

From: LISTS.ASU.EDU LISTSERV Server (16.0) [LISTSERV@asu.edu]
Sent: Saturday, May 28, 2011 6:10 PM
To: Shapard Wolf
Subject: File: "AAPORNET LOG0611"

Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 13:05:22 +0100
Reply-To: Edith de Leeuw <edithl@XS4ALL.NL>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Edith de Leeuw <edithl@XS4ALL.NL>
Subject: voting machines vs paper ballot
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu, bms-rc33@services.cnrs.fr,
SRMSNET@LISTSERV.UMD.EDU
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed

Apologies for cross-posting, but this is worth sending out to you all :-)

Less than a year ago the whole of the Netherlands switched to voting computers. In many parts of the Netherlands they had been in use for some time already, but there were some back yard parts like Amsterdam, where we still used paper and pencil to vote. To demonstrate how innovative voting machines were and to advertise the new ballot, in May this year there was a sale of outdated voting utensils such as the special pencils and the big metal containers that were used to put your ballot in. Especially the last sold well and are now in use as barbecue, laundry container, flower container on roof gardens etc.

But since yesterday, the city of Amsterdam and some other cities in the Netherlands are desperately seeking those same containers. The reason, in the next election on november 22 we will have paper ballots again. For some time, a small but dedicated group of nice computer nerds has been arguing that it was not safe to use voting computers as they are now operating. In their words, it would be easy for us to hijack the city of Rotterdam and completely take over (Rop Gongrijp, Parool, Tuesday October 21, 2006). But there best argument was that with quite simple means one could read out what people had voted in a voting office using a voting computer near by (e.g. a couple of blocks away). This violates the confidentiality of the vote which is in our laws. So our government decided at teh last moment that in some cities to forbid using the new voting machines of SDU, there should be paper ballots again. It is still the question if the older machines (made by NEdap) that have been in use for some time in other cities are safe; according to Rob Gongrijp they are not. He pleads for always having a paper back-up and argues what does it matter if we have to wait another two hours for the final results, It takes hundred days before a new government is formed after the election anyhow.

In the mean time Amsterdam is looking for pencils and containers and ways to get the paper ballots printed in time. And we will have an old-fashioned election night again where we have to wait for hours until the votes are counted and reporters fill in the waiting hours with news polls that will be discussed in detail.

This is Edith de Leeuw from Amsterdam, good morning :-)

Dr. Edith D. de Leeuw
Department of Methodology and Statistics
Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences
Utrecht University

e-mail edithl@xs4all.nl

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html>
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set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 10:07:56 -0500
Reply-To: JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>
Subject: Re: Analysis of "key precincts"
Comments: To: allenbarton@mindspring.com, aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

What a great anecdote. I appreciate your response. I'm going to be handed a key precinct analysis (which I've had nothing to do with creating) on election night and I'll be asked if it makes sense. It seems to me it's all in the sampling and it is what it is. If it fits with polling data, we'll think it's good. If not, not. Just trying to figure out if there's more I should think about. JAS

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
520 42nd Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50312
515.271.5700

Use this e-mail address for purposes of this list; for other business, use JASelzer@SelzerCo.com

Visit our website at: www.SelzerCo.com

In a message dated 10/31/2006 8:49:19 P.M. Central Standard Time, allenbarton@mindspring.com writes:

Ann - this isn't the use of "key precincts" on election day, but the journalist Sam Lubell used to visit his own list of "key precincts" during the campaign and just talk to people in them, to assess how things were going. He used many of the same precincts year after year, and kept track of how they voted over the years. He wrote insightful articles for Colliers magazine and two good books, The Future of American Politics, and (1956) The Revolt of the Moderates, combining analysis of district trends over the years, portraits of candidate behavior, and key locality interviews. In the latter, see his analysis of Grand Chute, Wisconsin entitled "From LaFollette to McCarthy" (64-74) as an example. Lazarsfeld used to have him lecture to his class on Public Opinion as an example of combining small-area statistics with qualitative interviews to obtain understanding of the reasons underlying voter trends.

A favorite anecdote he told was asking a local politician in an Ohio city why the two Italian neighborhoods in the city always voted exactly opposite. The politician answered, "Well, it all goes back to the Guelphs and the Ghibillines." And he was probably right - Italian immigrants clustered according to where they came from, and some towns in Italy were solidly for the Emperor and others for the Pope in their medieval conflicts, creating political traditions which survived and adapted to politics ever after.

Allen Barton

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

>From: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>
>Sent: Oct 31, 2006 6:16 PM
>To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
>Subject: Analysis of "key precincts"
>
>

Allen H. Barton, 118 Wolf's Trail, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Phone/fax: 919 933 4003 allenbarton@mindspring.com

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Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail

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

Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 09:29:27 -0600

Reply-To: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>

Subject: Job Announcement

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Comments: cc: giglis@intermedia.org

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT:

INTERNATIONAL SURVEY RESEARCH MANAGER=20

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InterMedia, a global research, evaluation and consulting firm specializing in the field of media and communications, is seeking an experienced Survey Research Manager (SRM) to provide leadership and direction within the company for its international research program of between 50 and 60 sample surveys a year commissioned from local research providers in developing countries worldwide.=20

=20

Responsibilities:

- * Provide strong technical support and leadership in survey methodology for approximately 20 research staff
- * Supervise a small team of quantitative analysts and data processors
- * Establish and maintain quality control procedures for all phases of the survey research process (sample design, project management, field oversight, data entry and integrity)
- * Ensure the smooth running of outsourced data processing activities
- * Promote high standards of quantitative research and skill enhancement and innovation through staff recruitment, training and development, and the development and maintenance of manuals and procedures
- * Actively develop InterMedia's survey research profile with clients and staff, and advise clients and management on survey research issues

=20

Key skills:

- * At minimum, a Master's degree in a relevant social science field and PhD preferred

- * Strong statistical background
- * At least 7 years of professional experience commissioning and working with sample surveys and large volumes of complex data=20
- * Excellent knowledge and understanding of all stages of the quantitative survey research process, methods and data analysis
- * Experience in the challenges of assuring high quality data in developing/emerging markets
- * Thorough understanding of survey sampling techniques, relevant population data sources and data weighting calculations in developing countries.=20
- * Proven experience working with SPSS and similar statistical packages
- * Demonstrably high levels of organizational, teamwork, project and time management skills
- * Proven staff management, motivational and mentoring skills
- * Ability to communicate clearly and effectively in written and oral form in English
- * Ability to work with and advise on best practices a wide range of clients and subcontractors=20
- * Willingness to travel internationally, as required

=20

Key attributes:

- * A passion for survey research
- * A commitment to delivering high quality research data to clients
- * A strong interest in international research, especially in the developing world
- * First-rate interpersonal skills=20
- * Proactive problem solver
- * Strategic thinker
- * Leader and mentor

=20

The position is based in Washington, D.C. InterMedia offers a generous benefits package and salary commensurate with experience. Please send resume and cover letter to srmhr@intermedia.org.=20

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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 10:49:58 -0500
Reply-To: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>
Subject: Re: Analysis of "key precincts"
Comments: To: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@aol.com>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <bd1.75e197e.327a124c@aol.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed

Precinct analysis is what we journalists used to do before we found out about polls. It can be fun and useful, but you have to watch out for the ecological fallacy.

The textbook example is the precinct-level correlation between percent black and vote for George Wallace in the South. Blacks were intimidated from voting, and their presence scared the whites into supporting Wallace.

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Voice: 919 962-4085 Fax: 919 962-1549
Cell: 919 906-3425 URL: www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

On Wed, 1 Nov 2006, J. Ann Selzer wrote:

> Date: Wed, 01 Nov 2006 10:07:56 -0500
> From: J. Ann Selzer <JAnnSelzer@aol.com>
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: Re: Analysis of "key precincts"
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>
>
> J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
> Selzer & Company

> 520 42nd Street
> Des Moines, Iowa 50312
> 515.271.5700
>
> Use this e-mail address for purposes of this list; for other business, use
> JASelzer@SelzerCo.com
>
> Visit our website at: www.SelzerCo.com
>
> In a message dated 10/31/2006 8:49:19 P.M. Central Standard Time,
> allenbarton@mindspring.com writes:
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>
> Allen Barton
>
> -----Original Message-----
>> From: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>
>> Sent: Oct 31, 2006 6:16 PM
>> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
>> Subject: Analysis of "key precincts"
>>
>>
>
> Allen H. Barton, 118 Wolf's Trail, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
> Phone/fax: 919 933 4003 allenbarton@mindspring.com
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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 10:35:43 -0500
Reply-To: "Miriam L. Gerver" <mgerver@GMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Miriam L. Gerver" <mgerver@GMAIL.COM>
Subject: online evaluation of survey questions
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

Hi,

I remember seeing a website a few years ago that one could use to evaluate online survey questions. I believe it was just beginning to be developed and was trying to remember what the URL was, but couldn't. Does this ring a bell for any of you?

Thanks,
Miriam Gerver

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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 11:12:37 -0600
Reply-To: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Subject: Second Job Announcement
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Colleagues-

=20

Please pass along the following job announcement as you see fit. We especially appreciate your assistance distributing this announcement to recent undergraduate grads, as they are few and far between on professional listservs. Please direct all inquiries to Rusty Parker at rusty@schapirogroup.com.

=20

=20

=20

Job Announcement

Position: Project Analyst

Location: Atlanta, GA

=20

The Schapiro Group, Inc. has an immediate opening for a Project Analyst. The Schapiro Group is a data-driven strategic consulting firm located in downtown Atlanta that utilizes applied social research. We partner with a variety of public, private and non-profit clients in communications, marketing, organizational performance, and campaigns that contribute positively to the Atlanta community and beyond.=20

=20

The successful Project Analyst candidate will take direction from the Research Manager and collaborate with all team members in various project roles, including the following:

=20

-Developing survey instruments=20

-Analyzing quantitative and qualitative data using a variety of programs including SAS and GIS

-Synthesizing results into meaningful analysis

-Producing high-quality written work including project reports for

client consumption

-Readily contributing ideas for project design and strategy

=20

This position requires enthusiasm for social research, some hands-on research experience (academic or applied), an understanding of statistical analysis, and strong thinking and writing skills. The successful candidate must be able to work successfully as a member of a team in a collegial, friendly environment and respond positively to constructive critique. Applicants must have excellent computer and internet search skills, and experience with SAS and GIS is helpful. A bachelor's degree is required, preferably in the behavioral sciences. This position is not intended for those with advanced degrees.

=20

The Schapiro Group is a deliberately small, employee-centered company that thrives on the cultural and intellectual diversity of our dedicated staff. The Schapiro Group provides competitive salaries and good benefits, and is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation or nationality.

=20

To be considered for this position, please send a resume and writing sample to Rusty Parker at rusty@schapirogroup.com.

=20

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

=====
Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 10:15:27 -0800
Reply-To: Graeme Blair <graeme.blair@GMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Graeme Blair <graeme.blair@GMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: All Mail Elections in Oregon
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <45481DA7.2070903@alumni.brown.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

Mike: A response forwarded with permission.

There have been a few studies of turnout in Oregon's vote by mail system. The best one was published by Southwell and Burchett (2000), which estimates a 10% bump from VBM. This estimate, however, is based on only a small number of elections. We've replicated Southwell's results, but our estimate when we push the time series forward to 2005 is half as large (5%), meaning of course that the estimated impact from 2000-2005 is smaller again.

There is little measurable partisan impact of voting by mail--see the excellent work by Traugott and Hamner, as well as my own working papers (earlyvoting.net). I have discovered some interesting differential *early* turnout patterns based on particular elections (e.g. when tax initiatives are on the ballot), but this is not a voting by mail effect, but a campaign effect.

The unique characteristic of Oregon that many forget is that *everyone* is voting by mail. So VBM may magnify traditional biases in turnout in favor of higher educated, income, and informed individuals. But it is not the case, as in California, that a *voluntary* permanent absentee system can advantage one or the other party.

Paul Gronke
Director, Early Voting Information Center at Reed College
earlyvoting.net

On 10/31/06, Mike O'Neil <mike.oneil@alumni.brown.edu> wrote:
> Does anyone know what the impact of Oregon's mail-only election system
> has had on
>
> 1. turnout rates
> 2. differential turnout by party
>
> Most measures to make it easier to vote tend to favor greater
> participation by low SES Democrats. Instinctively, this may NOT be the
> case for mail only voting.
>
> Have there been any studies in Oregon since their system changed?
>
> Mike O'Neil
> www.oneilresearch.com
>
> -----
> Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 12:01:25 -0600
Reply-To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Subject: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

This is a question I am frequently asked and I am sure others have too.
Below is my standard reply that I'm sure others have used. Posting this
for anyone in need of an answer.

Nick Panagakis

> Mr. Skoning is referring to political polls. There are currently about
> 7.5 million registered voters in Illinois. Assuming an average sample
> size of 800 in an Illinois state voter poll, over 9,000 state polls*
> would have to be taken to get around to every voter in Illinois - and
> that assumes nobody gets called twice.
>
> Now sometimes it may seem as though 9,000 state polls are taken during
> an election
> season but the real number is only a tiny fraction of that.
>
> As for the national pollsters he cited, Illinois is only one of fifty
> states in a
> national sample. So our state probably accounts for only 50-60
> respondents in a
> national poll of 1000. So the odds of being called by Gallup, Harris
> and other
> national pollsters are even more remote.
>
> I hope this answers Mr. Skoning's question.
>
> Nick Panagakis
>
> * $7,500,000/800=9,375$ polls
>
>
> Question for pollsters: Why can't you call me?
>
> By Gerald D. Skoning
>
> October 18, 2006
>
> I am 64 years old and I've never been polled. No newspaper or TV

> opinion poll--national or local--has ever asked my opinion on
> anything. Not once! Oh, I offer my opinion regularly to friends,
> colleagues and anyone else who will listen, or pretend to do so. But
> neither Gallup, nor Harris, nor any of the other opinion pollsters has
> ever asked what I think about the president, our governor or gun
> control. I have strong opinions on each, but I have never been asked.
>
> I have asked dozens of people if they have ever been polled. Most of
> these folks have been around as long as I have, so collectively they
> have had literally thousands of years of opportunities to be polled.
> The law of probabilities would suggest that someone in my circle of
> friends would have been polled.
>
> No one has. Not a single one.
>
> Political polling is a robust cottage industry in this country,
> feeding campaign strategists with important opinion trends on various
> demographic groups, and either exciting or depressing political
> candidates.
>
> Now, I don't know these opinion pollsters' methodologies. They
> routinely tell us that they use random sampling from a statistically
> significant pool of potential voters, and that the margin of error is
> plus or minus 3 percent or so. Sample size and randomness methodology
> are crucial factors in the reliability of polling results, but they
> tell me absolutely nothing about why I have yet to be polled.
>
> A recent poll on the upcoming Illinois elections was roundly
> criticized for using a sample of only 400 voters. I recognize that my
> chance of being contacted in that poll was infinitesimal, but I know
> that dozens of other opinion polls sample thousands of voters
> representing the full spectrum of demographic groups.
>
> With all those opportunities, why haven't I ever been selected to
> participate in an opinion poll? I'm really not paranoid about it. I
> just feel left out. How can pollsters project the national sentiment
> without ever asking me to participate once in all these years?
>
> Yeah, I've had really bad luck at being selected to participate in any
> opinion poll, but hope springs eternal. So, to Gallup, Harris and the
> other opinion gurus out there, I say, "Hey, how 'bout me?" If I don't
> hear from any of them again this year, I guess Election Day will be
> the only polling opportunity I need care about once again.
>
> -----

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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 13:55:53 -0500
Reply-To: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?
Comments: To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <4548E0F5.9060002@marketsharescorp.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed

When a woman asked George Gallup that question sometime before 1968 (when I heard him tell the story), he responded:

"Madam, the probability of your being interviewed for the Gallup Poll is approximately equal to your chance of being struck by lightning."

Her response: "But I have been struck by lightning."

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Voice: 919 962-4085 Fax: 919 962-1549
Cell: 919 906-3425 URL: www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

On Wed, 1 Nov 2006, Nick Panagakis wrote:

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> From: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
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>>
>> By Gerald D. Skoning

>>
>> October 18, 2006

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>> I have never been asked.

>>
>> I have asked dozens of people if they have ever been polled. Most of these
>> folks have been around as long as I have, so collectively they have had
>> literally thousands of years of opportunities to be polled. The law of
>> probabilities would suggest that someone in my circle of friends would have
>> been polled.

>>
>> No one has. Not a single one.

>>
>> Political polling is a robust cottage industry in this country, feeding
>> campaign strategists with important opinion trends on various demographic
>> groups, and either exciting or depressing political candidates.

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>> Now, I don't know these opinion pollsters' methodologies. They routinely
>> tell us that they use random sampling from a statistically significant pool
>> of potential voters, and that the margin of error is plus or minus 3
>> percent or so. Sample size and randomness methodology are crucial factors
>> in the reliability of polling results, but they tell me absolutely nothing
>> about why I have yet to be polled.

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>> using a sample of only 400 voters. I recognize that my chance of being
>> contacted in that poll was infinitesimal, but I know that dozens of other
>> opinion polls sample thousands of voters representing the full spectrum of
>> demographic groups.

>>

>> With all those opportunities, why haven't I ever been selected to
>> participate in an opinion poll? I'm really not paranoid about it. I just
>> feel left out. How can pollsters project the national sentiment without
>> ever asking me to participate once in all these years?
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>> Yeah, I've had really bad luck at being selected to participate in any
>> opinion poll, but hope springs eternal. So, to Gallup, Harris and the other
>> opinion gurus out there, I say, "Hey, how 'bout me?" If I don't hear from
>> any of them again this year, I guess Election Day will be the only polling
>> opportunity I need care about once again.

>> -----
>

>
>
>
> -----

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>

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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 14:10:20 -0500
Reply-To: "Santos, Rob" <RSantos@UI.URBAN.ORG>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Santos, Rob" <RSantos@UI.URBAN.ORG>
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?
Comments: To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

personally, I am tempted to think that the pollsters 'have our number' =
and
put us on a permanent 'do-not-call' list... ;-)

Rob Santos
Senior Institute Methodologist
The Urban Institute

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

From: AAPORNET [<mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu>] On Behalf Of Nick Panagakis

Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2006 1:01 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?

This is a question I am frequently asked and I am sure others have too.
Below is my standard reply that I'm sure others have used. Posting this for anyone in need of an answer.

Nick Panagakis

> Mr. Skoning is referring to political polls. There are currently about =
> 7.5 million registered voters in Illinois. Assuming an average sample=
> size of 800 in an Illinois state voter poll, over 9,000 state polls*=
> would have to be taken to get around to every voter in Illinois - and=
> that assumes nobody gets called twice.
>
> Now sometimes it may seem as though 9,000 state polls are taken during =
> an election
> season but the real number is only a tiny fraction of that.
>
> As for the national pollsters he cited, Illinois is only one of fifty=
> states in a
> national sample. So our state probably accounts for only 50-60=
> respondents in a
> national poll of 1000. So the odds of being called by Gallup, Harris=
> and other
> national pollsters are even more remote.
>
> I hope this answers Mr. Skoning's question.
>
> Nick Panagakis
>
> * 7,500,000/800=3D9,375 polls
>
>
> Question for pollsters: Why can't you call me?
>
> By Gerald D. Skoning
>
> October 18, 2006
>
> I am 64 years old and I've never been polled. No newspaper or TV=
> opinion poll--national or local--has ever asked my opinion on=
> anything. Not once! Oh, I offer my opinion regularly to friends,=
> colleagues and anyone else who will listen, or pretend to do so. But=
> neither Gallup, nor Harris, nor any of the other opinion pollsters has =
>
> ever asked what I think about the president, our governor or gun=
> control. I have strong opinions on each, but I have never been asked.
>
> I have asked dozens of people if they have ever been polled. Most of=

> these folks have been around as long as I have, so collectively they=20
> have had literally thousands of years of opportunities to be polled.=20
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> friends would have been polled.
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> No one has. Not a single one.
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> feeding campaign strategists with important opinion trends on various=20
> demographic groups, and either exciting or depressing political=20
> candidates.
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> Now, I don't know these opinion pollsters' methodologies. They=20
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> significant pool of potential voters, and that the margin of error is=20
> plus or minus 3 percent or so. Sample size and randomness methodology=20
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> chance of being contacted in that poll was infinitesimal, but I know=20
> that dozens of other opinion polls sample thousands of voters=20
> representing the full spectrum of demographic groups.
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> With all those opportunities, why haven't I ever been selected to=20
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> Yeah, I've had really bad luck at being selected to participate in any =

> opinion poll, but hope springs eternal. So, to Gallup, Harris and the=20
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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 11:33:04 -0800
Reply-To: "Yen, Wei" <weiyen@WSIPP.WA.GOV>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Yen, Wei" <weiyen@WSIPP.WA.GOV>
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

His answer then should be:=20

"In that case, Madam, the probability of your being interviewed for the Gallup Poll and being struck once by lightening is approximately equal to your chance of being struck by lightening twice."

Wei Yen
Washington State Institute for Public Policy

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Philip Meyer
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2006 10:56 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?

When a woman asked George Gallup that question sometime before 1968=20
(when I heard him tell the story), he responded:

"Madam, the probability of your being interviewed for the Gallup

Poll is approximately equal to your chance of being struck by=20
lightening."

Her response: "But I have been struck by lightening."

=3D=
=3D=

Philip Meyer, Knight Chair in Journalism
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Voice: 919 962-4085 Fax: 919 962-1549

Cell: 919 906-3425 URL: www.unc.edu/~pmeyer

=3D=
=3D=

On Wed, 1 Nov 2006, Nick Panagakis wrote:

> Date: Wed, 01 Nov 2006 12:01:25 -0600
> From: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>

> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?
>=20
> This is a question I am frequently asked and I am sure others have
too. Below=20
> is my standard reply that I'm sure others have used. Posting this for
anyone=20
> in need of an answer.
>
> Nick Panagakis
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>> season but the real number is only a tiny fraction of that.
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>> of the other opinion pollsters has ever asked what I think about the=20
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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 13:11:31 -0600
Reply-To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Subject: Re: Analysis of "key precincts"
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <bd1.75e197e.327a124c@aol.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Does this analysis include how predictive these precincts were of past

elections and if so, how many?

Nick Panagakis

J. Ann Selzer wrote:

>
>What a great anecdote. I appreciate your response. I'm going to be handed
>a key precinct analysis (which I've had nothing to do with creating) on
>election night and I'll be asked if it makes sense. It seems to me it's all
in
>the sampling and it is what it is. If it fits with polling data, we'll
think
>it's good. If not, not. Just trying to figure out if there's more I should
>think about. JAS
>
>
>
>J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
>Selzer & Company
>520 42nd Street
>Des Moines, Iowa 50312
>515.271.5700
>
>Use this e-mail address for purposes of this list; for other business, use
>JASelzer@SelzerCo.com
>
>Visit our website at: www.SelzerCo.com
>
>In a message dated 10/31/2006 8:49:19 P.M. Central Standard Time,
>allenbarton@mindspring.com writes:
>
>Ann - this isn't the use of "key precincts" on election day, but the
>journalist Sam Lubell used to visit his own list of "key precincts" during
the
>campaign and just talk to people in them, to assess how things were going.
He
>used many of the same precincts year after year, and kept track of how they
>voted over the years. He wrote insightful articles for Colliers magazine and
two
>good books, The Future of American Politics, and (1956) The Revolt of the
>Moderates, combining analysis of district trends over the years, portraits
of
>candidate behavior, and key locality interviews. In the latter, see his
>analysis of Grand Chute, Wisconsin entitled "From LaFollette to McCarthy"
(64-74)
>as an example. Lazarsfeld used to have him lecture to his class on Public
>Opinion as an example of combining small-area statistics with qualitative
>interviews to obtain understanding of the reasons underlying voter trends.
>
>A favorite anecdote he told was asking a local politician in an Ohio city
>why the two Italian neighborhoods in the city always voted exactly opposite.
>The politician answered, "Well, it all goes back to the Guelphs and the
>Ghibillines." And he was probably right - Italian immigrants clustered

according to

>where they came from, and some towns in Italy were solidly for the Emperor
>and others for the Pope in their medieval conflicts, creating political
>traditions which survived and adapted to politics ever after.

>

>Allen Barton

>

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

>

>

>>From: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>

>>Sent: Oct 31, 2006 6:16 PM

>>To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

>>Subject: Analysis of "key precincts"

>>

>>

>>

>>

>

>Allen H. Barton, 118 Wolf's Trail, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

>Phone/fax: 919 933 4003 allenbarton@mindspring.com

>

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>

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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 15:05:57 -0500

Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>

Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?

Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>

In-Reply-To: <B4143A5C202D3544B60CA9D180868D581B61AA@uiad3.urban.org>

MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delsp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 1, 2006, at 2:10 PM, Santos, Rob wrote:

> personally, I am tempted to think that the pollsters 'have our
> number' and
> put us on a permanent 'do-not-call' list... ;-)

Hey, I've been polled many times. I even got selected for one of those follow-ups with a Wall Street Journal reporter back during the Monica Lewinsky days. I doubt I'm representative of too many people, though.

Doug Henwood
Left Business Observer
38 Greene St - 4th fl.
New York NY 10013-2505 USA
<dhenwood@panix.com>
<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com>>

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producer, Behind the News
Thursdays, 5-6 PM, WBAI, New York 99.5 FM
<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com/Radio.html>>
podcast: <<http://shout.lbo-talk.org/lbo/radio-feed.php>>

download my book Wall Street (for free!) at
<<http://www.wallstreetthebook.com>>

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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 16:28:59 -0500
Reply-To: Info <info@POLLINGCOMPANY.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Info <info@POLLINGCOMPANY.COM>
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <6DC386C5-F0DF-4C67-92BC-B4D1BF2C16AD@panix.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

We often tell people who ask this question (or people who lodge it as a complaint) that their phone number may have been called but they either weren't home, didn't pick up because they didn't recognize the number on their caller-ID, or hung up because they thought the interviewer was a telemarketer.

Shelley West
Project Director

the polling companyT, inc./WomanTrend
1220 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-667-6557
202-467-6551 (fax)
www.pollingcompany.com

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Doug Henwood
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2006 3:06 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?

On Nov 1, 2006, at 2:10 PM, Santos, Rob wrote:

> personally, I am tempted to think that the pollsters 'have our
> number' and
> put us on a permanent 'do-not-call' list... ;-)

Hey, I've been polled many times. I even got selected for one of those follow-ups with a Wall Street Journal reporter back during the Monica Lewinsky days. I doubt I'm representative of too many people, though.

Doug Henwood
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cell +1-917-865-2813

producer, Behind the News
Thursdays, 5-6 PM, WBAI, New York 99.5 FM
<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com/Radio.html>>
podcast: <<http://shout.lbo-talk.org/lbo/radio-feed.php>>

download my book Wall Street (for free!) at
<<http://www.wallstreetthebook.com>>

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Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 17:01:14 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Young Americans: If You Educate Them, They Will Vote
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

(Not a reference to Bob Kerry)

Young Americans: If You Educate Them, They Will Vote =20
Intercollegiate Studies Institute Research Shows that College
Students
Educated in History, Government and Economics are More Likely to Vote

[http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=3D104&STORY=3D/www/stor=
y/1
1-01-2006/0004464942&EDATE=3D](http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=3D104&STORY=3D/www/stor=y/11-01-2006/0004464942&EDATE=3D)
or
<http://tinyurl.com/yxaltj>

SNIP

Data collected in recent years by University of Connecticut's
Department of Public Policy for the Intercollegiate Studies Institute
(ISI)
from a national survey of college students documents that students who
learn more about America's history and essential institutions are more
engaged in citizenship activities and more likely to fulfill their
"civic
duties," which includes voting. Conversely, students who learned little
in
these areas reported lower civic engagement. ISI concludes that our
nation's colleges and universities are failing to effectively educate
their

students -- and our nation's next leaders -- about America's history and essential institutions and thereby are failing to contribute to greater student engagement in American political life. ISI's study reinforces what researchers have identified as the "dominant feature of nonvoting in America" ... lack of learning about our history and institutions.

SNIP

--=20

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

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=====
Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 22:10:47 +0000
Reply-To: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>
Subject: Re: online evaluation of survey questions
Comments: To: "Miriam L. Gerver" <mgerver@GMAIL.COM>, [AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>](mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu)
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

someone presented a paper on it AAPOR 2 or 3 years ago, but I can't remember who

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

From: AAPORNET
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Sent: 01/11/2006 15:35
Subject: online evaluation of survey questions

Hi,

I remember seeing a website a few years ago that one could use to evaluate online survey questions. I believe it was just beginning to be developed and was trying to remember what the URL was, but couldn't. Does this ring a bell for any of you?

Thanks,
Miriam Gerver

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=====
Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 17:26:37 -0500
Reply-To: JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="UTF-8"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

=20
=20
=20

I have a little speech called "The Iowa Poll: Questions and Answers."=20
Here's the relevant bit.=20
Why haven't I been called by the Iowa Poll? I get this all the time.
The answer is, maybe you have been. Maybe you weren't home, or your spouse was on the phone or online and the interviewer got a busy signal. Or maybe you weren't on the list of numbers in the sample. With 1.2 million households in Iowa, and a very high cooperation rate=94 meaning if we get you on the phone, you almost always agree to participate=94 we could conduct 1,500 polls of Iowans and never contact the same household twice. The Iowa Poll has been done by telephone since 1978=94 that's 25 years of polls. Let's be generous and figure eight polls a year. It's really more like six for the last 10 years, but maybe it was more before. That's 200 polls. 200 polls out of a possible 1,500.

But cheer up, maybe we'll call you next time.

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
520 42nd Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50312
515.271.5700

Use this e-mail address for purposes of this list; for other business, use JASelzer@SelzerCo.com

Visit our website at: www.SelzerCo.com

In a message dated 11/1/2006 3:40:15 P.M. Central Standard Time, info@POLLINGCOMPANY.COM writes:

We often tell people who ask this question (or people who lodge it as a complaint) that their phone number may have been called but they either weren't home, didn't pick up because they didn't recognize the number on their caller-ID, or hung up because they thought the interviewer was a telemarketer.

Shelley West
Project Director

the polling companyT, inc./WomanTrend
1220 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-667-6557

202-467-6551 (fax)
www.pollingcompany.com

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Doug Henwood
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2006 3:06 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: How Come Pollsters Never Call Me?

On Nov 1, 2006, at 2:10 PM, Santos, Rob wrote:

> personally, I am tempted to think that the pollsters 'have our =20
> number' and
> put us on a permanent 'do-not-call' list... ;-)

Hey, I've been polled many times. I even got selected for one of =20
those follow-ups with a Wall Street Journal reporter back during the =20
Monica Lewinsky days. I doubt I'm representative of too many people, =20
though.

Doug Henwood
Left Business Observer
38 Greene St - 4th fl.
New York NY 10013-2505 USA
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download my book Wall Street (for free!) at
<<http://www.wallstreetthebook.com>>

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

=====
Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 15:29:57 -0800
Reply-To: Leora Lawton <lawton@TECHSOCIETY.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leora Lawton <lawton@TECHSOCIETY.COM>
Subject: Re: Young Americans: If You Educate Them, They Will Vote
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To:
<3248A9B21DD5574785FE5E2C8E5216845D24D0@exchange.local.artsience.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

But what is education?

I'm in California, where we always get all of these initiatives. It can take a lot of work to understand an initiative and its implications. For example, take Proposition 86, which would levy a \$2.60 excise tax on each pack of cigarettes for the purpose of reducing smoking and to use the monies to fund anti-smoking campaigns, give money to hospitals. One has to evaluate the possible benefits/costs of the proposition. I started looking (gotta love Google) into this and found a variety of implications that will be deemed positive and negative, but not always in the same way by all people (and these are purposely not categorized as 'good' or 'bad'):

1. Do excise taxes work to reduce smoking? Program evaluations and simulation studies have found a strong yes.
2. Excise taxes will also most certainly create a black market and gray market for cigarettes, so policy analysts recommend taxing the companies directly (a federal tax? Or North Carolina/Virginia/West Virginia/South Carolina tax?>).
3. The tax is regressive, hitting poorer people harder than the better-off.
4. It requires smokers to pay for some of their negative externalities of smoking
5. It's not clear how efficiently the money will be channeled to its stated recipients (this is a core argument of some opponents).
6. The additional money calculated to be earned may or may not have included lost revenues to illicit markets.

7. The law punishes the drug (tobacco) users, rather than treating them.
8. Tobacco companies will lose revenue.

Then, after assembling that information, I have to weigh priorities for each of 1-8 implications and decide if it has merit or not. There are some initiatives that I'm already certain how I'll vote, but a lot of them require some careful reads. How many people have the time and capabilities to do that?

Leora

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

From: Leo Simonetta [mailto:Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM]

Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2006 2:01 PM

To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Subject: [AAPORNET] Young Americans: If You Educate Them, They Will Vote

(Not a reference to Bob Kerry)

Young Americans: If You Educate Them, They Will Vote

Intercollegiate Studies Institute Research Shows that College Students

Educated in History, Government and Economics are More Likely to Vote

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/11-01-2006/0004464942&EDATE=>

or

<http://tinyurl.com/yxaltj>

SNIP

Data collected in recent years by University of Connecticut's Department of Public Policy for the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI)

from a national survey of college students documents that students who learn more about America's history and essential institutions are more engaged in citizenship activities and more likely to fulfill their

"civic

duties," which includes voting. Conversely, students who learned little in

these areas reported lower civic engagement. ISI concludes that our nation's colleges and universities are failing to effectively educate their

students -- and our nation's next leaders -- about America's history and essential institutions and thereby are failing to contribute to greater student engagement in American political life. ISI's study reinforces what

researchers have identified as the "dominant feature of nonvoting in America" ... lack of learning about our history and institutions.

SNIP

--

Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
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Baltimore MD 21209

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

Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 17:12:26 -0700
Reply-To: Geoffrey Urland <geoff@CORONARESEARCH.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Geoffrey Urland <geoff@CORONARESEARCH.COM>
Subject: Re: online evaluation of survey questions
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <22e2056d0611010735o63a19517vf0a0c96b8d508c60@mail.gmail.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

There was an article on this in POQ recently (the spring 06 issue):=20

Graesser, A. C., Cai, Z., Louwarse, M. M., & Daniel, F. (2006) Question Understanding Aid (QUAID): A web facility that tests question comprehensibility. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 70, 3-22.

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Miriam L. Gerver
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2006 8:36 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: online evaluation of survey questions

Hi,

I remember seeing a website a few years ago that one could use to evaluate online survey questions. I believe it was just beginning to be developed and was trying to remember what the URL was, but couldn't.

Does this ring a bell for any of you?

Thanks,
Miriam Gerver

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=====
Date: Wed, 1 Nov 2006 22:36:12 -0500
Reply-To: Mike Swiontkowski <mswiontkowski@GMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Swiontkowski <mswiontkowski@GMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: online evaluation of survey questions
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To:
<C8ABD5E869E7BF49A0AE0B2D74692C02144A6A@CRSERVER1.coronaresearch.com.local>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

The QUAID tool referenced below can be found at:
<http://mnemosyne.csl.psyac.memphis.edu/QUAID/quaidindex.html>

A simple registration is required to access the tool.

---Mike

On 11/1/06, Geoffrey Umland <geoff@coronaresearch.com> wrote:
> There was an article on this in POQ recently (the spring 06 issue):
>
> Graesser, A. C., Cai, Z., Louwerse, M. M., & Daniel, F. (2006) Question
> Understanding Aid (QUAID): A web facility that tests question
> comprehensability. Public Opinion Quarterly, 70, 3-22.
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Miriam L. Gerver

> Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2006 8:36 AM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: online evaluation of survey questions

>
> Hi,
>
> I remember seeing a website a few years ago that one could use to
> evaluate online survey questions. I believe it was just beginning to be
> developed and was trying to remember what the URL was, but couldn't.
> Does this ring a bell for any of you?

>
> Thanks,
> Miriam Gerver

>
> -----
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=====
Date: Thu, 2 Nov 2006 09:24:58 -0500
Reply-To: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Subject: Re: Young Americans: If You Educate Them, They Will Vote
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

These data might seem to support my long-standing assertion that we should lower the voting age to 16, same as driving. At our local schools, young people study American History their junior year of high

school, and American Government their senior year. I've always felt that it would be more effective to have them actually start voting while they were taking those classes.

I also think that the hassle factor is a huge issue that was not addressed by this article. If a student is registered to vote in her or his home town and goes off to school elsewhere, they probably will not think in advance enough to change the registration a month before or get an absentee ballot, which would be required in many places. I'm pleased to say that in my state, we now have a policy such that if the student is attending college within the state, they can show up at their local campus polling place, and change their registration on the spot and go ahead and vote right then.

Whether the hassle factor or the level of civic education is a more important predictor of voting behavior--well, that's a topic for future research, neh? (And "future research" is our lifeblood, after all.)

Colleen

P.S. The thing about living in a small campus town is that you sometimes get the big name entertainment acts, but on a Monday or Thursday, when they are on the way from/to a bigger location... so in a delightful accident of the calendar, the Capitol Steps are performing here on Election Day eve!

Colleen K. Porter, M.A.
Research Program Manager (Pain Lab)
University of Florida College of Dentistry
Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science
US Mail: PO Box 103628
FedEx: 1329 SW 16th St. (1329 Bldg.), Ste. 5180
Gainesville, Florida 32610-3628
(352) 273-5979, phone
(352) 273-5985, fax
cporter@dental.ufl.edu

>>> Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM> 11/01/06 5:01 PM >>>
(Not a reference to Bob Kerry)

Young Americans: If You Educate Them, They Will Vote
Intercollegiate Studies Institute Research Shows that College
Students
Educated in History, Government and Economics are More Likely to
Vote

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/1>

1-01-2006/0004464942&EDATE=

or

<http://tinyurl.com/yxaltj>

SNIP

Data collected in recent years by University of Connecticut's

Department of Public Policy for the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI) from a national survey of college students documents that students who learn more about America's history and essential institutions are more engaged in citizenship activities and more likely to fulfill their "civic duties," which includes voting. Conversely, students who learned little in these areas reported lower civic engagement. ISI concludes that our nation's colleges and universities are failing to effectively educate their students -- and our nation's next leaders -- about America's history and essential institutions and thereby are failing to contribute to greater student engagement in American political life. ISI's study reinforces what researchers have identified as the "dominant feature of nonvoting in America" ... lack of learning about our history and institutions.

SNIP

--
Leo G. Simonetta
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=====
Date: Thu, 2 Nov 2006 16:16:04 -0500
Reply-To: JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>
Subject: Predictions on turnout
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

2002 and 2004 were very different years in some states, notably, younger voters were more prevalent in 2004 than in 2002. Any thoughts on which year 2006 will resemble more in composition of voters? JAS

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
520 42nd Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50312
515.271.5700

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=====
Date: Thu, 2 Nov 2006 17:03:01 -0500
Reply-To: Jonathan Brill <brillje@UMDNJ.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jonathan Brill <brillje@UMDNJ.EDU>
Subject: Re: Predictions on turnout
Comments: To: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

My guess is that 2006 will resemble 2002 more closely than 2004 in terms of voter participation demographics. The reason is that both 2002 and 2006 are midterm election years while 2004 is a presidential election year. If I am not mistaken, younger voters are generally less participatory, so they need the aura of a presidential election to bring out their vote.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
General Manager, ORANJ BOWL(sm) Panel Research Program
Associate Director, Database & Panel Research
NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING
School of Osteopathic Medicine
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
42 East Laurel Road, UDP Suite 2300
Stratford, New Jersey 08084
Telephone (direct): 856.566-6727

Fax (research group): 856.566-6874
E-mail: brillje@umdnj.edu

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>>> "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM> 11/02/06 4:16 PM >>>
2002 and 2004 were very different years in some states, notably, younger voters were more prevalent in 2004 than in 2002. Any thoughts on which year 2006 will resemble more in composition of voters? JAS

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
520 42nd Street
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=====
Date: Thu, 2 Nov 2006 17:01:18 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Zogby, Syracuse Media Still Polls Apart
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Zogby, Syracuse Media Still Polls Apart

Roll Call

http://www.rollcall.com/issues/1_1/election06/15742-1.html

Wednesday, Nov. 1; 3:07 pm

The saga of the missing polls continued in New York's 25th district Wednesday, as two media outlets declined to run the results of a survey they had paid for by Zogby International on the contest between Rep. Jim Walsh (R) and ex-House aide Dan Maffei (D).=20

The Post-Standard newspaper in Syracuse and WSYR-TV had asked Zogby to conduct a second poll of the race after the pollster acknowledged that his firm had improperly weighted the results of a survey last week. In that case, Zogby polled the 25th district but then weighted the data using voter registration information from the more-Republican 24th district.=20

SNIP

--=20

Leo G. Simonetta

Director of Research

Art & Science Group, LLC

6115 Falls Road, Suite 101

Baltimore MD 21209

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=====
Date: Thu, 2 Nov 2006 17:27:33 -0500

Reply-To: Chris Lee <clee@CMOR.ORG>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Chris Lee <clee@CMOR.ORG>

Subject: NJ Tax - Addendum

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Update on the New Jersey Tax on Information Services

Effective October 1, 2006, information services are subject to New Jersey sales and use tax. Information services are defined in the law as "the furnishing of information of any kind, which has been collected, compiled, or analyzed by the seller, and provided through any means or method, other than personal or individual information which IS NOT incorporated into reports furnished to other people."

The tax ONLY applies to the sale of information services delivered to customers in New Jersey. The tax applies to information services providers both in and outside of New Jersey - where services are provided to clients in New Jersey.

Based on discussions with Michael P. Sweeny, a CPA with over 20 years of accounting experience and MRA & CMOR's tax advisor, this has been interpreted to mean that if the nature of the service provided or the data collected and compiled is of a unique nature such that it is intended for use by the customer or client to whom it is provided and it is not made available to anyone else, the service is exempt from taxation.

Examples

- * A data collection company that provides data to a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to the information services tax.

- * A survey research firm that writes a customized, uniquely tailored report and delivers that report to a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to the information services tax.

- * A qualitative research firm that collects, analyzes, interprets data and generates a unique report for a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to the information services tax.

- * A quantitative research firm that collects, analyzes, interprets data and generates a unique report for a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to the information services tax.

- * A research company that collects data that is generic and usable by more than one person, without any significant modifications IS APPARENTLY subject to the information services tax.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

PERSON: New Jersey broadly defines a "person" to include the following

entities: individual, trust, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, public corporation or public authority, estate, receiver, trustee, assignee, referee, fiduciary and any other legal entity. In other words, New Jersey considers persons and companies to be like entities for tax purposes.

CUSTOMIZED V. NON-CUSTOMIZED SERVICES: The New Jersey information services tax code indicates that customized, unique transactions are not subject to the information services tax. In the alternative, non-customized data that can be sold to multiple parties with little modification is subject to the information services tax.

REPORT WRITING & CONSULTING SERVICES: New Jersey considers report writing to be consulting services. Consulting services are not considered information services. By inference, written survey research reports are considered consulting services and therefore not subject to the New Jersey information services sales and use tax.

BENEFIT DERIVED THEORY: Providers of taxable information services should be aware of the "Benefit Derived Theory." The theory asks "who derives the benefit provided" for services rendered. In this situation, if a client has offices in New Jersey and other states, and the information service provider sends data to the client's location outside New Jersey, and the New Jersey office benefits from the information, the service may be considered taxable. In other words, it is inadvisable to send taxable information services to a company's location outside of New Jersey for the purpose of avoiding the sales and use tax.

CONCLUSIONS

The interpretations provided by Mr. Sweeney appear to exempt a large portion of the survey research profession from the information services sales and use tax. However, CMOR and MRA still advises you to consult with a tax professional who is well-versed in New Jersey state and local taxation issues to determine whether and when this tax applies to your business.

CMOR & MRA will continue to monitor developments regarding the New Jersey information services sales and use tax, and provide updates to members as necessary.

The New Jersey Division of Taxation Tax Notes on Information Services is available at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/index.html?infoservices.htm>

DISCLAIMER: The information is for general guidance on matters of interest only. The application and impact of laws can vary widely based on the specific facts involved. As such, the information should not be used as a substitute for consultation with professional accounting, tax, legal or other competent advisers. Before making any decision or taking any action, you should consult with legal and tax advisors with expertise in New Jersey State tax issues.

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=====
Date: Thu, 2 Nov 2006 17:30:07 -0500

Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>

Subject: The Exit Pollsters: An Election Night Quarantine

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

The Exit Pollsters: An Election Night Quarantine

<http://www.time.com/time/nation/printout/0,8816,1553682,00.html>

or

<http://tinyurl.com/vejjt>

In 2004, bloggers got a hold of early exit poll data and hailed a premature Kerry victory. This time, things will be different

By TRACY SAMANTHA SCHMIDT/WASHINGTON

Bloggers will have to sit tight on Election Day. At least, that's what the major television networks are hoping. After early exit poll data that favored John Kerry was leaked online in 2004, the networks have changed their policy. Now their exit pollsters will be quarantined together on Nov. 7 until 5 p.m. EST. This means that even network news executives themselves won't know the results until just before the evening newscasts. Will bloggers also remain in the dark until then? That's the goal.=20

The exit poll data that will be used by the media on Election Day comes from one source: the National Election Pool (NEP). The NEP is a consortium of six news organizations: the Associated Press, CNN and the news divisions of ABC, CBS, Fox and NBC. It was created in 2003, after a previous consortium of the same news organizations, the Voter News Service (VNS), failed to provide accurate exit poll data in both the

2000 and 2002 general elections.=20

SNIP

To avoid that kind of leak this year, the NEP will implement its new quarantine policy. On Election Day, the 12 pollsters representing the six media organizations will be confined to one room, where they will have secured access to the polling data. According to an NEP spokeswoman, the pollsters will be monitored by three NEP-chosen polling experts, and the pollsters will not be allowed to use outside communication, including cell phones, laptops, Blackberries and Treos. Lenski declined to be more specific, stating only that the room is in a "undisclosed location."=20

At 5 p.m., the pollsters will be allowed to contact their respective networks and supply them with the poll data. The NEP member organizations cannot prevent pollsters from making other calls, nor can they control the data once it's in the networks' hands, so if there are leaks, that's when they are likely to occur.=20

SNIP

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--=20

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

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Date: Thu, 2 Nov 2006 22:12:11 -0500
Reply-To: Paul Braun <pbraun@BRAUNRESEARCH.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Paul Braun <pbraun@BRAUNRESEARCH.COM>
Subject: Re: NJ Tax - Addendum
Comments: To: Chris Lee <clee@CMOR.ORG>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <[005601c6fece\\$178be500\\$6501a8c0@MRAPC077](mailto:005601c6fece$178be500$6501a8c0@MRAPC077)>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Thank you Chris,

This is in line with my lawyer's opinion

Paul

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

From: Chris Lee [mailto:cleec@CMOR.ORG]=20

Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2006 5:28 PM

To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Subject: NJ Tax - Addendum

Update on the New Jersey Tax on Information Services

=20

Effective October 1, 2006, information services are subject to New Jersey sales and use tax. Information services are defined in the law as "the furnishing of information of any kind, which has been collected, compiled, or analyzed by the seller, and provided through any means or method, other than personal or individual information which IS NOT incorporated into reports furnished to other people." =20

=20

The tax ONLY applies to the sale of information services delivered to customers in New Jersey. The tax applies to information services providers both in and outside of New Jersey - where services are provided to clients in New Jersey.=20

=20

Based on discussions with Michael P. Sweeny, a CPA with over 20 years of accounting experience and MRA & CMOR's tax advisor, this has been interpreted to mean that if the nature of the service provided or the data collected and compiled is of a unique nature such that it is intended for use by the customer or client to whom it is provided and it is not made available to anyone else, the service is exempt from taxation.

=20

Examples

* A data collection company that provides data to a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to the information services tax.

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* A survey research firm that writes a customized, uniquely tailored report and delivers that report to a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to

the information services tax.

=20

* A qualitative research firm that collects, analyzes, interprets data and generates a unique report for a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to the information services tax.

=20

* A quantitative research firm that collects, analyzes, interprets data and generates a unique report for a person in New Jersey IS NOT subject to the information services tax.

=20

* A research company that collects data that is generic and usable by more than one person, without any significant modifications IS APPARENTLY subject to the information services tax.

=20

KEY CONSIDERATIONS =20

PERSON: New Jersey broadly defines a "person" to include the following entities: individual, trust, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, public corporation or public authority, estate, receiver, trustee, assignee, referee, fiduciary and any other legal entity. In other words, New Jersey considers persons and companies to be like entities for tax purposes.

=20

CUSTOMIZED V. NON-CUSTOMIZED SERVICES: The New Jersey information services tax code indicates that customized, unique transactions are not subject to the information services tax. In the alternative, non-customized data that can be sold to multiple parties with little modification is subject to the information services tax.

=20

REPORT WRITING & CONSULTING SERVICES: New Jersey considers report writing to be consulting services. Consulting services are not considered

information services. By inference, written survey research reports are considered consulting services and therefore not subject to the New Jersey information services sales and use tax.

=20

BENEFIT DERIVED THEORY: Providers of taxable information services should be aware of the "Benefit Derived Theory." The theory asks "who derives the benefit provided" for services rendered. In this situation, if a client has offices in New Jersey and other states, and the information service provider sends data to the client's location outside New Jersey, and the New Jersey office benefits from the information, the service may be considered taxable. In other words, it is inadvisable to send taxable information services to a company's location outside of New Jersey for the purpose of avoiding the sales and use tax.

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CONCLUSIONS

The interpretations provided by Mr. Sweeney appear to exempt a large portion of the survey research profession from the information services sales and use tax. However, CMOR and MRA still advises you to consult with a tax professional who is well-versed in New Jersey state and local taxation issues to determine whether and when this tax applies to your business.

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=20

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<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/index.html?infoservices.htm>

=20

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Date: Fri, 3 Nov 2006 10:02:00 -0500
Reply-To: Info <info@POLLINGCOMPANY.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Info <info@POLLINGCOMPANY.COM>
Subject: Job Posting - Washington, DC
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <[000601c6fef5\\$de9cd2e0\\$5b00a8c0@BRICORP.com](mailto:000601c6fef5$de9cd2e0$5b00a8c0@BRICORP.com)>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

the polling companyT, inc., a full service market research, public affairs and political consulting firm headquartered in Washington DC, is looking to hire a project manager/ director.

Job Description: The employee will be involved in all stages of project development and execution, and the position entails the following components:

- (1) management and oversight of current and future projects;
- (2) development of original proposals, research program design, sample and questionnaire construction, data analysis, and report writing for quantitative and qualitative research;
- (3) direction of focus groups and other qualitative research exercises
- (4) communication with sample providers, field houses, and other vendors as needed to conduct quantitative research projects;
- (4) supervision of 3-5 members of the research staff;
- (5) maintenance of existing clients relations to ensure that current client's research objectives are being fully achieved and cultivating new clientele;
- (6) experience with federal government contracting a plus.

The position will be responsible for updating and taking direction from the President and CEO on the progress of all projects.

Qualifications: Applicants should have 5+ years experience in the survey research field, be able to manage several tasks at the same time, supervise a dedicated team of analysts and project managers, and willing to work in a small group environment. The applicant must have a strong methodological background and advanced knowledge of various research methods as well as extensive knowledge of SPSS, MS Word, Excel and Internet applications. Candidate must be willing to work in a fast-paced office. Strong writing skills, command of the English language, and statistical knowledge is a must. Candidate must have Bachelor's degree, and higher education a plus. Salary and benefits commensurate with experience.

Please send cover letter, resume, salary requirements, and references to Shelley West at swest@pollingcompany.com or fax them to (202) 467-6551. No phone inquiries please. For more information about the polling companyT, inc., please access our website at www.pollingcompany.com

Shelley West
Project Director

the polling companyT, inc./WomanTrend
1220 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-667-6557
202-467-6551 (fax)
www.pollingcompany.com

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=====
Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 09:55:21 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path=20
New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>
or
<http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>

An automated voice at the other end of the telephone line asks whether you believe that judges who "push homosexual marriage and create new

rights like abortion and sodomy" should be controlled. If your reply is "yes," the voice lets you know that the Democratic candidate in the Senate race in Montana, Jon Tester, is not your man.

In Maryland, a similar question-and-answer sequence suggests that only the Republican Senate candidate would keep the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. In Tennessee, another paints the Democrat as wanting to give foreign terrorists "the same legal rights and privileges" as Americans.

SNIP

The Ohio-based conservatives behind the new campaign, who include current and former Procter & Gamble managers, say the automated system can reach vast numbers of people at a fraction of the cost of traditional volunteer phone banks and is the most ambitious political use of the telemarketing technology ever undertaken.

But critics say the automated calls are a twist on push polls - a campaign tactic that is often criticized as deceptive because it involves calling potential voters under the guise of measuring public opinion, while the real intent is to change opinions with questions that push people in one direction or the other.

SNIP

--=20

Leo G. Simonetta
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Baltimore MD 21209

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=====
Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 07:26:31 -0800
Reply-To: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To:
<3248A9B21DD5574785FE5E2C8E5216845D2604@exchange.local.artscience.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Unless the voice states or implies that this is a poll or confidential survey, this is not a push poll.

John Nienstedt, Sr
619-702-2372
john@cerc.net

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 6:55 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>
or
<http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>

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--

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Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 10:32:48 -0500

Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>

Subject: likely voters

Comments: To: aapornet <aapornet@asu.edu>

MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delp=yes; format=flowed

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Is there any evidence on how heightened intensity of feelings, especially among Dems (at least until the day before yesterday, when the Reps may to have come alive) affect the accuracy of likely voter algorithms?

Doug Henwood

Left Business Observer

38 Greene St - 4th fl.

New York NY 10013-2505 USA

<dhenwood@panix.com>

<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com>>

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fax +1-212-219-0098

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producer, Behind the News

Thursdays, 5-6 PM, WBAI, New York 99.5 FM

<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com/Radio.html>>

podcast: <<http://shout.lbo-talk.org/lbo/radio-feed.php>>

download my book Wall Street (for free!) at

<<http://www.wallstreetthebook.com>>

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Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 11:16:16 -0500

Reply-To: dick halpern <dhalpern@BELLSOUTH.NET>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: dick halpern <dhalpern@BELLSOUTH.NET>

Subject: The Deciding Vote

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1; format=flowed;
x-avg-checked=avg-ok-524059A0
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

In the light of the election tomorrow and the
vote counting process that follows, this article
by Conley, Chairman of New York University
sociology department, sheds an interesting perspective.....

November 6, 2006
NY Times, Op-Ed Contributor

The Deciding Vote

By DALTON CONLEY

THE Democrats may or may not capture the House or
Senate tomorrow. But one thing appears certain:
There will be a lot of close races where the
results are uncertain late into the night (and
perhaps even the next morning) and where the
outcome may hinge on legal rulings about which ballots count and which
don't.

After all, in the last few years, several
statistical dead-heat elections have ended up in
court. The mayoralty of San Diego and the
governorship of Washington are just two of the
more high-profile examples since Bush v. Gore in
2000 in which elections were decided by a few
votes and controversy followed the winner into office.

The rub in these cases is that we could count and
recount, we could examine every ballot four times
over and we'd get what you guessed it would be four
different results. That's the nature of large
numbers: there is inherent measurement error.
We'd like to think that there is a true answer
out there, even if that answer is decided by a
single vote. We so desire the certainty of
thinking that there is an objective truth in
elections and that a fair process will reveal it.

But even in an absolutely clean recount, there is
not always a sure answer. Ever count out a large
jar of pennies? And then do it again? And then
have a friend do it? Do you always converge on a
single number? Or do you usually just average the
various results you come to? If you are like me,
you probably settle on an average. The underlying

notion is that each election, like those recounts of the penny jar, is more like a poll of some underlying voting population.

In an era of small town halls and direct democracy it might have made sense to rely on a literalist interpretation of majority rule. After all, every vote could really be accounted for. But in situations where millions of votes are cast, and especially where some may be suspect, what we need is a more robust sense of winning. So from the world of statistics, I am here to offer one: To win, candidates must exceed their rivals with more than 99 percent statistical certainty = AD a typical standard in scientific research. What does this mean in actuality? In terms of a two-candidate race which each has attained around 50 percent of the vote, a 1 percent margin of error would be represented by 1.29 divided by the square root of the number of votes cast.

Let's take the Washington gubernatorial race in 2004 as an example. After a manual recount, Christine Gregoire was said to have 1,373,361 votes, 48.8730 percent, while her Republican rival, Dino Rossi, garnered 1,373,232, or 48.8685 percent (a third-party candidate got 63,465 votes). That's a difference of only 129 votes, or .0045 percent. The standard error for a 99 percent certainty level was 0.078 percentage points. Since Ms. Gregoire's margin of victory didn't exceed this figure, under this system she wouldn't be certified as the victor.

If we apply the same methodology to Bush v. Gore in 2000, the results are equally ambiguous. The final (if still controversial) vote difference for Florida was 537 (or .009 percent). Given Florida's vote count of 5,825,043, (excluding third party votes) this margin fails to exceed the 99 percent confidence threshold. New Mexico, which Al Gore won by 366 votes out of a much smaller total, is also up for grabs in this situation.

So what should we do in such cases, where no winner can be declared with more than 99 percent statistical certainty? Do the whole shebang all over again. This has the advantage of testing voters' commitment to candidates. Maybe you didn't think the election was going to be as close as it was, so you didn't vote. Well, now you get a second chance.

And if there were hanging chads (as in Florida in 2000) or unshaded bubbles (as in the 2004 San Diego mayoral race) or dubiously included or

excluded ballots, voters could make extra sure to do it right the second time round.

Yes, it costs more to run an election twice, but keep in mind that many places already use runoffs when the leading candidate fails to cross a particular threshold. If we are willing to go through all that trouble, why not do the same for certainty in an election that teeters on a razor's edge? One counter-argument is that such a plan merely shifts the realm of debate and uncertainty to a new threshold. However, candidates who lose by the margin of error have a lot less rhetorical power to argue for redress than those for whom an actual majority is only a few votes away.

It may make us existentially uncomfortable to admit that random chance and sampling error play a role in our governance decisions. But in reality, by requiring a margin of victory greater than one, seemingly arbitrary vote, we would build in a buffer to democracy, one that offers us a more bedrock sense of security that the winner really did win.

Dalton Conley, the chairman of New York University's sociology department, is the author of *The Pecking Order: Which Siblings Succeed and Why.*

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No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.13.28/518 - Release Date: 11/4/2006 5:30 PM

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=====
Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 11:27:20 -0500

Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>

Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

In most of the reports on this (where the opening is mentioned) that I have seen, say that the call is introduced as a poll.

See last week's postings on the Pollster.com (formerly known as the Mystery Pollster) for a pretty good rundown on these.

(As a registered voter in Maryland I should probably ought to stop hanging up as soon as I hear the autodialer pause so I can hear for myself.)

--=20
Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD 21209
=20

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

> From: John Nienstedt [mailto:john@cerc.net]=20
> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 10:27 AM
> To: Leo Simonetta; AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: RE: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

>=20
> Unless the voice states or implies that this is a poll or=20
> confidential survey, this is not a push poll. =20
>=20

> John Nienstedt, Sr
> 619-702-2372
> john@cerc.net

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

> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 6:55 AM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

>=20
> New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path New York Times
>=20

> <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>

> or
> <http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>

>=20
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>=20
> SNIP

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>=20
> SNIP

>=20

>=20

> --

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

>=20

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Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 10:32:38 -0600
Reply-To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Subject: Generic House Vote
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

A recent change over the weekend caught my attention.
<http://www.pollingreport.com/2006.htm>

Suddenly in three of five polls fielded 11/1 or later, Dems aren't leading
GOPs
on the generic vote test for Congress by as much as they did 10 days ago.

Gallup now Dems +7, 11/2-5. Gallup was Dems +13, 10/20-22

ABC now Dems +6, 11/1-4. ABC was Dems +13, 10/19-22

Pew now Dems +4, 11/1-4. Pew was Dems + 11, 10/17-22

Does anyone know what a Dem +4 to +7 point advantage historically signifies in House seat gain?

Nick

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .

Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

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

=====
Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 09:42:06 -0700

Reply-To: megbostrom@PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE.US

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Meg Bostrom <megbostrom@PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE.US>

Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

Comments: To: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>

Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu

In-Reply-To: <[003701c701b7\\$f0765bc0\\$d094504b@owner](mailto:003701c701b7$f0765bc0$d094504b@owner)>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

I was the recipient of one of these efforts yesterday; it is indeed being done as a poll.

I'd like AAPOR to take on the task of developing a name other than "push poll" for these kinds of underhanded tactics pretending to be polls.

Calling these efforts "polls" makes all polling suspect and confuses them with legitimate polls that include opposition attacks to develop message strategy. They should be called something closer to what they are -- smear campaigns.

Meg Bostrom

President, Public Knowledge LLC

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

From: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>

To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Sent: Mon, 06 Nov 2006 07:26:31 -0800

Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

> Unless the voice states or implies that this is a poll or confidential

> survey, this is not a push poll.

>=20
> John Nienstedt, Sr
> 619-702-2372
> john@cerc.net
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 6:55 AM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

>=20
> New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path=20
> New York Times

>=20
> <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>

> or
> <http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>

>=20
> An automated voice at the other end of the telephone line asks whether
> you believe that judges who "push homosexual marriage and create new
> rights like abortion and sodomy" should be controlled. If your reply is
> "yes," the voice lets you know that the Democratic candidate in the
> Senate race in Montana, Jon Tester, is not your man.

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> the Republican Senate candidate would keep the words "under God" in the
> Pledge of Allegiance. In Tennessee, another paints the Democrat as
> wanting to give foreign terrorists "the same legal rights and
> privileges" as Americans.

>=20
> SNIP

>=20
> The Ohio-based conservatives behind the new campaign, who include
> current and former Procter & Gamble managers, say the automated system
> can reach vast numbers of people at a fraction of the cost of
> traditional volunteer phone banks and is the most ambitious political
> use of the telemarketing technology ever undertaken.

>=20
> But critics say the automated calls are a twist on push polls - a
> campaign tactic that is often criticized as deceptive because it
> involves calling potential voters under the guise of measuring public
> opinion, while the real intent is to change opinions with questions that
> push people in one direction or the other.

>=20
> SNIP

>=20
>=20

> --=20
> Leo G. Simonetta
> Director of Research
> Art & Science Group, LLC
> 6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
> Baltimore MD 21209

>=20
> -----

> Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
> Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
> Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
>=20

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

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

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 09:11:31 -0800
Reply-To: rick@ALOHALEE.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Rick Brady <rick@ALOHALEE.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <[003701c701b7\\$f0765bc0\\$d094504b@owner](mailto:003701c701b7$f0765bc0$d094504b@owner)>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

I have to agree with John. GOTV phone bank volunteers have used the Q&A approach to help drill down to their intended audience. I know I've used the tactic (or variation thereof) in the past.

Suppose you are a GOTV volunteer and you call a potential voter. You ask a series of questions and quickly learn that the voter supports stem cell research, but abhor taxation.

Now suppose you are a GOTV volunteer and you call a second potential voter. You ask the same series of questions and learn that the voter is strongly against stem cell research, but doesn't mind increasing taxes to pay for schools, police, fire, etc.

As a good GOTV volunteer, you know that your candidate is government funding of stem cell research, but has a track record for opposing tax increases. What message would you deliver to each potential voter? If you asked the questions at the beginning of the call, the answer is obvious.

Campaigns are all about framing issues and crafting messages. Candidates do it all the time. Why then would it be surprising that their volunteers or consultants are sophisticated enough to do the same?

The only thing new here seems to be the use of an automated system.

Rick Brady

> Unless the voice states or implies that this is a poll or confidential
> survey, this is not a push poll.
>
> John Nienstedt, Sr
> 619-702-2372
> john@cerc.net
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 6:55 AM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
>
> New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
> New York Times
>
> <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>
> or
> <http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>
>
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>
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> opinion, while the real intent is to change opinions with questions that
> push people in one direction or the other.
>
> SNIP
>
>
> --
> Leo G. Simonetta
> Director of Research
> 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.
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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

=====
Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 09:18:30 -0800
Reply-To: rick@ALOHALEE.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Rick Brady <rick@ALOHALEE.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
In-Reply-To:
<3248A9B21DD5574785FE5E2C8E5216845D261B@exchange.local.artscience.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

If they are claiming its a poll or survey, then it is clearly deceptive.
The campaigns I've worked for that used a similar tactic never claimed it
was a poll or survey. Usually we announced that we were calling
registered voters on behalf of the candidate or party, asked if they were
planning on voting, and started asking questions about their positions on
issues. The answers would guide the volunteer through a flow chart that
would ultimately lead to a well crafted campaign pitch. Anything wrong
with that?

Rick Brady

> In most of the reports on this (where the opening is mentioned) that I
> have seen, say that the call is introduced as a poll.
>
> See last week's postings on the Pollster.com (formerly known as the
> Mystery Pollster) for a pretty good rundown on these.
>
>
> (As a registered voter in Maryland I should probably ought to stop
> hanging up as soon as I hear the autodialer pause so I can hear for
> myself.)

>
> --
> Leo G. Simonetta
> Director of Research
> Art & Science Group, LLC
> 6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
> Baltimore MD 21209
>
>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: John Nienstedt [mailto:john@cerc.net]
>> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 10:27 AM
>> To: Leo Simonetta; AAPORNET@asu.edu
>> Subject: RE: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
>>

>> Unless the voice states or implies that this is a poll or
>> confidential survey, this is not a push poll.

>>
>> John Nienstedt, Sr
>> 619-702-2372
>> john@cerc.net

>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
>> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 6:55 AM
>> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
>> Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
>>

>> New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path New York Times

>> <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>
>> or
>> <http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>

>> An automated voice at the other end of the telephone line
>> asks whether you believe that judges who "push homosexual
>> marriage and create new rights like abortion and sodomy"
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>> Montana, Jon Tester, is not your man.

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>> that only the Republican Senate candidate would keep the
>> words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. In Tennessee,
>> another paints the Democrat as wanting to give foreign
>> terrorists "the same legal rights and privileges" as Americans.

>> SNIP

>> The Ohio-based conservatives behind the new campaign, who
>> include current and former Procter & Gamble managers, say the
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>> technology ever undertaken.

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>>
>>
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>> Leo G. Simonetta
>> Director of Research
>> Art & Science Group, LLC
>> 6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
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>>
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>> Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
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>> Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to:
>> aapornet-request@asu.edu

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

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 09:23:01 -0800
Reply-To: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: megbostrom@public-knowledge.us
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <GMail.1162831326.479943873.75056118803@localhost>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I'll heartily second that. How about "deceptive campaign calls?"

John Nienstedt, Sr

619-702-2372
john@cerc.net

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

From: megbostrom@public-knowledge.us [mailto:megbostrom@public-knowledge.us]

Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 8:42 AM

To: John Nienstedt

Cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

I was the recipient of one of these efforts yesterday; it is indeed being done as a poll.

I'd like AAPOR to take on the task of developing a name other than "push poll" for these kinds of underhanded tactics pretending to be polls. Calling these efforts "polls" makes all polling suspect and confuses them with legitimate polls that include opposition attacks to develop message strategy. They should be called something closer to what they are -- smear campaigns.

Meg Bostrom
President, Public Knowledge LLC

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

From: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>

To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Sent: Mon, 06 Nov 2006 07:26:31 -0800

Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

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>

> John Nienstedt, Sr

> 619-702-2372

> john@cerc.net

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

> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta

> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 6:55 AM

> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

> Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

>

> New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

> New York Times

>

> <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>

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> <http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>

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

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 12:32:46 -0500
Reply-To: AmyRSimon@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Amy Simon <AmyRSimon@AOL.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: megbostrom@PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE.US, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 11/6/2006 9:21:40 A.M. Pacific Standard Time, megbostrom@PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE.US writes:

I'd like AAPOR to take on the task of developing a name other than "push poll" for these kinds of underhanded tactics pretending to be polls. Calling these efforts "polls" makes all polling suspect and confuses them with legitimate polls that include opposition attacks to develop message strategy. They should be called something closer to what they are -- smear campaigns.

I strongly agree we need a new term. It makes voters incorrectly believe they are getting a push poll when they are getting a legitimate poll. And the term push poll makes ALL polling suspect to respondents.

Amy Simon

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

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 11:17:25 -0800
Reply-To: Patrick Glaser <patrickglaser1@YAHOO.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Patrick Glaser <patrickglaser1@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: AmyRSimon@AOL.COM, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <ce9.120c94b.3280cbbe@aol.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

At CMOR, we've been using the term "political telemarketing" for that reason.

http://www.cmor.org/ga/tr_resources.cfm?q=3

Patrick Glaser

Amy Simon <AmyRSimon@AOL.COM> wrote:

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Amy Simon

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

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 15:09:37 -0500
Reply-To: Peter Mitchell <pmitchell@M4CHANGE.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Peter Mitchell <pmitchell@M4CHANGE.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: Patrick Glaser <patrickglaser1@YAHOO.COM>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <20061106191725.92635.qmail@web52915.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v624)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

what about ... "polling fraud"

I know it uses the word polling but it clearly states these are not polls. "Political telemarketing does not separate these from the other types of GOTV calls.

- peter mitchell, marketing for change (www.m4change.com)

On Nov 6, 2006, at 2:17 PM, Patrick Glaser wrote:

> At CMOR, we've been using the term "political telemarketing" for that
> reason.

>
> http://www.cmor.org/ga/tr_resources.cfm?q=3

>
> Patrick Glaser

>
>
>
>
> Amy Simon <AmyRSimon@AOL.COM> wrote:

>
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> megbostrom@PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE.US writes:

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> Amy Simon

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

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 14:58:24 -0500
Reply-To: Melissa Marcello <mmarcello@PURSUANTRESEARCH.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Melissa Marcello <mmarcello@PURSUANTRESEARCH.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: Patrick Glaser <patrickglaser1@YAHOO.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <20061106191725.92635.qmail@web52915.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Should this "political telemarketing" have to abide by the Federal Do Not Call List restrictions that legitimate public opinion polls do not?

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

From: AAPORNET [<mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu>] On Behalf Of Patrick Glaser
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 2:17 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

At CMOR, we've been using the term "political telemarketing" for that reason.

http://www.cmor.org/ga/tr_resources.cfm?q=3

Patrick Glaser

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Amy Simon

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

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Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
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=====
Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 16:43:47 -0500
Reply-To: Steve Everett <see@EVERETTGROUP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Steve Everett <see@EVERETTGROUP.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <3248A9B21DD5574785FE5E2C8E5216845D261B@exchange.local.artscience.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

As another registered voter in Maryland who deliberately STOPPED hanging up when I heard the autodialer pause, I can say that I received automated calls, for three evenings in a row, that began with "This is Common Sense dot-com conducting a brief political survey. Are you registered to vote in Maryland?" After ten seconds of no response from me, the voice would say, "This was a political survey. We may call you again." *click*

And they did -- twice -- before they gave up on me. Maybe they'll try me again tonight. I might actually answer the screener to see what follows.

Steve

Steve Everett

The Everett Group
301-261-6448

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 11:27 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

In most of the reports on this (where the opening is mentioned) that I have seen, say that the call is introduced as a poll.

See last week's postings on the Pollster.com (formerly known as the Mystery Pollster) for a pretty good rundown on these.

(As a registered voter in Maryland I should probably ought to stop hanging up as soon as I hear the autodialer pause so I can hear for myself.)

--

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

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

> From: John Nienstedt [mailto:john@cerc.net]
> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 10:27 AM
> To: Leo Simonetta; AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: RE: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

>

> Unless the voice states or implies that this is a poll or
> confidential survey, this is not a push poll.

>

> John Nienstedt, Sr
> 619-702-2372
> john@cerc.net

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

> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
> Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 6:55 AM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

>

> New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path New York Times

>

> <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/us/politics/06push.html>

> or

> <http://tinyurl.com/y977yn>

>

> An automated voice at the other end of the telephone line
> asks whether you believe that judges who "push homosexual

> marriage and create new rights like abortion and sodomy"
> should be controlled. If your reply is "yes," the voice lets
> you know that the Democratic candidate in the Senate race in
> Montana, Jon Tester, is not your man.
>
> In Maryland, a similar question-and-answer sequence suggests
> that only the Republican Senate candidate would keep the
> words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. In Tennessee,
> another paints the Democrat as wanting to give foreign
> terrorists "the same legal rights and privileges" as Americans.

> SNIP

> The Ohio-based conservatives behind the new campaign, who
> include current and former Procter & Gamble managers, say the
> automated system can reach vast numbers of people at a
> fraction of the cost of traditional volunteer phone banks and
> is the most ambitious political use of the telemarketing
> technology ever undertaken.

> But critics say the automated calls are a twist on push polls
> - a campaign tactic that is often criticized as deceptive
> because it involves calling potential voters under the guise
> of measuring public opinion, while the real intent is to
> change opinions with questions that push people in one
> direction or the other.

> SNIP

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

> -----
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> aapornet-request@asu.edu

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 13:48:48 -0800
Reply-To: Patrick Glaser <patrickglaser1@YAHOO.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Patrick Glaser <patrickglaser1@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: Peter Mitchell <pmitchell@M4CHANGE.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <54a1d84060e0dcbceedf3217cf447614@m4change.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

I see your point Peter.

"Political telemarketing" refers to the specific activity where the contact involves political fundraising, but does so under the guise of a poll.

This seems to fall under the "fraudulent" category as well, and many times these political telemarketing calls act as "push polls" too.

It would make sense to encourage and use a term that would take the place of "push poll."

Patrick

Peter Mitchell <pmitchell@M4CHANGE.COM> wrote:
what about ... "polling fraud"

I know it uses the word polling but it clearly states these are not polls. "Political telemarketing does not separate these from the other types of GOTV calls.

- peter mitchell, marketing for change (www.m4change.com)

On Nov 6, 2006, at 2:17 PM, Patrick Glaser wrote:

> At CMOR, we've been using the term "political telemarketing" for that
> reason.

>
> http://www.cmor.org/ga/tr_resources.cfm?q=3

>
> Patrick Glaser

>
>
>
> Amy Simon wrote:

>
> In a message dated 11/6/2006 9:21:40 A.M. Pacific Standard Time,
> megbostrom@PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE.US writes:

>
> I'd like AAPOR to take on the task of developing a name other than
> "push
> poll" for these kinds of underhanded tactics pretending to be polls.
> Calling these efforts "polls" makes all polling suspect and confuses

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> with legitimate polls that include opposition attacks to develop
> message
> strategy. They should be called something closer to what they are --
> smear
> campaigns.

>
>
> I strongly agree we need a new term. It makes voters incorrectly
> believe
> they are getting a push poll when they are getting a legitimate poll.
> And the
> term push poll makes ALL polling suspect to respondents.

> Amy Simon

> -----
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Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 17:57:30 -0500
Reply-To: "Rockwell, Richard" <richard.rockwell@UCONN.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Rockwell, Richard" <richard.rockwell@UCONN.EDU>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=utf-8
Content-transfer-encoding: base64

QSBuZXcgdHdpc3Qgb24gdGhpcyBkaXNjdXNzaW9uOiBJIGp1c3QgZ290IGEgY2FsbCBmcm9tIGFuIG9yZ2FuaXphdGlubiBwdXJwb3J0aW5nIHRvIGJIIHRoZSBTdGF0ZSAoQ29ubmVjdGljdXQpIFJlchVibGljYW4gQ29tbW10dGVlIGFza2luZyBtZSBpZiBJICJoYXRlIHJvYm8tY2FsbHMulCBTbyBkbyBJLiAgVGhpcyBpcy4uLiAgRWxlY3QgUmVwdWJsaWNhbnMgdG9tb3Jyb3cgYW5kIEkgcHJvbWlzZSB5b3Ugd2Ugd2lsbCBzdG9wIHJvYm8tY2FsbHMulG0KIA0KV GhpcyBpcyBnZXR0aW5nIHNvbWV3aGF0IHdlaXJkLg0K

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 17:56:41 -0500
Reply-To: "Leve, Jay" <jleve@SURVEYUSA.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Leve, Jay" <jleve@SURVEYUSA.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy -- What shall we call it?
Comments: To: Patrick Glaser <patrickglaser1@YAHOO.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

I believe the name for it is:=20

Coup d'Etat.

// Leve //
=20
Jay H Leve
Editor
SurveyUSA
15 Bloomfield Ave
Verona NJ 07044
=20
973-857-8500 x 551
jleve@surveyusa.com
www.surveyusa.com
=20

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Patrick Glaser
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 4:49 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

I see your point Peter. =20
=20

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>
> http://www.cmor.org/ga/tr_resources.cfm?q=3D3

>
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>

>

>

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>

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> they are getting a push poll when they are getting a legitimate poll.=20

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>

> Amy Simon

>
> -----
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> you waiting for?

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Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 18:10:42 -0500
Reply-To: Allen Barton <allenbarton@mindspring.com>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Allen Barton <allenbarton@MINDSPRING.COM>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
Content-transfer-encoding: 7Bit

Election day will be gone in 24 hours, along with those bogus "surveys" and "polls for the next couple of years. Between now and 2008 we need to push for some "labelling" requirement. so that telephone calls made to INFLUENCE opinions and behavior are immediately distinguishabled from polls or surveys made to actually GATHER INFORMATION on opinions and behavior in a scientific manner. Both kinds of call have legitimate use for society, but the people called should be legally entitled to know the PURPOSE of the call so they can decide whether to spend their valuable time on it, or just hang up. Someone said that their organization started by saying "I'm calling on behalf of the XXX Party" or "of a candidate for such-and-such office," which is clearly the honest thing to do. As I understand it, both political and survey organizations are exempt from the "do not call" list restraint, and should earn that exemption by meeting a labelling requirement.

The problem arises all year round with regular postal service mail. Many charities and advocacy organizations send out envelopes labelled "surveys" or "questionnaires," but the questions are designed to persuade us of the virtues of their cause and always end up asking for contributions. This is a kind of fraud and wastes our time under false pretenses. At the least we could use a standard AAPOR note to put in their return envelope telling the organization that their fundraising method is unethical and will result in their being put on a personal "do not contribute" list. Ideally we should communicate this to the officers of the organization rather than the contractor in God knows where who actually gets the responses. Could some legal restraint on abusing the postal service in this way be enacted? It too is damaging to socially useful information-gathering surveys.

Allen Barton

Allen H. Barton, 118 Wolf's Trail, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Phone/fax: 919 933 4003 allenbarton@mindspring.com

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=====
Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 17:33:16 -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: Re: Generic House Vote
Comments: To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <454F63A6.20602@marketsharescorp.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I think "history" wouldn't be very instructive, given redistricting and

the refinement in the art of gerrymandering. Though those very refinements may be cursed in a really big blowout election. But, these figures suggest that the chances of a blowout have receded.

Mike O'Neil
www.oneilresearch.com

Nick Panagakis wrote:

- > A recent change over the weekend caught my attention.
- > <http://www.pollingreport.com/2006.htm>
- >
- > Suddenly in three of five polls fielded 11/1 or later, Dems aren't
- > leading GOPs
- > on the generic vote test for Congress by as much as they did 10 days ago.
- >
- > Gallup now Dems +7, 11/2-5. Gallup was Dems +13, 10/20-22
- > ABC now Dems +6, 11/1-4. ABC was Dems +13, 10/19-22
- > Pew now Dems +4, 11/1-4. Pew was Dems + 11, 10/17-22
- >
- > Does anyone know what a Dem +4 to +7 point advantage historically
- > signifies in House seat gain?
- >
- > Nick
- >
- > -----
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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Mon, 6 Nov 2006 19:30:55 -0600
Reply-To: "G. Donald Ferree, Jr." <gferree@SSC.WISC.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "G. Donald Ferree, Jr." <gferree@SSC.WISC.EDU>
Subject: Re: Generic House Vote
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <454FD44C.4040700@alumni.brown.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed

Friends and colleagues,

In response specifically to Mike and Nick, but generally to many of the recent comments, a couple of points as we all wait for "the only poll that counts".

Translation from questions like "vote for the Democrat or vote for the Republican", where party and party alone is keyed always imperfectly mirrors "vote for X, the Democrat, or Y, the Republican" where the identity of individual candidates is emphasized.

While a general theme in many polls has been that the Democrats have enjoyed an advantage of differing sizes over the Republicans, and Congress as an entity or "Republicans in Congress" have not done very well, there have been some hints that ratings of "my member of Congress" have not looked as bad for the Republicans. (I haven't seen much on how ratings of incumbents may differ by party affiliation).

Paradoxically, if the public has shared the common wisdom that the Republicans will lose the House, that may **LESSEN**, not strengthen, the determination of voters to cast ballots for Democrats as a protest. For example, someone who thinks "their" representative is OK but that the President and his party need to be sent a message, may decide it is "safe" to vote for a Republican incumbent since the overall outcome is clear enough.

Another theme that has been common is that while Bush clearly comes in for widespread criticism, and there are some signs that generic Republicans are not all that positively seen, that is not the same as a clear confidence in the Democrats.

Remember 2004. If all one looked at was data on how Bush was seen (approval ratings, deserve re-election, etc., etc.) one might have concluded that Bush was doomed. But, aside from the (now) legendary Rove turnout machine (about which we did not hear all that much **BEFORE** the election), a problem for Kerry was that "I am disappointed in George W. Bush" didn't necessarily translate into "I want John Kerry to be President" for many people. This point also relates to the earlier observation that if one goes into the voting booth expecting that the Democrats will win nationally, that could conceivably **LOWER** the incentive to vote for the local Democrat.

While Republicans as a party have come under a lot of criticism, this has not fully been mirrored with a positive evaluation of "Democrats in Congress". It is also tempting to speculate on whether the oft-observed greater negative tone of campaign advertising (by "unaffiliated" groups as well as candidates and parties themselves) plays into this.

A special observation on the Senate, branching out a bit from strictly public opinion concerns. First, if there are 50-50 votes in the Senate, the Vice-President gets to break the tie. Second, everything I have seen suggests that, so far as party control is concerned, Connecticut is safely in the Democratic column regardless of whether Lieberman gets re-elected as an Independent. Yes, he has said he will vote with the Democrats, but I would assume there is a lot of bitterness between him and the Democratic party in general, not to mention so many of his erstwhile colleagues who have scarcely supported him. Add to that the fact that both parties may have strong incentives to "bid" for Lieberman (should he win), and that his vote to control the Senate might well result in some policy outcomes he wouldn't much like, especially should the Democrats in fact control the

House. Maybe Senator Lieberman absolutely means to caucus with the party which rejected him. But I don't recall Vermont's Jeffords announcing in advance any plans to leave the Republican caucus.

It should be an interesting evening (or more).

Don

At 06:33 PM 11/6/2006, you wrote:

>I think "history" wouldn't be very instructive, given redistricting and
>the refinement in the art of gerrymandering. Though those very
>refinements may be cursed in a really big blowout election. But, these
>figures suggest that the chances of a blowout have receded.

>

>Mike O'Neil

>www.oneilresearch.com

>

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>>Nick

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>>-----

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Date: Tue, 7 Nov 2006 14:24:46 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: BEWARE OF EXIT POLLS
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

BEWARE OF EXIT POLLS

<http://www.gop.com/News/Read.aspx?ID=3D6718>

Biased And Inaccurate Predictions Have Led To Poor=20
GOP Exit Poll Showings In Past Three National Elections
=20

FAST FACTS ON EXIT POLLING

Election Experts Believe Exit Polls Give An Edge And Sway Towards
Democrat Candidates.

National Exit Polls Will Skew In Favor Of Democrats This Year, Due To
Large Numbers Of Uncontested Democrat Seats In The House Of
Representatives.

Early Exit Polling Returns In 2004 Were Widely Inaccurate, Declaring
Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) To Be The Next President Of The United States And
Republicans Barely Holding A One Seat Majority In The U.S. Senate.

In The 2002 Midterm Elections, Exit Polling Produced Unusable Data.

In 2000, Exit Polling Malfunctioned And Incorrectly Projecting Vice
President Al Gore As The Winner Of The Crucial Battleground State Of
Florida.=20

=20

SNIP

--=20

Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research

Art & Science Group, LLC
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore MD 21209

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Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
=====

Date: Tue, 7 Nov 2006 14:24:29 -0500
Reply-To: Ashley Hendrickson <ahendrickson@STERLINGRESEARCHGROUP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Ashley Hendrickson <ahendrickson@STERLINGRESEARCHGROUP.COM>
Subject: Sampling frequency
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <7587d78c0611011936v4105e7cara33dadf6a727b570@mail.gmail.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Hello,

=20

I am looking for research on sampling frequency. What is the established limit on how many times a person should receive a survey in a given period? Also, does this limit apply to multiple modes where three different surveys are administered via different methodologies (and customers are eligible for all three)? Our client is concerned about over-surveying their customers and would like to know what standards to use when creating new scrub rules. Any feedback would be appreciated.

=20

Thank you,

=20

=20

=20

Ashley Hendrickson, Associate Project Manager

STERLING RESEARCH GROUP, INC.

600 1st Avenue North

St. Petersburg, FL 33701-3609

727-866-2400

727-867-4129 Fax

ahendrickson@sterlingresearchgroup.com
<mailto:teckhoff@sterlingresearchgroup.com>=20

=20

=20

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html>
Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

=====
Date: Tue, 7 Nov 2006 16:40:36 -0500
Reply-To: Jonathan Brill <brillje@UMDNJ.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jonathan Brill <brillje@UMDNJ.EDU>
Subject: Re: Sampling frequency
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu, Ashley Hendrickson
<ahendrickson@STERLINGRESEARCHGROUP.COM>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

I am not aware of any publications about this subject, but having been on the client side in a business to business industry and being pressed by executive management on this very issue (during the late 1990s), I can provide you with a summary of the thinking that was established.

1. Generally speaking, don't go back to a customer with an identified study more than 2 to 4 times a year and 4 is definitely pushing things.
2. It is generally best to not go to customers for identified studies unrelated to their purchase; if you do this, do not do so more than once a year unless there are multiple and distinct product class purchases involved (e.g., hydraulic excavators and bulldozers are distinct product class purchases; you may go to a customer for research on excavators and then go to that customer for another study about bulldozers).
3. If you are asking customers about satisfaction or product quality for a product they have purchased and it is an important purchase (central to their business, you can pretty much go ahead and ask away. If you do not go to them more than a few times a year, customers seem to appreciate the need for companies to collect this kind of information to better serve the customer. But do not go to the customer for multiple purchases in a single product class. (e.g., don't go to the same

customer for research on large excavators and another study on small excavators; if they buy both, pick only one of these purchases; exception: if the research is a quality control check that the customer expects as part of the course of being your customer, there is no restriction).

4. If you are asking customers about product development issues, if the product purchased has high commitment (e.g., it was an expensive business purchase where they are now married to you), go ahead and ask. Again, customers appreciate how this research helps them.

5. If you are going to customers with an unidentified study, you can try 2 or 3 times a year. But be careful, if the purchase is a major business purchase, the pool of potential research sponsors may be small and you can receive backlash.

6. If you are going to the market (potential and actual customers) with a (quasi-)probability sample and are not identified, go ahead.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
General Manager, ORANJ BOWL(sm) Panel Research Program
Associate Director, Database & Panel Research
NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING
School of Osteopathic Medicine
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
42 East Laurel Road, UDP Suite 2300
Stratford, New Jersey 08084
Telephone (direct): 856.566-6727
Fax (research group): 856.566-6874
E-mail: brillje@umdnj.edu

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>>> Ashley Hendrickson <ahendrickson@STERLINGRESEARCHGROUP.COM>
11/07/06 2:24 PM >>>
Hello,

I am looking for research on sampling frequency. What is the established limit on how many times a person should receive a survey in a given

period? Also, does this limit apply to multiple modes where three different surveys are administered via different methodologies (and customers are eligible for all three)? Our client is concerned about over-surveying their customers and would like to know what standards to use when creating new scrub rules. Any feedback would be appreciated.

Thank you,

Ashley Hendrickson, Associate Project Manager

STERLING RESEARCH GROUP, INC.

600 1st Avenue North

St. Petersburg, FL 33701-3609

727-866-2400

727-867-4129 Fax

ahendrickson@sterlingresearchgroup.com
<mailto:teckhoff@sterlingresearchgroup.com>

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=====

Date: Tue, 7 Nov 2006 16:40:31 -0700
Reply-To: Gregory Robinson <grobinson@FULLERTON.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Gregory Robinson <grobinson@FULLERTON.EDU>
Subject: Position Available California State University Fullerton
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

October 24, 2006 POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT #462
=20

POSITION TITLE: COMPUTER ASSISTED TELEPHONE INTERVIEWING SURVEY RESEARCH=20
LAB MANAGER

DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER (SSRC)

HOURS: 30- 40 hours per week (TBD)

STARTING SALARY

RANGE: \$12.50 -\$16.50 per hour plus benefits=20

FLSA Status: NON-EXEMPT

Position Summary:=20

The CATI Lab Manager will report to the center associate director=20
and director, and will work in conjunction with other SSRC research staff.=20
The CATI Lab Manager schedules and is responsible for the work of up to=20
sixty-five telephone interviewers and shift supervisors working in a 24-
station telephone survey research lab on the campus of California State=20
University, Fullerton. =20

Responsibilities:

1. Schedules staff hours to meet research needs;=20
2. Recruits, interviews, and hires to maintain staff strength=20
commensurate with demand for the Social Science Research Center=92s (SSRC)=20
survey capabilities;=20
3. Reviews performance of interviewers and shift supervisors;=20
4. Monitors staff productivity and evaluates interviewing staff;
5. Provides daily assurance of data quality by examining quantitative=20
and qualitative survey results and monitoring telephone interviews in-
progress;
6. Produces SPSS files containing analysis-ready survey results with=20
accurate variable and value labels, and assignment of missing values;
7. Trains interviewers regarding scientific interviewing techniques,=20
and SSRC protocols and procedures;
8. In conjunction with other senior staff, provides day-to-day=20
management of sample records; and
9. Produces and interprets regular productivity and progress reports=20
using WinCATI Software and other tools.

Minimum Qualifications:

1. Must demonstrate the ability to effectively supervise a large staff=20
of racial/ethnically, culturally and linguistically diverse part-time=20
interviewers.
2. Able to meet the goals and production requirements associated with=20
research schedules. =20
3. Solid knowledge of basic office productivity software in a PC=20

environment is required, and familiarity with database/ data management=20 applications is desirable. =20

4. Training in the center=92s CATI software will be provided, but basic=20 skill and comfort with computers is essential.=20

5. Interest in the social sciences and a wide range of current public=20 policy issues is helpful. =20

6. Minimum of two year=92s experience in an applied research setting. =20

Education:

Bachelor=92s Degree or equivalent in related areas. =20

Benefits:=20

The individual will be given benefits according to position filled, 30 or=20 40 hours weekly.

All benefits will be administrated according to Policies, Summary Plan=20 Descriptions, or Procedures.=20

Application Procedure: Submit resume and/or application to:

CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corporation
Human Resources Department
2600 E. Nutwood Ave., Suite 275
Fullerton, CA 92831
Fax to: (714) 278-4153

Application Deadline: Open until filled

About the SSRC:

The Social Science Research Center was established in 1987 at California=20 State University, Fullerton, within the College of Humanities and Social=20 Sciences to provide research services to community organizations and=20 research support to CSUF faculty. The SSRC=92s primary goal is to assist no= n-

profit and tax-supported agencies and organizations to answer research=20 questions that will lead to improved service delivery and public policy.=20

The SSRC conducts surveys, evaluation research, needs assessments and image =

studies. The SSRC=92s 24-station Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing=20 (CATI) facility supports telephone surveys of general and special=20

populations. The Center also conducts web-based and mailed surveys and=20 administers face-to-face interviews. The SSRC emphasizes the utility of=20 qualitative methods in applied research, and conducts focus groups and semi-=

structured interviews in addition to employing quantitative techniques. =20

The SSRC provides community and campus clients with assistance to prepare=20 proposals and in all phases of social research including the development of =

survey and evaluation instrumentation, research design, data collection,=20 statistical analysis, and technical report writing. The SSRC has a strong=20

local and statewide reputation for excellent applied research and=20 evaluation in health care, education, criminal justice, workforce=20

development and community settings.

The Foundation reserves the right to discontinue or modify any benefit=20 offered by the Foundation.

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=====
Date: Tue, 7 Nov 2006 19:17:16 -0500

Reply-To: Joseph.Bauer@CANCER.ORG

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: "Joseph E. Bauer" <Joseph.Bauer@CANCER.ORG>

Subject: Re: Peer Nomination Methodology - Cancer Survivorship Study

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Hi,

I am hoping for some insights/references/orientation - in regards to methodological issues in study design for a cancer survivorship study. - In particular, the utilization of a peer nomination strategy for creating a 'comparison group' as a frame-of-reference. Previously, adult cancer survivors were sampled in 11 states - and an evolving study plan is to follow-up those participants to acquire longitudinal data. Given the quasi-experimental nature of the design, where there is no randomization, I make a differentiation between a 'control group' and a 'comparison group'. Any thoughts or comments on that distinction are welcome, as this is in the early stages of study design. The idea is to have a reference group by which comparisons may be made (i.e. comparing a cancer survivor group with a group that has had no previous diagnosis of cancer). What is being contemplated is a peer nomination process, whereby people nominated would have no history of a cancer diagnosis (at least to the knowledge of ongoing study participants). The question is also whether a full RDD would need to be done to create this 'comparison group' (costly, but also the issue of whether an RDD of the general population, say in those 11 states, is the optimal frame-of-reference - to judge similarities/differences on several outcome measures). The counter thoughts - were that people nominated would tend to cluster with similar sociodemographics as that of the cancer survivor group that nominated them - and thus, tend to achieve a high degree of 'matching' - and possibly be a better comparison group. Thoughts/Comments? Thanks!

Joe

Joseph E. Bauer, Ph.D.
Director - Survey Research
Statistics & Evaluation Center (SEC)
American Cancer Society - National Home Office
1599 Clifton Road NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-4251
(404) 929-6905 (Office)
(404) 321-4669 (Fax)

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=====

Date: Tue, 7 Nov 2006 16:51:18 -0800
Reply-To: Megan Scott <mmscott310@YAHOO.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Megan Scott <mmscott310@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: NYAAPOR Event: Election 2006 Review
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

Please Join NYAAPOR for:

ELECTION 2006 REVIEW: WHAT HAPPENED AND THE IMPLICATION FOR 2008

Generously sponsored by Mitofsky International, Edison Media Research, and Hunter College's School of Arts & Sciences and Department of Political Science

Representing opposite sides of the aisle, Mark Mellman and Whit Ayres - two of the nation's most highly regarded political pollsters, break down the results from the midterm elections and discuss what meaning they might have for 2008. (Ayres has polled for leading Republicans including Majority Leader Bill Frist and Sens. Lamar Alexander and Lindsey Graham; Mellman's clients include Sens. Maria Cantwell, Daniel Akaka and Harry Reid and Govs. Jon Corzine and Jennifer Granholm.) Gary Langer, Polling Director of ABC News and President of NYAAPOR, moderates.

Mark S. Mellman, President & CEO, The Mellman Group
Mark Mellman is one of the nation's leading public opinion researchers and communication strategists. He is CEO of The Mellman Group, a polling and consulting firm whose clients include leading political figures, Fortune 500 companies, and some of the nation's most important public interest groups. Mellman has helped guide the campaigns of numerous U.S.

Senators, Members of Congress, and Governors, as well as many state and local officials.

Whit Ayres, President, Ayres, McHenry & Associates
Before establishing the firm, Ayres served as Senior Executive Assistant for Budget and Policy to Governor Carroll Campbell in South Carolina.

He has also served as a tenured member of the political science faculty at the University of South Carolina. His comments and analysis appear periodically in The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, USA Today, and numerous regional newspapers.

Thursday, November 9
6:00 - 8:00 PM
[SORRY NO REFRESHMENTS!]

Hunter College
Faculty Dining Room
West Building, 8th Floor
Southwest Corner of 68th St. and Lexington Ave.
(<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/abouthunter/maps.shtml>)

ATTENDANCE IS BY ADVANCE REGISTRATION ONLY!

SEATING IS LIMITED

How to Register:

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This meeting is FREE to current, student, Honorary Lifetime, and first-time NYAAPOR members who sign up for a new membership at the event. HUNTER COLLEGE faculty, staff, and students are WELCOME FREE BUT PLEASE REGISTER. All other non-members: \$20.

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=====

Date: Tue, 7 Nov 2006 21:35:02 -0800
Reply-To: ellis.godard@csun.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Ellis Godard <ellis.godard@CSUN.EDU>
Subject: FWD: Tele-intimidation
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Move over Push Polls; here come Threat Calls:

FBI looking into possible Va. voter intimidation
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15603344/>

Officials probing reports of phone calls allegedly intended to confuse voters

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is looking into the possibility of voter intimidation in the hard-fought U.S. Senate race between Sen. George Allen, a Republican, and Democratic challenger James Webb, officials told NBC News.

State officials alerted the Justice Department on Tuesday to several complaints of suspicious phone calls to voters who attempted to misdirect or confuse them about election day, Jean Jensen, Secretary of the Virginia State Board of Elections, told NBC's David Shuster.

...

State Democratic Party counsel Jay Myerson said in a written statement issued by the Webb campaign that he believed Republicans are behind an orchestrated effort to suppress votes for the Democratic challenger.

...

In the Washington, D.C., area, NBC affiliate News4 reported on its Website that it had received e-mail from a viewer in Virginia who said he received a phone call from so-called volunteers threatening voters with arrest if they cast ballots.

News4 reported: "The viewer's e-mail stated after he had voted, he received a call from an unknown caller who said they knew the voter was registered out of state and would be arrested if they voted today. The viewer's e-mail stated he's been registered to vote in Virginia for the last three years and

has the Virginia Voter Registration card to prove it."

The Webb campaign also said other voters are getting calls telling them their polling location has changed.

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 08:35:35 -0500

Reply-To: lindeman@BARD.EDU

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Mark Lindeman <lindeman@BARD.EDU>

Subject: exit poll "red shift" 2006

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

In-Reply-To: <000001c702f7\$4936810\$6501a8c0@Mobel>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; DelSp=Yes; format=flowed

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Content-disposition: inline

I have no access to "insider" numbers, but based on the tabulations =20 posted on CNN.com, I estimate or SWAG that there may have been:

-- about a 3-point differential between the House generic composite =20 Democratic margin at 7 PM (presumably incorporating pre-election =20 expectations, whatever those may have been) and the current returns, and

-- something slightly above a 2-point differential between the mean or =20 median Senate composite Democratic margin at poll closing and the =20 current returns.

Presumably the interview-only deviations would be larger. Even more =20 weasel words are in order, but I don't have time to compose them right =20 now!

As in 2004 (contrary to widespread opinion), apparently most of the =20 largest deviations were in uncompetitive states. Some folks will =20 probably be insisting that Webb won Virginia by 3 and Tester won =20 Montana by 7 because the exits tell them so, but that won't make much =20 sense.

I only had time to monitor one web site in real time, and so the =20 following isn't intended to slight other networks: I heartily thank =20 CNN.com for posting the initial tabulations promptly upon poll =20 closing. If I had \$50 for everyone who swore that "the MSM" (or =20 whoever) would sit on the "exit poll results" until it had time to =20 work them over, my family could go on one heck of a vacation right =20 now. More to the point, I'm cautiously optimistic that (to paraphrase =20 a blogosphere comment) maybe this time the facts can make it halfway =20

around the world before the myths put on their boots. There will again =20
be plenty of important things to talk about other than exit polls!

Mark Lindeman
Bard College

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=====
Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 09:15:51 -0500
Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <aapornet@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To: <20061108083535.0i0wborb7oc0w0k4@webmail.bard.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 8, 2006, at 8:35 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

> As in 2004 (contrary to widespread opinion), apparently most of the
> largest deviations were in uncompetitive states. Some folks will
> probably be insisting that Webb won Virginia by 3 and Tester won
> Montana by 7 because the exits tell them so, but that won't make
> much sense.

It would "make sense" if this were Venzeuela or Kazakhstan, right>?

Doug

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=====
Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 09:29:36 -0500
Reply-To: lindeman@bard.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mark Lindeman <lindeman@BARD.EDU>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <20061108083535.0i0wborb7oc0w0k4@webmail.bard.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

By the way, in case anyone is puzzled that I would combine an "estimate
or SWAG" of possible red-shift with a comment about "the facts" -- well,

uncertainty is actually the most salient fact here. Granted, most of us are uncertain about what the interview numbers were whereas the insiders were uncertain about what the interview numbers meant, but we're still better off this way.

Mark Lindeman

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 10:19:18 -0500
Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To: <20061108083535.0i0wborb7oc0w0k4@webmail.bard.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delpsp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 8, 2006, at 8:35 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

> I have no access to "insider" numbers, but based on the tabulations
> posted on CNN.com, I estimate or SWAG that there may have been:
>
> -- about a 3-point differential between the House generic composite
> Democratic margin at 7 PM (presumably incorporating pre-election
> expectations, whatever those may have been) and the current
> returns, and
>

On further reflection, I'm continually surprised at the profession's willingness to see exit polls discredited rather than see this discrepancy as a suggestion - only a suggestion! - that something might be amiss in the vote-counting game. Better professional humiliation than provoking a legitimation crisis?

Doug Henwood
Left Business Observer
38 Greene St - 4th fl.
New York NY 10013-2505 USA
<dhenwood@panix.com>
<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com>>

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 11:05:20 -0500
Reply-To: "Bates, Benjamin J" <bjbates@UTK.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Bates, Benjamin J" <bjbates@UTK.EDU>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: A <B05EC40A-17A0-46C7-AE97-F46F359DB6DF@panix.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Perhaps part of that is because as scientists, we know that there are multiple sources of errors in polling, whereas those citing polls, particularly exit polls (which at the very least do not poll those who vote absentee or early), are at least willing to disregard those likely sources of error and take numbers they like as absolute, and place their faith in conspiracy theories to "explain" differences. =20

Exploring, identifying, measuring, and trying to minimize those sources of error are a large part of what AAPOR is about, and how we contribute to the field. An unwillingness to consider the possibility of error does the field, and the public at large, no service.

Ben Bates

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

From: AAPORNET [<mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>] On Behalf Of Doug Henwood
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 10:19 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

On Nov 8, 2006, at 8:35 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

> I have no access to "insider" numbers, but based on the tabulations =20
> posted on CNN.com, I estimate or SWAG that there may have been:
>
> -- about a 3-point differential between the House generic composite =20
> Democratic margin at 7 PM (presumably incorporating pre-election =20
> expectations, whatever those may have been) and the current =20
> returns, and
>

On further reflection, I'm continually surprised at the profession's =20
willingness to see exit polls discredited rather than see this =20
discrepancy as a suggestion - only a suggestion! - that something =20
might be amiss in the vote-counting game. Better professional =20
humiliation than provoking a legitimation crisis?

Doug Henwood
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<dhenwood@panix.com>
<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com>>

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 12:30:12 -0500
Reply-To: "Lavrakas, Paul" <Paul.Lavrakas@NIELSENMEDIA.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Lavrakas, Paul" <Paul.Lavrakas@NIELSENMEDIA.COM>
Subject: Early voters and exit polls
Comments: To: "Bates, Benjamin J" <bjbates@UTK.EDU>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To:
<A6B32D41E04B2F43807EC42DA182C218797DF4@UTKFSVS5.utk.tennessee.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Ben et al,

For what it's worth, the NEP's contractor conducted surveys to measure

the absentee and early voters in a good number of states and those data were in the exit poll models yesterday.=20

This is not something new to 2006; (back in my academic days at Ohio State we used to do these types of pre-election voter surveys in Oregon, Washington and Arizona for VNS.)

PJL

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Bates, Benjamin J
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 11:05 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

Perhaps part of that is because as scientists, we know that there are multiple sources of errors in polling, whereas those citing polls, particularly exit polls (which at the very least do not poll those who vote absentee or early), are at least willing to disregard those likely sources of error and take numbers they like as absolute, and place their faith in conspiracy theories to "explain" differences. =20

Exploring, identifying, measuring, and trying to minimize those sources of error are a large part of what AAPOR is about, and how we contribute to the field. An unwillingness to consider the possibility of error does the field, and the public at large, no service.

Ben Bates

-

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 13:49:40 -0500
Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To:
<A6B32D41E04B2F43807EC42DA182C218797DF4@UTKFSVS5.utk.tennessee.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delp=; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 8, 2006, at 11:05 AM, Bates, Benjamin J wrote:

> Perhaps part of that is because as scientists, we know that there are
> multiple sources of errors in polling, whereas those citing polls,
> particularly exit polls (which at the very least do not poll those who

- > vote absentee or early), are at least willing to disregard those
- > likely
- > sources of error and take numbers they like as absolute, and place
- > their
- > faith in conspiracy theories to "explain" differences.
- >
- > Exploring, identifying, measuring, and trying to minimize those
- > sources
- > of error are a large part of what AAPOR is about, and how we
- > contribute
- > to the field. An unwillingness to consider the possibility of error
- > does the field, and the public at large, no service.

Yeah, I know this. I'm not a naif, about polling or statistics or politics. But what strikes me is the combination of the consistency of the exit poll error - almost without exception in the same direction - and the almost equally consistent lack of interest from the profession in questioning the vote counts. The impulse is always to question the polling methodology - a curious inversion of the narcissism normal to any profession. Before 2000, unless my memory is massively deceiving me, exit polls were very accurate; then they stopped being so accurate. After the 2000 election, I initially thought that questioning the count was tinfoil hat stuff. But then it kept happening. That's odd. And I say this as someone deeply hostile to conspiracy theorizing of all sorts.

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 podcast: <<http://shout.lbo-talk.org/lbo/radio-feed.php>>

 download my book Wall Street (for free!) at
 <<http://www.wallstreetthebook.com>>

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=====

Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 12:03:28 -0800
Reply-To: Michael Burdick <michaelb@RESEARCHINTOACTION.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Michael Burdick <michaelb@RESEARCHINTOACTION.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
In-Reply-To:
<A6B32D41E04B2F43807EC42DA182C218797DF4@UTKFSVS5.utk.tennessee.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

The multiple sources of error in exit polling do not explain why error keeps going the same direction.=20

Until an explanation can be presented based on solid evidence, all hypotheses should remain on the table, regardless of how comforting they are to the researchers.

Hint: If this has something to do with interviewer effects, there should be significant differences between the exit interviewers starting in 2000 compared to exit interviewers before then (when exit polls were incredibly reliable).

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Bates, Benjamin J
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 8:05 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

Perhaps part of that is because as scientists, we know that there are multiple sources of errors in polling, whereas those citing polls, particularly exit polls (which at the very least do not poll those who vote absentee or early), are at least willing to disregard those likely sources of error and take numbers they like as absolute, and place their faith in conspiracy theories to "explain" differences. =20

Exploring, identifying, measuring, and trying to minimize those sources of error are a large part of what AAPOR is about, and how we contribute to the field. An unwillingness to consider the possibility of error does the field, and the public at large, no service.

Ben Bates

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Doug Henwood
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 10:19 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

On Nov 8, 2006, at 8:35 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

> I have no access to "insider" numbers, but based on the tabulations=20
> posted on CNN.com, I estimate or SWAG that there may have been:

>
> -- about a 3-point differential between the House generic composite=20
> Democratic margin at 7 PM (presumably incorporating pre-election=20
> expectations, whatever those may have been) and the current returns,=20
> and
>

On further reflection, I'm continually surprised at the profession's willingness to see exit polls discredited rather than see this discrepancy as a suggestion - only a suggestion! - that something might be amiss in the vote-counting game. Better professional humiliation than provoking a legitimation crisis?

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Thursdays, 5-6 PM, WBAI, New York 99.5 FM
<<http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com/Radio.html>>
podcast: <<http://shout.lbo-talk.org/lbo/radio-feed.php>>

download my book Wall Street (for free!) at
<<http://www.wallstreetthebook.com>>

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Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

=====
Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 15:06:10 -0500
Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To:
<A7EA8FA88BD23F498D63CB7522DC6FFC1DCD16@sbs01.researchintoaction.local>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delpsp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 8, 2006, at 3:03 PM, Michael Burdick wrote:

> Hint: If this has something to do with interviewer effects, there
> should
> be significant differences between the exit interviewers starting in
> 2000 compared to exit interviewers before then (when exit polls were
> incredibly reliable).

Also, presumably the 2004 experience resulted in methodological changes for 2006, yet the errors were similar. Am I wrong in assuming that changes were made?

Doug

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=====
Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 15:35:13 -0500
Reply-To: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

Andrew Kohut was on National Public Radio's All Things Considered last night (11/7/06), and did confirm at least one methodological change:

"Mr. KOHUT: They're doing two things differently, the people who run these exit polls tell me. First, they're tightening up the way they sample people as they come out of the polling booths. The interviewers have been given more training, they're going to have less discretion in who they call over to do an interview, and presumable that will reduce the Democrat bias that was apparent in the surveys two years ago.

"The second thing that they're doing is that they have literally locked up representatives of the news organizations paying for the exit polls until 5:00 so that there's no leak of this information early. The preliminary results can often be misleading, and the exit pollsters and

the networks don't want preliminary information leaked out that could send the country off in the wrong direction, as was the case in 2004."

>>> Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM> 11/08/06 3:06 PM >>>
On Nov 8, 2006, at 3:03 PM, Michael Burdick wrote:

> Hint: If this has something to do with interviewer effects, there
> should
> be significant differences between the exit interviewers starting in
> 2000 compared to exit interviewers before then (when exit polls were
> incredibly reliable).

Also, presumably the 2004 experience resulted in methodological changes for 2006, yet the errors were similar. Am I wrong in assuming

that changes were made?

Doug

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 20:46:08 +0000
Reply-To: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: "dhenwood@PANIX.COM" <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>,
"AAPORNET@asu.edu" <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="utf-8"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

In the UK there was a phenomenon for a few years whereby the opinion polls and the exit polls, having generally shown errors in either direction, consistently underscored the conservatives
There were several causes of this, one of which was a greater likelihood of conservative voters refusing to take part because they perceived their allegiance as an unpopular one - the so-called spiral of silence
Effects such as this tend to operate in the medium rather than the short term, and if something like this caused the US polls to underestimate the GOP in 2004, I would not be at all surprised to see the same thing happening 2 years later

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

From: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
Sent: Wed Nov 08 20:06:10 2006
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

On Nov 8, 2006, at 3:03 PM, Michael Burdick wrote:

- > Hint: If this has something to do with interviewer effects, there
- > should
- > be significant differences between the exit interviewers starting in
- > 2000 compared to exit interviewers before then (when exit polls were
- > incredibly reliable).

Also, presumably the 2004 experience resulted in methodological changes for 2006, yet the errors were similar. Am I wrong in assuming that changes were made?

Doug

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=====
Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 16:34:00 -0500
Reply-To: lindeman@bard.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mark Lindeman <lindeman@BARD.EDU>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

In-Reply-To: <1C3DFABC-5C7D-435B-A113-0543AFD5298E@panix.com>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I think Doug Henwood is missing a useful distinction between "questioning the vote counts" and attempting to use the exit poll data to audit the vote counts. There are some facially obvious reasons -- which turn out to be good ones -- why the red shifts, which were largest in such states as Vermont, Delaware, and New York, are unlikely to shed much light on what happened in Ohio. This discussion actually does not end with the facially obvious, but I won't review its twists and turns here. Certainly the record evinces professional curiosity. (I am likewise, obviously, curious about the 2006 red shifts, and think I have good reason not to attribute them to vote miscount, but I won't muster a detailed argument at this point. Lest my point be missed, I am not vouching for the vote counts.)

The 2005 evaluation report offers a crude but consistent metric to compare exit poll accuracy in the past five presidential elections (using CBS/NYT in 1988). They all evince mean "red shift." I don't think I've seen a similar table summarizing midterm elections, but most if not all of them also are known to evince red shift. As Mark Blumenthal memorably pointed out, the movie The War Room actually documents the red shift in (early) 1992 exit poll projections, which evidently persisted in the final results.

An interesting question is: why do so many people think they know that exit polls were highly accurate (within sampling error, I suppose) until 2000, in the face of the contrary evidence? Presumably, in part, because viewers had no idea what the analysts were actually doing -- other than not blowing calls. How would I have known what the 1992 exit polls said? why would I have cared? Also because so many people have stated it as fact.

Certainly I don't have enough information to judge confidently whether the apparent discrepancies in 2006 are "similar" to the 2004 discrepancies. Using cnn.com tabulations to reverse-engineer the composite estimates is perhaps not utterly ridiculous, but it is strained. (Believe me, if I didn't do it, other people would!) However, given that in a recent survey, Democrats expressed greater willingness than Republicans to participate in exit polls, we can entertain the hypothesis that they were more willing. There never was -- and never is -- any assurance that methodological refinements could eliminate non-response bias; the potential bias can only be managed. From an outsider's perspective, it was managed very effectively last night. (It was also managed well in 2004 with respect to the state calls.)

Mark Lindeman
Bard College

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Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 01:10:21 -0500
Reply-To: Chris Lee <clee@CMOR.ORG>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Chris Lee <clee@CMOR.ORG>
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <006701c701dd\$ebd54010\$6601a8c0@Melissa06>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Just to clarify, political telemarketing usually involves fundraising. Push polling does not always include the fundraising element.

Changing the term "push polling" will take several steps:

- 1) Identifying a name that shows the negativity involved in the practice.
 - 2) Creating a public awareness campaign to let respondents and the press know about the new name. This can be initiated by sending Letters to the Editors of newspapers and using the new term in interviews and news reports.
- If you are interested in participating in this type of grassroots effort, contact me directly and I will help coordinate efforts.

One question I ask AAPOR members is whether the profession is willing to create and adopt standards and ethical guidelines that allow the public and the press to distinguish between legitimate/scientific polling v. push polling?

I am NOT suggesting quality standards.

But if the profession creates standards and ethical SPECIFIC to political polling and limits participation in the program to legitimate researchers, then a useful tool can be created that the average respondent can use to better understand the difference between legitimate polling and push polling.

What are your thoughts?

Christopher Lee
Director of Government Affairs and Counsel
CMOR
7475 Wisconsin Ave.
Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-654-6601
clee@cmor.org

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Melissa Marcello
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 2:58 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

Should this "political telemarketing" have to abide by the Federal Do Not Call List restrictions that legitimate public opinion polls do not?

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Patrick Glaser
Sent: Monday, November 06, 2006 2:17 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: New Telemarketing Ploy Steers Voters on Republican Path

At CMOR, we've been using the term "political telemarketing" for that reason.

http://www.cmor.org/ga/tr_resources.cfm?q=3

Patrick Glaser

Amy Simon <AmyRSimon@AOL.COM> wrote:

In a message dated 11/6/2006 9:21:40 A.M. Pacific Standard Time, megbostrom@PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE.US writes:

I'd like AAPOR to take on the task of developing a name other than "push poll" for these kinds of underhanded tactics pretending to be polls. Calling these efforts "polls" makes all polling suspect and confuses them with legitimate polls that include opposition attacks to develop message strategy. They should be called something closer to what they are -- smear campaigns.

I strongly agree we need a new term. It makes voters incorrectly believe they are getting a push poll when they are getting a legitimate poll. And the term push poll makes ALL polling suspect to respondents.

Amy Simon

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=====
Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 09:06:54 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Afghans Losing Faith in Nation's Path, Poll Shows
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

November 9, 2006
Afghans Losing Faith in Nation's Path, Poll Shows=20
By CARLOTTA GALL

{Requires sign in)
<http://select.nytimes.com/mem/tnt.html?tntget=3D2006/11/09/world/asia/09a=fghan.html>
Or=20
<http://tinyurl.com/y3anml>

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan, Nov. 8 - Afghans have lost a considerable amount of confidence in the direction of their country over the past two years, according to an extensive nationwide survey released Wednesday.=20

While the national mood remains positive on the whole, the number of people with negative or mixed views on the trajectory of the country has grown significantly since a similar survey in 2004, according to the Asia Foundation, which conducted both surveys.

"The number of Afghans who feel optimistic is lower than on the eve of the 2004 presidential elections," the survey found.

It was the largest opinion survey conducted in Afghanistan. In it, 44 percent of Afghans interviewed said the country was headed in the right direction, compared with 64 percent in 2004 on the eve of the first

democratic presidential elections in Afghanistan. Twenty-one percent said the country was headed in the wrong direction - compared with 11 percent in 2004 - and 29 percent had mixed feelings. Four percent were unsure. Security was the main reason for the increased concern, the survey said.

Financed by the United States Agency for International Development, the survey was conducted by the Asia Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in San Francisco, and by local partners, who interviewed more than 6,000 people from June through August this year in rural and urban areas of all but two of Afghanistan's provinces. The main goal of the survey was to determine the attitudes of Afghans toward the political process, public policy and development progress.

SNIP

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--=20

Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
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.

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

Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 11:51:32 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Political 'robo calls' focus of suit
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Political 'robo calls' focus of suit
Harford attorney sues Ehrlich, others, arguing automated messages
violate federal law=20

By Justin Fenton
Baltimore Sun
<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/harford/bal-md.ha.phone09nov09,0,394653.story?coll=3Dbal-local-harford>
or
<http://tinyurl.com/y2dwvy>

Originally published November 9, 2006

SNIP

=20

Worsham, a consumer lawyer, is hoping his lawsuit might help make such calls subject to the Do Not Call list. He said the calls violate federal and state communications rules and is seeking \$8,000 in damages.=20

"Preferably, I'd like to see these types of calls banned, so people who don't want to get them can stop them in advance," said Worsham, a registered independent.=20

SNIP

The FCC's rules on prerecorded calls require that they "at the beginning of the message, state clearly the identity of the business, individual, or other entity that is responsible for initiating the call," as well as provide the number of the caller during or after the message.=20

SNIP

--=20

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

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

Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 13:05:31 -0700
Reply-To: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>

On Wed, 8 Nov 2006 13:49:40 -0500, Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM> wrote:

>On Nov 8, 2006, at 11:05 AM, Bates, Benjamin J wrote:

>
>> Perhaps part of that is because as scientists, we know that there are
>> multiple sources of errors in polling, whereas those citing polls,
>> particularly exit polls (which at the very least do not poll those who
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>> sources of error and take numbers they like as absolute, and place
>> their
>> faith in conspiracy theories to "explain" differences.
>>
>> Exploring, identifying, measuring, and trying to minimize those
>> sources
>> of error are a large part of what AAPOR is about, and how we
>> contribute

>> to the field. An unwillingness to consider the possibility of error
>> does the field, and the public at large, no service.
>
>
>Yeah, I know this. I'm not a naif, about polling or statistics or
>politics. But what strikes me is the combination of the consistency
>of the exit poll error - almost without exception in the same
>direction - and the almost equally consistent lack of interest from
>the profession in questioning the vote counts. The impulse is always
>to question the polling methodology - a curious inversion of the
>narcissism normal to any profession. Before 2000, unless my memory is
>massively deceiving me, exit polls were very accurate; then they
>stopped being so accurate. After the 2000 election, I initially
>thought that questioning the count was tinfoil hat stuff. But then it
>kept happening. That's odd. And I say this as someone deeply hostile
>to conspiracy theorizing of all sorts.

Firstly, I don't see anything odd about the "errors" all going in one direction. That fact that we know that they are NOT merely due to the vagaries of random sampling is what tells us that they are due to Something - and if they are due to Something one would not necessarily expect that Something to be different in every election, although one might expect the effect size to fluctuate from year to year (as it appears to do).

Secondly, as Benjamin Bates notes, given that "we know that there are multiple sources of errors in polling", the "impulse" to "question the polling methodology" would seem to be sound. But even given that impulse, we know that when investigating the sources of the exit poll discrepancies in the 2004 election, Edison-Mitofsky tested not only hypotheses concerning the contribution of methodological factors to the discrepancy, but also the role of factors that might have been associated with fraud, e.g. voting technology - and that the data supported the first, not support the second.

However, additionally, Warren Mitofsky hired me (a blogosphere denizen who had publicly expressed skepticism about the results of the 2004 election) to run some further analyses, and one of my findings (and I was interested interrogating the data for any hint of fraud) was that there was absolutely no positive correlation between the magnitude of the discrepancy at precinct level and change in Bush's vote-share relative to 2000. Note that 2000 was a year in which the precinct-level discrepancy, according to the Edison-Mitofsky 2005 evaluation document, had been relatively slight. The regression line was actually slightly, although "insignificantly" negative.

Warren's apparent response to this finding was that "it kills the fraud argument". Theoretically, I don't actually think it does, quite (given a large enough supply of tinfoil), but the only two theoretical mechanisms that have been suggested, to my knowledge, by which widespread fraud on a scale might actually account for a substantial proportion of the discrepancy, and yet fail to produce any correlation between "redshift" and "swing" to Bush are: fraud that was extraordinarily uniform, and which accounted only for the non-zero mean value of the discrepancy, and not for the variance (but this would run counter to any inference of fraud from apparent correlations that some have observed in the data); or,

alternatively, fraud that was precisely targetted only on precincts where Bush was doing worse than his average precinct level performance. I can think of no actual practicable mechanism for either of these, and have seen none suggested.

I would argue, therefore, that not only was the hypothesis that the discrepancy was associated with methodological factors supported, but the hypothesis that fraud might have been a contributor was also tested, and NOT supported. Indeed, I would argue that failure to observe, over 1250 precincts, not so much as a hint of a positive correlation between precinct level redshift and "swing" to Bush strongly contra-indicates the fraud hypothesis as an explanation of more than a small proportion, at most, of the 2004 discrepancy. If so, the magnitude of the discrepancy in 2004 suggests that pro-Democratic bias in exit polls is a very real phenomenon with a potentially large effect size. And if this in turn means, as the recent poll of voters' attitudes to exit polls suggests, that there is an generalizable underlying difference in the willingness of Democratic and Republican voters to participate in exit polls, even the most stringent random sampling protocol possible cannot eliminate the risk of pro-Democratic bias in US exit polls.

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=====
Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 14:32:03 -0500
Reply-To: jwerner@jwdp.com
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jan Werner <jwerner@JWDP.COM>
Organization: Jan Werner Data Processing
Subject: NY Times graphic
Comments: To: AAPORNET <aapornet@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Today's NY Times has an extraordinary graphic on page 2 of the special Elections section showing shifts in margin of victory for House seats from 2004 to 2006, listed by district and sorted by % Dem. in 2006.

The NYT web site has an interactive page which uses interactive graphics to display that information in a more compact format that also allows the viewer to apply various filters, including some demographics.

The web page is fascinating and useful for analytical purposes, but it conceals what is perhaps the single most important piece of information that the print graphic provides at a glance, which is the extent of the shift toward Democratic candidates in districts the Republicans won.

One look at the print graphic should be enough to send chills down the spine of NRC strategists.

If anyone knows of that print graphic being available somewhere on the

NYT web site, I would appreciate a link to it.

Jan Werner

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 15:38:11 -0500
Reply-To: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: Michael Burdick <michaelb@RESEARCHINTOACTION.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

If I recall correctly, the raw, unweighted data from 2004 were never released.
Until those results are available to be examined, along with detailed descriptions of selection protocols, interviewer selection, demographic interviewer and respondent match categories, all of those questions = will remain moot.
Historical comparisons may be interesting, but at this late date, it's = in the extreme to expect full disclosure, for too many reasons to list = here.
And the "incredible reliability" of exit polls is easily understood = when one looks at the margins of victory for the Democrats in the 1992 and 1996 Presidential elections.

Nat Ehrlich, Ph.D.
Research Specialist
Michigan State University=20
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Office for Social Research
321 Berkey Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-353-2639

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

From: AAPORNET [<mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu>] On Behalf Of Michael Burdick
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 3:03 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

The multiple sources of error in exit polling do not explain why error keeps going the same direction.=20

Until an explanation can be presented based on solid evidence, all hypotheses should remain on the table, regardless of how comforting = they are to the researchers.

Hint: If this has something to do with interviewer effects, there = should be significant differences between the exit interviewers starting in 2000 compared to exit interviewers before then (when exit polls were incredibly reliable).

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Bates, Benjamin J
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 8:05 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

Perhaps part of that is because as scientists, we know that there are multiple sources of errors in polling, whereas those citing polls, particularly exit polls (which at the very least do not poll those who vote absentee or early), are at least willing to disregard those likely sources of error and take numbers they like as absolute, and place = their faith in conspiracy theories to "explain" differences. =20

Exploring, identifying, measuring, and trying to minimize those sources of error are a large part of what AAPOR is about, and how we contribute to the field. An unwillingness to consider the possibility of error does the field, and the public at large, no service.

Ben Bates

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Doug Henwood
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 10:19 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

On Nov 8, 2006, at 8:35 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

> I have no access to "insider" numbers, but based on the tabulations=20
> posted on CNN.com, I estimate or SWAG that there may have been:
>
> -- about a 3-point differential between the House generic composite=20
> Democratic margin at 7 PM (presumably incorporating pre-election=20
> expectations, whatever those may have been) and the current returns,=20
> and
>

On further reflection, I'm continually surprised at the profession's willingness to see exit polls discredited rather than see this discrepancy as a suggestion - only a suggestion! - that something might be amiss in the vote-counting game. Better professional humiliation = than

provoking a legitimation crisis?

Doug Henwood
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Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 16:46:20 -0600
Reply-To: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Subject: Job Opportunity
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Comments: cc: Sroyster@realtors.org
MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

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=20

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=20

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Desired: =20

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=20

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Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 16:04:38 -0700
Reply-To: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: Nat Ehrlich <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>

On Wed, 8 Nov 2006 15:38:11 -0500, Ehrlich, Nathaniel
<Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU> wrote:

>If I recall correctly, the raw, unweighted data from 2004 were never
>released.

The raw data from the exit poll questionnaires were archived as usual in January 2005 at <http://www.icpsr.org/> and were available for free public download for more than a year. A column giving the applied weights was provided.

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Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 15:29:56 -0800
Reply-To: Sunghee Lee <slee9@UCLA.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Sunghee Lee <slee9@UCLA.EDU>
Subject: Job Posting - California Health Interview Survey Operations
Manager
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Sorry for cross-posting!

Survey Operations Manager
Center for Health Policy Research

Welcome to UCLA. We fan the fires of discovery. Our students, faculty, staff and alumni are driven to make changes that matter. As one of the nation's best universities, we are intent on making a difference. We believe that highly motivated people can make a difference when they get involved and that individuals can make a bigger difference when they work together.

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research is one of the nation's leading health policy research centers and the premier source of health policy information for California. Established in 1994, the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research is based in the [School of Public Health](http://www.ph.ucla.edu) and affiliated with the [School of Public Affairs](http://www.spsr.ucla.edu/). We have an outstanding career opportunity for a Survey Operations Manager to join our world-class team.

The principal duty of the Survey Operations Manager is to supervise the ongoing operations of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), a large scale, statewide telephone health survey about 45,000 households in California conducted every other year since 2001. The position holds core responsibility for contractor selection, relationship oversight with vendors and/or contractors, development of proposals and presentations, and collaborating with the CHIS Director, Principal Investigator, Co-Investigators and other constituents who partner with the Center. The person in the position will contribute innovative approaches in the design, implementation, on-going operations and dissemination of survey findings. The Survey Operations Manager will also drive the development of survey instruments using standardized methods, statistical approaches, accurate survey documentation and statistical software packages. The person in the role will also be expected to be an active contributor and participant in external activities such as fund raising, committees, workgroups and collaborating agencies. Additionally, the position will have responsibility for financial management of survey budget, including tracking expenditures,

reconciliation, planning and forecasting.

QUALIFICATIONS:

=B7 Advanced educational experience=20

(Master's or PhD) in survey research,=20
epidemiology or related field, or combination of=20
relevant education and experience, desirable.

=B7 Demonstrated experience in survey=20
instrument design, development and pre-testing.=20
Multi-cultural, multi-lingual survey development=20
experience as well as experience with research compliance matters is=
required.

=B7 Successful experience managing survey=20
operations, and overseeing survey projects with=20
funding from multiple agencies. Experience in=20
financial management sufficient to understand=20
complex financial statements, budgeting and analysis.

=B7 Demonstrated knowledge of statistical=20
methods and data collection techniques related to=20
the administration of survey projects. Ability to=20
research, analyze and compile data for reporting documents.

=B7 Proficient in the use of Microsoft=20
Office suite of applications, Internet, and=20
statistical software packages (SPSS, SAS, STAT)=20
for use in manipulating data sets.

=B7 Articulate in both written and verbal=20
communications to ensure clear and accurate=20
business correspondence, reports, and=20
presentations; as well as the draft Request for Proposals (RFP) and=
proposals.

=B7 Experience in a leadership role where=20
bias for action and initiative were key to the=20
success of the function; foster a team oriented,=20
collaborative work environment.

=B7 Ability to travel to meetings,=20
trainings, etc. to participate and give presentations.

Qualified applicants should submit their resume,=20
cover letter and salary history to one of the following:

Mail: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research
10960 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1550, (UCLA MC 714346)
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Email:=20
<mailto:kmarkus@ucla.edu>kmarkus@ucla.edu

Sunghee Lee
UCLA Center for Health Policy Research

10960 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1550

Los Angeles, CA 90024
Phone: 310-794-2399
FAX: 310-794-2686
slee9@ucla.edu

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Date: Wed, 8 Nov 2006 16:31:33 -0500
Reply-To: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain

Just last week, Sean Hannity was urging his listeners, the conservative faithful, to "Confound the Pollsters". He and Limbaugh consistently criticize polls for biased sampling, failing to mention - if indeed they know of it - that the results are weighted by party affiliation norms. Limbaugh today began a sentence with the words, "an exit poll yesterday, if you can believe it..."
They have created a hostility towards public opinion research that might well go beyond merely refusing to take part.

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
517-353-2639

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Moon, Nick
Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 3:46 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

In the UK there was a phenomenon for a few years whereby the opinion polls and the exit polls, having generally shown errors in either direction, consistently underscored the conservatives
There were several causes of this, one of which was a greater likelihood of conservative voters refusing to take part because they perceived their allegiance as an unpopular one - the so-called spiral of silence
Effects such as this tend to operate in the medium rather than the short term, and if something like this caused the US polls to underestimate the GOP in 2004, I would not be at all surprised to see the same thing happening

2 years later

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

From: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
Sent: Wed Nov 08 20:06:10 2006
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

On Nov 8, 2006, at 3:03 PM, Michael Burdick wrote:

> Hint: If this has something to do with interviewer effects, there
> should
> be significant differences between the exit interviewers starting in
> 2000 compared to exit interviewers before then (when exit polls were
> incredibly reliable).

Also, presumably the 2004 experience resulted in methodological changes for 2006, yet the errors were similar. Am I wrong in assuming that changes were made?

Doug

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Date: Thu, 9 Nov 2006 22:23:29 -0500
Reply-To: dick halpern <dhalpern@BELLSOUTH.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: dick halpern <dhalpern@BELLSOUTH.NET>
Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006
Comments: To: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <35FCEB3EFC8BD911B31900805FF5603A1C9FEA@ssc.msu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed;
x-avg-checked=avg-ok-502945F5

But. if poll findings came out in favor of or in support of right wing conservatives, they'd applaud it. No one likes messengers that deliver bad news. It wouldn't even be surprising if either or both Rush or Sean started to allege voter fraud in certain close races.

At 04:31 PM 11/8/2006, you wrote:

>Just last week, Sean Hannity was urging his listeners, the conservative
>faithful, to "Confound the Pollsters". He and Limbaugh consistently
>criticize polls for biased sampling, failing to mention - if indeed they
>know of it - that the results are weighted by party affiliation norms.
>Limbaugh today began a sentence with the words, "an exit poll yesterday, if
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>They have created a hostility towards public opinion research that might
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>
>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
>517-353-2639

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

>From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Moon, Nick
>Sent: Wednesday, November 08, 2006 3:46 PM
>To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
>Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

>
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>and the exit polls, having generally shown errors in either direction,

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>GOP in 2004, I would not be at all surprised to see the same thing happening
>2 years later

>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
>To: AAPORNET@asu.edu <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
>Sent: Wed Nov 08 20:06:10 2006
>Subject: Re: exit poll "red shift" 2006

>
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>Also, presumably the 2004 experience resulted in methodological
>changes for 2006, yet the errors were similar. Am I wrong in assuming
>that changes were made?

>
>Doug

>
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>Checked by AVG Free Edition.
>Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.14.0/524 - Release Date:
>11/8/2006 1:40 PM

>--
>No virus found in this incoming message.
>Checked by AVG Free Edition.
>Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.14.0/524 - Release Date:
>11/8/2006 1:40 PM

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No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.14.0/524 - Release Date: 11/8/2006 1:40 PM

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Date: Mon, 13 Nov 2006 08:47:54 -0600
Reply-To: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Subject: Public Opinion Pros
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Dear AAPOR members -

=20

Ready to take a break from election results? For some different perspectives on public opinion, see the November issue of Public Opinion Pros, with features on trends in American values, gambling and religion, technological innovation in the field, and what the public thinks of opinion research. You can check out this month's contents at

=20

www.PublicOpinionPros.com

=20

We are presently scheduling content for our January, February, and March issues, and invite article submissions and proposals. Please contact the editor directly at

=20

editor@PublicOpinionPros.com.

=20

We hope to hear from you soon!

=20

Best wishes -

=20

Lisa=20

=20

Lisa Ferraro Parmelee, Ph.D.

Manager, LFP Editorial Enterprises, LLC

Editor, Public Opinion Pros

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Date: Wed, 15 Nov 2006 11:52:36 -0500

Reply-To: Joseph.Bauer@CANCER.ORG

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: "Joseph E. Bauer" <Joseph.Bauer@CANCER.ORG>

Subject: Re: Peer Nomination Methodology - Cancer Survivorship Study

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Hi,

I had previously posted (see below) on the LISTSERV (on Election Night - and thus, many may have been focusing on the mid-term elections, which is probably an understatement on my part! ; -)). This posting did generate some thoughtful comments and they are appreciated. Others have indicated that they have wrestled with this issue. Of course there are strengths and limitations with whatever approach that is taken methodologically - so the upside and the downside always need to be taken into account and balanced out as best as we are able. I prefer to approach the problem from a study design perspective - rather than to try and patch it up with weighting/ imputation, etc. after the fact. In the scenario described below - one of the core issues is what makes for a good frame-of-reference by which to assess the impact of cancer on people's lives (in particular, for an ongoing cohort of cancer survivors). To RDD or not to RDD that is the question. Ultimately, the goal is to be able to make statements about this cohort of cancer survivors (which are generalizable to the 11 states from which they were sampled. The frame-of-reference chosen should allow us to optimally make those comparisons.

Hi,

I am hoping for some insights/references/orientation - in regards to methodological issues in study design for a cancer survivorship study. - In particular, the utilization of a peer nomination strategy for creating a 'comparison group' as a frame-of-reference. Previously, adult cancer survivors were sampled in 11 states - and an evolving study plan is to follow-up those participants to acquire longitudinal data. Given the quasi-experimental nature of the design, where there is no randomization, I make a differentiation between a 'control group' and a 'comparison group'. Any thoughts or comments on that distinction are welcome, as this is in the early stages of study design. The idea is to have a reference group by which comparisons may be made (i.e. comparing a cancer survivor group with a group that has had no previous diagnosis of cancer). What is being contemplated is a peer nomination process, whereby people nominated would have no history of a cancer diagnosis (at least to the knowledge of ongoing study participants). The question is also whether a full RDD would need to be done to create this 'comparison group' (costly, but also the issue of

whether an RDD of the general population, say in those 11 states, is the optimal frame-of-reference - to judge similarities/differences on several outcome measures). The counter thoughts - were that people nominated would tend to cluster with similar sociodemographics as that of the cancer survivor group that nominated them - and thus, tend to achieve a high degree of 'matching' - and possibly be a better comparison group. Thoughts/Comments? Thanks!

Joe

Joseph E. Bauer, Ph.D.
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American Cancer Society - National Home Office
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Atlanta, Georgia 30329-4251
(404) 929-6905 (Office)
(404) 321-4669 (Fax)

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Date: Wed, 15 Nov 2006 17:09:35 -0800
Reply-To: Charles DiSogra <charlesd@FIELD.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Charles DiSogra <charlesd@FIELD.COM>
Subject: Termination rates and telephone interview length
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

I have a colleague who needs one or more research or book references for studies that looked at early interview termination rates in relation to the length of an RDD telephone interview, especially those that demonstrate higher termination rates with longer interviews. Time is of essence here (no pun intended) so I'm asking for some AAPORnet assistance to answer this quickly. I would appreciate any help someone can generously provide. You can send a reply directly to me. Thanks in advance.

Charles

Charles A. DiSogra, DrPH, MPH
Vice President and Senior Research Director
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San Francisco, CA 94108-4458

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Date: Wed, 15 Nov 2006 19:48:39 -0600
Reply-To: Timothy Johnson <tjohnson@SRL.UIC.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Timothy Johnson <tjohnson@SRL.UIC.EDU>
Subject: Job posting at Wake Forest
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu, Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable
Content-disposition: inline

I am posting this announcement for a friend:

FACULTY POSITION. Behavioral or social scientist with specialized =
expertise in survey research methodologies. The Department of Social =
Sciences and Health Policy in the Division of Public Health Sciences at =
the Wake Forest University School of Medicine invites applications for a =
tenure-track faculty position (rank open). In particular, we are seeking =
candidates with=20
expertise in methodologies such as: 1) survey sample designs and survey =
measurement error models, 2) design and analysis of emerging survey data =
collection methodologies, and 3) innovations in analytical methodology in =
survey research. In particular, we are seeking applicants who seek to =
develop or advance a scientific program of survey research in health =
within local, regional and national populations, such as in observational =
and prospective designs. Applicants would work collaboratively with a =
multidisciplinary team of faculty whose work focuses on determinants of =
health, such as lifestyle-based risk factors; health awareness and use of =
preventive services; adherence to treatment protocols; reducing barriers =
to health care; identifying health needs in underserved populations; =
health promoting behaviors; and community-based approaches to health =
promotion. =20

Applicants must have a Ph.D. or other terminal degree in a field relevant =
to the position, such as public health, health behavior, sociology, =
communication, psychology, public policy, economics, political science, or =
law. Excellent written and oral communication skills are required. The =
successful applicant must also possess a broad theoretical knowledge of =
behavioral and social science models. Candidates for advanced rank must =
have prior experience in collaborative research in a multidisciplinary =
setting and a strong publication record. Experience in teaching at the =
graduate level and a history of extramural funding is highly desirable.=20

The Department of Social Sciences and Health Policy, within the Division of Public Health Sciences, has 18 faculty and 53 staff housed within three sections: Social and Behavioral Sciences, Society and Health, and Health care Systems and Policy. In 2005, the Division of Public Health Sciences of the Wake Forest University Health Sciences was highest ranked in NIH funding among medical school departments of public health and preventive medicine. For information about the Department visit: <<http://www.phs.wfubm.edu/home.cfm>>.

Applicants should send a copy of their current CV, a letter indicating their area(s) of expertise and interest in the position, and a list of three references to: Roger Anderson, Ph.D., Search Committee Chair, Department of Social Sciences and Health Policy, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157 Applications will be accepted until ---the position is filled. Wake Forest is committed to equal opportunity, affirmative action and the diversity of its faculty and staff. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply.=20

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=====
Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 10:10:43 +0000
Reply-To: Sarah Butler <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Sarah Butler <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>
Subject: Surveys involving risk
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

Hello,

I am looking for any information (anecdotal or literature) on how respondents cope with and process surveys assessing various outcomes and their associated risks. I am working on an environmental survey and we are trying to understand respondent priorities between programs but many of the programs have differing levels of risk. The negative aspect of the project is the very complex nature of the outcomes and the risks but we have the advantage of doing focus groups before the questionnaire design.

Does anyone have any advice or suggestions on how best to present different levels of risk?

Things to try to test in the focus groups?

Thing to absolutely avoid?

Any suggestions/thoughts would be very useful.

Sarah Butler

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Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 11:29:48 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: 'No call' is no law during elections
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

'No call' is no law during elections
Political campaigns should be subject to telemarketing laws, attorney
general says.
By PAUL WENSKE
The Kansas City Star
<http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/news/16021303.htm?template=3DcontentModules/printstory.jsp>
or
<http://tinyurl.com/y6mryf>

SNIP

On Wednesday, Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon, in a Kansas City news conference, urged the state's General Assembly to pass legislation to protect residents from automated political calls by addressing such calls in the state's no-call law. The calls are now exempt from that law.

"Missourians are frustrated that they can't stop these calls by being on the no-call list," said Nixon, who was accompanied by several state legislators, including state Rep. Ed Wildberger of St. Joseph, who previously sponsored legislation that would deal with political calls.

Opinion polling and telemarketing on behalf of political causes have been exempted from federal and state no-call laws mainly because they are viewed as protected speech.

But critics, including legitimate polling companies, say the calls mislead voters. The tactic, also called "push polling," is a form of negative campaigning disguised as a legitimate poll, according to the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Instead of trying to measure opinion, such calls seek to change opinions and often distort information to influence voters, according to the

association.

SNIP

Some federal officials also want to clamp down on the irksome calls. The new Senate Democratic leadership said it would seek campaign reform that may include jail time for groups that, among other things, use robo calls to lie about opposing candidates. That could face constitutional hurdles, however.

Democrats accused the National Republican Congressional Committee of funding the robo calls. The committee denied any role in deceptive calls and said Democrats also used robo calls.

Officials said the worst cases involved close House district races. Robo calls were so heavy in the tight race in the 2nd District of Kansas that Nancy Boyda, the successful Democratic candidate, issued a statement on her Web site denying that a barrage of calls to voters came from her.

SNIP

"Robo calls"=20

*Most so-called robo calls are recorded messages dispatched by the thousands from automated dialing machines.=20

*Some consumers reported receiving five to eight calls a night during the election.=20

* Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon said his office received more than 600 complaints about automated political calls in the weeks before the election.

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--=20

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

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=====
Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 12:21:57 -0500

Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Grading the Pollsters - Wall Street Journal
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

THE NUMBERS GUY=20
By CARL BIALIK =20
DOW JONES=20

Grading the Pollsters
November 16, 2006=20

http://online.wsj.com/public/article_print/SB116360961928023945-o2r3vkEjvrPBUIECMJ5Vz2_mUWg_20061215.html

Or

<http://tinyurl.com/y6hbs9>

Pollsters earned high marks in last week's elections: Surveys correctly predicted that the Democrats would win control of the House of Representatives, that the Senate would be closely contested and that Democratic gubernatorial candidates would sweep into statehouses.

That doesn't mean that some pollsters didn't do better than others, however, and firms haven't hesitated to trumpet their results. "Rasmussen Reports is the winner in polling accuracy!" read a news release from the Asbury Park, N.J., polling firm. The headline from a Zogby International release³ said the Utica, N.Y., pollster batted "10 for 10" in its telephone polls of competitive Senate races, and asserted the results from its online polls showed its "interactive polling model shines."

SNIP
--=20
Leo G. Simonetta
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Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 13:32:38 -0500
Reply-To: pd@kerr-downs.com

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Phillip Downs <pd@KERR-DOWNS.COM>
Organization: Kerr & Downs Research
Subject: General vs. specific constructs
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Somewhere in my graduate program or early professor days, I recall studies that showed that reliability measures for general constructs (e.g., How much did you like the movies you have watched in the past year?) were lower than reliability measures for specific constructs (e.g., How much did you like Capote?).

I am doing a study of driver satisfaction with highways. I am encouraging the client to let us name specific highways when asking drivers about their satisfaction rather than asking about "highway" satisfaction in general.

Do any of you have specific citations for this phenomenon (reliability of general vs. specific constructs) or is this something I have constructed in my mind over the past 30 years!!??

Thanks, Phillip

Phillip E. Downs, PhD
Professor of Marketing, FSU
Partner, Kerr & Downs Research
2992 Habersham Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32309
Phone: 850.906.3111
Fax: 850.906.3112
www.kerr-downs.com

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Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 11:32:21 -0800
Reply-To: Karen Segar <ksegar@U.WASHINGTON.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Karen Segar <ksegar@U.WASHINGTON.EDU>
Subject: Job opportunity at University of Washington
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed

This position is in Seattle:

University of Washington Employment:
Survey Research Division Director

SDRG has an outstanding opportunity for a Survey Research Division Director. The Survey Research Division Director (SRD Director) will plan and direct data collection activities across multiple research projects of the Social Development Research Group; Lead key staff in developing and implementing a comprehensive strategy to identify opportunities and funding to provide data collection services to other researchers; and develop and implement programs, policies and activities to facilitate the delivery of effective Information Technology services to SDRG.

The University of Washington (UW) is proud to be one of the nation's premier educational and research institutions. Our people are the most important asset in our pursuit of achieving excellence in education, research, and community service. Our staff not only enjoys outstanding benefits and professional growth opportunities, but also an environment noted for diversity, community involvement, intellectual excitement, artistic pursuits, and natural beauty.

The Social Development Research Group (SDRG) is a multi-disciplinary group of more than 80 research faculty and staff, working to increase understanding of social development and health risk behavior during childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood and to use this knowledge to develop effective prevention programs, policies and service systems.

To learn more about this position please access the University of Washington personnel website at <https://uw hires.admin.washington.edu/eng/candidates/default.cfm?szLocationID=88>

Search for Req. #27077.
Date posted 10/18/06 open until filled.

Karen Segar
Data Manager
Social Development Research Group
University of Washington
ksegar@u.washington.edu

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=====
Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 12:37:41 -0700
Reply-To: "Heather E. Yates" <hey@KU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Heather E. Yates" <hey@KU.EDU>
Subject: Seeking survey data measuring emotion

Hello, I am looking for public opinion survey data that has questions

asking about respondents emotional reactions to policy position statements.

I am researching political participation and wanting to measure respondents' emotional response to policy position statements or questions (designed to gauge fear, anger, etc) and if strong emotional responses compel individuals to consider or engage in activism.

Is anyone familiar with a specific survey that asked questions about individuals' feelings/emotions on issues?

Suggestions and input is much appreciated.

Best,
Heather Yates

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Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 15:02:40 -0500
Reply-To: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Subject: Re: General vs. specific constructs
Comments: To: pd@KERR-DOWNS.COM, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

A familiar example would be differences between satisfaction with "Congress" vs. "my Congressperson" which is amply documented by Gallup and others and possibly the subject of study itself. It's an analogous phenomenon but the finding (that ratings are lower for the general construct) might not generalize to something like highways or transportation.

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

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

From: "Phillip Downs" <pd@KERR-DOWNS.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2006 1:32 PM
Subject: General vs. specific constructs

> Somewhere in my graduate program or early professor days, I recall studies

> that showed that reliability measures for general constructs (e.g., How much
> did you like the movies you have watched in the past year?) were lower than
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> Capote?).
> I am doing a study of driver satisfaction with highways. I am encouraging
> the client to let us name specific highways when asking drivers about their
> satisfaction rather than asking about "highway" satisfaction in general.
> Do any of you have specific citations for this phenomenon (reliability of
> general vs. specific constructs) or is this something I have constructed
> in
> my mind over the past 30 years!!??
> Thanks, Phillip
>
> Phillip E. Downs, PhD
> Professor of Marketing, FSU
> Partner, Kerr & Downs Research
> 2992 Habersham Drive
> Tallahassee, FL 32309
> Phone: 850.906.3111
> Fax: 850.906.3112
> www.kerr-downs.com
>
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Date: Thu, 16 Nov 2006 21:01:59 +0000
Reply-To: Sarah Butler <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Sarah Butler <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>
Subject: Surveys involving risk
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

Many thanks for the responses. This is a very helpful start. I had a request

to post the responses back to the list so please find them on the attached document.

Sarah

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Date: Fri, 17 Nov 2006 10:14:59 +0000
Reply-To: Sarah Butler <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Sarah Butler <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>
Subject: Surveys on risk
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
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Sorry for causing a number of responses on the fact that AAPOR does not allow attachments - I should have known!

I have pasted the responses I received below:

Hi Sarah

There is good evidence now that people understand risk much better in frequency format, rather than percent or odds. In other words rather than saying there is a 3% chance of x occurring, better to say x will happen to 3 people out of 100.

This is even more true in the case of relative risk, because the base-rate information is included in the frequency format. So in the case of the example above, rather than say, if we do Y then the risk of x increases by 100% (or risk doubles), say if we do Y, then risk of X changes from 3 in 100 to 6 in 100.

Hope that helps. If you google 'Gigerenzer' and 'risk estimates' you'll find references from him to back this up (and put much better than I have sketched here!)

Nick

++++
Dr Nick Allum
Lecturer in Quantitative Sociology
Department of Sociology

University of Surrey
Guildford
Surrey GU2 7XH

Email: n.allum@surrey.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)1483 683766
Fax: +44 (0)7092 080076

Sarah: cant tell what your setting in. Risk literature is deep in environmental health care, political and other studies. I will talk some about health care, which is the land I know the best.

In health care and public health we look at risk all the time--I find hugely varying perspectives from economists, sociologists, clinicians, people who do infectious disease and chronic disease focus.

If you need scales or analytic tools for economic modelling, the Society for Medical Decision Making has a good journal that can show you all kinds of risk perception scales and preference elicitation around health states
Center for Risk Analysis and Harvard Injury Center (both at Harvard) are good places to look.

I get frustrated with these kinds of analyses because they ask people to assign value to imagined or hypothetical health states. These preference elicitation methods are rather different than much of what we do in surveys and polls

My colleagues Bob Blendon and Cait Desroches have published on public perceptions of risk in situations of pandemic, terrorism, etc. If you google iPOLL at Kaiser Family Foundation website you can search questions on health risks in public polls and surveys they have done.

In our cancer center, where I work, risk perceptions can be modified by physical factors like fatigue, pain, mobility and functionality, as well as by age, spiritual distress, family history, prior medical history and more...It is really important to understand a person's experience with disease and with personal risk alongside their perceptions.

The list might be more helpful if you can be more specific about context.

Karen Donelan
Senior Scientist
Mass General Hospital

Hi Sarah,

Let me clarify from the start that your query doesn't fall in my area of expertise, but I was intrigued by the question, which made me think of the book "Reporting on Risk" by Eleanor Singer and Phyllis Endreny. It's now a rather old reference (1993) and a slightly different angle, focusing on how media present risk to the public, but I suspect that it discusses the point you raise, i.e., how levels of risk are perceived and therefore how questions should be framed. I realized that there is a field of study about communication of risk and the Singer-Endreny reference is apparently widely used there. (I'm attaching a copy of the first reference that came up in a Google search on the Singer-Endreny book.)

Now for full disclosure: the late Phyllis Endreny was my sister, which is why I am aware of the book though not truly knowledgeable about it.

If this response seems to take you afield from what you are seeking, just ignore it. Best of luck in your research.

Corinne

Corinne Kirchner, Ph.D.
Senior Research Scientist
American Foundation for the Blind

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Date: Fri, 17 Nov 2006 12:09:21 -0800
Reply-To: Charles DiSogra <charlesd@FIELD.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Charles DiSogra <charlesd@FIELD.COM>
Subject: Termination rates and telephone interview length - Responses
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Comments: cc: Vernon Schabert <vernon.schabert@youareintegral.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable
Content-disposition: inline

AAPORnet:

Thank you all for your contributions on this topic. Amazing how little = information there is although the obvious relationship to up front = cooperation when you tell respondents how much time an interview will take = is much more researched and reported. Here's my original request and the = responses I received plus the few papers I found. If I had more time I'm = sure there may be other papers out there.

Charles

ORIGINAL REQUEST:

I have a colleague who needs one or more research or book references for = studies that looked at early interview termination rates in relation to = the length of an RDD telephone interview, especially those that demonstrate = higher termination rates with longer interviews. Time is of essence here = (no pun intended) so I'm asking for some AAPORnet assistance to answer this quickly. I would appreciate any help someone = can generously provide. You can send a reply directly to me. Thanks in = advance.

Charles

Charles A. DiSogra, DrPH, MPH
Vice President and Senior Research Director
Field Research Corporation

RESPONSES:

*-----

The Canadian association for market researchers, formerly PMRS and now = MRIA, has a Response Rate Committee which reports on all issues related to = response rates, including the impact of interview length. They use a = standard set of disposition codes on data submitted by a number of = volunteer companies. The excerpt below is from their report, which was = published in the association's publication called "Imprints" in Oct. 2003. = Access to it is member-only. The study is repeated regularly but I don't = see any more recent articles on this particular topic. Although the data = collection is by Canadian companies, the respondents are quite likely to = include Americans so I think this data can be considered relevant to an = American firm.

Nancy Tienhaara, DASH Software Ltd., Victoria, BC Canada

Excerpt:

In previous years, the Response Rate Committee reported that response = rates vary substantially by interview length. The longer the interview, = the higher the refusal rate. This year's data continue to show this impact = very clearly.

Aggregate Refusal Rate

Interview Length (Minutes)	<10	10 - 19	20+
1995	50	59	68
1999	45	62	63
2002	65	74	80

*-----

I do not know of any such valid studies. However, all experience I have = and that I know from others specializing in telephone survey research = indicates that breakoffs occur rarely (less than 5% of respondents' who = start) once someone has started an interview when they first have been told = how long to expect it to take. The total length of the interview is much = more related to the initial decision to start the interview than whether = they complete it once they start. The level of interest in the topic of = the survey then plays a major role in how much fatigue sets in.

Paul Lavrakas

*-----

Would be very interested in a summary. I have no hard data but the feeling = (from several phone surveys) that they have to be shorter. Ten years ago, = I could do 30 minutes without any problem, now I have the feeling it is = 20. But again no systematic data on this.

Best, Edith de Leeuw (Amsterdam Holland)

*-----

Perhaps it's too obvious to mention, but "early interview termination" as = a function of interview length can only be attributable to respondent = behavior if respondents are informed of the likely length of the interview.= Length-related differences in *very* early termination -- before any = intro can be administered -- has to be an interviewer effect.

Jeff Moore, U.S. Census Bureau

*-----

I recall a study by Ohio State from an AAPOR conference presentation in = FL. I want to say it was 1998 or 99 which covered term rates by interview = length. If you have your old AAPOR Conference programs you can flip = through them and find it, or call Jon Krosnick who was part of the = research I believe.

=20

Karl G. Feld, PRC, Research Manager, D3 Systems, Inc.

*-----

The papers I located from past AAPOR meetings <http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/proceedings/>:

2000

Effect of Interview Length and Proxy Interviews on Attrition to the Survey = of Income and Program Participation - Lieu N. Galvin, Sam Sae-Ung, and = Karen King 636

http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/proceedings/papers/2000_106.pdf

1999

The Effects of Telephone Introductions on Cooperation: An Experimental = Comparison - Nileeni Meegama and Johnny Blair 394

http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/proceedings/papers/1999_067.pdf

1996
The Effect of Questionnaire Length on Response Rates - A Review of the =
Literature - Karen Bogen (1996)..... 1020
http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/proceedings/papers/1996_177.pdf

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=====
Date: Mon, 13 Nov 2006 11:37:37 -0500
Reply-To: Janel Kasper-Wolfe <j_kasper-wolfe@ACS.ORG>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Janel Kasper-Wolfe <j_kasper-wolfe@ACS.ORG>
Subject: Suggestions for qualitative research analysis software
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Hi everyone,

=20

I'm looking for suggestions for qualitative research analysis software.
Used Ethnograph in graduate school, but that was a few years ago. I'm
wondering what is new and what is out there. You can answer off list.

=20

Thanks,

=20

Janel Kasper-Wolfe

Research Analyst

Dept. of Member Research and Technology

American Chemical Society

1155 16th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

202-872-6120

j_kasper-wolfe@acs.org

=20

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Date: Mon, 13 Nov 2006 11:29:22 -0800
Reply-To: Liz Hamel <LizH@KFF.ORG>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Liz Hamel <LizH@KFF.ORG>
Subject: PAPER conference reminder - hotel deadline approaching
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Just a friendly reminder, if you'd like to join us for the annual PAPER conference December 7-8 in San Francisco, be sure to make your hotel reservations by this Thursday, November 16 in order to get the conference rate of \$139/night.

The conference is shaping up to be another exciting one, with a plenary on the Mexican presidential election, and panels on the 2006 western state and national elections, immigration and minority political issues, and methodological issues in survey research. More information and registration available at www.papor.org.

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Date: Sat, 18 Nov 2006 14:21:37 -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: E&O or Professional Liability Insurance
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

We have a contract for which the client, a public agency, is insisting that we obtain Errors and Omissions or Professional Liability Insurance.

(For the last 25 years we have argued, in good faith, that such policies either do not exist or are extremely obscure; this client is adamant).

We have been talking to three providers, providing a wide range of

information. But the interactions have made me increasingly uncomfortable: it is clear than none has ever dealt with an entity in our line of work.

I would appreciate any information anyone has who has such a policy including the name and contact information for your agent, rates/coverage and any advice you have about obtaining such a policy.

Many thanks,

Mike O'Neil
www.oneilresearch.com

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

Date: Sat, 18 Nov 2006 22:29:42 -0500
Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=WINDOWS-1252; delsp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

[I'm not endorsing this - just thought you'd like to know what's out there. - Doug]

<<http://www.electiondefensealliance.org/>>

Welcome to Election Defense Alliance
EDA Press Release / Nov. 17, 2006

Landslide Denied!

Major Miscount in 2006 Election: Were 4% of Votes "Misplaced"?

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

[Read the Report](#)

[Study the Exit Poll Data](#)

Election Defense Alliance, a national election integrity organization, issued an urgent call today for an investigation into the 2006 election results and a moratorium on deployment of all electronic voting equipment after analysis of national exit polling data indicated a major undercount of Democratic votes and an overcount of Republican votes in congressional races across the country. These findings are an alarming indictment of the American election system in which 80% of voters used electronic voting equipment.

As in 2004, the Exit Poll and the reported election results do not add up. But this time there is an objective yardstick in the methodology that establishes the validity of the Exit Poll and exposes the inaccuracy of the election returns. These findings are

detailed in a paper published today on the EDA website.

The Edison-Mitofsky media Exit Poll, posted Election Night on CNN.com, had a sample base of more than 10,000 voters, and showed Democratic House candidates winning over Republicans by an 11.5 percent margin.

The reported vote count showed Democrats winning by a 7.6 percent margin, 3.9 percent less than the Exit Poll and far outside the poll's +/- 1 percent margin of error. This discrepancy entailed at least 3,000,000 votes.

The Exit Poll was then adjusted, by a process known as forcing, to match reported election vote totals. The final result, posted at 1:00 p.m. November 8, showed Democrats winning by a 7.6 percent margin, exactly mirroring the reported vote totals.

The objective yardstick was the proportion of respondents who indicated they had voted for Bush or Kerry in 2004. The sample in the already weighted Election Night Exit Poll had 47 percent Bush voters and 45 percent Kerry voters, a valid sample given the very conservative assumption that Republicans and Democrats turned out with equal enthusiasm in 2006. However, after the forcing process, the sample contained 49 percent Bush voters and only 43 percent Kerry supporters. This 6 percent gap is more than twice the size of the 2004 Bush win of 2.8 percent. It indicates a significant over-sampling of Republican voters in the adjusted 2006 Exit Poll.

Such a gross oversample of Republicans was necessary to match the actual vote counts, which therefore could not have been an accurate count of the actual electorate. Had the intended votes been accurately tallied, this election would have produced a Democratic landslide of epic proportions.

Read the Full Report: <http://tinyurl.com/y5fk4r>

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

=====
Date: Sun, 19 Nov 2006 19:36:34 -0500
Reply-To: lindeman@BARD.EDU
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mark Lindeman <lindeman@BARD.EDU>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu

In-Reply-To: <6108373C-E987-4F87-ABA1-51F55A0310E7@panix.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8; DelSp=Yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

The Election Defense Alliance argument rests on a misconception I've tried to refute elsewhere: that people can be relied on to report past presidential votes accurately in exit polls (or other polls, for that matter). Actually, an overstatement of Bush's past vote share is pretty much what we should expect. But curse my lack of imagination, now I have to update my work to include midterms.

If anyone is curious about this topic, please e-mail me off-list.

Mark Lindeman

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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 08:05:24 -0500
Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To: <20061119193634.bvm86b33ksgows84@webmail.bard.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delpsp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 19, 2006, at 7:36 PM, lindeman@bard.edu wrote:

> Actually, an overstatement of Bush's past vote share is pretty
> much what we should expect.

Why? With his approval rating in the low 30s and his party facing an electoral debacle, who'd want to admit to voting for the guy? Maybe in the months immediately after his victory, but now?

Doug

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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 08:10:33 -0500

Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To: <20061119193634.bvm86b33ksgows84@webmail.bard.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 19, 2006, at 7:36 PM, lindeman@bard.edu wrote:

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> much what we should expect.

Speaking of which, George McGovern told me a few months ago, after I'd just recorded an interview with him (and so I didn't get to broadcast this bit), Pat Cadell did a lot of polling in 1973, the year after McGov's landslide defeat. Cadell asked people in about 20 state whom they'd voted for. In every state, including some conservative ones, McGovern "won."

Doug Henwood
Producer, Behind the News
Thursdays, 5-6 PM, WBAI, New York 99.5 FM
"best music on a show about economics & politics" - Village Voice

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web: <http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com/Radio.html>
podcast: <http://shout.lbo-talk.org/lbo/radio-feed.php>

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=====
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 07:56:58 -0600
Reply-To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <20061119193634.bvm86b33ksgows84@webmail.bard.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

In phone polls, and apparently in exit polls, recall of past voting generally have errors favoring the winner of past elections.

In 1996, Clinton beat Dole by 8 points. But two years later the 1998 exit poll showed that Clinton had won that election by 10 points according to respondents. After two more years, the national 2000 presidential exit poll showed Clinton's winning margin had grown to +13 points.

I believe Nixon was an exception to this (in phone polls) during his final years in office.

Nick Panagakis

> Election Defense Alliance: "The objective yardstick was the proportion
> of respondents who indicated they had voted for Bush or Kerry in
> 2004. The sample in the already weighted Election Night Exit Poll had
> 47 percent Bush voters and 45 percent Kerry voters, a valid sample
> given the very conservative assumption that Republicans and Democrats
> turned out with equal enthusiasm in 2006. However, after the forcing
> process, the sample contained 49 percent Bush voters and only 43
> percent Kerry supporters. This 6 percent gap is more than twice the
> size of the 2004 Bush win of 2.8 percent. It indicates a significant
> over- sampling of Republican voters in the adjusted 2006 Exit Poll."

Nick

Mark Lindeman wrote:

> The Election Defense Alliance argument rests on a misconception I've
> tried to refute elsewhere: that people can be relied on to report
> past presidential votes accurately in exit polls (or other polls, for
> that matter). Actually, an overstatement of Bush's past vote share
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> imagination, now I have to update my work to include midterms.
>
> If anyone is curious about this topic, please e-mail me off-list.
>
> Mark Lindeman
>
> -----
> Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html>
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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 08:57:56 -0500

Reply-To: lindeman@BARD.EDU

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Mark Lindeman <lindeman@BARD.EDU>

Subject: Re: questions about the vote count

Comments: To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>

Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu

In-Reply-To: <AF5EC361-8607-42A8-8941-9B1262E3147F@PANIX.COM>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; DelSp=Yes; format=flowed

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Content-disposition: inline

Quoting Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>:

> On Nov 19, 2006, at 7:36 PM, lindeman@bard.edu wrote:

>

>> Actually, an overstatement of Bush's past vote share is pretty much =20

>> what we should expect.

>

> Why? With his approval rating in the low 30s and his party facing an

> electoral debacle, who'd want to admit to voting for the guy? Maybe in

> the months immediately after his victory, but now?

The magnitude of false reporting seems to have more to do with the =20

salience and/or popularity of the prior loser than with the popularity =20

of the prior winner. In presidential-year exit polls, I found an =20

overstatement of the prior winner's margin in every exit poll in the =20

ICPSR archives -- including Nixon in 1976. (Of course those =20

"overstatements" are confounded with possible differential turnout.) =20

Dukakis fares worst retrospectively -- not only in exit polls, but =20

also in the General Social Survey and National Election Study.

Kerry's salience apparently did spike right before the midterm, =20

although not necessarily in a good way. I don't know as much about =20

midterm exit polls; I am trying to close that gap now, in my abundant =20

free time. ;)

BTW Gallup's last pre-election poll put Bush's approval rating at 38%, =20

not "the low 30s." Charles Franklin's trend measure was about the same =20

(it was at 37.8% on 11/5 before the final Gallup came in). For =20

whatever all that is worth.

Mark Lindeman

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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 14:04:22 +0000
Reply-To: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I think the fact that Watergate blew up in 1973 may have had some effect on the vote recall

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Doug Henwood
Sent: 20 November 2006 13:11
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count

On Nov 19, 2006, at 7:36 PM, lindeman@bard.edu wrote:

> Actually, an overstatement of Bush's past vote share is pretty much
> what we should expect.

Speaking of which, George McGovern told me a few months ago, after I'd just recorded an interview with him (and so I didn't get to broadcast this bit), Pat Cadell did a lot of polling in 1973, the year after McGov's landslide defeat. Cadell asked people in about 20 state whom they'd voted for. In every state, including some conservative ones, McGovern "won."

Doug Henwood
Producer, Behind the News
Thursdays, 5-6 PM, WBAI, New York 99.5 FM "best music on a show about economics & politics" - Village Voice

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New York NY 10013-2505 USA
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web: <http://www.leftbusinessobserver.com/Radio.html>
podcast: <http://shout.lbo-talk.org/lbo/radio-feed.php>

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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 09:20:52 -0600

Reply-To: "Smith, David W" <SmithD2@UTHSCSA.EDU>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: "Smith, David W" <SmithD2@UTHSCSA.EDU>

Subject: Re: AAPORNET Digest - 17 Nov 2006 to 18 Nov 2006 (#2006-260)

Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>

In-Reply-To: <AAPORNET%200611182100026938.5296@LISTS.ASU.EDU>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

The Royal Statistical Society has recently made arrangements for professional liability insurance for its members.

They require that a member's professional practice be located in the UK, but they may be practicing anywhere in the world.

I priced it for myself and the cost was about 25 pounds sterling.

The company that underwrites the insurance seems to do many small professions. The whole signup process was automated.

I believe that subscribing to the code of ethics of the RSS is a requirement of obtaining coverage.

If AAPOR could investigate the possibility of obtaining individual coverage this would be a help to many members.

David Smith
University of Texas School of Public Health

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

Date: Sat, 18 Nov 2006 14:21:37 -0700
From: Mike O'Neil <mike.oneil@ALUMNI.BROWN.EDU>
Subject: E&O or Professional Liability Insurance

We have a contract for which the client, a public agency, is insisting that we obtain Errors and Omissions or Professional Liability Insurance.

(For the last 25 years we have argued, in good faith, that such policies either do not exist or are extremely obscure; this client is adamant).

We have been talking to three providers, providing a wide range of information. But the interactions have made me increasingly uncomfortable: it is clear than none has ever dealt with an entity in our line of work.

I would appreciate any information anyone has who has such a policy including the name and contact information for your agent, rates/coverage and any advice you have about obtaining such a policy.

Many thanks,

Mike O'Neil
www.oneilresearch.com

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=====
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 10:59:06 -0500
Reply-To: Sal Alaimo <salalaimo@EARTHLINK.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Sal Alaimo <salalaimo@EARTHLINK.NET>
Subject: COMPANY POLICIES ON SURVEYS
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

I am in the middle of a study that involves surveying businesses on =
their
community involvement. The survey is anonymous and confidential and is

explained as such. However, I have been surprised with how many =
companies
have a no-survey policy. Has anyone ran into this when surveying =
businesses
and what measures have you taken to deal with it? Also, is there any
research on no-survey policies with prospective survey participants?
=20

Thanks.

=20

Sal Alaimo, MS,CVA
PhD Candidate, Philanthropic Studies - Indiana University
Adjunct Professor - Indiana University
Consultant for Nonprofit Organizations
(404) 297-9105
=20

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=====
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 12:14:32 -0500
Reply-To: Hugh Clark <cji@COLUMBUS.RR.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Hugh Clark <cji@COLUMBUS.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: AAPORNET Digest - 17 Nov 2006 to 18 Nov 2006 (#2006-260)
Comments: To: "Smith, David W" <SmithD2@UTHSCSA.EDU>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <8DB7894E231DF141901A46F9ED9929A003825719@NYALA.win.uthscsa.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I have had the same challenge, and obtained coverage through Travelers. Rates vary very widely. Some old-line companies like Hartford want to charge huge fees and have extremely detailed documentation. Others are more rational about the fees and documents -- there are no standards in this, and no standardization either. For any of these policies you have to provide considerable documentation such as typical contracts, brochures describing your services, etc.

Silly waste of money, really for what we do, but required in ever more cases in this litigious era. Philadelphia insurance also offers it at a cost somewhat lower than Travelers. Not all agents handle these kinds of policies. Public agencies are increasingly insisting on this coverage. It is really CYA coverage for the procurement office personnel. I suspect there are some agent out there giving workshops on what horrible liabilities can be incurred.

Hugh Clark
CJI Research Corporation

For AAPOR to get into this would be a godsend!!! Great idea.

At 10:20 AM 11/20/2006, Smith, David W wrote:

>The Royal Statistical Society has recently made arrangements for
>professional liability insurance for its members.

>
>They require that a member's professional practice be located in the UK,
>but they may be practicing anywhere in the world.

>
>I priced it for myself and the cost was about 25 pounds sterling.

>
>The company that underwrites the insurance seems to do many small
>professions. The whole signup process was automated.

>
>I believe that subscribing to the code of ethics of the RSS is a
>requirement of obtaining coverage.

>
>If AAPOR could investigate the possibility of obtaining individual
>coverage this would be a help to many members.

>
>David Smith
>University of Texas School of Public Health

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

>
>Date: Sat, 18 Nov 2006 14:21:37 -0700
>From: Mike O'Neil <mike.oneil@ALUMNI.BROWN.EDU>
>Subject: E&O or Professional Liability Insurance

>
>We have a contract for which the client, a public agency, is insisting
>that we obtain Errors and Omissions or Professional Liability Insurance.

>
>(For the last 25 years we have argued, in good faith, that such policies
>either do not exist or are extremely obscure; this client is adamant).

>
>We have been talking to three providers, providing a wide range of
>information. But the interactions have made me increasingly
>uncomfortable: it is clear than none has ever dealt with an entity in
>our line of work.

>
>I would appreciate any information anyone has who has such a policy
>including the name and contact information for your agent,
>rates/coverage and any advice you have about obtaining such a policy.

>
>Many thanks,

>
>Mike O'Neil
>www.oneilresearch.com

>
>-----
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>Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
>signoff aapornet
>Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Hugh M. Clark, Ph.D.

President
CJI Research Corporation
180 South Ardmore Road
Columbus, Ohio 43209
614-338-1008

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Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
=====

Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 12:15:24 -0500
Reply-To: Jonathan Brill <brillje@UMDNJ.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jonathan Brill <brillje@UMDNJ.EDU>
Subject: Re: COMPANY POLICIES ON SURVEYS
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu, Sal Alaimo <salalaimo@EARTHLINK.NET>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

Sal:

It is quite common. I have run across this in several industries (e.g., food, retail/distribution, construction).

I have lived with it as a research limitation imposed by reality. It is inappropriate to ask employees to violate company policies and, even if you could be successful in appealing to companies to grant your study exceptional status (a dubious proposition to say the least), the extraordinary expenditures of time and effort that would be required to engage in such a strategy renders the cost too high.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
General Manager, ORANJ BOWL(sm) Panel Research Program
Associate Director, Database & Panel Research
NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING
School of Osteopathic Medicine
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
42 East Laurel Road, UDP Suite 2300
Stratford, New Jersey 08084
Telephone (direct): 856.566-6727
Fax (research group): 856.566-6874
E-mail: brillje@umdnj.edu
www.oranjbowl.info

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>>> Sal Alaimo <salalaimo@EARTHLINK.NET> 11/20/06 10:59 AM >>>

I am in the middle of a study that involves surveying businesses on their community involvement. The survey is anonymous and confidential and is explained as such. However, I have been surprised with how many companies have a no-survey policy. Has anyone ran into this when surveying businesses and what measures have you taken to deal with it? Also, is there any research on no-survey policies with prospective survey participants?

Thanks.

Sal Alaimo, MS,CVA
PhD Candidate, Philanthropic Studies - Indiana University
Adjunct Professor - Indiana University
Consultant for Nonprofit Organizations
(404) 297-9105

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Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
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=====
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 11:45:05 -0500
Reply-To: "Edward P. Freeland" <efreelan@PRINCETON.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Edward P. Freeland" <efreelan@PRINCETON.EDU>
Subject: Job Opportunity at Princeton University
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

The Survey Research Center (SRC) at Princeton University has an opening for the position of Assistant Director. =20
=20

The SRC's Assistant Director is responsible for managing survey research projects conducted the center, supervising the center's biweekly, casual hourly, and student employee staff, and managing the SRC's finances and facilities. The Assistant Director works collaboratively with the SRC's Director and Associate Director, and with faculty, students and administrators who want to design and implement research projects based on interviews conducted by telephone, mail or over the Internet. The Assistant Director will also assist in planning lectures or symposia to be sponsored by the SRC. The SRC has a variety of web survey utilities and a 12-station telephone survey facility.

=20

This position requires a bachelor's or higher level degree in a social science field, at least two years' experience in survey research or equivalent project management; excellent interpersonal and communication skills; experience using all four major MS Office applications (i.e., Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint); experience using Sawtooth SENSUS software (or equivalent survey software); and, experience with statistical analysis software such as STATA, SAS or SPSS.

=20

For more information, please visit the SRC website (<http://www.princeton.edu/~psrc/>) and the Princeton University Human Resources webpage (<http://jobs.princeton.edu>)

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .

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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 12:34:36 -0800

Reply-To: Steve Johnson <stevej@nsdssurvey.org>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Steve Johnson <stevej@NSDSSURVEY.ORG>

Organization: Northwest Survey & Data Services

Subject: Fw: Surveys on risk

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; format=flowed; charset=iso-8859-1; reply-type=response

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Sarah,

For many years I worked at Decision Research where we studied issues like this (I am still an associate), so I thought I would ask Paul Slovic what he thought of Nick's position. Paul had a simple answer, "it's not true that people think better with frequencies. Sometimes yes, sometimes no. They think differently with frequencies."

I the work I used to do, we found in particular that risk issues with very small probabilities, such as one in a billion, are not easy to understand as a frequency. Fortunately many risks, such as those from small exposures to toxic materials or radiation, or even many types of accidents, have very low base rates. This is good for all of us, but makes risk communication difficult. Saying something about how much risk is increasing, or comparing

risk to some other better know, or more common hazzard sometimes helps, but here again, not always.

By the way, the literature on this is very large.

Best
Steve Johnson, PhD
President, Northwest Survey & Data Services

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

From: "Sarah Butler" <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>

To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2006 2:14 AM

Subject: Surveys on risk

> Sorry for causing a number of responses on the fact that AAPOR does not
> allow attachments - I should have known!

>
> I have pasted the responses I received below:

>
>
> Hi Sarah

> There is good evidence now that people understand risk much better in
> frequency format, rather than percent or odds. In other words rather than
> saying there is a 3% chance of x occurring, better to say x will happen to
> 3
> people out of 100.

> This is even more true in the case of relative risk, because the base-rate
> information is included in the frequency format. So in the case of the
> example above, rather than say, if we do Y then the risk of x increases by
> 100% (or risk doubles), say if we do Y, then risk of X changes from 3 in
> 100
> to 6 in 100.

> Hope that helps. If you google 'Gigerenzer' and 'risk estimates' you'll
> find
> references from him to back this up (and put much better than I have
> sketched here!)

> Nick

> ++++++

> Dr Nick Allum
> Lecturer in Quantitative Sociology
> Department of Sociology
> University of Surrey
> Guildford
> Surrey GU2 7XH

>

> Email: n.allum@surrey.ac.uk
> Tel: +44 (0)1483 683766
> Fax: +44 (0)7092 080076
>
>
>
> Sarah: cant tell what your setting in. Risk literature is deep in
> environmental
> health care, political and other studies. I will talk some about health
> care,
> which is the land I know the best.
>
> In health care and public health we look at risk all the time--I find
> hugely
> varying perspectives from economists, sociologists, clinicians, people who
> do
> infectious disease and chronic disease focus.
>
> If you need scales or analytic tools for economic modelling, the Society
> for
> Medical Decision Making has a good
> journal that can show you all kinds of risk perception scales and
> preference
> elicitation around health states
> Center for Risk Analysis and Harvard Injury Center (both at Harvard) are
> good
> places to look.
>
> I get frustrated with these kinds of analyses because they ask people to
> assign
> value to imagined or hypothetical health states. These preference
> elicitation
> methods are rather different than much of what we do in surveys and polls
>
> My colleagues Bob Blendon and Cait Desroches have published on public
> perceptions of risk in situations of pandemic, terrorism, etc. If you
> google
> iPOLL at Kaiser Family Foundation website you can search questions on
> health
> risks in public polls and surveys they have done.
>
> In our cancer center, where I work, risk perceptions can be modified by
> physical
> factors like fatigue, pain, mobility and functionality, as well as by age,
> spiritual distress, family history, prior medical history and more...It is
> really important to understand a person's experience with disease and with
> personal risk alongside their perceptions.
>
> The list might be more helpful if you can be more specific about context.
>
> Karen Donelan
> Senior Scientist
> Mass General Hospital
>

> Hi Sarah,
>
> Let me clarify from the start that your query doesn't fall in my area of
> expertise, but I was intrigued by the question, which made me think of
> the book "Reporting on Risk" by Eleanor Singer and Phyllis Endreny. It's
> now a rather old reference (1993) and a slightly different angle,
> focusing on how media present risk to the public, but I suspect that it
> discusses the point you raise, i.e., how levels of risk are perceived
> and therefore how questions should be framed. I realized that there is a
> field of study about communication of risk and the Singer-Endreny
> reference is apparently widely used there. (I'm attaching a copy of the
> first reference that came up in a Google search on the Singer-Endreny
> book.)
>
> Now for full disclosure: the late Phyllis Endreny was my sister, which
> is why I am aware of the book though not truly knowledgeable about it.
>
> If this response seems to take you afield from what you are seeking,
> just ignore it. Best of luck in your research.

>
> Corinne

>
> Corinne Kirchner, Ph.D.
> Senior Research Scientist
> American Foundation for the Blind

> -----
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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 18:04:33 -0500
Reply-To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: aapornet aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To: <20061120085756.681exwdb4kwc8gow@webmail.bard.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v752.2)
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; delp=yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

On Nov 20, 2006, at 8:57 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

> In presidential-year exit polls, I found an overstatement of the

> prior winner's margin in every exit poll in the ICPSR archives --
> including Nixon in 1976.

For those of us without ICPSR access, could you provide the numbers,
and how they compare with actual margins?

Doug

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Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 19:49:46 -0500
Reply-To: "Rockwell, Richard" <richard.rockwell@UCONN.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Rockwell, Richard" <richard.rockwell@UCONN.EDU>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=Windows-1252
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Useful tables from another kind of study -- not an exit poll but the =
post-election surveys of the American National Election Studies -- may =
be found at:

http://www.polsci.buffalo.edu/faculty_and_research/campbell/camp03Table3_3.pdf

(note well that respondents who did not respond to the party id question =
are not included) and

http://www.electionstudies.org/nesguide/toptable/tab9a_1.htm

There is a useful bibliography at

http://www.electionstudies.org/resources/biblio/anes_bib.pdf

The result that Mark Lindeman reported -- the prior winner's margin is =
consistently overstated by respondents reporting for whom they voted -- =
is solid enough and commonly enough known that it is standard teaching =
material in "methods of social research" classes. It makes a great =
example of social desirability as a factor in survey research, although =
I always mention that people have selective memories and may not be =
consciously lying to interviewers. Apparently, respondents almost =
always like to "run with the winners."

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

From: AAPORNET on behalf of Doug Henwood

Sent: Mon 11/20/2006 6:04 PM

To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Cc: 09

Subject: Re: questions about the vote count

On Nov 20, 2006, at 8:57 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

> In presidential-year exit polls, I found an overstatement of the =20
> prior winner's margin in every exit poll in the ICPSR archives -- =20
> including Nixon in 1976.

For those of us without ICPSR access, could you provide the numbers, =20
and how they compare with actual margins?

Doug

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=====
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2006 19:57:07 -0500
Reply-To: lindeman@BARD.EDU
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mark Lindeman <lindeman@BARD.EDU>
Subject: Re: questions about the vote count
Comments: To: Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <C9E7A2F7-96E9-4D69-8495-6F09B911EB8A@panix.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; DelSp=Yes; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

Quoting Doug Henwood <dhenwood@PANIX.COM>:

> On Nov 20, 2006, at 8:57 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:
>
>> In presidential-year exit polls, I found an overstatement of the
>> prior winner's margin in every exit poll in the ICPSR archives --
>> including Nixon in 1976.
>
> For those of us without ICPSR access, could you provide the numbers,
> and how they compare with actual margins?

Sure: please see Table 3 on numbered page 11 (PDF page 12) of my paper
at <http://inside.bard.edu/~lindeman/too-many.pdf> . I'm hacking my way
through midterm polls as time permits.

ML

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Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Tue, 21 Nov 2006 09:04:02 -0600

Reply-To: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Nick Panagakis <mail@MARKETSHARESCORP.COM>

Subject: Re: questions about the vote count

Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu

In-Reply-To:

<D5E378A9E781D44482EFB50B5A836CFFD4C0F9@EXCHANGE.B.mgmt.ad.uconn.edu>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=windows-1252; format=flowed

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

No dispute that recall of past voting generally have errors favoring the winner of past elections.

However, analysis of past voting exit poll data vs. election results does raise some questions:

1. Which exit poll do you use? Even data that NEP sponsors make public often disagree slightly. According to Fox News national House data 44% said they voted for Kerry in 2004. According to posted CNN's national House data, 43% voted for Kerry in 2004. (This seems to always be the case so perhaps one of the sponsors could provide an answer.)

2. Is recall of voting in past elections in exit polls exactly comparable to official election results? Voters in a current election are not the same voters who voters who voted before. Small differences could result. The Election Defense Alliance conclusions are based on this "the sample contained 49 percent Bush voters and only 43 percent Kerry supporters. This 6 percent gap is more than twice the size of the 2004 Bush win of 2.8 percent." [Needless to say potential sample error is also factor.]

3. Most importantly, should off-year exit poll presidential vote recall even be compared with election year presidential results. There are huge turnout differences; i.e., voter composition differences. Can off-year exit poll voters be expected to match on-year election year voting results?

Again. No quarrel with the conclusion that vote recall favors the winner in past elections - my own observation in phone polls over many years.

With reference to Richard's comment below, shouldn't some consideration be given to voters denying that they voted for a loser?

Nick Panagakis

Rockwell, Richard wrote:

>Useful tables from another kind of study -- not an exit poll but the post-election surveys of the American National Election Studies -- may be found at:

>
>http://www.polsci.buffalo.edu/faculty_and_research/campbell/camp03Table3_3.pdf
f
>(note well that respondents who did not respond to the party id question are not included) and
>http://www.electionstudies.org/nesguide/toptable/tab9a_1.htm
>There is a useful bibliography at
>http://www.electionstudies.org/resources/biblio/anes_bib.pdf

>
>The result that Mark Lindeman reported -- the prior winner's margin is consistently overstated by respondents reporting for whom they voted -- is solid enough and commonly enough known that it is standard teaching material in "methods of social research" classes. It makes a great example of social desirability as a factor in survey research, although I always mention that people have selective memories and may not be consciously lying to interviewers. Apparently, respondents almost always like to "run with the winners."

>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: AAPORNET on behalf of Doug Henwood
>Sent: Mon 11/20/2006 6:04 PM
>To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
>Cc:
>Subject: Re: questions about the vote count

>
>On Nov 20, 2006, at 8:57 AM, Mark Lindeman wrote:

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>>
>>
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>>and how they compare with actual margins?

>>
>>
>>
>>Doug

>>-----
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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
=====

Date: Tue, 21 Nov 2006 10:40:54 -0500
Reply-To: ann.bostrom@pubpolicy.gatech.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Ann Bostrom <ann.bostrom@PUBPOLICY.GATECH.EDU>
Organization: Georgia Tech
Subject: Re: Surveys on risk
Comments: To: Steve Johnson <stevej@nsdssurvey.org>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <00d501c70ce3\$4bfa41b0\$10fea8c0@D7WJHJ91>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Sarah,

Paul Slovic's edited volume, *The Perception of Risk*, would be a good starting place for you, too (see www.decisionresearch.org), as would the journals *Risk Analysis* and the *Journal of Risk Research*.
Good luck! - Ann

Ann Bostrom
Associate Dean for Research, Ivan Allen College
Associate Professor, School of Public Policy
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0345
Tel 404.894.9629
Fax 404.385.0504
Email ann.bostrom@pubpolicy.gatech.edu

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Steve Johnson
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2006 3:35 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Fw: Surveys on risk

Sarah,

For many years I worked at Decision Research where we studied issues like this (I am still an associate), so I thought I would ask Paul Slovic what he

thought of Nick's position. Paul had a simple answer, "it's not true that people think better with frequencies. Sometimes yes, sometimes no. They think differently with frequencies."

In the work I used to do, we found in particular that risk issues with very small probabilities, such as one in a billion, are not easy to understand as

a frequency. Fortunately many risks, such as those from small exposures to

toxic materials or radiation, or even many types of accidents, have very low

base rates. This is good for all of us, but makes risk communication difficult. Saying something about how much risk is increasing, or comparing

risk to some other better know, or more common hazard sometimes helps, but here again, not always.

By the way, the literature on this is very large.

Best
Steve Johnson, PhD
President, Northwest Survey & Data Services

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

From: "Sarah Butler" <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>

To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2006 2:14 AM

Subject: Surveys on risk

> Sorry for causing a number of responses on the fact that AAPOR does not
> allow attachments - I should have known!

>
> I have pasted the responses I received below:

>
>
> Hi Sarah

>
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> frequency format, rather than percent or odds. In other words rather than
> saying there is a 3% chance of x occurring, better to say x will happen to

> 3
> people out of 100.

>
> This is even more true in the case of relative risk, because the base-rate
> information is included in the frequency format. So in the case of the
> example above, rather than say, if we do Y then the risk of x increases by
> 100% (or risk doubles), say if we do Y, then risk of X changes from 3 in
> 100
> to 6 in 100.

>
> Hope that helps. If you google 'Gigerenzer' and 'risk estimates' you'll
> find
> references from him to back this up (and put much better than I have
> sketched here!)

>
> Nick

>
>
> ++++++

> Dr Nick Allum
> Lecturer in Quantitative Sociology
> Department of Sociology
> University of Surrey
> Guildford
> Surrey GU2 7XH
>
> Email: n.allum@surrey.ac.uk
> Tel: +44 (0)1483 683766
> Fax: +44 (0)7092 080076
>
>
>
> Sarah: cant tell what your setting in. Risk literature is deep in
> environmental
> health care, political and other studies. I will talk some about health
> care,
> which is the land I know the best.
>
> In health care and public health we look at risk all the time--I find
> hugely
> varying perspectives from economists, sociologists, clinicians, people who
> do
> infectious disease and chronic disease focus.
>
> If you need scales or analytic tools for economic modelling, the Society
> for
> Medical Decision Making has a good
> journal that can show you all kinds of risk perception scales and
> preference
> elicitation around health states
> Center for Risk Analysis and Harvard Injury Center (both at Harvard) are
> good
> places to look.
>
> I get frustrated with these kinds of analyses because they ask people to
> assign
> value to imagined or hypothetical health states. These preference
> elicitation
> methods are rather different than much of what we do in surveys and polls
>
> My colleagues Bob Blendon and Cait Desroches have published on public
> perceptions of risk in situations of pandemic, terrorism, etc. If you
> google
> iPOLL at Kaiser Family Foundation website you can search questions on
> health
> risks in public polls and surveys they have done.
>
> In our cancer center, where I work, risk perceptions can be modified by
> physical
> factors like fatigue, pain, mobility and functionality, as well as by age,
> spiritual distress, family history, prior medical history and more...It is
> really important to understand a person's experience with disease and with
> personal risk alongside their perceptions.

>
> The list might be more helpful if you can be more specific about context.

>
> Karen Donelan
> Senior Scientist
> Mass General Hospital

>
> Hi Sarah,

>
> Let me clarify from the start that your query doesn't fall in my area of
> expertise, but I was intrigued by the question, which made me think of
> the book "Reporting on Risk" by Eleanor Singer and Phyllis Endreny. It's
> now a rather old reference (1993) and a slightly different angle,
> focusing on how media present risk to the public, but I suspect that it
> discusses the point you raise, i.e., how levels of risk are perceived
> and therefore how questions should be framed. I realized that there is a
> field of study about communication of risk and the Singer-Endreny
> reference is apparently widely used there. (I'm attaching a copy of the
> first reference that came up in a Google search on the Singer-Endreny
> book.)

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> Now for full disclosure: the late Phyllis Endreny was my sister, which
> is why I am aware of the book though not truly knowledgeable about it.

>
> If this response seems to take you afield from what you are seeking,
> just ignore it. Best of luck in your research.

>
> Corinne

>
>
> Corinne Kirchner, Ph.D.
> Senior Research Scientist
> American Foundation for the Blind

>
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Date: Tue, 21 Nov 2006 14:46:57 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Gallup Guru - Giving voice to the people through polls
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Gallup Guru
Giving voice to the people through polls
=20
by Frank Newport=20
<http://blogs.usatoday.com/gallup/>
=20
Thursday, November 16, 2006

2008 already?=20
The dust has hardly settled from the 2006 midterm elections and the
focus has already shifted to the 2008 presidential race.=20

Sometimes people accuse us of jumping in too quickly with our horse race
polls asking Americans whom they prefer for their party's nomination in
2008. But hey! With the candidates already tripping all over
themselves to make announcements that they are "exploring" the
possibility of running in '08, it's certainly not too early to be
testing the waters as far as American public opinion is concerned.=20

Indeed, we've been asking about 2008 since Nov. 2004 - just after that
year's presidential election. The basic lay of the land, with one or
two exceptions, has remained essentially the same. Hillary Clinton
leads among Democratic candidates. John McCain and Rudy Giuliani lead
among Republican candidates. =20

One of those exceptions is Democratic Senator Barack Obama from
Illinois. We included him in the list of possible Democratic candidates
for the first time in our Nov. 9-12 poll. He's jumped up to second
place behind Clinton as Democrats' preference for their party's
nomination.=20

SNIP

--=20
Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
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: Tue, 21 Nov 2006 15:07:42 -0500

Reply-To: Michael Wood <mwood@HUNTER.CUNY.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Michael Wood <mwood@HUNTER.CUNY.EDU>
Subject: Focus group moderators wanted for methodological study
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Focus group moderators wanted to take part in a methodological study of focus group participants: relationship of personal style to quality of group participation. The research requires focus group participants to answer a brief questionnaire prior to the group session, and for the moderator to make an overall evaluation of the individual participation.

Please contact Michael Wood mwood@hunter.cuny.edu, Department of Sociology, Hunter College, New York, NY. 212-772-5572 for more information.

--

Michael Wood
Dept. of Sociology
MS in Applied Social Research Program
Hunter College, CUNY
695 Park Ave, NY NY 10021
<<http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/grad/index.html>>

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
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=====
Date: Tue, 21 Nov 2006 13:57:31 -0800
Reply-To: Karen Segar <ksegar@U.WASHINGTON.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Karen Segar <ksegar@U.WASHINGTON.EDU>
Subject: Re: Job opportunity at University of Washington
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <Pine.LNX.4.64.0611161117590.21447@homer22.u.washington.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed

I'm sorry to report that our director has decided not to fill this position right now. If we start recruiting again I'll be sure to re-post the announcement.

On Thu, 16 Nov 2006, Karen Segar wrote:

- > This position is in Seattle:
- >
- >
- > University of Washington Employment:
- > Survey Research Division Director
- >
- > SDRG has an outstanding opportunity for a Survey Research Division Director.
- > The Survey Research Division Director (SRD Director) will plan and direct

> data collection activities across multiple research projects of the Social
> Development Research Group; Lead key staff in developing and implementing a
> comprehensive strategy to identify opportunities and funding to provide data
> collection services to other researchers; and develop and implement
programs,
> policies and activities to facilitate the delivery of effective Information
> Technology services to SDRG.

>
> The University of Washington (UW) is proud to be one of the nation's premier
> educational and research institutions. Our people are the most important
> asset in our pursuit of achieving excellence in education, research, and
> community service. Our staff not only enjoys outstanding benefits and
> professional growth opportunities, but also an environment noted for
> diversity, community involvement, intellectual excitement, artistic
pursuits,
> and natural beauty.

>
> The Social Development Research Group (SDRG) is a multi-disciplinary group
of
> more than 80 research faculty and staff, working to increase understanding
of
> social development and health risk behavior during childhood, adolescence,
> and young adulthood and to use this knowledge to develop effective
prevention
> programs, policies and service systems.

>
> To learn more about this position please access the University of Washington
> personnel website at

>
> [https://uw hires.admin.washington.edu/eng/candidates/default.cfm?szLocationID=8](https://uw hires.admin.washington.edu/eng/candidates/default.cfm?szLocationID=88)

8
>
> Search for Req. #27077.
> Date posted 10/18/06 open until filled.

>
>
> -----

> Karen Segar
> Data Manager
> Social Development Research Group
> University of Washington
> ksegar@u.washington.edu

>
> -----
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> On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2006 17:59:51 -0800
Reply-To: Jennifer Franz <jdfranz@jdfranz.com>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jennifer Franz <jdfranz@JDFRANZ.COM>
Subject: SPSS
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

We are looking for someone who knows SPSS who can help us out with more =
work than we have staff to handle. Can anyone recommend someone, =
ideally in this general area (northern California)?

Jennifer D. Franz, Ph.D.
President
JD Franz Research, Inc.
(916) 440-8777 Voice
(916) 440-8787 Fax=

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
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Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2006 18:18:17 -0800
Reply-To: Jennifer Franz <jdfranz@jdfranz.com>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jennifer Franz <jdfranz@JDFRANZ.COM>
Subject: Banner Point Software
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Can anyone recommend software that does banner points, is easy to use, =
and can import data from SPSS?

Jennifer D. Franz, Ph.D.
President
JD Franz Research, Inc.
(916) 440-8777 Voice
(916) 440-8787 Fax=

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
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Date: Wed, 22 Nov 2006 10:11:13 +0000
Reply-To: N.Allum@SURREY.AC.UK

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Nick Allum <N.Allum@SURREY.AC.UK>
Subject: Re: Surveys on risk
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Steve

Thanks for this insight. I think I was a bit loose in my original advice to Sarah and didn't specify why I used the term 'better' rather than 'different'. I was really referring to work that has shown that people are more likely to make a correct estimate of the posterior probability of an event using frequency format rather than probability format. An example from Science magazine below:

http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/290/5500/2261?ijkey=3Ddafb3655=6f6b997266d7390c448df314fedd0400&keytype2=3Dtf_ipsecsha

This seems a fairly robust and well replicated finding, but you are right, the literature is large and I haven't read it all :-)=20

I think the other thing to emphasize is that risk is not coterminous with probability, and there is a huge literature on social/psychological/sociological understandings of risk that goes well beyond simply estimating known probabilities. Paul Slovic's work amongst this is pre-eminent, of course!

Hope this clarifies things.

Nick

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Steve Johnson
Sent: 20 November 2006 20:35
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Fw: Surveys on risk

Sarah,

For many years I worked at Decision Research where we studied issues like=20

this (I am still an associate), so I thought I would ask Paul Slovic what he=20

thought of Nick's position. Paul had a simple answer, "it's not true that=20

people think better with frequencies. Sometimes yes, sometimes no. They think=20

differently with frequencies."

I the work I used to do, we found in particular that risk issues with very small probabilities, such as one in a billion, are not easy to understand as a frequency. Fortunately many risks, such as those from small exposures to toxic materials or radiation, or even many types of accidents, have very low base rates. This is good for all of us, but makes risk communication difficult. Saying something about how much risk is increasing, or comparing risk to some other better know, or more common hazzard sometimes helps, but here again, not always.

By the way, the literature on this is very large.

Best
Steve Johnson, PhD
President, Northwest Survey & Data Services

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

From: "Sarah Butler" <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>

To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2006 2:14 AM

Subject: Surveys on risk

> Sorry for causing a number of responses on the fact that AAPOR does not

> allow attachments - I should have known!

>
> I have pasted the responses I received below:

>
>
> Hi Sarah

>
> There is good evidence now that people understand risk much better in frequency format, rather than percent or odds. In other words rather than

> saying there is a 3% chance of x occurring, better to say x will happen to

> 3
> people out of 100.

>
> This is even more true in the case of relative risk, because the base-rate

> information is included in the frequency format. So in the case of the example above, rather than say, if we do Y then the risk of x increases by

> 100% (or risk doubles), say if we do Y, then risk of X changes from 3 in

> 100
> to 6 in 100.
>
> Hope that helps. If you google 'Gigerenzer' and 'risk estimates'
you'll=20
> find
> references from him to back this up (and put much better than I have
> sketched here!)
>
> Nick
>
>
> ++++++
> Dr Nick Allum
> Lecturer in Quantitative Sociology
> Department of Sociology
> University of Surrey
> Guildford
> Surrey GU2 7XH
>
> Email: n.allum@surrey.ac.uk
> Tel: +44 (0)1483 683766
> Fax: +44 (0)7092 080076
>
>
>
> Sarah: cant tell what your setting in. Risk literature is deep in
> environmental
> health care, political and other studies. I will talk some about
health
> care,
> which is the land I know the best.
>
> In health care and public health we look at risk all the time--I find
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> varying perspectives from economists, sociologists, clinicians, people
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> If you need scales or analytic tools for economic modelling, the
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> I get frustrated with these kinds of analyses because they ask people
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> assign
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> methods are rather different than much of what we do in surveys and
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> My colleagues Bob Blendon and Cait Desroches have published on public
> perceptions of risk in situations of pandemic, terrorism, etc. If you
> google
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> risks in public polls and surveys they have done.
>
> In our cancer center, where I work, risk perceptions can be modified
by
> physical
> factors like fatigue, pain, mobility and functionality, as well as by
age,
> spiritual distress, family history, prior medical history and
more...It is
> really important to understand a person's experience with disease and
with
> personal risk alongside their perceptions.
>
> The list might be more helpful if you can be more specific about
context.
>
> Karen Donelan
> Senior Scientist
> Mass General Hospital
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> Hi Sarah,
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> Let me clarify from the start that your query doesn't fall in my area
of
> expertise, but I was intrigued by the question, which made me think of
> the book "Reporting on Risk" by Eleanor Singer and Phyllis Endreny.
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=====
Date: Wed, 22 Nov 2006 11:05:58 -0500
Reply-To: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Surveys on risk
Comments: To: N.Allum@SURREY.AC.UK, AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

I'm surprised no one has mentioned Amos Tversky and Dan Kahneman's work on risk, that they called prospect theory. Amos and I were grad students together several decades ago, and he's been dead over ten years now, but Kahneman did receive a Nobel in Economic science for their work in 2002. I'm really surprised that Paul Slovik didn't mention anything about it, since he also worked with Amos.

The text below is copied from a brief google search on "tversky risk"

Kahneman and Tversky started their research investigating apparent anomalies and contradictions in human behavior. Subjects when offered a choice formulated in one way might display risk-aversion but when offered essentially the same choice formulated in a different way might display risk-seeking behavior. For example, as Kahneman says, people may

drive across town to save \$5 on a \$15 calculator but not drive across town to save \$5 on a \$125 coat.

One very important result of Kahneman and Tversky work is demonstrating that people's attitudes toward risks concerning gains may be quite different from their attitudes toward risks concerning losses. For example, when given a choice between getting \$1000 with certainty or having a 50% chance of getting \$2500 they may well choose the certain \$1000 in preference to the uncertain chance of getting \$2500 even though the mathematical expectation of the uncertain option is \$1250. This is a perfectly reasonable attitude that is described as risk-aversion. But Kahneman and Tversky found that the same people when confronted with a certain loss of \$1000 versus a 50% chance of no loss or a \$2500 loss do often choose the risky alternative. This is called risk-seeking behavior. This is not necessarily irrational but it is important for analysts to recognize the asymmetry of human choices.

Nat Ehrlich, Ph.D.
Research Specialist
Michigan State University=20
Institute for Public Policy and Social Research
Office for Social Research
321 Berkey Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-353-2639

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Nick Allum
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2006 5:11 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Surveys on risk

Steve

Thanks for this insight. I think I was a bit loose in my original advice to Sarah and didn't specify why I used the term 'better' rather than 'different'. I was really referring to work that has shown that people are more likely to make a correct estimate of the posterior probability of an event using frequency format rather than probability format. An example from Science magazine below:

http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/290/5500/2261?ijkey=3Ddafb3655=6f6b997266d7390c448df314fedd0400&keytype2=3Dtf_ipsecsha

This seems a fairly robust and well replicated finding, but you are right, the literature is large and I haven't read it all :-)=20

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Hope this clarifies things.

Nick

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Steve Johnson
Sent: 20 November 2006 20:35
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Fw: Surveys on risk

Sarah,

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By the way, the literature on this is very large.

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Steve Johnson, PhD
President, Northwest Survey & Data Services

----- Original Message -----=20

From: "Sarah Butler" <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2006 2:14 AM
Subject: Surveys on risk

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> Nick
>
>
> +++++
> Dr Nick Allum
> Lecturer in Quantitative Sociology
> Department of Sociology
> University of Surrey
> Guildford
> Surrey GU2 7XH
>
> Email: n.allum@surrey.ac.uk
> Tel: +44 (0)1483 683766
> Fax: +44 (0)7092 080076
>
>
>
> Sarah: cant tell what your setting in. Risk literature is deep in
> environmental
> health care, political and other studies. I will talk some about
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> care,
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> In health care and public health we look at risk all the time--I find
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>
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> Corinne Kirchner, Ph.D.
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On your return send this: set aapornet mail

Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

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

Date: Wed, 22 Nov 2006 08:49:33 -0800

Reply-To: Steve Johnson <stevej@nsdssurvey.org>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Steve Johnson <stevej@NSDSSURVEY.ORG>

Organization: Northwest Survey & Data Services

Subject: Re: Surveys on risk

Comments: To: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>, AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; format=flowed; charset=iso-8859-1; reply-type=original

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Sorry I did not mention Amos Tversky or Danny Kahneman. Both of them were often at Decision Research during the 80's and Danny still shows up from time to time. I did not ask Paul Slovic to comment on who had done work on the issue of risk communication or I am sure he would have mentioned both of them (they have a bunch of joint papers and worked together for 30 years), as well as Sarah Lichtenstein and Baruch Fischhoff. I would also second the idea that people should look at the book Paul edited, "The Perception of Risk", Earthscan Publications, 2000. In this book David Fetherington, Paul, myself and James Fredrich have an article on the insensitivity to the value of human life that goes into some detail on experiments we did on trying to get people to give the same weight to large numbers as is given to small numbers. This is a variation of the small risk issue and just as difficult to deal with.

Steve Johnson, PhD

President, Northwest Survey & Data Services

Research Associate, Decision Research

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

From: "Ehrlich, Nathaniel" <Nathaniel.Ehrlich@SSC.MSU.EDU>

To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2006 8:05 AM

Subject: Re: Surveys on risk

I'm surprised no one has mentioned Amos Tversky and Dan Kahneman's work on risk, that they called prospect theory. Amos and I were grad students together several decades ago, and he's been dead over ten years now, but Kahneman did receive a Nobel in Economic science for their work in 2002.

I'm really surprised that Paul Slovic didn't mention anything about it, since he also worked with Amos.

The text below is copied from a brief google search on "tversky risk"

Kahneman and Tversky started their research investigating apparent anomalies and contradictions in human behavior. Subjects when offered a choice formulated in one way might display risk-aversion but when offered essentially the same choice formulated in a different way might display risk-seeking behavior. For example, as Kahneman says, people may drive across town to save \$5 on a \$15 calculator but not drive across town to save \$5 on a \$125 coat.

One very important result of Kahneman and Tversky work is demonstrating that people's attitudes toward risks concerning gains may be quite different from their attitudes toward risks concerning losses. For example, when given a choice between getting \$1000 with certainty or having a 50% chance of getting \$2500 they may well choose the certain \$1000 in preference to the uncertain chance of getting \$2500 even though the mathematical expectation of the uncertain option is \$1250. This is a perfectly reasonable attitude that is described as risk-aversion. But Kahneman and Tversky found that the same people when confronted with a certain loss of \$1000 versus a 50% chance of no loss or a \$2500 loss do often choose the risky alternative. This is called risk-seeking behavior. This is not necessarily irrational but it is important for analysts to recognize the asymmetry of human choices.

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
517-353-2639

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Nick Allum
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2006 5:11 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Surveys on risk

Steve

Thanks for this insight. I think I was a bit loose in my original advice to Sarah and didn't specify why I used the term 'better' rather than 'different'. I was really referring to work that has shown that people are more likely to make a correct estimate of the posterior probability of an event using frequency format rather than probability format. An example from Science magazine below:

http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/290/5500/2261?ijkey=dafb36556f6b997266d7390c448df314fedd0400&keytype=tf_ipsecsha

This seems a fairly robust and well replicated finding, but you are right, the literature is large and I haven't read it all :-)

I think the other thing to emphasize is that risk is not coterminous

with probability, and there is a huge literature on social/psychological/sociological understandings of risk that goes well beyond simply estimating known probabilities. Paul Slovic's work amongst this is pre-eminent, of course!

Hope this clarifies things.

Nick

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Steve Johnson

Sent: 20 November 2006 20:35

To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Subject: Fw: Surveys on risk

Sarah,

For many years I worked at Decision Research where we studied issues like

this (I am still an associate), so I thought I would ask Paul Slovic what he

thought of Nick's position. Paul had a simple answer, "it's not true that

people think better with frequencies. Sometimes yes, sometimes no. They think

differently with frequencies."

I the work I used to do, we found in particular that risk issues with very

small probabilities, such as one in a billion, are not easy to understand as

a frequency. Fortunately many risks, such as those from small exposures to

toxic materials or radiation, or even many types of accidents, have very low

base rates. This is good for all of us, but makes risk communication difficult. Saying something about how much risk is increasing, or

comparing risk to some other better know, or more common hazzard sometimes helps, but

here again, not always.

By the way, the literature on this is very large.

Best

Steve Johnson, PhD

President, Northwest Survey & Data Services

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

From: "Sarah Butler" <sarahmbn@GMAIL.COM>

To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2006 2:14 AM
Subject: Surveys on risk

> Sorry for causing a number of responses on the fact that AAPOR does
> not
> allow attachments - I should have known!
>
> I have pasted the responses I received below:
>
>
> Hi Sarah
>
> There is good evidence now that people understand risk much better in
> frequency format, rather than percent or odds. In other words rather
> than
> saying there is a 3% chance of x occurring, better to say x will
> happen to
> 3
> people out of 100.
>
> This is even more true in the case of relative risk, because the
> base-rate
> information is included in the frequency format. So in the case of the
> example above, rather than say, if we do Y then the risk of x
> increases by
> 100% (or risk doubles), say if we do Y, then risk of X changes from 3
> in
> 100
> to 6 in 100.
>
> Hope that helps. If you google 'Gigerenzer' and 'risk estimates'
> you'll
> find
> references from him to back this up (and put much better than I have
> sketched here!)
>
> Nick
>
>
> ++++++
> Dr Nick Allum
> Lecturer in Quantitative Sociology
> Department of Sociology
> University of Surrey
> Guildford
> Surrey GU2 7XH
>
> Email: n.allum@surrey.ac.uk
> Tel: +44 (0)1483 683766
> Fax: +44 (0)7092 080076
>
>
>

> Sarah: cant tell what your setting in. Risk literature is deep in
> environmental
> health care, political and other studies. I will talk some about
health
> care,
> which is the land I know the best.
>
> In health care and public health we look at risk all the time--I find
> hugely
> varying perspectives from economists, sociologists, clinicians, people
who
> do
> infectious disease and chronic disease focus.
>
> If you need scales or analytic tools for economic modelling, the
Society
> for
> Medical Decision Making has a good
> journal that can show you all kinds of risk perception scales and
> preference
> elicitation around health states
> Center for Risk Analysis and Harvard Injury Center (both at Harvard)
are
> good
> places to look.
>
> I get frustrated with these kinds of analyses because they ask people
to
> assign
> value to imagined or hypothetical health states. These preference
> elicitation
> methods are rather different than much of what we do in surveys and
polls
>
> My colleagues Bob Blendon and Cait Desroches have published on public
> perceptions of risk in situations of pandemic, terrorism, etc. If you
> google
> iPOLL at Kaiser Family Foundation website you can search questions on
> health
> risks in public polls and surveys they have done.
>
> In our cancer center, where I work, risk perceptions can be modified
by
> physical
> factors like fatigue, pain, mobility and functionality, as well as by
age,
> spiritual distress, family history, prior medical history and
more...It is
> really important to understand a person's experience with disease and
with
> personal risk alongside their perceptions.
>
> The list might be more helpful if you can be more specific about
context.

>
> Karen Donelan
> Senior Scientist
> Mass General Hospital
>
> Hi Sarah,
>
> Let me clarify from the start that your query doesn't fall in my area
> of
> expertise, but I was intrigued by the question, which made me think of
> the book "Reporting on Risk" by Eleanor Singer and Phyllis Endreny.
> It's
> now a rather old reference (1993) and a slightly different angle,
> focusing on how media present risk to the public, but I suspect that
> it
> discusses the point you raise, i.e., how levels of risk are perceived
> and therefore how questions should be framed. I realized that there is
> a
> field of study about communication of risk and the Singer-Endreny
> reference is apparently widely used there. (I'm attaching a copy of
> the
> first reference that came up in a Google search on the Singer-Endreny
> book.)
>
> Now for full disclosure: the late Phyllis Endreny was my sister, which
> is why I am aware of the book though not truly knowledgeable about it.
>
> If this response seems to take you afield from what you are seeking,
> just ignore it. Best of luck in your research.

>
> Corinne

>
> Corinne Kirchner, Ph.D.
> Senior Research Scientist
> American Foundation for the Blind

>
> -----
> Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html> .
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Date: Wed, 22 Nov 2006 14:21:13 -0500
Reply-To: "Langer, Gary E" <Gary.E.Langer@ABC.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Langer, Gary E" <Gary.E.Langer@ABC.COM>
Subject: NYAAPOR event: Schuman/Presser
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

NYAAPOR invites you to hear Profs. Howard Schuman and Stanley Presser reflect on the 25th anniversary of the publication of their seminal work, "Questions and Answers in Attitude Surveys," from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, at Fordham University (McMahon 109), 60th St. off Columbus Ave., in New York.

Prof. Schuman will follow with a workshop, "The Primordial Distinction Between Open and Closed Attitude Questions," the next morning at Columbia University.

Registration at <http://www.nyaapor.org>.

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html>
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Date: Wed, 22 Nov 2006 13:58:38 -0800
Reply-To: Steve Johnson <stevej@nsdssurvey.org>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Steve Johnson <stevej@NSDSSURVEY.ORG>
Organization: Northwest Survey & Data Services
Subject: chronic pain scale
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Does anyone know of any scales of chronic pain? In particular any =
scales that have had testing for validity. The only one I am currently =
familiar with is the Randall chronic pain scale. Thanks in advance.
Steve Johnson, PhD
President, Northwest Survey & Data Services=

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=====

Date: Wed, 22 Nov 2006 20:27:37 -0500
Reply-To: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Subject: Online Rank Ordering
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2006/exploring.autumn/your.picks/>

CNN has a smartly designed 'Pick (and Rank) Your 10 Favorite . . . ' (of =
20 visual items) utility at this link. A select-and-drag picture ASP =
that, unless it exists elsewhere, would be an advance in online =
self-administered rank ordering of more than a handful of stimuli. =
Perhaps I am the only one seeing it for the first time. I wonder if it's =
commercially available for mere mortals. Nice job!

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

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On your return send this: set aapornet mail

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

Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 09:42:19 -0700
Reply-To: Mike Donatello <mike@DONATELLO.US>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Donatello <mike@DONATELLO.US>
Subject: Re: Online Rank Ordering
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Comments: cc: kris.hartvigsen@visioncritical.com
In-Reply-To: <015001c70e9e\$8f7ca240\$8f5fe147@TulipBreathing>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=windows-1250
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Vision Critical offers something like this. InsightExpress may, too.

--

Mike Donatello
703.582.5680
mike@donatello.us

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

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of James P. Murphy
Sent: Wednesday, 22 November, 2006 20:28
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: [AAPORNET] Online Rank Ordering

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2006/exploring.autumn/your.picks/>

CNN has a smartly designed 'Pick (and Rank) Your 10 Favorite . . . ' (of =
20 visual items) utility at this link. A select-and-drag picture ASP =
that, unless it exists elsewhere, would be an advance in online =
self-administered rank ordering of more than a handful of stimuli. =
Perhaps I am the only one seeing it for the first time. I wonder if it's =
commercially available for mere mortals. Nice job!

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
J.P. MURPHY & COMPANY
Post Office Box 80484
Valley Forge, PA 19484-0484
(610) 408-8800
www.jpMurphy.com
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com
=20

--=20

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.14.14/547 - Release Date: =
11/22/2006 17:41

=20

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Date: Sat, 25 Nov 2006 17:45:05 -0800
Reply-To: Doug Rivers <doug@POLIMETRIX.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Doug Rivers <doug@POLIMETRIX.COM>
Subject: Re: Online Rank Ordering
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Polimetrix has developed a set of AJAX-based widgets, including a ranking widget with similar capabilities (the respondent drags and drops the objects to be ranked into a set of slots; the items can be reordered by dragging, etc.). We also have placement widgets (which are useful for political issues) and dynamic grids, as well as additional survey widgets under development. These do not require any downloads (no Java VM or Flash) and are integrated into a full AJAX-based survey system. We've also done some experimental work on the performance of this type of instrumentation vs. traditional survey instrumentation.

Doug Rivers

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

From: AAPORNET on behalf of James P. Murphy
Sent: Wed 11/22/2006 5:27 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Online Rank Ordering
=20
<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2006/exploring.autumn/your.picks/>

CNN has a smartly designed 'Pick (and Rank) Your 10 Favorite . . . ' (of 20 visual items) utility at this link. A select-and-drag picture ASP that, unless it exists elsewhere, would be an advance in online self-administered rank ordering of more than a handful of stimuli. Perhaps I am the only one seeing it for the first time. I wonder if it's commercially available for mere mortals. Nice job!

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
J.P. MURPHY & COMPANY
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Valley Forge, PA 19484-0484
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=====
Date: Sun, 26 Nov 2006 13:36:53 -0800
Reply-To: Leora Lawton <lawton@TECHSOCIETY.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leora Lawton <lawton@TECHSOCIETY.COM>
Subject: another 2004 election article
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Not recommending or dissing, just providing.

http://www.rollingstone.com/news/story/10432334/was_the_2004_election_stolen

Dr. Leora Lawton
TechSociety Research
"Custom Social Science and Consumer Behavior Research"
2342 Shattuck Avenue PMB 362, Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 548-6174; fax (510) 548-6175; cell (510) 928-7572
www.techsociety.com
Yahoo Messenger: leora_lawton

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Date: Sun, 26 Nov 2006 16:06:24 -0700
Reply-To: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: another 2004 election article
Comments: To: lawton@TECHSOCIETY.COM

Those who missed the debate might like to check out these four posts by Mark Blumenthal. They include links to much of the rest of the discussion on Salon and elsewhere:

http://www.mysterypollster.com/main/2006/06/is_rfk_jr_right.html

http://www.mysterypollster.com/main/2006/06/is_rfk_jr_right_1.html

http://www.mysterypollster.com/main/2006/06/is_rfk_jr_right_2.html

http://www.mysterypollster.com/main/2006/07/is_rfk_jr_right.html

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Date: Sun, 26 Nov 2006 21:25:24 -0500
Reply-To: poapatrckh@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "D. Patrick Hoey" <poapatrckh@AOL.COM>
Subject: Internet Survey Training Programs
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hello:

Would anyone be able to recommend a local college or training center that offers a class, seminar or short course in the New York City/Long Island area on the methods and issues associated with running On-Line Surveys?

I am interested in the full range of practical issues, available software, technology(ies), servers, etc. concerning this increasingly popular line of research.

Please respond directly, POAPATRICKH@AOL.COM

Thank you very much.

Patrick Hoey, PhD

Long Island, New York

Check out the new AOL. Most comprehensive set of free safety and security tools, free access to millions of high-quality videos from across the web, free AOL Mail and more.

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Date: Mon, 27 Nov 2006 09:46:41 -0500

Reply-To: Nilanthi Samaranayake <nilanthi@PEWRESEARCH.ORG>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Nilanthi Samaranayake <nilanthi@PEWRESEARCH.ORG>

Subject: Re: chronic pain scale

Comments: To: Steve Johnson <stevej@nsdssurvey.org>, AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Three types of pain scales are typically used: numeric, verbal, and visual (pics of faces). Randall is a hybrid of numeric and verbal. North Dakota Health Care Review, Inc. (<http://www.ndhcri.org/index.html>) has a good listing of the various types:

=20

<http://216.221.103.250/pain/Tools/>

=20

This is what the American Chronic Pain Association uses:

=20

http://www.theacpa.org/managingyourrisk/Quality_of_Life_Scale.pdf

=20

Don't know about testing for their validity. Good luck with your research.

=20

From: AAPORNET on behalf of Steve Johnson

Sent: Wed 11/22/2006 4:58 PM

To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: chronic pain scale

Does anyone know of any scales of chronic pain? In particular any scales that have had testing for validity. The only one I am currently familiar with is the Randall chronic pain scale. Thanks in advance.

Steve Johnson, PhD
President, Northwest Survey & Data Services

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

Date: Mon, 27 Nov 2006 12:55:12 -0800
Reply-To: Jerold Pearson <jpearson@STANFORD.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jerold Pearson <jpearson@STANFORD.EDU>
Subject: Contact info vs other data
Comments: To: por@vance.irss.unc.edu, aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed

Opinionmongers:

Universities often send out postcards or other mailings to alumni to gather updated contact information like address, phones, and email address. Some figure they can knock off two or three birds with one stone by adding attitude and opinion questions to these brief forms, or (even worse) adding questions about sensitive things like income and plans for their will and estate. I keep telling those who are tempted to try tacking on these questions NOT to do it, because it will likely decrease response and get them fewer updated addresses -- which is the primary objective of these efforts.

Does anyone know of any published articles, papers, chapters or whatever on this topic that I could bring to these people's attention, to add some authority to my own feeble voice?

Thanks.

Jerold Pearson, '75
Director of Market Research
Stanford Alumni Association
650-723-9186

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Date: Tue, 28 Nov 2006 14:44:36 -0500
Reply-To: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Subject: AAPORNET anniversary
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

In between the flurry of election news and early Thanksgiving holiday last week, we failed to note the 12th anniversary of AAPORNET, which began operation on Nov. 22, 1994, through the efforts of Jim Beninger at USC, and then moved to ASU thanks to Shap Wolf's efforts.

I appreciate very much the opportunity to connect instantaneously with so many colleagues, and the archives are a great source for anyone researching a methodology-related topic.

Since 1994, I've subscribed to various listservs. Some of them have moved to a web-based message board format. Some of them died amidst confrontation and rancorous arguments, with nobody willing to moderate.

And yet through the years, AAPORNET has survived and continues to serve a meaningful function in our professional lives.

Hard to imagine what technology will bring in 12 more years, but for now, AAPORNET seems to be working, and it is one of the blessings for which I am grateful at this time of year.

Colleen

Colleen K. Porter, M.A.
Research Program Manager (Pain Lab)
University of Florida College of Dentistry
Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science
US Mail: PO Box 103628
FedEx: 1329 SW 16th St. (1329 Bldg.), Ste. 5180
Gainesville, Florida 32610-3628
(352) 273-5979, phone
(352) 273-5985, fax
cporter@dental.ufl.edu

Archives: <http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html>

Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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Date: Tue, 28 Nov 2006 14:45:28 -0600
Reply-To: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Subject: Upcoming Presentation
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Public Event:

=20

Mark Blumenthal: The Mystery Pollster

Democratic Pollster and Editor of www.pollster.com blog Polling in the
2006 Elections

=20

=20

December 1, 2006

Harvard University

Center for Government and International Studies GIS N-354

1737 Cambridge St.

Cambridge, MA 02138

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. with reception to follow

=20

Presented by the Harvard Program on Survey Research December 1, 2006,
Mark Blumenthal will join us to discuss surveys and polls in the 2006
elections. Blumenthal is the founder of the influential blog and website
MysteryPollster.com, and one of the developers of the more recent
website Pollster.com. His analysis of political polling and survey
methodology is widely read and admired. =20

Blumenthal has more than 20 years experience as a survey researcher,
conducting and analyzing political polls and focus groups for Democratic
candidates and market research surveys for major corporations. His
experience includes work with pollsters Harrison Hickman, Paul Maslin,

Kirk Brown, Celinda Lake, Stan Greenberg and the last 15 with his partners David Petts and Anna Bennett in the firm Bennett, Petts and Blumenthal (BPB).

=20

Location:

Harvard University

CGIS N-354

1737 Cambridge St.

Cambridge, MA 02138

=20

Chase H. Harrison

Preceptor in Survey Research

Department of Government

Harvard University

1737 Cambridge St.

Cambridge, MA 02138

=20

(617) 384-7251

(617) 495-0438 [FAX]

=20

charrison@gov.harvard.edu

<http://www.gov.harvard.edu/faculty/charrison/>

=20

=20

=20

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Date: Tue, 28 Nov 2006 17:41:30 -0500
Reply-To: Daniel Gundersen <gunderda@UMDNJ.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Daniel Gundersen <gunderda@UMDNJ.EDU>
Subject: Coverage Ratios
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Greetings,

I was hoping someone could recommend some literature on coverage ratios. I'm specifically interested in how it's calculated and interpreted with regards to survey quality. So far, I've only found what the BLS publishes on their website (<http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/basic/perfmeas/coverage.htm>).

Many thanks,

Dan

Daniel Gundersen

Research Teaching Specialist

UMDNJ - School of Public Health

Tobacco Surveillance and Evaluation Research Program

317 George Street, Suite 209

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

E-mail: gunderda@umdnj.edu

Phone: (732) 235-5347

Fax: (732) 235-9777

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Date: Wed, 29 Nov 2006 07:51:50 -0800
Reply-To: costas@post.harvard.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Costas Panagopoulos <costas@POST.HARVARD.EDU>
Subject: Paul DeGregorio at Fordham NYC Dec 1
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 8bit

Dear colleagues,

Please join us for a discussion with

Paul S. DeGregorio, Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Making Sure Every Vote Counted: Evaluating Election Administration in the
2006 Elections

When: Friday, December 1, 2006, 4:00PM-6:00PM

Where: Fordham University, Lowenstein Building, Lincoln Center Campus, 12th
Floor Lounge

R.S.V.P. required. Please email bordenga@fordham.edu

Sponsored by Fordham University's Center for Electoral Politics and
Democracy and the Elections and Campaign Management program.

Best,

Costas Panagopoulos, Ph.D.
Director

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=====

Date: Wed, 29 Nov 2006 11:59:44 -0500
Reply-To: "Goldenberg, Karen - BLS" <Goldenberg.Karen@BLS.GOV>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: "Goldenberg, Karen - BLS" <Goldenberg.Karen@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Job opening at the Bureau of Labor Statistics
Comments: To: aapornet <AAPORNET@asu.edu>, SRMSNET@LISTSERV.UMD.EDU
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Apologies for cross-posting

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has an opening for a statistician, GS-13,
with interest and experience in survey methodology. Location:
Washington, DC

<http://www.doors.dol.gov/getjob.asp?JobID=3D50904007&jbf574=3DDLLS&brd=3D=3876&AVSDM=3D2006%2D11%2D29+00%3A01%3A02&sort=3Drv&vw=3Dd&Logo=3D0&FedPub=3DY&=jbf522=3D1530&FedEmp=3DY&SUBMIT1.x=3D0&SUBMIT1.y=3D0&ss=3D0&TabNum=3D1&rc=3D4>

Karen Goldenberg
Goldenberg.Karen@bls.gov

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Date: Wed, 29 Nov 2006 12:59:18 -0600
Reply-To: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Subject: Upcoming discussion of Election Administration
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Dear colleagues,

=20

Please join us for a discussion with=20

=20

Paul S. DeGregorio, Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission

=20

Making Sure Every Vote Counted: Evaluating Election Administration in

the 2006 Elections

=20

When: Friday, December 1, 2006, 4:00PM-6:00PM

=20

Where: Fordham University, Lowenstein Building, Lincoln Center Campus,
12th Floor Lounge

=20

R.S.V.P. required. Please email bordenga@fordham.edu

<<http://us.f570.mail.yahoo.com/ym/Compose?To=3Dbordenga@fordham.edu>>=20

=20

Sponsored by Fordham University's Center for Electoral Politics and
Democracy and the Elections and Campaign Management program.

=20

Best,

=20

Costas Panagopoulos, Ph.D.=20

Director

=20

=20

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Date: Wed, 29 Nov 2006 15:25:23 -0500

Reply-To: Eugene Kritski <eugene.kritski@GLOBESCAN.COM>

Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

From: Eugene Kritski <eugene.kritski@GLOBESCAN.COM>

Subject: Re: regression weights greater than 1

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Dear colleagues,

=20

How can be interpreted regression weights greater than 1 in the Structural Equation Modeling?

=20

Thanks a lot,
Eugene Kritski=20

Eugene Kritski, Ph.D.

Director, Methodology & Analysis
GlobeScan Incorporated | Global Public Opinion and Stakeholder
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Toronto | London | Washington
direct line: +1 416 969 3084
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Date: Thu, 30 Nov 2006 08:29:40 -0500
Reply-To: Andrew A Beveridge <andrew.beveridge@QC.CUNY.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Andrew A Beveridge <andrew.beveridge@QC.CUNY.EDU>
Subject: The Idle Rich
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Appeared today.

Gotham Gazette -

<http://www.gothamgazette.com/article/demographics/20061130/5/2047>

The Idle Rich

by Andrew Beveridge
November, 2006

Forgive New Yorkers for envying their fellow citizens; it's hard to avoid. Librarians read recently in the New York Times that their bosses at the New York Public Library each make hundreds of thousands of dollars <<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/19/nyregion/19library.html?ex=1321592400&en=d292bfe7b4ea7776&ei=5090&partner=rssuserland&emc=rss>> a year. Teachers read in the Chronicle of Higher Education that many of the presidents in area colleges make about half a million dollars: John Sexton at NYU \$798,989; Lee

Bollinger at Columbia, \$685,930; David Caputo at Pace, \$672,239; Matthew Goldstein at CUNY, \$471,500. But even Wall Street bonus babies <<http://www.gothamgazette.com/article/Demographics/20050128/5/1306>> , who are expected to be awash in money this year, reportedly complain <<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/19/weekinreview/19konigsberg.html?ex=1321592400&en=76b23cb40c62ec8e&ei=5090&partner=rssuserland&emc=rss>> because they aren't making as much as hedge fund managers.

But however much doctors envy bankers, or lawyers envy managers, there is one group that may attract the most resentment of everyone -- the idle rich, also known as trust fund babies, and coupon clippers (an archaic term, dating from a time when one needed to clip a coupon to get interest from bonds). These are people who do not work, living on the money from investments -- their own, or their family's.

If there is resentment, there is also fascination. How else to explain Paris Hilton? E! True Hollywood Story even did a show on those "celebutantes" <<http://cache-origin.eonline.com/On/Holly/Shows/Trustfund/index.html>> who try to cash in on their wealth to achieve stardom, including a quiz with such sly questions as:

Which heiress has a parent who not only competed in the Olympics but was once nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize?

Amanda Hearst

Zara Phillips

Athina Onassis Rousset

Paris Hilton

(The answer, to spare you taking the quiz, is Zara Phillips, the daughter of England's Princess Ann, who competed as an equestrian in the Montreal Olympics and was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize for her philanthropic endeavors).

The Village Voice looked at the issue last year in an article entitled Rich Little 'Poor' Kids <<http://www.villagevoice.com/news/0530,kamenetz,66195,6.html>> , quoting most of them anonymously: "Those who bear the dreaded "trustafarian" tag say they have problems with guilt, embarrassment, and most importantly, figuring out what to do with their lives."

Several years ago, Melik Kaylan, writing in the Wall Street Journal <<http://opinionjournal.com/extra/?id=85000672>> as part of an ongoing debate over the estate tax

<<http://www.gothamgazette.com/article//20060925/202/1982>> , said that inherited wealth allows people "to lead lives on a higher plane." In response, Timothy Noah of Slate <<http://www.slate.com/id/1007209/>> wrote that while he was sure that "some people who inherit vast sums of wealth devote their lives to contemplation and philanthropy," his experience led him to believe that "enlightened magnificos constitute a very small fraction, and are dwarfed by the number of head cases, drug addicts, and rustic dropouts. (Abigail Trafford of the Washington Post coined the marvelous phrase "WASP rot" to describe this phenomenon.) " Following up a week later on his article, Noah tried to make good on a promise "to hunt down statistical data examining the lifestyles of the idle rich

<<http://www.slate.com/id/1007230/>> --incidence of alcoholism compared to the general population and that sort of thing." He admitted to not having found much.

But now, using a bit of data analysis suggested to me by He Huang, one of my graduate students at Queens College, I have put together an admittedly tentative and incomplete profile (using material from the census and the American Community Survey) of New Yorkers who do not need to work.

There were about 140,000 in the tri-state area in 2005 who received at least \$60,000 in investment income. (To receive such an amount would require at least \$1.2 million in assets).

About one-sixth lived in Manhattan; almost two fifths were in the suburbs. Those in New York City who do not work for a living are older, more male, more likely married, more educated and less minority than New Yorkers as a whole. About three fifths have been to college. Over 80 percent are white, about nine percent are black, about five percent Asian and about 10 percent Hispanic. About 60 percent are male and about 55 percent are married with a spouse present.

The median personal income of those who do not receive any unearned income is \$15,000 while for those that do it is at least \$191,200 (and may be much higher.) Only about one-quarter of those who are receiving such income are working, and about 10 percent are making more than \$100,000, so many members of the group choose to spend their time in other ways. Indeed, very few report social security income, business or farm income, retirement income or wages and salaries. In short, their investment income is their main source of income. They are substantially older than all New Yorkers older than 15, but even among the younger ones only a small fraction work.

Unfortunately, we can not put together a picture based on the statistical data of how they spend their time, though we know that only a few are working full-time. Some undoubtedly volunteer their time, spend time at vacation spots, or work at jobs that pay relatively low wages, such as docents in art museums or other rewarding pursuits. There are very few surveys that would have enough information to even begin to depict the idle rich.

Andrew A. Beveridge <http://www.socialexplorer.com/Andrew_Beveridge.htm> has taught sociology at Queens College since 1981, done demographic analyses for the New York Times since 1993, and been in charge of Gotham Gazette's demographics topic page since 2000. The opinions expressed are his alone.

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Date: Thu, 30 Nov 2006 11:43:14 -0500
Reply-To: "Murray, Patrick" <pdmurray@MONMOUTH.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Murray, Patrick" <pdmurray@MONMOUTH.EDU>
Subject: What future prime ministers do in grad school

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Interesting item on CNN.com. Relevant info in last paragraph

=20

TORONTO, Ontario (AP) -- Former Canadian leaders are trying to inspire young, civic-minded types on a reality TV show.

=20

Ex-prime ministers Brian Mulroney, John Turner, Joe Clark and Kim Campbell will be judges on the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.'s "The Next Great Prime Minister."

=20

[SNIP]

=20

The CBC has set a December 15 deadline for Canadians aged 18 to 25 to submit short videotaped speeches about why they should become prime minister and what they would do once in office.

=20

[SNIP]

=20

Last year's winner, Deirdra McCracken, is working on her master's degree in political science at the University of Laval, where her thesis will look at how journalists cover public opinion polls.

=20

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/americas/11/30/canada.pm.show.ap/index.htm>

1

=20

=20

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Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Link, Michael (CDC/CCHP/NCCDPHP)" <awi5@CDC.GOV>
Subject: Reminder: Closing date for AAPOR abstracts is Friday, December 1
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Reminder: Closing date for abstracts is Friday, December 1. Please note that this year AAPOR is sponsoring a special series of consecutive panels on issues related to cell phones. If you wish your paper to be considered for one of these panels, please click on "Cell Phones" under Research Area on the online form.=20

AAPOR Call for Conference Participation
62nd Annual Conference * May 17-20, 2007 * Hyatt Regency Orange County *
Anaheim, California
The American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) will hold its 62nd annual conference
May 17-20, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Orange County in Anaheim, CA.
AAPOR's Conference Committee
seeks proposals that address important theoretical and methodological research questions, increase the knowledge and skills of AAPOR members, and promote the development of our profession. Proposals on any topic in public opinion and survey research are welcome for consideration. We are particularly interested in proposals related to our conference theme.

CONFERENCE THEME: OF POLLS AND POLICY

Given the theoretical yet controversial link between public opinion and democracy, AAPOR's 2007 conference revisits the role that public opinion research can and should play in shaping policy. Regardless of the issue under study, differences in the conceptualization, design and execution of survey research can influence results, the interpretation of those results, and ultimately, policy made based on those results. Equally important are normative issues regarding the role that public opinion and polls should (or should not) play in policy-making. We therefore welcome submissions that deal with the relationship between public opinion research and policy, both broadly and with respect to specific issues.

As part of the 2007 conference, AAPOR is sponsoring a special series of consecutive panels dedicated to the impact of cell phones on survey research. These panels arise from growing concern among survey researchers about the impact of cell phone ownership and cell phone use on survey research using

telephone methodology. Researchers and practitioners are encouraged to submit paper and poster proposals on any topic related to cell phones in survey research. Topics include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) sampling, weighting and estimation issues associated with incorporating cell phones into survey designs; (b) the characteristics of cell phone-only respondents and those who rely heavily on a cell phone; (c) operational considerations when calling cell phones; (d) participation rates in contacting sample members on cell phones; (e) the impact of cell phone-only households on survey estimates; (f) uses of cell phones for contacting sample members in listed, longitudinal or panel surveys; (g) incentives to improve participation; (h) legal and ethical issues; (i) international perspectives, and (j) predictions about the future of telephony. This series of panels will run concurrently with the other AAPOR conference sessions, and will be preceded by a special short course that presents an overview of many of these issues.

Proposals for the conference should be submitted electronically to: <http://precis.preciscentral.com/User/UserLogin.asp?EventID=3D0e65972d> by Friday, December 1, 2006, 5:00 p.m. EST. The proposal submission form asks for author contact information, title, keywords describing the content of the presentation, an abstract of no more than 300 words and any special audio-visual equipment requests. Submitters will need to indicate if the authors are students and whether they are members of AAPOR. Submitters of multiple-authored papers will be asked which author will be presenting the research.

[Note: This is an abbreviated version of the official call for papers. The complete call for papers is available on the AAPOR website at www.aapor.org]

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=====
Date: Thu, 30 Nov 2006 16:20:16 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: "What Is More Offensive on Television: Religion or Sex and Violence?"

Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

<I just love the name of the poll>

Zogby International and American Bible Society First Amendment Poll
Reveals Powerful Evidence of America's Desire for Religion and Values

http://www.americanbible.org/site/News2?page=3DNewsArticle&id=3D7407&news=_iv_ctrl=3D1164

Thursday November 30, 1:17 pm ET=20

The American Bible Society releases findings that, contrary to popular belief, the public is interested in moral-infused entertainment options on both the small and silver screens

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 /PRNewswire/ -- The American Bible Society, (www.americanbible.org) believed deeply in America's desire for morality and values in television and popular culture and programming. To back up that belief, the Bible Society set out to turn its theory into fact. The Bible Society and Zogby conducted a poll testing the hypotheses of the demand for decency in America. The results indicate that more religious values, references to the Bible, and less sex and violence shown on television is desired by 85% of American viewers, contrary to what most television networks and ad executives relay. The poll, entitled "What Is More Offensive on Television: Religion or Sex and Violence?" was conducted by Zogby International from 11/17 through 11/20/2006.

"Here at the Bible Society, we advocate for the Bible and its place and role in society. We firmly believe that the Bible plays a critical role in the ongoing development of our culture and the social fabric of our country," said Dr. Paul Irwin, President and CEO of the American Bible Society. "Although America is a nation of many faiths, and in some instances no faith, Americans still believe that the Bible's teachings and values are an essential part of our common character."

SNIP

Source: American Bible Society

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

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