have been useful to the District as it tumbled into insolvency. She has been encouraging everyone to take census jobs, paying nearly $20 p/hr, which she said you can have even if you're not a citizen, and, if you're on public assistance programs it won't affect your status. Sounds like they're having trouble filling jobs.


Meanwhile, Census Chief Kenneth Prewitt's 535 bosses on the Hill are making sure he does his job. (I hope therapy is included in his benefits package!)

Census Truce Fractured
GOP Accuses Head-Count Leader of Trying to Block Oversight
By D'Vera Cohn
Washington Post Staff Writer
Thursday, March 9, 2000; Page A23

Last spring's political truce over the 2000 census crumbled yesterday, as Republicans accused the Census Bureau of undermining their attempts to monitor its work, and Democrats complained that the GOP's over-zealous oversight is hurting the national count.

"Are you trying to hide something?" Rep. Dan Miller (R-Fla.), chairman of the House census subcommittee, asked Census Director Kenneth Prewitt at a hearing. "It takes us weeks to get information."

Miller said General Accounting Office employees also told him they have run into delays, and the Census Monitoring Board, set up by Congress and the White House, "fights tooth and nail to get information it needs to conduct its oversight."

Prewitt fired back, saying he spends a third of his day answering requests for information from oversight groups. He read from a GAO report last year complimenting the bureau's rapid response, and said GAO receives the equivalent of 16,000 CD-ROMs of information daily from his agency.

"It's not any kind of a resistance," Prewitt said. "The concern I have right now is the real-time aspect of it... Right now is when we are doing the census."

Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-N.Y.), ranking minority member on the subcommittee, jumped to Prewitt's defense, saying the oversight groups
should be looking "over your shoulder and not [be] in your lap disrupting
your job. I know you share my concern that we not harm the census with
over-zealous oversight."

Miller said he was annoyed by a bureau directive requiring congressional
staff or oversight agencies to give at least two weeks' notice before
visiting census regional offices, and requiring they be accompanied by
census managers.

"The arrogance--I've never had anyone tell me I have to give two weeks'
notice," he told Prewitt.

"I apologize if the language is arrogant," Prewitt replied. The two-week
notice is a "guideline," not a rule, he said, partly to deal with a huge
volume of site visit requests. Republicans on the Census Monitoring Board
want to visit more than two dozen local census offices in March.

The harsh words at the congressional hearing splintered an informal
bipartisan peace treaty that dated from last spring, when Republicans agreed
not to force a government shutdown over Census Bureau plans to bolster the
traditional head count with statistical sampling.

The census--how it is carried out and what it reports--is a sensitive
political issue. The data collected is used for drawing the boundaries of
congressional districts and allocating billions of dollars in federal money.

The $6.8 billion national tally peaks on April 1, Census Day. The bureau is
hiring half a million temporary workers, and forms are being delivered to
most Americans this month. Prewitt told the hearing that operations are "on
schedule, on track and on budget."

One indication the census message is getting out, he said, is a survey on
behalf of the bureau over the weekend that reported that 85 percent had
heard of the census and knew something about it. An unrelated survey
released last October by the monitoring board found that less than half knew
it was coming.

Among those in the audience at the hearing was Barbara Everitt Bryant, who
ran the 1990 census for the Bush administration, when Congress was dominated
by Democrats. It "sounds like he is being burdened by [oversight] heavier at
this time in the census" than she was, Bryant said in a hallway interview.
But she said congressional criticism is a given in that job: "Census will
always be in the cross-fire."

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mark@bisconti.com

>From jwerner@jwdp.com Thu Mar 9 08:43:32 2000
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Message-ID: <38C7D4AE.69AA55@jwdp.com>
I would also recommend "Looking for the last Percent" by Harvey Choldin (Rutgers University Press, 1994), which covers the controversy over undercounts through the 1990 Census but also provides a vivid account of the nitty-gritty work involved at the regional office level in collecting Census information.

Jan Werner

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Mark Richards wrote:
>
> Two books on the census by Margo Anderson: Who Counts: The Politics of
> Census-Taking in Contemporary America, and The American Census: A Social
> History.
>
> From sullivan@fsc-research.com Thu Mar  9 09:16:35 2000
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Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7BIT

Sorry for this broadcast, but I tried to send the response to its originator and it came back underliverable.

We are doing Vietnamese and Cantonese interviews at present and could probably accomodate you. Call Doug Canete at Freeman, Sullivan & Co. (415) 777-0707

The information contained in this communication is confidential and is intended only for the use of the
The Net as Muckraker

If the Net causes social alienation and creepy porno habits, can it also ruin elections? That's one of the questions being tossed around by the media in the wake of machine politics' sweeping victory on Super Tuesday.

To foil online news sites that had published its exit-poll data early in previous primaries, Voter News Service had delayed the release of its results until 4 p.m., according to the New York Times. That meant that the six media biggies who jointly administer the VNS poll results - AP and the news operations of ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN and Fox - would get the results two hours later than the usual 2 p.m.

The Times found much whining among VNS' traditional-media partners,
who pledge not to publish the data until the polls close. "The real issue is, the dot-coms have broken the rules," law-and-order guy and Fox News Channel Chairman Roger Ailes told the Times' Peter Marks. The Washington Post's polling director, Rich Morin, chimed in, saying that the delay "punishes people who have used the data responsibly in the past." Peeking through both comments, one got the vague impression that the media insiders wished they'd been the ones who broke the rules. Then again, if they had, they wouldn't be insiders anymore.

One place the results weren't published was on Slate. That's because VNS had set its legal hounds loose on the e-zine and on another premature publisher, the National Review. But the data did find its way to the Drudge Report.

The Washington Post wondered in a Monday editorial whether what Slate had done was really all that wrong. "The notion that a magazine, having used traditional news-gathering techniques to obtain facts, could be barred from publishing them is disturbing," the Post wrote. "Also troubling is that a media organization would seek to prevent another from reporting on its affairs."

Slate's flame-thrower, Jack Shafer, was back in action with polling pontifications that wondered why Slate - not a subscriber to VNS, and therefore not bound by its embargo - should have to hold itself back, given that "VNS members and subscribers share the data freely with friends in politics and the media." In case you missed the role Slate and Shafer played in the controversy, the article included links to the previous pieces as well as to Shafer's op-ed piece in Tuesday's Wall Street Journal.

Just as with insurgent candidates McCain and Bradley, Slate and Nat'l Review learned a lesson: you can take on the establishment, but you won't always come out a winner. - Deborah Asbrand

Voter Survey Data Is Held Back to Avoid Leaks
(Registration required.)

Press Versus Press

Big Fat Meaty Exit Poll Numbers
http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=3/7/00?amp;idMessage=4788/

MORE LINKS
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Broadcasters Form Alliance to Provide Web Content Over the Air (AP)

Gallup Web Site Vandalized (AP)

Arizona Residents First to Vote by Computer (AP)
Tom Sherwood did a story on DC's NBC-4 on Super Tuesday, so Hill people had an opportunity to hear about the issue as they watched for election news. He interviewed Jack Shafer. mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of James Beniger
Sent: Thursday, March 09, 2000 1:15 PM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: The Industry Standard's Media Grok on the Exit Poll War
A Review of Press Coverage of the Internet Economy

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

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(Registration required.)

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http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=3/7/00?&idMessage=4788/

MORE LINKS
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Broadcasters Form Alliance to Provide Web Content Over the Air (AP)

Gallup Web Site Vandalized (AP)

Arizona Residents First to Vote by Computer (AP)

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>From RobFarbman@aol.com Thu Mar  9 13:43:35 2000
Received: from imol9.mx.aol.com (imol9.mx.aol.com [152.163.225.9])
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(PST)
From: RobFarbman@aol.com
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Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 42

Market Research Analyst

Edison Media Research, a small, rapidly growing market research company located in Central New Jersey, is seeking a research professional with a minimum of one year experience. The responsibilities of this position
include managing all aspects of projects from questionnaire development through data analysis and presentation.

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Edison Media Research conducts survey research and provides strategic information to radio stations, television stations, Internet companies, newspapers, cable networks, record labels and other media organizations.

Edison Media Research has been recognized by Advertising Age as one of the fastest growing research companies in America. Our clients include CBS News, CNN, The Country Music Association, Maverick Records, Arbitron, The Cleveland Cavs, Sony Music, Time-Life Music, AOL and over 200 radio stations.

Please mail, fax or email cover letter and resume, which must include salary requirements to:

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6 West Cliff Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
Fax: 908-707-4740
rfarbman@edisonresearch.com

www.edisonresearch.com
Exit polls conducted this year will give you an idea of the questions asked but not specific wording along with findings, available at CNN's website:


Exit polls for prior years are also available at the CNN site but you if you have to do some searching; e.g., 1996 state exit polls at:


VNS cautions that the CNN data may not be final.

Nick

Barbara Burrell wrote:

> Is the questionnaire used in the VNS exit polls this year publicly available and also is their data collection strategy available, e.g., how they choose key precincts, how data are collected at key precincts, etc? I would like this information for teaching purposes.

> Barbara Burrell
>
> Barbara Burrell
> Associate Director
> Public Opinion Laboratory
> Northern Illinois University
> DeKalb, Illinois 60115
> 815-753-9657

> From jwerner@jwdp.com Thu Mar 9 13:55:31 2000
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From: Jan Werner <jwerner@jwdp.com>
Reply-To: jwerner@jwdp.com
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (Win98; U)
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The Luntz poll was conducted for YROCK.COM, the Young Republican
organization's promotional website.

The results are identified as "a national telephone poll of 800 likely voters conducted Feb 23-24, 2000"

The actual questions asked, along with the results, are available from: http://www.yrock.com/luntzpoll/index.html

Of course, as with previous results published by Frank Luntz, one has to wonder whether this poll was actually conducted in the first place.

Jan Werner

________________

dick halpern wrote:
>
> Glad that the "Presidential Poll" produced by Frank Luntz produced some good chuckles. Unfortunately, I have no information regarding sample size, representativeness, etc.
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>
> Dick Halpern
>
> *********************************************
> Richard S. Halpern, Ph.D.
> Consultant, Strategic Marketing and Opinion Research
> Adjunct Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology
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> Atlanta, GA 30339-4248
> rshalpern@mindspring.com
> phone/fax 770 434 4121
> *********************************************

>From kat_lind99@yahoo.com Thu Mar  9 15:18:53 2000
Received: from web703.mail.yahoo.com (web703.mail.yahoo.com [128.11.23.23]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP id PAA07623 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 9 Mar 2000 15:18:52 -0800 (PST)
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Message-ID: <20000309231852.16021.qmail@web703.mail.yahoo.com>
Received: from [129.252.103.23] by web703.mail.yahoo.com; Thu, 09 Mar 2000 15:18:52 PST
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 2000 15:18:52 -0800 (PST)
From: Kat Lind <kat_lind99@yahoo.com>
Subject: 2000 T-Shirt Slogan Contest
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
It's that time again for the annual AAPOR Conference T-Shirt Slogan Contest.

So get those thinking caps on and send in your best ditty by March 22nd.

Voting for the best will begin on March 24th and the winner will receive a $25 gift certificate for the book exhibit at the conference in Portland.

Prior winning entries include: "Telling American's What They Think Since 1947"; "If We Want Your Opinion, We'll Ask You For It"; "Without Us, It's Just Your Opinion"

Please send your entries to:

TSHIRT2000_1999@YAHOO.COM

Katherine "Kat" Lind
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
http://im.yahoo.com

The following chapters also address information about VNS exit poll methods:


> Date: Thu, 09 Mar 2000 15:49:34 +0000
> Reply-To: mkshares@mcs.net
> Sender: owner-aapornet@usc.edu
> X-PH: V4.4@orb3
> From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: Re: VNS exit poll
> References: <s8c76231.049@wpo.cso.niu.edu>
> X-Accept-Language: en
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 8.1 -- ListProcessor(tm) by CREN
>
>
> Exit polls conducted this year will give you an idea of the questions asked but not specific wording along with findings, available at CNN's website:
>
>
> Exit polls for prior years are also available at the CNN site but you if you have to do some searching; e.g., 1996 state exit polls at:
>
>
> VNS cautions that the CNN data may not be final.
>
> Nick
>
> Barbara Burrell wrote:
>
> Is the questionnaire used in the VNS exit polls this year publicly available and also is their data collection strategy available, e.g., how they choose key precincts, how data are collected at key precincts, etc? I would like this information for teaching purposes.

> Barbara Burrell
>
> Barbara Burrell
> Associate Director
> Public Opinion Laboratory
> Northern Illinois University
> DeKalb, Illinois 60115
> 815-753-9657

> From jwerner@jwdp.com Fri Mar 10 15:23:51 2000
Received: from vger.vgernet.net (root@vgernet.net [205.219.186.1]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id PAA25193 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 10 Mar 2000 15:23:50 -0800
The article below discussing the publication of exit poll information on
the web appeared in Slate yesterday.

Could it be that someone has been leaking our highly confidential
AAPORNET discussions to Slate? One might think so from the author's
"Rosetta Stone" allusion.

Jan Werner

You can find this article online at
http://slate.msn.com/netelection/entries/00-03-09_77086.asp,
or check out our full contents at http://www.slate.com.

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

NET ELECTION
The Web's Exit-Poll Strategy
By James Ledbetter
Posted Thursday, March 9, 2000, at 4:00 p.m. PT

You wouldn't know it from watching television, but the
Internet has already shaken up this year's presidential race.
It's not fund raising (though that's certainly been goosed by
the Net), and it's not Net voting (still in a testing phase).
Rather, it's the widespread availability of exit-poll
data—not who's winning and who's
losing—but while voters are still voting. Already, a storm
of heated debate and threatened lawsuits has erupted over the
data's release.

The storm reached a crescendo this week. Like Slate did in
late February, National Review Online
[http://www.nationalreview.com/] bowed to legal pressure and
chose not to post the statistics before polls closed on Super
Tuesday. Within hours, the Drudge Report
[http://www.drudgereport.com/] leapt into the void, putting
the numbers out there for all to see.

Exit polls are the Rosetta stone of modern political analysis:
They provide the fullest picture of the motivations and
demographic fault lines of the American electorate. They are
also, when properly read, remarkably accurate barometers of
who will win, which makes them of intense interest to political and media insiders on the afternoon of an important election.

Theoretically, any organization can take exit polls, but in recent years, a single company—Voter News Service—has provided the service for the American media. The company's board of managers includes the three major networks, Fox News, CNN, and the Associated Press; its subscribers include major newspapers such as the New York Times and the Washington Post. (Published reports indicate that there are more than a hundred VNS subscribers. A VNS spokeswoman declined to say how many subscribers the organization has or what subscriptions cost.)

Typically, VNS makes data available under embargo to subscribers in several waves, starting in the early afternoon on an important election day. The early numbers allow media organizations to plan their next-day coverage (by interviewing members of key demographic groups, for example). But the numbers are a prized commodity among interested parties.

To say that VNS is protective of its information monopoly is an understatement. (It's even protective of the phrase "exit poll." VNS has reserved the domain name Exitpoll.com but does not produce a site there.) So are its members: Fox News President Roger Ailes essentially has threatened to fire any employee caught leaking, or even characterizing, VNS numbers to outsiders.

It was not terribly surprising, then, that right after the Feb. 1 New Hampshire primary, VNS attorneys began demanding that Slate Deputy Editor Jack Shafer stop publishing the exit-poll information that other journalists leaked to him. Slate continued to publish the information for the South Carolina and Michigan primaries, but by the Virginia primary Feb. 29, Slate's editorial staff succumbed to the dictates of its attorneys and withheld the data. (See Shafer's "Press Box" columns on exit polls, here [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/1/00&idMessage=4517], here [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/18/00&idMessage=4634], here [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/22/00&idMessage=4661], here [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/23/00&idMessage=4675], and here [http://slate.msn.com/code/PressBox/PressBox.asp?Show=2/29/00&idMessage=4725].)

At that point, National Review got into the game. The conservative magazine's Web site published the Virginia data on the afternoon of Feb. 29 and let it be known that it planned to publish the numbers for 13 contests on Super
Tuesday, March 7. On March 6, however, National Review received a letter from Robert Penchina, an attorney representing VNS, demanding that the site "immediately cease any and all conduct misappropriating VNS' property or infringing VNS' rights."

After considerable internal discussion, National Review decided not to publish the numbers again. National Review Web editor Jonah Goldberg said he was "kind of bummed" about the magazine's choice, which he described as "essentially a business decision." The Review simply did not have the resources for a legal fight. "Journalistically, we think we're in the right," Goldberg says. "But we're not an operation that can handle even a frivolous lawsuit."

It's disturbing that a threatened lawsuit can keep two established publications from publishing information especially when a conglomerate of media companies is making the threats. But that's where a very useful Matt Drudge came in. At about 1 p.m. PT March 7, the Drudge Report site posted a headline declaring Bush the winner in nine out of the 12 contests; it followed up a few minutes later with a state-by-state breakdown of numbers.

It's not clear if VNS attorneys have tried to crack down on Drudge. Drudge did not respond to requests for an interview, and VNS attorney Penchina said his client will not allow him to discuss the question. Given Drudge's past practice, he might well ignore a cease-and-desist letter.

But if the loss of power is new to the entrenched media institutions, the pinball-bouncing of exit-poll data from site to site is already a classic maneuver on the Internet. And it's only likely to build. The more exit-poll data that is published, the more people who have access to the information seem to want to leak it. As Shafer memorably says of his sources, "When you start hanging around with alcoholics, it becomes easier and easier to find a drink."

And, indeed, a number of other sites have made use of the material, thus far without consequence. Political Insider [http://www.politicalinsider.com/] sent out e-mail to its subscribers at about 2:30 PT on Super Tuesday that didn't give vote percentages but listed the states where Bush and McCain were expected to win. Taegan Goddard, co-publisher of Political Insider, said Wednesday that he has not been contacted by VNS lawyers, "which just proves how silly their strategy really is in the Internet age." He estimates that there are hundreds of sites that would be interested in publishing the data.

Others have suggested a Web-chase strategy not unlike those used by gambling and pornography sites: An anonymous e-mail server could be used to tell interested parties where the exit poll data is published. As long as it's never the same site twice, VNS attorneys might well be powerless.
Moreover, it's far from certain that VNS has a solid legal case. VNS invokes the "hot news" doctrine, a legal concept dating back to a 1918 Supreme Court decision, which happens to be a shaky leg to stand on. The argument that a company owns facts as opposed to, say, entire databases or entire stories has a mixed legal history. In the mid-90s, the National Basketball Association sued Motorola, which was offering a score-update service via beepers. Although the NBA's "hot news" argument prevailed in the suit's first legal round, the NBA's argument that it owned the rights to the score of a basketball game in progress was ultimately, and explicitly, rejected.

The analogy is not precise: VNS creates its data in a more meaningful way than the NBA "creates" a score. And Penchina argues that the NBA case acknowledged a tailored protection for "hot news" in the information age. But the First Amendment protection for journalists is also stronger in this case. Without active information theft, many courts have been understandably reluctant to bar journalists from publishing data.

It's true that VNS's commercial interests are violated when a Web site publishes the exit-poll information. The company spends millions of dollars to gather electoral data, and it understandably wants to control the release timing. One could argue just as plausibly that journalists can't publish unreleased data about, say, General Electric's finances because the company has a proprietary interest in it. Alas: Good journalists disrupt the desired flow of information every day.

In yesterday's USA TODAY (USA Yesterday?), Phil Meyer argues eloquently against the VNS position on ownership of exit poll data and calls for VNS to be broken up as a cartel (reprinted below).

I would like to add to Phil's comments that, in my experience, the
networks have very little concern about the analytical value of the exit polls. The reason they spend the big bucks on them is strictly to attract the biggest prime time audience by announcing results as quickly as they can. This is every bit as true today as it was 34 years ago when I worked at what would eventually become the CBS News Election Unit.

This is certainly not true of the news people who work for the networks, but news people are not the holders of the purse strings, and they do not place the bottom line and stockholder interest above everything else.

If the network brass thought that Congress would let them get away with it, they would, without any doubt, announce election results long before the polls closed.

Jan Werner

03/09/00- Updated 08:35 AM ET

And the winner will be... 
(Do you really want to know?)

By Philip Meyer

Suppose you were driving to your election precinct in late afternoon to cast your vote for president and the car radio gave you a pollster's estimate of how the voting had gone in your state that morning.

Would you care? Would you change your vote based on what your fellow citizens were doing? Would you decide your vote didn't matter and turn the car around?

What do you think of the media broadcasting early exit poll results?

The cartel that controls exit polls used by major media outlets is pretending to be highly concerned about such effects on your vote, saying it wants to keep the lid on premature reports of results. But that isn't happening.

As with many other failed attempts to keep information under wraps, the villain is the Internet. It's just too much fun to be the first with the news.

Blame is being heaped on Jack Shafer, the enterprising deputy editor of Slate.com, the online magazine. He started posting early results of exit polls distributed by Voter News Service (VNS) to its media members while many voters in New Hampshire, Michigan and South Carolina were still on their way to their voting places.

Media that had paid good money for these polls - and Slate had not - were outraged. Their arrangement with each other puts an embargo on each state's results until voting is over in that state.

But it's not concern for the lost innocence of late voters that worries them so much as fear of what Congress might do. Politicians develop a
natural paranoia about polls, particularly when they lose. Attempts to ban polls or delay their publication often originate with parties or interests that think their candidates were hurt by them.

Direct regulation of poll results isn't allowable under our First Amendment, but Congress has a more subtle way of putting fear in the minds of media managers. VNS was created in 1993 after the heavy players got tired of duplicated polls with conflicting results. The cartel was formed to put the data-collection work of all of the exit polls for major media, including the big TV networks and USA TODAY, under one tent.

That certainly saved money, and it probably improved the quality of the product. But it also exposed the media heavyweights to the possibility of antitrust legislation directed expressly at them. The deal is that Congress won't look at that as long as the exit-poll results are doled out in a civilized and predictable way. It was worked out in 1985, before the network coalition became so all-encompassing.

Enter Jack Shafer. He noticed that the TV pundits were spinning their interpretations on the basis of the embargoed information. It happened again Tuesday night. For example, CNN's Capital Gang was discussing a George W. Bush race in November as a done deal when the official VNS reports were still showing the early states split about evenly between Bush and John McCain.

Attempts to restrict information inevitably lead to its unequal distribution. In France, for example, where publication of polls is banned in the last few days before an election, the results diffuse quietly among media and academic elites and their affluent friends. Such information can give its owners certain advantages, including smarter stock picks where company fortunes are likely to be affected by an election outcome.

Similar insiders get the early exit polls on election days in the United States, and some have been leaking them to Slate's Shafer and other online editors who have no qualms about posting the numbers while polls still are open. Matt Drudge posted the early Super Tuesday results after Slate was silenced by a threatened copyright lawsuit. "God bless that little chowderhead," said Shafer, posting an Internet link from his column to the Drudge Report.

All cartels tend toward instability, but this is especially true of information cartels. There are too many people who have the information, and sneaking it out is too easy and too much fun.

It would be better for all of us if the restrictions were lifted. Sure, there is an effect on voters who haven't acted yet. What little research there is shows that they use the information rationally. If the election is close, voters are motivated to turn out. If it's all settled - as it was in 1980 when Jimmy Carter conceded before California was through voting - they can stay home or cast a protest vote for a minor party candidate.

There is even a little bit of evidence that voters in the West who learn that the presidential race already is decided will tend to vote for the winner's party in congressional elections - a sound recognition that
government works best when one party is in charge.

But, it is argued in the case of exit polls, the early results are not representative and sometimes give bad predictions. Well, so do the first-half scores of basketball games. We citizens and viewers are smart enough to take that into account.

A better argument is that if exit-poll results on major races discourage citizens from voting at all, there will be less participation in minor races where turnout still could matter. That's important only if you believe that democracy is served by having elections decided by people who don't care about them.

If Congress decides to break up VNS, there still will be exit polls. Our national media are too enterprising, too scrappily competitive, to do without them. And there would be competition again. That's never a bad thing in the news business.

As a fair description of current public opinion about the final eight months of the U.S. presidential campaign, I find it difficult to top the following two paragraphs from "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," New York Times columnist Frank Rich's Journal entry, "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," on this morning's Times Op-Ed page. If you are feeling at all blue, you might not want to read this until your spirits lift.....

-- Jim

*******

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Eight months to go -- but hey, who's counting? -- and we're stranded with two establishment, tightly scripted, often robotic candidates who are about as different from one another as J. Crew and Banana Republic. Both are wealthy, Ivy-League-educated boomers who took safe paths through the Vietnam War, whose career advancement
was greased by their dads, who advertise their intimacy with Jesus, who reek of smarmy soft money and who will do anything to win, whether it be Mr. Gore's lying about his own Congressional voting record in a debate or Mr. Bush's heartless exploitation of women's fears of breast cancer in a scurrilous attack ad.

In the true Clinton manner, both are also chameleons, ready to don new guises in a flash -- from Mr. Gore's down-home wardrobe to Mr. Bush's last-minute emergence as a champion of campaign finance reform, patients' rights and clean air. The substantive disputes between the men are, in truth, minimal in a prosperous post-cold-war era when both parties aspire to Rockefeller Republicanism (literally so in that each standard-bearer is the prince of a brand-name American dynasty). If this is going to be a campaign about issues, it may all come down to the environment, gun control, Roe v. Wade and, most of all, who's least likely to screw up the economy, stupid. Bill Clinton's low personal-approval but high job-approval ratings (still in the Reaganesque 60's) don't suggest Clinton fatigue so much as a convincing mandate for Clintonism without Clinton.
Frank Rich is neither particularly funny nor, for that matter, particularly original as it seems a large segment of the punditry (to say nothing of the late night comics) have taken up this line on Bush and Gore--see this week's Economist, for example.

Once again, as with Monica Lewinsky, it appears that the pundits are way out of sync with the mass of public opinion, who actually seem to want something more than entertainment value from their leaders, and to prefer a candidate with broad, if bland, appeal, to someone who speaks vividly for a narrow constituency.

If you think that there isn't much difference between the two contenders, just remind yourself that the next president is likely to nominate between one and three justices to the Supreme Court.

Jan Werner

James Beniger wrote:

As a fair description of current public opinion about the final eight months of the U.S. presidential campaign, I find it difficult to top the following two paragraphs from "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," New York Times columnist Frank Rich's Journal entry, "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," on this morning's Times Op-Ed page. If you are feeling at all blue, you might not want to read this until your spirits lift.....

-- Jim

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From rshalpern@mindspring.com Sat Mar 11 11:54:57 2000
Received: from smtp6.mindspring.com (smtp6.mindspring.com [207.69.200.110]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id LAAl3117 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 11 Mar 2000 11:54:56 -0800 (PST)
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Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000311144955.00ac7910@mail.mindspring.com>
X-Sender: rshalpern@mail.mindspring.com
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Sat, 11 Mar 2000 14:52:59 -0500
To: jwerner@jwdp.com
From: dick halpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com>
Subject: Re: J. Crew vs. Banana Republic?
Cc: aapornet@usc.edu
In-Reply-To: <38CA94F2.653487D5@jwdp.com>
References: <Pine.GSO.4.10.100031110957020.4868-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Jan Werner's insightful comment might describe, perhaps, the most significant legacy to be left by whomever becomes the next president:

> If you think that there isn't much difference between the two contenders, just remind yourself that the next president is likely to nominate between one and three justices to the Supreme Court.

Dick Halpern

**************************************************************************
Richard S. Halpern, Ph.D.
Consultant, Strategic Marketing and Opinion Research
The lead story on the front page of today's New York Times declares:

Support Is Strong for Teaching 2 Origin Theories
By JAMES GLANZ

An overwhelming majority of Americans think that creationism should be taught along with Darwin's theory of evolution in the public schools, according to a new national survey.

The full article can be read at:

Carefully reading through the whole article (a painful task, since the writing is confused, if not downright obfuscatory), it appears that in fact 83% believe that evolution should be taught in schools, 30% believe that creationism should be taught as a theory, and 49% believe that creationism should be taught as a religious belief, but not as a theory of origins.

This is a far cry from what the headline and first paragraph imply.

Jan Werner
This poll was released by People From the American Way; it was done by DYG. There is a 54 page pdf file of the entire report at:

http://www.pfaw.org/issues/education/creationism-poll.pdf

Most Americans seem to simultaneously believe in evolution and what has been called the "inspired evolution" (i.e., divine guidance). Unfortunately random mutation probably will not fit a divine guidance perspective very well--but hey, no matter, because most Americans don't understand evolution too well either.

The PFAW report throws folks who want creation taught in science classes as a belief into a 66% pot called "evolution oriented." This group, which ranges from evolution only to the include as belief crew, is then used in undifferentiated fashion throughout nearly the rest of the subsequent analysis presented in the report.

> This is a far cry from what the headline and first paragraph imply.
> Jan Werner

So Jan, don't worry, because the report results are a far cry from the way they are presented too!

Susan
If time were money, I'd be in debtor's prison.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD.
Academic Year 1999-2000 PHONE 850-385-4266
slosh@garnet.fsu.edu

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE!

I AM NOW IN TRANSITION TO:

The Department of Educational Research
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

850-644-4592 Educational Research Office
FAX 850-644-8776
>From slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu Sat Mar 11 16:20:17 2000
Received: from garnet.acns.fsu.edu (gmhub.acns.fsu.edu [146.201.2.30])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id QAA05935 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 11 Mar 2000 16:20:16 -0800 (PST)
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X-Sender: slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.2
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Susan Losh <slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu>
Subject: Re: Misleading survey reporting, period

>This poll was released by People From the American Way; it was done by DYG.
>There is a 54 page pdf file of the entire report at:
>
>http://www.pfaw.org/issues/education/creationism-poll.pdf
>
oops, sorry, Freudian typo, that is People FOR the American Way!

Susan
If time were money, I'd be in debtor's prison.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD.
Academic Year 1999-2000 PHONE 850-385-4266
slosh@garnet.fsu.edu

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE!
I AM NOW IN TRANSITION TO:

The Department of Educational Research
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

850-644-4592 Educational Research Office
FAX 850-644-8776

FROM:

The Department of Sociology
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-2270

850-644-6416 Sociology Office
FAX 850-644-6208

>From rshalpern@mindspring.com Sat Mar 11 20:44:02 2000
Received: from fb01.eng00.mindspring.net (fb01.eng00.mindspring.net
[207.69.229.19])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id UAA04608 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 11 Mar 2000 20:44:01 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from mindspring.com (user-38ld3rg.dialup.mindspring.com
[209.86.143.112])
   by fb01.eng00.mindspring.net (8.9.3/8.8.5) with ESMTP id XAA24755;
   Sat, 11 Mar 2000 23:43:56 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <38CB205D.D78C4F3B@mindspring.com>
Date: Sat, 11 Mar 2000 23:43:09 -0500
From: rshalpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (Win98; I)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: The Myth of the McCain Voter
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
   boundary="------------B6618B0C6A0E9E07643DCA8F"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.
------------B6618B0C6A0E9E07643DCA8F
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>From the op-ed section of Sunday's NY Times......
A most interesting analysis of the current political situation by Andy Kohut. Andy's conclusion is especially interesting.

Dick Halpern

http://www.nytimes.com/yr/mo/day/oped/12kohu.html

The Myth of the McCain Voter

But this line of reasoning has one big problem: there is no "McCain vote" -- the exit data from the primaries show that John McCain's supporters are not the sort of portable voting bloc than can be won en masse. "

The Myth of the McCain Voter

The Myth of the McCain Voter

The Myth of the McCain Voter
By ANDREW KOHUT

For Al Gore and George W. Bush, the McCain vote has become the holy grail of the presidential race, the swing vote each man thinks he needs to put him over the top. But this line of reasoning has one big problem: there is no "McCain vote" -- the exit data from the primaries show that John McCain's supporters are not the sort of portable voting bloc than can be won en masse.

Across the country, McCain backers do not share values or care strongly about the same issues, and they are not drawn from a common demographic base.

While political reform was the keystone of the Arizona senator's campaign, only a minority of McCain voters cited campaign finance changes as the foremost issue. In New York, only 19 percent of his backers made this claim -- more (23 percent) said "moral values" was their top concern -- and the number was no bigger in other Super Tuesday states including California (14 percent), Ohio (14 percent), Maryland (18 percent) and Massachusetts (18 percent).

Even in Mr. McCain's greatest triumphs, the New Hampshire and Michigan primaries, only minorities of his backers were reform-minded.

In broader questioning in a nationwide survey that Pew conducted in...
February, Republicans and independents who backed Mr. McCain were indistinguishable from Bush voters when asked about the budget surplus: 37 percent of McCain voters and 39 percent of Bush backers wanted it used to shore up entitlements. Yes, fewer McCain voters than Bush supporters also emphasized a tax cut -- 11 percent to 24 percent. But the two constituencies were nearly identical in their beliefs that the way officials campaign for office is a much smaller problem than the way they will govern or their basic honesty and ethics.

Likewise, McCain backers share few demographic bonds. While men are somewhat more drawn to him than women, his constituency has no decided socioeconomic pattern or ethno-religious coloration. Mr. McCain did poorly among one core Republican group, Christian conservatives. Exit polls in New York and California even found Mr. Bush carrying the Roman Catholic vote. Nor was there the expected veterans' brigade. Mr. McCain carried the veterans' vote in states that he won, like Michigan and New Hampshire, but lost it in New York, Ohio and California.

What stands out consistently about the McCain bloc is that it was drawn to all of the things the senator personally represents. Nearly half of the McCain voters in New York said they were looking for a candidate who stands up for what he believes -- a view shared by just 26 percent of the Bush crowd. Similarly, in just about every exit poll, the McCain backers put more emphasis than other voters on a candidate's personal qualities as opposed to his stand on issues.

The two candidates left standing don't seem to be paying these numbers any heed. Mr. Gore, heartened by Super Tuesday exit polls showing that up to 40 percent of McCain supporters might vote for him in the fall, quickly raised the banner of campaign finance reform in a blatant attempt to woo them. The Bush camp hasn't ruled out a reform plan of its own as it weighs strategies to get Mr. McCain on board.
The problem is, neither Al Gore nor George Bush can target McCain voters and say, "Vote for me -- I am more like McCain than my opponent." Authenticity is not seen as the strong suit of either man.

This is not to say that the independent vote will not be crucial in the fall. But independents are the swing voters in every election. And no evidence exists that John McCain has fundamentally changed the views, priorities or values of independents.

The points of contention among independents will likely be Mr. Gore's perceived character weaknesses versus the lingering doubts about Mr. Bush's depth, as well as voters' displeasure with the Republican Congress and the party's weaknesses on leading issues. Polling suggests that Catholics, older voters and young women are having a particularly hard time choosing between the two men.

There is no reason to think that embracing any of John McCain's positions will do much for either candidate. Nor is it certain that his endorsement would help Mr. Bush all that much. In the end, John McCain was a candidate, not a cause.

Andrew Kohut is the director of the Pew Research Center for People and the Press.
At 11:43 PM 3/11/00 -0500, Dick Halpern wrote:
> >From the op-ed section of Sunday's NY Times......
> >A most interesting analysis of the current political situation by Andy
> >Kohut. Andy's conclusion is especially interesting.
> >http://www.nytimes.com/yr/mo/day/oped/12kohu.html
> >
> >(Note, that link will probably go bad after Sunday. Complete text was
> >included in Dick Halpern's posting.)
> >
> >While I don't doubt that Andy Kohut got his numbers right, I think he
> >misses the point. A sizeable portion (not the majority) of the electorate
> >is fed up with the "politics as usual" approach and the "reformer"
> >questions in the exit polls don't explore this dimension sufficiently. To
> >some extent, the McCain success (and, yes, it was a success given from
> >where he started) is similar to Ross Perot's success earlier. This is not
> >to say that McCain and Perot had similar, well-defined, and consistent
> >political agendas, but they both managed to exploit the weariness with the
> >"political establishment" (never mind that McCain is a long term US
> >senator).
> >That the exit polls now do not show a consistent profile of a typical
> >McCain voter (Kohut's main point) is not surprising, but it does not
> negate the need for the two remaining candidates to find a way to reach
> out to voters who somewhat alienated from and put off by the political
> establishment, the lack of candor and openness, and the unbridled
> opportunism (see Frank Rich's piece; posted by Jim yesterday). Whether
> this is possible for either Bush or Gore -- given that personality more
> than any particular issue seems to be crucial -- is another question.
> While "public images" can be created (and may have nothing to do with the
> true personality of a public figure) this takes much longer than adopting
> a new policy stance or adopting an issue of particular relevance to say
> "young Catholic mothers".
>
> So, in contrast to Kohut I would say, yes, there is a "McCain voter". The
> *myth* is that the current exit polls do much more than predicting the
> winner early -- given the necessary simplicity of the questions and the
> shortness of the interview. Staying too narrowly focused on available
> poll numbers can be as misleading as ignoring them altogether.

> From HOneill536@aol.com Sun Mar 12 09:13:41 2000
> Received: from imo13.mx.aol.com (imo13.mx.aol.com [152.163.225.3])
>   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
>   id JAA22649 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 12 Mar 2000 09:13:40 -0800
> (PST)
> From: HOneill536@aol.com
> Received: from HOneill536@aol.com
>   by imo13.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.1a.12a06ea (4260)
>   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 12 Mar 2000 12:13:05 -0500 (EST)
> Message-ID: <1a.12a06ea.25fd2a21@aol.com>
> Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2000 12:13:05 -0500 (EST)
> Subject: Re: Misleading survey reporting, period
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
> Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
> X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 61

> Perhaps People FROM the American Way is a more apt description of the
> organization than is People FOR the American Way.
> From lavrakas.1@osu.edu Sun Mar 12 09:13:48 2000
> Received: from mail1.uts.ohio-state.edu (mail1.uts.ohio-state.edu
> [128.146.214.30])
>   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
>   id JAA22695 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 12 Mar 2000 09:13:47 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: from lavrakaslaptop (ts13-12.homenet.ohio-state.edu
> [140.254.113.35])
>   by mail1.uts.ohio-state.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id MAA12902
>   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 12 Mar 2000 12:13:45 -0500 (EST)
> Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2000 12:13:45 -0500 (EST)
> Message-Id: <200003121713.MAA12902@mail1.uts.ohio-state.edu>
> X-Sender: lavrakas.1@postbox.acs.ohio-state.edu
> X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Pro Version 2.1.2
> Mime-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> From: "Paul J. Lavrakas, Ph.D." <lavrakas.1@osu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Misleading survey reporting by NY Times
Jan,

I'm not sure if many people on AAPORnet would know that reporters typically have nothing to do with formulating the headlines that run above their stories.

That the reporter chose the lede he did, likely reflects the importance he placed on the "bad news" associated with that finding to many in the Times' readership.

Thanks to Jan Werner's identification of the URL containing the full report of the poll results (http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/science/031100sci-evolution-poll.html) Last night I downloaded it and gave it a quick read. It's easier to read and understand than either the NYT or our local paper's version.

Both the NY Times and our local paper, The Atlanta Constitution, reported that an overwhelming majority of Americans think that creationism should be taught along with Darwin's theory of evolution in the public schools, according to a new national survey.

What the NY Times only briefly alluded to and the Constitution didn't mention at all was the report's finding (see executive summary on page 6) that most Americans are not that knowledgeable about Creationism. Half, in fact, say that they have never previously heard of it and those that are familiar with it do not agree on how to define it. Further, while most Americans have heard of Evolution, fewer than half say they are very familiar with it. There is also a pronounced lack of clarity as to Evolution's scientific status.

This general lack of understanding on the part of a significant part of the public as to what the Theory of Evolution or the Theory of Creationism is all about suggests that the findings should not be taken seriously. As far as I can tell the most meaningful thing to be learned from the study is the fact that there is widespread ignorance about both Evolution and Creationism.
Given the importance of the issue in today's political climate I would have expected the media to be just a little bit more responsible in their reporting. Most disappointing. I fully expect some highly conservative local school boards to make hay out of the findings and use it as an excuse to revamp their curriculum.

Dick Halpern

********************************************************************
Richard S. Halpern, Ph.D.
Consultant, Strategic Marketing and Opinion Research
Adjunct Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology
3837 Courtyard Drive
Atlanta, GA 30339-4248
rshalpern@mindspring.com
phone/fax 770 434 4121
********************************************************************
At 12:13 PM 3/12/00, you wrote:
_RETURNTRANSFER
perhaps people from the American way is a more apt description of the organization than is people for the American way.

Harry, would it be reasonably accurate to infer that you are less than sympathetic with people for the American way?"</html>

--=-=-=-=-=-_5014591==-.ALT--

> From salmore@worldnet.att.net Sun Mar 12 19:30:46 2000
Received: from mtiwmhc22.worldnet.att.net (mtiwmhc22.worldnet.att.net [204.127.131.47])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id TAA19877 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 12 Mar 2000 19:30:45 -0800 (PST)
Received: from inspiron ([12.79.22.32]) by mtiwmhc22.worldnet.att.net
  (InterMail vM.4.01.02.31a 201-229-119-114) with SMTP
  id <20000313033012.DAPM5318.mtiwmhc22.worldnet.att.net@inspiron> for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 03:30:12 +0000
Message-ID: <006801bf8c9c$08b48ba0$e3174f0c@inspiron>
Reply-To: "Stephen Salmore" <salmore@worldnet.att.net>
From: "Stephen Salmore" <salmore@worldnet.att.net>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
References: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10003110957020.4868-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
Subject: Re: J. Crew vs. Banana Republic?
Date: Sun, 12 Mar 2000 22:20:42 -0500
X-Priority: 3
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2314.1300
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

Is this editorial comment really appropriate for AAPORNET.

----- Original Message -----
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2000 1:14 PM
Subject: J. Crew vs. Banana Republic?

> >
> >
> > as a fair description of current public opinion about the final eight
months of the U.S. presidential campaign, I find it difficult to top
the following two paragraphs from "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," New
Republic,"
> on this morning's Times Op-Ed page. If you are feeling at all blue, you
might not want to read this until your spirits lift.....
> -- Jim
> *****
> 
> Copyright 2000 The New York Times Company
Eight months to go -- but hey, who's counting? -- and we're stranded with two establishment, tightly scripted, often robotic candidates who are about as different from one another as J. Crew and Banana Republic. Both are wealthy, Ivy-League-educated boomers who took safe paths through the Vietnam War, whose career advancement was greased by their dads, who advertise their intimacy with Jesus, who reek of smarmy soft money and who will do anything to win, whether it be Mr. Gore's lying about his own Congressional voting record in a debate or Mr. Bush's heartless exploitation of women's fears of breast cancer in a scurrilous attack ad.

In the true Clinton manner, both are also chameleons, ready to don new guises in a flash -- from Mr. Gore's down-home wardrobe to Mr. Bush's last-minute emergence as a champion of campaign finance reform, patients' rights and clean air. The substantive disputes between the men are, in truth, minimal in a prosperous post-cold-war era when both parties aspire to Rockefeller Republicanism (literally so in that each standard-bearer is the prince of a brand-name American dynasty). If this is going to be a campaign about issues, it may all come down to the environment, gun control, Roe v. Wade and, most of all, who's least likely to screw up the economy, stupid. Bill Clinton's low personal-approval but high job-approval ratings (still in the Reaganesque 60's) don't suggest Clinton fatigue so much as a convincing mandate for Clintonism without Clinton.
Thanks to Dick Halpern for troubling himself to research this topic with reasonable thoroughness. If more pollsters and journalists would trouble themselves to apply the same degree of thoroughness in their reports of their myriad polls, I believe they would frequently conclude that, to quote Dick, "This general lack of understanding on the part of a significant part of the public as to what (the issue) is all about suggests that the findings should not be taken seriously. As far as I can tell the most meaningful thing to be learned from the study is the fact that there is widespread ignorance about (the issue)." Certainly such a conclusion would be consistent with the results of every survey of actual public knowledge (as opposed to public opinion) I have seen over the past 35 years. On the other hand, I suspect that the politicians who use the polls to shape their appeals understand the depths of public ignorance all too well.

Ray Funkhouser

Mr. Rich's column is uninformed, tactless, and basically useless. In other words, it is the very embodiment of post-Watergate political journalism, or in this case "journihilism". The two candidates differ markedly on virtually all aspects of taxation and spending as well as the use of the current surplus. They differ on the role of the federal government in the social life of the American people including providing health care, funding education, and maintenance of "safety net" programs. They differ on oil drilling in environmentally sensitive areas, the possibility of "global warming", and the use of federal lands for logging, grazing, and mineral
removal. Given their advisors and differential depth of experience, one can also assume a major divergence in the conduct of foreign policy. All Mr. Rich has accomplished is to inform his readership that he is intellectually lazy and therefore hardly worth considering a "political pundit".

The Webster's dictionary notes that "pundit" has a Hindi origin and gives the following 3 definitions: 1) a Brahmanic scholar, 2) a learned person, 3) an authority or critic. Modern political essayists (to put it kindly) seem to relish only the "critic" part of the definition, thus rendering "political pundit" a modern oxymoron. The modern "political pundit" seems only interested in complaining and stirring up controversy (presumably to sell papers), and neither is accomplished with any great literacy, research, or depth of thought. I believe "pundits" are particularly incensed by Clinton and his derivatives because of his lack of ideology, which tends to make the job of analysis more difficult. It also changes the focus from "how much does the politician's proposals conform to his ideology" to "how does his proposal help solve the problem being addressed". Unfortunately for the "pundits" modern problems are quite complex and do not easily reduce themselves to simple thoughts, simple solutions, and by extension simple columns to write. If Mr. Rich wants me to read him, then he will just have to work for a living.

Lance M. Pollack, Ph.D.
Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)
University of California, San Francisco
lpollack@psg.ucsf.edu

-----Original Message-----
From: James Beniger [SMTP:beniger@rcf.usc.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2000 10:14 AM
To:   AAPORNET
Subject:    J. Crew vs. Banana Republic?

As a fair description of current public opinion about the final eight months of the U.S. presidential campaign, I find it difficult to top the following two paragraphs from "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," New York Times columnist Frank Rich's Journal entry, "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," on this morning's Times Op-Ed page. If you are feeling at all blue, you might not want to read this until your spirits lift.....

--
Jim

******

Copyright 2000 The New York Times Company

Eight months to go -- but hey, who's counting? -- and we're stranded with two establishment,
tightly scripted, often robotic candidates who are about as different from one another as J. Crew and Banana Republic. Both are wealthy, Ivy-League-educated boomers who took safe paths through the Vietnam War, whose career advancement was greased by their dads, who advertise their intimacy with Jesus, who reek of smarmy soft money and who will do anything to win, whether it be Mr. Gore's lying about his own Congressional voting record in a debate or Mr. Bush's heartless exploitation of women's fears of breast cancer in a scurrilous attack ad.

In the true Clinton manner, both are also chameleons, ready to don new guises in a flash -- from Mr. Gore's down-home wardrobe to Mr. Bush's last-minute emergence as a champion of campaign finance reform, patients' rights and clean air. The substantive disputes between the men are, in truth, minimal in a prosperous post-cold-war era when both parties aspire to Rockefeller Republicanism (literally so in that each standard-bearer is the prince of a brand-name American dynasty). If this is going to be a campaign about issues, it may all come down to the environment, gun control, Roe v. Wade and, most of all, who's least likely to screw up the economy, stupid. Bill Clinton's low personal-approval but high job-approval ratings (still in the Reaganesque 60's) don't suggest Clinton fatigue so much as a convincing mandate for Clintonism without Clinton.
Does anyone know of any research on having respondents answer telephone survey questions by punching their answer into their telephone's keypad (e.g. press 1 if you agree, press 2 if you disagree)?

If you can convince respondents that the interviewer will not see the answer (and convince your cati system to actually work that way) it seems like it might be a good way to get around sensitive questions that a respondent might not feel comfortable answering out loud.

Many thanks,

Martin Barron
SUNY Stony Brook
mbarron@ic.sunysb.edu

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Mon Mar 13 09:27:15 2000
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.19.167])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/us) with ESMTP
  id JAA05580 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:27:15 -0800
(PST)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
  by almaak.usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/us) with ESMTP
  id JAA14585 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:27:15 -0800
(PST)
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:27:15 -0800 (PST)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: How to Search AAPORNET Archives by Topic
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10003130827180.7732-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8BIT

HOW TO SEARCH THE AAPORNET ARCHIVES BY TOPIC

To search the AAPORNET archives by topic, simply do the following:

To:         listproc@usc.edu  (*NOT* to aapornet)
Send a one-line command of the form:

SEARCH AAPORNET search-pattern

where "search-pattern" is the key word or phrase of your topic

Example: To search for any and all messages containing the word "peanut"
Send: search aapornet peanut

With speed approaching—as a limit—that of light itself, you will receive
a return message with a list of all passages containing "peanut" and the
relevant context (usually a few sentences) and the "log####" filename,
should you wish to retrieve the original message in its entirety. To do
so, as recently discussed here, simply send the one-line command, again to
listproc (*NOT* to aapornet)

get aapornet logyydd

substituting the year for yy (99 for 1999, 00 for 2000, etc.), and the
date for dd (01 for the first, 11 for the eleventh, etc.), so that, for
example, to search the log for December 1999, use

get aapornet log9912

Here's an actual example, the result of a search for the word "peanut"
on AAPORNET:

>From listproc@usc.edu Mon Mar 13 08:40:41 2000
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 08:34:53 PST
From: "CREN ListProcessor(tm) at USC" <listproc@usc.edu>
To: beniger@rcf.usc.edu
Subject: SEARCH AAPORNET peanut

Matches for pattern 'peanut'...

--- Archive: aapornet (path: aapornet)

>>> File log9812:
> >items such as butter, jelly, peanut butter and even cold cuts.
<<< End of matches in file log9812

>>> File log9902:
which brand of peanut butter you prefer. The problem is that won't =
The grocery store may give you a deal on peanut butter, for instance, =
<<< End of matches in file log9902

>>> File log9908:
rating. I guess teeth and peanuts were considered a sufficiently
are still prevalent today). "Dumb hick peanut farmers" do not become
rating. I guess teeth and peanuts were considered a
"I guess teeth and peanuts were considered a sufficiently interesting
My earlier comment about teeth and peanuts was a bit glib, but not intended
for that matter a fan of peanuts (and I voted for Carter).
> are still prevalent today). "Dumb hick peanut farmers" do not become
> rating. I guess teeth and peanuts were considered a
    My earlier comment about teeth and peanuts was a bit glib, but
    for that matter a fan of peanuts (and I voted for Carter).
> are still prevalent today). "Dumb hick peanut farmers" do not
> rating. I guess teeth and peanuts were considered a
My earlier comment about teeth and peanuts was a bit glib, but not intended
for that matter a fan of peanuts (and I voted for Carter).
> My earlier comment about teeth and peanuts was a bit glib, but not intended
> for that matter a fan of peanuts (and I voted for Carter).
>> are still prevalent today). "Dumb hick peanut farmers" do not become
>> rating. I guess teeth and peanuts were considered a
Subject: "Peanuts" on Opinion Research
Those of you whose local newspaper carries "Peanuts" should take a look
(http://www.unitedmedia.com/comics/peanuts/) next Tuesday, where the
<<< End of matches in file log9908

To search a phrase, do *not* put it in quotation marks. In order to
search "drop out"--for example--send (again to listproc, *NOT to
aapornet):

    search aapornet drop out

Here's the actual example, the result of a search for the phrase "drop
out" on AAPORNET:

>From listproc@usc.edu Mon Mar 13 09:04:51 2000
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 08:49:19 PST
From: "CREN ListProcessor(tm) at USC" <listproc@usc.edu>
To: beniger@rcf.usc.edu
Subject: SEARCH aapornet drop out

Matches for pattern 'drop out'...

--- Archive: aapornet (path: aapornet)

>>> File log9810:
ideology scale). If conservatives are more likely to drop out, of course,
more likely to drop out, of course, non-response bias would result.
<<< End of matches in file log9810

>>> File log9811:
than 6'0" (Tsongas - one of the first to drop out).
> than 6'0" (Tsongas - one of the first to drop out).
> than 6'0" (Tsongas - one of the first to drop out).
> than 6'0" (Tsongas - one of the first to drop out).
>> than 6'0" (Tsongas - one of the first to drop out).
>> than 6'0" (Tsongas - one of the first to drop out).
>> than 6'0" (Tsongas - one of the first to drop out).
<<< End of matches in file log9811

>>> File log9911:
all of us members, or else they soon drop out, for lack of the deference
support as reason enough to drop out of the race,
subsequent lack of financial support as reason enough to drop out
<<< End of matches in file log9911

>>> File log9911:

This is hardly as much fun as Web surfing, I'm afraid, but it is at least
more convenient than a trip to the material AAPOR archives--even if you
happen to work at NORC, University of Chicago. -- Jim

*****

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Mon Mar 13 09:44:20 2000
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.19.167])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id JAA15024 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:44:20 -0800
(PST)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
   by almaak.usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id JAA17250 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:44:19 -0800
(PST)
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:44:19 -0800 (PST)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: ADD: How to Search AAPORNET...
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10003130934230.15375-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

ADD: How to Search the AAPORNET Archives by Topic

In the passage below, I hope it is as obvious to you as it was to me,
just after pushing my "send" key, that in writing "date" I really meant
to write "month"--as in the example which immediately followed
for December 1999, use get aapornet log9912
   -- Jim

get aapornet logyydd

substituting the year for yy (99 for 1999, 00 for 2000, etc.), and the
date for dd (01 for the first, 11 for the eleventh, etc.), so that, for
example, to search the log for December 1999, use

get aapornet log9912

*****

>From RFINK@NYMC.EDU Mon Mar 13 09:44:44 2000
Received: from mail.nymc.edu (mail.nymc.edu [198.242.81.200])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id JAA15364 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:44:43 -0800
(PST)
Received: by MAIL with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
   id <G5CT7HDN>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 12:41:38 -0500
Message-ID: <8C3E01568EC0D311AF0600508B0CC32B02105E20@MAIL>
From: FINK RAYMOND <RFINK@NYMC.EDU>
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
A number of medical and mental health screening questionnaires have telephone administered modalities and I recall seeing some at a conference sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health. I believe one of the instruments, Prime MD, developed by Dr Robert Spitzer at the NY State Psychiatric Institute is adapted for that. He can be reached at 212 543-5524.

Does anyone know of any research on having respondents answer telephone survey questions by punching their answer into their telephone's keypad (e.g. press 1 if you agree, press 2 if you disagree)?

If you can convince respondents that the interviewer will not see the answer (and convince you cati system to actually work that way) it seems like it might be a good way to get around sensitive questions that a respondent might not feel comfortable answering out loud.

Many thanks,

Martin Barron
SUNY Stony Brook
mbarron@ic.sunysb.edu

>From jdfranz@earthlink.net Mon Mar 13 09:52:22 2000
Received: from snipe.prod.itd.earthlink.net (snipe.prod.itd.earthlink.net [207.217.120.62])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMT
    id JAA21460 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:52:22 -0800 (PST)
Received: from jdf (sdn-ar-020casfrMP124.dialsprint.net [158.252.248.126])
    by snipe.prod.itd.earthlink.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id JAA09440;
    Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:52:19 -0800 (PST)
Message-ID: <38CD299B.423A@earthlink.net>
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 09:47:07 -0800
From: Jennifer Franz <jdfranz@earthlink.net>
Reply-To: jdfranz@earthlink.net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.0C-NSCP (Win95; U)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
CC: cohnh@pbworld.com, widby@pbworld.com
Subject: Federally-Funded Focus Groups
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
On a federally-funded engagement, we have been informed that focus group screening questionnaires and moderator's outlines need to go through OMB review. We have also been advised that participants in the groups cannot be compensated. Does this conform with the experience of others out there?

Jennifer Franz  
JD Franz Research

---Original Message-----
From: FINK RAYMOND [mailto:RFINK@NYMC.EDU]  
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2000 12:42 PM  
To: 'aapornet@usc.edu'  
Subject: RE: touch-tone dialing and sensitive questions

A number of medical and mental health screening questionnaires have telephone administered modalities and I recall seeing some at a conference sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health. I believe one of the instruments, Prime MD, developed by Dr Robert Spitzer at the NY State Psychiatric Institute is adapted for that. He can be reached at 212
Does anyone know of any research on having respondents answer telephone survey questions by punching their answer into their telephone's keypad (e.g. press 1 if you agree, press 2 if you disagree)?

If you can convince respondents that the interviewer will not see the answer (and convince you cati system to actually work that way) it seems like it might be a good way to get around sensitive questions that a respondent might not feel comfortable answering out loud.

Many thanks,

Martin Barron
SUNY Stony Brook
mbarron@ic.sunysb.edu

>From kneuman@intouchsurvey.com Mon Mar 13 11:44:20 2000
Received: from router.dmz.intouchsurvey.com (gate.intouchsurvey.com [206.191.25.226])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id LAA03501 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 11:44:18 -0800 (PST)
Received: (from mail@localhost)
    by router.dmz.intouchsurvey.com (8.8.4/8.8.4)
    id TAA14745 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 19:43:21 GMT
X-Authentication-Warning: router.dmz.intouchsurvey.com: mail set sender to
    <kneuman@intouchsurvey.com> using -f
Received: from unknown(172.16.0.96) by router.dmz.intouchsurvey.com via smap
    (V2.0)
    id xma014743; Mon, 13 Mar 00 19:43:19 GMT
Received: by localhost with Microsoft MAPI; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 14:47:25 -0500
Message-ID: <01BF8CFB.0BDF5D0.kneuman@intouchsurvey.com>
From: Keith Neuman <kneuman@intouchsurvey.com>
To: "aapornet@usc.edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: touch-tone dialing and sensitive questions
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 14:47:24 -0500
X-Mailer: Microsoft Internet E-mail/MAPI - 8.0.0.4211

Re: Martin Barron's query,

In fact, there is quite an established methodology, and industry, known typically as "integrated voice response" or "IVR", which does exactly as Martin describes. Much of this work is for customer satisfaction or service evaluation projects, although my company is currently using IVR to do employee surveys for a large financial institution here in Canada.

I am not aware of any research, however, that specifically evaluated the effectiveness of this method relative to others in eliciting responses to sensitive questions--I would certainly be interested in hearing about such
Does anyone know of any research on having respondents answer telephone survey questions by punching their answer into their telephone's keypad (e.g. press 1 if you agree, press 2 if you disagree)?

If you can convince respondents that the interviewer will not see the answer (and convince you cati system to actually work that way) it seems like it might be a good way to get around sensitive questions that a respondent might not feel comfortable answering out loud.

Many thanks,

Martin Barron
SUNY Stony Brook
mbarron@ic.sunysb.edu
candidates may have similarities, like they both seem to lend support to the elite model of governance, but as people start looking at the candidates by the issues they'll find big differences.

In DC, we've noticed a few already: When Bush was recently asked by a TV anchor if he supported DC Home Rule and voting rights, he tensed up and said he was opposed to both (later he found out Home Rule means DC remains a federal reservation, changed his position, and issued a press release supporting Home Rule but not voting rights; local Republicans scurried to "educate" him). Gore, on the other hand, supports both. Bush has refused to meet with DC Log Cabin Republicans (gay/lesbian) even though some prominent gay Republicans actively support him. In addition, whomever is President will appoint DC's judges, so that's something we think about. Bush supports the death penalty, something popular in his state (TX), and pushed our way by Kay Bailey Hutchinson from TX, but it is not a big hit in DC given the racial questions. People here can only imagine what could happen to DC if "radical" and southern Republicans (and southern Democrats) in the House and Senate combined forces with President Bush, whose father AND grandfather have known histories here.

These specific issues may not be important to others in the country, but I'm sure each individual's list of important differences will grow over the next few months as they look at local and personal impacts. The guys are very different kinds of yuppies.

I suspect this campaign will get ugly. Gore can taste the Presidency, as can the Republican Party. Business interests seem to despise Gore with a passion, and I know loyal Democrats who were looking at McCain because of fear that Gore's appointments would be "over the edge" (i.e., ideological). So Bush will have lots of money coming his way to stop Gore's train. I believe, like Bush, Gore has family experience in failed Presidential campaigns..., so the desire to win with both is very deep and personal. I think Gore would destroy Bush in a debate--so I expect the debates will be limited.

cheers, mark richards

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of Jan Werner
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2000 1:48 PM
To: AAPORNENET
Subject: Re: J. Crew vs. Banana Republic?

Frank Rich is neither particularly funny nor, for that matter, particularly original as it seems a large segment of the punditry (to say nothing of the late night comics) have taken up this line on Bush and Gore--see this week's Economist, for example.

Once again, as with Monica Lewinsky, it appears that the pundits are way out of sync with the mass of public opinion, who actually seem to want something more than entertainment value from their leaders, and to prefer a candidate with broad, if bland, appeal, to someone who speaks vividly for a narrow constituency.

If you think that there isn't much difference between the two
contenders, just remind yourself that the next president is likely to nominate between one and three justices to the Supreme Court.

Jan Werner

James Beniger wrote:
> As a fair description of current public opinion about the final eight months of the U.S. presidential campaign, I find it difficult to top the following two paragraphs from "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," New York Times columnist Frank Rich's Journal entry, "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," on this morning's Times Op-Ed page. If you are feeling at all blue, you might not want to read this until your spirits lift..... -- Jim

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Eight months to go -- but hey, who's counting? -- and we're stranded with two establishment, tightly scripted, often robotic candidates who are about as different from one another as J. Crew and Banana Republic. Both are wealthy, Ivy-League-educated boomers who took safe paths through the Vietnam War, whose career advancement was greased by their dads, who advertise their intimacy with Jesus, who reek of smarmy soft money and who will do anything to win, whether it be Mr. Gore's lying about his own Congressional voting record in a debate or Mr. Bush's heartless exploitation of women's fears of breast cancer in a scurrilous attack ad.

In the true Clinton manner, both are also chameleons, ready to don new guises in a flash -- from Mr. Gore's down-home wardrobe to Mr. Bush's last-minute emergence as a champion of campaign finance reform, patients' rights and clean air. The substantive disputes between the men are, in truth, minimal in a prosperous post-cold-war era when both parties aspire to Rockefeller Republicanism (literally so in that each standard-bearer is the prince of a brand-name American dynasty). If this is going to be a campaign about issues, it may all come down to the environment, gun control, Roe v. Wade and, most of all, who's least likely to screw up the economy, stupid. Bill Clinton's low personal-approval but high job-approval ratings (still in the Reaganesque 60's) don't suggest Clinton fatigue so much as a convincing mandate for Clintonism without Clinton.
I thought Frank Rich's column was a) tongue in cheek and b) about Bush/Gore similarities, not their differences. Lighten up a little. It was not serious analysis, or punditry.

warren mitofsky

At 07:53 AM 3/13/00 -0800, you wrote:
> Mr. Rich's column is uninformed, tactless, and basically useless. In other words, it is the very embodiment of post-Watergate political journalism, or in this case "journihilism". The two candidates differ markedly on virtually all aspects of taxation and spending as well as the use of the current surplus. They differ on the role of the federal government in the social life of the American people including providing health care, funding education, and maintenance of "safety net" programs. They differ on oil drilling in environmentally sensitive areas, the possibility of "global warming", and the use of federal lands for logging, grazing, and mineral removal. Given their advisors and differential depth of experience, one can also assume a major divergence in the conduct of foreign policy. All Mr. Rich has accomplished is to inform his readership that he is intellectually lazy and therefore hardly worth considering a "political pundit''.
>
> The Webster's dictionary notes that "pundit" has a Hindi origin and gives the following 3 definitions: 1) a Brahmanic scholar, 2) a learned person, 3) an authority or critic. Modern political essayists (to put it kindly) seem to relish only the "critic" part of the definition, thus rendering "political pundit" a modern oxymoron. The modern "political pundit" seems only interested in complaining and stirring up controversy (presumably to sell papers), and neither is accomplished with any great literacy, research, or depth of thought. I believe "pundits" are particularly incensed by
Clinton and his derivatives because of his lack of ideology, which tends to make the job of analysis more difficult. It also changes the focus from "how much does the politician's proposals conform to his ideology" to "how does his proposal help solve the problem being addressed". Unfortunately for the "pundits" modern problems are quite complex and do not easily reduce themselves to simple thoughts, simple solutions, and by extension simple columns to write. If Mr. Rich wants me to read him, then he will just have to work for a living.

Lance M. Pollack, Ph.D.
Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)
University of California, San Francisco
lpollack@psg.ucsf.edu

-----Original Message-----
From: James Beniger [SMTP:beniger@rcf.usc.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2000 10:14 AM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: J. Crew vs. Banana Republic?

As a fair description of current public opinion about the final eight months of the U.S. presidential campaign, I find it difficult to top the following two paragraphs from "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," New York Times columnist Frank Rich's Journal entry, "J. Crew vs. Banana Republic," on this morning's Times Op-Ed page. If you are feeling at all blue, you might not want to read this until your spirits lift.....

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Eight months to go -- but hey, who's counting? -- and we're stranded with two establishment, tightly scripted, often robotic candidates who are about as different from one another as J. Crew and Banana Republic. Both are wealthy, Ivy-League-educated boomers who took safe paths through the Vietnam War, whose career advancement was greased by their dads, who advertise their intimacy with Jesus, who reek of smarmy soft money and who will do anything to win, whether it be Mr. Gore's lying about his own Congressional...
voting record in a debate or Mr. Bush's heartless exploitation of women's fears of breast cancer in a scurrilous attack ad.

In the true Clinton manner, both are also chameleons, ready to don new guises in a flash -- from Mr. Gore's down-home wardrobe to Mr. Bush's last-minute emergence as a champion of campaign finance reform, patients' rights and clean air. The substantive disputes between the men are, in truth, minimal in a prosperous post-cold-war era when both parties aspire to Rockefeller Republicanism (literally so in that each standard-bearer is the prince of a brand-name American dynasty). If this is going to be a campaign about issues, it may all come down to the environment, gun control, Roe v. Wade and, most of all, who's least likely to screw up the economy, stupid. Bill Clinton's low personal-approval but high job-approval ratings (still in the Reaganesque 60's) don't suggest Clinton fatigue so much as a convincing mandate for Clintonism without Clinton.

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

212 980-3031 Phone
212 980-3107 FAX
mitofsky@mindspring.com
>From jmm@uclink4.berkeley.edu Mon Mar 13 17:37:51 2000
Received: from uclink4.berkeley.edu (uclink4.Berkeley.EDU [128.32.25.39]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id RAA28513 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 17:37:51 -0800 (PST)
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000313172025.0155a400@uclink4.berkeley.edu>
X-Sender: jmm@uclink4.berkeley.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 17:36:32 -0800
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Joel Moskowitz <jmm@uclink4.berkeley.edu>
Subject: Re: touch-tone dialing and sensitive questions
About 10 years ago we did a randomized survey methods study in which adolescents could respond by telephone keypad (if they had a touchtone phone) in one of three conditions. We did not try to convince respondents that the interviewer couldn't see their responses as that would have been a lie. We used this method so others in the household couldn't tell how the kids responded because our focus groups suggested that kids were more concerned about household members hearing their responses than interviewers. We found no evidence that kids would be more likely to report alcohol, tobacco or marijuana use with this method as compared to standard CATI or a mail survey. IVR technology did not exist back then.

Currently, we are about to field a randomized methods study in which we're comparing IVR (aka T-ACASI or Telephone-Administered, Computer-Assisted Self-Interviewing) with conventional CATI. The respondents are 12-17 years of age, and the content of the interview is tobacco-related attitudes and behaviors.

At 12:13 PM 3/13/00 -0500, you wrote:
>Does anyone know of any research on having respondents answer telephone survey questions by punching their answer into their telephone's keypad (e.g. press 1 if you agree, press 2 if you disagree)?
>
> If you can convince respondents that the interviewer will not see the answer (and convince you cati system to actually work that way) it seems like it might be a good way to get around sensitive questions that a respondent might not feel comfortable answering out loud.
>
>Many thanks,
>
>Martin Barron
>SUNY Stony Brook
>mbarron@ic.sunysb.edu
>
>==============================================

Joel M. Moskowitz, Ph.D.
Co-Director
Center for Family and Community Health
School of Public Health
University of California, Berkeley
140 Warren Hall
Berkeley, CA  94720-7360

Phone:  510-643-7314
Fax:    510-643-7316
E-mail: jmm@uclink4.berkeley.edu
WWW:    http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH
==============================================
Thank you to all who replied to my recent posting about federally-funded focus groups. The answers I received were extremely diverse and included a request that I keep aapornet posted. I will.

>From rshalpern@mindspring.com Mon Mar 13 20:19:41 2000

Received: from smtp6.mindspring.com (smtp6.mindspring.com [207.69.200.110])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
id UAA25512 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 13 Mar 2000 20:19:40 -0800
(PST)

Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000313215824.00ac64b0@mail.mindspring.com>
X-Sender: rshalpern@mail.mindspring.com
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 2000 22:35:20 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: dick halpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com>
Subject: RE: J. Crew vs. Banana Republic?
In-Reply-To: <71364B64597CD211B02800A0C921A21301857A0B@psg.ucsf.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Lance Pollack's commentary is very much to the point. With a minor bit of editing, it ought to submitted it to the NY Times as a good rebuttal to Rich.

I must also disagree with those who would like to dismiss Frank Rich's comments as being intentionally less than a serious analysis. I don't think we can permit ourselves that luxury given the seriousness of the current political situation and the status of the publication in which his article appeared, namely, The NY Times. It's not far fetched to expect that it will be taken seriously by most readers. Besides, I don't think Frank Rich fancies himself a humorist in the same way, for example, as Maureen Dowd.

Dick Halpern

At 10:53 AM 3/13/00 , you wrote:
Mr. Rich's column is uninformed, tactless, and basically useless. In other words, it is the very embodiment of post-Watergate political journalism, or in this case "journihilism". The two candidates differ markedly on virtually all aspects of taxation and spending as well as the use of the current surplus. They differ on the role of the federal government in the social life of the American people including providing health care, funding education, and maintenance of "safety net" programs. They differ on oil drilling in environmentally sensitive areas, the possibility of "global warming", and the use of federal lands for logging, grazing, and mineral removal. Given their advisors and differential depth of experience, one can also assume a major divergence in the conduct of foreign policy. All Mr. Rich has accomplished is to inform his readership that he is intellectually lazy and therefore hardly worth considering a "political pundit".

The Webster's dictionary notes that "pundit" has a Hindi origin and gives the following 3 definitions: 1) a Brahmanic scholar, 2) a learned person, 3) an authority or critic. Modern political essayists (to put it kindly) seem to relish only the "critic" part of the definition, thus rendering "political pundit" a modern oxymoron. The modern "political pundit" seems only interested in complaining and stirring up controversy (presumably to sell papers), and neither is accomplished with any great literacy, research, or depth of thought. I believe "pundits" are particularly incensed by Clinton and his derivatives because of his lack of ideology, which tends to make the job of analysis more difficult. It also changes the focus from "how much does the politician's proposals conform to his ideology" to "how does his proposal help solve the problem being addressed". Unfortunately for the "pundits" modern problems are quite complex and do not easily reduce themselves to simple thoughts, simple solutions, and by extension simple columns to write. If Mr. Rich wants me to read him, then he will just have to work for a living.

Lance M. Pollack, Ph.D.
Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)
University of California, San Francisco
lpollack@psg.ucsf.edu
It seems that some folks didn't get this email the first time around, so here it is again.

"It's that time again for the annual AAPOR Conference T-Shirt Slogan Contest.

So get those thinking caps on and send in your best ditty by March 22nd.

Voting for the best will begin on March 24th and the winner will receive a $25 gift certificate for the book exhibit at the conference in Portland.

Prior winning entries include: 'Telling American's What They Think Since 1947'; 'If We Want Your Opinion, We'll Ask For It'; 'Without Us, Its Just Your Opinion'"

Please send entries to

TSHIRT2000_1999@YAHOO.COM

Katherine "Kat Lind
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator

======

Katherine "Kat" Lind
Kat_Lind99@yahoo.com

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
http://im.yahoo.com
The Southern Association for Public Opinion Research 2000 Annual Conference will be held on October 5 and 6 in Raleigh, North Carolina. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Merle Black of Emory University, who will make remarks on "The South and the Elections." The conference will also feature two roundtable discussions: Survey Nonresponse: Is the Industry in Crisis? and Good Interviewers: Finding Them and Keeping Them.

We invite you to participate in the SAPOR conference by submitting a presentation proposal (see call for papers at www.irss.unc.edu/sapor). In addition, please encourage your students to submit student-authored papers to the James W. Prothro Student Paper Competition (more info at www.irss.unc.edu/sapor). The deadline for presentation proposals and the student paper competition is June 15, 2000.

Mark your calendar now and plan to join us in Raleigh in October. The SAPOR conference is always lively and friendly, and North Carolina is beautiful in the fall. More conference details and area attractions are available on the SAPOR website: www.irss.unc.edu/sapor.

Beverly B. Wiggins
SAPOR Secretary
Associate Director for Research Development
Odum Institute for Research in Social Science
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University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3355
phone: 919-966-2350
fax: 919-962-4777
email: bwiggins@irss.unc.edu
From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Census articles on policy.com
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 2000 14:05:51 -0500
Message-ID: <NCBBKJCJKPIDCKOFNAEEAEJLCPAA.mark@bisconti.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

There are a number of articles on the census that might be of interest:


Mark Richards
>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Tue Mar 14 12:12:01 2000
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.19.167])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
       id MAA14313 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 14 Mar 2000 12:12:01 -0800
(PST)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
    by almaak.usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
       id MAA18153 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 14 Mar 2000 12:12:00 -0800
(PST)
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 2000 12:12:00 -0800 (PST)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Do you believe in reified constructs?
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10003141156240.16012-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Despite Andy Kohut's sage advice concerning the ontology of McCain voters, USA Today, CNN and Gallup keep interviewing and reporting on these reified constructs, the persistent little buggers...

-- Jim

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March 14, 2000

Survey Suggests Bush Winning Over McCain Voters

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON, Va. -- Texas Gov. George W. Bush holds
a 49 percent to 43 percent lead over Vice President Gore in the latest USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll.

Other recent polls have shown similarly close results, with Bush slightly ahead of Gore and Gore slightly ahead of Bush in two polls released over the weekend.

Bush and Gore have effectively wrapped up the Republican and Democratic nominations for president, even though neither had technically cinched their races heading into today’s primaries in six states.

Bush bested Sen. John McCain of Arizona, who has suspended his campaign, while Gore defeated former Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey, who has withdrawn and endorsed Gore.

With a margin of error of 5 percentage points, the findings published today amount to a slight lead for Bush even though, technically, the lead could be reversed if Bush’s figures were actually 5 points too high and Gore’s 5 points too low.

The new poll found Bush picking up more of the McCain voters.

McCain Republicans went 80 percent to 14 percent for Bush over Gore.

McCain independents broke 46 percent to 37 percent toward Bush.

McCain Democrats favored Gore 76 percent to 13 percent.

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There are three items of interest that we believe you should be aware of:

1) OMB has delayed the release of the final revised Metropolitan Area Standards. Instead, sometime around mid-April, a Federal Register Notice will be issued that will announce another set of proposed Standards for review. You will have at least 30 days to comment. Of course, when this set is available, we will notify you and provide the text. OMB now plans to have the final set of areas released in mid-Summer.

2) On our site (http://members.aol.com/copafs) under What's New, there is detailed information about recently released guidelines for tabulating race data.

3) Also at our site, under Upcoming Events, there is information about a May 9, 2000, seminar hosted by the National Association for Business Economics in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Using Federal Statistics in the Work Place." The seminar will be held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, DC.
From: "Mark Schulman" <M.SCHULMAN@srbi.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Portland 2000 - On the web!
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 usc.edu id MAA05753

55th Annual AAPOR Conference
Portland, Oregon

May 18-21, 2000

Doubletree Hotel -- Janzen Beach & Columbia River

"FACING THE CHALLENGES
OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM"

We're pleased to announce that the Preliminary Program and registration forms are now on the AAPOR web site: www.aapor.org. Click on "Conferences," then click on "Preliminary Program" or "Conference Registration."

You can download the conference and short-course registration forms from that site. This year is a joint AAPOR/WAPOR year. The registration forms include both AAPOR (May 18-21) and WAPOR (May 17-19). Fly out a day early and attend both conferences. You will also be receiving the usual conference registration packet in the mail.

Here are some of the reasons that you'll want to register and reserve your hotel room early:

Internet Polling: Keeping up with the dot-coms: Virtually every major U.S. Internet polling researcher is scheduled to present findings and confront the issues arising from web surveys. Other panels will examine web-tv surveys, web sample design issues, comparisons with telephone surveys, and on-screen issues. John Robinson has also organized a lively session on how the Internet is affecting ourselves and society.

Non-Response: Reflections from Portland '99: A group of leading researchers, led by Bob Groves, will review findings from last year's Non-Response Conference and discuss their implications. In an era of declining response rates, the impact of non-response has been one of the hottest topics not just among researchers, but in the media as well.

Improving Questionnaire Design: Several panels will share their experiences in applying new techniques, including new approaches to cognitive testing, to improve data quality through improved questionnaire design.

Census 2000 Update: Ken Prewitt, U.S. Census Director, will be reviewing the Bureau's daily surveys which are tracking the impact of the the Bureau's advertising and informational campaigns to persuade people to complete their questionnaires.

Our Friday plenary, "Linking Public and Leaders: The Impact of the e-Revolution,: The e-Revolution's Impact on Governing" will feature Adam
Clayton Powell III, award-winning journalist and Vice President for Technology at the Freedom Forum. Hear his provocative thoughts about how technology is changing the linkage between citizens and leaders. Panel discussants include Norman Nie and Jim Beniger.

You'll also be able to sharpen your skills by taking some short courses taught by renown experts. These courses include:

- Designing Great Questionnaires, Part II, with Jon Krosnick, Thursday, May 18, 2 - 6 pm, fee: $90

- Introduction to Weighting for Surveys, with J. Michael Brick, Thursday, May 18, 2 - 5 pm, fee: $75

- Tailored Design of Mail and Internet Surveys, with Don Dillman, Sunday, May 21, 9 - 12 noon, fee: $125 with text. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE REGISTRATION HAS AN INCORRECT TIME. THE COURSE IS ON SUNDAY MORNING.

In addition, we'll have over 50 panels and roundtables on the election, RDD sample design, strategies for reducing non-response, generational issues, cross-national survey methods, and much more. We'll also have a complete schedule of social events and receptions. Recent authors Marty Plissner and Mike Traugott will hold special short sessions to discuss their new works in our "Meet the Authors" sessions.

Bring your family as well. We have lots of activities for non-attending spouses. Non-attending spouses do not have to pay the conference registration fee or take the meal plan.

We have a few surprises planned! Stay tuned to the web page.

Please register early for the hotel, conference and short-courses. We're expecting a record attendance and may need to limit short-course registration to a first-come first-serve basis.

See you in Portland!

Mark Schulman
AAPOR 2000 Conference Chair
m.schulman@srbi.com
Andy Kohut's piece in the NY Times is beautifully crafted . . .

Andy (or anybody else who knows): What kind of poll results underlie the statement that "Catholics, older voters and young women are having a particularly hard time choosing between [Gore and Bush]?"

Is this based on: percent "don't know," on strength of support, or on the percentage split for the competing candidates within these groups? Or something else?

Is the implication that these are "cross-pressured" groups, shades of Berelson, Lazarsfeld & McPhee?

Tom

Thomas M. Guterbock ................. Voice:(804) 924-6516
Sociology/Center for Survey Research .... FAX: (804) 924-7028
University of Virginia ................
539 Cabell Hall ............................................
Charlottesville, VA 22903 ......... e-mail: TomG@virginia.edu

---

Sunday, May 21st 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Tailored Design of Mail and Internet Surveys, with Don A. Dillman

This short course will present an overview of the need to tailor the design of self-administered surveys to populations and situations in order to maximize response quality. Principles for the visual layout, design and implementation of paper and Internet surveys that are described in Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design Method will be discussed. The "Tailored Design" expands upon the total design method to account for-and take advantage of- innovations such as electronic mail and the World Wide Web. This short course is designed to augment the content of the book. The text is included as part of the course fee.

The Instructor

Don A. Dillman is Professor of Sociology and Rural Sociology and Deputy Director of the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center at Washington State University. In addition, Dr. Dillman serves as a senior scientist for the Gallup Organization and between 1991 and 1995 served as the Senior Survey Methodologist, U.S. Bureau of the Census. A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Statistical Association, his book Mail and Telephone Surveys: The Total Design Method has been recognized by the Institute for Scientific Information as a "Citation Classic."

Fee: $125 Fee includes text.

Thursday, May 18th 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Introduction to Weighting for Surveys, with J. Michael Brick

The course is a nontechnical overview of important topics for weighting sample surveys. The types of weighting will be described and the reasons for doing each type will be explained. The methods of implementing weighting will be outlined without the use of sophisticated mathematical formulations. The effects of weights on the estimates, including a discussion on the failure to use weights, will be demonstrated. The presentation will define terminology used in weighting, such as calibration weights, and related this to the practice of weighting. The principles and practices will be related to those used in well-known sample surveys such as the Current Population Survey and the National Household Education Survey.

About the Instructor:

J. Michael Brick is a Vice President at Westat and Research Associate Professor at the Joint Program in Survey Methodology and is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association. Dr. Brick has over 25 years experience in sample design and estimation for a wide variety of sample surveys, including RDD, in-person household samples and establishment samples of schools, hospitals, and employers. He has taught topics of weighting and variance estimation to a variety of audiences.

Fee: $75

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Designing Great Questionnaires, Part II, with Jon Krosnick

Every questionnaire designer's goal is to build items that produce maximally reliable and valid measurements. And since the beginning of this century, social scientists have conducted thousands of studies comparing different item designs in order to understand which yield the most reliable and valid assessments. In an investigative project lasting ten years, Jon Krosnick has located these studies and pulled them together in a forthcoming book that makes surprisingly powerful recommendations about the best ways to design questionnaires. As a follow-up to his short course two years ago at AAPOR, Dr. Krosnick will present a summary of his findings concerning social desirability response bias, response order effects, no-opinion filters, question wording, and question ordering. The emphasis will be on practical recommendations of how to design questionnaires to minimize cost and maximize respondent satisfaction and data quality.

The Instructor

Winner of the Erik H. Erikson Early Career Award for Excellence and Creativity in the Field of Political Psychology, Jon Krosnick is Professor of Psychology and Political Science at the Ohio State University. Dr. Krosnick has published more than 70 articles on methods to maximize the quality of data collected through surveys, on how public attitudes on political issues are formed and changed, and on the social and cognitive forces shaping political activism and voting behavior. He serves on the Board of Overseers of the National Election Study, and he has lectured on survey research methods at the General Accounting Office, the Census Bureau, the Internal Revenue Service, universities, and commercial firms.

Fee: $100

###

>From lf9@columbia.edu Wed Mar 15 07:43:01 2000
Received: from aloha.cc.columbia.edu (IDENT:cu58474@aloha.cc.columbia.edu [128.59.59.134])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id HAA23625 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 15 Mar 2000 07:43:01 -0800 (PST)
Received: from localhost by aloha.cc.columbia.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP
    id KAA27385 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 15 Mar 2000 10:43:00 -0500 (EST)
From: Lewis Freeman <lf9@columbia.edu>
Sender: lf9@columbia.edu
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Unique Opportunity to Participate in ECA conference next month
Message-ID:
    <Pine.GSO.4.10.10003151042000.14019-100000@aloha.cc.columbia.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
Dear Colleagues,

I'd like to ask your help spreading the word about a unique opportunity to participate in the ECA conference next month in Pittsburgh.

About the session:

"PARTICIPATORY SESSION ON [THE ARCHITECTURE OF] SCHOLARSHIP: CONSTRUCTING & DECONSTRUCTING THE PROCESS OF ACADEMIC WORK"

THURSDAY, April 27, 2000, 4:15-5:30 p.m.; Pittsburgh, PA

This session gives people an opportunity to attend ECA as official participants in the conference (even at this late date). Please circulate this notice/opportunity to anyone who is going to ECA but is not on a panel as well as to people who aren't going to ECA but might attend if they were on the Program.

This special ECA program will allow for conference attendees to share ideas about the structure/process of their academic work. The session takes place immediate after a panel discussion in which this topic will be addressed by the following scholars: Deborah Borisoff, NYU; James Carey, Columbia U.; Gary Gumpert, Communication Landscapers; Robert Ivie, Indiana U.; and Stuart Sigman, Emerson College.

Participation in this session is open to all and is not limited to a fixed number. Panelists who wish to be listed in the conference program supplement should contact Lewis Freeman <mailto:LF9@columbia.edu> by April 1, 2000, with a brief indication/draft of their replies to one or more of the following questions:

-What inspires your work?
-From what sources do you gain insights useful in your work?
-How do you set up the "architecture" of your academic files?
-How do you structure your research?
-In what ways do you communicate with colleagues about your work?
-How do you go about the process of writing?

Panelists should not prepare formal papers. Instead, your replies to these questions will focus our discussion on how we structure our work.

NOTE: The special nature of the follow-up session offers graduate students and faculty the opportunity to participate on a panel at the conference and be added to the conference program as late at April 1.

Please join us and encourage your colleagues & students to take advantage of this opportunity.

Likewise, please inform your colleagues in other fields; this topic is broad enough to allow participation from scholars in other fields and individuals at all levels in their academic careers (from undergraduate through emeritus).

The ECA preliminary program is available at: <http://www.jmu.edu/orgs/eca>

Thank you for your help,
FYI:

For those of you heading to Portland, OR for the AAPOR conference May 18-21 - now may be the best time to buy airline tickets.

I priced a ticket from South Carolina last week for $650 and this week it is less than $300 for the exact same flights. I would expect such great fares won't last long.

Katherine Lind
AAPOR Social Coordinator

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.  
http://im.yahoo.com
I priced a ticket from South Carolina last week for $650 and this week it is less than $300 for the exact same flights. I would expect such great fares won't last long.

Try going to Expedia.com: today I saw on their web site discounts of $100 are being offered during the month of March only, for using certain airlines.

Milton Goldsamt
miltgold@aol.com

From rgodfrey@facstaff.wisc.edu Wed Mar 15 19:24:04 2000
Received: from mail1.doit.wisc.edu (mail1.doit.wisc.edu [144.92.9.40])
 by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
 id TAA16497 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 15 Mar 2000 19:23:44 -0800 (PST)
Received: from [24.10.212.149] by mail1.doit.wisc.edu
 id VAA153262 (8.9.1/50); Wed, 15 Mar 2000 21:23:42 -0600
Mime-Version: 1.0
X-Sender: rgodfrey@students.wisc.edu
Message-Id: <p04310100b4f6040781d3@[24.10.212.149]>
In-Reply-To: <Pine.SOL.4.10.10003151006270.23802-100000@centipede.gpcc.itd.umich.edu>
References: <Pine.SOL.4.10.10003151006270.23802-100000@centipede.gpcc.itd.umich.edu>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Robert Godfrey <rgodfrey@facstaff.wisc.edu>
Subject: Young Voters Log On
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format="flowed"

Young Voters Log On (Politics 3:00 a.m. PST)
http://www.wired.com/news/politics/0,1283,34845,00.html?tw=wn20000311
   The Arizona Democratic Primary lured young voters because of its
   online voting component. Party leaders and officials from other states
   say this important block of voters could get hooked on politics. Lynn
   Burke reports from Tempe, Arizona.

>From oneil@speedchoice.com Wed Mar 15 21:55:07 2000
Received: from mail.phoenix.speedchoice.com (mail.phoenix.speedchoice.com
 [24.221.59.115]) by mail.phoenix.speedchoice.com (8.9.3/)
 with SMTP id WAA16640 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 15 Mar 2000 22:54:04 -0700 (MST)
Message-ID: <003701bf8f0c$a7e2c760$733bd18@phoenix.speedchoice.com>
From: "Michael O'Neil" <oneil@speedchoice.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
References: <20000315174212.12314.qmail@web705.mail.yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Airfares to Portland
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Southwest has internet fares of $99 or less each way. Must purchase by March 22 for flights thru August (i.e., including AAPOR dates). See www.southwest.com and click on SPECIAL OFFERS then INTERNET FARES.

Bon Voyage!

Mike O’Neil

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Kat Lind <kat_lind99@yahoo.com> 
To: <aapornet@usc.edu> 
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2000 10:42 AM 
Subject: Airfares to Portland

> FYI:
> >
> > For those of you heading to Portland, OR for the AAPOR conference May 18-21 - now may be the best time to buy airline tickets.
> >
> > I priced a ticket from South Carolina last week for $650 and this week it is less than $300 for the exact same flights. I would expect such great fares won't last long.
> >
> > Katherine Lind
> > AAPOR Social Coordinator
> >
> > Do You Yahoo!?
> > Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
> > http://im.yahoo.com
>

From lavrakas.1@osu.edu Thu Mar 16 03:51:30 2000
Received: from mail1.uts.ohio-state.edu (mail1.uts.ohio-state.edu [128.146.214.30]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id DAA06014 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 16 Mar 2000 03:51:29 -0800 (PST)
Received: from pjl1 (pjl1.sbs.ohio-state.edu [128.146.93.67]) by mail1.uts.ohio-state.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id GAA23997 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 16 Mar 2000 06:51:28 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <2.2.32.20000316115126.0074e2f8@pop.service.ohio-state.edu>
X-Sender: lavrakas.1@pop.service.ohio-state.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Pro Version 2.2 (32) 
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 2000 06:51:26 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: "Paul J. Lavrakas, Ph.D." <lavrakas.1@osu.edu>
Subject: Re: Airfares to Portland

I would expect that Paul Betty (Conference Operations Committee chair) will be sharing information about conference travel as soon as possible with AAPORites. Including letting us know which airlines is AAPOR's preferred choice (lower fares and travel credit for AAPOR)....

At 09:42 AM 3/15/00 -0800, you wrote:
> FYI:
>   >For those of you heading to Portland, OR for the AAPOR conference May 18-21 - now may be the best time to buy airline tickets.
>   >I priced a ticket from South Carolina last week for >$650 and this week it is less than $300 for the exact >same flights. I would expect such great fares won't >last long.
>   >Katherine Lind
>   >AAPOR Social Coordinator
>   >
>   >Do You Yahoo!?
>   >Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
>   >http://im.yahoo.com
>   >
>   >From cporter@hp.ufl.edu Thu Mar 16 05:56:58 2000
>Received: from makalu.hp.ufl.edu (makalu.hp.ufl.edu [128.227.11.150])
>   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
>      id FAA26373 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 16 Mar 2000 05:56:57 -0800
>      (PST)
>Received: from hp.ufl.edu (hp.ufl.edu [128.227.11.149])
>   by makalu.hp.ufl.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id IAA30143
>      for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 16 Mar 2000 08:56:56 -0500
>Received: from K2/SpoolDir by hp.ufl.edu (Mercury 1.47);
>     16 Mar 00 08:56:55 -0500
>Received: from SpoolDir by K2 (Mercury 1.47); 16 Mar 00 08:56:51 -0500
>From: "Colleen K. Porter" <cporter@hp.ufl.edu>
>To: aapornet@usc.edu
>Date: Thu, 16 Mar 2000 08:56:50 -0500
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
>Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
>Subject: Re: Young Voters Log On
>Message-ID: <38D0A1D0.25976.3E33D65=localhost>
>In-reply-to: <p04310100b4f6040781d3@[24.10.212.149]>
>References:
>   <Pine.SOL.4.10.10003151006270.23802-100000@centipede.jpcc.ltd.umich.edu>
>X-mailer: Pegasus Mail for Win32 (v3.12c)

On 15 Mar 2000, at 21:23, Robert Godfrey wrote:

> Young Voters Log On (Politics 3:00 a.m. PST)
The Arizona Democratic Primary lured young voters because of its online voting component. Party leaders and officials from other states say this important block of voters could get hooked on politics. [...] I took my 18-year-old daughter to vote in Tuesday's election, which was a city commission contest as well as the presidential primary. She appreciated having someone to explain the process and show her where to sign in, etc.

She admitted that the reason she had registered to vote is that they were giving away pizza at a campus registration drive.

Oh well. Whatever works.

Colleen

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

Look at www.aapor.org for additional Conference information.

TRAVEL AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE 2000 CONFERENCE
A Joint WAPOR and AAPOR Year

Paul Beatty and Shap Wolf, Conference Operations Committee
HOTEL

RESERVATIONS. The Doubletree-Jantzen Beach and its adjacent sister hotel, the Doubletree Columbia River, should be able to accommodate everyone who wants to stay there. However, the hotel is only obligated to hold rooms until April 20, 2000. Please make your reservations promptly. Call the hotel directly at 503.283.4466 or 800.222.8733. Fax your reservation to: 503.283.4743. When reserving your room, be sure to identify yourself with "AAPOR" or the "American Association for Public Opinion Research." Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. Check-out time is 12:00 noon. Guaranteed reservations must be cancelled by 3:00 p.m. on day of arrival to avoid being charged first night's room & tax. Failure to check-in on scheduled arrival date will result in all nights originally reserved being cancelled.

HOTEL RATES. The per person rates for the 2000 conference (includes room, meals, meal gratuities, and taxes -- Full American Plan/FAP). Choices are: $186 for a single, $134 for a double, $117 for a triple (3 people, 2 beds), $108 for a quad (4 people, 2 beds). The single daily rate represents a room rate of $105.00, an occupancy tax of $10.20, and an inclusive meal rate of $70.80. WAPOR attendees will receive this rate on the first day of the WAPOR conference, May 17, as well as the following days -- if continuing to participate in the joint conference.

MEALS. Your room rate at the Doubletree Hotel includes a Full American meal Plan. As in previous years, if you stay at the Doubletree while attending the conference, you are required to purchase the room-plus-meal package. (Children and spouses, who are not attending the conference, may share your room without participating in the meal plan.) The FAP begins with dinner on the day you arrive and includes breakfast and lunch the next day. There are no refunds for missed group meals.

Conference attendees who arrive early on May 16, 17 (and are not attending WAPOR), or are staying after on May 22 or 23, will receive a rate of $105.00 for a single and $115.00 for a double, plus tax (does not include meals).

TRANSPORTATION

AAPOR has selected Conventions in America (CIA) as its official travel agency for the 2000 conference. Their services are available at no cost to AAPOR members. Members are not obligated to use CIA, but there are several advantages to doing so. CIA has obtained discounts on our 2000 preferred airline and car rental agency below their published rates, and AAPOR earns free airline tickets based on bookings made through CIA. These tickets are used to reduce conference site selection costs.

You may reach Conventions in America at 1.800.929.4242. Please mention Group #235 when making reservations. You may also reach them at www.stellaraccess.com (first-time users must register and refer to Group #235)

Airlines. United Airlines is offering 5%-10% discounts on their lowest available fares, with an additional 5% discount with minimum 60 day advance purchase. Travel between May 15-24, 2000. You may call CIA at 1.800.929.4242; or if you prefer to call United, they can be reached at
1.800.521.4041 (mention file #567JU)

Rental cars. Alamo Rent-a-Car rates start as low as $33/day for economy models or $145/week with unlimited free mileage. These can be booked through CIA at 1.800.929.4242; or if you prefer, you can reach Alamo directly at 1.800.732.3232 (mention ID #609421)

Other Ground Transportation -- Doubletree Hotel Shuttle Service. Our hotel provides shuttle service to and from Portland International Airport (about 12 miles from the hotel). Shuttles run every half-hour, 10 minutes after the hour, beginning at 6:10 a.m. and ending at 11:10 p.m. The shuttle service is located near the airline luggage claim.

---

Belden Russonello & Stewart is looking for a research/administrative assistant in our Washington, DC office. We are a survey research, focus group, and strategic consulting firm located at Dupont Circle. The position offers the opportunity to work directly with the firm's partners on research projects (preparing questionnaires, pretesting, making tables, editing reports, etc.), as well as office functions.

Our clients include Democratic candidates and the nation's environmental, education and other progressive non profit organizations, from Greenpeace, The Nature Conservancy, the National Trust for Historic...
Preservation, the Union of Concerned Scientists, to the Education Commission of the States, the ACLU, Catholics for Free Choice, NEA and AARP.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone just finishing a degree and/or with experience in an office or survey research setting. Requirements: bachelors degree, excellent English and math skills. Self starter and team player. Advanced computer skills would be a major plus.

Please send resume and cover letter or email me for more information:

nancybelden@brspoll.com

Nancy Belden
Belden Russonello & Stewart
1320 19th Street NW Suite 700
Washington, DC  20036
setting.

Requirements: bachelors degree, excellent English = and=major/minor=20
skills. Self starter and team player. Advanced computer skills = would be a=20
major plus. </DIV>

Please send resume and cover letter or email me = for more=20
information:

Nancy Belden
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Washington, DC=20

nancybelden@brspoll.com

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Washington, DC=20

nancybelden@brspoll.com

------=_NextPart_000_0011_01BF8F9C.6B928DA0--

>From pbeatty@umich.edu Thu Mar 16 10:25:12 2000
Received: from berzerk.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (smtp@berzerk.gpcc.itd.umich.edu [141.211.2.162])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id KAA11340 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 16 Mar 2000 10:25:11 -0800 (PST)
Received: from seawolf.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (smtp@seawolf.gpcc.itd.umich.edu [141.211.2.153])
  by berzerk.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (8.8.8/4.3-mailhub) with ESMTP id NAA15196
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 16 Mar 2000 13:24:48 -0500 (EST)
Received: from localhost (pbeatty@localhost)
  by seawolf.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (8.8.8/5.1-client) with ESMTP id NAA23866
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 16 Mar 2000 13:25:11 -0500 (EST)
Precedence: first-class
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 2000 13:25:11 -0500 (EST)
From: Paul Beatty <pbeatty@umich.edu>
X-Sender: pbeatty@seawolf.gpcc.itd.umich.edu
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: AAPOR Travel service through "Conventions in America"
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.4.10.10003161254480.12464-100000@seawolf.gpcc.itd.umich.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

****** From the Conference Operations Committee***************

This is a follow-up on the travel guidelines to Portland that were sent over AAPORNET earlier today (and that are also included in the pre-conference mailing which you should receive any time now).

We mentioned in these announcements that AAPOR has made arrangements with a group called "Conventions in America" (CIA) as our official travel agent. At no additional cost to AAPORites, CIA can make reservations on
AAPOR's preferred airlines and car rental agencies (which for the 2000 conference are United Airlines and Alamo Rent-a-Car). To use this free service, all you need to do is call 1-800-929-4242 and mention Group 235.

There are several advantages to doing this. First, CIA claims that they can provide an additional 5-10% on the lowest applicable fares on these carriers. Second, AAPOR earns complimentary travel when our members book through this service. This is very helpful for minimizing the costs of AAPOR site selection and conference planning trips.

No one is obligated to use CIA, of course. And if you prefer to book travel on your own, AAPOR can still receive credit for travel on these carriers. United can be reached directly at 1-800-521-4041 (refer to file #567JU) and Alamo can be reached directly at 1-800-732-3232 (refer to ID #60921).

I hope you'll try out Conventions in America and give them a chance to prove that they can provide the best rates and good service to AAPOR.

Paul Beatty
Chair, Conference Operations Committee

>From worc@mori.com Sat Mar 18 15:00:28 2000
Received: from anchor-post-32.mail.demon.net (anchor-post-32.mail.demon.net [194.217.242.90])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id PAA16600 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 18 Mar 2000 15:00:16 -0800
(PST)
Received: from worc.demon.co.uk ([194.222.4.107] helo=worc)
  by anchor-post-32.mail.demon.net with smtp (Exim 2.12 #1)
  id 12WSCV-0001Nm-0W
  for aapornet@usc.edu; Sat, 18 Mar 2000 23:00:08 +0000
Message-ID: <000601bf912d$e4909660$6b04dec2@worc.demon.co.uk>
From: "Robert M Worcester" <worc@mori.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Info from Conference Operations
Date: Sat, 18 Mar 2000 20:56:11 -0000
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.3110.1
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3

You might want to note that the hotel service leaves something to be desired. I've just rung, and told the switchboard operator that I wished to speak to advance reservations, and that I was calling from London, England. The next thing I heard was a voice message saying that they were busy and I should be answered "within the next five minutes". Hope this isn't indicative of how they intend to treat us there! I rang back to complain,
and hopefully be put through to the desk or somebody human, but to no avail. The operator said that "they are not able to take reservations there".

I'll try the fax!

-----Original Message-----
From: Marlene Bednarz <mbednarz@umich.edu>
To: aapornet@usc.edu <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: 16 March 2000 15:10
Subject: Info from Conference Operations

>Look at www.aapor.org for additional Conference information.
>-----------------------------
>TRAVEL AND HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS AT THE 2000 CONFERENCE
>A Joint WAPOR and AAPOR Year
>
>Paul Beatty and Shap Wolf, Conference Operations Committee
>
>HOTEL
>
>RESERVATIONS. The Doubletree-Jantzen Beach and its adjacent sister hotel, the Doubletree Columbia River, should be able to accommodate everyone who wants to stay there. However, the hotel is only obligated to hold rooms until April 20, 2000. Please make your reservations promptly. Call the hotel directly at 503.283.4466 or 800.222.8733. Fax your reservation to: 503.283.4743. When reserving your room, be sure to identify yourself with "AAPOR" or the "American Association for Public Opinion Research."
>Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. Check-out time is 12:00 noon. Guaranteed reservations must be cancelled by 3:00 p.m. on day of arrival to avoid being charged first night's room & tax. Failure to check-in on scheduled arrival date will result in all nights originally reserved being cancelled.
>
>HOTEL RATES. The per person rates for the 2000 conference (includes room, meals, meal gratuities, and taxes -- Full American Plan/FAP). Choices are: $186 for a single, $134 for a double, $117 for a triple (3 people, 2 beds), $108 for a quad (4 people, 2 beds). The single daily rate represents a room rate of $105.00, an occupancy tax of $10.20, and an inclusive meal rate of $70.80. WAPOR attendees will receive this rate on the first day of the WAPOR conference, May 17, as well as the following days -- if continuing to participate in the joint conference.
>
>MEALS. Your room rate at the Doubletree Hotel includes a Full American meal Plan. As in previous years, if you stay at the Doubletree while attending the conference, you are required to purchase the room-plus-meal package. (Children and spouses, who are not attending the conference, may share your room without participating in the meal plan.) The FAP begins with dinner on the day you arrive and includes breakfast and lunch the next day. There are no refunds for missed group meals.
>
>Conference attendees who arrive early on May 16, 17 (and are not attending WAPOR), or are staying after on May 22 or 23, will receive a rate of $105. for a single and $115.00 for a double, plus tax (does not include meals).
>
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Airlines. United Airlines is offering 5%-10% discounts on their lowest available fares, with an additional 5% discount with minimum 60 day advance purchase. Travel between May 15-24, 2000. You may call CIA at 1.800.929.4242; or if you prefer to call United, they can be reached at 1.800.521.4041 (mention file #567JU)

Rental cars. Alamo Rent-a-Car rates start as low as $33/day for economy models or $145/week with unlimited free mileage. These can be booked through CIA at 1.800.929.4242; or if you prefer, you can reach Alamo directly at 1.800.732.3232 (mention ID #609421)

Other Ground Transportation -- Doubletree Hotel Shuttle Service. Our hotel provides shuttle service to and from Portland International Airport (about 12 miles from the hotel). Shuttles run every half-hour, 10 minutes after the hour, beginning at 6:10 a.m. and ending at 11:10 p.m. The shuttle service is located near the airline luggage claim.

FROM RoniRosner@aol.com Sat Mar 18 15:31:29 2000
Received: from imo26.mx.aol.com (imo26.mx.aol.com [152.163.225.70]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id PAA23366 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 18 Mar 2000 15:31:28 -0800 (PST)
From: RoniRosner@aol.com
Received: from RoniRosner@aol.com
by imo26.mx.aol.com (mail out v25.3.) id 5.29.29a42be (9492) for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 18 Mar 2000 18:30:47 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <29.29a42be.26056ba7@aol.com>
Date: Sat, 18 Mar 2000 18:30:47 EST
Subject: IMPROVING RESPONDENT COOPERATION: 3/30 NYAAPOR Workshop
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 43

NEW YORK AAPOR, the MEDIA STUDIES CENTER, and CMOR present an Afternoon Workshop

Date ............................... Thursday, 30 March 2000
Presentation ..................... 2:00 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m.
IMPROVING RESPONDENT COOPERATION:
A Workshop with CMOR Leaders
Diane Bowers .... CMOR president, CASRO executive director
Jane Sheppard ... CMOR director of respondent cooperation
Dave Spangler .... CMOR director of marketing & member services
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So, reserve now! E-MAIL RONI ROSNER (ronirosner@aol.com), or call if you must (212/722-5333).

Return the form below with your cheque by Thurs., 23 March. Pre-paid fees are on the return form below. Fees at the door are: $50 (members), $65 (nonmembers), $30 (student members), $40 (student nonmembers, HLMs). Sorry, no refund but you can send someone in your place.

I will attend the NYAAPOR afternoon workshop on Thursday, 30 March 2000 with _______ additional guests.

NAME: ____________________________________________
OFFICE PHONE: ___________________________________
HOME PHONE: ____________________________________
E-MAIL: _________________________________________
AFFILIATION: ____________________________________
GUEST'S NAME: _________________________________

PREPAID FEES:
MEMBERS: $40 ___ NONMEMBERS: $55 ___ STUDENT MEMBERS:
$25 ___ STUDENT NONMEMBERS, HLMs: $35 ___

Send form and cheque payable to NYAAPOR by 23 March to:
Roni Rosner 1235 Park Avenue/Suite #7C New York, NY 10128-1759?
> You might want to note that the hotel service leaves something to be 
> desired. I've just rung, and told the switchboard operator that I wished 
> to 
> speak to advance reservations, and that I was calling from London, 
> England. 
> The next thing I heard was a voice message saying that they were busy and 
> I 
> should be answered "within the next five minutes". Hope this isn't 
> indicative of how they intend to treat us there! I rang back to complain, 
> and hopefully be put through to the desk or somebody human, but to no 
> avail. 
> The operator said that "they are not able to take reservations there". 
> >
> **I'll try the fax!**
> >
> From: Marlene Bednarz <mbednarz@umich.edu> 
> To: aapornet@usc.edu <aapornet@usc.edu> 
> Date: 16 March 2000 15:10 
> Subject: Info from Conference Operations 
> >
> > >Look at www.aapor.org for additional Conference information. 
> > >----------------------------- 
> > >TRAVEL AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE 2000 CONFERENCE 
> > >A Joint WAPOR and AAPOR Year 
> >>
> >Paul Beatty and Shap Wolf, Conference Operations Committee
> > > > > >HOTEL
> > > > > >RESERVATIONS. The Doubletree-Jantzen Beach and its adjacent sister hotel, the Doubletree Columbia River, should be able to accommodate everyone who wants to stay there. However, the hotel is only obligated to hold rooms until April 20, 2000. Please make your reservations promptly. Call the hotel directly at 503.283.4466 or 800.222.8733. Fax your reservation to: 503.283.4743. When reserving your room, be sure to identify yourself with "AAPOR" or the "American Association for Public Opinion Research."
> > > > > >Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. Check-out time is 12:00 noon. Guaranteed reservations must be cancelled by 3:00 p.m. on day of arrival to avoid being charged first night's room & tax. Failure to check-in on scheduled arrival date will result in all nights originally reserved being cancelled.
> > > > > >HOTEL RATES. The per person rates for the 2000 conference (includes room, meals, meal gratuities, and taxes -- Full American Plan/FAP). Choices are: $186 for a single, $134 for a double, $117 for a triple (3 people, 2 beds), $108 for a quad (4 people, 2 beds). The single daily rate represents a room rate of $105.00, an occupancy tax of $10.20, and an inclusive meal rate of $70.80. WAPOR attendees will receive this rate on the first day of the WAPOR conference, May 17, as well as the following days -- if continuing to participate in the joint conference.
> > > > > >MEALS. Your room rate at the Doubletree Hotel includes a Full American meal Plan. As in previous years, if you stay at the Doubletree while attending the conference, you are required to purchase the room-plus-meal package. (Children and spouses, who are not attending the conference, may share your room without participating in the meal plan.) The FAP begins with dinner on the day you arrive and includes breakfast and lunch the next day. There are no refunds for missed group meals.
> > > > > >TRANSPORTATION
> > > > > >AAPOR has selected Conventions in America (CIA) as its official travel agency for the 2000 conference. Their services are available at no cost to AAPOR members. Members are not obligated to use CIA, but there are several advantages to doing so. CIA has obtained discounts on our 2000 preferred airline and car rental agency below their published rates, and AAPOR earns free airline tickets based on bookings made through CIA. These tickets are used to reduce conference site selection costs.
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Place ............................. Newseum/NY (The Media Studies Center)
                                  580 Madison Ave. (56-57th Sts.)/Auditorium

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Roni Rosner  1235 Park Avenue/Suite #7C  New York, NY 10128-1759

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FROM mbednarz@umich.edu Mon Mar 20 07:49:29 2000
Received: from donkeykong.gpcc.itd.umich.edu
  (smtp@donkeykong.gpcc.itd.umich.edu [141.211.2.163])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id HAA27711 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 07:49:28 -0800 (PST)
Received: from qix.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (smtp@qix.gpcc.itd.umich.edu [141.211.2.152])
  by donkeykong.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (smtp@donkeykong.gpcc.itd.umich.edu [141.211.2.163])
  by qix.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (8.8.8/4.3-mailhub) with ESMTP id
  KAA00072 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 07:49:23 -0800 (PST)
Received: from localhost (mbednarz@localhost)
  by qix.gpcc.itd.umich.edu (8.8.8/5.1-client) with ESMTP id KAA26383 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 10:49:02 -0500 (EST)
Precedence: first-class
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 2000 10:49:23 -0500 (EST)
From: Marlene Bednarz <mbednarz@umich.edu>
X-Sender: mbednarz@qix.gpcc.itd.umich.edu
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Request from German Researcher
Message-ID:
Can you help Dr. Ayass? She needs biographical information on Hazel Gaudet Erskine. Dr. Ayass is writing an article about "The People's Choice" by Lazarsfeld, Berelson and Gaudet.

She especially needs place & date of birth (and if applicable, place and date of death) Also her last address.

Thank you.

>From mark@bisconti.com Mon Mar 20 08:13:16 2000
Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id IAA08832 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 08:13:10 -0800
(PST)
Received: from markbri (ip240.washington13.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET
[38.30.214.240]) by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange
Internet Mail Service Version 5.5.2232.9)
  id F6ZZFMBH; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:13:13 -0500
From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: "AAPORNETH" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: census
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:08:54 -0500
Message-ID: <NCBBKJCJKFIDCKOFNAEEMEMICPAA.mark@bisconti.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

Following are a couple of local reactions to the new census forms (from a
local list serve and a local columnist), FYI. mark

###############

Race and the Census
Steph "Human, allegedly" Faul, steph@intr.net

You want to talk about race? Let's talk about the census form, which
resembles some sort of performance art document rather than a meaningful
government inquiry. Nearly all of it is taken up with questions of race,
and not in any logical way: It distinguishes between Japanese and
Korean, but lumps Somalis, Nigerians, and black Americans into one
category and Turks, Danes, and Appalachian whites into another. This is
absurd: "Chinese" is a nationality, while "white" is a skin tone. Both
cover a wide variety of ethnicities.
I told one friend I was planning to check "Other" and write my race in as "Jewish/English." She is of German extraction, and said the whole thing made her so mad she just wrote in "Master." "I know it's offensive," she says, "I was offended." Oh, and the census form also asks for birth date AND age. Surely the first bit of information eliminates the need for the second?

Incensed by the Census Form
Lonna Shafritz, lshafrit@aed.org

I was one of the lucky 1/6 of the population to get the long form. However, in addition to a number of bizarre and/or poorly worded questions, the census publicity and form drive home the fact to DC residents that we are not real citizens of this country, since our information will not have any effect on distribution of representatives. And, adding insult to injury was the request for which state you're from -- I felt like replying "NONE." Happy census-filling out, fellow non-staters.

U.S. Census Cultivates Fiction of Race
By Courtland Milloy

The Washington Post, Sunday, March 19, 2000; Metro Section, Page C01

A question on my U.S. Census survey asked: What is your race?

The possible answers have been expanded this year to 17 and include space to write in "some other race," such as "cablinasian," as golfer Tiger Woods likes to call himself.

A Post colleague, who is white, said he was going to check the black box--just for the hell of it, I suppose.

"What are they going to do, put me in jail?" he asked.

I called the census help line to find out and, sure enough, there was a button to press just for people with "questions about the meaning of race."

"The concept of race reflects self-identification," a recorded voice said. "It does not indicate any clear-cut scientific definition which is biological or genetic in reference. The data for race represents self-classification by people according to the race or races with which they most closely identify."

If that didn't make sense, try figuring out whether you are "Spanish/Hispanic/Latino" or just a plain old Chicano, Puerto Rican or Cuban.

At any rate, my white colleague would not go to jail for being black. As far as the Census Bureau is concerned, if a white person feels closely identified with blacks, so be it. He can be black for a day (or a decade, as the case may be).
It did make me wonder though: How do we really know who’s who out there? And does anybody really care?

In 1995, The Post, Harvard University and the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation conducted a survey in which most white people expressed the belief that blacks made up 23.8 percent of the U.S. population, nearly twice what the census says.

Maybe they were right. Maybe what they were saying is that they realize that there is no such thing as a "white" person, that we are all "colored" to one degree or another with blood from ancestors who can't be accounted for but which we all know have their origins in Africa.

The race category on the census form that really caught my eye was the one that supposedly applied to me. It came with three names attached: "Black, African Am., or Negro." I thought all of those were separate categories, with African Am. being some kind of airline.

African American, on the other hand, is the name most "people of color" prefer, according to recent opinion polls; black is no longer the in word. And speaking of the n-word, what about all of the black rappers who go by that? I can already smell an undercount.

As for "Negro," I hadn't seen one of them since 1968.

Race. What a mess.

Seeing all of the official racial distinctions based on a certain skin tone here and particular texture of hair there was to bear witness to a nation gone bonkers over a figment of its imagination.

Race, as we all know by now, is a biological fiction. It simply doesn't exist. Genetically, human beings are 99.9 percent the same. But we sure do make an awful lot of that .1 percent, mostly a cesspool of racism.

Last week, the U.S. Census Monitoring Board and the accounting firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers released a study estimating that certain metropolitan areas stand to lose $11 billion if the bureau repeats the undercount of 1990. African Americans were undercounted by about 4.4 percent, and Latinos were undercounted by 5 percent, the study noted.

A national campaign is now underway to get African Americans and Latinos to fill out the census forms. But getting an accurate count of people is one thing; counting by race is something else.

What is the point?

A 1992 poll by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies found that most Americans, including blacks and whites, have virtually the same concerns, hopes and dreams. We all want to support our families, send our children to good schools and have adequate health care for the elderly.

Blacks are as likely as whites to invoke the virtues of individual responsibility, according to a Gallop poll, with more blacks than whites believing that black people must work harder to solve their problems and improve the lives of their families and themselves.
Earlier surveys by the Census Bureau found that blacks are the most cohesive group in the United States when it comes to reporting racial data. Only a handful of blacks report themselves as whites, compared with 18 percent of Latinos, the surveys show.

However, this race-based cohesion obscures some fundamental truths about our common humanity. And by emphasising petty distinctions, we sometimes overlook similarities that could form the basis for powerful anti-racist coalitions.

One reason for the racial count in the census is supposedly to give the government a measuring stick to monitor civil rights violations, such as discriminatory lending practices by banks and mortgage companies. If we know how many blacks are living in an area, the theory goes, we can tell if they are being represented proportionally in politics, education and employment.

However, this leaves us with a most destructive paradox: By combating racism this way, we also give credence to the false concept of race, which is at racism's root.

And yet, not to acknowledge race is to allow the forces of racism to go unchecked.

What a mess.

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###

Mark-David RICHARDS
mark@bisconti.com

>From simonetta@artsci.com Mon Mar 20 11:33:11 2000
Received: from as_server.artsci.com
(twsn1-hfc-0252-dldbo38b.rdc1.md.comcastatwork.com [209.219.3.139])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
id LAA26083 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:33:09 -0800
(PST)
Received: by AS_SERVER with Internet Mail Service (5.5.1960.3)
id <HJR584CF>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 14:33:15 -0500
Message-ID: <91E2D5E92CF5D311A81900A0248FC2F36D3F@AS_SERVER>
From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@artsci.com>
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: census
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 2000 14:33:14 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.1960.3)
Content-Type: text/plain

Here are some interesting numbers on what people think of the Census:

http://www.pollingreport.com/news.htm#Census

http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000313.asp

50% say they think the Census Bureau will share the information with
other
government agencies.

60% think hackers will have access to the data.

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

>From Susan.Pinkus@latimes.com Mon Mar 20 11:45:10 2000
Received: from mail01-lax.pilot.net (mail-lax-1.pilot.net [205.139.40.18])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id LAA08999 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:45:09 -0800
(PST)
Received: from mailgw.latimes.com (unknown-c-23-150.latimes.com
  [204.48.23.150]) by mail01-lax.pilot.net with ESMTP id LAA07804 for
  <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:45:07 -0800 (PST)
Received: from pegasus.latimes.com (localhost [127.0.0.1])
  by mailgw.latimes.com (8.9.1/8.9.1) with ESMTP id LAA14381
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:45:06 -0800 (PST)
Received: from vireo.latimes.com (vireo.latimes.com [172.24.18.37])
  by pegasus.latimes.com (Pro-8.9.3/Pro-8.9.3) with ESMTP id LAA29028
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:45:05 -0800 (PST)
Received: by vireo.latimes.com with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
  id <HKKPA78V>; Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:45:05 -0800
Message-ID: <5520FFE1207ED211AC8300805FEA2FF6B56CD5@dove.latimes.com>
From: "Pinkus, Susan" <Susan.Pinkus@latimes.com>
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: IMPROVING RESPONDENT COOPERATION: 3/30 NYAAPOR Workshop
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 2000 11:45:04 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="iso-8859-1"

Is there any way of taping the session for people who cannot attend?

Susan Pinkus

 -----Original Message-----
 From: Streicher, Janet L [SMTP:jstreicher@kpmg.com]
 Sent: Monday, March 20, 2000 5:42 AM
 To: 'aapornet@usc.edu'
 Subject: RE: IMPROVING RESPONDENT COOPERATION: 3/30 NYAAPOR Workshop

 Roni --- Count me in. Thanks,

 Janet L. Streicher
 Director of Market Research Services
 KPMG LLP.
 (201) 505-3609
 jstreicher@kpmg.com

 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: RoniRosner@aol.com [SMTP:RoniRosner@aol.com]
Workshop

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Presentation ................... 2:00 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m.
Place .............................. Newseum/NY (The Media Studies Center)

580 Madison Ave. (56-57th Sts.)/Auditorium

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> HLMs). Sorry, no refund but you can send someone in your place.
> - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
>
> I will attend the NYAAPOR afternoon workshop on Thursday, 30 March
> 2000 with ______ additional guests.
>
> NAME:               ____________________________________
> OFFICE PHONE: ____________________________________
> HOME PHONE:   ____________________________________
> E-MAIL:             ____________________________________
> AFFILIATION:     ____________________________________
> GUEST'S NAME: ____________________________________
>
> PREPAID FEES:
> MEMBERS: $40 ___ NONMEMBERS: $55 ___ STUDENT MEMBERS:
> $25 ___ STUDENT NONMEMBERS, HLMs: $35 ___
>
> Send form and cheque payable to NYAAPOR by 23 March to:
> Roni Rosner   1235 Park Avenue/Suite #7C   New York, NY 10128-1759

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prohibited
   and may be unlawful. When addressed to our clients any opinions or
advice
   contained in this email are subject to the terms and conditions
expressed in
   the governing KPMG client engagement letter.
******************************************************************************
*
Okay. See you tomorrow night.

Roni

---

Several months ago, someone on this listserve suggested google.com as a means of searching subjects. Below is an example of how useful google can be for those who have not tried it.

Can you help Dr. Ayass? She needs biographical information on Hazel Gaudet Erskine. Dr. Ayass is writing an article about "The People's Choice" by Lazarsfeld, Berelson and Gaudet.

She especially needs place & date of birth (and if applicable, place and date of death). Also her last address.

Thank you.
Hadley with Assistance of Hazel and Herta Herzog, The...
Two-step Flow of Communication Theory by Lazarsfeld, Bernard Berelson, and Hazel Gaudet. Published by The People's Choice. New...
Alert:

I just called the Doubletree in Portland to reserve a room for the AAPOR Conference and was told that only 7 rooms were left within the AAPOR block. Other rooms in the hotel were not available at the conference rate.

Book now!
Alert:

I just called the Doubletree in Portland to reserve a room for the AAPOR Conference and was told that only 7 rooms were left within the AAPOR block. Other rooms in the hotel were not available at the conference rate.

Book now!
Have the VNS exit poll data been compiled and is it available anywhere on the web.

For purpose of assessing male/female participation in the primaries, and which party enjoyed more success attracting female voters.

Thanks,

Prof. Patrick Hoey
Suny Nassau
Garden City

HOEYD@SUNYNASSAU.EDU

Another piece of anecdotal evidence for the files:

Yesterday (3/21) I called Conventions in America to book a flight for the conference. Two different representatives informed me that they could not book me a competitive flight on United. The main reason
apparently being that I am coming from a smaller market (Richmond, Virginia). The cheapest flight available was with Delta. However, when I called back the second time (to actually make my reservation after comparing prices on-line), the representative told me that they could no longer get me the flight they had originally quoted. The cheapest available flight was now $50 higher. As I was on the phone I pulled up Expedia.com and found the original flight still available at the cheaper price. Obviously I hung up and ordered on-line (although they actually have an 800 number).

What does this all mean? I'm not sure it means anything more than don't make reservations on March 21 to fly out of Richmond heading to Portland using Conventions in America. On the other hand....we'll have to wait and see.

Also, when making reservations at Doubletree--Jantzen Beach (also yesterday) I was told that all that the only rooms left were single, smoking rooms.

Best of luck to everyone and see you at the conference.

John

--
John C. Fries..................................Voice: (804) 358-8981
Senior Project Director..........................FAX: (804) 358-9701
Southeastern Institute of Research............email: JCF@SIRresearch.com
>From Kristi.Hagen@NAU.EDU Tue Mar 21 14:25:42 2000
Received: from mailgate.nau.edu (mailgate.nau.edu [134.114.96.19]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id OAA07816 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 21 Mar 2000 14:25:41 -0800 (PST)
Received: from conversion.mailgate.nau.edu by mailgate.nau.edu
(PMDF V5.2-32 #39840) id <0FRS00101MAEDU@mailgate.nau.edu> for aapornet@usc.edu; Tue, 21 Mar 2000 15:25:35 -0700 (MST)
Received: from pc102-anthro (pc102.anthro.nau.edu [134.114.66.95]) by mailgate.nau.edu (PMDF V5.2-32 #39840)
with SMTP id <0FRS00JS7MAB7M@mailgate.nau.edu> for aapornet@usc.edu; Tue, 21 Mar 2000 15:25:23 -0700 (MST)
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 2000 15:29:31 -0700
From: "Kristi K. Hagen" <Kristi.Hagen@NAU.EDU>
Subject: Re: AAPOR Conference Alert
In-reply-to: <4.1.20000321144012.00b8ca20@jan.ucc.nau.edu>
X-Sender: kkh3@jan.ucc.nau.edu
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Message-id: <4.1.20000321152844.00a40e10@jan.ucc.nau.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.1
Content-type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="Boundary_(ID_sVYPpnhzBv3w40zujI6iig)"

--Boundary_(ID_sVYPpnhzBv3w40zujI6iig)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Fred, check out this website:
At 02:44 PM 3/21/00 -0700, you wrote:
>
> Alert:
>
> I just called the Doubletree in Portland to reserve
> a room for the AAPOR Conference and was told
> that only 7 rooms were left within the AAPOR
> block. Other rooms in the hotel were not available
> at the conference rate.
>
> Book now!
>
> Fred Solop, Ph.D.
> Director
> Social Research Laboratory
> PO Box 15301
> Northern Arizona University
> Flagstaff, AZ 86011
> E-mail: Fred.Solop@nau.edu
> (520) 523-3135 -- phone
> (520) 523-6654 -- fax
> www.nau.edu/~srl

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Kristi Kay Hagen, MA, MA
Research Operations Manager
Social Research Laboratory
PO Box 15301, College of SBS
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5301
Phone: (520) 523-1515
Fax: (520) 523-6654

--Boundary_ (ID_sVYPpnhzBv3w40zuji6iig)
Content-type: text/html; charset=us-ascii

<html>
Fred, check out this website:<br>
<br>
<a href="http://survey.sesrc.wsu.edu/ifdtc/portland_attractions.htm" eudora="autourl">http://survey.sesrc.wsu.edu/ifdtc/portland_attractions.htm</a><br>
<br>
<br>
At 02:44 PM 3/21/00 -0700, you wrote:

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Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5301
Phone: (520) 523-1515
Fax: (520) 523-6654

--Boundary_(ID_sVYPnhzBv3w40zujI6iig)--

From losch@csbr.csbs.uni.edu Tue Mar 21 14:28:09 2000
Received: from iscssun.uni.edu (iscssun.uni.edu [134.161.14.20])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id OAA09914 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 21 Mar 2000 14:28:06 -0800 (PST)
Received: from csbr.csbs.uni.edu (csbr.csbs.uni.edu [134.161.220.3])
    by iscssun.uni.edu (isscsun.uni.edu [134.161.14.20])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id QAA09148 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 21 Mar 2000 16:27:56 -0600 (CST)
Received: from CSBR/SpoolDir by csbr.csbs.uni.edu (Mercury 1.47);
    21 Mar 00 16:27:56 -0600
Received: from SpoolDir by CSBR (Mercury 1.47); 21 Mar 00 16:27:41 -0600
From: "Mary Losch" <losch@csbr.csbs.uni.edu>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 2000 16:27:32 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
For an additional data point, I called the hotel about a half hour ago (immediately after Fred's alert was posted) and was given no warnings about room availability being limited. I booked 2 single rooms and requested non-smoking. The person booking the rooms made no comment about non-smoking rooms being unavailable. On many other occasions when booking hotels, however, I have been told that a non-smoking preference will be recorded, but cannot be guaranteed.

I'm wondering if all of this means that the meeting will be very well-attended or whether the hotel didn't block as many rooms as were needed...

Mary Losch

Date sent:        Tue, 21 Mar 2000 17:18:18 -0500
Send reply to:    jcf3c@erols.com
From:             "John C. Fries" <jcf3c@erols.com>
To:               aapornet@usc.edu
Subject:          More on Conference Reservations

> Another piece of anecdotal evidence for the files:
> 
> Yesterday (3/21) I called Conventions in America to book a flight for
> the conference. Two different representatives informed me that they
> could not book me a competitive flight on United. The main reason
> apparently being that I am coming from a smaller market (Richmond,
> Virginia). The cheapest flight available was with Delta. However, when
> I called back the second time (to actual make my reservation after
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> longer get me the flight they had originally quoted. The cheapest
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> have an 800 number).
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> make reservations on March 21 to fly out of Richmond heading to Portland
> using Conventions in America. On the other hand....we'll have to wait
> and see.
> 
> Also, when making reservations at Doubletree--Jantzen Beach (also
> yesterday) I was told that all that the only rooms left were single,
> smoking rooms.
> 
> Best of luck to everyone and see you at the conference.
> 
> John
A recruiter called from LA about a research position in the Washington, D.C. metro region--I told her to send an e-mail and I'd post it on AAPORNET.

cheers, mark richards

-----Original Message-----
From: Jeannea Nightingale [mailto:jeannea@jcarson.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2000 5:30 PM
To: mark@bisconti.com
Subject: marketing research opportunity

Sr. Analyst - Marketing Research skills needed for consumer strategy position for real-estate developer in Maryland. Responsibilities include; designing, report writing and analyzing of quantitative and qualitative research projects. Excellent understanding of marketing issues with ability to identify key drivers in the industry. Please contact Jeannea Nightingale at J. Carson & Associates, an executive recruiting firm, at 818 906-3312.
Several members have expressed difficulty making reservations at the Doubletree, and have gotten conflicting information about room availability. We have been in contact with the hotel and are working to get accurate information, and to straighten out their procedures.

I can tell you that we have secured a sizeable room block at the hotel (over 300 rooms per night are guaranteed to AAPOR at our negotiated rate, which is comparable to what we put on reserve every year). We will definitely be the dominant presence at the hotel during our conference—you can count on it being very full of AAPORites for the usual mix of sessions and social activities.

Regarding non-smoking rooms: the Doubletree will do its best to accommodate everyone who prefers a non-smoking room. There are a limited number of them, so please continue to make your reservations as early as possible.

We will continue to use AAPORNET to provide updates. Thanks for your patience as we continue to work things out.

Paul Beatty
Conference Operations Chair
Has anyone had to read this paragraph at the beginning of an interview in studies for a government agency:

"According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid Office of Management and Budget [OMB] control number. The valid OMB number for this information collection is XXXXXXX. The time required to complete this information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information."

Does the government/OMB actually require this paragraph to be read to potential RDD participants in agency studies (even though they have the right to say "no thank you" to begin with)? If so, what impact does this have on response rate?

mark@bisconti.com
Ok you frightened me so I called for a room. I asked for non-smoking and was told that there would be no problem. In fact, she booked me in a room with a view of the river and I have a confirmation number. She mentioned the correct cost and that it included meals. I was amazed and delighted. So, I guess the only thing left is to see it pan out in May. Good Luck everyone.

-----Original Message-----
From: Mary Losch [mailto:losch@csbr.csbs.uni.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2000 5:28 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: More on Conference Reservations

For an additional data point, I called the hotel about a half hour ago (immediately after Fred's alert was posted) and was given no warnings about room availability being limited. I booked 2 single rooms and requested non-smoking. The person booking the rooms made no comment about non-smoking rooms being unavailable. On many other occasions when booking hotels, however, I have been told that a non-smoking preference will be recorded, but cannot be guaranteed.

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Mary Losch

Date sent: Tue, 21 Mar 2000 17:18:18 -0500
Send reply to: jcf3c@erols.com
From: "John C. Fries" <jcf3c@erols.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: More on Conference Reservations

> 
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> > 
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Also, when making reservations at Doubletree--Jantzen Beach (also yesterday) I was told that all that the only rooms left were single, smoking rooms.

Best of luck to everyone and see you at the conference.

John

--
John C. Fries..................................Voice: (804) 358-8981
Senior Project Director.........................FAX: (804) 358-9701
Southeastern Institute of Research..........Richmond, Virginia
Marketing and Opinion Research..........email: JCF@SIRresearch.com

I just booked a room and the reservation person was cordial and made sure I knew about the shuttle from the airport. I am booking a single and she
asked if I wanted one king or two queens and whether I wanted non-smoking or not. She didn't say there weren't any rooms left. I asked if people were calling from AAPOR and she said that she has taken a number of reservations. I think it all depends on who books your room what kind of attitude you get.

Cheers,

Susan

-----Original Message-----
From: Kristi K. Hagen [SMTP:Kristi.Hagen@NAU.EDU]
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2000 2:30 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: AAPOR Conference Alert

Fred, check out this website:

http://survey.sesrc.wsu.edu/ifdtc/portland_attractions.htm
<http://survey.sesrc.wsu.edu/ifdtc/portland_attractions.htm>

At 02:44 PM 3/21/00 -0700, you wrote:

Alert:

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Book now!

Fred Solop, Ph.D.
Director
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E-mail: Fred.Solop@nau.edu
(520) 523-3135 -- phone
(520) 523-6654 -- fax
www.nau.edu/~srl <http://www.nau.edu/~srl>

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Kristi Kay Hagen, MA, MA
Research Operations Manager
Look on the CNN web or NBC or CBS - they all have it on their web sites.

Susan Pinkus

-----Original Message-----
From: DION HOEY [SMTP:hoeyd@sunynassau.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2000 2:05 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: VNS POLLS COMPILLED

Have the VNS exit poll data been compiled and is it available anywhere on the web.

For purpose of assessing male/female participation in the primaries, and which party enjoyed more success attracting female voters.

Thanks,

Prof. Patrick Hoey
Suny Nassau
Garden City

HOEYD@SUNYNASSAU.EDU
The issue of racial identification with respect to the current census is, of course, a matter of concern and seems to be a bit of a mess. But, there seems to be another issue cropping up having to do with the feelings of some that the Census, by nature of the kinds of questions being asked in the long form, is an invasion of privacy and a violation of the Constitution.

Before you laugh, please be aware that this issue is being fanned by talk show host Rush Limbaugh and it seems he's gotten considerable, sympathetic response. I've heard the same concerns expressed by some of my very right wing conservative neighbors. When they get through complaining that the government has no right to ask so many personal questions, they go on to quote the constitution and interpret the wording literally. Their views seem to be triggered by a distrust of the government, particularly the Clinton Administration.

Two quotes from my neighbor:

"How do you feel about the government inspecting your life? And do you really think that the government has the right to ask you these questions - that is the real question. You may feel indifferent now, but if you give up the right to maintain your privacy, what other rights will your government want to take away from you? You consider my side to be a bit paranoid, however, you must take into consideration what your government can do and should do v. what they want to do. Once you begin take away inalienable rights, you can never get them back. If you give up your freedom as granted to you by the constitution chances are you'll never see them again."

"Things change. With the outcomes of Ruby Ridge, Waco and the Clinton administration, Americans are beginning to question who is really in control and why? The question of invasion of privacy (and not legality in the case of Ruby and Waco) becomes forefront due to the lack of honesty
from the government, thus the lack of trust in what they do. The first two that I cited would lend credence to the "waco" end of the country, but the effect of Clinton/Gore, I believe, has had a profound effect on the entire country when it comes to the trust factor.

Has anyone else come across the expression of similar sentiments? It's a bit worrisome.

Dick Halpern

Richard S. Halpern, Ph.D.
Consultant, Strategic Marketing and Opinion Research
Adjunct Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology
3837 Courtyard Drive
Atlanta, GA 30339-4248
rshalpern@mindspring.com
phone/fax 770 434 4121
*****************************************************************
--=====================_5877352==_.ALT
Content-Type: text/html; charset="us-ascii"
<html>
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Dick Halpern

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Dick Halpern

Richard S. Halpern, Ph.D.  Consultant, Strategic Marketing and Opinion Research  Adjunct Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology

3837 Courtyard Drive

Atlanta, GA 30339-4248

rshalpern@mindspring.com

phone/fax 770 434 4121

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

On a recent fed-funded phone survey (STNAP) our project officer clarified that this paragraph appear in the *written* version of the questionnaire. We used CATI, so the agreement was that it need only appear in our final report and any future printed copy of the quex. At no time was it ever
actually read to a respondent over the phone.

At 06:48 PM 3/21/00 -0500, Mark Richards wrote:
>
> Has anyone had to read this paragraph at the beginning of an interview in
> studies for a government agency:
>
> "According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency
> may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to
> respond to, a collection of information unless it has a
> valid Office of Management and Budget [OMB] control number.
> The valid OMB number for this information collection is
> XXXXXXXXX. The time required to complete this information is
> estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the
> time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data
> sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and
> completing and reviewing the collection of information."
>
> Does the government/OMB actually require this paragraph to be read to
> potential RDD participants in agency studies (even though they have the
> right to say "no thank you" to begin with)? If so, what impact does this
> have on response rate?
>
> mark@bisconti.com
>
>
=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=-=
Jim Wolf                Jim-Wolf@worldnet.att.net

I hope this is incorrect and sounds unlikely from my 3 years of past
experience as Conference Operations Committee Chair -- so I hope that Paul
Beatty will apprise AAPORnet about this status.

It also is possible with some hotels to increase the size of the conference
block beyond what is in the original contract which was signed about two
years ago.
At 02:44 PM 3/21/00 -0700, you wrote:
>
> Alert:
>
> I just called the Doubletree in Portland to reserve
> a room for the AAPOR Conference and was told
> that only 7 rooms were left within the AAPOR
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> Fred Solop, Ph.D.
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> <html><div>Alert:</div></html>
> <br>
> I just called the Doubletree in Portland to reserve</div>
> <div>a room for the AAPOR Conference and was told</div>
> <div>that only 7 rooms were left within the AAPOR</div>
> <div>block. Other rooms in the hotel were not available</div>
> <div>at the conference rate.</div>
Mark,

Although not having a great deal of experience with surveys requiring OMB approval, I have found that in instances where we have requested considerable variance from the "default" wording which you list below, it has been granted.

The arguments to OMB that appear effective is the damage/burden that reading all this text explicitly will cause when placed into the first 1/2 minute of contact with the household/respondent and that it thereby would hurt the quality of the data the government is funding by lowering the response rate. It also is important to be able to document that an assurance of confidentiality and voluntary consent (at least implicit) is central to introduction spiel.

At 06:48 PM 3/21/00 -0500, you wrote:

> Has anyone had to read this paragraph at the beginning of an interview in studies for a government agency:

> "According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid Office of Management and Budget [OMB] control number. The valid OMB number for this information collection is XXXXXXXXXX. The time required to complete this information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information."
Does the government/OMB actually require this paragraph to be read to potential RDD participants in agency studies (even though they have the right to say "no thank you" to begin with)? If so, what impact does this have on response rate?

mark@bisconti.com

From KropfM@umkc.edu Wed Mar 22 08:40:36 2000
Received: from UMKC-MAIL01.umkc.edu (email.exchange.umkc.edu [134.193.71.1])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA17726 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 22 Mar 2000 08:40:35 -0800
(PST)
Received: by umkc-mail01 with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
    id <HJ6P429X>; Wed, 22 Mar 2000 10:40:33 -0600
Message-ID: <95A711A70065D111B58C00609451555C04FC18B9@UMKC-MAIL02>
From: "Kropf, Martha E." <KropfM@umkc.edu>
To: "aapornet@usc.edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Census, Privacy and the Constitution
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 2000 10:40:30 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"

Speaking of invasions of privacy and the Census: there was an article in the Kansas City Star this week about how the Census Bureau helped round up Japanese-American citizens in the 1940s. The article mentioned that the Census Bureau told federal officials that there were X Japanese-Americans living in certain blocks.

Is this just a scare tactic from the same conservative types that Dick mentions, or did this really happen?

Just curious...

-----Original Message-----
From: dick halpern [mailto:rshalpern@mindspring.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2000 9:45 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Census, Privacy and the Constitution

The issue of racial identification with respect to the current census is, of course, a matter of concern and seems to be a bit of a mess. But, there seems to be another issue cropping up having to do with the feelings of some that the Census, by nature of the kinds of questions being asked in the
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Has anyone else come across the expression of similar sentiments? It's a bit worrisome.

Dick Halpern

*****************************************************************
Richard S. Halpern, Ph.D.
Consultant, Strategic Marketing and Opinion Research
Adjunct Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology
3837 Courtyard Drive
Atlanta, GA 30339-4248
SWR Worldwide (www.swrworldwide.com), a fast growing international marketing and public affairs research company headquartered in Washington, DC (with offices in Boston and London), is seeking three to four research professionals with a minimum of two years experience. The responsibilities of these positions will include managing some, or even all, aspects of a project from initial client meetings, development and fielding of the questionnaire, data analysis, writing of the summary report and presentation of the results and key findings.

The ideal candidate should have good people skills, be detail-oriented and self-motivated, with the ability to handle multiple tasks in a fast-paced environment. Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint are essential.

We offer excellent salary with bonus potential. Benefits package includes 401(k) with employer match, employer-paid medical and dental insurance and a stock purchase plan.

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has offices around the world, SWR undertakes many fascinating projects on all continents.

Please mail, fax or email cover letter and resume, which should include salary requirements to:
Cwilson@Shandwick.com <mailto:Cwilson@Shnadwick.com>

Chris Wilson
President & COO
SWR Worldwide
700 Thirteenth Street, NW
Suite 250
Washington, DC 20005
Fax: 202-628-3601

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> certain blocks.
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> > or did this really happen?
> > Just curious...
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: dick halpern [mailto:rshalpern@mindspring.com]

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

---
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
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> Adjunct Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology
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> Atlanta, GA 30339-4248
> rshalpern@mindspring.com
> phone/fax 770 434 4121
> ******************************************************************

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Content-Type: text/x-vcard; charset=us-ascii;
name="efreelan.vcf"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Description: Card for Edward Freeland
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tel;fax:609 258-1985
tel;work:609 258-1854
x-mozilla-html:FALSE
org:Princeton University;Survey Research Center
version:2.1
email;internet:efreelan@princeton.edu
title:Associate Director
adr;quoted-printable:;;202 Robertson Hall=0D=0APrinceton
University=0D=0A;Princeton;NJ;08544-1013;
x-mozilla-cpt:;0
fn:Edward Freeland
end:vcard

--------------CD9EF851CE28316E5F2A1C3C--

>From MNicholson@air.org Wed Mar 22 09:46:35 2000
Received: from firewall.air-dc.org (firewall-user@[208.246.68.129])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id JAA17011 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 22 Mar 2000 09:46:34 -0800
   (PST)
Received: by firewall.air-dc.org; id MAA17421; Thu, 21 Dec 2000 12:42:58
   -0500 (EST)
Received: from unknown(10.4.0.4) by firewall.air-dc.org via smap (V4.2)
   id xma017223; Thu, 21 Dec 00 12:42:29 -0500
Received: by DC1 with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
   id <1SF063LP>; Wed, 22 Mar 2000 12:43:03 -0500
Message-ID: <1D09884C7BCAD211A82F0090273015180141FC620DC2>
From: "Nicholson, Marsha" <MNicholson@air.org>
The following position is currently available:

RESEARCH SCIENTIST

The John C. Flanagan Research Center of the American Institutes for Research, located in Palo Alto, CA, is seeking an experienced researcher for a position in the Cognitive Survey Laboratory. Applicants must have strong methodological skills in the areas of survey research and/or cognitive research. Applicants must also have demonstrated success in conceptualizing research and policy studies, securing funding for such studies, and managing such studies.

Responsibilities

Persons hired will be responsible for writing sections of research proposals, collecting and analyzing data, writing research reports, bringing in research funds, and supervising other staff in completion of project tasks. Persons hired will work closely with other senior research staff and will frequently interact with representatives of sponsor organizations.

Essential Functions

* Develop and apply research protocols for investigation of data collection instruments and procedures.
* Design and conduct research projects (including proposal writing).
* Help prepare technical reports and scholarly articles; present results to sponsoring agencies and at scientific meetings.

Required Knowledge and Experience

* Advanced degree in relevant field plus 2 years experience as a director of research projects.
* Established reputation and expertise in one or more of the following fields: survey research, cognitive science applications, program evaluation and assessment, educational research.
* Ability to work with others as part of a research team.
* Ability to work independently, without close supervision.
Experience in data collection.
* Excellent written and oral communication, analytical, interpersonal, and problem solving skills.

Position Availability and Salary Range

The position is available immediately, but starting date is negotiable. Job title and starting salary are negotiable and will depend on the candidate's education, skills, experience, and other qualifications. Benefits are similar to those offered by institutions of higher education. There will be a three-month provisional period.

Interested applicants should send a résumé or curriculum vitae with cover letter to:

Human Resources Department - EHD/ #54
American Institutes for Research
Roberto Astudillo
Director of Administration and Human Resources
1791 Arastradero Road,
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1337

AIR has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity. In that spirit, we welcome applications from all persons, including women, members of ethnic minorities, and individuals with disabilities.
In a March 17 story, the New York Times reports a summary of a conference paper that discusses the Census Bureau's role in the identification and internment of Japanese-Americans during the second World War. The conference paper "After Pearl Harbor: The Proper Role of Population Data Systems in Time of War" by William Seltzer, Fordham University and Margo Anderson, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, will be presented this Saturday in Los Angeles at the annual conference of the Population Association of America.

According to the published reports of this research, the Census Bureau provided the War Department with detailed counts and demographic-level data about Japanese Americans on a block-level basis.

According to the Times: "We're by law required to keep confidential information by individuals," the [conference] paper quotes the bureau director, J. C. Capt, as saying at a meeting of the Census Advisory Committee in January 1942. But if the defense authorities found 200 Japanese-Americans missing and they wanted the names of the Japanese-Americans in that area, Mr. Capt said, "I would give them further means of checking individuals."

The Times also reports: In 1942, Tom Clark, a Justice Department official working with the War Department, was quoted in the [conference] paper as saying that Census Bureau officials would "lay out on tables maps of various city blocks where Japanese lived and they would tell me how many were living in each block." as saying that violated

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The story is true. The article was probably based on the AP wire story reproduced below. Margo Anderson also described the involvement of the Census Bureau in the WWII internment of Japanese-Americans in her book.
Group Wants Census Bureau Apology

By Genaro C. Armas
Associated Press Writer
Tuesday, March 21, 2000; 2:32 a.m. EST

WASHINGTON Ð The Census Bureau expressed its regrets once again for providing information that helped the military ferret out and detain Japanese-Americans during World War II, and stressed such breaches in confidentiality will never happen again.

A research paper authored by two scholars, professors William Seltzer of Fordham University and Dr. Margo Anderson of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, concluded that the Census Bureau supplied demographic data to the War Department following the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. The data was broken down into geographic units as small as city blocks, the authors said.

The issue has been reported previously, the authors stressed. Nevertheless, their findings again stirred critics who contend the Census Bureau never officially made amends for assisting the military in locating areas of Japanese concentration.

"We ask for the census director to make an apology about that, because it's taken so long for that information to come out," Karen Narasaki, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, said at a news conference Monday.

"We are very disappointed and deeply troubled that the internment of Japanese Americans was actively facilitated by the Census Bureau," she added.

"We deeply regret any role that the Census Bureau played in a really sad, sad (time) in our history," said Martina Hone, associate undersecretary for the Commerce Department, which oversees the Census Bureau. "We want to reassure the community it's not going to happen again."

Bureau director Kenneth Prewitt said Monday the Clinton administration has previously apologized for the government's role in detaining Japanese-Americans during World War II and stands by the apology. Technically, the bureau did not break the law then in effect, he said.
"This is a sad, shameful moment in American political history," Prewitt said. "The Census Bureau's legal obligation and ethical policies would never allow a repeat of what occurred in 1942."

The paper is being distributed Saturday at a conference in Los Angeles of the Population Association of America.

The research paper quotes Dr. Leon Truesdell, then the Census Bureau's chief population statistician, as saying to the Census Advisory Committee in January 1942: "We got a request yesterday, for example, from one of the Navy officers in Los Angeles, wanting figures in more or less geographic detail for the Japanese residents in Los Angeles, and we are getting that out."

During a meeting on Jan. 10, 1942, when senior Census Bureau officials indicated they were already providing the military tract-level data on Japanese-Americans, the paper quotes the bureau director, J.C. Capt, as saying he would give military officials "further means of checking individuals" if they wanted names of Japanese-Americans in the area.

Seltzer noted his paper also said other Census officials took different views over use of demographics to keep track of the population, specifically a then-proposed "population register."

Seltzer quotes Forrest E. Linder, a Census demographer in 1942: "Traditional American thinking regarding freedom of action and thought might consider a mandatory identification register an infringement of that liberty and the beginning of an American 'Gestapo.'"

Prewitt, the bureau's current director, said the agency "cooperated with the war effort by providing special tabulations of the Japanese-American population for counties and county subdivisions." He stressed there is no evidence that individual census records went to the War Department.

The Census Bureau still provides such data today, but it is coded to ensure that individuals' addresses will not be known, he said.

"There's a lot of challenges the Census Bureau faces like saying 'trust us' to the public," said Narasaki, voicing confidence in the bureau's current confidentiality policy. "Our community understands that the information is confidential."
Don't know if this made the news in the 50 states, so will post for those interested.

Currently, three groups are excluded from universal suffrage in U.S.: minors, felons, and D.C. residents. U.S. is the only country calling itself a "democracy" to disenfranchise its capital citizens. In two "long shot" lawsuits filed against the feds in 1998, the D.C. municipal govt. and citizens sought relief from the courts under equal protection of the laws (5th Amendment) and citizens' right to republican form of govt. (Article IV). The two cases were combined and heard together. A three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court ruled against D.C. (1 dissented in part) on Mon., March 21st. The issue, they said, is political--not legal, and is therefore beyond the court's authority. Here is a VERY abbreviated summary of each lawsuit:

(1) Alexander v. Daley (DC Corporation Counsel, and Charles Miller, Attorney, Covington & Burling) filed Sept. 14, 1998, by a "who's who" of D.C. political elites, argued that defendants (agents of the fed. govt.) violate equal protection, due process, and privileges of citizenship by preventing the seating of D.C.'s representatives in Congress, asked court to declare D.C. citizens have a constitutional right to voting rep. in Congress and order the Secretary of Commerce to include D.C. in the apportionment.

(2) Adams v. Clinton (20 DC Citizens, George LaRoche, Attorney) filed June 30, 1998, by 20 DC citizens, argued that DC citizens are entitled to full citizenship rights, that Congress (acting through defendants) violates their rights, and should be ordered to stop enforcing laws that violate rights.

The D.C. govt. was forbidden by Congress (using a rider in the local budget review process) from spending any local taxpayer $ to support the lawsuits.

Though quite different, the Three-Judge Court lumped the cases together as if they were the same and speaking of the parties as if unified on all claims and arguments. This has been called a "foundational error" by the attorney for Adams. The Court subdivided the cases into two sets of claims: claims for representation in the House of Reps and all others. They
discussed the claims for representation in the House and "remanded" all other claims to one judge to decide on his own. That judge—as one of the 3 judges on the Three-Judge Court—dissented from the reasoning and conclusions of the other two judges on the parts of the cases the Three-judge Court kept.

There are three separate memoranda from the court (addressing the Alexander case—they seem to have ignored Adams) at:
http://www.dcd.uscourts.gov/district-court.html

Documents filed by the Plaintiffs (and Defendants!) in the Adams case are located at http://www.dccitizensfordemocracy.org/records.htm

D.C.'s Non-voting Delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton (a Constitutional Lawyer), argues that the "very strong dissenting opinion of Judge Louis Oberdorfer puts District residents in an optimal position to appeal the decision" before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Judge Oberdorfer said "To put it simply, the defendants have failed to persuade me that it is necessary for the Secretary [of Commerce] to exclude the people of the District from apportionment and thus interfere with their voting for a Member of the House of Representatives."

cheers, Mark Richards

>From fisherll@home.com Wed Mar 22 15:24:55 2000
Received: from mail.rdc1.md.home.com (imail@ha1.rdc1.md.home.com [24.2.2.66])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id PAA21795 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 22 Mar 2000 15:24:54 -0800
(PST)
Received: from home.com ([24.7.172.35]) by mail.rdc1.md.home.com
  (InterMail v4.01.01.00 201-229-111) with ESMTP
  id <20000322232452.LIZH13052.mail.rdc1.md.home.com@home.com>
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 22 Mar 2000 15:24:52 -0800
Message-ID: <38D95705.CDSFF697@home.com>
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 2000 18:28:05 -0500
From: Linda Fisher <fisherll@home.com>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.61 [en]C-AtHome0407 (Win98; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: AARP Research Positions
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

AARP, a national non-profit membership organization with 33 million members, seeks accomplished research professionals for key roles at the following levels at our Washington DC headquarters: Senior Research Advisor, Research Analyst, and Research Specialist.

Senior Research Advisors
(2 positions)

The Senior Research Advisor positions involve the design and conduct of complex research projects, including those with high visibility, critical outcomes, high-risk methodologies, and highly constrained
timelines and resources. Will collaborate with clients and stakeholders throughout AARP on all phases of research and consult with these groups and AARP's senior management on the implications of research. Will conceptualize problems, review current research in the field, develop consensus, and create research design and measurement strategies. Will manage data collection and analysis, present findings, and direct contracts for external studies. Will also provide advice, supervision, and/or peer review to other research staff.

One senior position emphasizes legislative issues research at the state and national level, and may require the incumbent to design a program of research in support of legislative or advocacy based strategic activities. (Job Code: EW-3722)

The other senior position requires specialized knowledge and experience in communication research, including social marketing, corporate reputation and brand equity research, message development and testing, and evaluation of the effectiveness of communications and publications. (Job Code: EW-3645)

Both Senior Research Advisor positions require an advanced degree (Ph.D. preferred) and at least 8 years of progressively more responsible professional experience, with extensive applied/field research experience. Knowledge of questionnaire design, survey and qualitative research methodologies, statistical analysis software (SPSS) and research management is essential. Good presentation and communication skills are also required.

Research Analyst
(1 position)

The Research Analyst position involves design, oversight, analysis and reporting on research projects that inform Association decision making or inform external audiences about key issues of concern to our members. Will provide quantitative analysis and technical support in the areas of survey, polling, and evaluation research. Will conduct background research for projects or activities, analyze data, interpret results and write reports. Will participate in conduct of qualitative research projects through interviewing and monitoring focus groups.

The Research Analyst position requires an advanced degree in social/behavioral sciences or marketing research and five years professional research experience with emphasis on survey research, marketing research, or evaluation research. It requires a highly technical knowledge of applied research, experience with statistical analysis software programs such as SPSS, SAS, and WinCross, demonstrated skill in survey, market, and/or evaluation research, and familiarity with multivariate statistical methods such as regression, factor analysis, cluster analysis. It also requires demonstrated writing, editing and communication skills; ability to present complex research issues in a usable format for Association staff, volunteers, researchers, and external audiences; and the ability to review the work of others, closely monitor the work of outside consultants, and manage research project teams.

Research Specialists
Research Specialists are expected to collect, analyze, and present data in various forms, including spreadsheets, charts, graphics or text. Additionally, these positions will assist with survey design and implementation. The positions at this level will be filled on a full-time temporary basis at our Washington DC headquarters, and are funded at least through the end of 2000.

The successful Research Specialist candidate will have a bachelor's degree in social or behavioral science; course work in research methodology, social sciences, gerontology and statistical analysis highly desirable. Two (2) years' experience in the full range of research activities, including library research data collection, statistical analysis and interpretation, graphics preparation and reporting. Working knowledge of and experience with statistical analysis software programs (SPSS), highly desirable. Knowledge of survey and evaluation research methodology, principles, practices and techniques desired; MS Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, & Access) experience required.

AARP provides a competitive salary and excellent benefits including medical/dental, defined benefit pension plan, 401(k) and much more. Please send resume with salary requirements to: AARP, Attn: HRD-[with specific Job Code and title], 601 E. St., NW, Washington, DC 20049; Fax: (202) 434-2809; E-mail (ASCII): resumes@aarp.org EOE. Visit us online at www.aarp.org

Posted to AAPORNET by:
Linda L. Fisher, Ph.D.
Associate Research Director
AARP
601 E. St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20049
lfisher@aarp.org

It was accepted during the 1960s and 1970s that this had occurred. It was
regarded
as a blotch on the escutcheon of the Census Bureau. It was stated that
nothing like
it had happened since. The Census Bureau was (and probably still is)
conscious of
the need to take care not to let individual data escape the strict controls.
I did
hear that the Nixon administration made some attempts to get data on
individuals
from some of the surveys that the Census Bureau conducts, if not the
decennial
census and that the security of the data was not breached.

I did wonder why Seltzer et al wrote their article just at this time.
Perhaps they
thought it was an interesting historical anecdote. But of course just at this
moment it only fuels the doubts that are being sowed by other, less
scrupulous (?)
parties. Someone in AAPOR should check out the statements I've made. As social
researchers we should be ready to speak authoritatively about the issue.

Good thing the issue was raised!

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> > Just curious...
> > -----Original Message-----
> From: dick halpern [mailto:rshalpern@mindspring.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2000 9:45 PM
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: Census, Privacy and the Constitution
> >
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> course, a matter of concern and seems to be a bit of a mess.
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Consultant, Strategic Marketing and Opinion Research
Adjunct Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology
I think the type and number of rooms available may depend upon which nights, or how many nights, one is requesting. I had no trouble getting a nonsmoking room for three nights, but only smoking rooms were available when I inquired about five nights.

Rob Simmons

I am a professor of Graduate institute of Journalism at Taiwan University,
please tell me how to purchase the web survey software from Stanford University, thank you so much. Dennis Peng

>From dneuman@cctr.umkc.edu Thu Mar 23 05:20:25 2000
Received: from ns1.umkc.edu (ns1.umkc.edu [134.193.1.2])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id FAA07427 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 23 Mar 2000 05:20:24 -0800
(PST)
Received: from johncron (dialup4-18.umkc.edu [134.193.24.18])
  by ns1.umkc.edu (8.9.3/8.9.0) with SMTP id HAA12532
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 23 Mar 2000 07:20:22 -0600 (CST)
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X-Sender: neumand/pop3.exchange.umkc.edu@127.0.0.1
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.0.1
Date: Thu, 23 Mar 2000 07:22:51 -0600
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: "Dale A. Neuman" <dneuman@cctr.umkc.edu>
Subject: RE: Census, Privacy and the Constitution
In-Reply-To: <95A711A70065D111B58C00609451555C04FC18B9@UMKC-MAIL02>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:40 AM 3/22/00 -0600, you wrote:
> Speaking of invasions of privacy and the Census: there was an article in
the
> Kansas City Star this week about how the Census Bureau helped round up
> Japanese-American citizens in the 1940s. The article mentioned that the
Census
> Bureau told federal officials that there were X Japanese-Americans living
in
> certain blocks.
>
> Is this just a scare tactic from the same conservative types that Dick
mentions,
> or did this really happen?

I don't know. It is the first time I have heard about it. But the info more
many years was in the public domain so I suspect that the FBI could get it
very easily. The concern over privacy really is more of a post-WWII
phenomenon.
>
> Just curious...
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: dick halpern [mailto:rshalpern@mindspring.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2000 9:45 PM
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: Census, Privacy and the Constitution
> 
> The issue of racial identification with respect to the current census is,
of
> course, a matter of concern and seems to be a bit of a mess.
>
> But, there seems to be another issue cropping up having to do with the
feelings
>of some that the Census, by nature of the kinds of questions being asked in the
>long form, is an invasion of privacy and a violation of the Constitution.
>Before you laugh, please be aware that this issue is being fanned by talk show
>host Rush Limbaugh and it seems he's gotten considerable, sympathetic response.
>I've heard the same concerns expressed by some of my very right wing
>conservative neighbors. When they get through complaining that the government
>has no right to ask so many personal questions, they go on to quote the
>constitution and interpret the wording literally. Their views seem to be
>triggered by a distrust of the government, particularly the Clinton Administration.
>
>Two quotes from my neighbor:
>
>"How do you feel about the government inspecting your life? And do you really
>think that the government has the right to ask you these questions - that is the
>real question. You may feel indifferent now, but if you give up the right to
>maintain your privacy, what other rights will your government want to take away
>from you? You consider my side to be a bit paranoid, however, you must take
>into consideration what your government can do and should do v. what they want
>to do. Once you begin take away inalienable rights, you can never get them back. If you give up your freedom as granted to you by the constitution chances
>are you'll never see them again."
>
>"Things change. With the outcomes of Ruby Ridge, Waco and the Clinton administration, Americans are beginning to question who is really in control and
>why? The question of invasion of privacy (and not legality in the case of Ruby
>and Waco) becomes forefront due to the lack of honesty from the government, thus
>the lack of trust in what they do. The first two that I cited would lend
>credence to the "waco" end of the country, but the effect of Clinton/Gore, I
>believe, has had a profound effect on the entire country when it comes to the
>trust factor."
>
>Has anyone else come across the expression of similar sentiments? It's a bit
>worrisome.
>
>Dick Halpern

>
One source of possible confusion might be that the website at one time said it would be at Doubletree Columbia River. The mailed brochure says Jantzen Beach, and the website currently says both.

Since the facilities are close together, it doesn't really matter to us once we get there (beyond lugging luggage 100 yards if we forget which one our actual room is at.) But it matters to the people booking it at the 800 number.

My assistant was initially told that there was no listing of the conference, which probably meant that it was already full. Turned out she had asked for Columbia River as she was working off an old web printout.

So be sure to ask for the Jantzen Beach.
About the two hotels--Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:

We will have all our meetings, meals, and plenaries at the Doubletree Jantzen Beach. There are just over 300 rooms there, so we have also blocked some rooms at the Doubletree Columbia River, which is adjacent, to handle our overflow.

Reservations should take your AAPOR request and put you into a room in Jantzen Beach until we fill that hotel, then into the Columbia River property. The hotels have similar rooms, amenities, etc.

Shap Wolf
Associate Chair, Conference Operations
About the two hotels--Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:

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Shap Wolf
Associate Chair, Conference Operations
Does the price for staying at the Doubletree Columbia River include the costs of the AAPOR meal plan or not?

Shapard Wolf <shap.wolf@asu.edu> on 03/23/2000 12:41:31 PM

Please respond to aapornet@usc.edu

To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
cc: (bcc: Laurel K Schwede/SRD/HQ/BOC)

Subject: RE: AAPOR Conference Alert

About the two hotels--Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:

We will have all our meetings, meals, and plenaries at the Doubletree Jantzen Beach. There are just over 300 rooms there, so we have also blocked some rooms at the Doubletree Columbia River, which is adjacent, to handle
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Shap Wolf
Associate Chair, Conference Operations

--==0==--uv89mAiZu9x7rvl1AwxtCLaJTwaTT0DlaXPrEud8aqvx6rnpQkYJ3ijH
Content-type: text/html;
  name="att1.htm"
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="att1.htm"
Content-transfer-encoding: base64
Content-Description: Internet HTML

PCFET0NUWBFIEhUTUwgUFVCTEICItLy9XM0MvL0URCBIWE1MIDMuM1IvRU4iPg0KPEhUTUw+
DQo8SEVRBRd4NjcxNTVRBIIEhUFWFVSV91iKXJiIvbniRbnQvTVH1wZSIgQ09OVEVOV0dGV4dC9o
dGlsOyBjafGyc2ZVOPWh3y040DUU5LTEppg0KPE1FVEEgTkFNR0tIR2V0ZJhdgY9i1BTD05URU5U
PSXJNUYeBFeGoYW5zZSBTZXJ2ZV1gdmVyc2lvbi81LWJuYWlyY1M5N19mLjwvRjIj
UE9S1ENvbmlzdGVucmcZLVYyZmc2Nzb1Uu
DQo8TGVuZ3J5OGs+
UE9S1ENvbmlzdGVucmcZLVYyZmc2Nzb1Uu
DQo8L1RJ

--0==--uv89mAiZu9x7rvl1AwxtCLaJTwaTT0DlaXPrEud8aqvx6rnpQkYJ3ijH--
>From M.SCHULMAN@srbi.com Thu Mar 23 10:54:36 2000
Received: from srbi.com (srbi.com [12.14.34.4])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
  id KAA27814 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 23 Mar 2000 10:54:34 -0800
(PST)
Received: from SRBI_NEW_YORK-Message_Server by srbi.com
From: "Mark Schulman" <M.SCHULMAN@srbi.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: RE: AAPOR Conference Alert
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Description: Internet HTML
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: inline
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by usc.edu id KAA27839


The rate at the Doubletree during the conference days, May 18-21, includes all meals.

>>> <Laurel.K.Schwede@ccmail.census.gov> 03/23/00 01:46PM >>>

Does the price for staying at the Doubletree Columbia River include the costs of the AAPOR meal plan or not?

Shapard Wolf <shap.wolf@asu.edu> on 03/23/2000 12:41:31 PM

Please respond to aapornet@usc.edu

To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
cc: (bcc: Laurel K Schwede/SRD/HQ/BOC)

Subject: RE: AAPOR Conference Alert

About the two hotels--Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:

We will have all our meetings, meals, and plenaries at the Doubletree Jantzen Beach. There are just over 300 rooms there, so we have also blocked some rooms at the Doubletree Columbia River, which is adjacent, to handle our overflow.

Reservations should take your AAPOR request and put you into a room in Jantzen Beach until we fill that hotel, then into the Columbia River
property. The hotels have similar rooms, amenities, etc.

Shap Wolf
Associate Chair, Conference Operations

And if you are attending WAPOR, you get the meal plan on May 17, too. Regardless of which Doubletree you are quartered in.

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism  Voice: 919 962-4085
CB 3365 Carroll Hall  Fax: 919 962-1549
University of North Carolina  Cell: 919 906-3425
Chapel Hill NC 27599-3365  http://www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

On Thu, 23 Mar 2000, Mark Schulman wrote:

> Date: Thu, 23 Mar 2000 13:46:07 -0500
> From: Mark Schulman <M.SCHULMAN@srbi.com>
> Reply-To: aapornet@usc.edu
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: RE: AAPOR Conference Alert
> >
> > The rate at the Doubletree during the conference days, May 18-21, includes all meals.
> > >>> <Laurel.K.Schwede@ccmail.census.gov> 03/23/00 01:46PM >>>
> >
> > Does the price for staying at the Doubletree Columbia River include the costs of
> > the AAPOR meal plan or not?
> >
About the two hotels—Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:

We will have all our meetings, meals, and plenaries at the Doubletree Jantzen Beach. There are just over 300 rooms there, so we have also blocked some rooms at the Doubletree Columbia River, which is adjacent, to handle our overflow.

Reservations should take your AAPOR request and put you into a room in Jantzen Beach until we fill that hotel, then into the Columbia River property. The hotels have similar rooms, amenities, etc.

Shap Wolf
Associate Chair, Conference Operations
Is there a reason you copied me on this?

>>> "Mark Schulman" <M.SCHULMAN@srbi.com> 03/23/00 01:46PM >>>
The rate at the Doubletree during the conference days, May 18-21, includes all meals.

>>> <Laurel.K.Schwede@ccmail.census.gov> 03/23/00 01:46PM >>>

Does the price for staying at the Doubletree Columbia River include the costs of the AAPOR meal plan or not?

Shapard Wolf <shap.wolf@asu.edu> on 03/23/2000 12:41:31 PM

Please respond to aapornet@usc.edu

To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>

cc: (bcc: Laurel K Schwede/SRD/HQ/BOC)
About the two hotels—Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:

We will have all our meetings, meals, and plenaries at the Doubletree Jantzen Beach. There are just over 300 rooms there, so we have also blocked some rooms at the Doubletree Columbia River, which is adjacent, to handle our overflow.

Reservations should take your AAPOR request and put you into a room in Jantzen Beach until we fill that hotel, then into the Columbia River property. The hotels have similar rooms, amenities, etc.

Shap Wolf
Associate Chair, Conference Operations

It might also depend on what number you call. I called the toll free number and got a central booking office for Doubletree which told me that all rooms were sold out and I was calling past the deadline for holding rooms. I called the hotel directly and they were able to accommodate me.
Graham Hueber

RSimm32573@aol.com wrote:

> I think the type and number of rooms available may depend upon which
> nights,
> or how many nights, one is requesting. I had no trouble getting a
> nonsmoking
> room for three nights, but only smoking rooms were available when I
> inquired
> about five nights.
> >
> > Rob Simmons

> From mitofsky@mindspring.com Fri Mar 24 04:10:44 2000
> Received: from ares.sovam.com (ares.sovam.com [194.67.1.157])
> by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
> id EAAa1726 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 24 Mar 2000 04:10:42 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: from ts16-a370.dial.sovam.com ([195.239.5.115]:1152 "EHLO warren"
> ident: "NO-IDENT-SERVICE[2]" whoson: "-unregistered-" smtp-auth:
> <none>
> TLS-CIPHER: <none> TLS-PEER: <none>) by ares.sovam.com with ESMTP
> id <S57550AbQCXMKU>; Fri, 24 Mar 2000 15:10:20 +0300
> Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000324070910.00a6c5e0@pop.mindspring.com>
> X-Sender: mitofsky@pop.mindspring.com
> X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
> Date:       Fri, 24 Mar 2000 07:11:25 -0500
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> From: Warren Mitofsky <mitofsky@mindspring.com>
> Subject: Fwd: Internet - Academic Press Dict Science & Technology
> Mime-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I thought the following might be of interest.

>"Academic Press Dictionary of Science and Technology"
>http://www.harcourt.com/dictionary/
> >
> Academic Press along with Harcourt Inc. has made available the
> > Academic Press Dictionary of Science and Technology. The site is
> > designed as a free scientific resource for educators, librarians,
> > students, business professionals, scientists, and researchers. Users
> > can perform a keyword search or browse scientific topics such as
> > Engineering Sciences, Life Sciences, Medicine, Physical Sciences,
> > Mathematics and Computer Science, and Social Sciences. From these
> > broad topics, users can select from over 130 specific fields,
> > bringing up lists of terms for that specialization. Entries include a
> > short description of terms, and some illustrations and .wav
> > recordings of pronunciation. [JEB]
> >
> > **************************************************************
> >**                      BMS                        **
> >** (Bulletin de Methologie Sociologique)    **
> >** (Bulletin of Sociological Methodology)    **
> >** bmsl@ext.jussieu.fr                           **
> >****************************************************
I booked my room at the Columbia River Hotel through the IFD&TConference. Is there a mechanism as in past years to purchase meal tickets for those not staying at Jantzen Beach? I have seen nothing about this in the postings or the mailings.

Thanks.

At 10:41 AM 3/23/00 -0700, you wrote:

> About the two hotels--Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:
> We will have all our meetings, meals, and plenaries at the Doubletree Jantzen Beach. There are just over 300 rooms there, so we have also blocked some rooms at the Doubletree Columbia River, which is adjacent, to handle our overflow.
> Reservations should take your AAPOR request and put you into a room in...
Research Associate Position

The purpose of The Physicians Evaluation of Health Plans (PEHP) project is to produce information on health plan quality from the perspective of the physicians. The survey instrument includes physicians overall assessments of quality of the plan, as well as an evaluation of health plan practices that influence the delivery of care to patients. Consumers, purchasers, physicians and health plan directors should all find this information useful in evaluating and improving the quality of care provided. This position requires knowledge about data management, analysis of survey data, and survey research methods. Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to: developing a database based on data collected from administrative information systems to be used as a sampling frame, implementation of a mail survey (tracking and coordination of administration), data management of survey data, and analysis of survey data. A working knowledge of the following software is required: MS Access, SAS, SPSS and MS Word or WordPerfect. A M.S. degree or higher in social science or related field is preferred.

Contact:

Todd Rockwood
612/625-3993

------------------------------
Todd Rockwood, Ph.D. Assistant Professor
Division of Health Services Research & Policy, University of Minnesota
420 Delaware St SE Box 729
Let the voting begin!

Here are the T-Shirt slogan entries for 2000.

Please send your vote to TSHIRT2000_1999@YAHOO.COM

All votes must be received by Midnight ¥¿ March 29th ¥¿
i.e. next Thursday.

1. Hang up on a pollster. Cut off your nose to spite your face.

2. When America talks, we listen.

3. Click here for the next 20 opinions ¥¿ www.aapor.com
   (with appropriate graphics included)

4. Is that your final answer?

5. When it comes to asking questions, AAPOR should be your FINAL ANSWER.

6. Hang up on a pollster and be sure your opinion won't count.

7. When it comes to asking questions, we KNOW what the definition of ¥¿is¥¿ is.

8. Telemarketers SUCK!

9. Who wants to be a survey researcher?

11. AAPOR: Surveying the New Millenium.

12. Polling: the less you know, the easier to do!

13. AAPOR: We’re not selling anything.

14. (Ticker symbol) then AAPOR: A public company with bullish results

15. (Ticker symbol) then AAPOR: A public company with multiple options

16. Hang up on a pollster. Your opinions don’t matter anyway.

17. Opinion It’s all about you baby!


19. No, we don’t ask Is that your final answer!

20. That’s your opinion!

21. Our policy Do ask, do tell.

22. That’s what you think! AAPOR 2000


24. We have all the questions.

25. Your opinion counts if we count your opinion.

26. Public opinion in this country is everything.

Abraham Lincoln

27. Pollsters are pushy.

28. In search of the unexplained variance.

29. Don’t call us, we’ll call you.

Katherine Lind
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
http://im.yahoo.com
>From mathornberry@davidson.edu Fri Mar 24 09:01:51 2000
I like #18.

-----Original Message-----
From: Kat Lind [mailto:kat_lind99@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2000 11:37 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: T-Shirt Slogans - Let the voting begin!

Let the voting begin!

Here are the T-Shirt slogan entries for 2000.

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All votes must be received by Midnight - March 29th - i.e. next Thursday.

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28. In search of the unexplained variance.

29. Don't call us, we'll call you.

Katherine "Kat" Lind
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU

=====

Katherine "Kat" Lind
Kat_Lind99@yahoo.com
To everyone, could we conduct the voting by responding to one party and not the entire aapornet? We could be inundated in the next few days otherwise.

Louis Cook  
Senior Account Manager  
FGI Research  
(919) 932-8871  
lcook@fginc.com

-----Original Message-----  
From: Thornberry, Mary [mailto:mathornberry@davidson.edu]  
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2000 12:01 PM  
To: 'aapornet@usc.edu'  
Subject: RE: T-Shirt Slogans - Let the voting begin!  

I like #18.

-----Original Message-----  
From: Kat Lind [mailto:kat_lind99@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2000 11:37 AM  
To: aapornet@usc.edu  
Subject: T-Shirt Slogans - Let the voting begin!

Let the voting begin!

Here are the T-Shirt slogan entries for 2000.

Please send your vote to TSHIRT2000_1999@YAHOO.COM

All votes must be received by Midnight - March 29th - i.e. next Thursday.

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2. When America talks, we listen.

3. Click here for the next 20 opinions - www.aapor.com (with appropriate graphics included)

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28. In search of the unexplained variance.

29. Don't call us, we'll call you.

Katherine "Kat" Lind
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU

=====

Katherine "Kat" Lind
Kat_Lind99@yahoo.com

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
http://im.yahoo.com

>From kat_lind99@yahoo.com Fri Mar 24 09:44:24 2000
Received: from web702.mail.yahoo.com (web702.mail.yahoo.com [128.11.23.22])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
id JAA09901 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 24 Mar 2000 09:44:24 -0800 (PST)
Received: (qmail 21351 invoked by uid 60001); 24 Mar 2000 17:44:22 -0000
Message-ID: <20000324174422.21350.qmail@web702.mail.yahoo.com>
Received: from [129.252.103.23] by web702.mail.yahoo.com; Fri, 24 Mar 2000
09:44:22 PST
Date: Fri, 24 Mar 2000 09:44:22 -0800 (PST)
From: Kat Lind <kat_lind99@yahoo.com>
Subject: tshirt voting - email instructions
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Reminder -

I have set up a special email account for you to send your vote to for the T-Shirt slogan.

TSHIRT2000_1999@YAHOO.COM

Please send votes to this address rather than me or aapornet. My mail box is already getting very full.

Also, because there are so many to choose from this year, if there are 2 or 3 that have very close counts, we will have a runoff.

Thanks

Katherine "Kat" Lind
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU
You raise two issues:

1. For AAPOR conference attendees, the Jantzen Beach and Columbia River hotels are the same. If you stay at either one May 18-20, and register for AAPOR, you will pay the Full American Plan rate of $186 (single), room and meals inclusive.

We are aware of the problems many of you have been having with reservations. We are working with the hotel to resolve these. Please email me directly at shap.wolf@asu.edu with any difficulties.

2. Yes, meal tickets will be sold. We do not have an individual meal price breakdown yet; the daily (three meal) total is $70.80.

These would only apply to persons not staying in either Doubletree Hotel, spouses/companions/children staying in your room but not registered for AAPOR's conference, or IFD&TC-only conference attendees arriving early.

However, these extra tickets will only be sold through sometime on Friday, as the hotel requires advance notice of our meal count.

So, if you are flying in Saturday evening for the IFD&TC conference and are only attending the joint AAPOR/IFD&TC sessions on Sunday (or the short course), but not registering for AAPOR, you may buy AAPOR meal tickets for the Saturday evening awards banquet and/or Sunday breakfast and lunch.
We'll have to work out some way to notify us/purchase these tickets by Friday May 19 so that we can guarantee the count.

Thanks for bringing this to our attention; I'll post back here when we know the answers.

Shap Wolf
Associate Chair, Conference Operations
shap.wolf@asu.edu

-----Original Message-----
From: Ronald E. Langley [mailto:langley@pop.uky.edu]
Sent: Friday, 24 March, 2000 06:42 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: AAPOR Conference Alert

I booked my room at the Columbia River Hotel through the IFD&TConference. Is there a mechanism as in past years to purchase meal tickets for those not staying at Jantzen Beach? I have seen nothing about this in the postings or the mailings.

Thanks.

At 10:41 AM 3/23/00 -0700, you wrote:

> About the two hotels--Jantzen Beach and Columbia River:
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> We will have all our meetings, meals, and plenaries at the Doubletree
> Jantzen Beach. There are just over 300 rooms there, so we have also
> blocked some rooms at the Doubletree Columbia River, which is adjacent, to
> handle our overflow.
>
> Reservations should take your AAPOR request and put you into a room in
> Jantzen Beach until we fill that hotel, then into the Columbia River
> property. The hotels have similar rooms, amenities, etc.
>
> Shap Wolf
> Associate Chair, Conference Operations

Ronald E. Langley, Ph.D. Phone: (606)257-4684
Director, Survey Research Center FAX: (606) 323-1972
University of Kentucky Pager: 288-5771
403 Breckinridge Hall langley@pop.uky.edu
Lexington, KY 40506-0056

http://www.rgs.uky.edu/src/srchome.htm

From robert_putnam@harvard.edu Fri Mar 24 11:59:47 2000
Received: from robert_putnam@harvard.edu Fri Mar 24 11:59:47 2000
Received: from workstation ([166.72.191.194]) by prserv.net (out5.prserv.net [32.97.166.35])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTMP
   id LAA25098 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 24 Mar 2000 11:59:46 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from workstation ([166.72.191.194]) by prserv.net (out5) with SMTP
   id <20000032419593224302cak1me>; Fri, 24 Mar 2000 19:59:32 +0000
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000324145214.00a3b760@127.0.0.1>
X-Sender: rputnam@pop.fas.harvard.edu@127.0.0.1
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
I just received this inquiry from Erica Werner, a bright young reporter at the AP. Perhaps one of our experts on the effects of exit polling could reply to her at ewerner@ap.org.

> I'm working on a story today about the Wall Street Journal's having polled Academy of Arts and Sciences members to predict Oscar winners.
> One angle the editors want to touch on is how, if at all, a foregone outcome might affect viewership of the Oscars. Do you happen to know of an academic with an expertise in polling or something (I know the analogy is not exact) who would not mind commenting on this non-serious topic? I realize this is probably a stretch, but any help would be much appreciated.

Thanks,

Bob Putnam

For anyone else who would like to share a king bed rather than a queen at AAPOR meetings, I found that when I tried to reserve a room for two, I got two
beds (queen), but a reservation for one got me a king bed. Is this spouse discrimination? :)

(fran)
Fran Featherston
U.S. General Accounting Office
441 G Street NW, Room 1826
Washington, DC 20548
Phone: 202.512.4946

Actually, I saw a report on Today show about this "poll"-- the reporter there said it was completely "unscientific", in the sense that they apparently made very little attempt to draw a representative sample of the Academy. My guess is that they probably drew upon people with whom they had contacts, and ignored the rest, but the reporter wasn't too descriptive about how they arrived at the sample.

So, in the final analysis, this seems to be another example of "voodoo polling", and I wish the Journal had refrained. If they are right, it only encourages further bad behavior (and they might be somewhat accurate, since the "buzz" on Oscars is often distinct); however, if they are wrong, watch for a number of articles to start appearing about how polling is generally unreliable.

Frank Rusciano

Robert D. Putnam wrote:
I just received this inquiry from Erica Werner, a bright young reporter at the AP. Perhaps one of our experts on the effects of exit polling could reply to her at ewerner@ap.org.

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Thanks,

Bob Putnam

I wouldn't want to interfere with the mindless speculation about what effect the WSJ poll might have on viewership, but I'm sure that if the numbers are down, lawyers for the network and the Academy will be busy trying to prevent a repeat.

I haven't seen the WSJ poll results, if they have been reported, but as far as I know, the Academy only releases the names of the winners, not the vote counts, so it would be much more interesting, or perhaps entertaining is a better word, to see how the poll results stack up after the awards are given.

This silly exercise might even be slightly useful if the WSJ made available such details such as response rates.

Jan Werner
(no relation to Erica Werner that I know of)
"Robert D. Putnam" wrote:

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> the AP. Perhaps one of our experts on the effects of exit polling could
> reply to her at ewerner@ap.org.
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> > analogy is not exact) who would not mind commenting on this non-serious
> > topic? I realize this is probably a stretch, but any help would be much
> > appreciated.
>
> Thanks,

Bob Putnam

Update:

I received ten responses to my recent posting on this topic from AAPOR
members. Five said OMB clearance for focus group materials is required
(some said definitely required), three said it is not required, and two
said it depends on the federal agency. Similar differences were
reported concerning incentives for participation.

Shortly thereafter, OUR agency sent us the following (this is a partial
excerpt from a lengthy letter):

"Our office views focus groups as informal activities in which identical
questions are not asked. As long as the questions posed of group
members are not asked in the same way (within and between groups) and the
groups consist of fewer than ten participants, OMB approval is not
required.

"Payment is acceptable. However, in the supporting statement ... the
agency must demonstrate that the payment or incentive 'will
significantly improve validity and reliability to an extent beyond that possible through other means ..."

I guess I can keep rephrasing the questions ... Validity and reliability of focus groups?? Specifying nine-person groups? Oh well ... How absurd.

Jennifer D. Franz
JD Franz Research

>From jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com Sat Mar 25 08:15:59 2000
Received: from carriage.chesco.com (carriage.chesco.com [209.195.192.2])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id IAA14581 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 08:15:56 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from default (mxusw5x174.chesco.com [209.195.228.174])
   by carriage.chesco.com (8.9.1/8.9.1) with SMTP id LAA00344;
   Sat, 25 Mar 2000 11:14:22 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <000c01bf674$fafa1de860$iae4c3d1@default>
From: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com>
To: <jdfranz@earthlink.net>, <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Federally Funded Focus Groups, Part II
Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2000 11:12:52 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.3110.1
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3

"Payment or incentive significantly improving the validity and reliability of (focus group) results" (I believe) is just a claim that respondents who receive cash gifts in consideration of three hours spent as participants probably constitute a less biased sampling of the population of interest than do those who are willing to donate their time, especially in studies of a commercial nature. Incentives also reduce the number of hours needed for recruiting, which sometimes saves more money than is given away in "co-op". While not a validity/reliability issue, cost should be relevant to someone spending taxpayer money. The statement can also be read as "whatever it takes to get the best possible results." If a government agency -- environmental or education-related, say -- decides to conduct qualitative research, would they be better off limiting participation to volunteers? In most cases, I think the answer is no. It appears that the writer of the letter is attempting to work his or her way around some very cumbersome regulations so that their research can be conducted in the same manner as that of non-governmental sponsors.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
Voice (610) 408-8800
Fax (610) 408-8802
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com
-----Original Message-----
From: Jennifer Franz <jdfranz@earthlink.net>
To: aapornet@usc.edu <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: Saturday, March 25, 2000 3:01 AM
Subject: Federally Funded Focus Groups, Part II

>Update:
>
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>"Payment is acceptable. However, in the supporting statement ... the agency must demonsttrate that the payment or incentive 'will significantly improve validity and reliability to an extent beyond that possible through other means ...""
>
>I guess I can keep rephrasing the questions ... Validity and reliability of focus groups?? Specifying nine-person groups? Oh well ... How absurd.
>
>Jennifer D. Franz
>JD Franz Research
>
>From Sharon.Riley@arbitron.com Sat Mar 25 08:21:56 2000
Received: from vulcan.arbitron.com (firewall-user@vulcan.arbitron.com [208.232.40.3])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
 id IAA16144 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 08:21:55 -0800 (PST)
Received: by vulcan.arbitron.com; id LAA04875; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 11:21:25 -0500
Received: from arbdex.arbitron.com(10.10.1.4) by vulcan.arbitron.com via smtp (V5.5)
  id xma004843; Sat, 25 Mar 00 11:20:53 -0500
Received: by arbdex.arbitron.com with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
  id <F8F868YC>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 11:20:03 -0500
Message-ID: <411EA40BC162D211B92B0008C7B1D2B302657016@arbmdex.arbitron.com>
From: "Riley, Sharon" <Sharon.Riley@arbitron.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: How much will you pay for emails?
Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2000 11:20:02 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
Content-Type: text/plain

This is just an FYI to those who use aapornet....
CNN has reported that within the next two weeks Congress is going to vote on allowing telephone companies to CHARGE A TOLL FEE for Internet access. Translation: Every time we send a long distance e-mail we will receive a long distance charge. This will get costly. Please visit the following web site and file a complaint. Complain to your Congressperson. We can't allow this to pass! The following address will allow you to send an e-mail on this subject DIRECTLY to your Congressperson. http://www.house.gov/writerep,

Pass this on to your friends. It is urgent. I hope all of you will pass this on to all your friends and family. We should ALL have an interest in this one.

WAIT, THERE'S MORE. IN ADDITION, The last few months have revealed an alarming trend in the Government of the United States attempting to quietly push through legislation that will affect your use of the Internet. Under proposed legislation the U.S. Postal Service will be attempting to bilk email users out of alternate postage fees". Bill 602P will permit the Federal Govt. to charge a 5 cent surcharge on every email delivered, by billing Internet Service Providers at source. The consumer would then be billed in turn by the ISP. Washington D.C. lawyer Richard Stepp is working without pay to prevent this legislation from becoming law. The U.S. Postal Service is claiming that lost revenue due to the proliferation of e-mail costing nearly $230,000,000 in revenue per year. You may have noticed their recent ad campaign "There is nothing like a letter". Since the average citizen received about 10 pieces of email per day in 1998, the cost to the typical individual would be an additional 50 cents per day, or over $180 dollars per year, above and beyond their regular Internet costs. Note that this would be money paid directly to the U.S. Postal Service for a service they do not even provide. The whole point of the Internet is democracy and non-interference. If the federal government is permitted to tamper with our liberties by adding a surcharge to email, who knows where it will end. You are already paying an exorbitant price for snail mail because of bureaucratic inefficiency. It currently takes up to 6 days for a letter to be delivered from New York to Buffalo. If the U.S. Postal Service is allowed to tinker with email, it will mark the end of the "free" Internet in the United States. One Congressman, Tony Schnell has even suggested a "twenty to forty dollar per month surcharge on all Internet service" above and beyond the government's proposed email charges. Note that
most of the major newspapers have ignored the story, the only exception being
the Washingtonian which called the idea of email surcharge "a useful concept
who's time has come" (March 6th, 1999) Editorial. Don't sit by and watch your
freedoms erode away! Send this e-mail to EVERYONE on your list, and tell all
your friends and relatives to write to their Congressman and say "No!" to
Bill 602P.

It will only take a few moments of your time, and could very well be
instrumental in killing a bill we don't want. PASS THIS ON TO EVERYONE YOU
KNOW WHO USES EMAIL. REMEMBER THESE ARE TWO SEPARATE ISSUES THAT EFFECT ALL
OF US ONLINE.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD NOW, NOT AFTER!!!!!!

>From andy@troll.soc.qc.edu Sat Mar 25 08:52:35 2000
Received: from rothko.bestweb.net (rothko.bestweb.net [209.94.100.160])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA22708 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 08:52:34 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from troll.soc.qc.edu (isdn-10.tuckahoe.bestweb.net
    [209.94.107.219])
    by rothko.bestweb.net (8.9.1a/8.9.3) with ESMTP id LAA27649;
    Sat, 25 Mar 2000 11:52:16 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <38DCEF86.C8223105@troll.soc.qc.edu>
Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2000 11:55:35 -0500
From: "Andrew A. Beveridge" <andy@troll.soc.qc.edu>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (WinNT; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: How much will you pay for emails?
References: <411EA40BC162D211B92B0008C7B1D2B302657016@arbmdex.arbitron.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dear All:

I suspect that this is another example of a common host that has been
running
around the internet for a few years.

Andy

"Riley, Sharon" wrote:

> This is just an FYI to those who use aapornet....
> NO MORE FREE EMAIL........
> CNN has reported that within the next two weeks Congress is going to vote on
>
allowing telephone companies to CHARGE A TOLL FEE for Internet access.
Translation: Every time we send a long distance e-mail we will receive a
long
distance charge. This will get costly. Please visit the following web site
and file a
complaint. Complain to your Congressperson. We can't allow this to pass! The
>
following address will allow you to send an e-mail on this subject
DIRECTLY
to your
Congressperson. http://www.house.gov/writerep,
>
Pass this on to your friends. It is urgent. I hope all of you will pass this
>
on to all your friends and family. We should ALL have an interest in this
one.
>
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alarming trend in the Government of the United States attempting to quietly
push through legislation that will affect your use of the Internet. Under
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to charge a 5 cent surcharge on every email delivered, by billing Internet
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LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD NOW, NOT AFTER!!!!!!

--
Andrew A. Beveridge Home Office
209 Kissena Hall 50 Merriam Avenue
Department of Sociology Bronxville, NY 10708
Queens College and Grad Ctr/CUNY Phone: 914-337-6237
Flushing, NY 11367-1597 Fax: 914-337-8210
Phone: 718-997-2837 E-Mail: andy@troll.soc.qc.edu
Fax: 718-997-2820 Website: http://www.soc.qc.edu/Maps
I just read this week in the Financial Times that there was an agreement among nations not to do anything for the next five years about charges for email.

"Riley, Sharon" wrote:
> This is just an FYI to those who use aapornet....
> NO MORE FREE EMAIL....... CNN has reported that within the next two weeks Congress is going to vote on allowing telephone companies to CHARGE A TOLL FEE for Internet access. Translation: Every time we send a long distance e-mail we will receive a long distance charge. This will get costly. Please visit the following web site and file a complaint. Complain to your Congressperson. We can't allow this to pass! The following address will allow you to send an e-mail on this subject DIRECTLY to your Congressperson. http://www.house.gov/writerep, Pass this on to your friends. It is urgent. I hope all of you will pass this on to all your friends and family. We should ALL have an interest in this.
> WAIT, THERE'S MORE. IN ADDITION, The last few months have revealed an alarming trend in the Government of the United States attempting to quietly push through legislation that will affect your use of the Internet. Under proposed legislation the U.S. Postal Service will be attempting to bilk users out of alternate postage fees". Bill 602P will permit the Federal Govt.
to charge a 5 cent surcharge on every email delivered, by billing Internet Service Providers at source. The consumer would then be billed in turn by the ISP. Washington D.C. lawyer Richard Stepp is working without pay to prevent this legislation from becoming law. The U.S. Postal Service is claiming that lost revenue due to the proliferation of e-mail costing nearly $230,000,000 in revenue per year. You may have noticed their recent ad campaign "There is nothing like a letter". Since the average citizen received about 10 pieces of email per day in 1998, the cost to the typical individual would be an additional 50 cents per day, or over $180 dollars per year, above and beyond their regular Internet costs. Note that this would be money paid directly to the U.S. Postal Service for a service they do not even provide. The whole point of the Internet is democracy and non-interference. If the federal government is permitted to tamper with our liberties by adding a surcharge to email, who knows where it will end. You are already paying an exorbitant price for snail mail because of bureaucratic inefficiency. It currently takes up to 6 days for a letter to be delivered from New York to Buffalo. If the U.S. Postal Service is allowed to tinker with email, it will mark the end of the "free" Internet in the United States. One Congressman, Tony Schnell has even suggested a "twenty to forty dollar per month surcharge on all Internet service" above and beyond the government's proposed email charges. Note that most of the major newspapers have ignored the story, the only exception being the Washingtonian which called the idea of email surcharge "a useful concept who's time has come" (March 6th,1999) Editorial. Don't sit by and watch your freedoms erode away! Send this e-mail to EVERYONE on your list, and
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> >>
> >--
> >Andrew A. Beveridge              Home Office
> >209 Kissena Hall                 50 Merriam Avenue
> >Department of Sociology          Bronxville, NY 10708
> >Queens College and Grad Ctr/CUNY Phone:  914-337-6237
> >Flushing, NY 11367-1597          Fax:    914-337-8210
> >Phone:  718-997-2837             E-Mail: andy@troll.soc.qc.edu
> >Fax:   718-997-2820              Website: http://www.soc.qc.edu/Maps
>
>From caplanjr@bellsouth.net Sat Mar 25 09:07:48 2000
Received: from mail0.mia.bellsouth.net (mail0.mia.bellsouth.net
[205.152.16.12])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
      id JAA26495 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 09:07:47 -0800
      (PST)
Received: from bellsouth (adsl-61-114-153.mia.bellsouth.net
[208.61.114.153])
   by mail0.mia.bellsouth.net (3.3.5alt/0.75.2) with SMTP id MAA06558
      for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 12:07:51 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <000d01bf967c$a3a6ec40$5393fea9@net.JRC>
Reply-To: "caplanjr@bellsouth" <caplanjr@iname.com>
From: "caplanjr@bellsouth" <caplanjr@bellsouth.net>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
References: <411EA40BC162D211B92B0008C7B1D2B302657016@arbmdex.arbitron.com>
<38DCEF86.C8223105@troll.soc.qc.edu>
Subject: Re: How much will you pay for emails?
Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2000 12:07:41 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2919.6600
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2919.6600

Not only that, it's a common hoax.

Jim Caplan,
Miami
> Dear All:
> > I suspect that this is another example of a common host that has been running
> > around the internet for a few years.
> > Andy
> "Riley, Sharon" wrote:
> > > This is just an FYI to those who use aapornet....
> > >
> > > NO MORE FREE EMAIL....... 
> [snip]

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Sat Mar 25 12:13:05 2000
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.19.167])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id MAA12046 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 12:13:04 -0800 (PST)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
   by almaak.usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id MAA03336 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 12:13:04 -0800 (PST)
Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2000 12:13:04 -0800 (PST)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Letters to the Times: The Census and Race
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.10.10003251202360.1778-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I'd welcome the opinions of AAPORNETters about these two Letters to the Editor which appear on the editorial page of this morning's New York Times. -- Jim

March 25, 2000
Census Questions (Beyond the Forms)
To the Editor:
"The Politics of Race and the Census" (Week in Review, March 19) obscures the real political issue underlying the 2000 census: the future redrawing of Congressional districts.

Once the census establishes a racial map of the country, creative gerrymandering often occurs to corral minorities within single districts, and thereby contain their political influence.

For example, Maryland and Virginia have detached themselves from the interests of the 400,000 African-Americans of Washington, a population with no voice in the Senate.

Depending on how racial questions are phrased and interpreted, census data can also be manipulated so as to understate minority populations. That's why many politicians opposed the use of statistical sampling: they feared it might actually reflect America's growing number of racial minorities, and thus raise the unpleasant question of those groups' disproportionately low representation in government.

HAL PEGORIN
Morgantown, W.Va., March 19, 2000

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

To the Editor:

The 2000 census will offer a rare chance to ensure that people of all races are counted (Week in Review, March 19), but there is one group that has traditionally been left out: children. More than half of the four million people left out in 1990 were children, and children of color are disproportionately missed.

This means that forecasts about the number of schools and child-care facilities needed will be based on inaccurate data.

One factor is the fear of "hidden homeless" families that they will be evicted from the homes of friends or relatives for violation of leases. Another is that these children move frequently from home to home. Community groups must step up educational campaigns to assure everyone that the Census Bureau will honor its historic pledge to protect confidentiality.

ROBERT B. HILL
Washington, March 19, 2000

The writer is chairman-elect of the Census
I'm getting mixed signals from the media on the second issue raised by Sharon Riley, the main part of which reads as follows:

The last few months have revealed an alarming trend in the Government of the United States attempting to quietly push through legislation that will affect your use of the Internet. Under proposed legislation the U.S. Postal Service will be attempting to bilk email users out of alternate postage fees. Bill 602P will permit the Federal Govt. to charge a 5 cent surcharge on every email delivered, by billing Internet Service Providers at source. The consumer would then be billed in turn by the ISP. Washington D.C. lawyer Richard Stepp is working without pay to prevent this legislation from becoming law. The U.S. Postal Service is claiming that lost revenue due to the proliferation of e-mail [is] costing nearly $230,000,000 in revenue per year. You may have noticed their recent ad
campaign "There is nothing like a letter". [EDITOR'S NOTE: Even if that were true, it should carry the qualifier "...like a letter that actually reaches its destination"] Since the average citizen received about 10 pieces of email per day in 1998, the cost to the typical individual would be an additional 50 cents per day, or over $180 dollars per year, above and beyond their regular Internet costs. Note that this would be money paid directly to the U.S. Postal Service for a service they do not even provide.

Okay, back to me: The reports I've been hearing have come from one or another "expert" on radio, but are at least consistent. I'm referred to that part of the Postal Service web-site -- http://new.usps.com/cgi-bin/uspsbv/scripts/content.jsp?A=B&D=23131&U=X&U1=B&U2=H -- dated May, 1999 but updated in February that reads as follows:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 21, 1999
Release No. 99-045

E-MAIL RUMOR COMPLETELY UNTRUE

WASHINGTONâ€”A completely false rumor concerning the U.S. Postal Service is being circulated on Internet e-mail. As a matter of fact, the Postal Service has learned that a similar hoax occurred recently in Canada concerning Canada Post.

The e-mail message claims that a "Congressman Schnell" has introduced "Bill 602P" to allow the federal government to impose a 5-cent surcharge on each e-mail message delivered over the Internet. The money would be collected by Internet Service Providers and then turned over to the Postal Service.

No such proposed legislation exists. In fact, no "Congressman Schnell" exists.

The U.S. Postal Service has no authority to surcharge e-mail messages sent over the Internet, nor would it support such legislation.

###

Sharon recommends that we "Send this e-mail to EVERYONE on your list, and tell all [our] friends and relatives to write to their Congressman and say 'No!' to Bill 602P." And I'm inclined to agree with her, but withholding any awareness of the web-posting just quoted for whatever later use our ignorance of it may have. If there is in fact a bill being marked up, its advocates would suffer self-inflicted bullet holes in the foot at such later time as we or anyone else points out that, as recently as last month, the proposed beneficiary-agency (USPS) has publicly (and, it might be added, deceptively) stated, that nothing of this kind is in the works. For, realistically, could the agency have issued a statement in such strong terms
and still retain its credibility if there were a serious threat of Congress acting in a manner directly opposed to its message?

Of course, the last line to the release suggests a cop-out route:

The US Postal Service has no authority to surcharge e-mail messages sent over the Internet, nor would it support such legislation.

....And it doesn't have to be spelled out.

One last thing: I assume that "Congressman School" (or his phantom) is a member of the House. Do we have any clue where the Senate stands on this? I think we have evidence (based on usage, not surveys so far as I know) that the public (at least that part of it who can send and receive e-mail) is absolutely enthralled with it.

There may be "nothing like a letter," but, at 33¢ a pop for the sender, a freebie will do nicely. Same for greeting cards. Same for bill-paying.

November looms ever closer, and do we expect anyone with serious expectations of returning to office to take a position so obviously at odds with the sentiments of so large a segment of the voting public? A surcharge of what works out to $180 a year is likely to be greeted with the same enthusiasm as (when prices were lower) it was proposed that a similarly modest increase be imposed on gasoline at the pump.

Those are the things that comfort me; still, just to be sure, it would by no means hurt to reinforce our opposition by adopting Sharon’s recommendation, getting others to do the same, and swamping our duly elected representatives.

Just in case the unforeseen should happen; what, in fact, the unforeseen might actually turn out to be, I have no idea, but, since e-mail can be used to transmit all kinds of things from the web (how to build a bomb, highly explicit sexual content, violent games et al.), I'm sure that someone else does.

Phil Harding

>From PAHARDING7@aol.com Sat Mar 25 12:29:28 2000
Received: from imo23.mx.aol.com (imo23.mx.aol.com [152.163.225.67]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
id MAA16361 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 12:29:27 -0800 (PST)
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com
Received: from PAHARDING7@aol.com
    by imo23.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.9e.2852395 (4386)
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 25 Mar 2000 15:28:56 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <9e.2852395.260e7b87@aol.com>
Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2000 15:28:55 EST
Subject: Re: How much will you pay for emails?
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
In my haste to submit to aapornet my reply to Sharon Riley's warning, I misnamed the Congressperson alleged to be doing the damage. The opening line in the third paragraph from the end would read as follows if the gremlins weren't loose.

"One last thing: I assume that "Congressman Schnell" (a.k.a. Congressman School, as I'd originally written) is a member of the House."

Sorry 'bout that.

Phil Harding

I've checked the CNN web site and Capitol Watch (which lists all forthcoming congressional activity) and I can find no mention of any proposals for charging consumers for sending or receiving e-mails.

Anybody have any better luck?

Dick Halpern
Dear All:

I ran a search on Lexis-Nexis. Nothin', Honey.

PARANOIA OFF, REALITY CHECK ON!!!!

When you think about this a little bit more, one must realize that this is complete bunk. Can you imagine the reaction of AOL (and Time Warner, the owner of CNN), not to mention every ISP, every eCommerce site, Microsoft, etc. to this idea.

Look what happened to the idea of taxing internet commerce!

Some unsolicited advice to Internet Users:

1) Walt Disney and Microsoft have not teamed up to give out trips to Disney World for sending out e-mail.

2) The Good Times Virus is a hoax.

3) If you want to spend a little bit of time on-line in a worthwhile way go to the following site http://hungersite.com/. You can click on a button once a day and the sponsors donate to the UN World Relief Organization. This is not a hoax, some college students use it as their homepage to remind themselves to click everyday.

Andy

dick halpern wrote:

> I've checked the CNN web site and Capitol Watch (which lists all forthcoming congressional activity) and I can find no mention of any proposals for charging consumers for sending or receiving e-mails.
> > Anybody have any better luck?
> > Dick Halpern

--
I always wondered about this one since I place a local call to the FSU exchange. Certainly a casual monitor by the telephone company picks up nothing but a local call.

At the office I am hard wired. I am staggered at the notion of Sprint or whomever "tapping" all the hardwired FSU desk computers to detect Eudora—or the 1001 other email packages people use—and then only tapping the long distance emails. I'm not saying it couldn't be done but it seems to call for a degree of efficiency and sophistication I haven't noticed in our local carrier.

Of course your telephone carriers may be much better.

Regards,

Susan

At 07:45 AM 3/26/2000 -0500, you wrote:
>Dear All:
>
> I ran a search on Lexis-Nexis. Nothin', Honey. 
>
> PARANOIA OFF, REALITY CHECK ON!!!!
>
> When you think about this a little bit more, one must realize
> that this is complete bunk. Can you imagine the reaction of
> AOL (and Time Warner, the owner of CNN), not to mention
>every ISP, every eCommerce site, Microsoft, etc. to this
>idea.
>
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>
>3) If you want to spend a little bit of time on-line in a
worthwhile way
   go to the following site http://hungersite.com/. You can click
on a
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Relief
   Organization. This is not a hoax, some college students use it
as
   their homepage to remind themselves to click everyday.

Andy

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I've checked the CNN web site and Capitol Watch (which lists all
forthcoming congressional activity) and I can find no mention of any
proposals for charging consumers for sending or receiving e-mails.

Anybody have any better luck?

>> Dick Halpern

Andrew A. Beveridge Home Office
209 Kissena Hall 50 Merriam Avenue
Department of Sociology Bronxville, NY 10708
Queens College and Grad Ctr/CUNY Phone: 914-337-6237
Flushing, NY 11367-1597 Fax: 914-337-8210
Phone: 718-997-2837 E-Mail: andy@troll.soc.qc.edu
Fax: 718-997-2820 Website: http://www.soc.qc.edu/Maps

Susan Carol Losh, PhD.
Spring-Summer 2000 PHONE 850-385-4266
slosh@garnet.fsu.edu

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE!

I AM NOW IN TRANSITION TO:

The Department of Educational Research
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453
850-644-4592 Educational Research Office
FAX 850-644-8776

FROM:
The Department of Sociology
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-2270
850-644-6416 Sociology Office
FAX 850-644-6208

>From mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu Sun Mar 26 06:02:27 2000
Received: from smtp-out2.bellatlantic.net (smtp-out2.bellatlantic.net
[199.45.39.157])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id GAA23114 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 26 Mar 2000 06:02:26 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from kathman.bellatlantic.com (adsl-151-202-23-5.bellatlantic.net
[151.202.23.5])
   by smtp-out2.bellatlantic.net (8.9.1/8.9.1) with ESMTP id JAA01322
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 26 Mar 2000 09:02:18 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <4.2.2.20000326090147.00a77ec0@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>
X-Sender: mkuechle@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.2
Date: Sun, 26 Mar 2000 09:02:09 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Manfred Kuechler <mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu>
Subject: Re: ... pay for emails? Check Urban Legends
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=fixeded

At 11:10 PM 3/25/00 -0500, dick halpern wrote:
> I've checked the CNN web site and Capitol Watch (which lists all
> forthcoming congressional activity) and I can find no mention of any
> proposals for charging consumers for sending or receiving e mails.

Just to remind my fellow list members that the same hoax was posted to
*this* list just a few months ago and I pointed out that this was a hoax
then (see copies below). In addition, the next time some AAPORNET member
feels that she/he needs to share such a message, please check the
"urbanlegends" archive before posting. This hoax is well documented at:
http://www.urbanlegends.com/ulz/emaitax.html
Should checking on unsubstantiated rumors (rather than spreading them) be
an automated reaction of professionals in the field of mass communication?

M.

At 01:56 PM 10/30/99 -0400, Paul J. Lavrakas wrote:
> I received this message from a fellow faculty member and am passing it along
> to AAPORnet.
> I do not know anything about the validity of the arguments the author of the
> message makes and will appreciate hearing from anyone on AAPORnet that might
> let us know if this is a real threat. ....

This is an e-mail hoax which has been circulating for a while. The language itself has written hoax all over it and a quick check at web sites like "Thomas" ( http://thomas.loc.gov/ ) shows that there is no such bill "602P". If a real lawyer would be working on this, he/she would cite legislation appropriately. There is a Senate bill 602 ( S. 602) but this deals with a provision to bar hidden taxes (rather than adding one). MK.

Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html

PAHARDING7@aol.com wrote:
In my haste to submit to aapornet my reply to Sharon Riley's warning, I
misnamed the Congressperson alleged to be doing the damage. The opening
line
in the third paragraph from the end would read as follows if the gremlins
weren't loose.

"One last thing: I assume that "Congressman Schnell" (a.k.a. Congressman
School, as I'd originally written) is a member of the House."

Sorry 'bout that.

Phil Harding

As we tell our students in the J-School:

"If your mother says she loves you, check it out."

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism  Voice: 919 962-4085
CB 3365 Carroll Hall  Fax: 919 962-1549
University of North Carolina  Cell: 919 906-3425
Chapel Hill NC 27599-3365  http://www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

On Sun, 26 Mar 2000, Nick Panagakis wrote:

> Date: Sun, 26 Mar 2000 10:18:54 +0000
> From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: Re: How much will you pay for emails?
>
> No element in this story can be verified. There is no Congressman Schnell
> either.
PAHARDING7@aol.com wrote:

> In my haste to submit to aapornet my reply to Sharon Riley's warning, I
> misnamed the Congressperson alleged to be doing the damage. The opening
> line
> in the third paragraph from the end would read as follows if the
> gremlins
> weren't loose.
> >
> > "One last thing: I assume that "Congressman Schnell" (a.k.a. Congressman
> School, as I'd originally written) is a member of the House."
> >
> > Sorry 'bout that.
> >
> > Phil Harding
>

From rczujko@aip.org

Hello all,

What we have here are 2 urban legends, which can now be passed around the
world in minutes. I become suspicious whenever I receive an e-mail that
urges me to pass this on to all of my friends and co-workers.

There are several different sites (probably many) where one can check out
the latest hoaxes. The one I use is urbanlegends. The following page
references the particular hoaxes we heard about this morning.

http://urbanlegends.about.com/culture/urbanlegends/sitesearch.htm?terms=Schnell&TopNode=3919&SUName=urbanlegends

The U.S. Post Office is currently making more money than ever. They are
not particularly concerned about e-mail cutting into their income stream any
time soon.
Have a good day.
Roman Czujko

>>> "Riley, Sharon" <Sharon.Riley@arbitron.com> 03/25 11:20 AM >>>
This is just an FYI to those who use aapornet....

NO MORE FREE EMAIL.......  
CNN has reported that within the next two weeks Congress is going to vote on

allowing telephone companies to CHARGE A TOLL FEE for Internet access. Translation: Every time we send a long distance e-mail we will receive a long distance charge. This will get costly. Please visit the following web site and file a complaint. Complain to your Congressperson. We can't allow this to pass! The following address will allow you to send an e-mail on this subject DIRECTLY to your Congressperson. http://www.house.gov/writerep,

Pass this on to your friends. It is urgent. I hope all of you will pass this on to all your friends and family. We should ALL have an interest in this one.

WAIT, THERE'S MORE. IN ADDITION, The last few months have revealed an alarming trend in the Government of the United States attempting to quietly push through legislation that will affect your use of the Internet. Under proposed legislation the U.S. Postal Service will be attempting to bilk email users out of alternate postage fees". Bill 602P will permit the Federal Govt. to charge a 5 cent surcharge on every email delivered, by billing Internet Service Providers at source. The consumer would then be billed in turn by the ISP. Washington D.C. lawyer Richard Stepp is working without pay to prevent this legislation from becoming law. The U.S. Postal Service is claiming that lost revenue due to the proliferation of e-mail costing nearly $230,000,000 in revenue per year. You may have noticed their recent ad campaign "There is nothing like a letter". Since the average citizen received about 10 pieces of email per day in 1998, the cost to the typical individual would be an additional 50 cents per day, or over $180 dollars per year, above and beyond
their regular Internet costs. Note that this would be money paid directly to the U.S. Postal Service for a service they do not even provide. The whole point of the Internet is democracy and non-interference. If the federal government is permitted to tamper with our liberties by adding a surcharge to email, who knows where it will end. You are already paying an exorbitant price for snail mail because of bureaucratic inefficiency. It currently takes up to 6 days for a letter to be delivered from New York to Buffalo. If the U.S. Postal Service is allowed to tinker with email, it will mark the end of the "free" Internet in the United States. One Congressman, Tony Schnell has even suggested a "twenty to forty dollar per month surcharge on all Internet service" above and beyond the government's proposed email charges. Note that most of the major newspapers have ignored the story, the only exception being the Washingtonian which called the idea of email surcharge "a useful concept who's time has come" (March 6th, 1999) Editorial. Don't sit by and watch your freedoms erode away! Send this e-mail to EVERYONE on your list, and tell all your friends and relatives to write to their Congressman and say "No!" to Bill 602P.

It will only take a few moments of your time, and could very well be instrumental in killing a bill we don't want. PASS THIS ON TO EVERYONE YOU KNOW WHO USES EMAIL. REMEMBER THESE ARE TWO SEPARATE ISSUES THAT EFFECT ALL OF US ONLINE.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD NOW, NOT AFTER!!!!!!
The New England Chapter of AAPOR has space available at its annual mini-conference on Friday April 7th at the Exeter Inn in Exeter NH.

The morning session will feature a panel on sample development, qualitative and quantitative approaches to web based surveys. Panelists include Doug Rivers and Anna Greenberg from Intersurvey, Betsy Friedman at Harris Interactive, and Chris DeAngelis from Survey Sampling Inc. Karen Donelan of the Harvard School of Public Health will moderate.

Luncheon keynote is Humphrey Taylor speaking on "The Value of Polls in a Democracy".

Afternoon session topics include election surveys and survey method presentations by chapter members David Moore of Gallup, Andy Smith of UNH, Mike Battaglia of Abt, Robert Smith and Lori Cook of BCBS.

Cost (includes lunch) for chapter members is $35, for chapter student members is $20 and for non-members is $65. Chapter membership is $25, student membership is $5.

The Exeter Inn is about a 45 min drive from Boston.

Reservations will be accepted until Monday, April 3. Anyone interested should reply NOT TO THE LIST but to:

kdonelan@hsph.harvard.edu

Karen Donelan
Chapter Secretary
Here is what the Washingtonian had to say about the quote attributed to them. Note that Washingtonian is a regional (DC, VA, MD) magazine, not a newspaper. Cheers, mark richards

-----Original Message-----
From: Jack Limpert [mailto:jlimpert@washingtonian.com]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2000 9:25 AM
To: Mark Richards
Subject: Re: Quote attributed to Washingtonian... is it accurate?

it's a hoax that has been floating around the net for about six months

>From mark@bisconti.com Mon Mar 27 07:58:50 2000
Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id HAA24626 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 27 Mar 2000 07:58:45 -0800
(PST)
Received: from markbri (ip49.washington13.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET [38.30.214.49])
    by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service
    Version 5.5.2232.9)
    id F6ZZFN61; Mon, 27 Mar 2000 10:58:37 -0500
From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: FW: Urban Legend or Fact (was Re: Fwd: Quote attributed
toWashingtonian... is it accurate?)
Date: Mon, 27 Mar 2000 10:54:18 -0500
Message-ID: <NCBBKJCJKFIDCKOFNAEEAEBHDAAA.mark@bisconti.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

More from journalists at Washingtoniana. mark richards

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul Chernoff [mailto:pchernoff@washingtonian.com]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2000 9:27 AM
To: mark@bisconti.com
Subject: Re: Urban Legend or Fact (was Re: Fwd: Quote attributed
toWashingtonian... is it accurate?)
Hoax. There is no such thing as a March 6 issue of the Washingtonian. We are a monthly magazine. We also rarely publish editorials, and never on a subject such as the one mentioned in the e-mail. A similar e-mail is circulating in Canada. I have received this analysis of the e-mail:

>I "investigated" this message and here is what I found out: There is no such Congressman as "Tony Schnell" in either this Congress or the 105th. I have never seen a Bill number with a "P" (or any other letter) on the end of it. The current Bill 602 has as its title "Civil Service Long-Term Care Insurance Benefit Act" and has been in committee since February and has nothing to do with US Postal Service attempts to obtain surcharges for e-mail messages which they don't deliver.

>I could find no trace of the alleged Berger, Stepp and Gorman Attorneys in Vienna, VA and also could not find any such street as Concorde Street in that town.

>From murray.edelman@vnsusa.org Mon Mar 27 08:10:07 2000
Received: from [205.183.239.99] (libra.vnsusa.com [205.183.239.99] (may be forged)) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
   id IAA29062 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 27 Mar 2000 08:09:57 -0800 (PST)
Received: from mail.vnsusa.org by [205.183.239.99] via smtpd (for usc.edu [128.125.19.136]) with SMTP; 27 Mar 2000 16:09:42 UT
Received: by nts_1.vnsusa.org with Internet Mail Service (5.0.1461.28)
   id <HMTAG7WW>; Mon, 27 Mar 2000 11:09:05 -0500
Message-ID: <017480CB593ED111B05D0060B0571CFE65154D@nts_1.vnsusa.org>
From: Murray Edelman <murray.edelman@vnsusa.org>
To: "aapornet@usc.edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: How much will you pay for emails?
Date: Mon, 27 Mar 2000 11:09:03 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.0.1461.28)
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="windows-1252"

There will be an email tax on any user who sends another email to AAPORNEt on this subject:-)

-----Original Message-----
From: Riley, Sharon [mailto:Sharon.Riley@arbitron.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2000 11:20 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: How much will you pay for emails?

This is just an FYI to those who use aapornet....

NO MORE FREE EMAIL........
CNN has reported that within the next two weeks Congress is going to vote on allowing telephone companies to CHARGE A TOLL FEE for Internet access.
Translation: Every time we send a long distance e-mail we will receive a long
distance charge. This will get costly. Please visit the following web site and file a complaint. Complain to your Congressperson. We can't allow this to pass! The following address will allow you to send an e-mail on this subject DIRECTLY to your Congressperson. http://www.house.gov/writerep,

Pass this on to your friends. It is urgent. I hope all of you will pass this on to all your friends and family. We should ALL have an interest in this one.

WAIT, THERE'S MORE. IN ADDITION, The last few months have revealed an alarming trend in the Government of the United States attempting to quietly push through legislation that will affect your use of the Internet. Under proposed legislation the U.S. Postal Service will be attempting to bilk email users out of alternate postage fees". Bill 602P will permit the Federal Govt. to charge a 5 cent surcharge on every email delivered, by billing Internet Service Providers at source. The consumer would then be billed in turn by the ISP. Washington D.C. lawyer Richard Stepp is working without pay to prevent this legislation from becoming law. The U.S. Postal Service is claiming that lost revenue due to the proliferation of e-mail costing nearly $230,000,000 in revenue per year. You may have noticed their recent ad campaign "There is nothing like a letter". Since the average citizen received about 10 pieces of email per day in 1998, the cost to the typical individual would be an additional 50 cents per day, or over $180 dollars per year, above and beyond their regular Internet costs. Note that this would be money paid directly to the U.S. Postal Service for a service they do not even provide. The whole point of the Internet is democracy and non-interference. If the federal government is permitted to tamper with our liberties by adding a surcharge to email, who knows where it will end. You are already paying an exorbitant price for snail mail because of bureaucratic inefficiency. It currently takes up to 6 days for a letter to be delivered from New York to Buffalo. If the U.S. Postal Service is allowed to tinker with email, it will mark the end of the "free" Internet in the United States. One Congressman, Tony Schnell has even suggested a "twenty to forty dollar per month surcharge on all Internet service" above and beyond the government's proposed email charges. Note that most of the major newspapers have ignored the story, the only exception being the Washingtonian which called the idea of email surcharge "a useful concept who's time has come" (March 6th,1999) Editorial. Don't sit by and watch your
freedoms erode away! Send this e-mail to EVERYONE on your list, and tell all your friends and relatives to write to their Congressman and say "No!" to Bill 602P.

It will only take a few moments of your time, and could very well be instrumental in killing a bill we don't want. PASS THIS ON TO EVERYONE YOU KNOW WHO USES EMAIL. REMEMBER THESE ARE TWO SEPARATE ISSUES THAT EFFECT ALL OF US ONLINE.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD NOW, NOT AFTER!!!!!!

At 11:09 AM 3/27/00 , you wrote:
>There will be an email tax on any user who sends another email to AAPORNEt 
>on this subject:-)

Murray's idea may be one way to reduce annual membership fees.
Sounds like census "talking points" are getting out... interest groups are trying to mobilize.

As for MD and VA having "detached themselves from the interests of 400,000 African Americans of Washington" ... hardly more than other states have. Yes, there are regional inequities sustained by Congress... about $20 billion p/yr is earned by citizens of MD and VA who commute to work--that's about $600,000 in tax revenues to Annapolis and $400,000 to Richmond, $0 for DC. But, the great DC African American middle class started moving to the suburbs--mainly MD--after race restrictions in housing were banned (early '70s?) and when the federal govt. promoted a decentralization policy to move the federal establishment throughout the region at hubs (mainly on the metro lines). This accounts for most of DC's population loss (from peak of 800,000 to 525,000 now). DCers started calling parts of the MD suburbs "Ward 9," (there are 8 Wards in DC) due to a nasty voter fraud problem a few years back... I've seen articles in the Washington Afro-American advocating that more African Americans should move from "the DC plantation" so they have representation, not just in the Senate and the House, but also in a state legislature and other levels DC doesn't have (African-Americans in DC suburbs have effectively put African-American reps from MD in the House and state legislature). DC, while still a majority African-American jurisdiction, is becoming more white as it becomes fashionable to avoid beltway gridlock (SES, gentrification, singles). Some think once DC is more white, it will get the vote.

As for disproportionately low number of minorities in Congress... I think the Senate has one American Indian and a few women, but otherwise it's mostly white men. But filling out a census form isn't going to change the Senate! I wonder if and how the census count could impact the House?? Not sure.

I suppose these letters are more evidence that nobody understands much about the census, except that it is important to get people to comply with the Bureau, and race is a mobilizing force.

cheers, mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of James Beniger
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2000 3:13 PM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: Letters to the Times: The Census and Race

I'd welcome the opinions of AAPORNETters about these two Letters to the Editor which appear on the editorial page of this morning's New York Times. -- Jim
March 25, 2000

Census Questions (Beyond the Forms)

To the Editor:

"The Politics of Race and the Census" (Week in Review, March 19) obscures the real political issue underlying the 2000 census: the future redrawing of Congressional districts.

Once the census establishes a racial map of the country, creative gerrymandering often occurs to corral minorities within single districts, and thereby contain their political influence.

For example, Maryland and Virginia have detached themselves from the interests of the 400,000 African-Americans of Washington, a population with no voice in the Senate.

Depending on how racial questions are phrased and interpreted, census data can also be manipulated so as to understate minority populations. That's why many politicians opposed the use of statistical sampling: they feared it might actually reflect America's growing number of racial minorities, and thus raise the unpleasant question of those groups' disproportionately low representation in government.

HAL PEGORIN
Morgantown, W.Va., March 19, 2000

To the Editor:

The 2000 census will offer a rare chance to ensure that people of all races are counted (Week in Review, March 19), but there is one group that has traditionally been left out: children. More than half of the four million people left out in 1990 were children, and children of color are disproportionately missed.

This means that forecasts about the number of schools and child-care facilities needed will be based on inaccurate data.

One factor is the fear of "hidden homeless" families that they will be evicted from the homes of friends or relatives for violation of leases.
Another is that these children move frequently from home to home. Community groups must step up educational campaigns to assure everyone that the Census Bureau will honor its historic pledge to protect confidentiality.

ROBERT B. HILL
Washington, March 19, 2000

The writer is chairman-elect of the Census Advisory Committee on the African-American Population.

********

My apologies to any who feel this message is inappropriate, but Prof. Peng and some others may find this useful.

Those looking for reasonably priced software for Web page surveys that have CATI features may want to consider our software The Survey System. It is a comprehensive package with a Web survey option that includes including skips (branching), randomizing question and answer choice order, limiting choices to one question to those either picked or not picked in a previous question,
showing the answer to one question in the text of another question, quotas, and so forth.

Our Web site is www.surveysystem.com. The page that talks about Web page surveys and has links to sample surveys is www.surveysystem.com/websurveys.htm.

Hank Zucker
Creative Research Systems

----- Original Message ----- 
From: wpeng <wpeng@ccms.ntu.edu.tw>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2000 1:31 AM
Subject: Re: Web survey software

> I am a professor of Graduate institute of Journalism at Taiwan University, > please tell me how to purchase the web survey software from Stanford > University, thank you so much. Dennis Peng
>
>From mark@bisconti.com Tue Mar 28 13:29:25 2000
Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id NAA09027 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 28 Mar 2000 13:29:23 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from markbri (ip76.washington11.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET [38.30.47.76])
   by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service
   Version 5.5.2232.9)
   id F62ZFX2N; Tue, 28 Mar 2000 16:29:08 -0500
From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Wash. Post on census
Date: Tue, 28 Mar 2000 16:24:39 -0500
Message-ID: <NCBBKJCJKFIDCKOFNAEEKECMDAAA.mark@bisconti.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
X-MIMEOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

Response Counters Census Fears

By D'Vera Cohn
Washington Post Staff Writer
Tuesday, March 28, 2000; Page A01

More than four in 10 American households have mailed back their 2000 Census forms—a cautiously encouraging sign that the national count could meet its goals in an era of growing apathy and suspicion about government, officials said yesterday.
Two weeks after most of the nation's 118 million households began receiving their black-and-white envelopes from the Census Bureau, 42 percent have sent them back to four processing centers across the country.

Locally, 36 percent of households in the District had returned their forms as of yesterday morning. Suburban returns ranged from 37 percent in Alexandria to 54 percent in Howard County. Most Washington suburbs are at or above the national average, as they were during the 1990 count.

The willingness of U.S. residents to complete their census forms has been declining in each successive count, part of a broader drop-off in civic participation. Some people fear their personal data will be used against them by immigration or welfare officials. Others do not believe their participation makes a difference. Some are angry at what they see as an invasion of privacy.

Census officials have predicted that only 61 percent of U.S. residents would complete their forms this time. In 1990, 65 percent did so.

Although some census officials say privately they are encouraged by the early response, they cannot relax because most forms are not in yet.

"Although 42 percent of the households have returned the form, that leaves 58 percent not heard from," Census Bureau Director Kenneth Prewitt said in a statement. "The success of Census 2000 is in the hands of the American people."

The mail-in response rate is crucial to a successful count because if people do not fill out their forms, the Census Bureau will have to send employees knocking on their doors to obtain the information. If that fails, the Census Bureau will have to rely more on politically controversial statistical sampling to fill gaps in the count.

Although their figures are open to dispute, D.C. census boosters say the city lost $200 million over the past decade because the 1990 count missed so many residents. Some say the city lost an opportunity to attract businesses, which rely on demographic data in deciding where to locate.

So far, the District's mail-back rate falls in the mid-range of a list of some other large cities. San Francisco and Los Angeles currently have higher mail-back rates, but Baltimore, Boston, Chicago and New York have lower percentages.

Kent Amos, who heads a committee of organizations promoting a more accurate census in the District, said he is not "excited" by the D.C. figures, but "I think we are ahead of the game, and that's encouraging."

Among local suburbs, jurisdictions in Maryland generally have higher rates than those in Virginia, but a census official cautioned that may be because Virginia forms are routed to a processing center in Arizona, whereas most Maryland forms are routed to Baltimore.

One success story appears to be Calvert County, where the 50 percent mail-back rate to date nearly equals its 1990 figure of 54 percent. The region's wealthier counties also generally have higher mail-back rates currently than poorer or more rural jurisdictions, in keeping with a national pattern.
Nationally, the mail-back rate so far ranges from 26 percent in Mississippi to 48 percent in six states, all of which had above-average performance in 1990. Rural states lag behind more urbanized ones because forms have been mailed to cities and suburbs but are still being dropped off in remote locations.

Census officials expect a surge of forms after April 1, the date that they say many people mistakenly believe is the first day they can mail back their papers. Consultant Terri-Ann Lowenthal, a Democratic congressional staff member during the 1990 census, said yesterday's numbers will not provide as good a signal as next week's about the success of the count.

"I would look for a significant jump in the numbers next week," she said. "If that doesn't happen, I might start to worry."

The Census Bureau's reluctance to describe the early return rates as good or bad was criticized by Chip Walker, press secretary to Rep. Dan Miller (R-Fla.), chairman of the House census subcommittee.

"How does a mayor know whether they are on target to meet their response rate?" Walker said. "People need to have some kind of yardstick here, even if it's with a caveat."

Census officials, who put response rates for every city, county and state on their Web site (www.census.gov) last night, plan to update the information daily until mid-April, when officials will compile lists of homes to be visited.

Although the mail-in rate is slightly better than it was at a similar point in the 1990 census, officials discouraged comparison with 1990 in the pace of returns. They pointed out that not only was the timing different then--forms went out during the last week of March--but hostility toward government and concerns about privacy have grown during the past decade. Changing demographics also work against the count. The nation's growing immigrant, poor and minority populations are most likely to be undercounted.

This year, Census Bureau forms went out by mid-March. The government paved the way with a glitzy national advertising campaign and an advance letter to each household. Every household also was sent a reminder postcard.

Census figures are used to apportion congressional seats and redraw legislative boundaries within states. Billions of dollars in federal funds are distributed based on the population totals.

Last night, census-takers began making the rounds of homeless shelters across the country to count people without a permanent address. On Friday, they are scheduled to count people living in campgrounds, marinas and other so-called transient sites. At week's end, they plan to begin a tally of people living in college dormitories, prisons and other group quarters.

The first data from the 2000 census are due out at the end of the year.

Database editor Dan Keating contributed to this report.
U.S.
Percentage of census forms returned in 1990 65%
Percentage of forms returned to date for 2000 42%

MD.
Percentage of census forms returned in 1990 70%
Percentage of forms returned to date for 2000 46%

VA.
Percentage of census forms returned in 1990 70%
Percentage of forms returned to date for 2000 41%

D.C.
Percentage of census forms returned in 1990 56%
Percentage of forms returned to date for 2000 36%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

Around the Nation

A look at the percentage of census forms returned to date compared with total in 1990.

1990 mail- 2000 mail-

Jurisdiction back rate back rate

USA 65% 42%

States with the highest mail-back rates:

Idaho 70 48
Ohio 75 48
Montana 67 48
Nebraska 74 48
Oregon 67 48
Pennsylvania 73 48
New York City 53 34
Boston 46 35
Los Angeles 60 40
Detroit 57 36
Chicago 54 28
District of Columbia 56 36
Maryland 70 46
Anne Arundel Co. 74 51
Calvert Co. 54 50
Charles Co. 65 48
Frederick Co. 74 52
Howard Co. 76 54
Montgomery Co. 76 51
Prince George's Co. 66 42
St. Mary's Co. 57 42
Virginia 70 41
Alexandria City 65 37
Arlington Co. 68 39
Fairfax Co. 76 45
Fauquier Co. 72 38
Loudoun Co. 70 42
Prince William Co. 69 40
Stafford Co. 74 46

SOURCE: Census Bureau

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An update on reservations at the Doubletree in Portland:

While trying to make reservations, a number of AAPOR members have been told that the hotel is full (sometimes more than once). We apologize that you were given incorrect information. Our room block has never been filled--in fact, there are still some rooms remaining.

Shap Wolf and I have been persistently working with the hotel to understand why we have been experiencing these difficulties. Part of the reason is that many more AAPORites than usual plan to arrive on Wednesday, the day before the conference begins (this is excluding WAPOR registrants, who are counted separately). That fact, combined with some glitches in the system, have made the process unnecessarily difficult.

At this point, the hotel has increased our block and they are closely monitoring the status of our reservations. So, if you have not yet made reservations and would like to stay at the Doubletree, please call again as soon as possible. If you continue to experience difficulties, please let me or Shap know--our emails are pbeatty@umich.edu, and shap.wolf@asu.edu respectively. (We are still waiting for hotel confirmation for a few people who contacted us directly, and will let you know as soon as your situation is resolved).

A few things to keep in mind regarding reservations:

- although AAPOR is being held at the Doubletree Jantzen Beach, its sister hotel (the Doubletree Columbia River) is directly next door. Part of our room block is there. Reservations agents should know this, but if you experience problems please ask about availability at the Columbia River.

- all calls for hotel reservations are forwarded to a central reservations office for the Portland area. This office is closed between 10 PM and 6 AM Pacific Standard Time. It is best if you avoid calling during those hours, when your information will be taken down by a desk clerk and forwarded to the reservation facility the next day.

- everyone who registers for AAPOR and stays in EITHER of the two Doubletrees should have a reservation at the rate that includes the meal plan for EVERY night during the conference--Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. If you have problems getting this rate for all three of these nights, please let us know.
Thanks for your patience. We're doing our best to make the 2000 AAPOR Conference worth any extra efforts you've had to make.

Paul Beatty, Conference Operations Chair
and
Shap Wolf, Conference Operations Associate Chair

MANAGER OF TELEPHONE DATA COLLECTION
CENTER FOR SURVEY RESEARCH
University of Massachusetts Boston

Respected academic survey research center requires highly experienced manager of telephone data collection operations for social science survey research projects. Responsibilities include overseeing recruitment, hiring and training of interviewer staff of 75; managing all survey data collection procedures, including planning, organizing and implementing procedures for multiple projects; reviewing and developing techniques for monitoring and enhancing interviewer performance; ensuring quality control, maintaining performance standards, and developing and implementing improvements and innovations in telephone data collection. Applicants must have extensive experience in social science research organization, preferably an academic survey research organization, and have managed probability surveys with complex sample designs. Must have ability to interpret and use sample and interviewer productivity reports, and in-depth knowledge and experience managing research studies using CATI software; CASES system desirable. Send resume to Director, Center for Survey Research, University of Massachusetts Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393. Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.
The polls close in less than 36 hours - so if you haven't voted yet, please do so soon!

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS ADDRESS W/ YOUR VOTE - ALL VOTES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS

TSHIRT2000_1999@YAHOO.COM

The following is the original announcement - You can vote by number.

Let the voting begin!

Here are the T-Shirt slogan entries for 2000.

Please send your vote to TSHIRT2000_1999@YAHOO.COM

All votes must be received by Midnight 1/2 March 30th 1/2
i.e. Next Thursday.

1. Hang up on a pollster. Cut off your nose to spite your face.
2. When America talks, we listen.
3. "Click here for the next 20 opinions 1/2 www.aapor.com" (with appropriate graphics included on the Tshirt)
4. Is that your final answer?
5. When it comes to asking questions, AAPOR should be your FINAL ANSWER.
6. Hang up on a pollster and be sure your opinion won't count.
7. When it comes to asking questions, we KNOW what the definition of 1/2is1/2 is.
8. Telemarketers SUCK!
9. Who wants to be a survey researcher?
11. AAPOR: Surveying the New Millenium.
12. Polling: the less you know, the easier to do!
13. AAPOR: We’re not selling anything.
14. (Ticker symbol) then \(\text{AAPOR: A public company}\)
with bullish results
15. (Ticker symbol) then \(\text{AAPOR: A public company}\)
with multiple options
16. Hang up on a pollster. Your opinions don’t matter anyway.
17. \(\text{Opinion} \) It’s all about you baby!
19. No, we don’t ask \(\text{Is that your final answer!}\)
20. That’s your opinion!
21. Our policy \(\text{Do ask, do tell.}\)
22. That’s what you think! AAPOR 2000
24. We have all the questions.
25. Your opinion counts if we count your opinion.
26. \(\text{Public opinion in this country is everything.}\)
Abraham Lincoln
27. Pollsters are pushy.
28. In search of the unexplained variance.
29. Don’t call us, we’ll call you.

Katherine \(\text{Lind} \)
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
http://im.yahoo.com

>From mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu Wed Mar 29 14:00:37 2000
Received: from hejira.hunter.cuny.edu (hejira.hunter.cuny.edu
[146.95.128.97])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMT
    id OAA06179 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 14:00:36 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from social54 (social54.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.12.54])
    by hejira.hunter.cuny.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMT id RAA12900
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 17:04:40 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <4.2.2.20000329163757.00a48500@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>
X-Sender: mkuechle@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.2
Date: Wed, 29 Mar 2000 16:53:00 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Manfred Kuechler <mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu>
Subject: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Some students at UConn "in cooperation with the Center for Survey
Research and Analysis" are currently conducting a web survey on the "State
of the Survey Industry". I have no idea how the sample was drawn, but maybe
it is based on the AAPOR membership list. Anyway, the invitation arrived
via snail mail (on official CSRA letterhead) complete with an URL and a
login ID.

To my dismay, I discovered that I can answer the survey repeatedly (I stopped after completing it twice) and every time I get a polite "thank you" for completing the survey. Now, I just hope that the web survey software used at UConn records the IP address of the respondent (as well as the login code) so that duplicates can be eliminated. But a web survey should be set up so that multiple submissions are impossible in the first place. Even the junk Harris/Excite poll keeps you from answering the daily question twice (but you can easily beat them by disallowing cookies in your web browser setup).

So, given this glitch and the many rather vague questions in this survey, let us be careful about what may come from UConn in a few months as supposedly solid empirical evidence about the state of the survey industry. And if you are thinking about contracting a survey organization for a web survey, UConn may not be the place to go. M.

Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html

I too was a bit underwhelmed by the quality of the questions on their survey.
I'm glad I'm not the only one.
I haven't seen the study, but will confess publicly (so they don't feel so bad) that the first Internet survey we set up (for a targeted group to go to and fill out) allowed people to send multiple entries... We discovered a little psychological thing... people didn't seem to believe the confirmation reply, so they kept sending more to make sure they were counted (to top it off, some even mailed a hard copy, to be REALLY REALLY sure we heard their opinions). We were able to identify duplicates, but it was a painful lesson that cost us a couple days. Live and learn (again and again). cheers, mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aaponet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aaponet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of Bill Thompson
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 4:58 PM
To: aaponet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"

I too was a bit underwhelmed by the quality of the questions on their survey.
I'm glad I'm not the only one.
NEW YORK AAPOR & the MEDIA STUDIES CENTER present an Evening Meeting

Date ......................... Thursday, 13 April 2000
Reception .................. 5:30 p.m.
Presentation .............. 6:00 -- 7:30 p.m.

Place ......................... Newseum/NY (The Media Studies Center)
580 Madison Ave. (56-57th Sts.)/Mezzanine

Admission .................... NYAAPOR members, student members, HLMS,
MSC, free; other students, $5; all others, $15

RSVP by ...................... Thursday, 6 April
PLEASE E-MAIL RoniRosner@aol.com ONLY, NOT AAPORNET

CAMPAIGN 2000 PRIMARIES: Post-Mortem Poll Analyses

Mickey Blum ........ Blum & Weprin Associates
Murray Edelman ... Voter News Service
Dan Merkle .......... ABC News
Lee Miringoff ....... Marist Institute for Public Opinion

Already the pundits are calling it the most exciting presidential campaign in decades. This is your chance to ask our distinguished panel of political pollsters such questions as:

* Who did New Yorkers vote for on March 7 and why?
* How accurately have the polls anticipated the primary outcomes?
* What issues (if any) are driving the campaign?
* What role have independent voters played in the campaign so far?
* What were the turning points in the Republican and Democratic campaigns?
* What was McCain thinking when he dissed Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell?

BUILDING SECURITY CANNOT ADMIT ANYONE WHOSE NAME IS NOT ON OUR LIST!! If you are planning to attend, respond by Thurs., 6 April. E-mail RoniRosner@aol.com Or, if you must, call 722-5333

>From mark@bisconti.com Wed Mar 29 15:16:44 2000
Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
id PAA02539 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 15:16:42 -0800 (PST)
Received: from markbri (ip219.washington11.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET [38.30.47.219])
by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service Version 5.5.2232.9)
Accuracy, Accuracy, Accuracy
by Mark-David Richards, Dupont East, District of Columbia

I was told in journalism classes many moons ago that this should be the motto for journalists. I would also expect judges to consider accuracy important. Accuracy is not easy, especially under deadline. And, there is also the power of "myth" (in the "falsehood" sense). Once a myth is established, it takes on a life of its own as a fact. There are a couple of myths about the creation of the national capital that have been created and sustained for hundreds of years. These myths have been proven inaccurate by scholars such as Kenneth Bowling ("The Creation of Washington, D.C." and Co-Editor, First Federal Congress Project at George Washington University) years ago. But the power of myth is just too much, I guess, because they keep getting repeated--in nearly all tourist guidebooks, in our local press, and even--of all places--in Judge Oberdorfer's memo on the D.C. voting rights lawsuits.

Historians know this, and even this sociologist knows it, but I'm going to repeat it again. The first myth is that D.C. was built on a swamp. In fact, George Washington didn't pick a swamp, but rather a "wavy" hilly area with lots of water for cleansing, some of which were wetlands. This was important for a healthy city--most cities up to this time had been built on the coast, where they suffered from yellow fever. In my opinion, it is more accurate to say that Congress created a swamp. And that leads me to the next myth trumpeted in a front page history article in The Washington Post recently.

This second myth was also repeated by Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer ("Opinion of Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer concurring in part - dissenting in part," p. 8-9), where he cites--in support of the myth--the very person (Bowling) who disproved it. The myth as Judge Oberdorfer tells it is that "In 1783, while meeting in Philadelphia, hundreds of angry Revolutionary War veterans surrounded the State House and demanded compensation for their services. Neither the city of Philadelphia nor the State of Pennsylvania acted to protect Congress from the disturbances. At the Constitutional Convention in 1787, mindful of this so-called Philadelphia Mutiny, the Framers sought to ensure that the national government would be free from interference by any State government and from dependence upon any State for protection."
I checked with Bowling about this. He said exclusive jurisdiction was put in the Constitution because of the mutiny... BUT, the fact is, the mutiny was aimed at the state government, and the federal government wasn't even in session that Saturday. The federal government involved themselves by calling an emergency session, going to "the mutiny," passing by the soldiers, and entering Independence Hall which they shared with the state legislature. Hamilton and his clever centralist friends basically saw the event as an opportunity to argue that the federal government needed its own EXCLUSIVE jurisdiction (early spin doctors!). Evidence suggests Hamilton set the thing up—the soldiers said they had been inflamed by 3 federal officials on Friday night before their Saturday demonstration when they apologized for their behavior; somehow, Hamilton had known about the timing.

Centralists used the "mutiny" to muster support for a stronger central government—a controversial idea at the time, thereby creating the myth that has been sustained for 200 years. The myth backfired in the short run, as many Americans thought this just showed that the central government was incompetent. But in the long run, as Bowling writes in a paper he presented to the German Historical Institute Conference comparing Berlin and D.C., "The centralists gained nothing in the short run..., but the residents of Washington, D.C. have suffered the consequences for two centuries because the event brought out of the centralist closet a new and important constitutional idea: a federal government should have exclusive jurisdiction over its seat of government as a means of protecting its authority and dignity vis a vis the states. The concerns of the people residing under such jurisdiction were generally ignored as the idea gained support in the 1780s. Fortunately few nations adopted the idea, and the most prominent, Brazil and Australia, abandoned it in the 1980s."

This information doesn't change the fact that D.C. residents have been disenfranchised by the federal government, which uses the Exclusive Jurisdiction clause of the Constitution to make their case. That clause does not say that D.C. citizens should be stripped of political equality, but it gives Congress the right to take it from them (which they did). The Mutiny Myth shows the founders used clever means to accomplish their goals. D.C. citizens have thus far not devised equally clever means to regain the rights the won in the Revolution and lost in the 1787 Constitution. D.C. citizens can celebrate 200 years of being host to the national capital this year. But it's hard for them to celebrate the falsehood that that D.C. doesn't deserve political equality.

Professor Charles Harris of Howard University ("Congress and the Governance of the Nation's Capital") says that "the Constitution could be amended to allow Congress to intervene only to protect statutorily defined federal interests in the District. Currently, the federal interest consists of whatever a majority of legislators are willing to say it is. A constitutional amendment would allow District officials recourse to the courts if they felt that Congress had overstepped the legitimate boundaries of the federal interest." Harris showed (before the Control Board) that since the home rule government has been in place, "the federal government intervenes most often for reasons other than to protect a legitimate national interest. Parochial interests motivate many of these intrusions."

I like NBC Reporter Tom Sherwood's point, and I think this will be the concluding remark of my dissertation in which I've tried to understand why D.C. doesn't have equal rights after 200 years (whether it was a majority white or black area): "The toughest problem is getting people to care who
could do something about it. The power structure is happy with the status quo and feels no strong need to change. Democracy is a nice concept, not an imperative." That nicely sums up 200 years of D.C. history.

///

>From pmeyer@email.unc.edu Wed Mar 29 15:46:38 2000
Received: from smtprv0.isis.unc.edu (smtprv0.isis.unc.edu [152.2.1.139])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id PAA23720 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 15:46:38 -0800
(PST)
Received: from login5.isis.unc.edu (login5.isis.unc.edu [152.2.1.102])
    by smtprv0.isis.unc.edu (8.9.3/8.9.1) with ESMTP id SAA00599
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 18:46:35 -0500 (EST)
Received: (from pmeyer@localhost)
    by login5.isis.unc.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) id SAA56270;
Date: Wed, 29 Mar 2000 18:46:35 -0500 (EST)
From: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@email.unc.edu>
X-Sender: pmeyer@login5.isis.unc.edu
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Capital Myths
In-Reply-To: <NCBBKJCJFIDCKOPNAEEAEDNDAAA.mark@bisconti.com>
Message-ID: <Pine.A41.4.21L1.0003291832540.62530-100000@login5.isis.unc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

As a former resident of Washington D.C., I have to speak up in defense of the swamp "myth."

Just by looking around, one can see that the Capitol was set on a hill with high, dry ground to the east and low-lying wetlands to the west.

Those wetlands were eventually drained and filled, and streets and government buildings -- included the White House -- built on them. But if we were standing in them in 1790, they would have looked very much like a swamp.

It was the intention of the original designers for the city to grow to the east, on the high ground. For archeological evidence, just look at the statue of Freedom on top of the dome. She's facing east, with her back to the monuments, the business district and the agencies. The folks who placed her there expected her to be watching over the business part of the city, not a football stadium and a bunch of modest dwellings. So there!

====================================================================
Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism  Voice: 919 962-4085
CB 3365 Carroll Hall                      Fax: 919 962-1549
University of North Carolina              Cell: 919 906-3425
Chapel Hill NC 27599-3365                 http://www.unc.edu/~pmeyer
====================================================================

>From sidg@his.com Wed Mar 29 16:25:49 2000
Received: from herndon3.his.com (root@herndon3.his.com [209.67.207.6])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
I vote for #18.

Kat Lind wrote:

> The polls close in less than 36 hours - so if you haven't voted yet, please do so soon!
> > PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS ADDRESS W/ YOUR VOTE - ALL VOTES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS
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> > 2. When America talks, we listen.
> > 3. "Click here for the next 20 opinions" (with appropriate graphics included on the TShirt)
> > 4. Is that your final answer?
> > 5. When it comes to asking questions, AAPOR should be your FINAL ANSWER.
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Who wants to be a survey researcher?
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(Ticker symbol) then AAPOR: A public company
with bullish results
(Ticker symbol) then AAPOR: A public company
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That's your opinion!
Our policy Do ask, do tell.
That's what you think! AAPOR 2000
We have all the questions.
Your opinion counts if we count your opinion.
Public opinion in this country is everything.
Abraham Lincoln
Pollsters are pushy.
In search of the unexplained variance.
Don't call us, we'll call you.
Katherine Lind
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU
________________________________________________
Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
http://im.yahoo.com

> From chase@csra.uconn.edu Wed Mar 29 16:35:14 2000
Received: from UCONNVM.UConn.Edu (uconnvm.uconn.edu [137.99.26.3])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
   id QAA27582 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 16:35:13 -0800
(PST)
Received: from *unknown [137.99.84.44] by UCONNVM.UConn.Edu (IBM VM SMTP
V2R4a) via TCP with SMTP ; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 19:34:14 EST
X-Warning: UCONNVM.UConn.Edu: Could not confirm that host  
[137.99.84.44] is
chase
From: "Chase Harrison" <chase@csra.uconn.edu>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Cc: "Jaime Nieves" <jaime_nieves@hotmail.com>,
   "Zsolt Nyiri" <zsn98001@uconnvm.uconn.edu>,
Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
Date: Wed, 29 Mar 2000 19:38:21 -0500
Message-ID: <NDBBIAJCGKIDOEHBNPOLKEPDCHAA.chase@csra.uconn.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
[Colleagues:

I am posting this on behalf of four University of Connecticut graduate students who are not yet AAPORNET subscribers.]

We are the four University of Connecticut students currently conducting the study on "The State of the Survey Research Industry."

Professor Kuechler believed he found a problem with our survey, allowing respondents to make multiple submissions. This "problem" however, was a carefully constructed feature, designed to allow respondents who experienced technical difficulty while taking the survey the ability to revisit the site and complete the study. Multiple submissions are easily identifiable through IP addresses and logon ID's, and will be filtered out prior to the data analysis. Only the last entry from each respondent will be used for analysis.

The Center for Survey Research and Analysis conducts numerous web based studies of the highest quality. This particular project is being conducted by graduate students of the University, and should be reviewed as such.

We would like to take the time to thank those individuals who have participated in the study, as we have received an overwhelming response. We would also like to thank those individuals who have taken the time to use the suggestion box of the survey to provide valuable feedback. As students who seek to pursue a career within the survey research industry, we find your comments insightful, and welcome future constructive criticism.

This project has been a very valuable learning experience.

Yours truly

Valerie Tenore
Colleen E. McCulloch
Zsolt Nyiri
Jaime Nieves

> -----Original Message-----
> From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of
> Manfred Kuechler
> Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 4:53 PM
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
> 
> Some students at UConn "in cooperation with the Center for Survey
> Research and Analysis" are currently conducting a web survey on
> the "State
> of the Survey Industry". I have no idea how the sample was drawn,
> but maybe
> it is based on the AAPOR membership list. Anyway, the invitation arrived
> via snail mail (on official CSRA letterhead) complete with an URL and a
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> To my dismay, I discovered that I can answer the survey repeatedly (I
> stopped after completing it twice) and every time I get a polite "thank
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> software used at UConn records the IP address of the respondent
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> the login code) so that duplicates can be eliminated. But a web survey
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> the daily
> question twice (but you can easily beat them by disallowing
> cookies in your
> web browser setup).
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> So, given this glitch and the many rather vague questions in this survey,
> let us be careful about what may come from UConn in a few months as
> supposedly solid empirical evidence about the state of the survey
> industry.
> And if you are thinking about contracting a survey organization for a web
> survey, UConn may not be the place to go. M.
>
> Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
>
> From mark@bisconti.com Wed Mar 29 17:12:21 2000
> Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
> by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
> id RAA22102 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 17:12:20 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: from markbri (ip219.washington11.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET [38.30.47.219])
> by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service
> Version 5.5.2232.9)
> id F6ZZF3VQ; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 20:11:53 -0500
> From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
> To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
> Subject: RE: Capital Myths
> Date: Wed, 29 Mar 2000 20:07:41 -0500
> Message-ID: <NCBBKJCJKFIDCKOFNAAEEAADAAA.mark@bisconti.com>
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: text/plain;
> charset="iso-8859-1"
> Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
> X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
> X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
> X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
> X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300
> In-Reply-To: <Pine.A41.4.21L1.0003291832540.62530-100000@login5.isis.unc.edu>

> OK, fine, you can keep some of the swamp myth... D.C. was build NEAR
> some
> wetlands... Some parts of the federal mall near the river were drained when
> they built the Lincoln Memorial (not the White House--I'm pretty sure that
> was dry land, but the river was just a bit closer than it is now). A fine
> job of land reclamation, indeed!
Tobias Lear (Washington's private secretary) wrote some neat articles describing the land when Washington picked it out. Also see Bob Arnebeck's "Through a Fiery Trial: Building Washington 1790-1800."

The canal, which ran from the Potomac in front of the White House, past the Capital, and to the Anacostia River was filled in by D.C.'s presidentially-appointed Governor, Alexander "Boss" Shepherd, around 1870. The sewer from Congress and the White House drained there and cholera issues emerged. :) (The "Boss" couldn't get federal approval to fill it, so he just went ahead and surprised everybody...)!

I hadn't noticed Liberty has her back to the federal area (the National Capital Planning Area). Probably a signal to the White House. They say the Treasury is blocking the view and road between the two for a reason..., not related to the original design. People usually think Liberty is an Indian because she wears a feather-bedecked helmet instead of the original design in which she was to sport a "liberty cap," worn by freed slaves of Rome. Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War in 1851 when that debate was going on, insisted the artist change the headpiece because it offended the southern states. Slaves were used to put her in place on the dome when complete in 1863.

Oh, and one more thing you won't read in the history books just yet. Historians are pretty sure L'Enfant was gay. That's why they always write that he was "temperamental." He hung out with Frederick William Steuben, the Continental Army General (German). L'Enfant, from Versailles, came over to fight the British. Lafayette introduced him to General Washington—he painted his portrait. He considered himself American went by Peter, not Pierre. Washington had to fire him for--in the night--moving a house that was being built by a Commissioner on land where he intended to put a street (he got his way). They dug L'Enfant up in 1909, laid him in state in the Capitol rotunda, and reburied him on high ground in Arlington Cemetery overlooking the city. They renamed him Pierre at that time.

cheers, mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of Philip Meyer
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 6:47 PM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: Re: Capital Myths

As a former resident of Washington D.C., I have to speak up in defense of the swamp "myth."

Just by looking around, one can see that the Capitol was set on a hill with high, dry ground to the east and low-lying wetlands to the west.

Those wetlands were eventually drained and filled, and streets and government buildings -- included the White House -- built on them. But if we were standing in them in 1790, they would have looked very much like a swamp.

It was the intention of the original designers for the city to grow to the east, on the high ground. For archeological evidence, just look at the statue of Freedom on top of the dome. She's facing east, with her back to
the monuments, the business district and the agencies. The folks who placed her there expected her to be watching over the business part of the city, not a football stadium and a bunch of modest dwellings. So there!

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism  Voice: 919 962-4085
CB 3365 Carroll Hall  Fax: 919 274-2128
University of North Carolina  Cell: 919 906-3425
Chapel Hill NC 27599-3365  http://www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

>From mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu Wed Mar 29 17:32:28 2000
Received: from hejira.hunter.cuny.edu (hejira.hunter.cuny.edu
[146.95.128.97])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id RAA03694 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 29 Mar 2000 17:32:13 -0800
(PST)
Received: from social54 (social54.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.12.54])
   by hejira.hunter.cuny.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id UAA26434;
   Wed, 29 Mar 2000 20:36:19 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <4.2.2.20000329194344.00a35b90@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>
X-Sender: mkuechle@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.2
Date: Wed, 29 Mar 2000 20:24:00 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Manfred Kuechler <mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu>
Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
Cc: "Jaime Nieves" <jaime_nieves@hotmail.com>,
   "Zsolt Nyiri" <zsn98001@uconnvm.uconn.edu>
In-Reply-To: <NDBBIAJCGKIDOEHBNPOLKEPDCHAA.chase@csra.uconn.edu>
References: <4.2.2.20000329163757.00a48500@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 07:38 PM 3/29/00 -0500, Chase Harrison wrote:
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determine whether a questionnaire had been completed or whether the
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should be possible. To simply use the last submission is not a good rule at all (especially when the sample consists of professionals in the survey research field many of whom are deeply suspicious of web surveys [I am in the other group] and are likely to probe for weaknesses of this particular administration mode). In my case, I diligently completed the survey, trying hard even to answer questions that I felt were badly worded and used the box at the end to provide some feedback on the questionnaire. After submission of my real answers, I checked on the double submission feature completing the questionnaire with random answers. Given the rule in place, my nonsense answers will count, but my real answers will not -- unless the research team matches my name (now known via the AAPORNET posting) and the login id I was given -- which would raise some confidentiality issues, but the research team never promised anonymity in the first place. This is the equivalent of using invisible ink to mark return envelopes in a mail survey; some people think this is smart, others have some privacy concerns about this.

At any rate, my posting seem to have given this survey project an additional boost in terms of the response rate -- as many people seem to have taken note now and may wonder how good or bad the questions really are.

As to the "highest quality of numerous web based studies" done at UConn, I don't know any details of these studies. Maybe they are of the "highest quality", I have only seen this one. I always felt that it is important to keep student projects (a very valuable learning experience) clearly separate from professional studies. And letting students use the official letterhead of the institution and, furthermore, letting them state that the study is conducted "in cooperation with the Center for Survey Research and Analysis" (what is the cooperation about if the CSRA is not willing to be evaluated by the quality of this study?) is not a good idea. You cannot have it both ways: either the CSRA is in it (why mention it otherwise?) or it is not.

Given the volume of unjustified criticism that *decent* web surveys attract and given the many *junk* web surveys (I don't consider this one to be junk), I may be overly sensitive when I detect avoidable glitches and weaknesses in web surveys. I do believe that the future belongs to web surveys, but every suboptimal web survey makes it more difficult to convince the skeptics and to firmly establish good web survey practices. M.

Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html

>From LCook@FGINC.com Thu Mar 30 06:24:12 2000
Received: from exchange.fginc.com (mail.fginc.com [199.72.128.4])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id GAA20146 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 06:24:11 -0800
(PST)
Received: by EXCHANGE with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
  id <GZ666TS1>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 09:22:50 -0500
Message-ID: <003A0D612FF8D3118D1D00805F6509F9180016@EXCHANGE>
From: Lou Cook <LCook@FGINC.com>
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
Date: Thu, 30 Mar 2000 09:22:45 -0500
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
Thank you Manfred for initiating a discussion of this web survey. I agree with all points made and I'd like to make a point of my own. There are questions in the survey that presume the wireless world has become so popular that it threatens the viability of RDD samples. A study my company is currently conducting with wireless users is demonstrating that not only are people not forsaking their land-line telephones for wireless, but that interest in jumping completely wireless is extremely low.

Seems to me this survey is jumping the gun a bit.

Louis Cook
Senior Account Manager
FGI Research
(919) 932-8871
lcook@fginc.com

-----Original Message-----
From: Manfred Kuechler [mailto:mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 4:53 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"

Some students at UConn "in cooperation with the Center for Survey Research and Analysis" are currently conducting a web survey on the "State of the Survey Industry". I have no idea how the sample was drawn, but maybe it is based on the AAPOR membership list. Anyway, the invitation arrived via snail mail (on official CSRA letterhead) complete with an URL and a login ID.

To my dismay, I discovered that I can answer the survey repeatedly (I stopped after completing it twice) and every time I get a polite "thank you" for completing the survey. Now, I just hope that the web survey software used at UConn records the IP address of the respondent (as well as the login code) so that duplicates can be eliminated. But a web survey should be set up so that multiple submissions are impossible in the first place. Even the junk Harris/Excite poll keeps you from answering the daily question twice (but you can easily beat them by disallowing cookies in your web browser setup).

So, given this glitch and the many rather vague questions in this survey, let us be careful about what may come from UConn in a few months as supposedly solid empirical evidence about the state of the survey industry. And if you are thinking about contracting a survey organization for a web survey, UConn may not be the place to go. M.

Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html

>From rich@csra.uconn.edu Thu Mar 30 06:38:09 2000
Received: from UCONNVM.UConn.Edu (uconnvm.uconn.edu [137.99.26.3])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP id GAA24631 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 06:38:08 -0800 (PST)
Received: from exchange.csra.uconn.edu [137.99.41.178] by UCONNVM.UConn.Edu
Professor Kuechler's criticism of the "State of the Survey Research Industry" Internet study has prompted me to reply on behalf the Center for Survey Research (CSRA) at the University of Connecticut. I am the advisor to the group of students who are conducting this project.

First, I am very proud of the work they've done on the study. Surveying people who conduct survey research for a living, and many of whom teach survey research methods, was a brave endeavor. They knew that their study would garner a great deal of critique -- most of which they can learn from -- and they proceeded anyway.

As far as CSRA's "cooperation" in this project, the Center funded the project and its staff members provided advice and technical support. All of our graduate students must manage a survey research project from beginning to end as a part of one of our core courses. When the projects are not funded by external means, CSRA covers the costs. However, the project belongs to the students, who in this case even did most of the programming for the web. Having said that, speaking for the staff here at CSRA, we believe it is a pretty good project, and we stand by the work of our students.

In his first posting on the subject, Prof. Kuechler writes "And if you are thinking about contracting a survey organization for a web survey, UConn may not be the place to go." I will only address this by saying that no organization should be judged on a single project, whether the judgement is favorable or unfavorable. That he would make this judgement based upon what is clearly described as a student project is unfair.

Finally, although I disagree with many of his substantive comments about my students' survey, I agree that we all should be vigilant of bad surveys. I do, however, disapprove of the way Prof. Kuechler, as a fellow educator, publicly criticized the work of these students before contacting them for more information. On the other hand, I thank those who have taken the survey in good faith and have provided critiques in the comment box at the end of the survey. I know that the students and I are learning quite a lot from these.

Rich Clark, Ph.D.  
Center for Survey Research and Analysis  
U-1032, University of Connecticut  
341 Mansfield Road
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Manfred Kuechler [SMTP:mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu]
> Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 8:24 PM
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Cc: Jaime Nieves; Zsolt Nyiri
> Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
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>
> Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
> http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html
>
> From rstuefen@usd.edu Thu Mar 30 06:54:20 2000
> Received: from exchange.usd.edu (exchange.usd.edu [192.236.35.95])
>    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
>    id GAA01489 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 06:54:19 -0800
>    (PST)
> Received: by exchange.usd.edu with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
>    id <1R7PHWQC>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 08:50:53 -0600
> Message-ID: <C3AC1B98FED7D21190E700C00D003E8C02850970@exchange.usd.edu>
> From: "Stuefen, Randy" <rstuefen@usd.edu>
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
> Date: Thu, 30 Mar 2000 08:50:49 -0600
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Rich,

Kind comment.

In the questions that ask if you observe AAPOR’s code of ethics the distance between the response "Always .................. and Sometimes" causes people who do it "most of the time" to select a response that is not accurate and does not accurately reflect their practices.

Encourage the gang, tell them to take this well, the industry needs their talent.

Randy

-----Original Message-----
From: Rich Clark [mailto:rich@csra.uconn.edu]
Sent: March 30, 2000 8:35 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"

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Rich Clark, Ph.D.
Center for Survey Research and Analysis
U-1032, University of Connecticut
341 Mansfield Road
Storrs, CT 06269-1032
860-486-3373 (voice)
860-486-6655 (fax)
rich@csra.uconn.edu

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Manfred Kuechler [SMTP:mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu]
> Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 8:24 PM
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Cc: Jaime Nieves; Zsolt Nyiri
> Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
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Given the volume of unjustified criticism that *decent* web surveys attract and given the many *junk* web surveys (I don't consider this one to be junk), I may be overly sensitive when I detect avoidable glitches and weaknesses in web surveys. I do believe that the future belongs to web surveys, but every suboptimal web survey makes it more difficult to convince the skeptics and to firmly establish good web survey practices.

M.

Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html

>From zukin@rci.rutgers.edu Thu Mar 30 07:05:09 2000
Received: from gehenna0.rutgers.edu (gehenna0.rutgers.edu [165.230.116.155]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP id HAA06158 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 07:05:08 -0800 (PST)
Received: (qmail 27691 invoked by alias); 30 Mar 2000 15:05:07 -0000
Received: (qmail 27685 invoked from network); 30 Mar 2000 15:05:07 -0000
Received: from dpp273.rutgers.edu (HELO rci.rutgers.edu) (165.230.50.130) by gehenna0.rutgers.edu with SMTP; 30 Mar 2000 15:05:07 -0000
Here’s to Manfred Kuchler’s acknowledgement that he may be "overly sensitive." It is one thing to test a survey by making up random answers and giving multiple responses. It is quite another to then criticize the survey designers for not being able to tell when he was a serious respondent and then a non-serious one.

I am familiar with the very good program of survey research at the University of Connecticut, and think they should be applauded for the socialization and apprenticing of professional survey researchers. I am most surprised to hear criticism levelled at them from an academic who would apparently rather throw stones than build houses out of them.

--
Cliff Zukin   Rutgers University   e-mail: zukin@rci.rutgers.edu
Chair & Graduate Director * Department of Public Policy
Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
33 Livingston Ave., Suite 202 * New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1980
732/932-2499 x 712 (Of)  *  732/932-1107 (Fx)

Director, Star-Ledger/Eagleton Poll * Eagleton Inst. of Politics
185 Ryders Lane * New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8557
732/932-9384 x 247 (Of)  *  732/932-1551 (Fx)
Actually I think people may build stronger houses for the long run when they have had a few stones thrown at them. The students in this case exposed their work outside of the academic environment and thus invite whatever criticism is due. One thing that they should learn from this is that we are all under the microscope and that's a good thing. If you want to play it safe, stay in the classroom. If you want a taste of the real world, take your best shot. Somehow I doubt these students are that fragile and a few scars from an exercise like this is a bonus.

-----Original Message-----
From: Cliff Zukin [mailto:zukin@rci.rutgers.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2000 10:05 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: UCONN Survey

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>From gulicke@slhn.org Thu Mar 30 07:26:12 2000
Received: from ntserver.slhn.org (ntserver.slhn.org [205.147.244.5]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id HAA14122 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 07:25:44 -0800 (PST)
Received: by ntserver with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0) id <GSNSTDHZ>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 10:24:26 -0500
Message-ID: <7138ECDD5A46D11192AC0805F1930FFB8A53CB@ntserver>
From: "Gulick, Elizabeth" <gulicke@slhn.org>
To: ""aapornet@usc.edu"" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
As a "green" survey researcher myself, I was somewhat daunted by Prof. Kuechler's criticism towards the U Conn student group conducting the web survey. While I have no doubt that Prof. Kuechler is well accomplished, his comments make me want to climb into a hole and cover up my survey research efforts. I know there are bad surveys and there are good surveys. I believe it is the intent and the effort behind the survey that makes the difference. I for one would be very interested in hearing what this group learned from their survey, not only in terms of the results but in terms of the methodology (the whole process). I applaud their efforts and hope they (and us) learn much from the experience. I for one will consider myself a student of survey research for the rest of my days.

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(610) 954 - 2050 (Fax)
gulicke@slhn.org <mailto:gulicke@slhn.org>

-----Original Message-----
From: Rich Clark [mailto:rich@csra.uconn.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2000 9:35 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"

Professor Kuechler's criticism of the "State of the Survey Research Industry" Internet study has prompted me to reply on behalf of the Center for Survey Research (CSRA) at the University of Connecticut. I am the advisor to the group of students who are conducting this project.

First, I am very proud of the work they've done on the study. Surveying people who conduct survey research for a living, and many of whom teach survey research methods, was a brave endeavor. They knew that their study would garner a great deal of critique -- most of which they
can learn from
-- and they proceeded anyway.

As far as CSRA's "cooperation" in this project, the Center
funded the
project and its staff members provided advice and technical
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Finally, although I disagree with many of his substantive
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Rich Clark, Ph.D.
Center for Survey Research and Analysis
U-1032, University of Connecticut
341 Mansfield Road
Storrs, CT 06269-1032
860-486-3373 (voice)
860-486-6655 (fax)
rich@csra.uconn.edu

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Manfred Kuechler [SMTP:mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu]
> Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 8:24 PM
> To: aapornet@usc.edu
> Cc: Jaime Nieves; Zsolt Nyiri
> Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
>
> At 07:38 PM 3/29/00 -0500, Chase Harrison wrote:
> > .... [I am posting this on behalf of four University of Connecticut
> > graduate
> > >students who are not yet AAPORNET subscribers.]
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> Professor Kuechler believed he found a problem with our survey, allowing
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At any rate, my posting seem to have given this survey project an additional boost in terms of the response rate -- as many people seem to have taken note now and may wonder how good or bad the questions really are.

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A HREF="mailto:gulicke@slhn.org" U #0000FF"= SIZE=3D2 FACE=3D"Tahoma"=gulicke@slhn.org"

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In his first posting on the subject, Prof. Kuechler writes "And if you are thinking about contracting a survey organization for a web survey, UConn may not be the place to go." I will only address this by saying that no, I will only address this by saying that no organization should be judged on a single project, whether the judgement is favorable or unfavorable. That he would make this judgement based upon what is clearly described as a student project is unfair.

Finally, although I disagree with many of his substantive comments about my students' survey, I agree that we all should be vigilant of bad surveys. I do, however, disapprove of the way Prof. Kuechler, as a fellow educator, publicly criticized the work of these students before contacting them for more information. On the other hand, I thank those who have taken the survey in good faith and have provided critiques in the comment box at the end. I know that the students and I are learning quite a lot from these.

Rich Clark, Ph.D.
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U-1032, University of Connecticut
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[SMTP:mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu] 

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 = 
8:24 PM

To: &nbsp;&nbsp; = 
aapornet@usc.edu

Cc: &nbsp;&nbsp; Jaime Nieves; = 
Zsolt Nyiri

Subject: &nbsp;&nbsp; RE: Survey on the &quot;State of = 
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Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
It was very clear to me when I received this invitation that a group of students was conducting this survey effort as a part of their training and education. Therefore, I approached this instrument with the same sort of understanding and caution one would expect when one is driving and sees a "student driver" sign on a car. And I personally have never done or seen a perfect survey.

Many of us are teachers and some of us are students. A balance between critical judgement and compassionate assessment serves all of us as human beings and researchers.

We are all fortunate that (in addition to having a great basketball program) UConn houses the Roper Center, CSRA and a fine training place for new researchers.

Karen Donelan
Harvard School of Public Health
I too applaud the students, the Survey Research Center, and their professors. It's tough to expose your work to criticism, but who ever expected that learning was a "rose garden." I think that "learning from error" is often the only way to learn. We need, however, to be judicious in our assessment and precise in our criticism, as in "supportive learning with the goal of making its products and outcomes better." We could probably assist the students best through the modeling of a methodology of constructive criticism. They, after all, are in training to become the next generation's teachers. We ourselves, through this dialog that is taking place, are going through a learning process...

Cheers. Alice

**********************************************
* Alice Robbin                             *
* School of Information Studies            *
* Florida State University                  *
* 232 Louis Shores Building                *
* Tallahassee, Florida 32306-2100           *
* Office: 850-645-5676  Fax: 850-644-6253    *
* email: arobbin@mailer.fsu.edu             *
**********************************************
As an experienced researcher, a teacher of survey research, and Chair of the Roper Center, I applaud the effort of the Uconn students. This is a valuable experience for them. I trust the students will learn from the constructive criticisms they receive and be sufficiently thick-skinned to put the gratuitous comments in perspective. Believe me, I have seen worse questionnaires from persons who should know better.

My only concern, given that this was a teaching effort and did have some significant flaws, is that the results not be publicized as the "state of the industry." It should be kept private as a learning experience only.

Harry O'Neill

I run a medium sized survey research firm in San Francisco and I have been surveying professionally for over 20 years. I was trained in the Sociology Department at Washington State University in the 1970s. My first reaction to the UConn student survey was to have my assistant contact the department there and immediately post job listings for our company. Now I'm finding out I don't know what I'm doing. Imagine that, after all these years!

Take heart students, getting beat up by cranky old farts is just part of the business.
As a "green" survey researcher myself, I was somewhat daunted by Prof. Kuechler's criticism towards the U Conn student group conducting the web survey. While I have no doubt that Prof. Kuechler is well accomplished, his comments make me want to climb into a hole and cover up my survey research efforts. I know there are bad surveys and there are good surveys. I believe it is the intent and the effort behind the survey that makes the difference. I for one would be very interested in hearing what this group learned from their survey, not only in terms of the results but in terms of the methodology (the whole process). I applaud their efforts and hope they (and us) learn much from the experience. I for one will consider myself a student of survey research for the rest of my days.

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To: aapornet@usc.edu
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> Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 8:24 PM
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> Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
>
> http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html

The information contained in this communication is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee. It is the property of Freeman, Sullivan & Co. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return e-mail or by e-mail to postmaster@fsc-research.com, and destroy this communication and all copies thereof, including attachments.

Folks,

If you've ever wondered why women and men often seem to be from different planets (as the title of the recent bestseller puts it), modern science has at long last found your answer:

******

University of Chicago Chronicle - Internet Edition
MCCLINTOCK DISCOVERS TWO ODORLESS CHEMICAL SIGNALS INFLUENCE MOOD

University researchers have discovered that two naturally occurring steroids produce odorless chemical signals that can improve the mood of women but have the opposite effect on men.

http://chronicle.uchicago.edu/000330/mcclintock.shtml

*******

I believe the students at the University of Connecticut may have learned more about researchers than the state of the survey industry from the comments on aapornet. Some were gracious and encouraging and others,..., well let's just say there were others and leave it at that.

If there were questions or criticism it would have been more appropriately addressed to the students directly, rather than to this list. I hope this exercise served as a learning experience in list etiquette for all of us.

warren mitofsky

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

212 980-3031 Phone
212 980-3107 FAX
mitofsky@mindspring.com
Thanks Warren--wise words. mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of Warren Mitofsky
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2000 2:14 PM
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Subject: RE: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"

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If there were questions or criticism it would have been more appropriately addressed to the students directly, rather then to this list. I hope this exercise served as a learning experience in list etiquette for all of us. Warren Mitofsky

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

212 980-3031 Phone
212 980-3107 FAX
mitofsky@mindspring.com

>From maj1@is2.nyu.edu Thu Mar 30 12:19:38 2000
Received: from is2.nyu.edu (root@IS2.NYU.EDU [128.122.253.135]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id MAA10216 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 12:19:37 -0800 (PST)
Received: from e070h (SSWEN88.SSW.NYU.EDU [128.122.225.49]) by is2.nyu.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id PAA31972 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 15:19:36 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <3.0.6.32.20000330151920.007abdf0@is2.nyu.edu>
X-Sender: maj1@is2.nyu.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Light Version 3.0.6 (32)
Date: Thu, 30 Mar 2000 15:19:20 -0800
Not only may there have been lessons about list etiquette in this discussion, but the gender analysis has been fascinating.

Mary Ann Jones

At 02:13 PM 3/30/00 -0500, you wrote:
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>warren mitofsky

Mary Ann Jones, DSW
Associate Professor
Ehrenkranz School of Social Work
New York University
1 Washington Square North, Room G02
New York, N.Y. 10003
212-998-5972

>From jdfranz@earthlink.net Thu Mar 30 16:05:02 2000
Received: from goose.prod.itd.earthlink.net (goose.prod.itd.earthlink.net
[207.217.120.18])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id QAA22583 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 16:05:02 -0800
(PST)
Received: from earthlink.net (sdn-ar-021casfrMP103.dialsprint.net
[158.252.249.105])
  by goose.prod.itd.earthlink.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id QAA11911
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 16:04:54 -0800 (PST)
Message-ID: <38E3E97C.26787D50@earthlink.net>
Date: Thu, 30 Mar 2000 15:55:40 -0800
From: Jennifer Franz <jdfranz@earthlink.net>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (Win98; I)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
References: <4.2.2.20000329163757.00a48500@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>
AMEN to what Warren wrote.

Jennifer Franz

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Jennifer Franz

I too thought that the criticism was rather heavy-handed... And it's good to see
that many AAPORNET subscribers have come to the students' defense, recognizing
the survey for what it is.

Sid Groeneman
Market Facts

Chase Harrison wrote:

> [Colleagues:
> 
> I am posting this on behalf of four University of Connecticut graduate
> students who are not yet AAPORNET subscribers.]
>
> We are the four University of Connecticut students currently conducting the
> study on "The State of the Survey Research Industry."
>
> Professor Kuechler believed he found a problem with our survey, allowing
> respondents to make multiple submissions. This "problem" however, was a
> carefully constructed feature, designed to allow respondents who
> experienced
> technical difficulty while taking the survey the ability to revisit the
> site
> and complete the study. Multiple submissions are easily identifiable
> through IP addresses and logon ID's, and will be filtered out prior to the
> data analysis. Only the last entry from each respondent will be used for
> analysis.
>
> The Center for Survey Research and Analysis conducts numerous web based
> studies of the highest quality. This particular project is being
> conducted
> by graduate students of the University, and should be reviewed as such.
>
> We would like to take the time to thank those individuals who have
> participated in the study, as we have received an overwhelming response. We
> would also like to thank those individuals who have taken the time to use
> the suggestion box of the survey to provide valuable feedback. As
> students
> who seek to pursue a career within the survey research industry, we find
> your comments insightful, and welcome future constructive criticism.
>
> This project has been a very valuable learning experience.
>
> Yours truly
>
> Valerie Tenore
> Colleen E. McCulloch
> Zsolt Nyiri
> Jaime Nieves
>
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of
> > Manfred Kuechler
> > Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2000 4:53 PM
> > To: aapornet@usc.edu
> > Subject: Survey on the "State of the Survey Industry"
> > >
> > > Some students at UConn "in cooperation with the Center for Survey
> > Research and Analysis" are currently conducting a web survey on
> > the "State
> > of the Survey Industry". I have no idea how the sample was drawn,
> > but maybe
> > it is based on the AAPOR membership list. Anyway, the invitation arrived
> > via snail mail (on official CSRA letterhead) complete with an URL and a
> > login ID.
> >
> > To my dismay, I discovered that I can answer the survey repeatedly (I
> > stopped after completing it twice) and every time I get a polite "thank
> > you" for completing the survey. Now, I just hope that the web survey
> > software used at UConn records the IP address of the respondent
> > (as well as
> > the login code) so that duplicates can be eliminated. But a web survey
> > should be set up so that multiple submissions are impossible in the
> > first
> > place. Even the junk Harris/Excite poll keeps you from answering
> > the daily
> > question twice (but you can easily beat them by disallowing
> > cookies in your
> > web browser setup).
> >
> > So, given this glitch and the many rather vague questions in this
> > survey,
> > let us be careful about what may come from UConn in a few months as
> > supposedly solid empirical evidence about the state of the survey
> > industry.
> > And if you are thinking about contracting a survey organization for a
> > web
> > survey, UConn may not be the place to go. M.
> >
> > Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
> >
> > From ghroberts@worldnet.att.net Thu Mar 30 23:09:27 2000
> Received: from mtiwmhc24.worldnet.att.net (mtiwmhc24.worldnet.att.net
> [204.127.131.49])
> by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTMP
> id XAA05180 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 30 Mar 2000 23:09:26 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: from hewlett-packard ([12.75.96.30])
> by mtiwmhc24.worldnet.att.net
> (InterMail vM.4.01.02.39 201-229-119-122) with ESMTMP
> id
> <20000331070854.CBMD22495.mtiwmhc24.worldnet.att.net@hewlett-packard>
> for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 07:08:54 +0000
> From: "Glenn H. Roberts" <ghroberts@worldnet.att.net>
> To: "AAPORNET" <aapornet@usc.edu>
> Subject: Help reaching in/out movers
> Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 01:08:12 -0600
> X-MSPMail-Priority: Normal
> X-Priority: 3
> X-Mailer: Microsoft Internet Mail 4.70.1162
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
> Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
> Message-Id:
> <20000331070854.CBMD22495.mtiwmhc24.worldnet.att.net@hewlett-packard>
Have a client I'm consulting for who wants to interview by phone sample of persons who have moved into our metro area (Des Moines) from OUTSIDE the state and from WITHIN the state. Have some lists from phone company but am wondering if any have ideas of other database sources or have conducted such research. Will want to know their reasons for in/out moves...thanks for any help.

Regards, Glenn

Glenn Roberts; 6519 Washington Ave.; Des Moines, IA 50322-5939
515-276-7002    Fax: 515-276-0014    E-Mail: ghroberts@worldnet.att.net

---

Census day is tomorrow, and politicians are making the most of it.

Yesterday, Governor Bush said: "We want as accurate a count as possible, but I can understand why people don't want to give over that information to the government. If I have the long form, I'm not so sure I would do it either."

Today's Washington Post has a front page article describing the latest round of political blather over the Census, which can be read at:


For those who haven't seen the long form, the Post also provides on the same page an Adobe Acrobat copy that can be downloaded or viewed online.
I don't know about the rest of you, but I have had enough !@#$ from the GOP leadership on the census. First, they insist that the census should be an enumeration (according to the courts, rightly so). Now, they are making that enumeration more difficult, by feeding the paranoia that the census survey invades a family's privacy and by extension, that the data will be used by the government in a sinister fashion.

Ironically, they are creating an environment where, in order to obtain an accurate count and accurate statistics, it will be absolutely necessary to use a sampling methodology.

This is the essence of stupidity!

Sincerely, Joe Aistrup
newspaper and magazine. The director of the campus press wasn't thrilled at the prospect, because he had hired a glitzy market research firm to do that same work in the last year and assumed our stuff would be superfluous.

But hey, we were communication majors; we needed to know how to do this. He did offer to provide the same list he'd given to the market researcher.

Well, we actually pretested our instrument. And when we did, we learned that many of the "faculty" were actually graduate teaching assistants. We figured out a way to purge the sample so that grad students were only counted once, as students.

The client's comment: "Gee, I thought it was funny that the average age of faculty was only 26...."

So, yeah, being patient with students is important and learning from mistakes does work. (But it's more fun when they are other people's errors.)

Colleen

(whose son is playing tuba in the pep band for the final four--GO GATORS!!)

Colleen K. Porter
Project Coordinator, Florida Health Insurance Study
cporter@hp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/392-6919, Fax: 352/392-7109
UF Department of Health Services Administration
Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-009
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195
Received: from Kitten.mcs.net (Kitten.mcs.com [192.160.127.90]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id GAA07849 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 06:46:22 -0800 (PST)
Received: from mcs.net (P41-Chi-Dial-1.pool.mcs.net [205.253.224.41]) by Kitten.mcs.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id IAA22366 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 08:46:18 -0600 (CST)
(envelope-from mkshares@mcs.net)
Message-ID: <38E465DB.AFCEC115@mcs.net>
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 08:46:23 +0000
From: Nick Panagakis <mkshares@mcs.net>
Reply-To: mkshares@mcs.net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.5 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Help reaching in/out movers
References: <20000331070854.CBMD22495.mtiwmhc24.worldnet.att.net@hewlett-packard>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854";
x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Hi Glenn-

We did this a few years ago using a new mover list from Metromail. Their source was change of addresses filed with the Postal Service. (Some screening was necessary since this also included kids going away to college.)

Also try Survey Sampling. They seem to have almost everything.

http://www.ssisamples.com/ssi.x2o$ssi_gen.home

Regards,

Nick

"Glenn H. Roberts" wrote:

> Have a client I'm consulting for who wants to interview by phone sample of persons who have moved into our metro area (Des Moines) from OUTSIDE the state and from WITHIN the state. Have some lists from phone company but am wondering if any have ideas of other database sources or have conducted such research. Will want to know their reasons for in/out moves...thanks for any help.
> Regards, Glenn
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> Glenn Roberts; 6519 Washington Ave.; Des Moines, IA 50322-5939
> 515-276-7002    Fax: 515-276-0014    E-Mail: ghroberts@worldnet.att.net

Hi AAPOR-neters,

I need your help. I am looking for people/references on faculty/staff evaluation of college and university administrators. This could include faculty, professional staff, clerical and custodial staff, etc. evaluating
administrators from department or unit heads all the way up to college/university president and everything in between. I am interested in modes of survey administration (anything on WEB-based?), who has been involved in doing the surveys (faculty/staff unions? faculty senates? central administration?), what kind of data have been gathered, overcoming data collection problems, and how the results have been used.

You can post to me and I will provide a summary for interested parties.

Thanks very much!

Susan
Susan Carol Losh, PhD.
Spring-Summer 2000 PHONE 850-385-4266
slosh@garnet.fsu.edu

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE!

I AM NOW IN TRANSITION TO:

The Department of Educational Research
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453
850-644-4592 Educational Research Office
FAX 850-644-8776

FROM:

The Department of Sociology
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-2270
850-644-6416 Sociology Office
FAX 850-644-6208

>From mark@bisconti.com Fri Mar 31 08:36:34 2000
Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA19872 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 08:36:33 -0800
(PST)
Received: from markbri (ip40.washington11.dc.pub-ip.PSI.NET [38.30.47.40])
    by pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service
    Version 5.5.2232.9)
    id F62ZFP15; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:37:07 -0500
From: "Mark Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
My suggestion to people living in states... VOTE. Take the "radical" branch of the Republican Party home, please, and send nicer representatives! N.C. managed to take Faircloth home last election and put John Edwards in that job--it was pure joy for DC citizens, made them feel a lot better about the direction NC was taking (Faircloth and friends beat the District up really bad; their ongoing mutterings about the census are mild by comparison.). But, it's not always about Party. Look at Connie Morella, a Republican from Maryland--the country needs more reasonable and gracious people like her.

>From any Party. cheers, mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of jaistrup@fhsu.edu
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2000 8:10 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: The Republicans and the Census

I don't know about the rest of you, but I have had enough !@#$ from the GOP leadership on the census. First, they insist that the census should be an enumeration (according to the courts, rightly so). Now, they are making that enumeration more difficult, by feeding the paranoia that the census survey invades a family's privacy and by extension, that the data will be used by the government in a sinister fashion.

Ironically, they are creating an environment where, in order to obtain an accurate count and accurate statistics, it will be absolutely necessary to use a sampling methodology.

This is the essence of stupidity!

Sincerely, Joe Aistrup
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 09:57:43 -0600
From: Lu Chou <luchou@dpls.dacc.wisc.edu>
Subject: Data Availability Announcement

> March 31, 2000
> 
> Please excuse any cross listing of this announcement. The Data and Program
> Library Service is pleased to announce the addition of the following dataset
> to our Web-based Online Data Archive.
> 
> Please feel free to redistribute this announcement.
> 
> DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT
> 
> TITLE:
> The Survey of Economic Expectations -- Waves 1-8
> 
> Unique Identification Number:
> CA-052-001-1-1-USA-DPLS-1994
> 
> URL:
> http://dpls.dacc.wisc.edu/econexpect/index.html
> 
> Data File:
> Stata 6.0 file and tab-delimited ASCII file + codebook
> (WordPerfect
> and PDF
> formats)
> 
> Summary:
> The Survey of Economic Expectations (SEE) is a nationwide survey that
> examines how Americans in the labor force perceive their near-term economic
> future. The SEE questions are asked as a periodic module of the WISCON
> Survey, an ongoing project of the University of Wisconsin Survey Center. The
> WISCON Survey consists of daily telephone interviews with a nationwide
> probability sample, including a set of constant core questions about
> experiences and attitudes, and additional questions such as those in the SEE
> module. The SEE questions are asked during the May-July and November-January
> interviewing periods. This dataset includes the SEE interviews from 1994
to
> 1998, producing a total of 5,423 interviews in eight waves. The data from
> all of the SEE module questions and most of the WISCON core questions from
> these eight waves are included.

**********************************************
Lu Chou, Special Librarian
Data and Program Library Service
3308 Social Science Building
1180 Observatory Drive
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706
phone: 608-262-0750 fax: 608-262-9711

******

>From jpearson@stanford.edu Fri Mar 31 10:46:58 2000
Received: from smtp.Stanford.EDU (smtp.Stanford.EDU [171.64.14.23])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id KAA25377 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 10:46:57 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from ..stanford.edu (PC-Pearson-J.Stanford.EDU [171.64.152.94])
   by smtp.Stanford.EDU (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id KAA12982
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 10:46:56 -0800 (PST)
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000331104451.0095b100@jpearson.pobox.stanford.edu>
X-Sender: jpearson@jpearson.pobox.stanford.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 10:46:55 -0800
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Jerold Pearson <jpearson@stanford.edu>
Subject: Re: The Republicans and the Census
In-Reply-To: <OFED26F6FC.DC9DBA79-ON86256BB3.0046F8C6@fhsu.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

>I don't know about the rest of you, but I have had enough !@#$ from the GOP
>leadership on the census [snip snip] This is the essence of stupidity!

Ah, but that's become the essence, or at least the hallmark, of the GOP.

Jerold Pearson

>From kat_lind99@yahoo.com Fri Mar 31 11:17:10 2000
Received: from web701.mail.yahoo.com (web701.mail.yahoo.com [128.11.23.21])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
   id LAA17785 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:17:09 -0800
   (PST)
Received: (qmail 8680 invoked by uid 60001); 31 Mar 2000 19:17:07 -0000
Message-Id: <20000331191707.8679.qmail@web701.mail.yahoo.com>
Received: from [129.252.103.23] by web701.mail.yahoo.com; Fri, 31 Mar 2000
11:17:07 PST
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:17:07 -0800 (PST)
From: Kat Lind <kat_lind99@yahoo.com>
Subject: T-Shirt Slogan Runoff
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Due to the overwhelming number of great T-Shirt slogans this year, we are conducting a runoff for the best of the best. Please vote for your favorite from the top 5 contenders.

**********VERY IMPORTANT - VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**********

****Send all votes to TSHIRT2000_1999@yahoo.com

****DO NOT Reply to this email and reveal your vote to everyone on AAPORNET****

The TOP 5 AAPOR T-SHIRT SLOGANS are (not in any particular order):

2. When America Talks, We Listen

4. Is That Your Final Answer?

25. Your Opinion Counts Only If We Count Your Opinion.

26. "Public Opinion In This Country Is Everything". Abraham Lincoln

29. Don't Call Us, We'll Call You.

The deadline for votes is April 5th - Midnight.

Katherine "Kat" Lind
AAPOR Social Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU
Oh, and I suppose Al Gore's "break" with Clinton on the Cuban child issue is based on pure, heartfelt concern for the child's welfare, as opposed to some purely political motive, like, maybe, beefing up his electoral chances amongst a typically more conservative voting block?? No, there are no shallow, self-serving Democrats out there, only Republicans do that sort of "mean-spirited" thing.

Gimme a break.

Jerold Pearson <jpearson@stanford.edu> on 03/31/2000 01:46:55 PM

Please respond to aapornet@usc.edu

To:   aapornet@usc.edu
cc:    (bcc: Bill Thompson/DRI)

Subject:  Re: The Republicans and the Census

>I don't know about the rest of you, but I have had enough !@#$ from the GOP leadership on the census [snip snip] This is the essence of stupidity!

Ah, but that's become the essence, or at least the hallmark, of the GOP.

Jerold Pearson

>From jpearson@stanford.edu Fri Mar 31 11:29:14 2000
Received: from smtp.Stanford.EDU (smtp.Stanford.EDU [171.64.14.23])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id LAA01108 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:29:13 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from ..stanford.edu (PC-Pearson-J.Stanford.EDU [171.64.152.94])
    by smtp.Stanford.EDU (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id LAA00564
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:29:10 -0800 (PST)
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20000331112458.0096ac90@jpearson.pobox.stanford.edu>
X-Sender: jpearson@jpearson.pobox.stanford.edu
No, there are no shallow, self-serving Democrats out there, only Republicans do that sort of "mean-spirited" thing. Gimme a break.

No argument there. I should have added that the Demos are not far behind when it comes to shallowness and stupidity. And, just so no one else feels overlooked, there are plenty of wingnuts in all the smaller parties too.

Jerold Pearson

I'd just like to point out that we have crossed well into treacherous territory here!

In an effort to steer us away from the shoals of partisanship, allow me to ask has anyone done any research on why people (apparently) see the census as more intrusive this year than they did in 1990?

--

Leo G. Simonetta
Art & Science Group, Inc.
simonetta@artsci.com
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Gimme a break.

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Please respond to aapornet@usc.edu

To: aapornet@usc.edu
cc: (bcc: Bill Thompson/DRI)

Subject: Re: The Republicans and the Census

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Ah, but that's become the essence, or at least the hallmark, of the GOP.

Jerold Pearson

From jpearson@stanford.edu Fri Mar 31 11:51:42 2000
Received: from smtp.Stanford.EDU (smtp.Stanford.EDU [171.64.14.23]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id LAA20360 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:51:41 -0800 (PST)
Received: from ..stanford.edu (PC-Pearson-J.Stanford.EDU [171.64.152.94]) by smtp.Stanford.EDU (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id LAA09944 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:51:39 -0800 (PST)
Message-ID: <4.2.0.58.20000331114121.00968220@jpearson.pobox.stanford.edu>
X-Sender: jpearson@jpearson.pobox.stanford.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:51:29 -0800
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Just a quick apology: Sorry for (ab)using the list to make a smart-ass political quip. Some topics we deal with can not avoid being of a political nature, but my facile remark was clearly not one of them.

Mea culpa. But it finally stopped raining here and the sun is out, and I just figured a bunch of us on the list were in a frisky mood this morning.

Jerold Pearson

>From: worc@mori.com Fri Mar 31 11:56:30 2000
Received: from finch-post-10.mail.demon.net (finch-post-10.mail.demon.net [194.217.242.38])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
     id LAA24018 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 11:56:28 -0800 (PST)
Received: from worc.demon.co.uk ([194.222.4.107] helo=worc)
  by finch-post-10.mail.demon.net with smtp (Exim 2.12 #1)
  id 12b7Wn-0004X4-0A
  for aapornet@usc.edu; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 19:56:22 +0000
Message-ID: <024901bf9b4b$48112980$6b04dec2@worc.demon.co.uk>
From: "Robert M Worcester" <worc@mori.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: The Republicans and the Census
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 18:48:51 +0100
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.3110.1
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3

Come on Joe, tell us what you really think!
-----Original Message-----
From: jaistrup@fhsu.edu <jaistrup@fhsu.edu>
To: aapornet@usc.edu <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: 31 March 2000 14:11
Subject: The Republicans and the Census

> I don't know about the rest of you, but I have had enough !@#$ from the GOP leadership on the census. First, they insist that the census should be an enumeration (according to the courts, rightly so). Now, they are making that enumeration more difficult, by feeding the paranoia that the census survey invades a family's privacy and by extension, that the data will be used by the government in a sinister fashion.
> Ironically, they are creating an enviroment where, in order to obtain an accurate count and accurate statistics, it will be absolutely nessary to use a sampling methodology.
> This is the essence of stupidity!
>
>Sincerely, Joe Aistrup
>
>From surveys@wco.com Fri Mar 31 12:54:57 2000
Received: from e4500a.callatg.com (qmailr@e4500a.callatg.com
[206.58.250.60])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
  id MAA18117 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 12:54:29 -0800
(PST)
Received: (qmail 84 invoked from network); 31 Mar 2000 20:54:21 -0000
Received: from unknown (HELO surveys) (216.174.247.111)
  by e4500a.callatg.com with SMTP; 31 Mar 2000 20:54:21 -0000
Message-ID: <00a801bf9b53$35502960$02c8a8c0@dummy.net>
From: "Hank Zucker" <surveys@wco.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
References: <91E2D5E92CF5D311A81900A0248FC2F36D9A@AS_SERVER>
Subject: Re: The Republicans and the Census
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 12:53:33 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2615.200
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2615.200

> I'd just like to point out that we have crossed well into treacherous
territory here!

I believe that AAPOR should stay away from politics almost all the time. I
think the Republican attack on the Census is an exception (though some
recent comments may have been phrased a tad indelicately). That attack is suitable
for AAPOR discussion and action because we have expertise in sampling and because use
Census results in our work. We, as an organization, should do whatever we
can to improve the accuracy of the Census.

The Republican attack on the use of sampling to improve that accuracy is one
of the most morally despicable acts possible in a democracy. They know, as
we do, that the undercount is not completely random. Poor minorities that
live in cities are much more likely to be missed than whites in suburban or
rural areas. Republicans (or at least certain elements of their leadership)
don't like the kinds of people most likely to be missed and want to
minimize their political clout and share of government resources.
Fundamentally, these Republicans do not support the one-person-one-vote
bedrock of true democracy.

Do any Republican AAPOR members of AAPOR disagree with this analysis?

What can we as AAPOR do to help improve the accuracy of the Census?

Hank Zucker
In an effort to steer us away from the shoals of partisanship, allow me
to ask has anyone done any research on why people (apparently) see the
census as more intrusive this year than they did in 1990?

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

-----Original Message-----
From: Bill Thompson [mailto:bthompson@directionsrsc.com]
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2000 2:15 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: The Republicans and the Census

Oh, and I suppose Al Gore's "break" with Clinton on the Cuban
child issue is
based on pure, heartfelt concern for the child's welfare, as
opposed to some
purely political motive, like, maybe, beefing up his
electoral chances amongst a
typically more conservative voting block?? No, there are no shallow,
self-serving Democrats out there, only Republicans do that sort of
"mean-spirited" thing.

Gimme a break.

Jerold Pearson <jpearson@stanford.edu> on 03/31/2000 01:46:55 PM
Please respond to aapornet@usc.edu
To: aapornet@usc.edu
cc: (bcc: Bill Thompson/DRI)
Subject: Re: The Republicans and the Census

I don't know about the rest of you, but I have had enough!
from the GOP
leadership on the census [snip snip] This is the essence of
stupidity!

Ah, but that's become the essence, or at least the hallmark,
of the GOP.

Jerold Pearson
> > > > > > > > > > From slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu Fri Mar 31 12:57:30 2000
Received: from garnet.acns.fsu.edu (gmhub.acns.fsu.edu [146.201.2.30])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id MAA20511 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 12:57:29 -0800
(PST)
Received: from garnet1.acns.fsu.edu (garnet1-fi.acns.fsu.edu
[192.168.197.1])
  by garnet.acns.fsu.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id PAA40010
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 15:56:36 -0500
Received: from fsu.edu.fsu.edu (dial823.acns.fsu.edu [146.201.35.213])
  by garnet1.acns.fsu.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id PAA26012
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 15:56:34 -0500
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 15:56:34 -0500
Message-Id: <200003312056.PAA26012@garnet1.acns.fsu.edu>
X-Sender: slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.2
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Susan Losh <slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu>
Subject: RE: The Republicans and the Census

But do they? I remember all the same stuff cropping up (intrusiveness and
sampling) in the 1990 and the stuff on intrusiveness and the long form in
1980 (in deference to my rapidly advancing age I will not go beyond these
two).

Thus any trend data will be interesting.

Cheers,
Susan

At 02:28 PM 3/31/2000 -0500, you wrote:
> I'd just like to point out that we have crossed well into treacherous
> territory here!
> >
> In an effort to steer us away from the shoals of partisanship, allow me
> to ask has anyone done any research on why people (apparently) see the
> census as more intrusive this year than they did in 1990?
> >
> --
> Leo G. Simonetta
> Art & Science Group, Inc.
> simonetta@artsci.com
> >
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Bill Thompson [mailto:bthompson@directionsrsc.com]
> Oh, and I suppose Al Gore's "break" with Clinton on the Cuban
> child issue is
> based on pure, heartfelt concern for the child's welfare, as
> opposed to some
> purely political motive, like, maybe, beefing up his
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> "mean-spirited" thing.
> Gimme a break.

Jerold Pearson <jpearson@stanford.edu> on 03/31/2000 01:46:55 PM

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> >leadership on the census [snip snip] This is the essence of
> stupidity!
> Ah, but that's become the essence, or at least the hallmark,
> of the GOP.

Jerold Pearson

Susan Carol Losh, PhD.
Spring-Summer 2000 PHONE 850-385-4266
slish@garnet.fsu.edu
PLEASE MAKE A NOTE!

I AM NOW IN TRANSITION TO:

The Department of Educational Research
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453
850-644-4592 Educational Research Office
FAX 850-644-8776

FROM:

The Department of Sociology
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-2270
850-644-6416 Sociology Office
FAX 850-644-6208

>From HOneill536@aol.com Fri Mar 31 13:25:37 2000
Received: from imo-d04.mx.aol.com (imo-d04.mx.aol.com [205.188.157.36])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id NAA07993 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 13:25:36 -0800
   (PST)
From: HOneill536@aol.com
Received: from HOneill536@aol.com
   by imo-d04.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v25.3.) id 5.9e.2b4f97e (4002)
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 16:25:02 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <9e.2b4f97e.261671ae@aol.com>
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2000 16:25:02 EST
Subject: Re: The Republicans and the Census
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 61

Let's knock off using aapornet for political postings.
>From rshalpern@mindspring.com Fri Mar 31 13:29:32 2000
Received: from tisch.mail.mindspring.net (tisch.mail.mindspring.net
[207.69.200.157])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id NAA10191 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 13:29:31 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from w5y0s9 (user-381cpor.dialup.mindspring.com [209.86.103.27])
   by tisch.mail.mindspring.net (8.9.3/8.8.5) with ESMTP id QAA15727
Folks,

Doesn't the current furor about the perceived intrusiveness of the census suggest that a better public relations effort is needed on the part of the Census Bureau to better educate the American people as to the value of the different kinds of questions? American business ought also to play a role here as they, as a group, depend heavily on census data to better analyze and understand their markets. The data is not used only to advance the social agendas of various groups.

Unfortunately, it may be a bit late to do very much at this point but perhaps it is worth a try. I note that many communities have mounted their own public relations effort to motivate people to submit their census forms -- but the effort focuses primarily on head counts since these communities realize that the head count will influence funding from the Federal Government. They finally figured this out and want to do something about it.

Our schools also have a responsibility for educating our kids as to the use of the information generated and its value. If there is not a concerted effort on everyone's part, we will face the same obstacles in 2010. The issue will become increasingly and irrelevantly politicized to everyone's disadvantage.

What is interesting is the comment by the head of the census bureau, Prewitt, "There's not a question on the form that hasn't been put there by Congress. So Congress is having an argument with itself and not with the Census Bureau."

The moaning and groaning of folks like Trent Lott and GW along with a number of Democrats are almost funny given that every member of congress (as I understand) was sent a copy of the long and short forms some time ago with the instruction to look it over and raise any objections about the content. Seems everyone endorsed it until they began getting phone calls from annoyed constituents. So, rather than support what they had previously endorsed, they are now on an inadvertent path to destroy the basic accuracy of the head count. That's hypocrisy and lack of leadership on all sides. Guess we'll have to resort to statistical sampling to correct the errors. Back to square one.

Dick Halpern

*****************************************************************
Right on, Bill! I, too, am tired of aapor's biases on the net.

I disagree with your position and the nasty way you express it.
As an addendum to my previous remarks about when congress was informed about the questionnaire content this quote from an Associated Press release makes one wonder about the validity of congressional complaints (assuming the statement is factual):

"Members of Congress received a detailed list of the questions two years ago from the Census Bureau and had a chance to weigh in, said Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., ranking member of the House Government Reform Committee's census panel."

In a message dated 3/31/00 4:26:11 PM Eastern Standard Time, HOneill536@aol.com writes:

<< Let's knock off using aapornet for political postings. >>

I concur. It's contrary to the purpose and spirit of AAPOR.

Jay Mattlin
Harry,

Whose position?

At 04:33 PM 3/31/00, you wrote:
>I disagree with your position and the nasty way you express it.

>From rshalpern@mindspring.com Fri Mar 31 19:54:11 2000
Received: from maynard.mail.mindspring.net (maynard.mail.mindspring.net [207.69.200.243])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id TAA05148 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 31 Mar 2000 19:54:10 -0800
(PST)
Received: from mindspring.com (user-38lcdv3.dialup.mindspring.com [209.86.55.227])
  by maynard.mail.mindspring.net (8.9.3/8.8.5) with ESMTP id WAA17602;
  Fri, 31 Mar 2000 22:54:06 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <38E57297.EBCE26AA@mindspring.com>
From: rshalpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com>
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Questions About Privacy on 'Census Day'
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
  boundary="------------D5E5562ADB35F99DA6F45ED7"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.
------------D5E5562ADB35F99DA6F45ED7
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here's the latest info re the Census issue from the NY Times. Politics
aside it's not a pretty picture. Could this have been avoided, and if
so, how? Whether we like it or not the public's reaction to the Census
is likely to reflect back on their feelings about public opinion polling
in general.

Dick Halpern

file:///C|/My Documents/01privacy-census.html
WASHINGTON, March 31 -- Saturday is Census Day, the day the government takes a demographic snapshot of every man, woman and child in America to find out how many of them there are and where they live and how old they are and what race they consider themselves, and to make it possible to tabulate, among dozens of other factors, their education, marital status, income and housing conditions.

Questions About Privacy on 'Census Day'
March 31, 2000

Questions About Privacy on 'Census Day'

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

WASHINGTON, March 31 -- Saturday is Census Day, the day the government takes a demographic snapshot of every man, woman and child in America to find out how many of them there are and where they live and how old they are and what race they consider themselves, and to make it possible to tabulate, among dozens of other factors, their education, marital status, income and housing conditions.

To some people, this is an invasion of their privacy. Most people interviewed at random in several cities around the country were happy, even eager, to answer the census questions. But it was not hard to find ones who were upset.

"Some of it was too personal," said Tom Donahue, a retiree who lives in the Charlestown section of Boston. "I didn't fill in those parts. I just left them blank."

Adriana Farrell, a software developer in suburban Minneapolis, asked, "Am I Hispanic because my mom is from Ecuador?"

At a bar on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, Ken Rickert, an elevator mechanic, said he would not return his census form because "this is a government institution, and I don't want any part of it."

Carolyn Berghoff, a member of the Chicago Lyric Opera's choir, said she and her husband, Robert, a lawyer, answered all the questions except the ones dealing with income, which they left blank.

"The older you get the more reluctant you are to give out that kind of financial information," Ms. Berghoff said.

The Census Bureau wants to know where people were living on April 1, and it mailed census forms earlier this month to 120 million home addresses, asking who would be living there on April 1.

In an interview today, Kenneth Prewitt, the census director, said,
"There's not a single question on the census that was not put there to fulfill some very serious piece of legislation or government program."

"If you think Head Start is invasive, if you think mass-transit routes are invasive, if you think the location of veterans hospitals is invasive, then maybe so, but they depend on the census," Mr. Prewitt continued. "Cost-of-living increases for Social Security and veterans could not be calculated without the census."

There are two census forms. Most households get the short form, which asks seven basic questions about the number of people living at each address and their age, sex and race. Hardly anyone objects to answering these questions.

One household in six gets the more elaborate long form, which has 53 questions, and this is where the objections arise.

The complaints have been frequent enough that some politicians, almost all Republicans, have weighed in.

Senator Trent Lott of Mississippi, the majority leader, has made public-service commercials urging people in his state to return their census forms.

Senator Lott's spokesman, John Czwartacki, said that many constituents had complained that their rights were being infringed and that the senator had encouraged them to skip the questions they objected to and to send in the rest of the form.

Another Republican senator, Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, has prepared legislation that would remove the criminal penalty for failing to answer questions.

His spokeswoman, Deb Fiddelke, said their office had received about 200 complaints about items being intrusive.

Even Gov. George W. Bush of Texas entered the fray, saying at a campaign stop in Milwaukee this week that he was not sure he would answer all the questions himself. He advised people, "If they're worried about the government intruding into their personal lives, they ought to think about it."

Democrats accused the Republicans of playing politics with an essential element of the American government.

"They don't want people counted," said Representative Richard A. Gephardt of Missouri, the House minority leader, "because they think it serves their political purpose."

In his radio address on Saturday, the White House said, President Clinton will encourage Americans to return their census forms.

Bill Beach, a senior fellow in economics at the Heritage Foundation, said the government simply did not need to have so much information about so many people. "The scope is awesome as to what the government is asking you by law to reveal," he declared.

But Stephen Fienberg, a professor of statistics and social science at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, said, "Every question is there because there is a law that cannot be implemented without the data, and the only way we can get the data is through the census."

Questions about race, Mr. Fienberg said, are essential to enforcing voting-rights laws. Questions about language are necessary for various education programs. Questions about plumbing and kitchen equipment are needed for housing programs.

Complaints about privacy arise every 10 years, said Margo Anderson, a professor at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, who has written a history of the census. But she said she could not recall a time when so many politicians complained at the very time the count was being made.
Across the country this week, census takers went to homeless shelters and soup kitchens in the hope of enumerating people. Over the next month, nursing homes, college dormitories and prisons will be visited. Beginning on April 18, census workers will knock on the doors of households that have not returned their forms. Half a million temporary workers will be hired for these duties. To encourage participation, the Census Bureau has run an extensive advertising campaign, much of it on television. The advertising budget, approved by Congress, is $167 million.

As of today, the Census Bureau reported, 50 percent of households had responded. The response rate ranged from 37 percent in Mississippi to 56 percent in Nebraska. Mr. Prewitt, the census director, said the goal was a national response of 61 percent, before census takers began the count of those who failed to return the forms sent to their homes.

State-by-state population tallies will be completed by the end of this year, and they will be used to determine how many Congressional seats are allotted to each state. If preliminary estimates pan out, New York and Pennsylvania will lose two seats, and Arizona and Texas will gain two. Connecticut, Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio, Oklahoma and Wisconsin will lose one seat each. California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Montana and Nevada will gain one. By April 1, 2001, each state will receive block-by-block counts. These will be used for redistricting within the states and for such decisions as where to build schools, roads and fire stations. More detailed data will then be reported periodically.

The statistics are not used just by governments and social scientists. Businesses rely on them to determine where to advertise, where to invest and where to locate. When this year's count is complete, the experts say, the population of the United States will be about 275 million. That is 200 million higher than the count at the turn of the last century.

In 1920, the census found that America had crossed the divide that separates a rural nation from an urban one. The 1980 census showed that the population of the South and West exceeded that of the North and Midwest. The 1990 census was the first, in asking who lived at an address, to use the term "unmarried partner." The Supreme Court, in a 5-to-4 decision, held last year that the actual head count had to be used for reapportionment of Congressional seats. But this year, for the first time, the Census Bureau is also using a sampling technique to enumerate people who were missed by the head count. The justices did not rule on what this more accurate count could be used for -- on whether, for example, it can be the basis for drawing the redistricting maps within states.

The result, no doubt, will be a flurry of lawsuits, filed by political parties, civil rights groups, conservative legal foundations, cities and suburban counties, each of them trying to compel or prohibit the government from using the population counts derived from sampling.
Dear All:

As a very liberal democrat who uses data from the Census almost everyday, and who teaches about the Census in his courses, I feel I must weigh in.

The Census is about two things, and two things only:

POWER and MONEY!!!!

The advertising campaign that ties the Census answers directly to the receipt of government funds for programs that I certainly support: day care, funds for the fire department, and funds for education (who will ever forget the teacher looking for her room and finding the custodian's store room) can only serve to enrage those who would just as soon not fund such programs, or fund them on the "poor side of town."

Higher counts mean more votes and money for large urban areas, especially there poorer parts when immigrants and minorities dwell.

So I am neither shocked nor surprised about the drumbeat against the Census, sweeping from the Rush Limbaugh show to G W Bush.

Maybe the adds are working. See the press release below.

AAPOR definitely has much at stake in a successful census. Not only do many members work for the Bureau, but the Bureau's numbers are what we all depend on.

As to income non-response, you can look at it yourself from the 1990 Census. We found the rate as high 35% (for those who sent back a form) on the Upper East Side of New York. (But the area we were looking at reported an average homeowner income of $730,000 per year in 1990. If you want to read about that area, check the web site http://www.soc.qc.edu/Maps/footnote.html)

Everyone should calm down. I think Prewitt has done a great job. I think the initial response rate will wind up to be about where it was last year.

I think the recent attacks in ironic way are testimony to this.

Andy Beveridge
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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** CENSUS BUREAU MEDIA ADVISORY **

CENSUS BUREAU REPORTS 50 PERCENT OF CENSUS FORMS HAVE BEEN MAILED BACK

The Census Bureau reported today that 50 percent of Census 2000 forms have been returned, according to the latest "initial response rates" published by the Census Bureau.

States setting the pace in census mail responses include Ohio (58 percent), Nebraska, Michigan, Pennsylvania (all at 57 percent), and Iowa and Massachusetts (56 percent).

"Although I am very pleased to report these rates today, we still have many more responses to go before," said Census Bureau Director Kenneth Prewitt.

Daily release of the response rates, which started last Monday and will continue through April 11, cover state and local jurisdictions that are mailing back their census forms - about 39,000 governmental entities. Prewitt has challenged states, local and tribal governments to surpass 1990 mail response rates by at least 5 percentage points as part of a promotional campaign, How America Knows What America Needs.

The Census Bureau also is reporting today that 322 jurisdictions have met the How America Knows What American Needs target.

"The census is as important to our nation as highways and telephone lines. It's how America knows what America needs," added Prewitt. "It will provide the data that will help target more than $2 trillion in federal funds during the next decade for schools, employment services, housing assistance, hospital services, programs for the elderly and much more."

To review the daily initial response rates, visit the Census Bureau's Web site at <www.census.gov>. For questions relating to filling out the form, please call 1-800-471-9424.
As a member of AAPOR since 1955, I fondly recall the serious discussions we had in the various hotel rooms during conference when members disagreed about sampling designs (Quota vs. Area) and other important opinion research issues of the day. Politics were likely discussed also but in the privacy of the one on one over a drink, not in the public domain I see in current APPORNET posts.

I feel disappointed that so many political views are vented on the net. I've always valued my contact with all AAPOR members regardless of political beliefs, and attend and react for the input we can all realize thru an exchange of opinion research, not political beliefs.

As a tenured member, I say, let's get back to basics of AAPOR. I want a room in Portland and the freedom to have a beer with Harry, Andy or any other AAPOR member.

Regards, Glenn

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