Hi all!

For anyone interested in a hotel that's substantially lower-priced than the conference hotel, I found the Crowne Plaza Resort ANAHEIM-GARDEN GROVE for $80 a night (Entertainment Discount -- you can pick up the book at a lot of local organizations or buy it online for $35 online at entertainment.com) or around $120 a night ("best available rate"). I just got in at the $80/night rate on the executive level and there's no additional cost to add a second person.

Web info: http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/
Phone: *1 800 980 6429*

It's just a bit more than across the street from the conference hotel (which I'll admit looks way cool!). See both hotels on the Google satellite map:

http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&q=12021+HARBOR+BLVD+Garden+Grove+ca&ie=UTF8&t=h&om=1&z=17&ll=33.788118,-117.915895&spn=0.004164,0.01075
The conference hotel is the one just on the north side of Chapman Avenue with the 2 tennis courts and swimming pool up front. The Crowne Plaza is on the south side of the street, across a big parking lot, and is shaped kind of like a big letter "Y". Note the cross-walks.

Of course I have no idea how long those rates will hang on and I'm not endorsing the Crowne Plaza. But for those of us on a budget, lower-cost alternatives can be a huge help.

Now get the rest of those proposals in! Best,

-- Joel

--
Joel David Bloom, Ph.D.
The University at Albany, SUNY
Research Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science
Last reminder: The PAPOR Annual Conference is just a few days away -- =
December 7-8 in San Francisco at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel near Union =
Square.

You can register for PAPOR 2006 at the PAPOR website, www.papor.org or =
register at the conference. The conference schedule is posted on the =
website, along with details about the short course preceding the =
conference.

As always, the conference will feature in-depth analyses of recent =
elections and other events impacting public opinion. The recent Mexican =
presidential election will be the topic of this year's plenary session. =
Other sessions will study the 2006 midterm election, results in Western =
battleground states, immigration, and research methodology. A short =
course on multidimensional scaling will precede the opening session of =
the conference.

We hope to see you at PAPOR!

www.papor.org
Information and online registration
Senior Survey Researcher

ICF's Applied Organizational Research Team seeks a senior survey researcher to work in our Fairfax, VA headquarters. The successful candidate will design, conduct, analyze, and direct surveys for a variety of Federal clients (e.g., Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, and Transportation Security Administration). The surveys collect information that is used for performing social science research, making fiscal or policy decisions, and improving customer and employee satisfaction. Projects involve a variety of mediums to conduct surveys, such as the Internet, personal or telephone interviews, and mailed questionnaires.

Candidate shall have: 1) demonstrated excellent analytic, conceptual, and quantitative/qualitative methodology skills and strong attention to detail; 2) demonstrated methodological research program which leads to regular peer reviewed publications; 3) advanced verbal and written communications skills and the ability to present effectively to small and large groups; 4) Ability to direct, supervise and train employees; 5) in-depth knowledge of survey sampling, weighting, design, analysis, and reporting; 6) mastery of statistical programs (e.g., SPSS). PhD preferred, Master's Degree required.

If interested, please forward a cover letter and resume to:
We, at William and Mary, are looking for a general purpose web survey package to adopt for the campus. We need the ability to keep up with multi-wave panels, have questions of different formats, branching, etc. Cost is also an issue.

If you have experience with these please get back to me.

ron

Ron Rapoport
Chair
Department of Government
College of William and Mary
WASHINGTON - Parents who sued a California school district over a sex survey given to students lost a Supreme Court appeal Monday. Justices declined to review an appeals court ruling that dismissed the suit against the Palmdale School District.

http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/journalgazette/16161774.htm

Hi,
I was wondering if anyone can point me to any methodological research that has been done on targeting/increasing participation among demographic subgroups in surveys. Of particular interest is research on RDD surveys and under-represented subgroups.

Thanks so much,
Ali Ackermann

Allison Castellano Ackermann, MS
Assistant Survey Director
Just a reminder to please consider submitting an entry to the 2006 DC-AAPOR Student Paper Competition-deadline DECEMBER 15!

The increase in award is generously sponsored by SRBI. We hope this is all the motivation you will need to consider submitting an entry and join your future colleagues (and employers?) at the national conference. Rules and contact information below...

--Eileen

DC-AAPOR STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION
Sponsored by SRBI

The Washington-Baltimore Chapter of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (DC-AAPOR) invites entries to its third annual Student Paper Competition. The competition is intended to recognize excellence in scholarly research by area students, and to encourage active student participation in the chapter.
CRITERIA
DC-AAPOR welcomes papers in any field related to the study of public opinion, broadly defined, including research on (a) theoretical issues in the formation and change of public opinion, (b) the theory and methods of survey or market research, and (c) the use of statistical techniques in the design, adjustment, or analysis of survey data. Papers should be approximately 15 to 25 pages in length, and will be judged based on the quality of research design, originality, significance, organization, and presentation. Past year winning paper and honorable mentions are available at http://www.dc-aapor.org/spcresults.php.

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

AWARD
The author(s) of the winning paper will be awarded a cash prize of $1,000. For multiple student authors on a winning paper, the award will be divided among the eligible authors. Additionally, the author(s) of the winning paper will be awarded a guaranteed spot on the Conference Program to present their paper at the Annual Conference in Anaheim.

REVIEW COMMITTEE
The winning paper and honorable mentions will be selected by a review committee composed of survey and public opinion researchers drawn from the commercial, government, and nonprofit sectors. See http://www.dc-aapor.org/studentpaper.php for a complete list of review committee members.

PAPER SUBMISSION
To be considered for the award, please send an electronic copy of your paper to Eileen O'Brien at eileen.obrien@eia.doe.gov by December 15, 2006. Include your name, academic affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address. You will receive confirmation that your
paper has been received. The winning paper will be announced on or before January 22, 2007.

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Date:         Tue, 5 Dec 2006 10:43:42 -0500
Reply-To:     "Mulrow, Jeri M." <jmulrow@NSF.GOV>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "Mulrow, Jeri M." <jmulrow@NSF.GOV>
Subject:      Job Announcement - NSF Chief Statistician
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Please post:

> JOB ANNOUNCEMENT: NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
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> CHIEF STATISTICIAN, AD-5/1529. Annual salary ranges from $129,026 to
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> ==20
> The position is excluded from the bargaining unit. ==20
> ==20
> Permanent positions apply under NSF Announcement Number E20070026.
> ==20
> One or two year visiting scientist appointments, Intergovernmental
> Personnel Act (IPA) assignments, or federal temporary appointments
> apply under NSF Announcement Number E20070027-Rotator.
> ==20
> http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps/vacancies/scientific.jsp
> ==20
> The Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS) in the National
> Science Foundation (NSF) is one of the fourteen (14) major statistical
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> is to develop statistical and analytical information on the U.S.
> science and engineering enterprise. The Chief Statistician provides
> statistical guidance and leadership to SRS staff in the areas of
> survey design and redesign, survey methodology, and mathematical
> statistics and is the Confidentiality Officer for SRS.==20
> ==20
> Closing date: January 29, 2007
> ==20
> * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Greetings!

A physician at the IU Med Center is attempting to better understand the views of pediatric staff/faculty regarding research that is conducted on child patients in their care. Human subjects' rights and ethics in research are key issues of interest in his review.

Please contact me off-list if you can point us in the right direction.

Many thanks,

Jim

Jim Wolf                jamwolf@iupui.edu
Dear Colleagues,

I would like to draw your attention to the following call for papers for the

Session on "Analysis Strategies for Cross-Cultural Research"
which will be held at the
European Survey Research Association (ESRA) Conference
June, 25-29, 2007
Prague, Czech Republic

Researchers are invited to submit proposals for papers for possible inclusion in a session concerned with the analysis of cross-cultural and cross-national survey data at the European Survey Research Association conference, June, 25-29, 2007 in Prague. Papers in this session will present analytic strategies for evaluating multiple-group measurement equivalence. This might include both innovative research designs (MTMM designs, cross-national factorial surveys) and the application of data-analytical strategies (structural equation modeling, multilevel...
modeling, etc.). Proposals should be no more than 500 words in length and should be sent to the session organizers Michael Braun (braun@zuma-mannheim.de) and Timothy Johnson (timj@uic.edu) by January 31, 2007.

Please also send your abstract to the conference organizers at esra@sqp.nl, indicating that you have submitted to the session named above.

For more information about the conference see: http://esra2007.vse.cz/home/.

With best wishes,
Michael Braun
--
******************************************************************************
PD Dr. Michael Braun
Center for Survey Research and Methodology (ZUMA)
B 2.1
P.O. Box 12 21 55
D-68072 Mannheim

Tel: ++49-(0)621-1246-176
Fax: ++49-(0)621-1246-100
http://www.gesis.org/

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Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers

By AUSTAN GOOLSBEE
NY Times

When Matt Lauer declared on the "Today" show last week that NBC would start referring to the conflict in Iraq as a "civil war," he inadvertently started his own civil war within the news media. Fox News refused to follow suit, saying that non-Iraqis were involved in the
fighting, "and that makes it something different." Accusations of partisanship arose all around. Yet newspapers around the country have been making decisions on this matter for months. The Los Angeles Times and The Christian Science Monitor have somewhat officially termed the conflict a civil war; The Washington Post has not.

Any politician will tell you that sometimes what we call things is the most political decision of all. Political consultants like Frank Luntz, a Republican, have become legendary for their way of spinning language to partisan advantage: "death tax" instead of "estate tax," "war on terror" instead of "war in Iraq." But most people expect spin from politicians. When they perceive partisan slant in the news itself, they typically interpret it as evidence of underlying bias by reporters or media owners.

But one of the most interesting things coming out of research on the economics of the media industry has been the notion that media slant may simply reflect business rather than politics.

New research by two University of Chicago economists, Matthew Gentzkow and Jesse M. Shapiro, entitled "What Drives Media Slant? Evidence From U.S. Daily Newspapers" (www.nber.org/papers/w12707.pdf) compiles some compelling and altogether unusual data to answer the question.

SNIP

No doubt, the battles over partisan language will continue. But to explain it, you need not try to find the inner politics of Matt Lauer, the ultimate ownership of the news media or even the facts on the ground in Iraq. A simpler approach would take a three-word phrase that never showed up on the partisan index: follow the money.

Austan Goolsbee is a professor of economics at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. E-mail: goolsbee@nytimes.com.

---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, 7 Dec 2006 10:39:37 -0500
Reply-To: Jim Ellis <jmellis@VCU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Just two cents here in a non-expert capacity. Interesting article, Leo. I don't necessarily think the Iraqi situation is comparable to other conflicts in history, but just playing the word game (and I apologize for playing word games about an active conflict in which people die every single day) --

There were non-Spaniards involved in the Spanish Civil War. And non-Russians involved in the Russian Civil War. I guess you could stretch the point if you wanted to include a few foreign nationals on hand for the American Civil War, or if you wanted to think about regiments that were heavily first-generation ethnic even though American citizens, some of which I believe communicated in their mother tongues (e.g., German, if I remember correctly). There were non-Britons (Hessians, Native Americans, French) involved in the American War of Independence, which was pretty much a civil war in many respects -- not only between British subjects and their king, but in the colonies among the Tory and Patriot subjects themselves. Maybe there is more to this discussion than I gather, but citing the involvement of non-Iraqis doesn't seem to be a criterion supported by past usage of the term civil war.

Jim Ellis
Virginia Commonwealth University

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2006 9:48 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers

Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers
By AUSTAN GOOLSBEE
NY Times
Or
http://tinyurl.com/y3kj67

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conflict a civil war; The Washington Post has not.

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Austan Goolsbee is a professor of economics at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. E-mail: goolsbee@nytimes.com.

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Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
Art & Science Group, LLC
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A letter to the editor in today's Contra Costa Times...I always like reading these to see how other people think.

-leora

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

Low turnout OK

I've seen several letters to the editor lamenting the low voter turnout in the November election and elections in general, most recently from Ronald Entwistle (Times, Dec. 3).

In fact, low voter turnout is not really a problem at all. Most survey polls use (at best) a 2 percent sampling of a population to draw conclusions about the larger population.

A voter turnout of 25 percent gives an extremely accurate indication of how the larger population, the American public, is thinking.

Also, the people who do vote often do so because they feel strongly about something (e.g. the war) and have done their homework on the issues and wish to express their opinions.

As distasteful as it may sound, if 75 percent of the voting public chooses to stay home, it's OK because it is highly likely the other 25 percent will correctly express their views.

Mark Davis

Clayton

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

Dr. Leora Lawton
TechSociety Research
"Custom Social Science and Consumer Behavior Research"
Hi folks,

Jim forgot to mention that many, many freed and current slaves participated in the American Civil War on both sides and none of them were considered Americans.

Chuck Flacks
SBRI

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jim Ellis
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2006 7:40 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers

Just two cents here in a non-expert capacity. Interesting article, Leo.
I don't necessarily think the Iraqi situation is comparable to other conflicts in history, but just playing the word game (and I apologize for playing word games about an active conflict in which people die every single day) --
There were non-Spaniards involved in the Spanish Civil War. And
non-Russians involved in the Russian Civil War. I guess you could stretch the point if you wanted to include a few foreign nationals on hand for the American Civil War, or if you wanted to think about regiments that were heavily first-generation ethnic even though American citizens, some of which I believe communicated in their mother tongues (e.g., German, if I remember correctly). There were non-Britons (Hessians, Native Americans, French) involved in the American War of Independence, which was pretty much a civil war in many respects -- not only between British subjects and their king, but in the colonies among the Tory and Patriot subjects themselves. Maybe there is more to this discussion than I gather, but citing the involvement of non-Iraqis doesn't seem to be a criterion supported by past usage of the term civil war.

Jim Ellis
Virginia Commonwealth University

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2006 9:48 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers

Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers=20
By AUSTAN GOOLSBEE
NY Times
Or
http://tinyurl.com/y3kj67

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to partisan advantage: "death tax" instead of "estate tax," "war on terror" instead of "war in Iraq." But most people expect spin from politicians. When they perceive partisan slant in the news itself, they typically interpret it as evidence of underlying bias by reporters or media owners.

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Austan Goolsbee is a professor of economics at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. E-mail: goolsbee@nytimes.com.

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On Dec 7, 2006, at 11:33 AM, Leora Lawton quoted:

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> survey polls
> use (at best) a 2 percent sampling of a population to draw
> conclusions about
> the larger population.
> >
> > A voter turnout of 25 percent gives an extremely accurate
> indication of how
> the larger population, the American public, is thinking.

So what's the state of the art these days on nonvoters?

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

voice +1-212-219-0010
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producer, Behind the News
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Please send resumes and salary requirements to:

Gail Pearl, Vice President
Starr Litigation Services, Inc.
1201 Grand Ave.
West Des Moines, IA 50265
E-mail: pearlg@starrlit.com

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From: Mike Flanagan <MFlanagan@GOAMP.COM>
Subject: Job Opportunity No. 2
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
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IMMEDIATE OPENING

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RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITION=20

Starr Litigation Services, Inc, a national litigation research firm
headquartered in Des Moines, Iowa has an opening for a research
associate in the Des Moines office. Preferred candidate will have a
background in research design, research analysis methods and statistics.
Candidate must also demonstrate excellent written and oral communication
skills. Minimum qualification required is a B.A. or B.S. with a Masters
degree preferred. Social sciences or communication major preferred.
Knowledge of SPSS and Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Powerpoint).
Weekend travel required.

=20

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Starr Litigation Services, Inc.

Gail J. Pearl, Vice President
Research Associate/Analyst - Slover Linett Strategies Inc.

About Us

Slover Linett Strategies is a Chicago-based audience research and planning firm for cultural and educational organizations nationwide. We help museums, orchestras, universities and other mission-driven enterprises take a fresh look at their relationship with their constituents—current and potential—through qualitative and quantitative research. We also help their staffs and boards turn that insight into action through facilitated planning or visioning processes designed to articulate clear, compelling principles for identity and growth. We are a small, intellectually creative consultancy that has developed long-term relationships with leading local and national nonprofit institutions. Our Chicago clients include the University of Chicago, the Art Institute, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ). Ongoing national engagements include the Walters Art Museum (Baltimore), the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and the Philadelphia Orchestra.
Job Description

The Research Associate/Analyst will work on all aspects of our qualitative and quantitative audience research projects, which primarily entail focus groups and surveys (mail, phone, web, and on-site intercepts). These studies are sometimes part of a larger, multi-mode research effort designed to inform strategic change and sometimes part of a single-mode, ongoing program to track audience trends and changes over time.

The Research Associate/Analyst will work closely with the firm's senior associates in areas such as:

* helping design research projects (defining objectives, prioritizing research questions, design of questionnaire/focus group discussion guide, sampling/recruiting methodology);

* managing elements of those research projects (logistics, timelines, vendors, etc.);

* analyzing and interpreting data (for quantitative research projects this would include data cleaning, weighting, statistical analysis using a broad range of techniques, and developing appropriate graphs, tables, and diagrams; for qualitative research projects it would include reviewing transcripts and identifying key themes);

* writing research reports in both bulleted and narrative text formats.

The Research Associate/Analyst will participate in client meetings as appropriate and may travel occasionally for client meetings and conferences.

The Research Associate/Analyst will also participate in other office-related tasks, which are shared by all members of the team.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will be a smart, energetic, and positive-spirited person with excellent research, analytical, and writing skills. A Masters involving statistical analysis or equivalent experience with
quantitative research is desired, as is expertise with SPSS. Candidates should also have some experience with qualitative research and be well-versed in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Knowledge of the nonprofit cultural sector is a plus.

The ideal candidate will also:

* possess a positive, can-do attitude and relish new challenges;
* be extremely well organized;
* have a love of the arts and the nonprofit sector generally;
* be a quick learner and able to work flexibly and independently;
* enjoy the casual, creative atmosphere of this small business;
* be able to maintain a big-picture view of each project even while getting the details right;
* be comfortable presenting research findings to clients and at conferences.

Compensation

Salary will be commensurate with experience. We offer excellent benefits. This is a full-time position.

To Apply

Please e-mail a brief cover note and resume to Chloe Chittick at chloe@sloverlinett.com. We are not looking for writing or report samples at this time. Please, no phone calls. We look forward to hearing from you.
Research Coordinator - Slover Linett Strategies Inc.

About Us

Slover Linett Strategies is a Chicago-based audience research and planning firm for cultural and educational organizations nationwide. We help museums, orchestras, universities, and other mission-driven enterprises take a fresh look at their relationship with their constituents-current and potential-through qualitative and quantitative research. We also help their staffs and boards turn that insight into action through facilitated planning or visioning processes designed to articulate clear, compelling principles for identity and growth. We are a small, intellectually creative consultancy that has developed long-term relationships with leading local and national nonprofit institutions. Our Chicago clients include the University of Chicago, the Art Institute, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and Chicago Public Radio. Ongoing national engagements include the Walters Art Museum (Baltimore), the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Job Description

We are seeking an all-around coordinator and organizer to assist our growing team and learn the ins and outs of the nonprofit world and the research profession. The Research Coordinator will play a wide range of supporting roles in all aspects of our business, including qualitative and quantitative audience research and the consulting work described above.

The Research Coordinator will work closely with the firm's partners, senior associates, and analysts in areas such as:

* coordinating logistics and materials for qualitative research projects, particularly focus groups;
* preparing quantitative research data files for analysis by
other team members, including creating data entry files and doing some data entry;

* conducting some field research, such as intercept interviews or surveys;

* assisting in the analysis of both qualitative and quantitative research;

* drafting and editing research reports in both bulleted and narrative text formats;

* maintaining and expanding the firm's own marketing database and managing web and print communications with our client base;

* managing routine office functions to help keep the office well-organized and running smoothly.

The Research Coordinator will participate in client meetings as appropriate. Occasional travel may be required.

Qualifications

The candidate must be well organized, possess strong analytical skills, and be an excellent writer. Work with statistical data is a plus but not required; we're looking for someone who wants to learn and grow in this field. Candidates should be well-versed in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel and be able to quickly learn basic functions of a Windows-based statistical software package such as SPSS. A Bachelor's degree and a minimum of one year's work experience is required.

The ideal candidate will also:

* possess a positive, can-do attitude and relish new challenges;

* love the arts and the nonprofit sector generally;

* be a quick learner and able to work flexibly and independently;

* enjoy the casual, creative atmosphere of this small business;

* be able to maintain a big-picture view of each project even while getting the details right.

Compensation
Salary will be commensurate with experience. In addition, we offer a competitive benefits package of vacation, holidays, sick days, health insurance, disability insurance, a retirement plan, and profit sharing.

Hours

We are looking to fill a full-time position but are willing to consider part-time arrangements (e.g. 30 hours/week).

To Apply

Please e-mail a brief cover note and resume to Chloe Chittick at chloe@sloverlinett.com. Please, no phone calls. We look forward to hearing from you.

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signoff aapornet
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Date: Fri, 8 Dec 2006 12:37:16 -0500
Reply-To: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Colleen Porter <CPORTER@DENTAL.UFL.EDU>
Subject: Re: Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <004501c71a15$ea068640$5cd9ac80@GRACELAN.prod.srl.vcu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-disposition: inline

>>> Jim Ellis <jmellis@VCU.EDU> 12/07/06 10:39 AM >>>
> Just two cents here in a non-expert capacity. Interesting article, Leo. I
> don't necessarily think the Iraqi situation is comparable to other conflicts
> in history, but just playing the word game --
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> I guess you could stretch the point if
you wanted to include a few foreign nationals on hand for the American Civil War, or if you wanted to think about regiments that were heavily first-generation ethnic even though American citizens, some of which I believe communicated in their mother tongues (e.g., German, if I remember correctly).

I don't know if Jim was saying "a few" foreign nationals with tongue in cheek, but when I wrote an editorial about the phenomenon of non-citizen soldiers back in 2003, I was surprised to learn just how many there were. About 500,000 soldiers in the Union army were foreign-born.

This source, and I don't know how reliable it is, says that 20% of the Union Army were non-citizens.

http://www.immigrantvoting.org/material/misconceptions.html

And of course the conscription of new immigrants on both sides of the Mason-Dixon line was pretty widespread. My favorite fictional Civil War hero, Maj. Abel Jones from Wales, talks about the Irish a lot (in the series of mysteries by Owen Parry).

Very interesting article, Leo, thanks for sharing.

Colleen

Colleen K. Porter, M.A.
Research Program Manager (Pain Lab)
University of Florida College of Dentistry
Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science
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---------------------------------------------
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Date: Fri, 8 Dec 2006 13:42:02 -0500
Reply-To: Jim Ellis <jmellis@VCU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jim Ellis <jmellis@VCU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <45795C7C020000360000127A@mail.dental.ufl.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Thanks, Colleen. I was hedging. A lot. I was actually thinking I remembered some British and perhaps French observers coming over, and they were my "foreign nationals." I was not up on the actual citizen status of a lot of the conscripts, and especially if they had already emigrated with the intent to become citizens, I thought that might be a little fuzzy. So I tried to go soft there, too.

Jim

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Colleen Porter
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2006 12:37 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Lean Left? Lean Right? News Media May Take Their Cues From Customers

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Chuck Flacks
Director, Business Development
Social & Behavioral Research Institute
California State University San Marcos
333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92069
Office: 760-750-3278
Cell: 858-229-9197
cflacks@csusm.edu

"If infinite light is the answer, why do we sleep in the dark?" -- Paul Simon
Chuck, two things are known to happen with scales and Latino respondents. One is a tendency to give polarized answers. In 5-point scales such as strongly agree/somewhat agree/neither agree nor disagree/somewhat disagree/strongly disagree, you often elicit either "agree" or "disagree" and have to probe for the finer categories.

The other thing is more topic dependent and is the tendency toward the center of the scale or avoidance of extreme positive values when reporting about one's state of health, or one's ability to do something. So, topics where choosing the extreme might be seen as bragging.

Was this a face to face survey or by phone? Did you have a graphic scale that respondents were shown? Did it have labels or just numbers? All of these things matter. It is not accurate to say as a general statement that Latinos do not get scales. There is ample experience eliciting good data with scales with this population. As far as visuals, I have seen thermometers work well with Latinos too.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Chuck Flacks
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2006 6:25 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?

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There is a literature on what is termed "extreme response" or "extreme response style" appearing in public opinion, psychology, cross-cultural and marketing research journals. A search in JSTOR or Google Scholar using those terms should render a decent cross-section of it.

--

Christian Collet
Doshisha University
http://www1.doshisha.ac.jp/~ccollet/

On 12/9/06, Chuck Flacks <cflacks@csusm.edu> wrote:
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-------------------------------------------------------------------------

Date: Fri, 8 Dec 2006 17:45:46 -0800
Reply-To: Joel Moskowitz <jmm@UCLINK4.BERKELEY.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Joel Moskowitz <jmm@UCLINK4.BERKELEY.EDU>
Subject: Re: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

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Below are two relevant articles.


Summary

Hispanics and Blacks tend to use extreme response categories when presented with Likert scales (p. 101). Less educated and less acculturated Hispanics exhibit stronger preference for extreme responses (p. 102). Some cultures may view extreme responses as more sincere.

One can accommodate for extreme response sets by collapsing extreme categories, or by using standardized (z-) scores with respondents or within instrument or analyze frequency distributions not just measures of central tendency.

Hispanics tend to engage in acquiescent response sets or "yea-saying" especially those with less education, males, the aged, low SES, and less acculturated. Acquiescence may be a self-presentation strategy for individuals who are relatively powerless (p. 104) in addition to a cultural value. Analyze frequency distributions not just measures of central tendency.

Hispanics tend to provide socially-desirable responses =AD they are more willing to report they engage in socially desirable attitudes or behaviors but avoid reporting less desirable attitudes or behaviors (e.g., smoking, drinking to excess) (p. 105). This is more common with=20
low SES and less acculturation. The evidence is limited and mixed. It may be useful to develop measures of social desirability.

Some evidence exists for inaccurate reporting of behaviors among Hispanics. This is especially problematic when assessing sensitive or personally threatening behaviors or behaviors that are socially rejected (e.g., cigarette smoking). Validation checks and measures of reliability should be used to estimate under- or over-reporting.

Hispanics are more likely to provide incomplete responses and have higher rates of missing data (p. 109). This could be due to social desirability or face-saving and to difficulty in comprehending the questions. Conduct preliminary data analyses to examine patterns of missing data by language of interview and acculturation level.

Hispanics are less likely to self-disclose. This is not affected by acculturation level. Male and female Hispanics are more likely to self-disclose to a female Hispanic interviewer (p. 110). To enhance self-disclosure, use culturally appropriate instruments and research staff of similar ethnicity, but avoid using interviewers from the same community as respondents (p. 112).


Telephone surveys have been used successfully in Hispanic populations. Compared to face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews may provide more accurate results but higher refusal rates especially among women. Once Hispanics are contacted, refusal rates are generally low.

Methods studies are rare.

Self-declared ethnic identity is one of the best methods to assess ethnicity and is considered the "gold standard." Many Hispanics respond "other" to the standard race question and provide their nationality to the Hispanic origin question. The Hispanic question should be separate from race in order to identify all Hispanics. The term "Hispanic" is preferred over "Latino" or "Spanish origin."
Nearly 90% of Hispanics are concentrated in 10 states.

60% of Hispanics in a national survey preferred to answer the questions in Spanish. 63% - 78% of Hispanics speak Spanish at home and 25% speak little or no English.

Spanish-speaking Hispanics have different attitudes and behaviors than English-speaking Hispanics.

The core cultural scripts of simpatia and respeto, a pattern of social interaction that promotes smooth, pleasant, and respectful social relations emphasizing positive behaviors in agreeable situations and avoiding confrontation may affect the validity of responses to sensitive questions. Hispanics tend to report socially desirable and acquiescent responses. High levels of "yea-saying" are common. Hispanics are more likely to use extreme response categories, particularly the positive end of agree-disagree scales. Hispanics score significantly higher on a lie-scale than non-Hispanic Whites. These response biases are stronger among Hispanics who are older, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or low SES.

Survey instruments that use "enhanced" items that are supportive of non-normative or stigmatized behaviors yield increased data quality.

Survey instruments should be revised by internal and external panels of bilingual/bicultural experts, back-translated, decentered and extensively pretested. Cognitive research and "think-aloud" techniques should be utilized in pretesting.

Some research suggests that Hispanics are more likely to engage in response biases when they answer in English as opposed to Spanish.

Many Hispanics have low literacy levels in Spanish as well as English. This leads to lack of familiarity with questionnaires, tendency to think in concrete and immediate terms, difficulty with complex response scales, insufficient language fluency, difficulty recalling time periods and events, and comprehension difficulty with technical terms.

Hispanics are more likely to say that they were the eligible respondent when the "last birthday" or "next birthday" screening method was used regardless of their actual birthday as compared to a full household enumeration method.
Hispanics, especially women and low-acculturated, were more likely to decline to answer sensitive demographic and sex questions in a national AIDS survey.

Date: Fri, 08 Dec 2006 16:25:07 -0800
From: Chuck Flacks <cflacks@CSUSM.EDU>
Subject: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Hello,

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"If infinite light is the answer, why do we sleep in the dark?" -- Paul Simon

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Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2006 02:09:51 -0500
Reply-To: stephanie@berганalytics.com
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Stephanie Berg <stephanie@BERGANALYTICS.COM>
Organization: bergAnalytics
Subject: Rim weights/IPF
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Can someone forward or point me to some articles/information on rim weights/iterative proportional fitting? Please reply off-list and thanks in advance.

stephanie berg
p 301.537.0817

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Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2006 07:54:25 -0500
Reply-To: "Lavrakas, Paul" <Paul.Lavrakas@NIELSENMEDIA.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Lavrakas, Paul" <Paul.Lavrakas@NIELSENMEDIA.COM>
Subject: Re: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?
Comments: To: Joel Moskowitz <jmm@UCLINK4.BERKELEY.EDU>, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <7.0.1.0.2.20061208165449.02758388@uclink4.berkeley.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Joel et al,

Might the same patterns not also hold as educational attainment changes
lower educated persons being more likely to use the extreme scale scores (and 5, since many people think that 5 is the midpoint of a 0-10 scale), with those with higher educational attainment showing more variance in their scale score choices.

Thus, might the pattern associated with Latinos "disappear" or at least be reduced if one controlled for educational attainment?

PJL

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Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
You are correct and I was incorrect. I was careless in thinking of 1-10 scales which are often used and for which many people think 5 is the midpoint, when actually it's 5.5. But with the 0-10 scale, 5.0 actually is the midpoint. Sorry.

-----Original Message-----
From: Cynthia Nelson [mailto:TI0CCN1@wpo.cso.niu.edu]
Sent: Saturday, December 09, 2006 9:42 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu; Lavrakas, Paul
Subject: Re: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?

All right, I give,,,with 5 points on either side of 5 on a 0-10 point scale, why isn't 5 the midpoint?

Cynthia Nelson

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Joel et al,
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Some evidence exists for inaccurate reporting of behaviors among Hispanics. This is especially problematic when assessing sensitive or personally threatening behaviors or behaviors that are socially rejected (e.g., cigarette smoking). Validation checks and measures of reliability should be used to estimate under- or over-reporting.

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Nearly 90% of Hispanics are concentrated in 10 states.

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The core cultural scripts of simpatia and respeto, a pattern of social interaction that promotes smooth, pleasant, and respectful social relations emphasizing positive behaviors in agreeable situations and avoiding confrontation may affect the validity of responses to sensitive questions. Hispanics tend to report socially desirable and acquiescent responses. High levels of "yea-saying" are common. Hispanics are more likely to use extreme response categories, particularly the positive end of agree-disagree scales. Hispanics score significantly higher on a lie-scale than non-Hispanic Whites. These response biases are stronger among Hispanics who are older, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or low SES.

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Subject: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Hello,

We have an odd finding. We conducted over 50% of our survey in Spanish

with Latinos where people gave ratings on a zero to ten scale for a=20
number of items they were given. The Latino respondents had a hugely=20
disproportionate number of 10s for their answers. Their means on all=20
items were in the 9.5 range. An interviewer said, "They don't get=20
scales, they either give things a one or a ten." Is there any evidence

out there to support this anecdotal finding?

Chuck Flacks
Director, Business Development
Social & Behavioral Research Institute
California State University San Marcos
333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92069
Office: 760-750-3278
Cell: 858-229-9197
cflacks@csusm.edu

"If infinite light is the answer, why do we sleep in the dark?" -- Paul

Simon

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
FWIW, I have recently been looking at a large survey of UK children, whose parents were asked to complete a behaviour scale with 10 items, each scored on a five point scale. A score of 2 indicated that the child was "about average" for their age. A score of 3 indicated that the child was "a little better average", and a score of 4 that the child was "a lot better average". A score of 1 indicated that the child was "a little worse than average" and a score of 0 that the child was "a lot worse than average".

The distribution of the scores was interesting. The mode was at 20, i.e. with a mean score of 2 ("about average") as you'd expect. But there were many more scores above 20 than below, suggesting that parents were much more prepared to consider their child above average than below - or perhaps rather that parents regarded "average" as equivalent to "normal" - i.e. not pathological, and "above average" as "better than some kids who are still normal kids".

What was also interesting was that the older the child, the more the parents were prepared to use the higher scores - the more willing they seemed to be to consider their child "better than average", even though the questions explicitly asked for comparisons between the child and his/her age peers. This was a slight but systematic, monotonic effect throughout the age range (5-16), but the general shape of the distribution - fat tails at the high end, thin tails at the low end - was true for every age band.

There were some ethnic differences in scoring. Parents of Indian children tend to score their children higher than parents of white or black children did, and parents of Bangladeshi/Pakistani children tended to score them lower. "Hispanic" wasn't a category, of course, being the UK.

Lizzie
On 12/9/06, Lavrakas, Paul <Paul.Lavrakas@nielsenmedia.com> wrote:

> You are correct and I was incorrect. I was careless in thinking of 1-10 scales which are often used and for which many people think 5 is the midpoint, when actually it's 5.5. But with the 0-10 scale, 5.0 actually is the midpoint. Sorry.

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Cynthia Nelson [mailto:TI0CCN1@wpo.cso.niu.edu]
> Sent: Saturday, December 09, 2006 9:42 AM
> To: AAPORN\ET\@asu.edu; Lavrakas, Paul
> Subject: Re: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?
>
> All right, I give,,,with 5 points on either side of 5 on a 0-10 scale, why isn't 5 the midpoint?
> Cynthia Nelson
>
> >>> "Lavrakas, Paul" <Paul.Lavrakas@NIELSEN\MEDIA.COM> 12/09/06 6:54 AM
> >>>
> Joel et al,
> 
> Might the same patterns not also hold as educational attainment changes -- lower educated persons being more likely to use the extreme scale scores (and 5, since many people think that 5 is the midpoint of a 0-10 scale), with those with higher educational attainment showing more variance in their scale score choices.
>
> Thus, might the pattern associated with Latinos "disappear" or at least be reduced if one controlled for educational attainment?
>
> PJL
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORN\ET\ [mailto:AAPORN\ET\@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Joel Moskowitz
> Sent: Friday, December 08, 2006 8:46 PM
> To: AAPORN\ET\@asu.edu
> Subject: Re: Any research on Latinos and rating scales?
>
> In 2000 we conducted a statewide telephone survey in English and Spanish with adults in California to assess HIV/AIDS knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and behaviors.
>
> One attitude question employed a 0-10 scale:
>
> "How concerned are you about HIV and AIDS as a public health issue? On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 means you are not concerned at all and 10 means you are extremely concerned, how would you rate yourself?"
>
> Among Hispanics interviewed in Spanish, 43% used the extreme categories (n=244; 20% = 0, 24% = 10). Among Hispanics interviewed in English, 37% used the extreme categories (n=207; 2% = 0; 35% = 10). Among non-Hispanics interviewed in English, 31% used the extreme categories (n=1275; 2% = 0; 29% = 10). As Hispanics (especially those who
responded in Spanish) held many misconceptions about HIV/AIDS, it is possible that the above differences are real and not methodologic artifacts (see our published paper http://heb.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/1090198106288795v1). Other reports on this survey can be found at: http://cfch.berkeley.edu/reports/reports.html.

Below are two relevant articles.


Summary

Hispanics and Blacks tend to use extreme response categories when presented with Likert scales (p. 101). Less educated and less acculturated Hispanics exhibit stronger preference for extreme responses (p. 102). Some cultures may view extreme responses as more sincere.

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>
> Sabogal, Fabio; Binson, Diane; Catania, Joseph A.
> Researching Sexual Behavior: Methodological Issues for Hispanics. In
> Bancroft, John (Ed). Researching Sexual Behavior:
>
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PJL

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UNASSIGNED MEASUREMENT-RELATED ENTRIES

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Maintaining Interviewer-Respondent interaction NR 900=09
Noncooperation NR 350=09
Tailoring NR 900=09
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Debriefing ETH 650
Deception ETH 650
Disclosure ETH 900
Disclosure Avoidance ETH 550
Disclosure limitation ETH 550
Ethical principles ETH 1700
Minimal risk ETH 650
Privacy ETH 550
Protection of Human Subjects ETH 1700
Voluntary participation ETH 650

UNASSIGNED OPERATIONS-RELATED ENTRIES

Contactability OP 350
Field OP 900
Interviewer debriefing OP 900
Nonverbal behavior OP 550
Number verification OP 350
Optical character recognition OP 550
Supervisor OP 650
Survey costs OP 900
Video computer-assisted self-interviewing (VCASI) OP 550

UNASSIGNED SURVEY INDUSTRY-RELATED ENTRIES

American Statistical Association Section on Survey Research Methods (ASA-SRMS) SI 900
Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) SI 900
Cochran, W.G. SI 550
Crossley, Archibald SI 550
Current Population Survey (CPS) SI 900
Hansen, Morris SI 550
Journal of survey methodology SI 900
Roper, Elmo SI 550
Sheatsley, Paul SI 550
Statistics Canada SI 900
Statistics Sweden SI 900
Survey sponsor SI 900
Telemarketing SI 550
U.S. Bureau of the Census SI 900

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Dear AAPOR members,

The December issue of Public Opinion Pros is now posted to our website at:

www.PublicOpinionPros.com

This month's issue features a look at the role of swing voters in the 2006 midterm elections by Will Lester, an experiment in the measurement of racial attitudes by David Wilson, and a comparison by Al Richman of Muslim and non-Muslim foreign publics on Americans, U.S. counterterrorism efforts and the Iraq War, and Iranian nuclear arms. Sheldon Appleton comments on the commentators' (mis)analyses of the November vote, and, just to prove nothing is sacred, the editor indulges in an extended rant against Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, accessible to nonsubscribers at:

http://www.publicopinionpros.com/from_editor/2006/dec/editor.asp

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

editor@PublicOpinionPros.com.

We hope to hear from you soon, and wish you all very happy holidays.

Best wishes -
I am looking for recommendations on web survey software packages. A search of the archives provided me with some leads, but I am guessing some of the information is likely to be outdated. I found one source with comparative information but would be interested in getting feedback on users' direct experiences with one or more packages. Recommendations can be sent to me offline and if others are interested in the results I would be happy to share whatever information I receive.

Thanks in advance.

Claire Wilson, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Programs
Insight Policy Research
1655 North Fort Myer Drive
Suite 680
Arlington, VA 22209
703.373.6647
I am looking for examples of exit surveys given students who are withdrawing, without graduating, from their college/university (these could be in person, phone, mail, etc).

Also, I would be interested if anyone has done focus groups with university students regarding
a) why they stayed at a particular schools (these would be groups of currently enrolled students) and
b) why students left/dropped out/withdrew (these would be students no longer at the university). Focus group guides and/or reports would be useful to me.

Any help is appreciated. You may contact me directly at draghon.research@insightbb.com

Thank you - Kat Draughon

Dr. Katherine "Kat" Draughon

Draughon Research, LLC
www.draughonresearch.com
draghon.research@insightbb.com
How a celebrity pollster created Cameron

Nick Cohen
Sunday December 10, 2006
The Observer
http://politics.guardian.co.uk/columnist/story/0,,1968792,00.html
Or
http://tinyurl.com/vodd7

SNIP

Through no fault of his own, show-business made Cameron leader of the opposition. David Davis had the strongest base among activists and MPs. The opinion polls declared Kenneth Clarke the frontrunner among the wider public. Neither man was a clear election winner, however. Cameron came from nowhere because Newsnight commissioned a focus group run by American pollster Frank Luntz that appeared to prove that the young politician could become extraordinarily popular and the Conservatives believed him. The desperation of the Tories in 2005 produced an election without precedent. The findings of a focus group drove a hitherto obscure politician to the leadership of a major political party. Not a focus group hired by party managers anxious to uphold the best interests of their cause, but by a broadcaster as interested in entertainment as reputable market research.

By the standards of the old-fashioned journalists who looked down their noses at Frost, Luntz was an astonishing pollster for Newsnight to commission. He had spent much of the previous decade helping the Republicans find smarmy ways to spin tax cuts for the rich and dismiss global warming as scaremongering.

Samantha Bee, of American TV's Daily Show, persuaded him to parade his devious talents on camera when she gave him controversial phrases to translate.

Bee: 'Drilling for oil.'
Luntz: 'I would say "responsible exploration for energy".'
Bee: 'Logging.'
Luntz: 'I would say "healthy forests".'
Bee: 'Manipulation.'
Luntz: 'Explanation and education.'

Add to that the reprimand Luntz received from the American Association for Public Opinion Research for his unsubstantiated claim that 60 per cent of Americans supported the Republicans' Contract with America and
you seem to be left with a mediocre propagandist the BBC would never allow near its programmes in normal circumstances.

SNIP

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

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The second conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA) will be held June 25-29, 2007 in Prague, Czech Republic.

A large variety of topics will be discussed, among which are sampling, nonresponse, measurement of social science concepts, evaluation of survey quality, cross-cultural research, research designs, analysis of survey data, missing data, data collection, mode effects in surveys, etc.

For this conference we are organizing a session on mobile phone usage in survey research. The papers presented shall provide an overview of the experiences with mobile phone surveys in different countries. Particularly, implications of mobile phone surveys for various dimensions of the total survey error and data quality shall be discussed.

Please send abstracts of around 250 (max. 500) words to the session organizers by May 1, 2007.

Further Information on the Conference can be found on the conference homepage
http://esra.sqp.nl/esra/conferences/2007/

Please send abstracts to both session organizers
I'm afraid the last bit about who the BBC would hire is long out of date.

Iain Noble

--

>-----Original Message-----
>From: AAPORNET=20[mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu]=20On=20Behalf=20Of=20Leo Simonetta
>Sent: 2011=20December=202006=2021:54
>To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
>Subject: Re: Frank Luntz in England
>
>How a celebrity pollster created Cameron

>Add=20to=20that=20the=20reprimand=20Luntz=20received=20from=20the=20American Association
>for=20Public=20Opinion=20Research=20his=20unsubstantiated=20claim=20that=2060=20per cent=20of=20Americans=20supported=20the=20Republican=20Contract=20with=20America=20and
>you=20seem=20to=20be=20left=20with=20a=20mediocre propagandist=20the=20BBC=20would=20never allow=20near=20its=20programmes=20in=20normal=20circumstances.

>SNIP

>
Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2006 15:15:34 -0600
Reply-To: Smith-Tom <smitht@NORC.UCHICAGO.EDU>

> Leo = 20G. = 20 Simonetta
> Director = 20 of = 20 Research
> Art = 20 & = 20 Science = 20 Group = 20 LLC
> 6115 = 20 Falls = 20 Road, = 20 Suite = 20 101
> Baltimore = 20 MD = 20 21209
> 
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> On = 20 entering = 20 the = 20 GSI, = 20 this = 20 email = 20 was = 20 scanned = 20 for = 20 viruses =
> = 20 by = 20 the
> Government = 20 Secure = 20 Intranet
> (GSI) = 20 virus = 20 scanning = 20 service = 20 supplied = 20 exclusively = 20 by = 20 Cable = 20 =
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> this = 20 please = 20 visit = 20 www.cctmark.gov.uk

The = 20 original = 20 of = 20 this = 20 email = 20 was = 20 scanned = 20 for = 20 viruses = 20 by = 20 =
Government = 20 Secure = 20 Intranet = 20 (GSI) = 20 virus = 20 scanning = 20 service = 20 supplied =
exclusively = 20 by = 20 Cable = 20 & = 20 Wireless = 20 in = 20 partnership = 20 with
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the = 20 UK = 20 Government = 20 quality = 20 mark = 20 initiative = 20 for = 20 information = 20 security =
20 products = 20 and =
services.

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CALL FOR INVITED PAPERS

International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts (3MC)

June 25 - 29, 2008

Berlin, Germany

As part of an ongoing effort to promote quality in multipopulation surveys and to raise the level of methodological expertise in various applied fields of comparative survey research, an International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts will be held June 25 - 29, 2008 in Berlin, Germany.

This conference will bring together researchers and survey practitioners concerned with survey methodology and practice in comparative contexts. It will provide a unique opportunity to discuss and present research that contributes to our understanding of survey needs and methods in cross-cultural and cross-national contexts. Conference contributions will help document current best practices and stimulate new ideas for further research and development.

We invite all interested researchers and practitioners to submit abstracts to be considered for Invited Papers. An accompanying edited volume presenting state-of-the-art research and practice will be published with John Wiley & Sons. The expectation is that Invited Papers become chapters in the edited volume.

Abstracts should be between 700-1000 words. The deadline for submitting abstracts is Friday, 2 March, 2007. They can be submitted at the CSDI website (http://www.csdi-workshop.org); there you will find a link to the 2008 3MC conference under EVENTS.

If you have questions related to submitting an abstract, please contact Janet Harkness at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, jharkness2@unl.edu and copy to eu-centre@zuma-mannheim.de.

Unless advised otherwise, we will pass on abstracts which cannot be accepted as Invited Papers to have them considered as Contributed Papers.
at the conference. The first individual call for Contributed Papers at the conference will follow in late spring, 2007.

*CSDI is the acronym for the International Workshop for Comparative Survey Design and Implementation, which heads the initiative for this conference. CSDI meets every year for an annual workshop. More information is available on the CSDI website (see above).

PRELIMINARY OUTLINE OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The following is a list of possible topics under large headings planned for the conference sessions and the monograph. These may be expanded and re-organized, depending on submissions. Some overlap of sub-themes at this preliminary stage is intentional. Those submitting abstracts are not required to indicate where they think their abstract might "fit".

Theory and Methodology for Comparative Studies

* Theories of comparability
* Evidence-based approaches to comparability

Models of Study Designs, Organizations, and Goals

* social surveys: values, opinions, behaviors
* establishment surveys
* cohort studies and panels
* labor force surveys
* short term economic indicators
* marketing surveys
* social indicators
* aggregation of regional data
* human capital and competencies
* health surveys
* cognition, education and personality instruments
* international web studies
* mandatory surveys

Multilingual, Multicultural Issues

* global measurement and local cultures
* institutions, gatekeepers, respondents
* communication across and between cultures
* language and measurement
* instrument comparability
* written and oral forms of instrument translation
* developing and testing multilingual instruments
* forms of instrument adaptation
* monitoring translation quality
* official version approval

Instrument Design

* instrument design models
* instrument development and pretesting strategies
* accommodating language and culture in questionnaire design
  * question content and format
  * question meaning and context
  * response processes; response, disclosure and culture
  * data collection modes and design
  * visualization, navigation and presentation

Study Implementation, Quality and Improvement

* quality assurance and quality control
* survey operations and error structures (process data)
* infrastructures and management issues
* external and internal design tensions
* standardization and local realizations (what can vary and what cannot)
* input and output harmonization procedures
* assessing survey measurement capability
* sampling
* expertise and standards
* applications of ISO standard on market opinion and social research
* resources and funding (studies, monitoring, and methods)
* data capture and data processing
  * coding
  * estimation and weighting
  * editing and imputation

Knowledge Management and Dissemination

* knowledge management in surveys
* documentation as design and process quality tool
* classifications
* survey process data
* metadata, paradata, context data
* archives and databases
  * dissemination
  * public use data files

Analysis and Validation

* measurement strategies
* measurement difficulties
* measurement models
* units of analysis
* bias and error
* house effects (countries and houses)
* response conversion
* secondary analysis and analysts
* meta-analysis

Data Collection in Complex Comparative Contexts
* organizing and building fielding structures=20
* ethics=20
* recruiting, assigning, and training interviewers=20
* sample management=20
* collecting data=20
  * nomadic populations=20
  * rural populations=20
  * undocumented populations and accommodations=20
  * conflict-torn and fragile states=20
  * ethnic minority populations=20
  * populations on reservations, in refugee camps, etc.=20

Data Collection Programs and Surveys and Data Access in Developing Countries

* data access=20
* capacity-building=20
* educational indicators=20
* health indicators=20
* economic indicators=20
* social indicators=20
* epidemiological studies=20
* governance indicators=20
* political indicators=20
* attitudinal indicators=20
* price comparison indicators=20
* using informational databases=20

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE=20

=20

Siobhan Carey
Lars Lyberg

Department for International Development Statistics
Sweden

London, UK
Stockholm, Sweden

Brad Edwards
Peter Ph Mohler

Westat, Inc.
ZUMA

Rockville, USA
Mannheim, Germany

Janet Harkness (Chair)
Beth-Ellen Pennell
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, USA
and ZUMA, Mannheim, Germany
Timothy Johnson
Tom W. Smith
Survey Research Laboratory, University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, USA

University of Michigan
and ZUMA, Mannheim, Germany
Ann Arbor, USA

Survey Research Laboratory, University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, USA

Denise Lievesley
Fons van de Vijver
Health and Social Care Information Centre
Tilburg, Netherlands

UK Department of Health
Tilburg, Netherlands

Leeds, UK

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Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2006 18:29:38 -0500
Reply-To: JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "J. Ann Selzer" <JAnnSelzer@AOL.COM>
Subject: Honesty
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
A radio producer asked me who I might know who could speak about how accurate polls are when testing female and black candidates for president. I thought I'd ask the list. 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

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Date:         Tue, 12 Dec 2006 19:53:45 -0500
Reply-To:     Joel Bloom <joeldbloom@GMAIL.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Joel Bloom <joeldbloom@GMAIL.COM>
Subject:      Pollster.com Nominated for Weblog Award
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

OK, it's an odd category (Best of the Top 1751 - 2500 Blogs) but our colleagues Mark Blumenthal and Charles Franklin have been nominated for The Weblog Awards. Not that I would ever dream of suggesting for whom you should vote, but I can guarantee you haven't heard of anyone else in the category ;)

It's listed as "Pollster":


Voting closes Friday at midnight.

--
Joel David Bloom, Ph.D.
The University at Albany, SUNY

Research Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science
Associate Director, Office of Institutional Research
Phone: (518) 437-4791
Peyton M. Craighill, former project director at the Pew Research Center in Washington, has joined ABC News as assistant director of polling.

Peyton managed and analyzed survey research projects on political trends, social values and international public opinion in his more than five years at Pew. He holds a master's degree in public policy with a concentration in survey research methodology from Rutgers University, where he studied under former AAPOR President Cliff Zukin. An AAPOR member since 2000, he's served as co-chair of the Heritage Committee and as program chair of DC-AAPOR. He replaces Jon Cohen, past president of PAPOR, who's moved on from ABC News to direct polling at the Washington Post.

Peyton can be reached at peyton.m.craighill@abc.com, (212) 456-2622.
Please join me in welcoming him to ABC News.

Gary Langer
Director of Polling, ABC News
President, NYAAPOR
Penn State Harrisburg is accepting applications for a Field Operations Coordinator with the Center for Survey Research at the Harrisburg Campus.

Position will coordinate interviewer staff and technology to ensure high quality, on-time data collection at the Center for Survey Research (CSR). Recruit, select, train, and supervise part-time interviewers at CSR's 20-seat telephone call center and statewide in face-to-face data collection efforts. Design and conduct formal and informal training courses. Train part-time shift supervisors. Generate project statistics and productivity reports. Recommend design, material, and equipment changes to improve work efficiency. Participate in Center for Survey Research staff meetings and assist with various other survey research duties as assigned.

Candidates should have excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills and able to work both independently and as a team member. Familiarity with Microsoft Office Suite, Voxco Interviewer CATI and CAPI software desired. Experience in survey research, training, and supervisory responsibilities are also desirable. Some travel and extensive evening (3 weekday evenings until 9 p.m.) and weekend hours (one weekend day) are required. More information about the Center for Survey Research is available online at http://csr.hbg.psu.edu/. Requirements include a Master's degree or equivalent knowledge with 3 months to 1 year of experience. NOTE: THIS IS A FIXED-TERM APPOINTMENT FUNDED THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007 WITH A POSSIBILITY OF REFUNDING.

To apply, send a cover letter, resume and references (in duplicate) to: Mrs. Hundertmark, Penn State Harrisburg, 777 W. Harrisburg Pike, Box A-24038, Middletown, PA 17057-4898. Applications must be received no later than January 11, 2007. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its workforce.

Auden D. Thomas, Ph.D.
Director, Center for Survey Research
Penn State Harrisburg
777 West Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057-4898
Office: 717-948-6435
Fax: 717-948-6306
E-mail: adt121@psu.edu
<http://csr.hbg.psu.edu/> http://csr.hbg.psu.edu/
I don't do political polls anymore (thank heavens) but it seems to me this question, as asked, is unanswerable.

Since there has never been a major party presidential candidate who was female or black this cannot be answered directly. I guess you could look at the accuracy of polls before primaries involving minority candidates but the people who vote in those are not like those who vote in a general election. The best bet might be to look at executive positions at the state level and senate races where there would be abundant albeit tangential evidence.

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

-----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of J. Ann Selzer
> Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 6:30 PM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: Honesty

> A radio  producer asked me who I might know who could speak about how accurate polls are when testing female and black candidates for president. I thought I'd ask the list. JAS

---
J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
520 42nd Street
Des Moines, Iowa  50312
Whoops - make that major party presidential nominee rather than candidate.

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

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Leo Simonetta  
> Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 2:24 PM
> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
> Subject: RE: Honesty
> 
> I don't do political polls anymore (thank heavens) but it seems to me this question, as asked, is unanswerable.
> 
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Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 6:30 PM  
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu  
Subject: Honesty  

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

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Visit our website at: www.SelzerCo.com  

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This year's AAPOR theme is ideal for me and I'm looking forward to seeing what is presented. I am currently getting my Ph.D. in Public Policy. As a longtime AAPOR member, my goal is to link Public Opinion to public policy. A large field of public opinion research is geared toward electoral politics and another large field of public opinion research is mass communications. But linking public opinion to policy is a much smaller field (I've found a nice book by Michael Chard about public opinion and the Clinton health care plan and about a dozen articles). I know a lot work is done on a contract base with policy work - because I've done a lot of it, it just may not end up in the literature (but perhaps presented at conferences?)

So, I'll ask the AAPORnet crowd -- got any good references linking public opinion research with policy (outside of electoral politics)? Reports with direct policy implications would be good. At the sub-national level is fine. You can e-mail directly and spare the membership the details.

Thanks,

Ward Kay
For what it's worth, on November 5, 1996, CBS and CNN exercised their option to order a special question on the Voter News Service exit poll by having voters in the survey asked who they would have chosen if the candidates on the ballot had been Colin Powell as the Republican, Bill Clinton as the Democrat and Ross Perot as the Reform party candidate. The result:

Powell: 48%
Clinton: 36%
Perot: 8%

Martin Plissner

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Also Segal, Levy, Said and Katz, Negotiating Jerusalem; also Liebman and Katz, eds., The Jewishness of Israelis, both SUNY Press. Good luck elihu katz

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Ward Kay
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 10:12 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Public Opinion and Public Policy
This year's AAPOR theme is ideal for me and I'm looking forward to seeing what is presented. I am currently getting my Ph.D. in Public Policy. As a longtime AAPOR member, my goal is to link Public Opinion to public policy. A large field of public opinion research is geared toward electoral politics and another large field of public opinion research is mass communications. But linking public opinion to policy is a much smaller field (I've found a nice book by Michael Chard about public opinion and the Clinton health care plan and about a dozen articles). I know a lot work is done on a contract base with policy work - because I've done a lot of it, it just may not end up in the literature (but perhaps presented at conferences?)

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Try Sarah? IGO's new book on polling from an historian's point of view.  
Haven't yet seen it myself, but might be good. Her earlier work was on 
Kinsey methodology and policy. Elihu Katz

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Ward Kay
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 10:12 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Public Opinion and Public Policy

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seeing
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You can e-mail directly and spare the membership the details.
Thanks,
Ward Kay

Also Shamir and Shamir on survey research and Israeli policy toward =
occupied
territories, elihu

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Ward Kay
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 10:12 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Public Opinion and Public Policy

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For in-depth information on public opinion on international policy issues, in countries around the world as well as the US, see WorldPublicOpinion.org.

----- Original Message -----
From: "elihu katz" <mskatz@MSCC.HUJI.AC.IL>
To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2006 3:47 AM
Subject: Re: Public Opinion and Public Policy

> Also Segal, Levy, Said and Katz, Negotiating Jerusalem; also Liebman and Katz, eds., The Jewishness of Israelis, both SUNY Press. Good luck elihu katz
>
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>
> Ward Kay
Ole Holsti's "Public Opinion and American Foreign Policy" was revised in 2004.


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
Ward Kay

So, I'll ask the AAPORnet crowd -- got any good references linking public opinion research with policy (outside of electoral politics)?


Some of the chapters are pretty methodological, but overall it makes the case for linking research to policy development--and vice versa.

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

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I am interested in hearing how others handle response rate calculations for telephone surveys of specifically named persons. We mostly use the final disposition codes for RDD studies as outlined in Standard Definitions, but add codes for various kinds of ineligibility, and I wonder how others do it.

My preference (when there is space) is to report the broad categories of dispositions, and let users of the data calculate whichever rate they prefer. With listed studies in particular, the number of "named persons" who turn out to be ineligible is of interest, yet it may not be stated anywhere if only a rate is provided.

If you reply directly, I'll do a summary for the list.

Colleen

(Of course this is not as pressing as my other dilemma: For Christmas we send Florida Gator clothes to our grandchildren, to remind them of their heritage and get them accustomed to wearing orange and blue. But one child's mother happens to be a grad student at The Ohio State University. I'm thinking that maybe this year we should send something more neutral?)

Colleen K. Porter, M.A.
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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
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cporter@dental.ufl.edu

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Two recent books on public opinion and policy in Canada are:
Both rely heavily on interviews with pollsters and policy officials. The Ponting study is about polling and communication to "sell" a policy (a treaty with a native tribe in B.C.) to the public. It shares similarities with works about polling in the context of electoral politics. There is also a chapter about polling with respect to Indigenous issues in Australia.

The Page book is more about the use of public opinion research (POR) in policy making, and less about political communication, although the author argues that the main use of POR is government communication, at least in Canada. The argument is probably correct in the policy arenas that are examined in the book (constitutional renewal; gun control).

François

François Pétry, PhD  
francois.petry@pol.ulaval.ca
Centre d'analyse des politiques publiques
Département de science politique
Université Laval, Québec (Québec) G1k 7P4

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Hi,

I sent a message relating to the above to you all last year and received useful feedback but wondered if there may be more recent information lurking out there somewhere. Does anyone know of, or have, information pertaining to recent trends in mailed survey response rates? I'm mainly interested in health-related surveys but information about any type of mailed survey would suffice and something I can cite would be preferred.

In my mind, an ideal analysis in this realm would mirror that of Asch et al. (Asch DS, Jedrziewski MK, Christakis NA. Response rates to surveys published in medical journals. J Clin Epidemiol 1997; 50: 1129-1136.) who
found response rates of around 60% in surveys conducted in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Admittedly, this is not necessarily a trend analysis but more of a statement of current rates circa 1990 or so. I need something that more convincingly reflects contemporary trends.

Can anyone provide some evidence of what current mailed survey response rates are and/or how they may be turning downward or upward in recent years? Thanks in advance for consideration and response.

Regards,

Tim

Timothy J. Beebe, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Health Services Research
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Director, Survey Research Center
Department of Health Sciences Research
Mayo Clinic
200 First Street SW
Rochester, MN 55905
Tel: (507) 538-4606
Fax: (507) 284-1180
E-mail: beebe.timothy@mayo.edu

Hi Ward,

Michael Berkman and I published a book about 12 months ago that shows how local preferences for public school spending is reflected in the actual spending levels (controlling for the ability to pay), and under what conditions the voice of the people is most clearly reflected in policy outputs.

You can search for "Ten Thousand Democracies" at any major research library or retailers such as Abe or Amazon. You can read the first chapter at http://press.georgetown.edu/detail.html?id=1589010760
under the heading of "Sample Content".

There is additional interesting work being done at the local level by Percival, Johnson, and Neiman -- all at U Cal, Riverside.

Eric

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

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Date:         Fri, 15 Dec 2006 12:13:50 -0500
Reply-To:     Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender:       AAPORTNET <AAPORTNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject:      Expert Panel Proposes Far-Reaching Redesign of the American Education System
Comments: To: AAPORTNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

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December 15, 2006
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By DAVID M. HERSZENHORN
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Klein.

The commission's report, released at a news conference in Washington, rethinks American schooling from top to bottom, going beyond the achievement goals of the federal education law known as No Child Left Behind, and farther than many initiatives being pursued by the Bush administration or by experimental state and local school authorities. Among other things, the report proposes starting school for most children at age 3, and requiring all students to pass board exams to graduate from high school, which for many would end after 10th grade. Students could then go to a community or technical college, or spend two years preparing for selective colleges and universities.

"We have run out the string on a whole series of initiatives that were viewed as hopeful," said Lewis H. Spence, commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Social Services and a member of the panel. "This puts a whole new set of ideas on the table."

Mr. Spence, a former deputy schools chancellor in New York City, and other commission members acknowledged that enacting the proposals would be difficult, requiring legislation in all states and the cooperation of the federal government. Some, like one for merit pay for teachers, would require renegotiating teacher contracts nationwide and persuading local school boards to relinquish authority and take a new role enforcing performance contracts with schools.

"You can't implement something like this overnight," said Mr. Klein, who had been scheduled to appear at yesterday's news conference with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of New York, but whose flights were grounded by thick fog in Washington. Mr. Klein strongly applauded the commission's proposals, and pointed to many efforts in New York - including sharp increases in teacher pay, a new master-teacher career step; increased roles for private groups in running public schools and performance agreements signed by 331 principals in exchange for greater freedom from superintendents - as examples of how some of the commission's goals could begin to be accomplished. "We need to think big," he said.

The commission's work was quickly hailed by some as a potentially groundbreaking document. "This report has the potential to change the debate on education at the national level," said Jack Jennings, the president of the Center on Education Policy, who is a Democrat and prominent expert on the federal education law.

The national teachers' unions were apprehensive. Antonia Cortese, executive vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, said the proposals included "some seriously flawed ideas with faddish allure that won't produce better academic results." Reg Weaver, the president of the National Education Association, urged "caution in calling for drastic changes."

The commission was organized by the National Center on Education and the Economy, a nonprofit, nonpartisan group based in Washington, and partly financed by the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation. The center organized a similar commission that issued a similar report 16 years ago. Marc S.
Tucker, the group's president, said globalization had created new urgency. "There is this growing mismatch between the demands of the economy and what our schools are supplying," Mr. Tucker said.

In its report, the commission warned of dire consequences should the country not adopt a strikingly bold approach. "If we continue on our current course, and the number of nations outpacing us in the education race continues to grow at its current rate," it said, "the American standard of living will steadily fall relative to those nations, rich and poor, that are doing a better job."

"If the gap gets to a certain but unknowable point," the report said, "the world's investors will conclude that they can get a greater return on their funds elsewhere, and it will be almost impossible to reverse course."

Paul Romer, an economist at Stanford University, said that some of the fears about competition with India and China might be overblown but that the education system still needed improvement. He said the current effort was driven by improvements in technology, much as advances in the early 20th century led to universal high school.

"High productivity investments in education are one of the most universally supported and effective policies that governments have ever undertaken," Mr. Romer said. "The left and the right are both on board for high payoffs in education."
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---------------- Original message ----------------
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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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>From: Marc Sapir <marcsapir@COMCAST.NET>
>Sent: Dec 15, 2006 4:26 PM
>To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
>Subject: Re: Expert Panel Proposes Far-Reaching Redesign of the American Education System
>
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>Dear Leo,
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>---------- Original message ---------
>From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
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"High productivity investments in education are one of the most universally supported and effective policies that governments have ever undertaken," Mr. Romer said. "The left and the right are both on board for high payoffs in education."
Your point is well taken. However, the trend toward stifling standarized national testing and ranking teachers on criteria determined by political and management hacks--criteria that prevent the teachers students and community from operating freely within the classroom--is not an idea I invented. When I was growing up in NY State we took final State Regents Exams in all math and science subjects. These tests were formulaic and studying the past few years allowed one to excel, as I did easily. Were they good for learning, creativity or innovation? Of course not. The problem is not "at what level" various policy decisions are made but whether they are made by people with actual classroom expertise or politicians and administrators with other agendas. As you well state it makes no sense for local districts to be left to their own devices when it comes to funding. But the federal and state government could guarantee funding equality and set some standards without
interfer!

ing in
the classroom. Currently in our county (Alameda) the Oakland school district
has been under receivership by the state for many years on the basis that they
did not manage their finances well. But the outcome is that the state monitor
is destroying the autonomy and creativity of schools themselves. The idea
that schools, hospitals and other vital services are messing up if they don't
stay in the black makes no sense. The fact of the matter is that the US
government still subsidizes agribusiness—corn and tobacco and soy to the tune
of billions, to say nothing of Halliburton and Bechtel with no-bid contracts—
so it's not the concept of good fiscal management that is behind these kinds
of moves; it's got to do with limiting public input into policy decisions at
all levels. And who is going to fund you to do the studies you proposed? Who
is going to assure that the results have any impact on policy makers if they
disagree with the findings?

-------------- Original message --------------
From: Allen Barton <allenbarton@mindspring.com>

> Some things are decided democratically at the national level, like
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"High productivity investments in education are one of the most
universally supported and effective policies that governments have ever
undertaken," Mr. Romer said. "The left and the right are both on board
for high payoffs in education."
Has anyone dealt with confidentiality issues in focus groups that deal with potentially sensitive topics?
For example, suppose in a discussion a participant discloses illegal activities, and another member of the group reports it to authorities? I doubt if the tape could be denied to the authorities, or even locating information on the group participants.

Has anyone developed warnings to participants about this, or disclosures about reporting mandates for admission of child abuse and the like?
Has anyone developed procedures for suspending/redirecting discussions if this information is introduced by participants?

How do your IRBs deal with this? Have they required any specific disclosures or warning language in informed consent processes? Data coding/security measures?

Thanks,

Woody

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Marc:

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Mike O'Neil

Marc Sapir wrote:
> Your point is well taken. However, the trend toward stifling standardized national testing and ranking teachers on criteria determined by political and management hacks--criteria that prevent the teachers students and community from operating freely within the classroom--is not an idea I invented. When I was growing up in NY State we took final State Regents Exams in all math and science subjects. These tests were formulaic and studying the past few years allowed one to excel, as I did easily. Were they good for learning, creativity or innovation? Of course not. The problem is not "at what level" various policy decisions are made but whether they are made by people with actual classroom expertise or politicians and administrators with other agendas. As you well state it makes no sense for local districts to be left to their own devices when it comes to funding. But the federal and state government could guarantee funding equality and set some standards without interfering in the classroom. Currently in our county (Alameda) the Oakland school district has been under receivership by the state for many years on the basis that they did not manage their finances well. But the outcome is that the state monitor is destroying the autonomy and creativity of schools themselves. The idea that schools, hospitals and other vital services are messing up if they don't stay in the black makes no sense. The fact of the matter is that the US government still subsidizes agribusiness--corn and tobacco and soy to the tune of billions, to say nothing of Halliburton and Bechtel with no-bid contracts--so it's not the concept of good fiscal management that is behind these kinds of moves; it's got to do with limiting public input into policy decisions at all levels. And who is going to fund you to do the studies you proposed? Who is going to assure that the results have any impact on policy makers if they disagree with the findings?
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> -------------- Original message --------------
> From: Allen Barton <allenbarton@mindspring.com>
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-----Original Message-----

From: Marc Sapir
Sent: Dec 15, 2006 4:26 PM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Expert Panel Proposes Far-Reaching Redesign of the American Education System

truly insane. Why don't we just stop calling ourselves a democracy and proclaim that local communities should have no say in any institutions.

------------- Original message -------------

From: Leo Simonetta

WARNING: December 15, 2006
Expert Panel Proposes Far-Reaching Redesign of the American Education System

By DAVID M. HERSZENHORN
Warning that Americans face a grave risk of losing their prosperity and high quality of life to better educated workers overseas, a panel of

file:///C/...OR%20STAFF/Marketing%20and%20Communications/Website/2022%20Redesign/aapornet%20history/2006/LOG_2006_12.txt[12/7/2023 11:15:56 AM]
education, labor and other public policy experts yesterday proposed a far-reaching redesign of the United States education system that would include having schools operated by independent contractors and giving states, rather than local districts, control over school financing.

The panel, the New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, included two former federal education secretaries, Rod Paige, a Republican, and Richard W. Riley, a Democrat; two former labor secretaries, William E. Brock, a Republican, and Ray Marshall, a Democrat; and an array of other luminaries, including former Gov. John Engler of Michigan, and the New York City schools chancellor, Joel Klein.

The commission's report, released at a news conference in Washington, rethinks American schooling from top to bottom, going beyond the achievement goals of the federal education law known as No Child Left Behind, and farther than many initiatives being pursued by the Bush administration or by experimental state and local school authorities.

Among other things, the report proposes starting school for most children at age 3, and requiring all students to pass board exams to graduate from high school, which for many would end after 10th grade. Students could then go to a community or technical college, or spend two years preparing for selective colleges and universities.

"We have run out the string on a whole series of initiatives that we viewed as hopeful," said Lewis H. Spence, commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Social Services and a member of the panel.

"This puts a whole new set of ideas on the table." Mr. Spence, a former deputy schools chancellor in New York City, and other commission members acknowledged that enacting the proposals would be difficult, requiring legislation in all states and the cooperation of the federal government. Some, like one for merit pay for teachers, would require renegotiating teacher contracts nationwide and persuading local...
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"You can't implement something like this overnight," said Mr. Klein, who had been scheduled to appear at yesterday's news conference with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of New York, but whose flights were grounded by thick fog in Washington. Mr. Klein strongly applauded the commission's proposals, and pointed to many efforts in New York - including sharp increases in teacher pay, a new master-teacher career step; increased roles for private groups in running public schools and performance agreements signed by 331 principals in exchange for greater freedom from superintendents - as examples of how some of the commission's goals could begin to be accomplished. "We need to think big," he said.

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In its report, the commission warned of dire consequences should the country not adopt a strikingly bold approach. "If we continue on our current course, and the number of nations outpacing us in the education race continues to grow at its current rate," it said, "the American standard of living will steadily fall relative to those nations, rich and poor, that are doing a better job."

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Date: Fri, 15 Dec 2006 23:10:26 -0800
Reply-To: Marc Sapir <marc@comcast.net>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Marc Sapir <marc@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Expert Panel Proposes Far-Reaching Redesign of the American Education System
Comments: To: Mike O'Neil <mike.oneil@alumni.brown.edu>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <45836F47.9050906@alumni.brown.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Mike,

I thought my last response went to Allan Barton only. Didn't mean to
get off topic and bore the AAPORNET here. But just to finish up, (anyone who wants to respond can do so off the list, please) I agree with you that I wouldn't want all educational standards (such as not teaching evolution) to be settable at the local level, etc. But that isn't really the issue that needs to be addressed here. I'm particularly concerned to not see the educational system standardize the training of automatons (who know the right answers to the program and) who will carry out orders to build a better cluster bomb or anthrax bacteria. We need to train problem solvers who will not only be innovative in their own nook but who also can look at larger contexts. In the larger context for example the war in Iraq was going exactly where it went. Many surmised this outcome before the fact, but their voices were suppressed. It was indeed a no brainer. But if you teach to standardized exams, and see facts apart from the contradictory nature of the realities they represent, that is the kind of thinking your get.

The idea that what US education lacks is adequate basic standards amounts to confusing two separate issues: the willingness of our political-economic system to peripheralize millions of folks to functional illiteracy because they are largely superfluous is one problem. The tendency to limit those people needed for useful and productive functions to learning exclusively the techniques and knowledge base required for those technical functions is another issue altogether. Both are big problems, but addressing both issues as if they were one confuses the discussion and challenges the function of public education in a democracy. Back when I was entering college people used to talk about the function of basic education as creating independent thinkers, people who could analyze and challenge ideas, not teaching people a trade. Perhaps being able to get a high score on a State Regents exam meant learning something, but teaching to standardized exams as is now becoming the national trend because government made it the basis on which successful teaching is judged--assures that many students will never have the opportunity to learn critical thinking skills or to be anything but victims or sheep, even if they do learn a "trade". That won't be the way to move our world or our nation forward but it is where this idea of national standards set by political process takes us. All these commissions--health care, education etc--consist of the types of folks who are ideologically bound and market oriented. And so the problem is more than local versus state and national. Allan proposed a sort of national opinion debate on such matters. But that presents a cart before the horse problem. There is no one among us that can assure that public opinion would have any impact on such policymaking, nor that it would be an informed or thoughtful public opinion that we measured in the current environment. Mind you, I'm for it, nevertheless. I hope someone does energize the debate with public opinion polls on these questions.

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Executive Director
Retro Poll
www.retropoll.org
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>>> Sent: Dec 15, 2006 4:26 PM
>>> To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Re: Expert Panel Proposes Far-Reaching Redesign of the American Education System

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December 15, 2006

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By DAVID M. HERSZENHORN

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

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This morning (Saturday, Dec 16), NPR's Weekend Edition featured an interview with Celinda Lake on this very topic.

Among other points, she said that when asked about women as president, people tend to think you are asking about Hillary Clinton, and when asking about blacks, they may substitute Barack Obama, so the results may be skewed by their opinions of those individuals.

She also estimated that about 5-10% "lie" in answering these kinds of questions, but did not explain how she came up with that figure, other than saying that her firm uses "lots of controls."

The full audio contents of the show should be posted on the NPR web site this afternoon.

Jan Werner

J. Ann Selzer wrote:

> A radio producer asked me who I might know who could speak about how accurate polls are when testing female and black candidates for president.

I thought I'd ask the list. JAS
I neglected to add that the moderator can offer to turn off the recording equipment temporarily if someone is more comfortable making a point knowing that it is not being recorded.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
J.P. MURPHY & COMPANY
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www.jpmurphy.com
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com
----- Original Message ----- 
From: "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2006 11:07 PM
Subject: Re: Confidentiality and IRB issues in focus groups
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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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Date: Sat, 16 Dec 2006 16:28:15 -0500
Reply-To: Jim Ellis <jmellis@VCU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jim Ellis <jmellis@VCU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Expert Panel Proposes Far-Reaching Redesign of the American Education System
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To:  <001801c720e1$43269180$2301a8c0@RetroPoll>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I think discussions and the disagreements about education policy relate to the purpose of public education, which most of the time is not explicitly addressed by the discussants. In the report that Leo shared with the group, the purpose of public education seems to be to create at public expense employees for American businesses who can be plugged in with minimal expense to the businesses. A corollary assumption seems to be that we are engaged as a nation in a zero-sum global economic competition against other nations. Another corollary assumption seems to be that we must always be #1. If you like these assumptions, the report is a no-brainer. If you dislike these assumptions, the report may be a no-brainer in a different sense.

I have seen some other purposes of education put forth, too -- to prepare children to contribute to society; to develop children to their maximum potentials; to educate as an end in itself, for its own beauty; to prepare children to be happy in life; to transmit culture.

Marc said, "Back when I was entering college people used to talk about the function of basic education as creating independent thinkers, people who could analyze and challenge ideas, not teaching people a trade." That was the culture then, or at least, a big chunk of the culture. So, that was education then, or at least, a big chunk of education. Some people might see the 1960's in that statement. Some might see it as elitist.

But for most of the past 100 years, the culture of mass society, urbanization and business has driven public education policy. Technology has been a part of that picture, but only indirectly as it has changed culture, and particularly business culture. People say schools need to operate more like businesses because EVERYTHING is operating more like businesses today. And everything has the potential to be commercialized, as public education has been more and more over the last decade or two. This is our commercialized culture.

Of course, if the purpose of education is to transmit culture (as I think it is), you have to operationalize "culture" to understand what should be happening in schools. Whatever could be agreed upon very broadly could probably serve as a national core curriculum in public schools. Everything else might have to be localized or have a local flavor to it. Remember, alternative schools exist (and it is interesting to think about how frequently they can be differentiated in terms of cultural issues). So, what could we all agree on that we should teach our children in public schools in order to transmit our culture in a way that will be relevant 20 years from now?

That would be an interesting topic for deliberative democracy, as Allen suggested.

Jim Ellis
Virginia Commonwealth University
I'm looking for some sample questions about whether a respondent speaks English as a second language, hopefully with National comparison data. I'd prefer to avoid an open end asking what language is primarily spoken at home, and the particular language isn't of interest in this small study.

Please reply off-list. Thanks,

stephanie berg
p 301.537.0817
f 703.940.4815
stephanie@berganalytics.com
Answer may depend on who's asking
Some pollsters are finding that surveys given by computers elicit
different answers than in those given by real people.
http://www.startribune.com/789/story/881872.html
By John Reinan, Star Tribune

"People are sometimes reluctant to tell the truth to a human being.
They're more comfortable telling the truth to a computer," said Humphrey
Taylor, chairman of the Harris Poll for Harris Interactive of Rochester,
N.Y., one of the nation's largest polling organizations.

Researchers have long wrestled with a problem called "social
desirability bias." When asked a sensitive question by an interviewer,
some people will give the answer they think is most respectable. For
example, they may claim to attend church regularly, even if they don't,
because that seems like the proper thing to say.

When Harris began polling online several years ago, Taylor said,
researchers immediately noticed an increase in the number of people who
identified themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered.

Still, not all researchers are convinced that online polling is better
than a carefully designed traditional survey.

"Online polling is a developing technology. We still don't know as much
about it as we do with mail polls, telephone and face-to-face
interviews," said Rob Daves, president of the American Association for Public Opinion Research and director of strategic research for the Star Tribune.

(c)2006 Star Tribune. All rights reserved.
The idea of making available customized messages to be transmitted by phone or e-mail - in this case accessible via www.nbc.com/30Rock - was inspired by an earlier Varitalk campaign, in which Web users were able to send messages using the voice of the actor Samuel L. Jackson, who was promoting the movie "Snakes on a Plane." In recent months the CW television network used similar technology (and Tyra Banks's voice) to promote itself.

Still, those who have received the messages, which sound so seamless, have surely been left with a more pressing question: How do they do it?

People who try to send such a message quickly discover that it is like the old, fill-in-the-blank children's game of Mad Libs. During a session in a Manhattan recording studio that lasted just a half hour, Mr. Baldwin recorded about 500 first names - including such potential tongue twisters as Fowzia - from which the sender may choose. (Choosing a name that is not on Mr. Baldwin's list will sometimes prompt an error message from the Web site, advising the sender that it could not be found.)

Mr. Baldwin also recorded the names of all the states (so that the message makes reference to where the listener is sitting) as well as entries for drop-down menus that give the sender choices for pinpointing the recipient's job, interests and "physical traits." Then a computer synthesizes all this information for a greeting.

---

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

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Date:         Tue, 19 Dec 2006 09:14:40 -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
The Washington Post has a position available for a Survey Analyst. This person will serve as the deputy in the Post's newsroom polling unit, assisting in the design, implementation, analysis and reporting of all Washington Post and Post-ABC News surveys.

Responsibilities include preparing data tables and reports; writing and editing stories for the Post and washingtonpost.com; maintaining the survey database; tracking national survey questions, topics and trends; and performing administrative duties as required.

We're seeking someone who has a facility with numbers; strong written and verbal communication skills; an exacting attention to detail; an ability to meet tight deadlines; a high proficiency in Excel, Word and Internet; experience with statistical packages (e.g., SPSS); and a deep interest in politics, government and public opinion research.

Work schedule may include early mornings, late nights and occasional weekend assignments.

Candidates should submit a letter and resume by Dec. 29, 2006.

E-mail to:
polls@washpost.com

Mail to:
Jon Cohen
Director of Polling
The Washington Post
1150 15th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20071
POSITION AVAILABILITY NOTICE

Position: Associate Director, Public Opinion Laboratory

The POL, a survey research center at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, 70 miles west of downtown Chicago, invites applications for the position of Associate Director. The POL operates a 45-station computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) call center. As a grooming opportunity for succession to POL Director, the University seeks an individual fully qualified for the leadership post. The successful candidate will have a successful record of securing grants and contracts for survey research projects from federal, state, and private-sector agencies.

In addition to serving as principal investigator in the conduct of sponsored projects utilizing POL facilities, the Associate Director (AD) assists the Director in all aspects of departmental management, including overseeing the conduct of studies assigned to research associates on POL professional staff, providing instructional support and project guidance in order to fulfill departmental commitments. In directing research studies, the AD works with clients on survey design and sampling strategies to meet project requirements, develops questionnaire instruments, adapts instruments to mode of survey data collection (e.g., telephone), and conducts interviewer training.

The University seeks a doctoral-level social scientist possessing an established set of contractual relationships with organizations and agencies funding survey research. Initial level of compensation will be established accordingly. As a guideline, the successful incumbent will be personally responsible for securing funding from project sponsors.
to exceed six months=92 salary during any twelve-month period.

This is a full-time professional staff position at Northern Illinois =
University. NIU offers an attractive package of benefits and educational =
opportunities and participates in the State Universities Retirement =
System. NIU is an affirmative action/equal employment opportunity =
employer.

Interested individuals must submit a letter of application, r=E9sum=E9, =
and names of three references to*

    Director, Public Opinion Laboratory
    Northern Illinois University
    148 North Third Street
    DeKalb, IL  60115

Completed applications must be received by January 31, 2007.

Karen E. Schnite
Public Opinion Laboratory
Northern Illinois University
148 N. Third Street
DeKalb, IL 60115

815-753-0950
fax 815-753-2305

Visit our web page at  www.pol.niu.edu

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Date:         Tue, 19 Dec 2006 20:51:32 -0500
Reply-To:     "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "James P. Murphy" <jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM>
Subject:      Cultural Awareness in an Era of Globalization
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

An associate is developing methods for assessing the effects of =
international study and work assignments on a subject's awareness of =
cultural relativism and on knowledge of the expectations and behaviors =
of other cultures that influence social and business interactions =
therein. Sort of, How not to be gauche in ______.
References to non-proprietary questionnaires, batteries of items, scales =
and the like, particularly any reflecting contemporary globalization =
trends, would be most appreciated.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
J.P. MURPHY & COMPANY
Post Office Box 150
Princeton, NJ 08542
(610) 408-8800
www.jpmurphy.com
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com=

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========================================================================="
issues=20in=20the=20transition=20from=20the=20later=20stages=20of=20compulsory=20education
(we=20began=20at=20age=202014)=20but=20there=20is=20a=20lot=20to=20interest=20in=20
a=20more=20general
audience=20(e.g.=20related=20to=20race=20and=20ethnicity,=20family=20structure,=20gender,
social=20class=20and=20religion/faith).=20Data=20collected=20includes=20
interviews
with=20young=20people=20and=20their=20parents=20and=20data=20from=20administrative
sources
about=20their=20schools=20and=20their=20performance=20in=20national=20standardised
tests
(the=20'Key=20Stage=20scores').=20The=20administrative=20data=20are=20not=20available=20
on-line=20but=20special=20request.=20There=20are=20however,
problems
still=20to=20be=20resolved=20about=20passing=20such=20data=20outside=20the=20EU=20
because=20of=20data=20protection=20laws.

A=20specific=20feature=20of=20the=20design=20is=20to=20boost=20sample=20for=20
six=20specific
ethnic=20minorities.

Enquiries=20to=20me=20off-line.

Enjoy!

Iain=20Noble=20
Department=20for=20Education=20and=20Skills=20
Creating=20opportunity,=20releasing=20potential,=20achieving=20excellence=20=

Strategic=20Analysis=:=20RM=20201=20(YCS=20and=20Next=20Steps=20Study),=20
W606,=20Moorfoot,=20Sheffield,=20S1=204PQ.=20
0114=2020259=20201180=20
For=20information=20to=20Next=20Steps=20Study=20go=20to
www.dfes.gov.uk/research=20

The=20original=20of=20this=20email=20was=20scanned=20for=20viruses=20by=20the=Gov-
ernment=20Secure=20Intranet=20(GSi)=20virus=20scanning=20service=20supplied=20exclusively=20by=20
Cable=20&=20Wireless=20in=20partnership=20with=20MessageLabs.
On=20leaving=20the=20GSI=20this=20email=20was=20certified=20virus=20free.
The=20MessageLabs=20Anti=20Virus=20Service=20tested=20the=20CSIA=20Claims=20Mark=20(CCTM=20Certif-
icate=20Number=202006/04/0007),=20the=20UK=20Government=20quality=20initiative=20for=20information=20
security=20products=20and=20services.=20
For=20more=20information=20please=20visit=20www.cctma.gov.uk

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I'm looking for recent research (last four years) concerning the effects of the security frame on public opinion.

In addition to research concerning "hard" national security issues (military support, nuclear weapons, transportation security, etc.), I'm also interested in the effects of the security frame on public support for global issues that are less obviously linked to security (poverty in developing countries, global environment, world health, etc.).

I have the well-known publicly available sources such as the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Pew, PIPA and so on, but I would appreciate suggestions for sources that are less readily available to the public.

Reply off-line and I'd be happy to synthesize and make all suggestions available to the list.

Thank you!

Meg Bostrom
Public Knowledge
megbostrom@public-knowledge.us

---

Date: Wed, 20 Dec 2006 08:52:10 -0700
Reply-To: Corinne Kirchner <corinne@AFB.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Corinne Kirchner <corinne@AFB.NET>
Subject: Re: Data from new study of young people available
Comments: To: Iain.NOBLE@DFES.GSL.GOV.UK, AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <8CD5D9A623A40E4BAB9DD7531EBDEDBB022F2BDB@MFEXC01.AD.HQ.DEPT>
Hi Iain,

I am curious whether the study has questions about disability status, such as whether the person considers him/herself to have a disability, if so, what type; whether he/she received any services related to disability, e.g. special education or income benefits.

Thanks in advance,
Corinne

Corinne Kirchner, Ph.D.
Senior Research Scientist
American Foundation for the Blind

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Iain Noble
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2006 7:34 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Data from new study of young people available

Some of you may have wondered in the past about the URL in my signature about the Next Steps Study which leads to something not very informative. Wonder no more.

We have just released data from the first Wave of this major longitudinal study of nearly 16,000 young people to the UK Data Archive and downloads are now available from there. You can find more details of the study at http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/findingData/snDescription.asp?sn=3D5545.

This study will be of specific interest to those who have used data from surveys such as the various NLSY studies and longitudinal educational research such as High School and Beyond or the UK Birth Cohort Studies. The specific focus of the early waves of this study is on educational issues in the transition from the later stages of compulsory education (we began at age 14) but there is a lot to interest a more general audience (e.g. related to race and ethnicity, family structure, gender, social class and religion/faith). Data collected includes interviews with young people and their parents and data from administrative sources about their schools and their performance in national standardised tests (the 'Key Stage scores'). The administrative data are not currently available on-line but on special request. There are, however, problems still to be resolved about passing such data outside the EU because of data protection laws.

A specific feature of the design is a boost sample for six specific ethnic minorities.

Enquiries to me off-line.
Enjoy!

Iain Noble
Department for Education and Skills
Creating opportunity, releasing potential, achieving excellence
Strategic Analysis: RM 1 (YCS and Next Steps Study), W606, Moorfoot,
Sheffield, S1 4PQ.=20
0114 259 1180
For information about the Next Steps Study go to
www.dfes.gov.uk/research=20

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Reply-To:     "McDonald, Scott" <Scott_McDonald@CONDENAST.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "McDonald, Scott" <Scott_McDonald@CONDENAST.COM>
Subject:      Job Opportunity
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Posted by Scott McDonald

Conde Nast Publications =09
Director of Custom Research =09
<<Picture (Metafile)>> =09
Post Date: Dec 18, 2006 Type: Full time =09
Start Date: Salary: =09
Location: US - New York - New York  Job Reference:

Skills:
Must be a seasoned Market Research Director ideally from a magazine, packaged goods, advertising or fashion/beauty related environment who has successfully helped to steer the decision processes within their organization. Should have an expansive knowledge of research tools, suppliers and vendors and have a track record of having successfully managed a staff.

Job Description:
Conde Nast Publications is seeking a Director of Custom Research to provide strategic, custom and primary study based recommendations to our editorial and sales leaders. Interpret and articulate business challenges and determine appropriate research methodologies in order to gain the necessary insight to respond to them. Work with internal resources and outside vendors to conduct focus groups, subscriber studies, measure trends and track market segments.

Comments:
Please e-mail resumes to: kgallant@condenast.com

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The Roper Center Board wants our colleagues to know that we are planning =
to hold our first annual Mitofsky Award Gala in early November of next =
year in New York City to honor the memory of our late Board Chairman, =
Warren Mitofsky. The exact details of the event have yet to be =
determined, but we will award the first annual "Warren Mitofsky Award =
for Excellence in Public Opinion Research."

=20
Warren had been arguing for this type of fundraising by the Roper Center during his tenure as our Board Chairman. And as you know, this award fits his commitment to excellence in our field.

We wanted you to know before the end of the year, so you could take advantage of the potential tax benefits. You can make a donation now, get the tax advantage this year, and have it applied next year toward the benefit.

Please make your check out to the Roper Center and ask that it be placed in the account for the Mitofsky Award and benefit. Send it to:

The Roper Center
University of Connecticut
341 Mansfield Road, Unit 1164
Storrs, CT 06269-1164

Here is the description of the award:

The Mitofsky Award carries a cash prize and recognizes outstanding research or reporting that uses The Roper Center's public opinion data archive. The award recognizes important work on public opinion or survey methodology that has been published in a book, journal, magazine, or newspaper, or presented at a professional conference. Special consideration will be given to work that is based on data obtained by the researcher or author directly from the Roper archive, as well as to work that utilizes multiple data sources or compares survey results over time. The award recognizes both work published recently and work from the past that continues to have a significant impact on our understanding of society. The award is celebrated each November at The Mitofsky Award Gala in New York.

Happy Holidays,

Murray Edelman, for the Roper Board.
If you would like to propose questions to be included in a multi-wave panel survey of a representative national sample of American adults (at no cost to you), now is the time to submit them to the American National Election Studies (ANES) review process.

For the 2007-2009 ANES Panel Study, we will interview a panel of respondents (1,800 people initially) six times between September 2007, and May 2009. The questionnaires for these surveys can be filled with any questions that will help scholars understand the causes or consequences of people's decisions about whether or not to vote in the 2008 election and for whom to vote. The schedule of reinterviews will allow researchers to study changes in individuals' attitudes, beliefs, behavior, and more, and to study causal impact of one variable on another.

The data will be collected via self-administered questionnaires completed over the Internet, and the panel of respondents will be recruited especially to participate in this study. The entire data set will be made available to all interested scholars at no cost.

The questions to be included on the six waves will be selected through a public and transparent peer review process. Proposals will be accepted only via the ANES Online Commons (OC), a web-based system for the posting and review of proposals:
http://www.electionstudies.org/onlinecommons.htm

There are only 41 days left to submit a proposal to include questions on the first waves of the 2007-2009 ANES Panel Study. The deadline for submitting proposals is January 31, 2007, after which the OC will remain open for a short period to allow comments and proposal revisions to be posted.

As of right now, the questionnaires are wide open. This is the largest open opportunity in years to place questions on an ANES study. We thank NSF for making this possible and hope to be able to accommodate your proposal in this study.

Sincerely,

Jon Krosnick and Arthur Lupia

Principal Investigators
American National Election Studies (ANES)

Please address questions to: anes@electionstudies.org

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Dr. Frank Stanton, a pioneer in both audience research and broadcasting, passed away Sunday at age 98. Stanton's work in survey research and audience measurement dated back to the very early days of our profession, collaborating with Paul Lazarsfeld and Hadley Cantril. Here below is the citation from the 2003 AAPOR Award for Exceptionally Distinguished Achievement presented to Dr. Stanton:

AAPOR Award Citation to Dr. Frank Stanton, 2003:

Frank Stanton is one of the true pioneers of our profession. Were it not for his even greater and overshadowing achievements as President of CBS, Inc., he would have been recognized by AAPOR long before today.

Stanton’s groundbreaking doctoral research, completed in 1935, was one of the first investigations into why people react positively to certain radio shows but negatively to others. He launched his career...
that year in the fledgling CBS audience research department. He established research as an integral component of news reporting and corporate strategy.

In 1937, Stanton and Hadley Cantril secured Rockefeller Foundation funding to conduct seminal media research for what came to be called the “Radio Project.” Stanton and Cantril recruited the Viennese social psychologist Paul Lazarsfeld to direct the project. Stanton was largely responsible for one of the Project’s crowning achievements, the Stanton-Lazarsfeld Program Analyzer. “Little Annie” as a media audience research tool transformed radio, film, and ultimately television programming and is still in use today.

During his long tenure as President of CBS, 1946-1971, Stanton nurtured research and established a highly prolific department, headed by Joseph Klapper, to study the effects of mass media on the public. He established written survey reporting standards at CBS News to ensure that all reported surveys met high quality standards.

As CBS President, he also vigorously defended the media’s First Amendment rights. He refused a Congressional subpoena against the threat of jail following the airing of a controversial CBS documentary, The Selling of the Pentagon.

The CBS presence at AAPOR goes back to AAPOR’s early years, beginning with our second president, Elmo Wilson. Inspired by the Stanton tradition, CBS continues to contribute a large number of AAPOR Presidents and officers. Five AAPOR Presidents were from CBS.

For his contributions in establishing broadcast media research and for his nurturing of research at CBS, we bestow this award.

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Date: Tue, 26 Dec 2006 15:43:51 -0700
Reply-To: Mike Donatello <mike@DONATELLO.US>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Donatello <mike@DONATELLO.US>
Subject: POQ 70(3) -- Thanks!
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="windows-1250"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Wow! The current issue of POQ just arrived in my mailbox. After =
  skimming the contents, I say that this will probably rank as one of =
  the most useful issues that I've seen, in terms of day-to-day =
  applicability to my job. Many thanks to all who contributed.

=20
Mike Donatello  
Director, Research  
USA TODAY  
7950 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, VA 22108  
V 703.854.4572   F 703.854.2165  
HYPERLINK "mailto:MDonatello@USAToday.com"mdonatello@usatoday.com

---

No virus found in this outgoing message.  
Checked by AVG Free Edition.  
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.15.27/602 - Release Date: =  
12/25/2006 10:19  
=20

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Date: Thu, 28 Dec 2006 04:30:30 -0700  
Reply-To: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>  
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
From: "F. Elizabeth Liddle" <liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM>  
Subject: Auld Lang Syne

A poll reveals that only 6% of Britons have mastered all five verses....

http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,,1979174,00.html

Date: Thu, 28 Dec 2006 11:39:49 +0000  
Reply-To: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>  
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
From: "Moon, Nick" <nick.moon@GFK.COM>  
Subject: Re: Auld Lang Syne  
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu  
MIME-version: 1.0
Even if those 6% were all Scottish I suspect them of giving a socially acceptable answer to conceal their ignorance

Mind you, I was at dinner with a Scottish friend two Burns Nights ago and he recited all 8 verses of the address to a haggis, so maybe it is true

-----Original Message-----
From: F. Elizabeth Liddle [mailto:liddle.elizabeth@GOOGLEMAIL.COM]
Sent: 28 December 2006 11:31
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Auld Lang Syne

A poll reveals that only 6% of Britons have mastered all five verses....

http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,,1979174,00.html

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Our marketing department is developing a list of top tier, second tier, etc. journals. How does the AAPOR community perceive (rank) POQ? Does anyone have a formal listing of journals in their department/college that shows where POQ is ranked? Thanks, Phillip

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There is a widely-used ranking of "high impact" journals known as the =
Journal Citation Report, produced by the Institute for Scientific =
Information. It is accessible from =
http://scientific.thomson.com/products/jcr/
It is not free.
There is also the new Journal Use Report from ISI. It is targeted at librarians, apparently.

The Modern Language Association maintains the MLA Directory of Periodicals, which includes circulation figures.

A good caution on using impact ratings of journals is at http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/314/7079/497

Were your marketing department to be able to devise a ranking that is superior to the JCR, many people would be grateful. However, it is hard to conceive of the subjective ranking that you appear to be pursuing being superior to what is already available in the JCR. In ranking departments nationally, the National Research Council is now using "objective" indicators in place of the subjective rankings used for prior reports.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNENET on behalf of Phillip Downs
Sent: Thu 12/28/2006 9:33 AM
To: AAPORNENET@asu.edu
Cc:=09
Subject: POQ Journal

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