Science for Sale?
The Public Communication of Science in a Corporate World

Call for Papers

15-17 April 2005

Organized by the Department of Science & Technology Studies and the Department of Communication
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

"Science for Sale?" is an interdisciplinary weekend conference for exploring the mediation of science in a corporate environment. As public presentations of science merge with marketing and as corporate research organizations do more of the work that university researchers conduct, these kinds of observations raise timely questions about the public understanding of science with respect to authorship, ownership, and relationships of practice in science and media.

The intersection of science and the corporate world presents a rich site for analyses of public communication and understanding of science, medicine, and technology. We define public communication broadly for this event to allow critical inquiry into the roles of academic journals, news journalism, museums, speeches, entertainment media, doctor-patient relations, film, advertising, art, literature, the internet, and radio.

We cordially invite you to participate in this event and reflect on the theme of science, communication, and the corporate world. The conference format will include pre-circulated papers, moderated presentations, and panel discussions with scholars and practitioners from relevant fields. We welcome abstract submissions on, but not limited to, the following topics:

- The corporation, media, and public understanding of science
- Media ownership, journalistic practices, and public images of science in news, culture, and popular
entertainment
· The changing images of universities: research institutions or research corporations?
· Responsibility and accountability within a corporate environment: issues for open source, research ethics, and education
· Multinational entities and communication of science in less developed countries
· The branding and advertising of science
· Corporate control of information and communication technologies

Abstracts of no more than 250 words and a CV should be submitted at our website (http://www.sts.cornell.edu/conferences/stscomm/index.php), e-mailed or faxed to the abstract coordinator by December 20, 2004 (see below). Full papers for pre-circulation will be due March 10, 2005, and we hope to post conference papers online. Abstracts from scholars at all stages of their careers are encouraged. We are working to procure limited funding for travel, so please stay tuned to our website for up-to-date registration details and news about our speakers.

Abstract Coordinator:
Lisa Onaga, Lao9@cornell.edu
Fax: +1-607-255-6044
http://www.sts.cornell.edu/conferences/stscomm/index.php
Science and Technology Studies
311 Rockefeller Hall, Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14850 USA

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Wed, 1 Dec 2004 09:22:48 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Re: Trouble with email solicitations?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <20041130215744.OJML4767.lakermmtao06.cox.net@reactor>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

While some of the major providers may have whitelists that a researcher can use large numbers of smaller ISPs use blocklists that are not inclined to give researchers a pass. While most of these blocklists (SPEWS, for example http://www.spews.org/) consider all unsolicited bulk email to be spam, the relationship between student and college may incline them to give this kind of research a pass where other email researchers would be in trouble.

--
Leo G. Simonetta
Research Director  
Art & Science Group, LLC  
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101  
Baltimore MD  21209

> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNENET [mailto:AAPORNENET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Mike Donatello
> Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2004 4:58 PM
> To: AAPORNENET@asu.edu
> Subject: Re: Trouble with email solicitations?
> 
> Robert,
> 
> AOL, Yahoo and Microsoft all have "bonded sender"
> certification programs and other processes to whitelist
> legitimate mailers, such as researchers.
> Suggest that you contact them and see what's involved. Since
> you're educational, there may not be any cost involved.
>
> --
> Mike Donatello
> 703.582.5680
> MDonatello@cox.net
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNENET [mailto:AAPORNENET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Robert Choquette
> Sent: Tuesday, 30 November, 2004 16:17
> To: AAPORNENET@asu.edu
> Subject: Trouble with email solicitations?
> 
> We are conducting a study here at the Univeristy of Oregon
> that begins with an email solicitation to students to
> complete a web-based survey.
> 
> One of the students saw this email from us as spam and
> clicked "This is spam" in their Hotmail account (not all
> students use university email accounts).
> 
> This action triggered Hotmail abuse staff to threaten
> deliverability of all email sent from the university to all
> Hotmail accounts.
> 
> It isn't as simple as excluding Hotmail accounts from the
> study; some students may be forwarding from Hotmail accounts
> to university accounts, or vice versa.
> 
> Has Hotmail threatened any of your institutions or
> organizations in such a manner?
> 
> Does anyone have any suggestions on how to deal with this
> issue and still use email solicitation?
>
> ----------------------------------------------------
The December 17, 2004 deadline for submitting a paper to DC/AAPOR's Student Paper Competition is fast approaching. The author(s) of the winning paper will receive:

1) the choice of full lodging expenses paid at AAPOR's 60th Annual Conference in Miami Beach OR a cash prize of $300, AND

2) a guaranteed presentation slot at the Annual Conference.

More information about eligibility and entry is copied below.

Best,
Adam

*****

The Washington-Baltimore Chapter of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (DC/AAPOR) invites entries to its inaugural Student Paper Competition. The competition is intended to recognize excellence in scholarly research by area students, and to encourage active student participation in DC/AAPOR.

CRITERIA

DC/AAPOR welcomes papers in any field related to the study of public opinion, broadly defined, including research on (a) theoretical issues in the formation and change of public opinion, (b) the theory and methods of...
survey or market research, or (c) the use of statistical techniques in the analysis of survey data. Papers should be approximately 15 to 25 pages in length. The winning paper will be selected by a review committee composed of survey and public opinion researchers from the membership of DC/AAPOR, including researchers drawn from the academic, government, and commercial sectors.

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all current graduate and undergraduate students, and to those who have received their degree within the last calendar year. Faculty co-authors are acceptable, with the stipulation that an eligible student must be first author. Eligibility is limited to students attending or graduated from an accredited college or university in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, or Washington, DC, or to students whose primary residence is in one of those areas. Previous membership in DC/AAPOR is not required, but non-members must become members in order to be eligible (the student membership fee is $6). Submitted papers may not have been published or presented elsewhere.

AWARD

The author(s) of the winning paper will be awarded the choice of full lodging expenses paid at AAPOR's 60th Annual Conference (May 12-15 2005, Miami Beach), or a cash prize of $300. For multiple student authors on a winning paper, the award will be divided among the eligible authors (excluding faculty co-authors). The winning paper will also receive a guaranteed presentation slot at the Annual Conference. The authors of the winning paper and of any papers selected as Honorable Mention may also have the opportunity to present their work at a special DC/AAPOR seminar.

PAPER SUBMISSION

To be considered for the award, please send an electronic copy of your paper to Adam Safir at studentpaper@dc-aapor.org by December 17, 2004. Include your name, academic affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address. You will receive confirmation that your paper has been received. The winning paper will be announced on January 28, 2005.

Contact Adam Safir at studentpaper@dc-aapor.org with any questions about criteria or eligibility.

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Marc-

Meant to get back to you earlier on this.

My only purpose was to clear up issues regarding poll/election error and MOE calculation. Ten of 11 state errors (+3 to -3) within the MOEs does not address systematic error favoring Kerry. But it important to agree on poll/election outcome error and MOE.

The direction of the errors is separate issue. I did not intend otherwise. It did favor Kerry. I subscribe to the theory that there was differential response/cooperation rates between Bush and Kerry voters. Others don't.

I read that candidate bias is rare in exit polls, but not new. This election happened to be closer.

It's not new in telephone polls. There is usually some party bias in state polls, either Democratic or Republican.

Final, national polls typically show bias in some direction. Although the final national polls were generally very accurate this year, based on my quick count on pollingreport.com, three polls had the exact margin (no bias), two had errors favoring Bush, and fourteen poll errors favored Kerry.

In 2000, the error in national polls was in other direction. By far, most of the errors favored Bush. Over the last 30 years or so, errors were normally distributed only once, in 1984.

Nick.

Marc Sapir wrote:

> Nick,
> 
> Thanks once again for your concise summary of statistical margin of error issues surrounding the exit polls. Although you do help to clear up certain issues in the details of the Freeman analysis, you have not commented on the fact that all the exit poll values varied in the same direction. It is a bit unreasonable to say they varied from -2.6 to +3.6 when in fact they all vary toward Bush. And when health scientists use meta analysis to somewhat arbitrarily combine a number of studies to gain greater statistical power the results are analyzed as if the synthesized data set reduces the width of the confidence intervals.
> Although many statisticians find that to be hokey math, it is still the common practice. Freeman's idea that the chances of this aberrancy in
the exit polls happening randomly are 1 in 250 million may overstate the
situation. But to find that the exit polls are "right" because their
final results are within the margin of error in the context of them
being wrong in predicting outcome in 10 of 11 states of importance fails
to to effectively explain away concerns. Of course, sample design
problems with the clusters might explain the outcome, but so far the
data varying in one direction only is an unexplained statistical oddity,
to understate the obvious. Moreover, the geographic vote discrepancies
regarding the urban areas (exit polls showing Kerry much stronger in the
cities than the final tallies) are far beyond any acceptable margin of
error interval. Indeed that discrepancy (bolstered by the Hout et al UC
Berkeley paper) lends the strongest evidence to the theory that the exit
polls may be a more accurate assessment of the public vote, not just
"wrong, but within the margin of error."

Marc

Marc Sapir MD, MPH
Executive Director
Retro Poll
www.retropoll.org

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Nick Panagakis
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2004 10:03 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Exit Polls Vs. Election Outcomes

This message includes actual exit poll sample error calculations.

Exit Polls Vs. Election Outcomes - Update

In the general debate comparing exit polls and election outcomes, there
are two fundamental weaknesses in analyses of differences between exit
polls and election outcomes. The weaknesses are: 1) calculating error
between poll and election outcomes and, 2) the effect of sample design
in calculating sample error for cluster samples used for exit polls.

Here I use Steven Freeman's paper "The Unexplained Exit Poll
Discrepancy" only as an example. This discussion applies to any of the
exit poll vs. election outcome analyses which seem to come up after any
election. Note that exit poll survey data are used here, not survey data
weighted by actual election returns which are redundant.

OUTCOME VS. EXIT POLL ERROR

Freeman: "The conventional wisdom going into this election was that
three critical states would likely determine who would win the
Presidential election - - Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Florida. In each of
these states, however, exit polls differed significantly from recorded
tallies." Freeman in Table 1 uses "Tallied vs. predicted" as his source
data. In Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Florida, the differences between Bush's
final tallies [outcomes] and his earlier exit poll percentages were,
respectively, 6.7%, 6.5%, and 4.9%.

Differences between poll and election margins in statistical analysis should not be used. It is the poll estimate that is subject to sample error, not margins; e.g., 48% voting for A and 52% for B. Error on the margin effectively overstates estimate error by a factor of two. This is also complies with National Council on Public Polls post-election poll analyses.

Elections are zero-sum games. Two points high for one candidate means two points low for the other. Vote estimate errors for each candidates are not additive which is the effect of using margins in an analysis.

The differences between exit poll estimates and final election outcomes in these key states subject to tests of significance are as follows:

Ohio Bush: Exit poll 47.9%; outcome 51.0%. Difference +3.1
Ohio Kerry: Exit poll 52.1%; outcome 48.5%. Difference -3.6

Pennsylvania Bush: Exit poll 45.4%; Outcome 48.6%. Difference +3.2
Pennsylvania Kerry: Exit poll 54.1%; Outcome 50.8%. Difference -3.3

Florida Bush: Exit poll 49.8%; Outcome 52.1%. Difference +2.3
Florida Kerry: Exit poll 49.7%; Outcome 47.1% Difference -2.6

Differences between poll estimates and election outcomes range from -2.6 to +3.6, not 4.9% to 6.7%.

EXIT POLL STATISTICAL ERROR

The conclusion that "exit polls differed significantly from recorded tallies" in the three states is incorrect. However, Freeman's page 6 footnote is correct: "This analysis assumes a simple random sample. If on the other hand, states were broken into clusters (e.g., precincts) and then the clusters (precincts) were randomly selected (sampling individuals within those selected precincts), the variances would increase."

By necessity, exit poll samples are cluster samples. The number of precincts in states typically number in the thousands. Wisconsin, for example, has 3,700 precincts. Illinois, a larger state, has 10,000.

Standard error assuming a simple random sample is calculated, but only as a first step. A confidence level of at least 99% is assumed - higher than the customary 95% - probably because of the higher standard of precision for exit polls and the number of races involved, about 100 across the states including the race for president and races for senate and governor on November 2.

A measure called the Design Effect must then be calculated to adjust the standard error for the cluster sampling effect. The magnitude of the Design Effect depends on the average number of interviews per precinct in each a state sample. The smaller the number of average interviews per...
> precinct in a state, the smaller the design effect. Design Effect also
> differs by characteristic and can be much larger for characteristics
> highly clustered by precincts such as race. Design Effect is a variance
> measure so the square root is used to multiply the standard errors.
>
> Without knowing the number of precincts sampled, you can't calculate the
> Design Effect. But Design Effect square roots are said to have typically
> ranged from 1.5 to 1.8 in the November exit poll. I used 1.6 as a "best
> estimate".
>
> Conclusion. All of the state estimates above are well within their error
> calculations below.
>
> Ohio, \( n = 2020 \). \( \frac{0.5 \times 0.5}{\sqrt{2020 \times 2.6 \times 1.6}} = \pm 4.6\% \).
>
> Pennsylvania, \( n = 2107 \). \( \frac{0.5 \times 0.5}{\sqrt{2107 \times 2.6 \times 1.6}} = \pm 4.5\% \).

> Florida, \( n = 2862 \). \( \frac{0.5 \times 0.5}{\sqrt{2862 \times 2.6 \times 1.6}} = \pm 3.8\% \).

> Nick Panagakis
>
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Based in Schaumburg IL

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Performs sample selection, provides statistical analyses and reports
supporting NHTI/NHSI Hispanic sample operations. Develops and maintains software and database for the NHTI/NHSI enumeration sample operations. Develops specialized programs supporting external and internal requests for analyses and sample inquiries.

QUALIFICATIONS:
REQUIRED:
* Bachelor's degree in Mathematics, Statistics or related field
* Working knowledge of UNIX (or Linux) and SAS
* Ability to work under tight deadlines

DESIRED:
* Programming experience in C, FORTRAN or other programming languages is desirable
* Knowledge of PC software is desirable

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Date: Thu, 2 Dec 2004 16:52:59 -0500
Reply-To: "Beatty, Paul C." <PBB5@CDC.GOV>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Beatty, Paul C." <PBB5@CDC.GOV>
Subject: Measuring quality of life in the workplace
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

I was recently contacted by the editor of a magazine that prints an annual "Great Places to Work" feature. Traditionally they have picked the top employers to be featured based on fairly informal review of responses to questionnaires (given to both employers and employees). More recently, the number of employers interested in getting coverage in the magazine has increased sharply, and the magazine would like to start measuring quality of worklife in a more systematic manner.

Does anyone know of any instruments or questions that have been used for this purpose? Some of the topics they want to cover include (but are not limited to) employee benefits, programs or policies related to keeping morale high, how the company has handled layoffs when necessary, philanthropic activities, diversity of the workforce, the physical work environment, responses to employee concerns about balancing work and personal life...and so on. =20

The instrument they have used thus far is mostly open-ended questions.
They would prefer to use something more easily scoreable—either closed-ended scale questions, or a scoring mechanism for open ended responses, or a combination. One additional note: the magazine doesn't require help fielding and tabulating the results (they have in-house capabilities for that)—they are really looking for guidance regarding what to ask and how to ask it.

Please let me know if you can offer any suggestions. I would be happy to summarize and share responses with anyone who is interested.

Thanks!
-Paul

************************************************************************
Paul C. Beatty, Ph.D.
Questionnaire Design Research Laboratory
National Center for Health Statistics
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
3311 Toledo Road, Room 3218
Hyattsville, MD  20782
voice:  301-458-4090
fax:  301-458-4031
email:  pbeatty@cdc.gov

************************************************************************
Date:         Fri, 3 Dec 2004 11:19:06 -0500
Reply-To:     Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject:      What Makes People Happy? TV, Study Says
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I found this interesting . . .

What Makes People Happy? TV, Study Says
By BENEDICT CAREY

SNIP

The study also marks the debut of a novel questionnaire that probes the subtle, moment-to-moment emotions that constitute an ordinary day. In the
new approach, called the Day Reconstruction Method, people keep a diary of everything they did during the day, from reading the paper in the morning to arguing with children or coworkers over lunch, from running to catch the 6 p.m. bus home to falling asleep with their socks on.

The next day, consulting the diary, they relive each activity and, using 12 scales, rate how they felt at the time, whether hassled, criticized, worried or warm, friendly and happy.

SNIP

Traditionally, researchers who study well-being have asked sweeping questions about contentment, trying to determine the health of relationships or to evaluate coping skills. In contrast, the new survey method prompts people to relive a normal day, rating how pleased or annoyed, depressed or competent they felt while doing specific activities, like watching TV or commuting to work.

Re-imagining the day's activities, rather than reporting what they could or should be feeling about them, allows people to be more honest about their actual enjoyment at the time, some psychologists said.

"This is a measure of people's mood in the moment, but that doesn't mean it's the best thing they could be doing," said Dr. Daniel Kahneman, the Princeton professor of psychology and public affairs and the lead author of the study. "If we used adjectives like thrilled, or excited, or involved, we would be getting different answers."

He added: "But we are trying to get a better idea or sense of what people's daily lives are actually like, what it is they do with their time."

--
Leo G. Simonetta
Research Director
Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD 21209

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Date: Fri, 3 Dec 2004 11:29:36 -0500
Reply-To: "Meekins, Brian - BLS" <Meekins.Brian@BLS.GOV>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Meekins, Brian - BLS" <Meekins.Brian@BLS.GOV>
Subject: NSF Open Position - please circulate
Comments: To: "aapornet@asu.edu" <aapornet@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain

DIVISION OF SCIENCE RESOURCES STATISTICS
National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA
NSF's Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS) is seeking a qualified
candidate for Senior Scientist Resources Analyst for the Science and Engineering Indicators Program. This position is responsible for developing quantitatively based analyses on Asian S&E policies, patterns and trends, often in comparison with the United States and the European Union.

Appointment to this position may be on a permanent basis, a one or two year Visiting Scientist appointment or a Federal Temporary appointment, with a salary range of $72,108 to $113,597. Applicants must have a Ph.D. or equivalent experience in social science, economics or statistics plus four or more years of research, research administration, and/or managerial experience conducting quantitative analyses or managerial experience pertinent to the position.

Announcements E20050014 and E20050015-Rotator, with position requirements and application procedures, are located on the NSF Home Page at www.nsf.gov/jobs. Applicants may also obtain the announcements by contacting Yvonne Woodward at 703-292-4386 (Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD 703-292-8044).

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Date: Fri, 3 Dec 2004 13:55:11 -0600
Reply-To: Robert Godfrey <rgodfrey@FACSTAFF.WISC.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Robert Godfrey <rgodfrey@FACSTAFF.WISC.EDU>
Subject: NBC corrects exit polls on Latinos
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <7A3C81D70EF8864A8251535F55906E96044C5DF9@nmrusnysx2.nmrlan.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii" ; format="flowed"

NBC makes sharp correction in Latino support for Bush, puts Kerry up in Texas

In a stunning turnaround, an elections manager for NBC News said news organizations overestimated President George W. Bush's support among Latino voters, downwardly revising its polled support for Bush to 40 percent from 44 percent among Hispanics, and increasing challenger John Kerry's support among Hispanics to 58 percent from 53 percent, a press release from a Hispanic thinktank reveals.

The revision doubles Kerry's margin of victory among Hispanic voters from 9 to 18 percent, and suggests that Bush did not gain sizably in Latino support from 2000 to 2004.

continues....

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Date: Fri, 3 Dec 2004 17:30:25 -0500
Reply-To: jwerner@jwdp.com
The December 6 issue of The New Yorker magazine contains an article by Louis Menand covering the postmortem conference on the exit polls that was held at Stanford University on November 9.

The article, which is not posted on the magazine's web site, is titled "Permanent Fatal Errors" and says of the exit polls: "Those polls, as everyone knows, were a fiasco."

Unfortunately, nobody really knows whether the exit polls themselves were a "fiasco" because the consortium that sponsored them has failed, more than a month after posting results online, to provide any meaningful information about what was posted.

At this point, the only thing we really know from this mess is that the organizations in the NEP consortium have displayed total contempt for their viewers and readers. This is something they should be reminded of when they prattle on about how much more professional and reliable they are than the myriad online news sources.

Jan Werner

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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rather derived from a different source - an aggregation of the 50 state polls rather than the single national exit poll. This data is still EMR/NEP data - not edited or modified in any way.

#4) What they're saying on the urban/rural proportion bears no connection with reality (nor anything that I said!)

In explaining the difference between NEP and WVI numbers I pointed out that in large urban centers (with populations greater than 500,000) Kerry enjoyed a majority of Hispanic support (70% to Bush's 27%). Outside of these largest urban areas, (in smaller cities, in suburbs, towns and rural areas) where Hispanic populations tend to be more dispersed, Bush's support among Hispanics increased to more than 4 in 10 Hispanics. The other comment I made on urbany was to cite Census numbers, which show that more than half of Hispanics (54%) live OUTSIDE of metropolitan central cities.

The other finding that I mentioned, which was unfavorable to their cause and thus did not make it into this release, was that the growing number of Protestant Hispanics (around 32% nationally) favored Bush over Kerry (56% to 41%).

-----Original Message-----
From: Robert Godfrey [mailto:rgodfrey@FACSTAFF.WISC.EDU]
Sent: Friday, December 03, 2004 2:55  PM
To: _AAPORNET@asu.edu_ (mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu)
Subject: NBC corrects exit polls on Latinos

Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
In a message dated 12/3/2004 3:05:25 PM Eastern Standard Time, rgodfrey@FACSTAFF.WISC.EDU writes:

NBC makes sharp correction in Latino support for Bush, puts Kerry up in Texas

In a stunning turnaround, an elections manager for NBC News said news organizations overestimated President George W. Bush's support among Latino voters, downwardly revising its polled support for Bush to 40 percent from 44 percent among Hispanics, and increasing challenger John Kerry's support among Hispanics to 58 percent from 53 percent, a press release from a Hispanic thinktank reveals.

The revision doubles Kerry's margin of victory among Hispanic voters from 9 to 18 percent, and suggests that Bush did not gain sizably in Latino support from 2000 to 2004.

continues....
I'm assuming that when you say "we" you mean NBC News, although I notice that you have neither identified yourself nor signed your message.

Given that NBC does not identify the date, time, sample sizes or sources for the exit poll results posted on their web site, on what basis should a reader believe you rather than the WCVI press release with regard to any possible corrections to the original results published by NBC?

Jan Werner

Ana Maria Arumi wrote:

> This press release is a pretty "stunning" misrepresentation of what went on yesterday.
> #1) We do NOT endorse the WVI poll nor their sampling methodology.
> #2) I/We did not revise the Texas numbers. EMR with the approval of NEP did that on Nov. 17. An AP wire story on these numbers moved prior to this meeting.
> #3) The data I presented was not a "correction" of the national poll but rather derived from a different source - an aggregation of the 50 state polls rather than the single national exit poll. This data is still EMR/NEP data - not edited or modified in any way.
> #4) What they're saying on the urban/rural proportion bears no connection with reality (nor anything that I said!)
> In explaining the difference between NEP and WVI numbers I pointed out that in large urban centers (with populations greater than 500,000) Kerry enjoyed a majority of Hispanic support (70% to Bush's 27%). Outside of these largest urban areas, (in smaller cities, in suburbs, towns and rural areas) where
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The other finding that I mentioned, which was unfavorable to their cause and thus did not make it into this release, was that the growing number of Protestant Hispanics (around 32% nationally) favored Bush over Kerry (56% to 41%).

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From: Robert Godfrey  [mailto:rgodfrey@FACSTAFF.WISC.EDU]
Sent: Friday, December 03, 2004 2:55 PM
To: _AAPORNET@asu.edu_ (mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu)
Subject: NBC corrects exit polls on Latinos

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continues....

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Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
I know it's not American but I found these results interesting - I was unable to find the questionnaire or a further methodology.

Nearly Half of Britons Unaware of Auschwitz?
Dec 3, 9:23 AM (ET)

By Jeffrey Goldfarb

LONDON (Reuters) - Nearly half of Britons in a poll said they had never heard of Auschwitz, the Nazi death camp in southern Poland that became a symbol of the Holocaust and the attempted genocide of the Jews.

The results of the survey conducted by the BBC were released Thursday as Britain's public broadcaster announced it will show a new series next January to mark the 60th anniversary of the concentration camp's liberation.

SNIP

The survey found that 45 percent of those surveyed had not heard of Auschwitz. Historians estimate that anywhere from one million to three million people, about 90 percent of them Jews, were killed there.

Among women and people younger than 35, 60 percent had never heard of Auschwitz, despite the recent popularity of films such as "Schindler's List," "Life is Beautiful" and "The Pianist," which depict the atrocities of the Holocaust.

SNIP

The BBC said the research was based on a nationally representative postal survey of 4,000 adults 16 and older.

SNIP

--
Leo G. Simonetta
Research Director
Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD 21209

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So how many of them truly had not heard of Auschwitz, and how many were
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Just ask Mick Couper about how people spell his name.

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the same word I'd heard a million times on broadcast news reports and
assumed was spelled something like "indeit"....until then, I actually
thought they were different words.

Colleen

Colleen K. Porter
cporter@phhp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/273-6068, fax: 352/273-6075
University of Florida
Dept. of Health Services Research, Management and Policy
Location: 101 Newell Drive, Rm. 4148
US Mail: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195
In the 1990s the American Jewish Committee conducted surveys on remembering the Holocaust in about ten countries:

http://www.ajc.org/InTheMedia/PubSurveys.asp?did=3D150

-----Original Message-----
From: Leo Simonetta [mailto:simonetta@ARTSCI.COM]=20
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 8:22 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Nearly Half of Britons Unaware of Auschwitz?

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Mon, 6 Dec 2004 10:38:13 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Re: Nearly Half of Britons Unaware of Auschwitz?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <1EA2BFEDAD958A43AC3FD642F12CFC9B021E6A2D@dtex1.norc.org>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

From the one of the pages linked to the one Tom provided:

"Thus, when asked what Auschwitz, Dachau and Treblinka were, Czechs rank with Germans as the best-informed group ("concentration camps": Czech Republic, 92 percent; Germany, 92 percent; Poland, 91 percent; Austria, 91 percent; France, 90 percent; Australia, 85 percent; Great Britain, 76 percent; United States, 67 percent; Russia, 50 percent)."

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Leo G. Simonetta
Research Director
Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD  21209

> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Smith-Tom
> Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 10:18 AM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: Re: Nearly Half of Britons Unaware of Auschwitz?
In the 1990s the American Jewish Committee conducted surveys on remembering the Holocaust in about ten countries:

http://www.ajc.org/InTheMedia/PubSurveys.asp?did=150

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The methodology statements and questionnaires for the NEP exit polls were provided to all news organizations who were members and subscribers to the exit polls on Election Day. Many of them posted this information on their web sites or included the information in their articles using the exit poll data in their analysis.

In the interest of having this information available in one place, the methodology statements and exit poll questionnaires have been posted at www.exit-poll.net.

I would also like to point out that all of the exit poll data will be archived at the Roper Center early next year. All previous exit polls conducted by Voter News Service, Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International are already available at the Roper Center including the 23 exit polls conducted for the NEP for the Democratic Presidential Primaries and Caucuses in 2004.

Joe Lenski
Executive Vice President
Edison Media Research
6 West Cliff Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
908-707-4707
jlenski@edisonresearch.com

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Sad story, but important to find question wording and context. (I think it would work differently for "Holocaust"). Bob Worcester can help.

Elihu Katz

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Colleen Porter
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 4:57 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Nearly Half of Britons Unaware of Auschwitz?

>>> Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM> 12/6/2004 9:21:44 AM >>>
> I know it's not American but I found these results interesting - I was
> unable to find the questionnaire or a further methodology.

And I think methodology is crucial here....

> SNIP
>
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And as a journalism student, I was shocked to learn that "indict" was the same word I'd heard a million times on broadcast news reports and assumed was spelled something like "indeit"....until then, I actually thought they were different words.

Colleen
Elihu,

Searched BBC's site but was unable to find any mention of their poll which produced these findings. Tried a variety of different search terms including Holocaust, but no luck. Hopefully Bob W. can help.

Dick Halpern

At 12:04 PM 12/6/2004, you wrote:

> Sad story, but important to find question wording and context. (I think
> it wld work differently for "Holocaust"). Bob Worcester can help.
> Elihu Katz
> 
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> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Colleen Porter
> Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 4:57 PM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: Re: Nearly Half of Britons Unaware of Auschwitz?
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Colleen K. Porter
cporter@phhp.ufl.edu
phone: 352\273-6068, fax: 352\273-6075
University of Florida
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Location: 101 Newell Drive, Rm. 4148
US Mail: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195

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I am looking for poll data and thought someone here might be able to point me in the right direction. In a press release John Zogby stated that "The electorate is divided on some issues, but years of polling have identified a common agenda, a shared set of principles and, indeed, specific actions that a vast majority of Americans want to accomplish.

To what "years of polling" data might he be referring?

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Date: Mon, 6 Dec 2004 17:03:25 -0500
Reply-To: Monika McDermott <monika.mcdermott@UCONN.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Monika McDermott <monika.mcdermott@UCONN.EDU>
Subject: job listing
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Department of Public Policy
University of Connecticut
Assistant Professor

The Department of Public Policy (DPP) at the University of Connecticut seeks to fill a tenure-track faculty position in American public opinion and political behavior. Preference will be given to candidates able to teach survey research methods courses at the graduate level. Candidates must have Ph.D. at the time of appointment. Review of applications will begin December 31, 2004. Applicants should send a letter of application, c.v., three letters of recommendation and samples of research and writing to:

Department of Public Policy, Public Opinion Search
Attn: Susan Rosa
University of Connecticut
1800 Asylum Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117

Email: susan.rosa@uconn.edu
Do any of you have any thoughts on problems with distractor questions in surveys? In this instance I'm talking about a venue survey that asks if respondents recognize a non-existent case. This is done to show that many respondents who say they recognize the case you care about are really false positives.

I think there are probably order effects, and there is some research (Paul Strand) showing that removing all the false positive respondents from the data has very little effect on the data for the case of interest.

Any thoughts on any ethical issues with misrepresenting to respondents that such a case has been reported in the media? Any experience with Human Subjects Committees objecting? Familiar with any research beyond that of Paul Strand?

My thoughts on this topic are simple: putting in a question that assesses the credibility of a respondent presents no risk to the respondent and adds a needed element to survey research.

With all the discussions of the use of exit, or pre-election, polls to assess the validity of vote totals, there has been no mention of the possibility that a person being polled might lie to the person taking the poll. The MMPI [Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory] was, and possibly still is [I haven't been 'doing' psychology since 1986], a widely-used comprehensive instrument that included a 'lie-score' that could be used to assess the value of the responses given.
As to the IRB issue, I would imagine that a simple explanation as to the purpose of the deception and the lack of risk involved would be sufficient to all but the most intractable committeepersons.

As far as exit polls go, one might have asked, "Did you notice the uniformed police in the polling place?" if there were none there.

Nat Ehrlich, Ph.D.
Research Specialist
Michigan State University
Institute for Public Policy and Social Research
Office for Social Research
321 Berkey Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-355-6672

-----Original Message-----
From: Edward Bronson [mailto:ebronson@CSUCHICO.EDU]
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 6:10 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: A question

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-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Ehrlich, Nathaniel
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 1:17 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: A question

My thoughts on this topic are simple: putting in a question that assesses the credibility of a respondent presents no risk to the respondent and adds a needed element to survey research. With all the discussions of the use of exit, or pre-election, polls to assess the validity of vote totals, there has been no mention of the possibility that a person being polled might lie to the person taking the poll. The MMPI [Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory] was, and possibly still is [I haven't been 'doing' psychology since 1986], a widely-used comprehensive instrument that included a 'lie-score' that could be used to assess the value of the responses given. As to the IRB issue, I would imagine that a simple explanation as to the purpose of the deception and the lack of risk involved would be sufficient to all but the most intractable committeepersons. As far as exit polls go, one might have asked, "Did you notice the uniformed police in the polling place?" if there were none there.

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truthfulness; the theory behind that is that the person who is lying feels some pressure to reinforce his/her position, while the truth-teller states his/her position simply. There's more to it than simply word-count, of course, but that's part of it.

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-----Original Message-----
From: elihu katz [mailto:mskat@mscc.huji.ac.il]
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 7:38 AM
To: 'Ehrlich, Nathaniel'
Cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: RE: A question

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The two major events will be:

1. Common Cause's "Report to the Nation" http://www.commoncause.org/site/pp.asp?c=3DdkLNK1MQIwG&b=3D18696 6 on Tuesday, Dec. 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room G-50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington DC. Members of Congress scheduled to make statements include Rep. Bob Ney (R-OH), Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), and Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)

The 2004 Vote: What Really Happened? Experts to Provide a Report to the Nation

December 2, 2004: Activists from around the country are preparing to head to Washington next week for an in-depth look at what really happened on Election Day, as Common Cause co-sponsors "Voting in 2004: Report to the Nation on America's Election Process." Common Cause is teaming with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and The Century Foundation to conduct this day-long non-partisan presentation that will feature members of Congress, state officials, electronic voting machine experts and organizations that had workers on the ground on Election Day, observing and collecting information.

This will be a great opportunity for Common Cause members, supporters, and citizens who are concerned about our nation's voting process to come to the Hill, and hear from leading national experts about our election systems.

In addition, Common Cause will release a preliminary report based on extensive election monitoring activities, which included participation running a national voter alert line (1-866-MYVOTE1) that received nearly 210,000 phone calls from 50 states, more than 1,000 election monitors nationwide and the collection of more than 1,700 voters' stories on our website. Using this unprecedented amount of non-partisan data, Common Cause and other participants will help reveal the most accurate picture of what actually happened on Election Day.

We will present this "Report to the Nation" on Tuesday, Dec. 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room G-50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington DC. We will also post the report on our website Tuesday as well.

Please make sure to check our blog for the latest updates.

Members of Congress scheduled to make statements include Rep. Bob Ney (R-OH), Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), and Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ). Other featured speakers include Barbara Arnwine, executive director, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, Jehmu Greene, president, Rock the Vote, Wade Henderson, executive director, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Ralph Neas, president, People for the American Way, Leslie Reynolds,
executive director of the National Association of Secretaries of State. Participating organizations include the American Civil Liberties Union, American Families United, the Brennan Center for Justice, Demos, Electionline.org, George Washington School of Law, Johns Hopkins University, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, National Association of Secretaries of State, Rock the Vote, The Advancement Project and Verified Voting.

2. Alliance For Democracy Member’s Briefing: http://www.thealliancefor-democracy.org/html/eng/2206-AA.shtml Democratic Representative John Conyers, Jr. of Michigan, ranking Minority member of the House Judiciary Committee, will hold a hearing on Wednesday 08 December 2004 to investigate allegations of vote fraud and irregularities in Ohio during the 2004 Presidential election. The hearing is slated to begin at 10:00 a.m. EST in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington DC. --AfD and Common Cause lawyer and Co-chair Cliff Arnebeck to Testify. Arnebeck claims to have evidence that Kerry won Ohio and the election was rigged. He will file a suit Monday to throw out the results of the first count.

Andrew A. Beveridge
Professor of Sociology
Queens College and Grad Ctr CUNY
Suite 233 Powdermaker Hall
65-30 Kissena Blvd
Flushing, NY 11367-1597
Phone: 718-997-2837
FAX: 718-997-2820
Cell: 914-522-4487
email: beveridg@optonline.net
web: www.socialexplorer.com
Home Office
50 Merriam Avenue
Bronxville, NY 10708-2743
Phone: 914-337-6237
FAX: 914-337-8210
email: beveridg@optonline.net

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Problems?-don’t reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Tue, 7 Dec 2004 08:50:27 -0600
Reply-To: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Professional Opportunities

NORC, a national organization for social science research at the University of Chicago, has the following exciting opportunities available in our Chicago locations:

Survey and Research:
- Survey Directors & Sr. Survey Directors
- Sr. Survey Statisticians
- Sr. Survey Methodologists
- Sr. Research Scientists
- Survey Specialists

Technology:
- Director, Systems Architecture & Implementation
- Associate Director, Infrastructure & Systems Operations
- Manager, Application Development
- Sr. Project Managers
- Sr. Programmer Analysts
- Business Analysts & Sr. Business Analysts

Finance:
- Financial Analysts & Sr. Financial Analysts

NORC offers competitive salaries and comprehensive benefits. For job descriptions and to apply, visit our website at www.norc.org. NORC is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer (M/F/V/D) that values and actively seeks diversity in the workforce.

Maria Zagatsky
NORC Human Resources Representative
Why assume that the respondent is lying to begin with? As Robyn Dawes put it (Rational Choice in an Uncertain World, 1988, p.107):

Memory is basically a "reconstructive" process. Thus, our experience is often recalled inaccurately [...] The problem is particularly acute because our recall is often organized in ways that "make sense of" the present -- thus reinforcing our belief in the conclusions we have reached about how the past has determined the present. We quite literally "make up stories" about our lives, the world, and reality in general. The fit between our memories and the stories enhances our belief in them. Often, however, it is the story that creates the memory, rather than vice versa.

Is it lying when a respondent recalls something he/she now believes to be true, or perhaps more commonly, makes a guess which is not correct?

I don't see a problem with adding indicator questions to a survey to assist in evaluating the overall accuracy of results, but one should be very careful not to use this to assign motives to respondents.

Jan Werner

elihu katz wrote:

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321 Berkey Hall
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517-355-6672

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To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: A question

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from the data has very little effect on the data for the case of interest.

Any thoughts on any ethical issues with misrepresenting to respondents that such a case has been reported in the media? Any experience with Human Subjects Committees objecting? Familiar with any research beyond that of Paul Strand?

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Phillip E. Downs, PhD
Kerr & Downs Research
2992 Habersham Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32309
Phone: 850.906.3111

Date:         Tue, 7 Dec 2004 11:00:50 -0500
Reply-To:     pd@kerr-downs.com
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Phillip Downs <pd@KERR-DOWNS.COM>
Subject:      Finding low-incidence respondents
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

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Phone: 850.906.3111
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Maria Zagatsky

NORC Human Resources Representative

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Fax: (773) 753-7808

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

Date:         Tue, 7 Dec 2004 11:22:44 -0500
Reply-To:     "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Subject:      FW: A question
Comments: To: "AAPORNET@asu.edu" <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain

Forwarded with permission

>-----Original Message-----
>From: Howard Schuman [mailto:hschuman@umich.edu]
>Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 9:13 AM
> To: Ehrlich, Nathaniel  
> Cc: Elihu Katz  
> Subject: Re: A question  
>  
> I'm not sure if this is relevant to your issue, but in earlier research  
> where we wished to assess truthfulness of responses but did not wish to  
> lie ourselves, we asked about extremely obscure items (e.g., the  
> "Agricultural Trade Act") that were real but not known even to the best  
> informed respondents. It worked well, as shown by obtaining the reverse  
> of the usual association with DK: the most educated respondents, rather  
> than the least educated, said they didn't know.  
>  
> Ehrlich, Nathaniel wrote:  
>  
> >I purposely did not address the putative reasons for lying; that's for  
> >>subsequent research. I do think there are many ways to assess the  
> >>credibility of respondent statements, especially in analyzing open-ended  
> >>responses, which my psychological brethren and sisters would categorize as  
> >>projective. My research points to a positive relation between brevity and  
> >>truthfulness; the theory behind that is that the person who is lying feels  
> >>some pressure to reinforce his/her position, while the truth-teller states  
> >>his/her position simply. There's more to it than simply word-count, of  
> >>course, but that's part of it.  
> >>
> >>Nat Ehrlich, Ph.D.  
> >>Research Specialist  
> >>Michigan State University  
> >>Institute for Public Policy and Social Research  
> >>Office for Social Research  
> >>321 Berkey Hall  
> >>East Lansing, MI 48824  
> >>517-355-6672  
> >>
> >>-----Original Message-----  
> >>From: elihu katz [mailto:mskatz@mscc.huji.ac.il]  
> >>Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 7:38 AM  
> >>To: 'Ehrlich, Nathaniel'  
> >>Cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu  
> >>Subject: RE: A question  
> >>
> >>In your example, lying is a trait, but there are other, more situational  
> >>reasons, for lying. Long ago, as a student, I did some secondary  
> >>analysis of Berelson et al Voting, and found that post-election respondents who  
> >>said they had voted (but didn't) also said--in earlier waves of the panel--that  
> >>they were "highly interested" in the election. One possibility is that  
> >>
> >>
> >>they
are inveterate liars—tho in a socially desirable direction. The other
possibility is that they told the truth about interest, but had to lie

about voting, out of guilt. Elihu Katz

My thoughts on this topic are simple: putting in a question that assesses
the credibility of a respondent presents no risk to the respondent and
adds a needed element to survey research.

With all the discussions of the use of exit, or pre-election, polls to
assess the validity of vote totals, there has been no mention of the
possibility that a person being polled might lie to the person taking the
poll.

The MMPI [Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory] was, and possibly
still is [I haven't been 'doing' psychology since 1986], a widely-used
comprehensive instrument that included a 'lie-score' that could be used to
assess the value of the responses given.

As to the IRB issue, I would imagine that a simple explanation as to the
purpose of the deception and the lack of risk involved would be sufficient
to all but the most intractable commiteepersons.

As far as exit polls go, one might have asked, "Did you notice the
uniformed police in the polling place?" if there were none there.

Nat Ehrlich, Ph.D.
Research Specialist
Michigan State University
Institute for Public Policy and Social Research
Office for Social Research
321 Berkey Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-355-6672

Edward Bronson
Research Specialist
Michigan State University
Office for Social Policy and Social Research
321 Berkey Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-355-6672

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I think there are probably order effects, and there is some research (Paul Strand) showing that removing all the false positive respondents from the data has very little effect on the data for the case of interest.

Any thoughts on any ethical issues with misrepresenting to respondents that such a case has been reported in the media? Any experience with Human Subjects Committees objecting? Familiar with any research beyond that of Paul Strand?

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Interactive Poll "Wave of the Future"; Presidential Election Validates New Method, Will Be Used in '08, Pollster John Zogby Announces

Zogby International's new Zogby Interactive poll is the "wave of the future," and was validated by the 2004 election, pollster John Zogby announced.

SNIP

The new online polling method is the result of six years of testing and development. "Years of work-and the opportunity to test it in an intense, close election-paid off," said Zogby. "The Zogby Interactive poll was a huge success-it was more accurate than even our telephone polling when it came to predicting which candidate would take each state."

SNIP


--
Leo G. Simonetta
Research Director
Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD 21209

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Phillip,

Just curious: If you were going to go this route, why not just contact a traditional panel provider and save the legwork?
----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Phillip Downs
Sent: Tuesday, 07 December, 2004 11:01
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Finding low-incidence respondents

Does anyone have experience partnering with focus group facilities to use their databases of participants to locate low- to moderate-incidence respondents for telephone or internet surveys? For example, let's say you wanted to reach parents of children under 6 years of age. If focus group facilities have large databases with information such as email addresses, number and ages of children, etc., a mass email to the eligible respondents could be sent to recruit for an internet or telephone survey. Before contacting 20 or 30 focus group facilities to investigate, thought I'd ask the list to see if anyone has experience with this. Thanks, Phillip

Phillip E. Downs, PhD
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Fax: 850.906.3112
www.kerr-downs.com

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Date:        Tue, 7 Dec 2004 09:50:54 -0700
Reply-To:    Mary Ellen Gordon <m.gordon@MARKETTRUTHS.COM>
Sender:      AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:        Mary Ellen Gordon <m.gordon@MARKETTRUTHS.COM>
Subject:     Re: Nearly Half of Britons Unaware of Auschwitz?

Here's the link to the article on a BBC site:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/pressoffice/pressreleases/stories/2004/12_december/02/auschwitz.shtml

There's some additional info. about the methodology at the bottom.

Mary Ellen

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Please respond to the contact information listed at the bottom of this job announcement:

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The Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics provides the Social Security Administration with economic and statistical analyses of retirement, disability, and income support programs and conditions. We use detailed survey and administrative record data and develop and apply large-scale micro-simulation models. Our research informs policymakers of expected outcomes under current law and proposed Social Security reforms. We publish our results in the Social Security Bulletin, academic journals, and various agency publications.

We have three or more openings in Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, MD, for economists, statisticians, and other social scientists and public policy analysts at the Masters level or higher to carry out statistical analyses of survey and administrative data. Responsibilities may include managing interagency research and data-sharing agreements and third-party research contracts. For one vacancy, familiarity with Medicare will receive special consideration.

Job postings are expected in the near future. Applicants should submit a resume and a recent research paper. U.S. citizenship is required. An equal opportunity employer. CONTACT: (1) email (preferred): OP.Jobs@ssa.gov (2) fax: 202-358-6079; or (3) mail: Ms. Monique Fisher, Office of Policy Jobs Coordinator, Social Security Administration, 500 E Street S.W., Eighth Floor, Washington D.C. 20254.

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Years ago, in a poll of voting-age North Carolinians, we tested the name recognition of 8 persons who had been mentioned as potential candidates for governor. To assess the noise level, we added a 9th, fictitious name, "Phil Brown." Ten percent said they had heard of Phil Brown.

After we published the results, an editorial in the Greensboro News & Record lamented the lack of distinction among the 8 possibilities and deplored the fact that the 9th wasn't real. "After reviewing the competition," the writer said, "we think that ol' Phil Brown looks pretty good."

You might want to check out two articles in which items were specifically included in questionnaires to determine the incidence of false but socially desirable responses. The latter study involved the use of questions about things that do not exist, such as the recycling of light bulbs and the installation of ferrite filters on hot water heaters.
Do any of you have any thoughts on problems with distractor questions in surveys? In this instance I'm talking about a venue survey that asks if respondents recognize a non-existent case. This is done to show that many respondents who say they recognize the case you care about are really false positives.
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Date:         Tue, 7 Dec 2004 21:55:19 +0000
Reply-To:     Bob Worcester <Bob.Worcester@MORI.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Bob Worcester <Bob.Worcester@MORI.COM>
Subject:      Re: FW: A question
Comments: To: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

One=20of=20my=20partners=20is=20called=20Stewart=20Lewis;=20for=20years=20=20we've=20added=20'Sir
Stewart=20Lewis'=20to=20names=20of=20British=20Captains=20Industry=20when=20we=20are
testing=20name=20awareness.=20He=20gets=20between=20four=20and=20ten=20or=20twelve=20percent
nearly=20every=20time.
In=20work=20for=20ICI,=20Britain's=20Dupont=20we've=20asked=20for=20years=20what=20products
does=20ICI=20make=20inserting=20in=20the=20list=20of=202010-12=20product=20
categories, makes bicycles, makes electric turbines, which they don't, like Phil. We always get about ten percent for bicycles, but only about four percent for the turbines. Good practice to keep us 'honest' and guide clients to realise there's a guess factor here, and what it is. No one has ever complained or questioned this technique.

-----Original Message-----
From: Philip Meyer [mailto:pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU]
Sent: 2007 December 20 04:04
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: FW: A question

Years in a poll of voting-age North Carolinians, we tested the name recognition of persons who had been mentioned as potential candidates for governor. We added a fictitious name, "Phil Brown." Ten percent said they had heard of Phil Brown. After we published the results, an editorial in the Greensboro News & Record lamented the lack of distinction among the possibilities and deplored the fact that the ninth wasn't real. "After reviewing the competition," the writer said, "we think that ol' Phil Brown looks pretty good."

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Voice: 919-209-6240 Fax: 919-209-6159
Cell: 919-209-6432 URL: www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

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aapornet-request@asu.edu

In some of our work on foreign policy issues, we've noticed a significant tendency for women to say don't know at a higher rate than
men. I'd love to know if there was a gender difference in the willingness to guess that you'd heard of something or conversely in unwillingness to admit you don't know.

Monica L. Wolford
Applied Research & Methods
US GAO - 6B14C
WolfordM@gao.gov

>>> Bob Worcester <Bob.Worcester@MORI.COM> 12/7/2004 4:55:19 PM >>>
One of my partners is called Stewart Lewis; for years we've added 'Sir Stewart Lewis' to names of British Captains of Industry when we are testing name awareness. He gets between four and ten or twelve percent nearly every time.
In work for ICI, Britain's Dupont, we've asked for years what products does ICI make, inserting in the list of 10-12 product categories, makes bicycles, and makes electric turbines, which they don't, and, like Phil, we always get about ten percent for bicycles, but only about four percent for the turbines.
Good practice to keep us 'honest' and guide clients to realise there's a guess factor here, and what it is.
No one has every complained or questioned this technique.

-----Original Message-----
From: Philip Meyer [mailto:pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU]
Sent: 07 December 2004 18:04
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: FW: A question

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I think 10% may be the magic number. I've been doing some ad awareness research for one institution in particular over the past seven years. We ask where they've seen the ad and present 8 different media. Some of these media have not been used in the past few years but we still get 9-10% who say they saw the client's ads there.

Patrick Murray
Acting Director
Star-Ledger/Eagleton-Rutgers Poll

on 12/7/04 4:55 PM, Bob Worcester at Bob.Worcester@MORI.COM wrote:

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> Subject: Re: FW: A question
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Date:         Tue, 7 Dec 2004 17:37:20 -0600
Reply-To:     Nick Panagakis <mailto:MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Nick Panagakis <mailto:MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Organization: Market Shares Corporation
10% may be the magic number. Many years ago, the name Steve Tichnor, an out of state media consultant for our Chicago TV client, was known to 10% of Illinois voters.

You have to be careful though. David Hume, not Sir David Hume but the media relations director at the old Globe-Democrat, got 17% in Missouri.

I think you have to be careful with names. For example, any Irish name would probably do better than a more ethnic name in Illinois.

This was popular for a while in test marketing of new products, including a fictitious brand name along with the new brand name to measure false recognition.

Nick

Patrick Murray wrote:

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Hi folks,

I'm looking for options for buying a file(s) of data by zip code that I could attach to a survey file where we have respondent data by zip code. I am looking for a large array of demographic, psychographic and general marketing data, such as (to just give a FEW possible examples): percentage in zip code who subscribe to gun magazines, belong to environmental organizations, receive Focus on the Family magazines, give money to gay rights organizations, own large SUVs, and of course, the more usual stuff such as racial/ethnic composition, % home owners, etc.

Of course info from vendors is welcome, but especially welcome is testimony from people who have bought and used such data.

Any info on ranges of cost, even ballpark figures, would also be
> Helpful. Maybe it can be priced per zip code, for example?

> It's probably best to respond to me directly, off list.

> Thanks,
> Doug Strand

Douglas Strand, Ph.D.
Project Director
Public Agendas and Citizen Engagement Survey (PACES)
Survey Research Center
Berkeley, CA 94720-5100

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Douglas Strand, Ph.D.
Project Director
Public Agendas and Citizen Engagement Survey (PACES)
Survey Research Center
Berkeley, CA 94720-5100

For demographic data itself the Census has a lot of data by zip and it is free.

www.census.gov
They call the zip the ZCTA, and you need to understand how that differs from zip boundaries. Basically they use blocks to create zips.

The main vendor of zip code boundaries is GDT.

Updated estimates and some other data are based upon allocating other data, e.g. county to a zip code base.

Andy Beveridge

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of John McCarty
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2004 9:01 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Best vendors of demographic/marketing/psychographic data by zip code?

A source for data by zipcode that would have demos, as well as the other kind of variables that you are looking for would be Claritas in Arlington, Virginia. They merge Census data with data from other sources to provide demos and psychographics by census areas (down to block groups), as well as by zipcode. It is pretty expensive.

A more inexpensive source of demos by areas would be from CensusCD. They probably do not have psychographics, but are reasonably priced for demographic data.

John McCarty
School of Business
The College of New Jersey

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> 
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Doug Strand

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Project Director
Public Agendas and Citizen Engagement Survey (PACES) Survey Research
Center Berkeley, CA 94720-5100

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To fellow AAPORNETTERS: Here's the latest Research & Regulation from CASRO's Government & Public Affairs. If you can't see it below; it's also available on our website at www.casro.org. Please let me know if you have any comments/questions. Thanks, Diane Bowers, CASRO

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Colleagues,

Our team recently began a project in Alaska that is focused on preventing inhalant and other drug use in four rural Alaskan communities. As part of this, we will need to field surveys with retailers in each community and with parents of school-age children in each community.

A very preliminary description of these surveys follows below. The retailer survey will focus on awareness of inhalable products and of drugs/drug use problems, attitudes toward inhalants and other drugs, steps the retailer may have taken to limit access to inhalable products by minors, knowledge related to inhalants and inhalable products, and knowledge of other steps the retailer could take to limit access to inhalable products or products that can be used to make illicit drugs.

We anticipate the parent survey will focus on awareness of inhalable products and of drugs/drug use problems, attitudes toward inhalants and other drugs, steps the parent may have taken to limit access to inhalable products in their household, knowledge related to inhalants and inhalable products, and knowledge of other steps that could be taken to limit access to household products that can be inhaled or abused.

I would be grateful for AAPOR's insight related to any existing/validated survey instruments that may be useful as we work to create the instruments for these surveys, as well as pointers in the direction of any published literature on retailer or parent surveys.

Thanks!
--Matt

Matthew W. Courser, Ph.D.
Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation--Columbus Office
phone: (614) 466-0124
fax: (614) 995-4223
email: mcourser@pire.org

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
A top House Democrat who is investigating allegations of voting irregularities on Election Day wants the media to show him the confidential, "raw" data from the exit polls of voters they did this year.

Rep. John Conyers of Michigan, the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, said Wednesday that he doesn't know whether the information would answer questions about whether problems at the polls led to miscounts in the presidential election. Most polling experts who have studied exit polls doubt the data would be of use.

The media organizations that paid for the information are expected to turn down such a request. Though the media publish information, "they don't have to give anybody their notes or reveal all their methods," said Jack Shafer, media critic and editor at large for Slate, an online magazine.

The polling firms that produced the exit poll data have declined a similar request from Conyers.

Edie Emery, a spokeswoman for the consortium, said the group did not want to comment on Conyers' request. She said that, as after past elections, much of this year's data "will be archived at the Roper Center and the University of Connecticut in early 2005."

In addition, she said, the firms that produced the exit polls are reviewing this year's results and will submit a report to the AP and networks "in mid- to late-January."

The information Conyers wants typically isn't made public. He's looking for the late afternoon or early evening rough estimates of who was ahead. That data are only supposed to be used to help reporters and editors plan stories.

The reason the data may not be of much help to Conyers, said Joan Konner, dean emerita of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, is
that the margin of error is just too large - especially if the information is sliced into smaller and smaller "subgroups."

--

Leo G. Simonetta
Research Director
Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD 21209

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date:         Thu, 9 Dec 2004 10:38:53 -0800
Reply-To:     draughon.research@insightbb.com
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Comments:     DomainKeys? See http://antispam.yahoo.com/domainkeys
From:         Draughon Research <kat_lind99@YAHOO.COM>
Subject:      Focus Group moderator training info synopsis
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 8BIT

Thank you to everyone who sent me information/suggestions for formal focus-group moderator training. Here is a synopsis of the information.

Training Courses

Group Dimensions – Janet Mancini Billson and Norman London
www.focusgroupdimensions.com - Drs. Billson and London offered a 1-day version of their 2-day course at the last AAPOR conference in St. Pete Beach. Their 2-day (w/ optional 3rd day) course was highly recommended by several people. The classes are small and lots of ‘hands-one’ experience is offered. The optional 3rd day offers additional training on topics decided by the group being trained. Cost - $750 for 2-day course, $150 for optional 3rd day. Cost for full-time graduate student is $350. Their training manual is also for sale on the website (The Power of Focus Groups).

Riva
www.rivaine.com - this company was also highly recommended by several people. It is a very intensive 3-day course that includes homework and actual moderating practice. Participants are ready to
moderate when they leave. It seems to be the premier course for market research company moderators. Cost - $3,200

Richard Krueger's course at the University of MN – This was described as a very good course. Do not have any specifics on cost, etc.

The Summer Institute training at the University of Michigan, (ISR) conducted by David Morgan. www.isr.umich.edu - This was also a recommended course. He is also co-author of the highly recommended “Focus Group Kit”.

Office for National Statistics in the U.K. – Cynthia Clark reported that they offer training on focus group moderation in London. Contact Cynthia.Clark@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Books


Focus Groups. Richard Krueger and Mary Anne Casey, 3rd edition

The Focus Group Kit - David L. Morgan, Richard A. Krueger

The Power of Focus Groups: A training manual for social, policy and market research. Janet Billson

=====

Katherine "Kat" Lind Draughon, PhD, MPH

Draughon Research
draughon.research@insightbb.com

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Thu, 9 Dec 2004 19:12:41 -0800
Reply-To: Linda Bourque <lbourque@UCLA.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Linda Bourque <lbourque@UCLA.EDU>
Subject: Help needed!!
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=fixed
To All (and most of all Allen Barton):

Some years ago....1950s or 1960s.....Allen Barton wrote a hilarious 2-3
page paper about how to ask sensitive questions. The topic of the
questions was "how did you murder your wife." I wanted to give it to the
students who are completing my course in questionnaire design and
administration and I appear to have lost both a copy of the article and the
reference. I believe it was published in ASR or AJS. Can anyone help me
with this?

Linda Bourque

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Fri, 10 Dec 2004 00:58:58 -0500
Reply-To: mccarty@TCNJ.EDU
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: John McCarty <mccarty@TCNJ.EDU>
Subject: Re: Help needed!!!
Comments: To: lbourque@UCLA.EDU
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <6.0.2.0.2.20041209190901.035f94f0@mail.ucla.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

Linda,

the citation is:

Alan J. Barton, "Asking the Embarrassing Question," Public Opinion
Quarterly, 1958, pp. 67-68.

John A. McCarty
School of Business
The College of New Jersey

To All (and most of all Allen Barton):
Some years ago....1950s or 1960s.....Allen Barton wrote a
hilarious 2-3
page paper about how to ask sensitive questions. The topic of the
questions was "how did you murder your wife." I wanted to give it to
the students who are completing my course in questionnaire design and
administration and I appear to have lost both a copy of the article and
the reference. I believe it was published in ASR or AJS. Can anyone
help me with this?

Linda Bourque
With respect to my previous response, I believe that the citation is correct except that it is Allen Barton, not Alan J. Barton.

John McCarty

---

To All (and most of all Allen Barton):
   Some years ago....1950s or 1960s.....Allen Barton wrote a
   hilarious 2-3
   page paper about how to ask sensitive questions. The topic of the
   questions was "how did you murder your wife." I wanted to give it to
   the students who are completing my course in questionnaire design and
   administration and I appear to have lost both a copy of the article and
   the reference. I believe it was published in ASR or AJS. Can anyone
   help me with this?

   Linda Bourque

---

Date: Fri, 10 Dec 2004 10:45:57 +0100
Reply-To: Edith de Leeuw <edithl@XS4ALL.NL>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

---

Date: Fri, 10 Dec 2004 01:31:18 -0500
Reply-To: mccarty@TCNJ.EDU
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: John McCarty <mccarty@TCNJ.EDU>
Subject: Re: Help needed!!! - correction
Comments: To: lbourque@UCLA.EDU
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <6.0.2.0.2.20041209190901.035f94f0@mail.ucla.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

With respect to my previous response, I believe that the citation is correct except that it is Allen Barton, not Alan J. Barton.

John McCarty
Sounds great fun. and I think my students would love this too
So I add my plea to the one from Linda.

As tit-for-tat, somewhere in my files I have a copy from the UK with
examples from real life questions with errors (also from the sixties)
Example: How old was your baby when it arrived? I use this to explain how
the context can give meaning to a silly question. This question was used in
a marketing study of baby food and a free sample was send to young mothers.
The 'it' is the free sample!

Warm regards from cold Amsterdam Edith

At 07:12 PM 12/9/2004 -0800, Linda Bourque wrote:
> To All (and most of all Allen Barton):
>     Some years ago....1950s or 1960s.....Allen Barton wrote a
>     hilarious 2-3
>     page paper about how to ask sensitive questions. The topic of the
>     questions was "how did you murder your wife." I wanted to give it to the
>     students who are completing my course in questionnaire design and
>     administration and I appear to have lost both a copy of the article and the
>     reference. I believe it was published in ASR or AJS. Can anyone help me
>     with this?
>     
> Linda Bourque
>
> >Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
> >Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Dr. Edith D. de Leeuw, MethodikA
Plantage Doklaan 40, NL-1018 CN Amsterdam
tel + 31 20 622 34 38 fax + 31 20 330 25 97
e-mail edithl@xs4all.nl

De noordzee, de noordzee....The sea, the sea....
Sign the Green Peace petition at http://www.steundenoordzee.nl/index.php
Let future generation enjoy our seas too

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
Let's compare the automated surveys to the three biggest pollsters who used live interviewers in multiple battleground states. We'll grade each pollster according to how far the gap between its final numbers for Bush and Kerry varied from the gap shown in the official returns. In other words, if the pollster had Kerry winning by 0.7 percent, and Bush actually won by 1.2 percent, the poll had an error of 1.9 points.

Start with Gallup. Rasmussen and Gallup overlapped in four battleground states: the big three (Florida, Ohio, and Pennsylvania) plus Minnesota. In all four, Rasmussen beat Gallup. Rasmussen's average error in these states was 3.2 points, half of Gallup's 6.3. SurveyUSA overlapped with Gallup in the big three states plus Iowa. Again, the automated pollster whipped Gallup. SurveyUSA's average error was 3.5 points. Gallup's was 6.5.

Mason-Dixon fared better, but not by much. It conducted surveys in five states that Rasmussen also polled: the big three plus Michigan and Minnesota. Mason-Dixon's average error in these states was 5.5 points. Rasmussen's was 3.2. Mason-Dixon overlapped SurveyUSA in 10 states: the big three, Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, and Oregon. Mason-Dixon was off in these states by an average of 5.6 points. SurveyUSA was off by 3.3.

Zogby came closer but still couldn't beat the robo-pollsters. Rasmussen went head-to-head with Zogby in the big three, Michigan, and Minnesota. Zogby erred in these states by an average of 4.3 points. Rasmussen erred by just 3.2. SurveyUSA squared off against Zogby in the big three, Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, and Nevada. Zogby was off in these states by an average of 4.5 points. SurveyUSA was off by just 3.4.
A number of people responded to my inquiry with the information. Some also asked for the answer if I got it. The citation is Allen Barton, Asking the Embarrassing Question, Public Opinion Quarterly, 1958, pp. 67-68.

Linda Bourque

Please send your nominations for AAPOR Council officers to emartin@census.gov!

I welcome your suggestions for people who you think will serve AAPOR well on its Executive Council. We need energetic newcomers with fresh ideas, as well as wise and wizened elders who speak with the voice of experience.

It helps if you provide a sentence or two saying why you think the person would be a good choice to run for council, and be sure to mention the office you are nominating the person for.

Thanks so much!

Betsy Martin
Past President
Please respond to the individual listed at the end of the Job Announcement:

Windwalker Corporation

1355 Beverly Road, Suite 330

McLean VA, 22101

Windwalker Corporation is seeking a Program Manager to oversee educational survey and research projects.

Our current work includes projects involving large-scale survey research, U.S. Department of Education program evaluations and military research projects. The program manager will be responsible for ongoing contracts, managing staff and well as technical and financial management of survey projects.

Qualifications

* Ph.D. preferred with experience in survey management, military, educational measurement, educational or industrial organizational psychology, or related fields. Candidate must have experience managing government contracts.
* The position requires excellent communication skills and the ability to express ideas effectively both orally and in writing. This position requires a person with the ability to manage his or her time in order to meet the demands of several complex projects simultaneously along with managing staff members on the research team.
* The candidate should be able to manage contract budgets, plan tasks and workflow for projects several weeks in advance, monitor timelines, and set staff priorities to ensure that work is completed according to project timelines. Close attention to detail is essential.
* Experience working on large-scale surveys and evaluations of education programs/interventions that include multiple study components and the analysis and reporting of implementation and survey data. Ideal
candidate will have experience in the design, implementation, and analysis of rigorous evaluations and research experiments.

* Knowledge of a broad range of education policy issues, including federal legislation such as No Child Left Behind and issues surrounding teacher professional development or classroom instruction would be a plus.

Salary Negotiable based on experience. Please include salary requirement on your resume.

Interested individuals should send their resume with a cover letter to:

Elizabeth Willis, 703-970-3551, elizabeth.willis@windwalker.com

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

I'm looking for a vendor who compiles lists of recent home buyers using geo codes (preferably census block groups). This is for a study of such a population in New Jersey. Any leads are most appreciated.

Patrick Murray
Center for Public Interest Polling
Eagleton Institute of Politics
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
My favorite survey-based research was reported long ago in the wonderful book "Communism, Conformity, and Civil Liberties," by Sam Stouffer. In addition to its remarkably innovative design (see Jim Davis's Introduction), it's interesting to note that the survey was based on nearly 6,000 face-to-face personal interviews (not to mention 1533 separate interviews with "community leaders"), gathered partly by Gallup and partly by NORC (to facilitate such a large sample and also to check empirically on between-house agreement) over three months using full area probability sampling. The final response rate was 84%, with no need to do any guessstimation or to figure out which AAPOR calculation method would be best.

As was pointed out earlier today (I forget by whom), a Slate article reports that so-called robot (automated) polls performed better than most other surveys in predicting the 2004 presidential election at the state level where multiple comparisons could be made. Response rates these days are so far from Stouffer's that they are hardly worth mentioning, but interviewing with automated polls is so swift that a large number of cases can be gathered in a matter of hours or perhaps less.

It's a new world for surveys, as for so much else, and hard to keep up with if one was trained to judge survey quality by criteria such as "rapport," response rate, interviewer morale, and most other traditional features. Of course, we like to think that more complex questionnaires and surveys do not work that way.... Howard
Retro Poll
www.retropoll.org

-----Original Message-----
From: Bob Fertik [mailto:bob@democrats.com]
Subject: 62,000 Fraudulent Absentee Ballots in Ohio?

http://democrats.com/ohio-absentee

More Votes than Voters in Ohio:
Absentee Vote Inflated, Certified Vote in Doubt
by Dr. Werner Lange
December 12, 2004

A careful review of the absentee vote in one Ohio county revealed that
many more absentee votes were cast than there were absentee voters
identified...

The 106 precincts of these five Ohio communities, about 39% of all
precincts in Trumbull County, netted a total of 580 absentee votes for
which there were no absentee voters identified in the poll books.

"When there are more votes than voters, there is a big problem" stated
Dr. Werner Lange, author of this study which would have been completed weeks
earlier if Ohio Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell, co-chair of the
Ohio Bush-Cheney campaign, had not unlawfully ordered all 88 boards of
elections to prevent public inspection of poll books until after
certification of the vote.

The absentee vote inflation rate for these five communities averages 5.5
fradulent voters per precinct. If this pattern of inflated absentee
votes
holds for all of Ohio's 11,366 precincts, then there were some 62,513
absentee votes in Ohio up for grabs in the last election. Who grabbed
them
and how they did so should be the subject of an immediate congressional
investigation.

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Mon, 13 Dec 2004 10:31:37 -0500
Reply-To: Brian Dautch <bdautch@CMOR.ORG>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Brian Dautch <bdautch@CMOR.ORG>
Subject: Beltway commentary on exit polls
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
From Stu Rothenberg's year-end review of the 2004 Presidential election in Roll Call, an inside-the-Beltway daily:

"...We also learned that the exit polls didn't do badly. What? Have I lost my mind?

Actually, the problem wasn't the exits — it was the folks who treated the early-afternoon numbers as if they were a predictor of what would happen after everyone had voted.

The exit poll was off by a couple of points, but that's well within the margin of error. Given conservatives' apparently increased skittishness about talking to pollsters and members of the national media, a small bias in the results toward Kerry is understandable."

Brian Dautch
Director of Government Affairs
CMOR
Promoting and Advocating Survey Research
7475 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20814
ph: (301) 654-6601
fax: (208) 693-0564
bdautch@cmor.org

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Dear AAPORNet Colleagues,
I am working with a client on a project proposal and for a couple of important reasons, we are exploring the possibility of using white page sample frames for a study of households with children. We have just learned that the geographic areas of interest have high unlisted rates. I did a "quick and dirty" search on Google Scholar and didn't find much out there on this topic since the early to mid 1970s. I found one 1996 study by Katz indicating that unlisted households are more likely to be African-American, renters, residents of metropolitan areas, live in a multifamily dwelling, have lower education and lower income.
If anyone is aware of other recent published or anecdotal evidence regarding this comparison, I would appreciate learning more. Thanks much and happy holidays.

Mary Losch

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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CALL FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

TSM II

2nd International Conference on Telephone Survey Methodology

January 2006
Florida

Conference website: http://www.amstat.org/meetings/tsmii/2006/
<http://www.amstat.org/meetings/tsmii/2006/>

In 1987, the 1st International Conference on Telephone Survey Methodology was held in Charlotte, NC. The conference generated a widely read book on telephone survey methodology (Groves, Biemer, Lyberg, Massey, Nicholls and Waskberg, 1989). Although that book continues to be a standard reference for many professionals, the rapid changes in telecommunications and in telephone survey methodology over the past 15 years make the volume increasingly dated. Considerable research has occurred since 1987, including myriad advances in random telephone sampling, often in response to changes in the telecommunications system.

The goal of this second conference will be to bring together survey researchers and practitioners concerned with telephone survey methodology and practice in order to stimulate research papers that (1) contribute to the science of measuring and/or reducing errors attributable to weaknesses in telephone survey design, (2) provide documentation of current practices, and (3) stimulate new ideas for further research and development. A monograph that presents state-of-the-art research and practices related to telephone survey methodology will be prepared based on papers presented at the conference. The edited monograph is expected to be published by Wiley.

The selection of monograph papers has been completed. At this time, the TSM
II Program Committee invites all interested researchers to submit abstracts for consideration for presentation at the conference as contributed papers. The abstract should be no more than 500 words. The deadline for submitting abstracts is March 15, 2005, and final selections will be made by April 30, 2005. Abstracts should be submitted through the conference website (given above) after January 15, 2005.

Although not exhaustive, the following is a list of possible topics for contributed papers:

**Sampling Design**
- Frame construction
- Types of sampling-list-assisted, Mitofsky-Waksberg, registers, dual frame designs, etc.
- Within household respondent selection
- Noncoverage issues: cellular phone-only households and non-telephone households
- Mixed mode designs
- Sampling rare populations

**Data Collection Issues**
- Questionnaire development and testing
- Standardized vs. Tailored Script Delivery
- Script Translation
- CATI software
- CATI usability testing and design
- Mode effects
- Interviewer effects
- Responsive (dynamic) telephone survey design
- Coding open-ended responses
- Longitudinal studies

**Operational Aspects of Telephone Surveys**
- Cost management
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Case management
- Training and monitoring interviewers
- Interviewer recruitment and turnover
- Meeting time deadlines and client expectations
- Methodological innovation within a production environment
- Call scheduling, maximum number of call attempts
- Sample release and sample management
- Final disposition codes for RDD surveys
- Response outcomes; AAPOR/CASRO response rates and their calculation

**Estimation Issues**
- Editing and imputation
- Variance and bias estimation
- Weighting telephone service interruption to account for non-telephone households
- Post-stratification
- Statistical adjustments for nonresponse
- Combining data across modes and frames
- Time series
Nonresponse
Relationship between response rate and nonresponse bias
Privacy and confidentiality
Public perceptions of telephone surveys vs. telemarketing
The effects of new technologies and/or legislation on telephone nonresponse
Non-ignorable nonresponse error
Methods to reduce and/or measure nonresponse (refusals vs. noncontacts)

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Mon, 13 Dec 2004 15:02:05 -0800
Reply-To: jdrogers@sfsu.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: John Rogers <jdrogers@SFSU.EDU>
Organization: Public Research Institute
Subject: Job opportunity
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Proposal Support Specialist: Public Research Institute - San Francisco State University

The Public Research Institute at San Francisco State University (PRI) seeks
a half-time Proposal Support Specialist to coordinate research proposals for
grants and contracts (pre-award). The primary purpose of the position is to
provide support to SFSU faculty research in health disparities, through the
federally funded RIMI (Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions) program. Responsibilities for development of PRI=92s other grants and contracts will be added over time, with a goal of full time employment after the first year.

The Public Research Institute (PRI) provides policy research, data collection, analysis, and consultation to San Francisco State University and to government agencies, non-profit organizations, community groups and businesses in the Bay Area and California. Supported by an interdisciplinary network of SFSU faculty, PRI draws upon the knowledge and technical skills of scholars in many fields, including land use, labor economics, transportation, marketing, public administration, geographic information systems, urban planning and policy, social work, gerontology, and other behavioral and social sciences. PRI's work is set by grants =
and contracts, mainly with agencies of local and state government but also with SFSU and with nonprofit organizations, foundations, community groups, and other universities. Additional information about PRI is available at http://pri.sfsu.edu; and the RIMI program at SFSU is described at http://rimi2.sfsu.edu.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Assemble, format, and edit new proposals under supervision of the Associate Director and faculty associates.
- Assist in locating appropriate funding programs for faculty research concepts.
- Coordinate proposal activities across multiple organizations and the SFSU Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.
- Track proposal status and follow-up correspondence. Assist with contract submissions as with grants. Ensure the fulfillment of proposal deadlines.
- Assist with management of administrative requirements such as Human Subjects protocols, progress reports, budgets, and requirements of collaborating agencies.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Familiarity with social research methodology (Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience, graduate degree preferred).
- Experience preparing / managing proposals for research grants and/or contracts.
- Experience working within and across complex organizations.
- Excellent analytic, problem-solving, and organizational skills.
- Excellent written, spoken, and interpersonal communication skills.

This program is administered by the San Francisco State University Foundation, Inc., (SFSUFI), and said employment for this position is with SFSUFI. This is a non-State of California, non-University position. SFSUFI is an EOE/AA employer.

Starting pay: $16-20/hr DOE, with benefits. Possible employment beyond 50% time depending on work flow.

Position posted December 15, 2004, and will be open until filled. Send letter and résumé including references by email, fax, or mail to John Rogers, Associate Director. Email: jdrogers@sfsu.edu. Fax: (415) 338-6099.

Mail: PRI, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94132-4025.

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

John Rogers, PhD
Associate Director
Public Research Institute
San Francisco State University
jdrogers@sfsu.edu
(415)405-3800
http://pri.sfsu.edu=

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date:         Mon, 13 Dec 2004 18:27:52 -0500
Reply-To:     Votewatch <forum@VOTEWATCH.US>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Votewatch <forum@VOTEWATCH.US>
Subject:      Exit Polling Results in New Mexico
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Dear AAPOR Members,

Votewatch, as has been mentioned on AAPORNET earlier, did an extensive
series of scientifically conducted exit polls in New Mexico on November 2 -
about 1000 in all. The methodology and exit polling data collected by
Votewatch volunteers have now been loaded on its website
http://votewatch.us/reports/view_reports.

________________________________
Steven Hertzberg
Project Director
Votewatch Corporation
2269 Chestnut Street, 611
San Francisco, California 94123

http://www.votewatch.us
Your Eye on Elections

Date:         Mon, 13 Dec 2004 18:34:25 -0500
Reply-To:     DivaleBill@AOL.COM
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         William Divale <DivaleBill@AOL.COM>
Subject:      Job Opening
Comments: To: pricard@cam.org, Krosnick@osu.edu, kosicki.1@osu.edu,
rlittle@umich.edu, nusser@iastate.edu, nschwarz@umich.edu,
cebuconn@yahoo.com, Jimlep@isr.umich.edu, george.bishop@uc.edu,
Folks:
My department has an opening for a Sociologist with an emphasis in Survey Research. This is a good opportunity for a new Ph.D. or one with some years of experience. We also would love to see a qualified minority candidate apply and the best person gets the job. Please see listing below and send in materials before the closing date of January 14, 2005.

William Divale, Ph.D.
Professor of Anthropology
Survey Research Laboratory, Director
York College, CUNY
Jamaica, NY 11451
_www.york.cuny.edu_ (http://www.york.cuny.edu)

Job Postings:
Anticipated Tenure Track Opening for Fall 2005
Assistant Professor of Sociology
York College of The City University of New York
Closing Date: 01/14/2005
Duties: Teach and develop introductory and advanced undergraduate courses in sociology; pursue research and other activities appropriate to rank.
Qualifications: Doctorate in sociology required; expertise in combination of social stratification, sociology of work, sociology of education, ethnicity, and/or survey research preferred.
The college has a Survey Research Laboratory and a Certificate program in Survey Research Methods. The successful candidate would be invited to participate or co-direct the survey laboratory and program. The department is a happy place with several faculty actively engaged in survey research.
Salary: (commensurate with salary history and experience): $35,031 - $65,338. A qualified survey researcher could argue for the top end of the salary range.
To apply, send cover letter with CV and the name, address and telephone number of three (3) references by above closing date to:
Dr. Amos O. Odenyo, Search Committee Chair Department of Social Sciences
York College-The City University of New York
94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd.

Dear Colleagues;

Brian's summary fits the Votewatch exit polling experience we had in New Mexico. Our results, including the data, are now on the Votewatch website at www.votewatch.us, as referenced elsewhere on this list today.

Best, Fritz

In a message dated 12/13/2004 10:38:40 AM Eastern Standard Time, bdautch@CMOR.ORG writes:

> Subj: Beltway commentary on exit polls
> Date: 12/13/2004 10:38:40 AM Eastern Standard Time
> From: bdautch@CMOR.ORG
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Sent from the Internet
> From Stu Rothenberg's year-end review of the 2004 Presidential election in Roll Call, an inside-the-Beltway daily:
> "...We also learned that the exit polls didn't do badly. What? Have I lost my mind? Actually, the problem wasn't the exits - it was the folks who treated the early-afternoon numbers as if they were a predictor of what would happen after everyone had voted. The exit poll was off by a couple of points, but that's well within..."
n the
> margin of error. Given conservatives=E2=80=99 apparently increased skittis=
hness
> about talking to pollsters and members of the national media, a small bias
> in the results toward Kerry is understandable."
>=20
> Brian Dautch
> Director of Government Affairs
>=20
> CMOR
> Promoting and Advocating Survey Research
> 7475 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 300
> Bethesda, MD 20814
> ph: (301) 654-6601
> fax: (208) 693-0564
> bdautch@cmor.org

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

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

Date:         Tue, 14 Dec 2004 00:14:24 -0500
Reply-To:     JP Murphy <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         JP Murphy <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Subject:      New Mexico: Different Sources But Same Result
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain;       charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Unless I'm missing something, results from the Votewatch and NEP exit =
polls in New Mexico are consistent:

State of New Mexico
47.5 percent Bush (NEP exit poll)
50.0 percent Bush (reported result)
Exit poll N =3D 1951
Source: Freeman paper

Bernalillo County (Albuquerque; about one-third of state)
39.3 percent Bush (Votewatch exit poll)
48.2 percent Bush (reported result)
Exit poll N =3D 962=20
Source: Votewatch Report (p.36) =
+http://www.bernco.gov/upload/images/clerk/general04/resultsPage1.html =
(using Precint Results; 47.5 percent including Absentee and Early)

In both cases the reported count for Bush exceeds the exit poll estimate =
by a non-trivial magnitude.

Freeman considers the NEP exit polls independent events to arrive at his =
one-in-a-gazillion probability. Here you have far fewer events \( (2) \) but the independence is more easily established. 

When are we going to see evidence explaining the euphemistically characterized "skew" to Kerry?

If memory serves, skewness is the absence of symmetry in a naturally occurring (uncontested) distribution. What we have with the exit polls, if you choose to believe it, is a biased estimate.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
J.P. MURPHY & COMPANY
Post Office Box 80484
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19484-0484 USA
(610) 408-8800
www.jpmurphy.com

The comments about the wonders of the 2004 exit polls are not based upon fact. This cheerleading preys upon the demoralization of those millions (mostly Democrats and third party members) who do not believe the election was fairly executed. No one can understand the exit polls until all the data, including the unadjusted data is released. If the data sets are not released soon, one must assume the worst about why they are being withheld.

There are people pretending that discrepancies that lack explanation can
As I have written, let's suppose Steven Freeman's argument about the 1 in 250 million probability of the exit polls coming out as they did is not close to a reasonable analysis. Still, no one is able to explain why all the exit polls, even after the polls closed (not the early morning summaries), leaned in the same direction, toward Kerry. Nor can anyone explain why 100% of the reports of improper vote tabulation and recording from citizens, or reports of counties with excess spoiled ballots, and shorted voting machines, always pertain to losses of votes by one of the candidates but not the other. We have only the conjectures (perhaps reasonable, but totally unproven) of various people about why the exit polls go in one direction—and nothing substantial.

People in AAPOR who assert that their conjectures on why this happened are adequate to dispel concerns apparently do not like to live with uncertainty and prefer to forget about rigorous analysis. In the Venezuela debacle, some wanted to believe the exit polls because they were done by a known U.S. firm—a criterion for fidelity that I'm sure many in Europe and elsewhere would find strange indeed. Some held to that view even though the Shoen et al poll varied by about 18% from the vote tally; the one that Carter and the OAS certified accurate. In Ukraine where there apparently is evidence of fraud, the gold standard used by the U.S. government was the exit polls by the same folks, I believe.

Jimmy Carter himself stated that the presidential election procedures in the U.S. did not meet the basic standards for fair elections before the fact. He was unwilling to even consider monitoring such a heterogeneous system with no audit capability and no independence. To accept, in this context, that these exit poll aberrations just happened by chance or by whatever someone wants us to believe is not the same thing as a cogent analysis backed with the data and methods.

Late last week Congressman John Conyers, ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee asked the NEP and specifically Mitofsky and Lenski for access to the full data set. It is the responsibility of AAPOR, if it be an organization of professionals and not just a business advocacy branch of the Chamber of Commerce to require that the NEP's AAPOR members provide Conyers with the unweighted data sets immediately or face censure and/or expulsion from AAPOR. That this proposal may be ridiculed does not phase me one bit. Ethical standards are not really hard to fathom. Although I may be a critic of opinion polling becoming an "industry" rather than a branch of independent social science research, it is quite clear that I am simply defending the ethical integrity of AAPOR by its own standards. If AAPOR wants to be seen as an ethical organization it has to live by the ethical standards it sets.
And no amount of gamesmanship on this list can fog over the fact that it is not doing so if does not enforce transparency on this most important poll.

Marc Sapir MD, MPH
Executive Director
Retro Poll
www.retropoll.org

P.S. I'm intrigued by the argument about conservative "skittishness" in talking to pollsters. I do polling myself. There is no doubt that there are conservatives with such deep distrust that every pollster is perceived of as representing a liberal establishment. Yet while some APPORsters worry about the bias of losing some of those folks, where are equivalent concerns about how low the Latino and Black participation is consistently in our telephone polls? Do the minority folks all of a sudden love exit polls, in comparison with conservatives? National polls consistently over poll whites (and probably conservatives) because of this complex minority bias; and adjustments suffer from the same self-selection bias. When added together Blacks and Latinos are about as big a block as the far right conservatives.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Fritz Scheuren
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2004 8:10 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Beltway commentary on exit polls

Dear Colleagues;

Brian's summary fits the Votewatch exit polling experience we had in New Mexico. Our results, including the data, are now on the Votewatch website at www.votewatch.us, as referenced elsewhere on this list today.

Best, Fritz

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> Date: 12/13/2004 10:38:40 AM Eastern Standard Time
> From: bdautch@CMOR.ORG
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Sent from the Internet
> > From Stu Rothenberg's year-end review of the 2004 Presidential election in
> > Roll Call, an inside-the-Beltway daily:
We also learned that the exit polls didn't do badly. What? Have I lost my mind?

Actually, the problem wasn't the exits - it was the folks who treated the early-afternoon numbers as if they were a predictor of what would happen after everyone had voted.

The exit poll was off by a couple of points, but that's well within the margin of error. Given conservatives' apparently increased skittishness about talking to pollsters and members of the national media, a small bias in the results toward Kerry is understandable.

Brian Dautch
Director of Government Affairs
CMOR
Promoting and Advocating Survey Research
7475 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20814
ph: (301) 654-6601
fax: (208) 693-0564
bdautch@cmor.org

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to:
aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Tue, 14 Dec 2004 11:09:01 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Country Tilts Republican Post-Election
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Country Tilts Republican Post-Election
by Jeffrey M. Jones
Gallup Poll Managing Editor
http://www.gallup.com/poll/content/default.aspx?ci=14347
Gallup Poll data have periodically shown shifts in Americans' self-identification with the two major political parties. These shifts are not uncommon in intensely political times, such as in an election year. After this year's election, with George W. Bush winning a second term, Gallup data show a rise in the percentage of Americans who identify themselves as Republicans.

SNIP

--
Leo G. Simonetta
Research Director
Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD  21209

=========================================================================
Date:         Tue, 14 Dec 2004 13:45:04 -0600
Reply-To:     Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Subject:      Holiday/Vacation Hold for AAPORNet
Comments: To: AAPORNet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

If you're going to be away from your e-mail over the holidays and would like to temporarily suspend your AAPORNET subscription, here's how:

Send an email to listserv@asu.edu with the following one line of text:

set aapornet nomail

You don't need a subject, and don't include any signature text, etc. You will receive a confirmation e-mail from Listserv.

To restart mail delivery, send another e-mail to listserv@asu.edu with this one line:

set aapornet mail

Note to send the e-mails to listserv@asu.edu, and not to aapornet.

And remember that you can easily check the archives (address below) on your return for any messages you may have missed.

If you haven't visited the archives before, you'll need to create a password--this is not related to your AAPOR web site user id or password--you just make it up.
Happy Holiday Season to everyone,

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date:         Tue, 14 Dec 2004 11:49:53 -0800
Reply-To:     Doug Strand <dstrand@CSM.BERKELEY.EDU>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Doug Strand <dstrand@CSM.BERKELEY.EDU>
Subject:      Social Science Research Council's Election Commission
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hi folks,

I don't know if this has been announced on the list already. I don't think so, but please forgive me if this is redundant.

Below is the Social Science Research Council's recent press release. As part of this commission's mission, I believe it will attempt to determine the impact of alleged irregularities on the 2004 presidential election results. I hope it can address at least some of the concerns and debates aired on the AAPORnet site.

Congratulations and good luck to the AAPOR members on the new commission, which includes Michael Traugott, Henry Brady and Ben Highton, and probably some others on the list that I didn't properly recognize as active AAPOR members.

For more info on the Social Science Research Council, see their website: www.ssrc.org

Best,
Doug Strand
------------------
Doug Strand, Ph.D.
Project Director
Public Agendas and Citizen Engagement Survey (PACES)
Survey Research Center
2538 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94720-5100
510-642-0508
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National Research Commission on Elections and Voting

<http://election04.ssrc.org/new/>Recent Site Updates
The National Research Commission on Elections and Voting brings scholarly research, knowledge and perspective to bear on efforts to improve the integrity of the electoral process. Election and voting issues studied by the Commission include (but are not limited to):

* Laws and regulations governing oversight of elections
* Rules governing advance voting, absentee ballots, and provisional ballots
* Laws and practices governing maintenance of voter rolls and purging of non-eligible voters
* Voter intimidation and other sources of suppression or distortion of voter intent
* Polling place practices, including instructions provided to voters, wait times and staffing
* Differences in rejection or spoilage rates of varied voting technologies
* Mechanisms to increase transparency and credibility of the electoral process

In serving as a nonpartisan resource for journalists, official authorities, and concerned citizens, the Commission will meet three vital objectives:

* Establish and substantiate more widespread public awareness and understanding of electoral process concerns that must be addressed to strengthen the credibility and integrity of our election system, free from partisanship and informed by rigorous social scientific research;
* Serve as a national, nonpartisan repository for systematic data collection, analysis and interpretation of evidence to support the efforts of researchers and organizations studying voting and election issues; and
* Provide the basis for Commission members to complete a report of their findings and recommendations, sponsor vital new lines of research, and serve as expert witnesses for testimony and public hearings.

Commission members include:

* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Alvarez/>R. Michael Alvarez, California Institute of Technology
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Brady/>Henry Brady, University of California, Berkeley
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Charles/>Guy-Uriel Charles, University of Minnesota
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Fishkin/>James Fishkin, Stanford University
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Highton/>Benjamin Highton, University of California, Davis
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Junn/>Jane Junn, Rutgers University
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Keyssar/>Alexander Keyssar, Harvard University (chair)
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Kousser/>J. Morgan Kousser, California Institute of Technology
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Kropf/>Martha Kropf, University of Missouri, Kansas City
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Levi/>Margaret Levi, University of Washington
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Manza/>Jeff Manza, Northwestern University
* <http://election04.ssrc.org/members/Mebane/>Walter R. Mebane, Jr., Cornell University
James Morone, Brown University
Richard Pildes, New York University
Nelson W. Polsby, University of California, Berkeley
Samuel Popkin, University of California, San Diego
Douglas Rivers, Stanford University
Michael Traugott, University of Michigan
Janelle Wong, University of Southern California

SSRC has now launched a Commission News distribution list to provide regular updates on the Commission's activities and related Council work. You can join this list by either sending an e-mail to election04news-join@lists.ssrc.org or via the web at http://lists.ssrc.org/scripts/lyris.pl?join=election04news.


From today's Washington Post:

Electoral problems prevented many thousands of Ohioans from voting on Nov. 2. In Columbus, bipartisan estimates say that 5,000 to 15,000 frustrated voters turned away without casting ballots. It is unlikely that such "lost" voters would have changed the election result -- Ohio tipped to President Bush by a 118,000-vote margin and cemented his electoral college majority.

But similar problems occurred across the state and fueled protest marches and demands for a recount. The foul-ups appeared particularly acute in Democratic-leaning districts, according to
interviews with voters, poll workers, election observers and election board and party officials, as well as an examination of precinct voting patterns in several cities.

How unlikely is unlikely? Would anyone care to quantify that?

I understand that activists have been wearing orange ribbons (the color of the Ukraine opposition) "in support of the voters of Ohio."

The entire article is at:

Jan Werner

-------------------------------------------------------------------------
Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNENET.
-------------------------------------------------------------------------

It would also be interesting to know which political party is governing in the counties that have these problems.

Ed Ratledge

-----Original Message-----
From: Jan Werner
To: AAPORNENET@asu.edu
Sent: 12/15/2004 7:57 AM
Subject: Buckeye Kiev

From today's Washington Post:

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Jan Werner

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Reply-To: Eric Plutzer <exp12@PSU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Eric Plutzer <exp12@PSU.EDU>
Subject: Re: AAPORNET Digest - 13 Dec 2004 to 14 Dec 2004 (#2004-279)
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To: <200412151020.iBF7retl469094@f05n16.cac.psu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed

At 11:00 PM 12/14/2004, Marc Sapir wrote:
>In any case, the problem is the deviation in one
>direction in State by State polls.

Marc's discussion -- and virtually every aspect of this discussion on- and off- list focuses on the comparison between the exit polls and final vote tallies both nationwide and in the various states.

Actually, any sensible analysis -- whether logical in the absence of all the raw data or in coming months when more data are available -- must take into account THREE elements:

- The reported tallies
- The NEP exit polls
- The pre-election polls

When one looks at the broader picture, it seems that the NEP effort is the clear outlier. Pre-election polls (averaged across firms), underestimated the Bush lead in Florida and Missouri, overestimated Bush's support in Nevada, and HI, but were very close almost everywhere else, including the national tally, PA, OH, IA, NM, and other close states in the midwest and rockies.

If the exit polls were basically correct and final vote counts substantially understate Kerry votes nationwide or in any of the
battleground states then we have to conclude that the pre-election polls are then suspect.

In most discussions, there seems a willingness to privilege the exit polls -- above not only the reported vote but also above the pre-election polls. Yes, the exit polls don't have to worry about likely voters. But the technology of pre-election polls is much better established and you have a competition of half a dozen very experienced firms competing with one another to come as close to the actual outcome as possible. In contrast, presidential exit polls are conducted only once every four years and the sampling and design weights are necessarily based on four year old data. If media polling firms notice a change in response rates over time, they have the opportunity to tinker and adjust. Exit pollsters -- whether in the US, Ukraine or Venezuela -- have no such opportunity to learn and adapt.

For all these reasons, let's use all the information available and pose the puzzle (and it *is* an important puzzle) in the context of pre-election polls that largely coincided with official vote tallies and -- when there was error -- seemed to favor no particular candidate.

Eric

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Eric Plutzer
Department of Political Science
Penn State University
Voice: 814/865-6576
http://polisci.la.psu.edu/faculty/plutzer/

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Thu, 16 Dec 2004 20:32:57 -0800
Reply-To: Marc Sapir <marcsapir@COMCAST.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Marc Sapir <marcsapir@COMCAST.NET>
Subject: FW: what did the exit pollsters do with people who cast provisional ballots?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Comments: cc: Steven Freeman <stfreeman@sas.upenn.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I'm forwarding this question to the list at the request of Steve Freeman at UPenn who did the, now well known, paper entitled "The Unexplained Exit Poll Discrepancy."

Marc Sapir MD, MPH
Executive Director
Retro Poll
rejection of gay rights, abortion and indecency in entertainment.

Others contended that far too much was being extrapolated from just 22 percent choosing moral values, two words that were too broad to provide specifics let alone worthy analysis.

SNIP

In the 1990s, this question stirred controversy: "As you know, the term Holocaust usually refers to the killing of millions of Jews in Nazi death camps during World War II. Does it seem possible, or does it seem impossible to you that the Nazi extermination of the Jews never happened?"

When Gallup questioned the findings of the poll by another organization that suggested more than one in five doubted the Holocaust occurred, it tried its version of the poll question. Asking a question that avoided "does it seem impossible ... that it never happened," Gallup found that 9 percent doubted the Holocaust ever happened.

In a more recent example, The Associated Press asked the following question about abortion and the Supreme Court in mid-November: "The 1973 Supreme Court ruling called Roe v. Wade made abortion in the first three months of pregnancy legal. Do you think President Bush should nominate Supreme Court justices who would uphold the Roe v. Wade decision, or nominate justices who would overturn the Roe v. Wade decision?"

Six in 10, or 59 percent, said they preferred justices who would uphold the court's decision. Critics questioned the question, specifically the phrase - "in the first three months of pregnancy."

The court ruling actually does more than make abortion legal in the first three months - also making it legal farther into a pregnancy, depending on the circumstances.

In early December, the AP asked a slightly amended poll question, saying simply that Roe v. Wade "made abortion legal" and removing the reference to the first three months.

In response to the new question, 57 percent said they favored justices who would uphold the court's landmark ruling - essentially no change.

Public opinion researchers offered various theories on the lack of change, mostly focused on the strength of attitudes about a highly publicized issue. Robert Shapiro of Columbia University suggested such shifts in question wording may have little or no effect on strongly held beliefs.

"On longstanding issues that have been debated for a long time such as abortion and capital punishment," Shapiro said, "small changes in question wording tend to make little difference unless it substantially changes the substance of the question."

---
Could anyone recommend a good translator for translation of SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES into Spanish? Thanks.

Amy Hald

---

Date: Sat, 18 Dec 2004 18:53:55 -0700
Reply-To: Mike O'Neil <mike.oneil@ALUMNI.BROWN.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike O'Neil <mike.oneil@ALUMNI.BROWN.EDU>
Subject: Response rates and Productivity
Comments: To: AAPORNET <aapornet@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Friends

We have had much discussion about declining response rates and the increased effort to maintain acceptable rates.

What has not been discussed much is the impact of this on rates of interviewer productivity.

I would be interested in knowing what the current norms and experiences are.

What rate of productivity would you expect for a
5 min, 10 min, 15 min, and 20 min survey

Say with a listed sample; and separately for a RDD (screened) sample.

I suspect this may be of widespread interest for those with such responsibilities.

If those willing will send to me offline what your organization regularly obtains under these conditions, I will summarize for the list.

Mike O'Neil
www.oneilresearch.com

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Mon, 20 Dec 2004 11:33:13 -0300
Reply-To: =?iso-8859-1?q?Louren=E7o?= <bze@TASK.COM.BR>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: =?iso-8859-1?q?Louren=E7o?= <bze@TASK.COM.BR>
Subject: ENC: Need a name suggestion...
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Hello fellows from AAPOR.
=20
My name is Louren=E7o Rold=E3o and I work in one of the biggest =
Brazilian
Research Institutes, Vox Populi.
=20
I have been in charge of CATI and Web surveys for two years now. I have
recently been promoted to manager of an area that will gather CATI, Web
Surveys, GIS (Geographic Information System) and other Application
developments.
=20
Considering this area has just been created I was asked to name it the =
best
way possible. 
=20
So that=B4s the help I need from you, a name that would best describe =
all the
things under its flag. Wouldn't hurt if the name had some glamour too...
=20
Thanks in advance,
Louren=E7o Rold=E3o
estatistica@voxpopuli.com.br
CATI, Web Survey and GIS
=20
Dear Colleagues:

This is to announce an updated webversion of the What Is a Survey Series. Long available through the Section on Survey Research Methods on the ASA Website www.amstat.org, the series has now been reformatted as a single document, with a preface added.

The new version is available through a NORC website at http://www.whatisasurvey.info/. Because of a contract that NORC had in Qatar, an Arabic version was also produced. That too can be found on the new website. Finally, the original 1980 version of What Is a Survey is also to be found there.

A gift for the season?

Best, Fritz

PS Apologies for crossposting, as many of you, like me, are also on SRMSNET.

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Job Posting

Associate Survey Director - PPIC Statewide Survey
Summary of Position

This position supports the ongoing PPIC Statewide Survey series and special surveys on Californians' public policy preferences, ballot choices, and attitudes towards political, social, and economic issues. The Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) is dedicated to independent, nonpartisan research on political, social, and economic issues that affect the lives of Californians. PPIC was established in 1994 as a private operating foundation with an endowment from William R. Hewlett.

Responsibilities

The Associate Survey Director will oversee both the strategic planning and day-to-day operations of the PPIC Statewide Survey, which began in 1998. The Associate Survey Director will be directly involved in all aspects of the public opinion research process, including questionnaire design, data management, statistical analysis, and writing the reports. Other responsibilities include the supervision of the in-house staff of survey research associates and interns, overseeing the off-site relations with the telephone interviewing firm, consulting with PPIC research fellows and policymakers about the survey content, focus groups, preparation of grant proposals and grant reports to foundation staff, the development of briefings of survey findings for policy audiences, and coordinating the planning and release of surveys with PPIC's communications staff. The Associate Survey Director will also provide survey information to news organizations, elected officials and their staff, and other interested parties. This position reports to Mark Baldassare, Research Director and Director of the PPIC Statewide Survey. PPIC offers a salary and benefits package that is competitive with similar positions in comparable research organizations.

Qualifications

Professional experience in public opinion research is essential, including the use of both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Knowledge of focus group methods, survey sampling, questionnaire design, telephone interviewing techniques, sample weighting, and multivariate statistics is required. Solid computer skills such as the use of SPSS, Excel, Word, and PowerPoint are needed. Strong written and verbal communications skills are essential for communicating with policymakers,
foundation officers, and journalists. Proficiency in the Spanish language is desirable. A graduate degree in a social science-related discipline (e.g. political science, sociology, social psychology, economics, public health, public policy, urban planning) with coursework in public opinion research is required; a Ph.D. is preferred.

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Application Process

E-mail your letter of interest, a resume, the PPIC employment application (accessible through the employment page on www.ppic.org), a list of three references, and a sample of published work to resumes@ppic.org, using "Job # 200421" in your subject heading. We seek to fill this position as soon as possible; applications will continue to be accepted until the search is completed. =20

Visit www.ppic.org for additional information on PPIC. PPIC encourages women and members of minority groups to apply. All applicants are invited to complete PPIC's Pre-Employment Data Record (accessible through the employment page on www.ppic.org) form and submit it to aapdata@ppic.org. The purpose of this voluntary survey is to comply with government record keeping, reporting, and other legal requirements, and to track our effectiveness as an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer. Completion is optional and will not affect any employment decision in any way.

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNENET.

Date: Wed, 22 Dec 2004 11:13:49 -0700
Reply-To: "Margaret R. Roller" <rmr@ROLLERRESEARCH.COM>
Sender: AAPORNENET <AAPORNENET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Margaret R. Roller" <rmr@ROLLERRESEARCH.COM>
Subject: Research in Azerbaijan

I have been consulting with a research firm based in Baku, Azerbaijan for the past 3-4 years. A representative from that firm will be in the DC and NYC areas in January and is interested in meeting anyone who has research interests in Azerbaijan. I have offered to assist in his efforts by contacting suitable individuals for him to meet. Please let me know if you or an acquaintance has research interests in this part of the world.

Thank you.
My most recent Gotham Gazette Column is on New York Lawyers.

Here is the start, there is a link below. It includes who they are, where they live, and what they make.

Andy

NEW YORK LAWYERS: A PROFILE

by Andrew Beveridge

December, 2004
Think "New York Lawyer" and it is easy to picture a partner who earns $1.391 million a year (which was the average compensation for a partner in a top New York law firm in 2003, according to the American Lawyer). Even first-year associates - people just out of law school - can make up to $150,000 a year. The top earners make more than anywhere else in the United States, and there are so many more of them in New York. The largest New York firm, for example -- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom -- employs some 1,700 attorneys, 350 of whom are partners who each made $1.6 million last year. Is it any surprise that New York is often seen as the major center of the legal profession.

But there were 57,000 practicing lawyers in New York City in the year 2000, according to the U.S. Census, and, as several recent stories make clear, they are not all doing the same thing. The Legal Aid Society, the "main legal provider for New York City's poor," as it was described in a recent New York Times article detailing how it was recently saved from bankruptcy, employs 1,396 people (not all of them lawyers of course). There are many other non-profit legal service providers; three recently received a court victory that will allow them to serve their poor and immigrant clients more effectively, according to Newsday - making it easier, for example, to file class action lawsuits.

So what would a portrait of New York lawyers really look like?

http://www.gothamgazette.com/article/demographics/20041228/5/1231

Andrew A. Beveridge

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
I am looking to have someone else teach a course. Please let me know if you or someone you know is interested:

To those of you in the NY area: I will be unable to teach a 3 credit Sociology of Deviance course at Iona College in New Rochelle (Westchester), New York. I am attempting to help the chair find someone to teach the course. He is great and it is a nice place to teach. If you are interested or know someone who might be please contact me. The course is 6:30PM to 9:30PM Wednesday evenings from 01/18/2005 to 05/12/2005. I imagine any social science person w/ a graduate degree would be fine. Thanks.

Dr. Josh Klein
92 Brookdale Ave.
New Rochelle, NY 10801
914 576 5285

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Thu, 30 Dec 2004 10:45:21 -0600
Reply-To: cgaziano <cgaziano@PRODIGY.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: cgaziano <cgaziano@PRODIGY.NET>
Subject: Best questions on religion?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I have a friend who is working on a survey that currently has a couple of questions on religion; however, she is not sure that the present questions are the best. They concern denominational affiliation and degree of active involvement (reproduced below). She also is wondering about adding a question about the extent to which respondents consider themselves spiritual or not. Has anyone worked with a question on spirituality, and if so, what was your experience with that question?

Please reply to cgaziano@prodigy.net

1. What, if any, is your religious preference? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Mormon, Muslim, or an Orthodox religion such as the Greek or Russian Orthodox Church?
Protestant
Roman Catholic
Jewish
Mormon
Muslim
Orthodox Religion
None/Agnostic
Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
Don't know
Refused

2. How often do you attend religious services: every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never?

Every week
Almost every week
Once or twice a month
A few times a year
Never
Don't Know
Refused

Thank you,
Cecilie Gaziano, Ph.D.
Research Solutions, Inc.
4511 Fremont Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419-4744
(612) 825-5199 Phone
(612) 825-1966 Fax
cgaziano@prodigy.net

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Is anyone on this list familiar with Penn, Schoen, and Berland Associates, which apparently is a research firm in DC, NYC, Seattle, and Denver?

They called me in early fall to take a telephone survey, which I completed. I was told that those who completed the telephone survey might qualify for an email survey with a $75 incentive, so I gave them an email address. They sent an email invitation for the $75 survey, which I then completed. They then informed me by email that I would be paid a lesser amount. I politely wrote an email to inquire about the discrepancy in payment, and was sent an
anonymous email indicating that they believed I had fraudulently attempted to take the survey multiple times. They accused me of having "fudged with the URL security string." (Which, of course, I had not, nor would I even know how).

I have faxed them, written them email, and telephoned them, and I have yet to receive an answer beyond their accusation. When I telephone, someone named Jessica puts me through to a different voice mail every time. Although it would be nice to get the $75 for having completed the survey, the more important issue is whether this practice is just a way to avoid paying incentives, and thus taking advantage of survey-takers. I imagine most spurned respondents wouldn't chase this down as far as I have, and wouldn't be calling the CEO's office. But then again, most legitimate research companies wouldn't send an anonymous note accusing a respondent of fudging with a security string.

Behavior like this certainly sours the ever-diminishing pool of potential respondents.

Janet Brigham, Ph.D.
SRI International
333 Ravenswood Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025
(650) 859-2797 phone
(650) 859-5099 fax

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Are there any estimates for the following question:
At what point does a survey fielded on the web cross the line and become just too long?
Assume a highly educated, motivated sample pool who are answering questions directly relevant to their profession.

Comments: To: Steve Farkas <sfarkas@PUBLICAGENDA.ORG>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <LISTSERV%2004123012230617@LISTS.ASU.EDU>
MIME-version: 1.0
My guess -- and it's only a guess, though somewhat informed by following AAPORNET discussions and the published literature -- is that the acceptable web survey length threshold is somewhere between 10-20 minutes with no incentive offered. This might be closer to 20 minutes for a survey of "relevant content" with a sample of professionals, such as you describe. And, it might be 10 minutes or shorter for a more general sample. A monetary incentive -- e.g., $5-10 redeemable at Amazon.com -- would probably boost the threshold somewhat.

I expect to be involved managing a similar survey soon and would be interested in learning what others think. I hope you will be able to compile the responses you receive and share them.

Sid Groeneman
sid@groeneman.com
Groeneman Research & Consulting
Bethesda, Maryland
www.groeneman.com

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Steve Farkas
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 2:23 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: web-based survey length

Are there any estimates for the following question:
At what point does a survey fielded on the web cross the line and become just too long?
Assume a highly educated, motivated sample pool who are answering questions directly relevant to their profession.

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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I know their web site is www.psbsurveys, if that helps. I had been researching for information on this company several months ago for a cost estimate, but didn't have a lot of interaction.

Ginger Blazier  
VP - Business Development  
Directions In Research  
8593 Aero Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123  
mailto:gblazier@diresearch.com  
www.diresearch.com  
tel: 619 299 5883  
fax: 619 299 5888  
toll free: 800 676 5883  

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu]On Behalf Of Janet Brigham Rands  
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 10:51 AM  
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu  
Subject: Question about a research company

Is anyone on this list familiar with Penn, Schoen, and Berland Associates, which apparently is a research firm in DC, NYC, Seattle, and Denver?

They called me in early fall to take a telephone survey, which I completed. I was told that those who completed the telephone survey might qualify for an email survey with a $75 incentive, so I gave them an email address. They sent an email invitation for the $75 survey, which I then completed. They then informed me by email that I would be paid a lesser amount. I politely wrote an email to inquire about the discrepancy in payment, and was sent an anonymous email indicating that they believed I had fraudulently attempted to take the survey multiple times. They accused me of having "fudged with the URL security string." (Which, of course, I had not, nor would I even know how).

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Jan Werner
Jan Werner Data Processing
In February of 1998, I suggested that PSA should be censured by AAPOR for conflict of interest in their polling for the 1996 Clinton/Gore campaign. This led to a lengthy exchange on AAPORNET which you can read in the archive for that month, starting on or around Feb. 11. It is rather depressing.

Jan Werner
Janet Brigham Rands wrote:

> Is anyone on this list familiar with Penn, Schoen, and Berland Associates,
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> 
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> respondents.
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> Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
> Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
> 
> ---------------------------------------------
> Date: Fri, 31 Dec 2004 09:26:24 -0500
> Reply-To: martin plissner <plissner@VERIZON.NET>
> Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
> From: martin plissner <plissner@VERIZON.NET>
PSB's most recent claim to fame was an exit poll in Venezuela which projected a landslide for the recall of President Hugo Chavez.

Marty Plissner