NSF Announces Job Opening for Supervisory Survey Statistician
(Supervisory Program Director)

The National Science Foundation is seeking a candidate for a Supervisory Program Director in the Human Resources Statistics Program (HRS) within the Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS), Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE), Arlington, VA.

As Supervisory Program Director for the HRS program, you will be responsible for overseeing the complex surveys in SRS from the planning and design stage to final analysis, publication and dissemination. The Supervisory Program Director: accomplishes this work through a combination of in-house staff resources and contractual agreements; directs all activities of the program and is recognized as the senior expert with regard to the operations and logistics of S&E personnel statistics and analysis; plans, assigns, supervises and reviews the work of seven subordinate professional and technical positions; sets priorities and goals for employees; establishes deadlines and ensures timely completion of work assignments; and participates in senior management team discussions regarding the efficiency and effectiveness of SRS operations, including long-range planning, resource allocation, budget development, and development of Division standards and procedures.

For more information see:
abNum=3D1=20

Jeri Mulrow
Senior Mathematical Statistician
Division of Science Resources Statistics
National Science Foundation
703-292-4784

**************************************************************************
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Date:         Mon, 1 Jun 2009 14:39:36 -0400
Reply-To:     Gerald Kosicki <kosicki.1@OSU.EDU>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Gerald Kosicki <kosicki.1@OSU.EDU>
Subject:      Vince Price Named Provost at UPenn
Comments: To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Congratulations to Vince!

http://www.philly.com/inquirer/education/20090529_Penn_has_a_new_permanen

Gerald Kosicki, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
School of Communication
The Ohio State University

Faculty Coordinator
Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey
Research<http://sbs.osu.edu/sbs/gissr.php>
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Date:         Mon, 1 Jun 2009 16:46:37 -0400
Reply-To:     Howard Fienberg <howard.fienberg@MRA-NET.ORG>
The Marketing Research Association (MRA) announces victory in its lobbying and grassroots actions to protect research with health care practitioners in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has issued official guidance exempting market research incentives from the application of the state's new Marketing Code of Conduct for pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers.

The Department specifically exempted incentives from public reporting requirements, as long as health care practitioners who receive market research incentives "do not know what pharmaceutical or medical device manufacturing company" sponsored the research and the sponsor "does not know which health care practitioners participated in the study".

MRA organized researchers on the ground in Massachusetts to help convince the state government to exempt market research. The research profession faced a short timeframe before the regulations came into effect, threatening a key part of the research business.


-------------------------------------------
Howard Fienberg
Director of Government Affairs
Marketing Research Association (MRA)
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Washington, DC 20036
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Attending the last AAPOR conference with a grad student helped me to see our organization through fresh eyes and realize how very diverse we are. Some of us go through crazy insane times during election season. Some of us write grants.

The people I work with are excellent grant writers. The investigators are sought-after reviewers, which helps them observe and absorb successful strategies, and get a sense of the trendy buzzwords and shifting funding priorities. Our team is pretty methodical about making writing assignments, having internal deadlines for key pieces, and keeping current biosketches on hand, etc.

A week before deadline, I always think we are on top of things, and I will lose no sleep over this one. I've already routed it through the wonderful proofreader who has been with me for 10 years and saves us all kinds of embarrassment.

But then it hits. There are those last-minute changes: items that aren't required by the funding agency, but someone in the university approval hierarchy thinks will strengthen the application. Gaps in the logic, once we spread it all out and weave the pieces together. Inconsistencies where we finally notice that the same half-time person is called a "community liaison" in the budget but a "project coordinator" in the research methods section (and remember that second "i" in "liaison").

And there is always the risk of making a big mistake when we go in to fix a little error.

Our new grants assistant is amazing, and has great confidence in my writing ability. Orders fly over the top of her cubicle like a waitress expecting a short-order cook to flip them back as easily as a burger. Update the facilities. Redo personnel justification. I may have promised to cure the common cold in that brief narrative I cranked out :)

Most written in a minute or less. Without another pair of eyes to look at it. Without a net.

The faculty have already scattered thinking their part was done, by the time the clock starts ticking louder. One on vacation, another at tumor board. Do I page her, or just write that paragraph myself? We're so close. I'm reminded of the movie A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN, the scene when Dottie is walking away, explaining that it is "just too hard." Jimmy (the Tom Hanks character) counters, "It's supposed to be hard. If it wasn't hard, everyone would do it. The hard... is what makes it great."

I should be able to do this. I was an honor graduate of Defense Information School, the prestigious military journalism program from
which Al Gore also graduated. DINFOS trained killers, they call us, and our practical skills were valued in newsrooms around the world (back when there were real wood-and-linoleum newsrooms, back when there were print newspapers). Plus, I worked for an influential Texas weekly newspaper, with an editor who routinely growled demands like, "Write 3 column inches about the neighborhood association in the next 12 minutes!" So I should be able to do this.

Somewhere in the afternoon, I start to shake. It might be the stress, or an overdose of diet Coke at lunch. I lean back and close my eyes to rest a minute, and see another movie, this time Aragorn before the gates of doom in Return of the King, "I see in your eyes the same fear that would take the heart of me. A day may come when the courage of men fails, when we forsake our friends and break all bonds of fellowship, but it is not THIS day...." Finally, the last item is done.

As the computer takes forever to upload things, a colleague from another department wanders over, and it is an unexpected pleasure to share our victory with someone who understands. One of my coworkers tells me, "There ought to be a reality show for people like you, a SURVIVOR for writers. Where they give you information and you have to write an obituary for Bill Gates in 10 minutes or something."

But it would never make good TV, because it is boring to watch.

Why is this harder as I get older? I think I am a better writer nowadays, and studies show that vocabulary is more extensive in older folks. Am I less fearless, an attribute younger people possess (sometimes to a fault)? Or is it the years of cumulative mistakes that haunt me?

One of the most important things I ever wrote was a little newspaper column that ran a few days after the infamous "Don't tase me, bro!" incident at UF in September 2007.

I happened to be an usher at the Kerry lecture, and was appalled at the media coverage up to that point, which initially accepted the YouTube version without context. My column had a huge impact on local public opinion, informed the direction of the law enforcement investigation (I had to talk with three different agencies before it was over), was a topic of discussion in journalism classes, and even got mentioned in a Wikipedia article. It probably affected more people than any health insurance study or Medicaid evaluation report. I should be proud of it.

But I had written it in half an hour at the kitchen table on a busy morning, and sent it off half thinking my editor wouldn't use it since I had criticized his coverage. However, he's a really good editor and so it ran in a prominent place in a weekend edition, with good photos... and a glaring typo. Aren't newspapers supposed to have proofreaders? So my moment of glory was tarnished by a misspelling, and I live in fear and the sure knowledge that I will do it again.

But hopefully not when it matters too much.
Hi all,
I need to learn rim weighting for a project. Do you have any idea about how I could learn/implement rim weighting?

Thanks..

Zeliha Ozdogan, PhD
Economist/ Statistics Specialist
SBT Analysis, Turkey

Zeliha: This web page has information and SAS programs that do rim weighting also called raking, raking ratio estimation, and sample balancing.
Hi all,
I need to learn rim weighting for a project. Do you have any idea about how I could learn/ implement rim weighting?

Thanks..

Zeliha Ozdogan, PhD
Economist/ Statistics Specialist
SBT Analysis, Turkey
ATLANTA -- Higher education's love-hate relationship with college rankings was on full display here this week at the annual forum of the Association for Institutional Research, where -- despite the continuing campaign by some campus presidents to marginalize rankings -- campus number crunchers were treated/subjected to at least a half-dozen sessions on the subject.
As is common at this gathering of self-described wonks, some of the sessions (like the one on using Microsoft Excel to adjust raw rankings data) were practical to the point of being arcane, but most aimed to defend, dissect or debunk them. Officials from U.S. News & World Report and the Times Higher Education Supplement were on hand to tell the men and women who in many cases are responsible for submitting information about their campuses how their rankings were evolving and what might be coming down the road, for instance. In another session, researchers from Michigan State and Pennsylvania State Universities examined a decade's worth of U.S. News results to show how little change there was in colleges' performance in the rankings' controversial "reputational" score, and that what movement did occur was tied mostly to changes in the selectivity of their student bodies.

One session, however, revealed more than any other the extent to which the rankings, for all the protestations to the contrary, influence colleges' behavior. A presentation by Catherine Watt, the former institutional researcher and now a professor at Clemson University, laid bare in a way that is usually left to the imagination the steps that Clemson has (rather brazenly) taken since 2001 to move from 38th to 22nd in U.S. News's ranking of public research universities.

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Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
Art & Science Group
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore, MD 21209
World Future Society and its publications such as Future Survey are constantly summarizing and popular language the key trends.

Marc Zwelling
Vector Research + Development Inc. / 416.733.2320
http://www.vectorresearch.com
... Turning questions into strategy

-----Original Message-----
From: James P. Murphy [mailto:jpmurphy@JPMURPHY.COM]
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2009 11:30 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Summary of social/societal changes

I think this is an area in which mass market magazines (newsweeklies, bi-weeklies, monthlies) often have excellent material. Many of us are exclusively focussed on more scholarly materials and neglect to include them in our searches. Writers who make a career out of doing pieces for Time, Fortune, The Atlantic Monthly, N.Y. Times Magazine, and the like are often quite insightful.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
J.P. MURPHY & COMPANY
609 921 2432 Princeton, N.J.
772 219 7671 Stuart, Fla.
610 408 8800 Mobile
www.jpmurphy.com
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com
All,
Can anyone suggest a reference that has a succinct summary of key social and societal changes over the past 20-30 years? I'm thinking about things that keep us busier than ever, or that have changed the nature of our lives, e.g. jobs, kids' schedules, long commutes, the 'sandwich' generation as our parents live longer, cell phones, the internet, and so forth. I'm more interested in the pre-recession years than the past year or two.

Thanks.
Karen Goldenberg

Chief, Branch of Research and Program Development
Division of Consumer Expenditure Surveys
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, DC  20212
Phone: 202-691-6358
Goldenberg.Karen@bls.gov

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Date:       Thu, 4 Jun 2009 11:45:25 -0700
Reply-To:   Randal ZuWallack <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
Sender:     AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:       Randal ZuWallack <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
Subject:    MacroPoll Wireless
Comments:   To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US=20 telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample=E2=80=94cell and landline=E2=80= =94for as=20 little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering=20 respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

The dual-frame sample includes 1,000 landline and 250 cell phone=20 interviews combined and weighted to represent the US population. The=20 sample is combined and weighted to reflect phone user types according the=20 July-December 2008 National Health Interview Survey phone group sizes and=20 national demographics based on the 2008 Current Population Survey.=20

The dual frame omnibus is ideal for collecting critical data points=20 without investing in a stand-alone survey. An option for just the 250=20 cell phone interviews is also available. This option is ideal for=20 supplementing existing research with a cell phone component.

ICF Macro started MacroPoll Wireless in October 2007. Administered via=20 cell phone, the survey is a compilation of questions covering various=20 topics. Our last survey, conducted in January with 500 cell users,=20 covered topics ranging from energy consumption, consumer preference,=20 insurance coverage, health behaviors, and religious identity.=20

For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email=20 rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.

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Hi Folks,

In the 2006 Guidance on Agency Survey and Statistical Information Collectio= ns, OMB has guided federal organizations to characterize the data obtained = by most Federal surveys as "private to the extent permitted by law" rather = than "confidential" for various reasons. I am not going to debate the right= or wrong of that.
My questions are about impact:

1) Has anyone directly tested these two wordings—for example, a split sample of a survey that promises "XXX will hold your identity private to the extent permitted by law" vs "XXX will hold your identity confidential"? I know I have seen many papers over the years testing Intros and various confidentiality statements, but can't recall any specifically related to the current guidance. If you have, was there a difference in response rate?

2) What would folks expect would happen if a survey migrated from "confidential" to "private" as described above? In the absence of any previously collected split sample, would you expect a considerable increase/decrease based on how a respondent perceives and internalizes the promise?

Thoughts?

Larry

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Larry Luskin | Vice President | 301.572.0334 | Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com

ICF Macro | 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705 | 301.572.0999 (f)

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Date: Thu, 4 Jun 2009 23:19:41 +0000
Reply-To: "Langer, Gary" <Gary.Langer@ABC.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Langer, Gary" <Gary.Langer@ABC.COM>
Subject: ABC News Polling Blog: Mystery Hold on Groves
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

> Three weeks after Robert M. Groves sailed through his confirmation hearing to lead the U.S. Census Bureau, a Republican U.S. senator has placed the nomination on hold.
> As for who and why, it's Mystery Hour at the U.S. Senate.=20
Details:
http://blogs.abcnews.com/thenumbers/2009/06/hold-on-groves-mystery-hour-
Hello!

What are typical response rates (or ranges) for Web-based surveys among respondents where there is a vested interest, like trade association members.

Many thanks,
Natalia

Colleen Porter
Gainesville, FL
On Jun 5, 2009, at 12:29 AM, Natalia Usmanova-Elsner wrote:
> Hello!
> 
> What are typical response rates (or ranges) for Web-based surveys –
> among respondents where there is a vested interest, like trade
> association members.
> 
> Many thanks,
> Natalia

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Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 07:05:29 -0400
Reply-To: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <1659AD3A64413C4981A33D302FF8516E082740@calus903.MACRO.WAN>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Larry,

I am not aware of any valid test of the impact of the words and concepts of
"privacy," versus "confidentiality."

I would anticipate that if only the word, private, were tested against the
word, confidentiality, the effect would be negligible.

(BTW, I believe your proposed wording is confounded by adding the "as
permitted by law" phrasing only to the privacy condition of the experiment
you are asking about. Thus that experiment would not yield valid results
comparing the two words or the two concepts.)

I suspect that if the concepts were also explained a bit in terms of their
meanings and how they affected the data a respondent is providing, then the
concept of confidentiality versus the concept of privacy would show a small
but nonnegligible difference in that more people would cooperate under the
confidentiality condition than under the privacy condition.

PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Lawrence Luskin
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 4:07 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Confidentiality vs. Private

Hi Folks,
In the 2006 Guidance on Agency Survey and Statistical Information Collections, OMB has guided federal organizations to characterize the data obtained by most Federal surveys as "private to the extent permitted by law" rather than "confidential" for various reasons. I am not going to debate the right or wrong of that.

My questions are about impact:

1) Has anyone directly tested these two wordings-for example, a split sample of a survey that promises "XXX will hold your identity private to the extent permitted by law" vs "XXX will hold your identity confidential"? I know I have seen many papers over the years testing Intros and various confidentiality statements, but can't recall any specifically related to the current guidance. If you have, was there a difference in response rate?

2) What would folks expect would happen if a survey migrated from "confidential" to "private" as described above? In the absence of any previously collected split sample, would you expect a considerable increase/decrease based on how a respondent perceives and internalizes the promise?

Thoughts?

Larry

Larry Luskin | Vice President | 301.572.0334 |
Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com

ICF Macro<http://www.macrointernational.com/>| 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705 | 301.572.0999 (f)
Natalia,

I managed to get 50% among Faculty for a survey about their working conditions. (but with 8 reminders, 2-3 last one not providing that many new respondents).

Best,

Claire Durand,
professeur titulaire

Claire.Durand@umontreal.ca

Site Web:
<http://www.mapagweb.umontreal.ca/durandc>
Good Morning,

In our experience, this has varied considerably across groups. When we are asked by an association, and invariably this comes up, what response rate they should expect/hope for to ensure that the findings are statistically valid, we try and change the subject to representativeness... That does not always work!

Here are just some questions we ask of our association clients/ourselves:
1. How long is the survey we are going to field? [How well designed a survey will our client "permit" us to field?] Also, how burdensome a survey is it?
2. How interesting and relevant is the subject matter to respondents? We had an association do two rounds of online ad testing for an insurance product it was marketing to its members, and not surprisingly, the response rate was pretty poor (as was the product).
3. How long is the field period? What will our strategy be for increasing participation? Do we have budget for reminder phone calls? Is this association using other communication tools to engage members that we can utilize for survey promotion?
4. How meaningful is their membership in this association? For example, I would be more likely to take a survey sponsored by AAPOR than one sponsored by AMA because the AAPOR is a more meaningful association to me than AMA even though I belong to both.
5. Does this association have a history of conducting surveys with its membership? If so, tell us about the past surveys fielded and the type of response garnered. We have some association clients that had historically fielded, on an annual basis, extremely burdensome and poorly designed surveys, and we believe this brings to bear on their likelihood to complete new surveys.
6. On a related matter, what has the association done with past survey results? Made them public? Acted upon findings?

We have seen everything from 5% to more than 50% in terms of a response rate for association clients web-based surveys, though more often than not, it is in the 15-25% range. I think asking yourself and your client some of the questions above, and no doubt others, will help.
Cheers,
Melissa

Melissa Marcello
President
Pursuant Research
New England Office
PO Box 427
Randolph, VT 05060
d: 802.565.8133
c: 202.352.7462
f: 800.567.1723
mmarcello@pursuantresearch.com

Visit our Website at www.pursuantresearch.com

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Natalia Usmanova-Elsner
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 12:30 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: response rates for association members and others with vested interest

Hello!

What are typical response rates (or ranges) for Web-based surveys â€” among respondents where there is a vested interest, like trade association members.

Many thanks,
Natalia

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Date:        Fri, 5 Jun 2009 10:43:35 -0400
Reply-To:    Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Sender:      AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:        Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Subject:     Surgeons and burnout
Comments:    To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="----=_Part_2108_32885210.1244213015215"

-----=_Part_2108_32885210.1244213015215
Here is an article about a survey examining surgeons and burnout.

http://www.facs.org/surgerynews/0609.pdf

Natalia--

Like others have stated, the RR that we've experienced range considerably based on various factors, the most salient for us being:
1. Overall length of the questionnaire. The threshold (anecdotally) seems to be about 100 or 110 items. More items than that and the RR seems to drop to between 11% to 22%
2. Whether or not the respondents are offered a paper option first or exclusively a Web option. For example, I remember a research study that I read (can't remember the citation right now) that found that respondents who were mailed a paper survey with a Web option tended to respond via paper, while those invited via email to take a Web survey with a paper option tended to respond via Web. In our experience with surveys among military active duty members, we have gotten response rates of up to 60% for Web-only surveys.

Hope this helps...

Ron

RONALD Z. SZOC, PhD | Senior Technical Specialist | 703.934.3456-Office | 202.345.1085-Cell |

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Natalia Usmanova-Elsner
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 12:30 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
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Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 11:10:49 -0400

It's interesting that the article labels the RR of 32% as being "unusually high".... Someone tell OMB! :)

RONALD Z. SZOC, PhD | Senior Technical Specialist | 703.934.3456-Office |
202.345.1085-Cell |

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Koger
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 10:44 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Surgeons and burnout

Here is an article about a survey examining surgeons and burnout.

http://www.facs.org/surgerynews/0609.pdf
Larry: While I, like Paul, have not heard of any concept tests on private v. confidential in terms of respondent identifiable information, I do know that there have been many discussions about confidential v. anonymity. I'm curious about the OMB ruling, since it seems to relate "privacy" to data (which is I think appropriate and consistent with data protection regulations that address privacy and security), but does this mean that OMB believes we should refer to respondent identities as private, rather than confidential?

I agree with Paul's statement re "as permitted by law," but I would add that compliance with law is required (although it may be contested, e.g., the AAPOR and CASRO amicus brief on respondent confidentiality legal challenges), but may insert a "hesitation" to survey participation whether added after "private" or "confidential." Diane

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Paul J Lavrakas PhD
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 7:05 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

Larry,

I am not aware of any valid test of the impact of the words and concepts of "privacy," versus "confidentiality."

I would anticipate that if only the word, private, were tested against the word, confidentiality, the effect would be negligible.

(BTW, I believe your proposed wording is confounded by adding the "as permitted by law" phrasing only to the privacy condition of the experiment you are asking about. Thus that experiment would not yield valid results comparing the two words or the two concepts.)

I suspect that if the concepts were also explained a bit in terms of their meanings and how they affected the data a respondent is providing, then the concept of confidentiality versus the concept of privacy would show a small but nonnegligible difference in that more people would cooperate under the confidentiality condition than under the privacy condition.

PJL
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Thoughts?

Larry

---------------------------------------------------------------------
Larry Luskin | Vice President | 301.572.0334 | Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com
ICF Macro<http://www.macrointernational.com/> | 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705 | 301.572.0999 (f)

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
I don't want to speak for OMB (so maybe OMB can chime in and confirm/correct), but I believe the reason for the OMB guideline is that confidentiality implies that there is a statute that can be used in protection of a person's identity (e.g., if someone litigated to obtain the identity). By using "private to the extent permitted by law", it provides more comfort to OMB as it implicitly relates it to the Privacy Act. Again, OMB would be better at describing the rationale.

Larry

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Diane K. Bowers
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 11:20 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: FW: Confidentiality vs. Private

Larry: While I, like Paul, have not heard of any concept tests on private v. confidential in terms of respondent identifiable information, I do know that there have been many discussions about confidential v. anonymity. I'm curious about the OMB ruling, since it seems to relate "privacy" to data (which is I think appropriate and consistent with data protection regulations that address privacy and security), but does this mean that OMB believes we should refer to respondent identities as private, rather than confidential?

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PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Lawrence Luskin
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 4:07 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Confidentiality vs. Private

Hi Folks,

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Thoughts?

Larry

_____________________________________________________________________

Larry Luskin | Vice President | 301.572.0334 |
Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com<mailto:Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com>

ICF Macro<http://www.macrointernational.com/>| 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705 | 301.572.0999 (f)

As a matter of practical semantics, I believe "anonymous" is understood by respondents to mean that the survey organization will not know (or ever be
able to retrieve) the identity of the respondent. This is virtually never
done since it precludes the possibility of validation and places the sponsor
in an untenable position with respect to defending the findings. We
generally use the word "confidential" to convey the idea that the
information will not be shared, particularly not with the client or any
other third parties. Its (the information's) use is exclusively for
responsible administration of the survey.

Unfortunately, respondents can misunderstand "confidential" to mean
"anonymous." They may become angry if they were assured confidentiality but
notice an identifying code on the form (in the case of a mail survey).

For me at least, "privacy" is a word associated with mailings from banks,
insurance companies, telecoms, etc. pledging to the customer that we
"protect your privacy" and what our "privacy rights" are. The subtext is
identity theft and misuse of personal information -- by marketers, for
example. With the possible exception of surveys sponsored by government
agencies (or maybe a panel operator), I think "privacy" is a word to be
avoided in our solicitations because it positions us as potentially
threatening. If a commercial survey invitation mentions "respecting your
privacy rights," I think it's curtains for the survey.

"Private to the extent permitted by law" is weasel (lawyer) language saying
we'll do this unless we're sued or a court demands disclosure, IMO.

A related ethical issue is what happens when a survey practitioner, who has
pledged confidentiality but knows respondents' identities, finds in the
questionnaire evidence of non-trivial illicit acts.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Diane K. Bowers" <dbowers@CASRO.ORG>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 11:20 AM
Subject: FW: Confidentiality vs. Private

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om>

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Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 09:37:17 -0700
Reply-To: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private
Comments: To: "Dillman, Don A" <dillman@WSU.EDU>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <2AC93C11A70E58478638B8F11ABCE3E4B410C6@EXCHANGEVS-02.ad.wsu.edu>
What are we pansies! If we are prepared to offer confidentiality to our respondents then we should mean it. Fullest extent of the law?!!!! We need to develop a spine and tell OMB that they are interfering in scientific research in ways that their new rule is going to harm the public interest by making it more difficult to achieve compliance from respondents and inducing potentially serious non response bias. How are we going to ask respondents to report behavior that is criminal or even just deviant and defend the results as representative when we have assured them at the outset that their responses will be protected to the fullest extent of the law instead of confidential?

Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Chairman
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Dillman, Don A
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 9:19 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

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Thoughts?
I forgot to say:  This kind of stuff just makes my blood boil.  AAPOR should take a position on this and get it reversed.

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Date:       Fri, 5 Jun 2009 12:45:03 -0400
Reply-To:  "Burkom, Diane R" <burkom@BATTELLE.ORG>
Sender:    AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:      "Burkom, Diane R" <burkom@BATTELLE.ORG>
Subject:   Re: Confidentiality vs. Private
Comments:  To: "AAPORNET@ASU.EDU" <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
I have always thought that confidentiality referred to the data collected and that we promise to not release those data to anyone as James Murphy described in his comment and that privacy is the act of protecting the respondent's identity -- we do not let others know who our respondents are, we interview in private settings where answers cannot be overheard by others, etc. We respect the respondent's privacy while keeping their answers confidential.

I have encountered some IRBs over the years who have asked that the phrase "to the extent permitted by law" be added to either of these terms, and my observation is that mentioning the law is more often upsetting rather than reassuring -- nothing scientific just my personal feeling.

Diane Burkom
Senior Project Director/Associate Director
Battelle Centers for Public Health Research and Evaluation
6115 Falls Road, Suite 200
Baltimore, MD 21209
410-372-2702
410-377-6809 fax
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In the 2006 Guidance on Agency Survey and Statistical Information Collections, OMB has guided federal organizations to characterize the data obtained by most Federal surveys as "private to the extent permitted by law" rather than "confidential" for various reasons. I am not going to debate the right or wrong of that.

My questions are about impact:

1) Has anyone directly tested these two wordings-for example, a split sample of a survey that promises "XXX will hold your identity private to the extent permitted by law" vs "XXX will hold your identity confidential"?

I know I have seen many papers over the years testing Intros and various confidentiality statements, but can't recall any specifically related to the current guidance. If you have, was there a difference in response rate?

2) What would folks expect would happen if a survey migrated from "confidential" to "private" as described above? In the absence of any previously collected split sample, would you expect a considerable increase/decrease based on how a respondent perceives and internalizes the promise?

Thoughts?

Larry
We must do this one at Florida State also.  
Every cover sheet.  
I'm not happy about it either.  
I sure don't see how this protects human subjects!

What I do is separate any cover sheet with identifiers from the data and get rid of it.  
I guess one would call it, don't know, can't tell.

Susan

----- Original Message -----  
From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>  
Date: Friday, June 5, 2009 12:44 pm  
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private  
To: AAPORNENET@ASU.EDU  

> What are we pansies! If we are prepared to offer confidentiality to our respondents then we should mean it. Fullest extent of the law?!!! We need to develop a spine and tell OMB that they are interfering in scientific research in ways that their new rule is going to harm the public interest by making it more difficult to achieve compliance from respondents and inducing potentially serious non response bias.  
> How are we going to ask respondents to report behavior that is criminal or unjust deviant and defend the results as representative when we have assured them at the outset that their responses will be protected to the fullest extent of the law instead of confidential?
>
> Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
> Chairman  
> Freeman, Sullivan & Co.  
>
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: AAPORNENET [mailto:AAPORNENET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Dillman, Don A  
> Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 9:19 AM  
> To: AAPORNENET@ASU.EDU  
> Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private  
>
> This has been a useful discussion.  
>
> I paused when I got to this phrase in Larry's response, "it provides
more comfort to OMB as it implicitly relates it to the Privacy Act."

It made me wonder if we shouldn't also be thinking more about the "comfort of the potential respondent."

I'm having difficulty seeing how, "private to the extent permitted by law" is going to be either clear or comforting to people who we ask to respond to surveys.

It would really be useful to have a response from OMB on the list serveto help us work our way through the background and potential implications of this issue.

Thanks for the posting various ones of you have offered on this topic. I sense it has some major ramifications.

Don A. Dillman, Regents Professor and The Thomas S. Foley Distinguished Professor of Government and Public Policy
133 Wilson Hall
Washington State University
Pullman, WA 99164-4014

I don't want to speak for OMB (so maybe OMB can chime in and confirm/correct), but I believe the reason for the OMB guideline is that confidentiality implies that there is a statute that can be used in protection of a person's identity (e.g., if someone litigated to obtain the identity). By using "private to the extent permitted by law", it provides more comfort to OMB as it implicitly relates it to the Privacy Act. Again, OMB would be better at describing the rationale.

Larry

Larry: While I, like Paul, have not heard of any concept tests on private v. confidential in terms of respondent identifiable
information, I do know that there have been many discussions about confidential v. anonymity.

I'm curious about the OMB ruling, since it seems to relate "privacy" to data (which is I think appropriate and consistent with data protection regulations that address privacy and security), but does this mean that OMB believes we should refer to respondent identities as private, rather than confidential?

I agree with Paul's statement re "as permitted by law," but I would add that compliance with law is required (although it may be contested, e.g., the AAPOR and CASRO amicus brief on respondent confidentiality legal challenges), but may insert a "hesitation" to survey participation whether added after "private" or "confidential."

Diane

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Paul J Lavrakas PhD
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 7:05 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

Larry,

I am not aware of any valid test of the impact of the words and concepts of "privacy," versus "confidentiality."

I would anticipate that if only the word, private, were tested against the word, confidentiality, the effect would be negligible.

(BTW, I believe your proposed wording is confounded by adding the "as permitted by law" phrasing only to the privacy condition of the experiment you are asking about. Thus that experiment would not yield valid results comparing the two words or the two concepts.)

I suspect that if the concepts were also explained a bit in terms of their meanings and how they affected the data a respondent is providing, then the concept of confidentiality versus the concept of privacy would show a small but nonnegligible difference in that more people would cooperate under the confidentiality condition than under the privacy condition.

PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Lawrence Luskin
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 4:07 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Confidentiality vs. Private
Hi Folks,

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2) What would folks expect would happen if a survey migrated from "confidential" to "private" as described above? In the absence of any previously collected split sample, would you expect a considerable increase/decrease based on how a respondent perceives and internalizes the promise?

Thoughts?

Larry

__________________________________________________________

Larry Luskin | Vice President | 301.572.0334 |
Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com<mailto:Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com>

I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD

Department of Educational Psychology and Learning Systems
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453
Larry--

Here is a reference that may inform your question, though it's not a definitive study of your specific examples.


"XXX will hold your identity private to the extent permitted by law"

Conceptually, I see a very basic problem with the proposed alternative statement (not that there are not more):

"XXX will hold your identity private to the extent permitted by law"

1. The last part of it is similar - though different in meaning - to "to the fullest extent of the law" which invariably is preceded by "prosecuted..." Not a good connotation. It puts me, the respondent, on notice as possibly being vulnerable for what I do not know...

2. But now the phrase "permitted by law" is the exact opposite of "fullest extent". It inverts a related connotation of strength by means of a denotation of weakness. It makes the Surveyor weaker. The Surveyor is no longer doing something TO THE FULLEST EXTENT but to the extent permitted (connoting: "Gee, I don't know... We'll try really hard, but we may be hampered to adhere to only those actions and activities that the law permits... We are bound just like you to others that we cannot control... Etc... Etc...)

3. So, now, I, the respondent am thinking that the Surveyor may or may not do anything, because nothing (apparently) is within his/her control, and thus, I am very very concerned.

If I read a statement of privacy like that, I would immediately clam up and...
not want to answer anything.

What about: "Any violations of your privacy or exposure of your identity or responses will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and no harm will ever come to you" (he sez tongue fully in his cheek)...

My $0.01...
Ron

RONALD Z. SZOC, PhD | Senior Technical Specialist | 703.934.3456-Office | 202.345.1085-Cell |

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I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample—"cell and landline"—for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

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For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.
It seems to me the phrase "private to the extent permitted by law " or some permutation thereof opens up a can of worms for pollsters and interviewers. It seems to me this opens up a line of questioning for a more refined definition of privacy that at best wastes interviewer's time or at worst terminates the survey.

Jackie Wolf-ÉNRIONE

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

-----Original Message-----
From: "Dillman, Don A" <dillman@WSU.EDU>
Date: Fri, 05 Jun 2009 09:19:06
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

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+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
Don A. Dillman, Regents Professor and
The Thomas S. Foley Distinguished Professor of
Government and Public Policy
133 Wilson Hall
Washington State University
Pullman, WA 99164-4014
-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Lawrence Luskin
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 8:53 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

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Larry

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Diane K. Bowers
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 11:20 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: FW: Confidentiality vs. Private

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PJL

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Thoughts?

Larry
Friends,

We have learned from Gary Langer that Bob Groves's confirmation as Director of the Bureau of the Census is being held up by an anonymous Senator for unknown reasons. Such a "hold" is the prerogative of any Senator. In this case, however, the action is injurious to the citizens of the United States. The Bureau needs Bob's strong, expert leadership as it begins the 2010 count. We in the public opinion research profession especially need to work to ensure an accurate census and a strong federal statistical system. Bob's confirmation will go a long way toward achieving these aims. I urge you to fax a letter to your senators asking for a swift, positive vote. You can find the fax numbers usually under "office locations" at your senators' website.

Thanks for your consideration. Peter

--

Peter V. Miller, PhD.
Department of Communication Studies
Northwestern University
President, American Association for Public Opinion Research
p-miller@northwestern.edu
I was thinking the same thing.

Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Chairman
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 11:04 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

My understanding is that intent of AAPORNET is to serve as a means of communications to share information of common professional interest and professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for commercial advantage.

Thus I find commercial advertisements soliciting business like the MacroPoll Wireless post below to be an abuse of the AAPORNET listserv. Of course, there is nothing wrong with a member on the listserv responding to a post with an offer of services if the services are truly relevant to the post -- after all, that might be helpful to an AAPOR colleague -- but general broadcast advertising is nothing more than e-mail spam.

I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample—cell and landline—for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

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For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.
I agree. AAPORNET should not be a forum for this or anything similar.

Lynn Stalone
IHR Research Group
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----
From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>

Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 11:13:19
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

I was thinking the same thing.

Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Chairman
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.

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e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
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----- Original Message -----  
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>  
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM  
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

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My thinking as well

Steven Millman
Senior Associate
Organization and Strategy
Booz | Allen | Hamilton

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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Sullivan
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:13 PM
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Voorhees, New Jersey  08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

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----------------------------------------------------
FYI, I checked my email archive and this email solicitation appears about every 4 months. I read the list mainly to gain knowledge about survey methods, practices, and policy. I’d not like to see it turn into a forum for sales and marketing of survey products. Occasional job postings is about as much commercial activity as one would want to see.

Lee Hargraves
UMass Medical School

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Lynn Stalone
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:31 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

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Lynn Stalone
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Sent from my Verizon Wireless Blackberry

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From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 11:13:19
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

I was thinking the same thing.

Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Chairman
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 11:04 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

My understanding is that intent of AAPORNET is to serve as a means of
communications to share information of common professional interest and
professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for
commercial advantage.

Thus I find commercial advertisements soliciting business like the MacroPoll
Wireless post below to be an abuse of the AAPORNET listserv. Of course, there
is nothing wrong with a member on the listserv responding to a post with an
offer of services if the services are truly relevant to the post -- after all,
that might be helpful to an AAPOR colleague -- but general broadcast
advertising is nothing more than e-mail spam.

I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill wb82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless
MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample—"cell and landline"—for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

The dual-frame sample includes 1,000 landline and 250 cell phone interviews combined and weighted to represent the US population. The sample is combined and weighted to reflect phone user types according the July-December 2008 National Health Interview Survey phone group sizes and national demographics based on the 2008 Current Population Survey.

The dual frame omnibus is ideal for collecting critical data points without investing in a stand-alone survey. An option for just the 250 cell phone interviews is also available. This option is ideal for supplementing existing research with a cell phone component.

ICF Macro started MacroPoll Wireless in October 2007. Administered via cell phone, the survey is a compilation of questions covering various topics. Our last survey, conducted in January with 500 cell users, covered topics ranging from energy consumption, consumer preference, insurance coverage, health behaviors, and religious identity.

For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.

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

Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 15:02:13 -0400
Reply-To: Young Chun <ychun2@GMAIL.COM>
Dear colleagues,

Below is the HANDY link where you can find the websites of the senators in your state and their fax numbers and other contact information Peter suggests using.

http://senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

Senators' websites do not follow common templates. You may find your state senators' fax numbers usually near the top or bottom of home page.

Very best,

Young Chun
Department of Sociology
University of Maryland

On Fri, Jun 5, 2009 at 2:02 PM, Peter Miller <p-miller@northwestern.edu> wrote:

> Friends,
> 
> We have learned from Gary Langer that Bob Groves's confirmation as Director of the Bureau of the Census is being held up by an anonymous Senator for unknown reasons. Such a "hold" is the prerogative of any Senator. In this case, however, the action is injurious to the citizens of the United States. The Bureau needs Bob's strong, expert leadership as it begins the 2010 count. We in the public opinion research profession especially need to work to ensure an accurate census and a strong federal statistical system.
> Bob's confirmation will go a long way toward achieving these aims. I urge you to fax a letter to your senators asking for a swift, positive vote.
> You can find the fax numbers usually under "office locations" at your senators' website.
> 
> Thanks for your consideration. Peter
> 
> --
> Peter V. Miller, PhD.
> Department of Communication Studies
> Northwestern University
> President, American Association for Public Opinion Research
> p-miller@northwestern.edu
Lee,

I think job postings are fine and that employers should even be encouraged to post jobs on AAPORNET. Job postings provide AAPOR members with information about career/professional development opportunities. It is not commercial in that the object is not to solicit business, but rather to employ someone where one or more AAPOR members will have the opportunity gain experience and expertise in their professional development.

Again, I have no problem with a service provider responding to a post asking for help by informing the posting member of a service that could help. AAPORNET is supposed to be a mechanism for sharing helpful or professionally interesting information. It is the general sales announcement to which I object.

I would like to see AAPORNET subscribers self-police themselves too. I certainly am not advocating or hoping to create a bureaucratic structure to monitor and control the content of postings on AAPORNET.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
FYI, I checked my email archive and this email solicitation appears about every 4 months. I read the list mainly to gain knowledge about survey methods, practices, and policy. I'd not like to see it turn into a forum for sales and marketing of survey products. Occasional job postings is about as much commercial activity as one would want to see.

Lee Hargraves
UMass Medical School

I agree. AAPORNET should not be a forum for this or anything similar.

Lynn Stalone
IHR Research Group

I was thinking the same thing.

Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Chairman
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.

I was thinking the same thing.
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

My understanding is that intent of AAPORNET is to serve as a means of communications to share information of common professional interest and professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for commercial advantage.

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I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

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Jonathan

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For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.
As other AAPORneters have said, it depends. But really you have to shift the client's focus from response rates to how representative the responses are. You can weight the data if they're skewed. It's sample quality, not sample size, that matters.

Marc Zwelling, CMRP

Vector Research + Development Inc. / 416.733.2320

http://www.vectorresearch.com

... Turning questions into strategy

Hello!

What are typical response rates (or ranges) for Web-based surveys - among respondents where there is a vested interest, like trade association members.

Many thanks,

Natalia
On Fri, Jun 5, 2009 at 12:52 PM, Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D. <jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu> wrote:

> I would like to see AAPORNET subscribers self-police themselves too. I
certainly am not advocating or hoping to create a bureaucratic structure to
> monitor and control the content of postings on AAPORNET.

As your friendly AAPOR Communications Chair 2009-2010, do I ever heartily concur with this sentiment. As far as I know there is no formal policy for what is and isn't "OK" on AAPORNet, but the note below has been sent to the list at least a few times over the years, and now seems as good a time as any to do so again. (No, it doesn't address the "spam" question ...)

AAPORNETIQUETTE

Do not post to AAPORNET messages intended for individuals, or better addressed to individuals.

Acceptable postings to AAPORNET include announcements and general questions. Replies to such postings, however, ought to be sent to the person who posted them (sender's address).
Try to keep all postings as brief as possible--fitting your entire message on a single screen is always appreciated.

If you think someone has violated AAPORNETiquette, send your complaint to the individual offender--posting such messages to AAPORNET only compounds the offense.

Treat everyone on AAPORNET as you would someone you will see regularly for the rest of your life because--since we are all AAPOR members--you probably will.

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

Date:         Fri, 5 Jun 2009 17:38:05 EDT
Reply-To:     MediaFrontiers@AOL.COM
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "Paul S. Lenburg" <MediaFrontiers@AOL.COM>
Subject:      Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="UTF-8"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

The Macropoll Wireless post is unprofessional and not welcomed.

Paul

In a message dated 6/5/2009 11:08:14 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU writes:

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For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.
What are typical response rates (or ranges) for Web-based surveys among respondents where there is a vested interest, like trade association members. My experience with university alumni has been consistent with what others have already said: response will vary depending on the salience, length, and other issues specific to the survey and the population. And, as you would expect, I always get greater response among those with whom the institution has the strongest relationship (for instance, donors and Alumni Association members). Lottery style incentives, however, have not made much of a difference in response rates, but they have compromised data quality a bit. (Shameless plug: Come see me present a paper on this topic -- co-authored by rock stars Roger Levine and Jon Krosnick -- at the WAPOR conference in Lausanne this September.)

That said, response rates to my online surveys with Stanford alumni have declined over the years. I'm now getting about a 32% response rate for surveys that take about 5 - 8 minutes. Shorter surveys with specific sub-populations on specific topics (e.g.,
post-event surveys with alumni who attended those 20 events) tend to get better response -- ranging as high as about 60%.

Jerold Pearson, '75  
Director of Market Research  
Stanford Alumni Association  
650-723-9186  
http://www.stanford.edu/~jpearson/  

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

Just a thought: How about a separate AAPOR site where vendors like Macropoll could describe their products/services in 200 words or fewer?  
As more of a consumer of polling than a pollster, and a liaison with other consumers, I'd find a site like that very helpful. Users might even add some comments -- An Angie's List of polling agencies.

--

*Kenneth O. Doyle*  
*Kenneth O. Doyle, Director***  
*Communication Research Division*  
*School of Journalism & Mass Communication*  
*University of Minnesota â€“ Twin Cities*  
*323 Murphy Hall â€“ 206 Church Street*  
*Minneapolis MN 55455-0418*  
*Phone 612.624.5341*  
*www.KenDoyle.umn.edu*
I promised myself I wouldn't get into this discussion because I get dragged into a similar one about once a week. However, here's my take and my opinion only:

In the government, confidential surveys include identifying information, anonymous ones do not. Data collections by most federal agencies or their agents are covered by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (PA). Federal Statistical Agencies are exempt from the PA, as well as Human Research Subjects Protection (IRB review), as well as other legislation under the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY ACT (CIPSEA).

My guess is that since a Privacy Act Statement would not be required by a federal statistical agency, OMB is making sure respondents know their identifying information is still protected under law. This is in spite of the fact that there is a required pledge that information will be kept confidential and is to be collected for statistical purposes only.
You folks outside of government are most likely not covered by the OMB statement. Again, my opinion only.

Jim Caplan
Arlington, VA

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Dillman, Don A
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 12:19 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

This has been a useful discussion.

I paused when I got to this phrase in Larry's response, "it provides more comfort to OMB as it implicitly relates it to the Privacy Act."

It made me wonder if we shouldn't also be thinking more about the "comfort of the potential respondent."

I'm having difficulty seeing how, "private to the extent permitted by law" is going to be either clear or comforting to people who we ask to respond to surveys.

It would really be useful to have a response from OMB on the list serve to help us work our way through the background and potential implications of this issue.

Thanks for the posting various ones of you have offered on this topic. I sense it has some major ramifications.

+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
Don A. Dillman, Regents Professor and
The Thomas S. Foley Distinguished Professor of
Government and Public Policy
133 Wilson Hall
Washington State University
Pullman, WA 99164-4014
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@ASU.EDU] On Behalf Of Lawrence Luskin
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 8:53 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

I don't want to speak for OMB (so maybe OMB can chime in and confirm/correct), but I believe the reason for the OMB guideline is that confidentiality implies that there is a statute that can be used in protection of a person's identity (e.g., if someone litigated to obtain the identity). By using "private to the extent permitted by law", it provides more comfort to OMB as it implicitly relates it to the Privacy Act. Again, OMB would be better at describing the rationale.
Larry

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Diane K. Bowers
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 11:20 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: FW: Confidentiality vs. Private

Larry: While I, like Paul, have not heard of any concept tests on private v. confidential in terms of respondent identifiable information, I do know that there have been many discussions about confidential v. anonymity. I'm curious about the OMB ruling, since it seems to relate "privacy" to data (which I think appropriate and consistent with data protection regulations that address privacy and security), but does this mean that OMB believes we should refer to respondent identities as private, rather than confidential?

I agree with Paul's statement re "as permitted by law," but I would add that compliance with law is required (although it may be contested, e.g., the AAPOR and CASRO amicus brief on respondent confidentiality legal challenges), but may insert a "hesitation" to survey participation whether added after "private" or "confidential." Diane

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Paul J Lavrakas PhD
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 7:05 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Confidentiality vs. Private

Larry,

I am not aware of any valid test of the impact of the words and concepts of "privacy," versus "confidentiality."

I would anticipate that if only the word, private, were tested against the word, confidentiality, the effect would be negligible.

(BTW, I believe your proposed wording is confounded by adding the "as permitted by law" phrasing only to the privacy condition of the experiment you are asking about. Thus that experiment would not yield valid results comparing the two words or the two concepts.)
I suspect that if the concepts were also explained a bit in terms of their meanings and how they affected the data a respondent is providing, then the concept of confidentiality versus the concept of privacy would show a small but nonnegligible difference in that more people would cooperate under the confidentiality condition than under the privacy condition.

 PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Lawrence Luskin
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 4:07 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Confidentiality vs. Private

Hi Folks,

In the 2006 Guidance on Agency Survey and Statistical Information Collections, OMB has guided federal organizations to characterize the data obtained by most Federal surveys as "private to the extent permitted by law" rather than "confidential" for various reasons. I am not going to debate the right or wrong of that.

My questions are about impact:

1) Has anyone directly tested these two wordings—for example, a split sample of a survey that promises "XXX will hold your identity private to the extent permitted by law" vs "XXX will hold your identity confidential"? I know I have seen many papers over the years testing Intros and various confidentiality statements, but can't recall any specifically related to the current guidance. If you have, was there a difference in response rate?

2) What would folks expect would happen if a survey migrated from "confidential" to "private" as described above? In the absence of any previously collected split sample, would you expect a considerable increase/decrease based on how a respondent perceives and internalizes the promise?

Thoughts?
Larry

Larry Luskin | Vice President | 301.572.0334 |
Larry.Luskin@macrointernational.com

ICF Macro | 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705 | 301.572.0999 (f)

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aapornet-request@asu.edu

---

Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 17:15:06 -0500
Reply-To: Howard Gordon <hgordon@GRFILTD.COM>
What are your experiences using Qualtrics for software and the mounting of opinion/perception polls for the conduct of opinion/perception metrics online?

Howard
No problem--I won't post the MacroPoll Wireless announcements anymore.

Thanks for letting me know.

For the record, we started MacroPoll Wireless as a way for organizations to share the cost of cell phone research. Many project budgets can't absorb the high cost of adding cell phone research to the mix. We want to make cell phone surveys affordable on a tight budget. Commercial gain is not a high priority--we want it to be financially successful only so that we can keep it going into the future so that we can continue learning about cell phone methods and sharing at AAPOR and other conferences.

I apologize if anyone found this posting offensive.

Thanks,

Randy

----------------------------------------------------
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Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 18:42:28 -0400
Reply-To: Mike Mokrzycki <mike@MIKEMOKR.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mike Mokrzycki <mike@MIKEMOKR.COM>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: Ken Doyle <KenDoyle@umn.edu>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <4A2997D7.40604@umn.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=windows-1252
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Ken, just want to make sure you're aware of the AAPOR Blue Book,


which lists and includes brief descriptions of companies that have chosen to advertise in it.
Your Angie's List idea goes a bit beyond that. I'll raise it with the Communications Committee. Thanks.

Mike Mokrzycki
http://mikemokr.com/

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Ken Doyle <KenDoyle@umn.edu>
Date: Fri, Jun 5, 2009 at 6:10 PM
Subject: Re: [AAPORNET] Spammers on AAPORNET
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Just a thought: How about a separate AAPOR site where vendors like Macropoll could describe their products/services in 200 words or fewer? As more of a consumer of polling than a pollster, and a liaison with other consumers, I'd find a site like that very helpful. Users might even add some comments -- An Angie's List of polling agencies.

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*Communication Research Division*
*School of Journalism & Mass Communication*
*University of Minnesota =96 Twin Cities*
*323 Murphy Hall =96 206 Church Street*
*Minneapolis MN 55455-0418*
*Phone 612.624.5341*
*www.KenDoyle.umn.edu*

Just a reminder: This e-mail and any attachments are covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 USC 2510-2521. Accordingly, it=92s the property of the sender, confidential, intended only for the designated recipient(s), and additionally privileged under law. Any retention, distribution, action or inaction in reliance on the content is prohibited. If you receive this e-mail by mistake, please delete it and notify me: KenDoyle@umn.edu <mailto:KenDoyle@umn.edu>,
612.624.5341. Thanks a lot.

When I read the macropoll post I also thought it probably crossed the line into straight advertising instead of an aapornet service.

Still, being aware of a omnibus survey opportunity seems to me like that's something aapornetters might want to know about for pilot studies, etc. Surveys sponsored by not-for-profit organizations sometimes let people know about the ability to get survey questions into a larger instrument for a fee. Inasmuch as AAPOR has members who work in the for-profit world, can't these folks also use the net to publicize opportunities? Perhaps there's a more "informative way" rather than "advertising way" of letting people know about these kinds of surveys.

Leora

Dr. Leora Lawton
TechSociety Research
"Custom Social Science and Consumer Behavior Research"
2342 Shattuck Avenue PMB 362, Berkeley, CA  94704
(510) 548-6174; fax (510) 548-6175; cell (510) 928-7572
www.techsociety.com
Yahoo Messenger: leora_lawton
-----Original Message-----
From: Mike Mokrzycki [mailto:mike@MIKEMOKR.COM]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 3:42 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: [AAPORNET] Spammers on AAPORNET

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http://mikemokr.com/

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*Kenneth O. Doyle*

*Kenneth O. Doyle, Director***

*Communication Research Division*

*School of Journalism & Mass Communication*

*University of Minnesota - Twin Cities*

*323 Murphy Hall - 206 Church Street*

*Minneapolis MN 55455-0418*

* *
Acceptable postings to AAPORNET include announcements and general questions. Replies to such postings, however, ought to be sent to the person who posted them (sender's address).

Is this a policy, or what?
Specifically, is it saying that replies to general questions should not be distributed to the list at large? It sounds that way.

Perhaps you could provide clarification, Mike.

I have learned a lot over the past five years by reading replies to the questions of others and hope that on occasion something I have written might have been helpful to another member.

It doesn't make sense to advocate against public discussion because members who don't want that to happen, or to have themselves copied, object -- when they can simply unsubscribe, selectively block emails, or receive a digest.

This is a weird logic, if it can be called that at all. It's chilling, especially in an organization that boasts of its collegiality. Clarification is requested. I am sure there are many of us who do not wish to be someplace where they are unwelcome.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Mike Mokrzycki" <mike@MIKEMOKR.COM>  
To: <AAPORN@ASU.EDU>  
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 4:16 PM  
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORN

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> >
> > AAPORNETIQUETTE
> >
> > Do not post to AAPORNET messages intended
> > for individuals, or better addressed to individuals.
> >
> > Acceptable postings to AAPORNET include announcements and general
> > questions. Replies to such postings, however, ought to be
> > sent to the person who posted them (sender's address).
Try to keep all postings as brief as possible--fitting your entire message on a single screen is always appreciated.

If you think someone has violated AAPORNETiquette, send your complaint to the individual offender--posting such messages to AAPORNET only compounds the offense.

Treat everyone on AAPORNET as you would someone you will see regularly for the rest of your life because--since we are all AAPOR members--you probably will.

---


Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

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

---

James, I agree the reply-only-to-sender guidance in that old list is heavy-handed, perhaps stemming from this listserv's early days when the clearly inadvertent/inappropriate reply-to-all was a bit of a recurring problem. As I say, I'm not aware of any policy on AAPORNET postings -- consider the "AAPORNETiquette" relay nothing more than food for thought (and, OK, fairly moldy).

I too have learned a lot from the open discourse here and I certainly don't want to chill that.

Other times someone posts a question, explicitly requests replies by private email and then posts a summary. For certain kinds of information-gathering and -sharing that can be an efficient approach.

I'm also sensitive to complaints of email overload (even though there are fairly easy ways to deal with it); it saddens me that several hundred of our colleagues choose not to subscribe to what I see as one of AAPOR's greatest membership benefits. I realize there's no way to please everyone on this score.
Mike Mokrzycki
my opinions only, though Communications Committee be forewarned: I'll raise
this with you

On Fri, Jun 5, 2009 at 11:58 PM, JAMES P MURPHY <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com> wrote:

> Acceptable postings to AAPORNET include announcements and general
> questions. Replies to such postings, however, ought to be
> sent to the person who posted them (sender's address).
> > Is this a policy, or what?
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> questions of others and hope that on occasion something I have written might
> have been helpful to another member.
> > It doesn't make sense to advocate against public discussion because members
> who don't want that to happen, or to have themselves copied, object -- when
> they can simply unsubscribe, selectively block emails, or receive a digest.
> > This is a weird logic, if it can be called that at all. It's chilling,
> especially in an organization that boasts of its collegiality. Clarification
> is requested. I am sure there are many of us who do not wish to be someplace
> where they are unwelcome.
> > James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
>

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

Date: Sat, 6 Jun 2009 08:19:46 -0700
Reply-To: Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: Re: Phone Survey Timing | summer effect?
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <325912.79427.qm@web37002.mail.mud.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

This is a quick follow-up to my questions from a couple weeks ago.. I'm
grateful for the responses I received, from about ten people. Some great
insights. Thank you.

The following points are snapshots of what I received in emails. I apologize to those who provided this information if the summary statements are overly crude.

I'll keep things anonymous on the following points, and I take full responsibility if I've missed the boat so to speak, in any way, or misrepresent what people had suggested to me. I can say most of these points were made by at least 2-3 list members..

* No known studies of summer season effects, in terms of measurement bias..

* May take longer to reach people in the summer, especially for hard-to-reach populations. Depending on the type of survey, 1 or 2 callbacks are probably going to be necessary.

* Summer months are generally as productive as other months (though November through early January is the major slow time)

* Extending the survey fieldwork and spreading it out over weeks should also minimize any summer/vacation effects..

* Low/middle income populations are not as likely to travel/vacation like higher income populations, and so if there is any "vacation effect", it is less likely to happen with a low-income population.

* Current economy should help (even if by a little bit) increase response rate due to lower likelihood of long vacations and travel, particularly for low/middle income populations.

* Weekend phone calls, particularly Saturdays and Sundays, may be adversely affected by summer travel/activities.

* Specific context of this survey (schooling, scholarships) could be a turn off for people in the summer months.

* One person suggested the following references:

MARY E. LOSCH, AARON MAITLAND, GENE LUTZ, PETER MARIOLIS, and STEVEN C. GLEASON
The Effect of Time of Year of Data Collection on Sample Efficiency: An Analysis of Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey Data

GIDEON VIGDERHOUS
Scheduling Telephone Interviews: A Study of Seasonal Patterns

I hope this is useful to some of you.

Best,
Paul

Paul DiPerna
cell/text: 202-641-1858
e-mail: pd_wpa21@yahoo.com
online ID: http://claimid.com/pdiperna

----- Original Message ----
From: Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 11:04:09 AM
Subject: Phone Survey Timing | summer effect?

Can anyone on our list share phone survey experiences during summer months?

We are in the middle of some project planning, and there are opposing views about attaining adequate response in June, July, or August.

The population to be surveyed will be lower to middle income parents, and the survey is focused on schooling and the use of scholarships.

Are there research articles or references that address a problematic summer "effect" for polling?

I'll be grateful for any insights-

Paul

Paul DiPerna
cell/text: 202-641-1858
e-mail: pd_wpa21@yahoo.com
online ID: http://claimid.com/pdiperna

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

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text: set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
I totally agree!
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----
From: Lynn Stalone <lynn.stalone@IHR-RESEARCH.COM>
Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 18:30:52
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

I agree. AAPORNET should not be a forum for this or anything similar.

Lynn Stalone
IHR Research Group
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

-----Original Message-----
From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Date: Fri, 5 Jun 2009 11:13:19
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

I was thinking the same thing.

Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
Chairman
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 11:04 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

My understanding is that intent of AAPORNET is to serve as a means of
communications to share information of common professional interest and professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for commercial advantage.

Thus I find commercial advertisements soliciting business like the MacroPoll Wireless post below to be an abuse of the AAPORNET listserv. Of course, there is nothing wrong with a member on the listserv responding to a post with an offer of services if the services are truly relevant to the post -- after all, that might be helpful to an AAPOR colleague -- but general broadcast advertising is nothing more than e-mail spam.

I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message -----
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample?"cell and landline?"for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

The dual-frame sample includes 1,000 landline and 250 cell phone interviews combined and weighted to represent the US population. The sample is combined and weighted to reflect phone user types according the July-December 2008 National Health Interview Survey phone group sizes and national demographics based on the 2008 Current Population Survey.

The dual frame omnibus is ideal for collecting critical data points without investing in a stand-alone survey. An option for just the 250 cell phone interviews is also available. This option is ideal for supplementing existing research with a cell phone component.

ICF Macro started MacroPoll Wireless in October 2007. Administered via cell phone, the survey is a compilation of questions covering various topics. Our last survey, conducted in January with 500 cell users, covered topics ranging from energy consumption, consumer preference, insurance coverage, health
behaviors, and religious identity.

For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.

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signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

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

---

Date: Sat, 6 Jun 2009 11:03:30 -0500
Reply-To: "Frank, Stephen" <sfrank@STCLOUDSTATE.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Frank, Stephen" <sfrank@STCLOUDSTATE.EDU>
Subject: summer effect
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>, Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Paul thanks for the information. I was one who mentioned that some believe that up to 1/3 of Minnesota's may have a summer home. Mike O'Neil properly questioned this. So I did some follow up.

I checked with MN Tourism and the State Demographer who have heard the same thing but don't have any hard data. Census data would indicate about 5% of MN housing units are seasonal housing units. However, if one wants some nonintrusive measures one can see thousands of cars leaving our cities every summer weekend (and fishing opener and hunting season).
One can Google MN lake homes or summer cabins etc and find lots of books, articles on this subject. MN is known as the land of 10,000 lakes (a lake is defined as covering 10 acres or more). Actually we don't like to brag but it is probably 12-15,000 lakes.

Many of these homes were simple cabins bought very cheaply in the 1920's through the 1940's and in past years have been upgraded. And in the case of seniors they are becoming their permanent homes. They are passed from generation to generation.

It was also explained to me that it is just not the homeowners who go to these lake homes and summer places but many others share such as relatives and friends on summer weekends. Added to these are stays at the numerous resorts, campgrounds, and other paid lodging, as well as day trips that don't even involve an overnight stay.

So at least in MN we have found some difficulty contacting residents Friday through Sunday night. We have moved to mixed mode rdd household and cell phone statewide studies but not yet in a summer study. Perhaps cell phones will mitigate some of this weekend effect. Or, while one is fishing for Walleyes, catching some "rays", golfing or boating (Minnesota has a very high rate of golf courses open to the public, % who golf and is among the highest in per capita recreation boat ownership) one may not respond to a survey.

I will stop rambling but just I think there is a weekend effect but it may vary by time of year and region. sf

Nine-tenths of democracy is just showing up

Dr. Steve Frank, SCSU Chair/Professor of Political Science
304 Building 51 SCSU St. Cloud, MN. 56301
Codirector SCSU Survey (320) 308-4131 fax (320) 308-5422
Personal Homepage: http://web.stcloudstate.edu/sfrank
POL Dept Web page-http://www.stcloudstate.edu/politicalscience
SCSU Survey Homepage: http://web.stcloudstate.edu/scsusurvey
Email: sfrank@stcloudstate.edu

UMD Masters of Advocacy and Leadership Program sfrank2@umn.edu
112 CINA 1123 University Drive Duluth, MN 55812

City of St. Joseph Council Person (2007-2011)
    My City Council Web Page http://webpages.charter.net/sfrank06/

Banky<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0005134/>: That's what the internet is for= Slandering others anonymously. Stopping the flick isn't gonna stop that
* Please consider the environment before printing this email
Mike --

Thanks for this prompt, totally clear and, to this member, encouraging response. It's appreciated!

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
J.P. MURPHY & COMPANY
609 921 2432  Princeton, N.J.
772 219 7671  Stuart, Fla.
610 408 8800  Mobile
www.jpmurphy.com
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com

----- Original Message -----
From: "Mike Mokrzycki" <mike@MIKEMOKR.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Saturday, June 06, 2009 10:52 AM
Subject: Re: Acceptable Postings to AAPORNET

> James, I agree the reply-only-to-sender guidance in that old list is
> heavy-handed, perhaps stemming from this listserv's early days when the
> clearly inadvertent/inappropriate reply-to-all was a bit of a recurring
> problem. As I say, I'm not aware of any policy on AAPORNET postings --
> consider the "AAPORNETiquette" relay nothing more than food for thought
> (and, OK, fairly moldy).
> I too have learned a lot from the open discourse here and I certainly
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> >
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> > email and then posts a summary. For certain kinds of information-gathering
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Mike Mokrzycki
my opinions only, though Communications Committee be forewarned: I'll raise this with you.

On Fri, Jun 5, 2009 at 11:58 PM, JAMES P MURPHY <jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com> wrote:

>> Acceptable postings to AAPORNET include announcements and general questions. Replies to such postings, however, ought to be sent to the person who posted them (sender's address).

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>> This is a weird logic, if it can be called that at all. It's chilling, especially in an organization that boasts of its collegiality.

>> Clarification is requested. I am sure there are many of us who do not wish to be someplace where they are unwanted.

>> James P. Murphy, Ph.D.

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Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

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

Date: Sat, 6 Jun 2009 12:43:11 -0400
Reply-To: Christopher Fleury <cjfnova@HOTMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Christopher Fleury <cjfnova@HOTMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: lawton@techsociety.com, aapornet@asu.edu
In-Reply-To: <A683B20718C448EFA47811283FD0699E@dell2005>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

I am a bit surprised by the vehement negative reaction to the MacroPoll pos=
t yesterday=3B I think AAPORnet is a useful and appropriate place to keep e=
ach other informed of new developments=2C practices and services in our ind=
ustry. =20

Given all of the papers and panels at the recent AAPOR conference on the im=
 pact of cell phones on survey research (including one on which I was a co-a=
 uthor)=2C I was especially interested to read an announcement of a new prod=
  uct offering in this area.

Chris

Christopher J. Fleury=2C Ph.D.
Senior Research Director - GfK Roper Public Affairs & Media

----------------------------------------
GfK Custom Research North America
1325 G Street=2C NW
Suite 500
Washington=2C DC 20005
Tel: +1 202.449.7658
Fax: +1 202.347.9361
www.gfkamerica.com

EMAILING FOR THE GREATER GOOD
Join me

Date: Fri=2C 5 Jun 2009 16:14:14 -0700
From: lawton@TECHSOCIETY.COM
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU

When I read the macropoll post I also thought it probably crossed the line
into straight advertising instead of an aapornet service.

Still=2C being aware of a omnibus survey opportunity seems to me like that's
something aapornetters might want to know about for pilot studies=2C etc.
Surveys sponsored by not-for-profit organizations sometimes let people know
about the ability to get survey questions into a larger instrument for a
fee. Inasmuch as AAPOR has members who work in the for-profit world=2C can't
these folks also use the net to publicize opportunities? Perhaps there's a
more "informative way" rather than "advertising way" of letting people know
about these kinds of surveys.

Leora

Dr. Leora Lawton
TechSociety Research
"Custom Social Science and Consumer Behavior Research"
2342 Shattuck Avenue PMB 362=2C Berkeley=2C CA 94704
(510) 548-6174=3B fax (510) 548-6175=3B cell (510) 928-7572
www.techsociety.com
Yahoo Messenger: leora_lawton

-----Original Message-----
From: Mike Mokrzycki [mailto:mike@MIKEMOKR.COM]
Sent: Friday=2C June 05=2C 2009 3:42 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: [AAPORNET] Spammers on AAPORNET

Ken=2C just want to make sure you're aware of the AAPOR Blue Book=2C


which lists and includes brief descriptions of companies that have chosen to
advertise in it.

Your Angie's List idea goes a bit beyond that. I'll raise it with the
Communications Committee. Thanks.

Mike Mokrzycki
Just a thought: How about a separate AAPOR site where vendors like Macropoll could describe their products/services in 200 words or fewer? As more of a consumer of polling than a pollster and a liaison with other consumers=2C I'd find a site like that very helpful. Users might even add some comments -- An Angie's List of polling agencies.
So I guess I should weigh in on this, as a sometimes frequent contributor to AAPORnet.

First, I have to say that I applaud the group for being one of the few listservs that has managed to survive as a useful forum for so many years without having to resort to some form of moderation. We've gotten by with self-policing and not too many folks quitting in a huff, and that says a lot about the maturity and quality of folks in this organization.
Through the years, I've gotten a lot of great help with methods issues (e.g., surveying dentists, graphical representation of data) but I've also shared some essays about this work life, from how AAPOR conference is like a barbecue grill, to how THE PHANTOM TOLLBOTH relates to research findings, to the "button a chair" report-writing story, my $4,000 mistake, my decision not to pursue a Ph.D., my prayer for pollsters, and so on.

Which mostly took more than a screen and could be considered spam.

It was talking with a friend at the Orange County conference that I finally realized how careful we should be about not reflecting on our organizations, etc. So I started rethinking my voice on AAPORnet and made two intentional changes: First, when I ask a work-related question, I use my full .sig, with our Center website and tagline, etc. But when I philosophize, I just use my name and city, so that hopefully it is clearly just my observation, not reflective of our team.

Second, when I am just philosophizing, I try to remember to add a tag to the subject line like (philosophical) or (unimportant), so that people are warned and can hit delete.

As a newspaper columnist, I've gotten all kinds of letters to the editor in response to my writing, and I see both those that are published (with the most common complaints being "smug" and "clueless"), as well as those that are not published (my least favorite: "Colleen Kay Porter is not a mother, just a woman who gave birth five times"). So I am sure there are AAPORnet readers who find my stuff silly, time-wasting, naive, etc. That's okay, and I'm trying to make it easy for y'all to delete me. But if it doesn't have that warning tag, could you please read it, because I might need your help?

I persist in sending such essays when the muse whispers, because I have heard back from enough people who do enjoy these. One kind reader put it this way:

> ...many must be like me, working at small labs with few peers.
> AAPORnet is like having a great big peer coffee room, and your notes
> are like having someone in the coffee room you always want to time
> your visits to listen to.

And I think that speaks to the function of AAPORnet. Is it merely a forum for the exchange of information? Or also a medium for community-building (to which I think such essays may contribute).

I think Leora Lawton raised a very important point yesterday:
> Still, being aware of an omnibus survey opportunity seems to me like
> that's
> something aapornetters might want to know about for pilot studies,
> etc.
> Surveys sponsored by not-for-profit organizations sometimes let
> people know
> about the ability to get survey questions into a larger instrument
> for a
I agree that can be a needed service, and other groups have posted such notices in the past. But I recall those being much briefer, just a short paragraph that it was happening and who to call. And a more clear subject line, "wireless omnibus offered," might have also helped folks to delete more promptly than "MacroPoll Wireless," which could have been all manner of interesting things.

Colleen Porter
Gainesville, FL

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

Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 12:01:06 -0400
Reply-To: slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Susan Losh <slosh@FSU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <0BA10AE3-6C64-463A-881C-6349D34312CA@cox.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Like several other devoted AAPOR lurkers, I have followed this thread with interest.

On the one hand, I like learning about new products and service. The MACRO post was tastefully done, certainly not one of those "quick, where's the zapper mouse" posts.

On the other hand, if we on the list think it's OK for one company to do so, why not every other commercial firm on AAPOR, of which there are several? Before we know it, the list could be jammed full of ads. That's why we have a general policy. And even a tasteful advertisement of a new service provided by an AAPOR member is in a different category than reporting interesting results, a debate over methods, or an invitation to help support one of our own, nominated for an important government position.

I like the suggestion several posts back of a [monitored] spot on the AAPOR website. The Blue Book is helpful but we could not expect it to keep up with all the new products and services, or the detail, each time one was offered.

Happy Sunday everyone.
Susan
I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD

Department of Educational Psychology
   and Learning Systems
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

VOICE (850) 644-8778
FAX (850) 644-8776

American Statistical Association/NSF Research Fellow
http://mailer.fsu.edu/~slosh/index.html

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Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 12:28:48 -0400
Reply-To: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: "Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D."
           <jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <00bd01c9e60830b3b3e0$6564a8c0@core.umdnj.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

I too have been reading the replies to Jonathan's original posting carefully, and still have not formed a final position of my own on the con and pro issues that have been raised.

I do have a question of those who objected to the MACRO posting:

Did you object to the AAPORnet postings from academics for buying items on omnibus polls that some university surveys centers conducted in prior years? If not, why not?

I ask because I am sincerely interested in learning your thinking about these matters.

I have been a strong supporter and user of AAPORnet from the day Jim Beniger activated it. I am an extreme supporter of freedom of speech and find censorship of speech distasteful, no matter how distasteful I may find the speech itself. Encouraging or requesting or belittling someone to not post something onto AAPORnet may be appealing to those who don't like what was posted but it ends up depriving those others who may find it useful or
interesting (but may be unwilling to say so publicly) from gaining whatever value a posting like MARCO’s may have to them. The fact that the information in MACRO’s posting is available via other sources than AAPORnet doesn’t carry weight with me regarding whether a posting like MACRO’s should be on AAPORnet. The fact that it's apparently inconvenient for some to have to delete such posted messages also doesn't carry weight for me in terms of the possibility of depriving others easy access to such information.

PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:04 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

My understanding is that intent of AAPORNET is to serve as a means of communications to share information of common professional interest and professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for commercial advantage.

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I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message -----
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless
MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample—"cell and landline"—for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

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For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.
Enough discussion. Let's have a vote. All in favor of encouraging marketing announcements on the listserv say aye. All opposed say No. I vote no

MS

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

From: "Susan Losh" <slosh@FSU.EDU>
Subj: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Date: Sun Jun 7, 2009 9:06 am
Size: 1K
To: "AAPORNET@ASU.EDU" <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

Like several other devoted AAPOR lurkers, I have followed this thread with interest.

On the one hand, I like learning about new products and service. The MACRO post was tastefully done, certainly not one of those "quick, where's the zapper mouse" posts.

On the other hand, if we on the list think it's OK for one company to do so, why not every other commercial firm on AAPOR, of which there are several? Before we know it, the list could be jammed full of ads. That's why we have a general policy. And even a tasteful advertisement of a new service provided by an AAPOR member is in a different category than reporting interesting results, a debate over methods, or an invitation to help support one of our own, nominated for an important government position.

I like the suggestion several posts back of a [monitored] spot on the AAPOR website. The Blue Book is helpful but we could not expect it to keep up with all the new products and services, or the detail, each time one was offered.

Happy Sunday everyone.

Susan
I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD

Department of Educational Psychology
and Learning Systems
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

VOICE (850) 644-8778
FAX (850) 644-8776

American Statistical Association/NSF Research Fellow
http://mailer.fsu.edu/~slosh/index.html

----------------------------------------------------
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signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

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signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

=========================================================================
Date:         Sun, 7 Jun 2009 13:31:29 -0400
Reply-To:     "Michael D. Cohen" <mcohen@COHENRESEARCHGROUP.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "Michael D. Cohen" <mcohen@COHENRESEARCHGROUP.COM>
Subject:      Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:  <000f01c9e78d$092deee0$1b89cca0$@net>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed; delsp=yes
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v935.3)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

All,

Okay.

Some are offended, even outraged while others are not or simply know where the delete button is on their computers. Some are responding even after MACRO has Cried Uncle. Gosh. Contrast that with some blatantly political postings, that have nothing to do with research, during the past campaign without such blowback. Interesting.

I don't know about you but I'm now going to set my SPAM filter to delete the next email with the subject line "Re: Spammers on
AAPORNET. If you need help with this, please feel free to respond to me directly (with a new subject line) and I'll provide the requisite tech support.

AAPORNET at its best is a pretty amazing resource and one that I have relied on from time to time. I enjoy many of the discussions here and normally post my appreciation to the authors directly. At it's worst it is somewhat of a blog for some folks and a way for others seemingly to look down upon others.

Please go out and enjoy what's left of the weekend. Tomorrow morning, let's hope there is something more interesting to talk about -- and read about -- on AAPORNET.

Happy Sunday,

Michael D. Cohen, Ph.D.
Cohen Research Group
10 G Street, NE, Suite 601
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 558-6300 Phone
(202) 558-6301 Fax

On Jun 7, 2009, at 12:28 PM, Paul J Lavrakas PhD wrote:

> I too have been reading the replies to Jonathan's original posting
> carefully, and still have not formed a final position of my own on
> the con
> and pro issues that have been raised.
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PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill,
Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:04 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

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Titled so, so Michael will feel the love.

I have two wishes for AAPOR's listserv:

1. That the number of responses to substantive questions submitted to the listserv equals the number submitted to the spammer question, and

2. The number of responses to future political philosophies and commentaries submitted to the listserv equals the number of responses typically submitted to substantive questions.

I enjoy being part of the listserv and have learned some things from my colleagues, yet there is way too much bloviating.

If the latter creates a sense of community among researchers, then I am willing to wade through it.

Phillip Downs
Post-AAPOR PAPOR Mini-Conference
Friday, June 12, 9 AM - 3 PM.

PAPOR is hosting a mini-conference on Friday, June 12, from 9 AM to 3 PM, on the UC Berkeley campus, at 110 Barrows Hall, to summarize new research about public opinion and survey research presented at the annual meeting for those unable to attend the conference in Florida. Those who did attend the AAPOR conference will also benefit from the presentations of other sessions that they could not attend. It will consist of three morning sessions, lunch, three afternoon sessions, and plenty of time for networking. Please join us for an enjoyable day on the UC Berkeley campus. We encourage attendance of PAPOR members, non-members, and students.

Program Outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am - 9:20 am</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Network</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am - 10:05 am</td>
<td>Religion &amp; Social Attitudes</td>
<td>Philip Brenner - University of Wisconsin - Madison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 am - 10:50 am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elections, Religion, and Race of Interviewer Effects

Amy Simon - Goodwin Simon Victoria Research

11:00 am - 11:35 am

Cell phones

Jill Darling - Darling Consulting

11:45 am - 12:30 pm

Lunch

(will be provided)

12:40 pm - 1:15 pm

New data collection methods including text message surveys, interactive features in Web surveys and new measures of literacy.

Jennie Pearson - Graduate Research Assistant / Survey Research and Methodology Program / University of Nebraska-Lincoln

1:25 pm - 2:00 pm

Health Care & Cultural Issues

Carolina Gutierrez - Kaiser Family Foundation

2:10 pm - 2:45 pm

Advances in methodology from measuring Total Survey Error to Understanding Addressed Based Sampling

Paul Melevin - EDD

For more information regarding the conference, go to:
http://www.papor.org/miniconf.shtml

To register online, go to: http://www.papor.org/form_miniconf_reg.shtml
Pre-registration for members and non-members - $25 / Onsite registration - $30
Pre-registration for students - $10 / Onsite registration - $15

I hope that you can make it and bring a colleague or two!

Bob
PAPOR Councilor-at-large, Membership

Bob Davis
Davis Research
23801 Calabasas Road, Suite 1036
Calabasas, CA  91302
Office: (818) 591-2408 x4051
<mailto:bob@davisresearch.com> bob@davisresearch.com

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

Date:         Sun, 7 Jun 2009 20:33:33 +0000
Reply-To:     jkerns@davisresearch.com
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Jason Kerns <jkerns@DAVISRESEARCH.COM>
Subject:      Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:  <000f019e78d502d3ee0$1b89cca0$@net>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="Windows-1252"
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

If anything, MACRO has likely increased sales a midst the controversy. ;)

Jason Kerns

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

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From: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
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PJL

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Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

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To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

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From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
To: "Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D." <jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu>;
<AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 12:28 PM
Subject: RE: Spammers on AAPORNET

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I'd like to weigh in as a commercial member of AAPOR and I hope a few =
others
in my category will, as well. I'm glad we all like the idea of free =
speech
and I'm going to exercise mine=85

=20

I was fortunate enough to have a colleague tell me about how wonderful =
the
AAPOR organization is several years back. She encouraged repeatedly me =
to
join until I did and I have thanked her many times over the years for =
doing
so. AAPOR is a one of the best sources for education, intelligent =
thought
and candid discussion in the research community, and I value the =
information
from all AAPOR sources, including the AAPORNET. I view the conferences =
as a
forum where those who are devoted to the marketing research industry =
come
together to share ideas and findings, look for solutions to problems, =
allow
students to show their work and explore career opportunities and for all =
of
us to have an opportunity to talk face-to-face with some of the =
brightest in
our field. =20

=20

In contrast, I do not see the conferences and other AAPOR functions as a
place for hardened salespersons or a place to fish for business. Which =
is
why I now tell people repeatedly to get involved with AAPOR, go to the
conferences and get a chance to talk about research in an environment =
that
is all about the science and art of our profession. Similarly, I do not
feel commercial members should be advertising goods and services on the
AAPORNET. To be fair, that probably should include all for-profit =
entities
(university survey centers, as well, if for-profit). Certainly, when a
request is made for anyone with specific products or services through
AAPORNET, commercial members can respond =96 and should =96 but directly =
to the
person requesting the information (off the listserve).=20

=20

I have felt the MACRO =93ad=94 to be inappropriate from the first time I =
saw it
but, I assumed wrongly that it had been cleared with the board when I =
saw it
repeat. I feel remiss in not commenting sooner.

=20

Finally, I feel the commercial members of AAPOR are here as guests in a
sense, albeit invited and welcome guests (and I know I am not alone in =
that
opinion). If we want to continue to be welcome, we need to respect the
intent of the this forum and its readers.

=20

Best regards,
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From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
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Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

=20
My understanding is that intent of AAPORNET is to serve as a means of communications to share information of common professional interest and professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for commercial advantage.

Thus I find commercial advertisements soliciting business like the MacroPoll Wireless post below to be an abuse of the AAPORNET listserv. Of course, there is nothing wrong with a member on the listserv responding to a post with an offer of services if the services are truly relevant to the post -- after all, that might be helpful to an AAPOR colleague -- but general broadcast advertising is nothing more than e-mail spam.

I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrillresumeconnect.com/
MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample="cell and = landline=" for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

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ICF Macro started MacroPoll Wireless in October 2007. Administered via cell phone, the survey is a compilation of questions covering various topics. Our last survey, conducted in January with 500 cell users, covered topics ranging from energy consumption, consumer preference, insurance coverage, health behaviors, and religious identity.

For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text: signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
The first 100 emails on the topic were great, good fun.

But now that we've begun the second hundred emails, it's starting to wear a bit.

In truth, this low-hanging fruit seemed all picked out a few days ago. So maybe we can let it go, yes?

Yeeeeeeeee!

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu]On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 4:18 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Answer to Paul's question

Yes, I find it equally troubling when an academic survey center advertises on the AAPORNET listserv as when a research company does it. To me, this is not about for profit vs. not for profit. This is about selling in a broadcast advertising mode through a medium in which users expect no commercial motivation from the posts. I somehow got the idea that AAPORNET is supposed to be a listserv to support professional development and share information to promote the science of survey research and public opinion polling, not a free advertising outlet.

My Ph.D. in is marketing, so I am hardly anti-selling, anti-advertising, or anti-marketing. In fact, I am pro-advertising because I truly believe that paid advertising is good for the consumer, lower consumer costs of goods and services. But it you want to advertise, buy ad space or send direct mail.

There are reasons why there are opt-in policies and anti-spam policies among the guardians of the Internet. E-mail is virtually costless while other advertising media are not. Therefore, other advertising media are inherently self-regulating, requiring ROI justification, because they are PAID advertising media. On the other hand, e-mail blasts involve no such
cost/benefit analysis. That is the difference and it represents the rational for anti-spam laws.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey  08043

e-Mail:  jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone:  856.772-9030
Fax:  775.898-2651
Website:  http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
To: "'Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.'" <jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu>;
<AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 12:28 PM
Subject: RE: Spammers on AAPORNET

I too have been reading the replies to Jonathan's original posting carefully, and still have not formed a final position of my own on the con and pro issues that have been raised.

I do have a question of those who objected to the MACRO posting:

Did you object to the AAPORnet postings from academics for buying items on omnibus polls that some university surveys centers conducted in prior years? If not, why not?

I ask because I am sincerely interested in learning your thinking about these matters.

I have been a strong supporter and user of AAPORnet from the day Jim Beniger activated it. I am an extreme supporter of freedom of speech and find censorship of speech distasteful, no matter how distasteful I may find the speech itself. Encouraging or requesting or belittling someone to not post something onto AAPORnet may be appealing to those who don't like what was posted but it ends up depriving those others who may find it useful or interesting (but may be unwilling to say so publicly) from gaining whatever value a posting like MARCO' may have to them. The fact that the information in MACRO's posting is available via other sources than AAPORnet doesn't carry weight with me regarding whether a posting like MACRO's should be on AAPORnet. The fact that it's apparently inconvenient for some to have to delete such posted messages also doesn't carry weight for me in terms of the possibility of depriving others easy access to such information.

PJL
-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:04 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

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Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sampleâ?”cell and landlineâ?”for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomic and phone use status.

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NO!!!! Members see the obvious solution and have posted it. AAPORNET serves a specific purpose. If AAPOR members want enlightenment, set up a system that is outside of the resource. Knowledge is power; keeping up is increasingly difficult but those who persevere prevail.
In a message dated 6/7/2009 10:38:29 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, michael.sullivan@FSCGROUP.COM writes:

Enough discussion. Let's have a vote. All in favor of encouraging marketing announcements on the listserv say aye. All opposed say No. I vote no.

MS

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

From: "Susan Losh" <slosh@FSU.EDU>
Subj: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Date: Sun Jun 7, 2009 9:06 am
Size: 1K
To: "AAPORNET@ASU.EDU" <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

Like several other devoted AAPOR lurkers, I have followed this thread with interest.

On the one hand, I like learning about new products and service. The MACRO post was tastefully done, certainly not one of those "quick, where's the zapper mouse" posts.

On the other hand, if we on the list think it's OK for one company to do so, why not every other commercial firm on AAPOR, of which there are several? Before we know it, the list could be jammed full of ads. That's why we have a general policy. And even a tasteful advertisement of a new service provided by an AAPOR member is in a different category than reporting interesting results, a debate over methods, or an invitation to help support one of our own, nominated for an important government position.

I like the suggestion several posts back of a [monitored] spot on the AAPOR website. The Blue Book is helpful but we could not expect it to keep up with all the new products and services, or the detail, each time one was offered.

Happy Sunday everyone.

Susan
I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD

Department of Educational Psychology
and Learning Systems
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

VOICE (850) 644-8778
FAX (850) 644-8776

American Statistical Association/NSF Research Fellow
http://mailer.fsu.edu/~slosh/index.html

---

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---

******************We found the real Hotel California and the Seinfeld diner. What will you find? Explore WhereItsAt.com.
(http://www.whereitsat.com/#/music/all-spots/355/47.796964/-66.374711/2/Youve-Found-Where-Its-At?ncid=3Demlcntnew00000007)
---

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---

Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 21:39:04 -0400
Reply-To: philip_meyer@unc.edu
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>
Organization: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Comments: To: MediaFrontiers@AOL.COM
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <c9f.5065c52.a.375dc358@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
No, of course. But consider this: why don't we set up an AAPOR blog as a permanent place to post the best of AAPORNET? And, here's the good part, we could sell advertising on it. Spam wouldn't be so bad if it were not intrusive, and we could make a buck on it.

Phil Meyer

Paul S. Lenburg wrote:

> NO!!!! Members see the obvious solution and have posted it. AAPORNET serves a specific purpose. If AAPOR members want enlightenment, set up a system that is outside of the resource. Knowledge is power; keeping up is increasingly difficult but those who persevere prevail.

> Paul

> In a message dated 6/7/2009 10:38:29 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, michaelssullivan@FSCGROUP.COM writes:

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> From: "Susan Losh" <slosh@FSU.EDU>
> Subj: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
> Date: Sun Jun 7, 2009 9:06 am
> Size: 1K
> To: "AAPORNET@ASU.EDU" <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

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AAPOR website. The Blue Book is helpful but we could not expect it to keep up with all the new products and services, or the detail, each time one was offered.

Happy Sunday everyone.

Susan

I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD

Department of Educational Psychology
and Learning Systems
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Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

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American Statistical Association/NSF Research Fellow
http://mailer.fsu.edu/~slosh/index.html

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cntnew00000007)

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNEN.
One marketing email, hit the DELETE key.

A few hundred complaints, consider leaving AAPORNet.

Sheesh, enough already.

----------------
Barry Hollander
Department of Journalism
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
www.barryhollander.com

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

I'm out.

Webmaster, please ditch me from this "dialogue;" I've got work to do.
One marketing email, hit the DELETE key.

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Sheesh, enough already.

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Barry Hollander
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University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
www.barryhollander.com

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Good morning all,

1. If anyone really does want to unsubscribe, please follow the instructions appended to the bottom of every AAPORnet post instead of further clogging the list.

2. I'd suggest we've probably talked this subject out. I don't want to stop anyone who has new solutions/thoughts, but at this point perhaps it would be
best to send them privately to me and I'll post a summary.

3. I will raise the following with the Communications Committee and follow up with Council as necessary:

   a. whether there needs to be any policy/updated "AAPORNEXITque" about what's appropriate on this list. (I'd suggest there currently ought to be sufficient sensitivity to the issue of spam ...)

   b. whether AAPOR should establish some sort of separate forum (a Blue Book Blog?) of a more overtly commercial nature.

Mike Mokrzycki
AAPOR Communications Chair 2009-2010

On Sun, Jun 7, 2009 at 10:13 PM, Ron Riley <ron@channelm2.com> wrote:

> I'm out.
> 
> Webmaster, please ditch me from this "dialogue;" I've got work to do.
> 
> 
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu]On Behalf Of Barry Hollander
> Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 8:03 PM
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
> 
> One marketing email, hit the DELETE key.
> 
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> 
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> 
> 
> _______________
> Barry Hollander
> Department of Journalism
> University of Georgia
> Athens, GA  30602
> www.barryhollander.com
> 
> ----------------------------------------------------
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> 
> ----------------------------------------------------
I agree with Chris F.'s assessment of the situation; the Macro posting was no more intrusive or inappropriate than some of the repeated and bombastic use of this venue to preach their own political beliefs. All Macro did was announce a new service in a forum where some of us might be interested in it.

Matthew A. Vile, PhD
Manager of Surveys and Data Analysis
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
(240) 333-5389
(240) 426-6013 (mobile)
(301) 530-1516 (fax)

For the most part, I agree with Paul's thoughts on the posting -- no censorship (at least not of anything I have seen so far on AAPORNET). In my
case, it is useful for me to see what people are thinking and people and organizations are doing. Macro's posting gave me food for thought, as it did Susan Losh. I don't like everything that is posted on AAPORNET; I don't find everything useful. I keep my deletions down by using the digest option. So if I had to vote, I would vote to let commercial postings stay, and I would never ask Colleen Porter to stop her contributions.

My 2 cents. Happy Monday everyone.
John Hall

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of AAPORNET automatic digest system
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2009 12:00 AM
To: AAPORNET@LISTS.ASU.EDU
Subject: AAPORNET Digest - 6 Jun 2009 to 7 Jun 2009 (#2009-124)

There are 16 messages totalling 1989 lines in this issue.

Topics of the day:

1. Spammers on AAPORNET (10)
2. Spammer
3. AAPOR listserv
4. Post-AAPOR Mini-Conference by PAPOR - Friday, June 12, at UC Berkeley
5. Answer to Paul's question (2)
6. AAPORNET commercial use

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Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 11:37:33 -0400
From: Colleen Porter <colleen_porter@COX.NET>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

So I guess I should weigh in on this, as a sometimes frequent contributor to AAPORNet.

First, I have to say that I applaud the group for being one of the few listservs that has managed to survive as a useful forum for so many years without having to resort to some form of moderation. We've gotten by with self-policing and not too many folks quitting in a huff, and that says a lot about the maturity and quality of folks in this organization.

Through the years, I've gotten a lot of great help with methods issues (e.g., surveying dentists, graphical representation of data) but I've also shared some essays about this work life, from how AAPOR conference is like a barbecue grill, to how THE PHANTOM TOLLBOTH relates to research findings, to the "button a chair" report-writing
story, my $4,000 mistake, my decision not to pursue a Ph.D., my prayer for pollsters, and so on.

Which mostly took more than a screen and could be considered spam.

It was talking with a friend at the Orange County conference that I finally realized how careful we should be about not reflecting on our organizations, etc. So I started rethinking my voice on AAPORnet and made two intentional changes: First, when I ask a work-related question, I use my full .sig, with our Center website and tagline, etc. But when I philosophize, I just use my name and city, so that hopefully it is clearly just my observation, not reflective of our team.

Second, when I am just philosophizing, I try to remember to add a tag to the subject line like (philosophical) or (unimportant), so that people are warned and can hit delete.

As a newspaper columnist, I've gotten all kinds of letters to the editor in response to my writing, and I see both those that are published (with the most common complaints being "smug" and "clueless"), as well as those that are not published (my least favorite: "Colleen Kay Porter is not a mother, just a woman who gave birth five times"). So I am sure there are AAPORnet readers who find my stuff silly, time-wasting, naive, etc. That's okay, and I'm trying to make it easy for y'all to delete me. But if it doesn't have that warning tag, could you please read it, because I might need your help?

I persist in sending such essays when the muse whispers, because I have heard back from enough people who do enjoy these. One kind reader put it this way:

> ...many must be like me, working at small labs with few peers.
> AAPORnet is like having a great big peer coffee room, and your notes
> are like having someone in the coffee room you always want to time
> your visits to listen to.

And I think that speaks to the function of AAPORnet. Is it merely a forum for the exchange of information? Or also a medium for community-building (to which I think such essays may contribute).

I think Leora Lawton raised a very important point yesterday:
> Still, being aware of a omnibus survey opportunity seems to me like
> that's
> something aapornetters might want to know about for pilot studies,
> etc.
> Surveys sponsored by not-for-profit organizations sometimes let
> people know
> about the ability to get survey questions into a larger instrument
> for a
> fee.

I agree that can be a needed service, and other groups have posted such notices in the past. But I recall those being much briefer, just
a short paragraph that it was happening and who to call. And a more 
clear subject line, "wireless omnibus offered," might have also helped 
folks to delete more promptly than "MacroPoll Wireless," which could 
have been all manner of interesting things.

Colleen Porter
Gainesville, FL

----------------------------------------------------
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------------------------------
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From:    Susan Losh <slosh@FSU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORN

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post was tastefully done, certainly not one of those "quick, where's the 
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Subject: Spammers on AAPORNEN

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e-Mail:  jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone:  856.772-9030
Fax:  775.898-2651
Website:  http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message -----
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNEN@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

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Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 16:44:15 +0000
From: Phillip Downs <pd@KERR-DOWNS.COM>
Subject: Spammer

Well stated, Paul.
Phillip Downs, Ph.D.
Kerr & Downs Research
Florida State University
Sent from my BlackBerry® smartphone with SprintSpeed

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signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 10:28:00 -0700
From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

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Like several other devoted AAPOR lurkers, I have followed this thread with interest.

On the one hand, I like learning about new products and service. The MACRO post was tastefully done, certainly not one of those "quick, where's the zapper mouse" posts.

On the other hand, if we on the list think it's OK for one company to do so, why not every other commercial firm on AAPOR, of which there are several? Before we know it, the list could be jammed full of ads. That's why we have a general policy. And even a tasteful advertisement of a new service provided by an AAPOR member is in a different category than reporting interesting results, a debate over methods, or an invitation to help support one of our own, nominated for an important government position.

I like the suggestion several posts back of a [monitored] spot on the AAPOR website. The Blue Book is helpful but we could not expect it to keep up with all the new products and services, or the detail, each time one was offered.

Happy Sunday everyone.
Susan

I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD

Department of Educational Psychology
and Learning Systems
Florida State University
Tallahassee FL 32306-4453

VOICE (850) 644-8778
FAX (850) 644-8776

American Statistical Association/NSF Research Fellow
http://mailer.fsu.edu/~slosh/index.html

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Date:    Sun, 7 Jun 2009 13:31:29 -0400
From:    "Michael D. Cohen" <mcohen@COHENRESEARCHGROUP.COM>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

All,

Okay.

Some are offended, even outraged while others are not or simply know where the delete button is on their computers. Some are responding even after MACRO has Cried Uncle. Gosh. Contrast that with some blatantly political postings, that have nothing to do with research, during the past campaign without such blowback. Interesting.

I don't know about you but I'm now going to set my SPAM filter to delete the next email with the subject line "Re: Spammers on AAPORNET." If you need help with this, please feel free to respond to me directly (with a new subject line) and I'll provide the requisite tech support.

AAPORNET at its best is a pretty amazing resource and one that I have relied on from time to time. I enjoy many of the discussions here and normally post my appreciation to the authors directly. At it's worst it is somewhat of a blog for some folks and a way for others seemingly to look down upon others.

Please go out and enjoy what's left of the weekend. Tomorrow morning, let's hope there is something more interesting to talk about -- and read about -- on AAPORNET.

Happy Sunday,

Michael D. Cohen, Ph.D.
Cohen Research Group
10 G Street, NE, Suite 601
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 558-6300 Phone
(202) 558-6301 Fax

On Jun 7, 2009, at 12:28 PM, Paul J Lavrakas PhD wrote:

> I too have been reading the replies to Jonathan's original posting
> carefully, and still have not formed a final position of my own on
> the con
> and pro issues that have been raised.
>
I do have a question of those who objected to the MACRO posting:

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If not, why not?

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PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:04 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

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I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,

Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey  08043

e-Mail:  jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone:  856.772-9030
Fax:  775.898-2651
Website:  http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

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---------------------------------------------
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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date:  Sun, 7 Jun 2009 13:59:25 -0400
From:  Phillip Downs <pd@KERR-DOWNS.COM>
Subject: AAPOR listserv

Titled so, so Michael will feel the love.

I have two wishes for AAPOR's listserv:

1. That the number of responses to substantive questions submitted to the listserv equals the number submitted to the spammer question, and

2. The number of responses to future political philosophies and commentaries submitted to the listserv equals the number of responses typically submitted to substantive questions.

I enjoy being part of the listserv and have learned some things from my colleagues, yet there is way too much bloviating.
If the latter creates a sense of community among researchers, then I am willing to wade through it.

Phillip Downs

----------------------------------------------------
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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

----------------------------
Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 12:44:06 -0700
From: Leora Lawton <lawton@TECHSOCIETY.COM>
Subject: Post-AAPOR Mini-Conference by PAPOR - Friday, June 12, at UC Berkeley

Post-AAPOR PAPOR Mini-Conference
Friday, June 12, 9 AM - 3 PM.

PAPOR is hosting a mini-conference on Friday, June 12, from 9 AM to 3 PM, on the UC Berkeley campus, at 110 Barrows Hall, to summarize new research about public opinion and survey research presented at the annual meeting for those unable to attend the conference in Florida. Those who did attend the AAPOR conference will also benefit from the presentations of other sessions that they could not attend. It will consist of three morning sessions, lunch, three afternoon sessions, and plenty of time for networking. Please join us for an enjoyable day on the UC Berkeley campus. We encourage attendance of PAPOR members, non-members, and students.

Program Outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presenter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


9:00 am - 9:20 am
Coffee & Network

9:30 am - 10:05 am
Religion & Social Attitudes
Philip Brenner - University of Wisconsin - Madison

10:15 am - 10:50 am
Elections, Religion, and Race of Interviewer Effects
Amy Simon - Goodwin Simon Victoria Research

11:00 am - 11:35 am
Cell phones
Jill Darling - Darling Consulting

11:45 am - 12:30 pm
Lunch
(will be provided)

12:40 pm - 1:15 pm
New data collection methods including text message surveys, interactive features in Web surveys and new measures of literacy.
Jennie Pearson - Graduate Research Assistant / Survey Research and Methodology Program / University of Nebraska-Lincoln

1:25 pm - 2:00 pm
Health Care & Cultural Issues
Carolina Gutierrez - Kaiser Family Foundation
2:10 pm - 2:45 pm

Advances in methodology from measuring Total Survey Error to Understanding Addressed Based Sampling

Paul Melevin - EDD

For more information regarding the conference, go to:
http://www.papor.org/miniconf.shtml

To register online, go to: http://www.papor.org/form_miniconf_reg.shtml

Pre-registration for members and non-members - $25 / Onsite registration - $30
Pre-registration for students - $10 / Onsite registration - $15

I hope that you can make it and bring a colleague or two!

Bob

PAPOR Councilor-at-large, Membership

Bob Davis
Davis Research
23801 Calabasas Road, Suite 1036
Calabasas, CA  91302
Office: (818) 591-2408 x4051
mailto: bob@davisresearch.com> bob@davisresearch.com

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

----------------------------------------------
If anything, MACRO has likely increased sales amidst the controversy. ;)

Jason Kerns

Sent via BlackBerry from T-Mobile

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>

Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 12:28:48
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

I too have been reading the replies to Jonathan's original posting carefully, and still have not formed a final position of my own on the con and pro issues that have been raised.

I do have a question of those who objected to the MACRO posting:

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I ask because I am sincerely interested in learning your thinking about these matters.

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PJL
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNERT

My understanding is that intent of AAPORNERT is to serve as a means of communications to share information of common professional interest and professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for commercial advantage.

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I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey  08043

e-Mail:  jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone:  856.772-9030
Fax:  775.898-2651
Website:  http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORNERT@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date:    Sun, 7 Jun 2009 18:17:46 -0400
From:    "Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D." <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>
Subject: Answer to Paul's question

Yes, I find it equally troubling when an academic survey center advertises on the AAPORNET listserv as when a research company does it. To me, this is not about for profit vs. not for profit. This is about selling in a broadcast advertising mode through a medium in which users expect no commercial motivation from the posts. I somehow got the idea that AAPORNET is supposed to be a listserv to support professional development and share information to promote the science of survey research and public opinion polling, not a free advertising outlet.

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inherently self-regulating, requiring ROI justification, because they are PAID advertising media. On the other hand, e-mail blasts involve no such cost/benefit analysis. That is the difference and it represents the rational for anti-spam laws.

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----- Original Message -----  
From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
To: "Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D." <jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu>; <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 12:28 PM
Subject: RE: Spammers on AAPORNET

I too have been reading the replies to Jonathan's original posting carefully, and still have not formed a final position of my own on the con and pro issues that have been raised.

I do have a question of those who objected to the MACRO posting:

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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.  
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:04 PM  
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU  
Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET  

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e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
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Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 16:02:14 -0700
From: Lynn Stalone <Lynn.Stalone@IHR-RESEARCH.COM>
Subject: AAPORNET commercial use

I'd like to weigh in as a commercial member of AAPOR and I hope a few = others
in my category will, as well. I'm glad we all like the idea of free = speech
and I'm going to exercise mine=85

=20

I was fortunate enough to have a colleague tell me about how wonderful = the
AAPOR organization is several years back. She encouraged repeatedly me = to
join until I did and I have thanked her many times over the years for = doing
so. AAPOR is one of the best sources for education, intelligent =
thought
and candid discussion in the research community, and I value the =
information
from all AAPOR sources, including the AAPORN ET. I view the conferences =
as a
forum where those who are devoted to the marketing research industry =
come
together to share ideas and findings, look for solutions to problems, =
allow
students to show their work and explore career opportunities and for all =
of
us to have an opportunity to talk face-to-face with some of the =
brightest in
our field. =20

=20

In contrast, I do not see the conferences and other AAPOR functions as a
place for hardened salespersons or a place to fish for business. Which =
is
why I now tell people repeatedly to get involved with AAPOR, go to the
conferences and get a chance to talk about research in an environment =
that
is all about the science and art of our profession. Similarly, I do not
feel commercial members should be advertising goods and services on the
AAPORN ET. To be fair, that probably should include all for-profit =
entities
(university survey centers, as well, if for-profit). Certainly, when a
request is made for anyone with specific products or services through
AAPORN ET, commercial members can respond =96 and should =96 but directly =
to the
person requesting the information (off the listserve).=20

=20

I have felt the MACRO =93ad=94 to be inappropriate from the first time I =
saw it
but, I assumed wrongly that it had been cleared with the board when I =
saw it
repeat. I feel remiss in not commenting sooner.

=20

Finally, I feel the commercial members of AAPOR are here as guests in a
sense, albeit invited and welcome guests (and I know I am not alone in =
that
opinion). If we want to continue to be welcome, we need to respect the
intent of the this forum and its readers.

=20

Best regards,
Lynn

Lynn Stalone
Partner
IHR Research Group
Lynn.Stalone@ihr-research.com
714.368.1885  direct
714.315.9453  mobile
714.368.1884  main

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 3:18 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Answer to Paul's question

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PJL

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Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:04 PM

To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU

Subject: Spammers on AAPORNET

=20
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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: =
aapornet-request@asu.edu

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

Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
signoff aapornet

Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
The first 100 emails on the topic were great, good fun.

But now that we've begun the second hundred emails, it's starting to wear a bit.

In truth, this low-hanging fruit seemed all picked out a few days ago. So maybe we can let it go, yes?

Yeeeeeeeleeellllllllll !

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 4:18 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Answer to Paul's question

Yes, I find it equally troubling when an academic survey center advertises on the AAPORNET listserv as when a research company does it. To me, this is not about for profit vs. not for profit. This is about selling in a broadcast advertising mode through a medium in which users expect no commercial motivation from the posts. I somehow got the idea that AAPORNET is supposed to be a listserv to support professional development and share information to promote the science of survey research and public opinion polling, not a free advertising outlet.

My Ph.D. in is marketing, so I am hardly anti-selling, anti-advertising, or anti-marketing. In fact, I am pro-advertising because I truly believe that paid advertising is good for the consumer, lower consumer costs of goods and services. But if you want to advertise, buy ad space or send direct mail.

There are reasons why there are opt-in policies and anti-spam policies among the guardians of the Internet. E-mail is virtually costless while other advertising media are not. Therefore, other advertising media are inherently self-regulating, requiring ROI justification, because they are PAID advertising media. On the other hand, e-mail blasts involve no such cost/benefit analysis. That is the difference and it represents the rational for anti-spam laws.

Regards,
Jonathan
----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
To: "Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D." <jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu>; 
<AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 12:28 PM
Subject: RE: Spammers on AAPORNET

I too have been reading the replies to Jonathan's original posting carefully, and still have not formed a final position of my own on the con and pro issues that have been raised.

I do have a question of those who objected to the MACRO posting:

Did you object to the AAPORnet postings from academics for buying items on omnibus polls that some university surveys centers conducted in prior years?
If not, why not?

I ask because I am sincerely interested in learning your thinking about these matters.

I have been a strong supporter and user of AAPORnet from the day Jim Beniger activated it. I am an extreme supporter of freedom of speech and find censorship of speech distasteful, no matter how distasteful I may find the speech itself. Encouraging or requesting or belittling someone to not post something onto AAPORnet may be appealing to those who don't like what was posted but it ends up depriving those others who may find it useful or interesting (but may be unwilling to say so publicly) from gaining whatever value a posting like MACRO' may have to them. The fact that the information in MACRO's posting is available via other sources than AAPORnet doesn't carry weight with me regarding whether a posting like MACRO's should be on AAPORnet. The fact that it's apparently inconvenient for some to have to delete such posted messages also doesn't carry weight for me in terms of the possibility of depriving others easy access to such information.

PJL

-----Original Message----- 
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 2:04 PM
To: AAPORN@ASU.EDU
Subject: Spammers on AAPORN

My understanding is that intent of AAPORN is to serve as a means of communications to share information of common professional interest and professional development and is to be free of efforts to exploit it for commercial advantage.

Thus I find commercial advertisements soliciting business like the MacroPoll Wireless post below to be an abuse of the AAPORN listserv. Of course, there is nothing wrong with a member on the listserv responding to a post with an offer of services if the services are truly relevant to the post -- after all, that might be helpful to an AAPOR colleague -- but general broadcast advertising is nothing more than e-mail spam.

I would be interested in knowing how do others feel about this.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043

e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Office telephone: 856.772-9030
Fax: 775.898-2651
Website: http://jonathanbrill.resumeconnect.com/

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Randal ZuWallack" <randal.zuwallack@MACROINTERNATIONAL.COM>
To: <AAPORN@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2009 2:45 PM
Subject: MacroPoll Wireless

MacroPoll Wireless is diversifying to a probability sample of all US telephone users. Survey a dual-frame sample"cell and landline"for as little as $1500 including a custom question plus data items covering respondent demographics, socioeconomics and phone use status.

The dual-frame sample includes 1,000 landline and 250 cell phone interviews combined and weighted to represent the US population. The sample is combined and weighted to reflect phone user types according the July-December 2008 National Health Interview Survey phone group sizes and national demographics based on the 2008 Current Population Survey.

The dual frame omnibus is ideal for collecting critical data points without investing in a stand-alone survey. An option for just the 250 cell phone interviews is also available. This option is ideal for supplementing existing research with a cell phone component.
ICF Macro started MacroPoll Wireless in October 2007. Administered via cell phone, the survey is a compilation of questions covering various topics. Our last survey, conducted in January with 500 cell users, covered topics ranging from energy consumption, consumer preference, insurance coverage, health behaviors, and religious identity.

For more information, please contact Randy ZuWallack by email rzuwallack@icfi.com or landline 802-863-9600.

Date:    Sun, 7 Jun 2009 21:28:56 EDT
From:    "Paul S. Lenburg" <MediaFrontiers@AOL.COM>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

NO!!!! Members see the obvious solution and have posted it. AAPORNET serves a specific purpose. If AAPOR members want enlightenment, set up a system that is outside of the resource. Knowledge is power; keeping up is increasingly difficult but those who persevere prevail.

Paul

In a message dated 6/7/2009 10:38:29 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM writes:

Enough discussion. Let's have a vote. All in favor of encouraging marketing announcements on the listserv say aye. All opposed say No. I vote no
Like several other devoted AAPOR lurkers, I have followed this thread with interest.

On the one hand, I like learning about new products and service. The MACRO post was tastefully done, certainly not one of those "quick, where's the zapper mouse" posts.

On the other hand, if we on the list think it's OK for one company to do so, why not every other commercial firm on AAPOR, of which there are several? Before we know it, the list could be jammed full of ads. That's why we have a general policy. And even a tasteful advertisement of a new service provided by an AAPOR member is in a different category than reporting interesting results, a debate over methods, or an invitation to help support one of our own, nominated for an important government position.

I like the suggestion several posts back of a [monitored] spot on the AAPOR website. The Blue Book is helpful but we could not expect it to keep up with all the new products and services, or the detail, each time one was offered.

Happy Sunday everyone.
Susan

I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD
Department of Educational Psychology and Learning Systems
Florida State University
Date: Sun, 7 Jun 2009 21:39:04 -0400  
From: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

No, of course. But consider this: why don't we set up an AAPOR blog as a permanent place to post the best of AAPORNET? And, here's the good part, we could sell advertising on it. Spam wouldn't be so bad if it were not intrusive, and we could make a buck on it.

Phil Meyer

Paul S. Lenburg wrote:  
> NO!!!! Members see the obvious solution and have posted it. AAPORNET  
> serves a specific purpose. If AAPOR members want enlightenment, set up a  
> system that is outside of the resource. Knowledge is power; keeping up is  
> increasingly difficult but those who persevere prevail.  
> Paul
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Enough discussion. Let's have a vote. All in favor of encouraging marketing announcements on the listserv say aye. All opposed say No. I vote no.

MS

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

From: "Susan Losh" <slosh@FSU.EDU>
Subj: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET
Date: Sun Jun 7, 2009 9:06 am
Size: 1K
To: "AAPORNET@ASU.EDU" <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>

Like several other devoted AAPOR lurkers, I have followed this thread with interest.

On the one hand, I like learning about new products and service. The MACRO post was tastefully done, certainly not one of those "quick, where's the zapper mouse" posts.

On the other hand, if we on the list think it's OK for one company to do so, why not every other commercial firm on AAPOR, of which there are several? Before we know it, the list could be jammed full of ads. That's why we have a general policy. And even a tasteful advertisement of a new service provided by an AAPOR member is in a different category than reporting interesting results, a debate over methods, or an invitation to help support one of our own, nominated for an important government position.

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Happy Sunday everyone.

Susan


I try to take one day at a time but sometimes several days attack me all at once. Anonymous.

Susan Carol Losh, PhD
Department of Educational Psychology
and Learning Systems
One marketing email, hit the DELETE key.

A few hundred complaints, consider leaving AAPORNet.
Sheesh, enough already.

__________________________
Barry Hollander
Department of Journalism
University of Georgia
Athens, GA  30602
www.barryhollander.com

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

-----------------------------------
Date:    Sun, 7 Jun 2009 20:13:26 -0600
From:    Ron Riley <ron@CHANNELM2.COM>
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

I'm out.

Webmaster, please ditch me from this "dialogue;" I've got work to do.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu]On Behalf Of Barry Hollander
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2009 8:03 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Spammers on AAPORNET

One marketing email, hit the DELETE key.

A few hundred complaints, consider leaving AAPORNet.

Sheesh, enough already.

__________________________
Barry Hollander
Department of Journalism
University of Georgia
Athens, GA  30602
www.barryhollander.com

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Jerold

Are these response rate for blind surveys or sponsor evident survey?

My (limited) experience with blind web/email surveys even with incentives produces numbers that are much lower (single digits).

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

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jerold Pearson
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2009 6:06 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: response rates for association members and others with vested interest
What are typical response rates (or ranges) for Web-based surveys - among respondents where there is a vested interest, like trade association members.

My experience with university alumni has been consistent with what others have already said: response will vary depending on the salience, length, and other issues specific to the survey and the population. And, as you would expect, I always get greater response among those with whom the institution has the strongest relationship (for instance, donors and Alumni Association members). Lottery style incentives, however, have not made much of a difference in response rates, but they have compromised data quality a bit. (Shameless plug: Come see me present a paper on this topic -- co-authored by rock stars Roger Levine and Jon Krosnick -- at the WAPOR conference in Lausanne this September.)

That said, response rates to my online surveys with Stanford alumni have declined over the years. I'm now getting about a 32% response rate for surveys that take about 5 - 8 minutes. Shorter surveys with specific sub-populations on specific topics (e.g., post-event surveys with alumni who attended those events) tend to get better response -- ranging as high as about 60%.

Jerold Pearson, '75
Director of Market Research
Stanford Alumni Association
650-723-9186
http://www.stanford.edu/~jpearson/

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Art imitates life?

-----Original Message-----
From: American Evaluation Association Discussion List
[mailto:EVALTALK@bama.ua.edu] On Behalf Of Michael T. Duffin

Greetings,

I suspect that many of you will resonate with the dynamics in this short video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2a8TRSgzZY

EVALTALK - American Evaluation Association (AEA) Discussion List. See also the website: http://www.eval.org
To unsubscribe from EVALTALK, send e-mail to listserv@bama.ua.edu with only the following in the body: UNSUBSCRIBE EVALTALK
To get a summary of commands, send e-mail to listserv@bama.ua.edu with only the following in the body: INFO REFCARD
To use the archives, go to this web site: http://bama.ua.edu/archives/evaltalk.html
For other problems, contact a list owner at kbolland@sw.ua.edu or carolyn.sullins@wmich.edu

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

Date: Mon, 8 Jun 2009 11:50:22 -0700
Reply-To: Jerold Pearson <jpearson@STANFORD.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jerold Pearson <jpearson@STANFORD.EDU>
Subject: Re: response rates for association members and others with vested interest
Comments: To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <3248A9B21DD5574785FE5E2C8E521684D823FB@exchange.local.arts cience.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

> Are these response rate for blind surveys or sponsor evident survey?

Sponsor evident. Sorry, I should have made that clear.

Jerold

> >What are typical response rates (or ranges) for
> >Web-based surveys - among respondents where
> >there is a vested interest, like trade association members.
>

My experience with university alumni has been consistent with what others have already said: response will vary depending on the salience, length, and other issues specific to the survey and the population. And, as you would expect, I always get greater response among those with whom the institution has the strongest relationship (for instance, donors and Alumni Association members). Lottery style incentives, however, have not made much of a difference in response rates, but they have compromised data quality a bit. (Shameless plug: Come see me present a paper on this topic -- co-authored by rock stars Roger Levine and Jon Krosnick -- at the WAPOR conference in Lausanne this September.)

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Jerold Pearson, '75  
Director of Market Research  
Stanford Alumni Association  
650-723-9186  
http://www.stanford.edu/~jpearson/

-------------------------------------------------------------------------
Date: Mon, 8 Jun 2009 12:26:41 -0700  
Reply-To: Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>  
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
From: Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>  
Subject: Re: response rates for association members and others with vested interest

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html. Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET. Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
Natalia... I don't know how helpful this will be since it is just one experience. About five months ago I ran a web survey for a statewide business association.

Email invites were sent to mostly CEO's and other C-level employees. The sender used an association email address, not one from a web survey platform or from a unfamiliar email address. Members were sent one initial email invitation, and then one follow-up about two weeks later. There were no inducements other than an opportunity to learn the topline results.

The open rate was approximately 20% (wrt email invites), and the overall survey response rate was just under 5%.

I hope this helps-

Paul

__________

Paul DiPerna

cell/text: 202-641-1858
demail: pd_wpa21@yahoo.com
online ID: http://claimid.com/pdiperna

----- Original Message -----
From: Natalia Usmanova-Elsner <natalia_usmanova@YAHOO.COM>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2009 12:29:37 AM
Subject: response rates for association members and others with vested interest

Hello!

What are typical response rates (or ranges) for Web-based surveys â€“ among respondents where there is a vested interest, like trade association members.

Many thanks,

Natalia

-----------------------------------------
Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text: signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
We specialize in working with associations and have conducted over 500 surveys with them.

The number one predictor of response rates for associations (regardless of data collection method)

is the sense of community/value members derive from the association.

All of the standard factors such as pre and post notification, incentives (monetary and otherwise), length of questionnaire, etc. have an impact but sense of community/value has a greater impact.

We've had response rates to internet-based surveys of members range from low teens to high 70s.

Response rates for non-members is much worse often in the single digits.

Phillip

Phillip Downs, Ph.D.

Senior Partner | Kerr & Downs Research
Professor of Marketing | Florida State University
800.564.3182 | 850.906.3112 (f)

littleKDRclean
Our firm does not specialize in studies for associations but we have conducted quite a few Internet studies with members of trade associations and professional societies, as well as other membership organizations. In our experience, there are several factors at work in determining the response rate - respondent engagement with the organization, the degree to which respondents believe that their input is valued and will be acted upon, the design of the survey (invitation, introduction to the questionnaire, user-friendliness and interest-value of the questionnaire, survey length, etc.) and the level of effort by the research company (incentives, reminders, etc.).

Like Phillip Downs, we have seen a wide range of response rates, and believe that factors outside the control of the research company (e.g., member engagement with the organization and belief that their responses will be acted upon) have a large impact on response. We recently conducted several surveys of members who had participated in association activities and received response rates in the 50 to 60 percent range, even though we were limited (by our client) to a 10-day field period, just two reminders, and no incentives. This is not unusual since many associations are very sensitive about offending members by sending too many emails or offering incentives that members might consider a waste of money. On the other hand, I have seen high response rates in situations in which respondents were not so motivated but there was an intensive effort to secure responses through publicity, the use of e-mail and snail-mail, multiple reminders, and follow-up reminder telephone calls.

Becky Quarles
Dear aapornetters and wapornetters,

I am looking for the following historical information that I could not find in the literature but which may be in the minds and memory of some of you.

I would like to know when and why some pollsters, mostly in Europe as I understand, started to

Phillip

Phillip Downs, Ph.D.
Senior Partner | Kerr & Downs Research
Professor of Marketing | Florida State University
800.564.3182 | 850.906.3112 (f)

littleKDRclean
weight (adjust) their data using of past vote(s). Someone can help?

Thanks,

Best,

Claire Durand,
professeur titulaire
Claire.Durand@umontreal.ca

Site Web:
<http://www.mapageweb.umontreal.ca/durandc>
514-343-7447

Département de sociologie,
Université de Montréal,
C.P. 6128, succ. Centre- Ville,
Montréal, H3C 3J7

Welcome once again to the one-step forward, two-steps backward world of the 2010 census. With little more than six months before the start of the next count, the Census Bureau still doesn't have a director. And on Tuesday, the bureau's budget faces a crucial vote by House appropriators who must resist the temptation to shortchange the agency yet again.

or
http://tinyurl.com/lbnub2
The Census Bureau needs a director and all the money that has been requested. There's no more time to waste.

Copyright 2009 The New York Times Company

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

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set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date:         Tue, 9 Jun 2009 13:51:47 -0700
Reply-To:     Chuck Shuttles <chuck.shuttles@NIELSEN.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Chuck Shuttles <chuck.shuttles@NIELSEN.COM>
Subject:      Job Posting: Methodological Research Analyst I
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

All-

I wanted to post an open position that is currently available in the Tampa Bay, Fl area. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Thanks,
Chuck Shuttles
Associate Research Director
Methodological Research Department
The Nielsen Company=20
813-366-4370 Phone

POSTING TITLE: Methodological Research Analyst I=20
JOB CITY:  Tampa Bay (Oldsmar), Florida

POSITION DESCRIPTION:
This position is responsible for preparing and conducting moderately to=20=
highly complex research projects. Responsibilities include:=20=20
* Contribute to the initiation of research ideas.
* Assist in design and planning of research projects and experiments.
* Execute data collection and data analysis activities for research projects.
* Provide cost detail on research projects.
* Train associates in procedures used to conduct research projects.

Apply online at https://nielsen.taleo.net/careersection/3/jobdetail.ftl?lang=3Den&job=3D21917

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES:
* Assists in the design of research projects to meet study objectives. Develops project specifications with Marketing and clients (internal and external) to conduct research projects. Corresponds with all support departments and external suppliers regarding project requirements and schedules. Monitors progress for accuracy and timely completion of all activities.
* Designs questionnaires and survey materials and recommends improvements. Constructs moderately to highly complex questionnaires and supporting materials. Ensures proper logic flow of questionnaires and accuracy of scaling techniques used.
* Provides sample design and writes sample selection specifications. Checks samples upon receipt for accuracy. May use applied software and other trending techniques to accomplish this.
* Utilizes software (SPSS, SAS) to analyze, report and check research data. Contributes to the design of the analysis plan. Produces reports in various formats and is responsible for presentation of reports. Contributes to the design of report formats and data tabulation procedures.
* Develops inspection procedures to ensure accuracy of data. Is responsible for the data inspection process.
* Develops cost detail for standard research projects and proposed projects.
* Writes and maintains all necessary project documentation. Provides status to management and team members and reports problem situations. Recommends solutions and alternatives in problem situations and takes corrective action.
* Is responsible for the implementation of successful tests into production. Provides necessary documentation and support for successful tests into production.
QUALIFICATIONS:
* Extensive knowledge of research techniques, statistics and project management.
* Specialized skill in sample design, questionnaire design, data collection and data analysis techniques and reporting for telephone, mail, in-person and survey research.
* General media industry knowledge.
* Knowledge of computer hardware and software.
* Leadership and supervisory skills are necessary to direct work of others.
* Knowledge of project costing procedures.
* Human relations skills are necessary to interact, correspond and maintain effective communications with clients, marketing, management, peers, support departments and external suppliers.
* Excellent oral and written communication skill.
* B.S./B.A. in Marketing Research, Social Sciences, Statistics or equivalent. (M.S./M.A. desired)

WHAT WE OFFER:
As an employer of choice, the Nielsen Company offers a wide spectrum of benefits to its employees, including:
* Outstanding Career Development Opportunities
* Competitive Compensation Program
* Medical, Dental and Vision Insurance
* Life and Disability Insurance
* Paid Vacation and Personal Days
* Paid Holidays
* 401(k) with Company Match
* Educational Assistance Plan
* Employee Discount Program

THE METHODOLOGICAL RESEARCH DEPARTMENT:
Nielsen's department of Methodological Research is part of the company's Measurement Science division that includes more than 100 staff working in statistics, methodology, and demography. Currently, Methodological Research has 20+ research staff positions (most of whom hold master's degrees in t=
social sciences or marketing research). These staff members are based in Oldsmar Florida in the Tampa area. The department is responsible for (a) devising and testing new research methodologies to improve the quality of the data that NMR gathers via its various measurement services, (b) directing the Nielsen Operating departments and in some cases external organizations in implementing the proven new methodologies, as well as (c) continuously maintaining and monitoring existing methodological procedures. Participation in the dissemination of knowledge about the results of NMR's methodological studies through professional associations and publications is encouraged.

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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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WAPOR is looking for individuals to chair sessions at its 2009 annual conference, which convenes in Lausanne, Switzerland 11-13 September. Details about the program and other conference-related matters can be found online at http://www.unl.edu/wapor/UpcomingConferences/Lausanne/LausanneProgram.htm.

If you are interested in participating in this capacity, please contact - by next Friday, 19 June 2009 - conference organizers Dominique Joye and Kathrin Kissau at wapor@fors.unil.ch.

Many thanks,

Patricia Moy
Patricia Moy

Christy Cressey Professor of Communication
Adjunct Faculty, Political Science

University of Washington
Box 353740
Seattle, WA 98195

(v) 1 206 543 9676
(f) 1 206 616 3762
(e) pmoy@u.washington.edu

Associate Editor, Public Opinion Quarterly
http://poq.oxfordjournals.org

Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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======================================================================
Date: Wed, 10 Jun 2009 09:33:55 -0400
Reply-To: "Millman, Steven [USA]" <millman_steven@BAH.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Millman, Steven [USA]" <millman_steven@BAH.COM>
Subject: Job Posting: Communications and/or Social Media Measurement
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

I wanted to post an open position that is currently available in the
Washington, DC area. =20

=20

I am looking for folks with strong quantitative/research design
experience with a focus on measuring communications and/or social media
effectiveness for our team at Booz Allen Hamilton. Prior consulting
experience is a plus, but not essential. We're interested in hiring at
various levels, from the very junior to fairly experienced
professionals.

=20

Please contact me directly if you have an interest, questions or
concerns.

=20
Thanks,

Steven

Steven Millman
Senior Associate
Organization and Strategy
Booz | Allen | Hamilton

703.377.9280 (Office)

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signoff aapornet
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Date:         Wed, 10 Jun 2009 09:45:37 -0400
Reply-To:     "Millman, Steven [USA]" <millman_steven@BAH.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "Millman, Steven [USA]" <millman_steven@BAH.COM>
Subject:      Job Posting: Communications and/or Social Media Measurement with
Email!
Comments: To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To:
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Sorry for the double post, forgot that my email address would be masked.

millman_steven@bah.com

(Thanks Fran!)
Steven Millman
Senior Associate
Organization and Strategy
Booz | Allen | Hamilton

________________________________
703.377.9280 (Office)

From: Millman, Steven [USA]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2009 9:34 AM
To: AAPORNEx
Subject: Job Posting: Communications and/or Social Media Measurement

I wanted to post an open position that is currently available in the Washington, DC area.

I am looking for folks with strong quantitative/research design experience with a focus on measuring communications and/or social media effectiveness for our team at Booz Allen Hamilton. Prior consulting experience is a plus, but not essential. We're interested in hiring at various levels, from the very junior to fairly experienced professionals.

Please contact me directly if you have an interest, questions or concerns.

Thanks,

Steven

Steven Millman
I am going to talk a bit about the importance of research administration, so if you are fortunate enough not to ever deal with that, hit delete.

This week I have to spend 5 hours in training classes, and I need to remind myself why it's worth it.

When I was meeting our Center's new co-director, I mentioned that 24% of my time is in administration, and I don't dismiss or resent it the way some researchers do. "But you only like administration in support of research," he wisely observed, "You don't like it for its own sake."

And that is so true. I have come to accept the importance of administration only because I have seen the way it can have a significant impact on research. Some researchers feel like they are being driven over by a big truck when it comes to administration, such as a colleague who was awarded a grant for content analysis of magazine advertising for prescription drugs but was told by a clerk that she couldn't buy magazines with grant funds. I prefer to be in the truck's driver's seat, to know which form to fill out to buy the magazines.

Part of the challenge of research administration is the intersection of merry-go-rounds and roller coasters. Most academic departments and government agencies are like a merry-go-round: People get off, people get on, things go
up and down, there is a pause now and then, but mostly they just keep going around and around and around.

Research is more like a roller coaster. There is the exhilaration of getting a new grant, and the sinking feeling when funding is suspended on a five-year project after only three years. There's the frenzy of intensity to analyze data, and the screeching stop when a client asks that release of findings be delayed until after an election. There's a whoosh, and you never know how far up you will soar, nor how far down you will plunge.

So it can be a misfit when researchers riding the roller coaster are working in a merry-go-round setting obsessed with policies and procedures. How can researchers meet their deadlines without being bogged down by bureaucratic paperwork? How can administrators track expenditures and compile reports when requests seem to be ignored and dismissed as unimportant?

Around the office, our motto is, "Science first." It seems a shame that we even have to say something so obvious, but there are times when the merry-go-round seems to spin out of control, and that is my mantra for putting things back in perspective. I'm assuming that for-profit research firms are set up to support research, so this is less of an issue for them?

One of the biggest impacts of administration on research is negative, when it doesn't work :( I've had the experience of being in two different academic departments when the department chair quit suddenly, and it was not a pretty sight, either time. It delayed necessary purchases, staff hires, IRB submissions. Another time, an office staffer had such a poisonous influence that we were encouraged to read, "Emotional Vampires: Dealing with People Who Drain You Dry" by Albert J. Berstein.

But beyond those negative impacts, there are some ways that staying on top of research administration can have a positive effect on the science.

TRAVEL. In recruiting advisory committees, our location is a big plus. Holding a meeting in Florida in February, we can attract some of the biggest names in the country, and if it doesn't require an actual lab inspection, we can meet in nearby Orlando, to have better airplane connections for visitors. But it also helps to understand travel policy, both of our university and the funding agency. So if someone's grandmother lives in St. Augustine, I will write the justification of why it is better for the grant to have them to fly into St. Augustine and drive over. If someone wants to stay in Orlando an extra night to spend a day with The Mouse, I'll negotiate an additional self-paid hotel night at the block rate. Without my understanding of travel policies; I would be at the mercy of a secretary who says no, no, it can't be done (which happened the first few years and was a major impetus for me to learn more about administration).

PURCHASING. A few years ago, my brilliant principal investigator was out shopping and spotted the perfect laptop for his lab, so he bought it with his university purchasing card. This was a bit of a pickle, because our university definition of "equipment" starts at $1,000 and he was not supposed to purchase anything over that amount with a purchasing card.

I discussed the situation with the university purchasing folks, and they
explained the real concern was registering the item with property management. They walked me through some web screens that would allow the purchase to be registered properly. I took good notes, and followed that process thereafter, whenever he saw a new gadget that happened to cost $1,000 or more. It was easy for him, and we never had complaints from either university purchasing nor property management, although some of the merry-go-round types in our department complained about his "breaking the rules."

HUMAN RESOURCES. Again, this is an area where understanding the rules can be critical to good science. One of our projects involves community-based participatory research, an approach that was mentioned in many AAPOR presentations last conference. Hiring the right liaison person makes a huge difference in whether the community truly becomes engaged. During grant-writing, this was drafted as a coordinator position, but in our university parlance, a coordinator is someone with a master's degree, and I feared that would leave out a lot of job candidates who could do well. There was a lot of back-and-forth with both college and university HR, because they thought it should be at least a health educator, which requires a bachelor's degree. We had a feeling that the right person might have great people skills but not so much formal education—I compromised with a high school diploma, but even then wondered about whether that would be eliminating some candidates.

Although this was an entry-level job, I specified that they submit a resume, and invited them to list volunteer work as well as paid jobs. The HR people protested that volunteer work cannot be used. I pointed out that according to the rules, volunteer work cannot be used to meet the MINIMUM requirements for the job. Sure, they had to have two years of verifiable paid work. But beyond that, our team could use the volunteer work as a factor in finding the right person, who would be coordinating with faith-based groups, etc.

The good news is that we found an amazing person. We've never had more than one no-show at focus groups she has arranged; her follow-up and personal influence is that good. Not surprisingly, the person we selected for this job did have a track record of volunteer work and church connections. As the HR folks predicted, it is challenging having an hourly worker for work that involves some evenings, weekends, etc., but we try to watch the calendar to avoid too much overtime. It would be easier to have a salaried appointment, but that would require a college degree and more experience—and yes, this wonderful person doesn't have a college degree, so it is well worth the hassle of figuring out her schedule, and writing the job that way was the best choice for the science.

Recently, I've come to see a few more advantages from paying some attention to administration. First is that in these bleak economic times (two rounds of faculty layoffs here), one of the few things we CAN do for investigators is improving their "hassle-to-fun" ratio, making it a more pleasant experience for them to do research with us. Recently, our center staff helped an investigator through his annual report, and he commented that we were "a dream" to work with. All I could think was: tell your friends, invite them to play with us, I want the best minds on campus working on head and neck cancer.

The other thing is that it gives me such peace of mind. Some people complain that when you buy refreshments for a meeting from a grant, you have to show
where the meeting set-up costs were budgeted in the proposal, and submit a
list of attendees with the request for payment. It sounds like a hassle, but
then it is all done and documented. If the grant gets audited, it will be
months or years later, and with my over-50 years mind, I am not gonna remember
what happened back then. But I won't worry, because I'll know the paperwork
was done at the time.

And that sense of peace is perhaps worth the hassle of paying some attention
to administration, and sitting through this afternoon's class.

Literature cited:  The metaphor of a merry-go-round vs. roller coaster came
from the grandmother in the 1989 movie Parenthood (coincidentally, the
alternative college scenes were both filmed here at UF).

Colleen Porter
Gainesville, FL

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Date:         Fri, 12 Jun 2009 10:52:24 -0400
Reply-To:     Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Subject:      Smoking research
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
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Part_5453_8340397.1244818344882"

-----=_Part_5453_8340397.1244818344882
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I found this interesting:

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/12/business/12tobacco.html?_r=1&hp

Here is more information about smoking surveys

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Date:         Mon, 15 Jun 2009 10:02:32 -0400
Re: Smoking research: Here's a Warehouse of State-Level Tobacco Data

State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation (STATE) System

www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statesystem

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Koger
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2009 10:52 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Smoking research

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http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/12/business/12tobacco.html?_r=1&hp

Here is more information about smoking surveys

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On your return send this: set aapornet mail Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to:
aapornet-request@asu.edu
The database of survey questions which CDC has is very useful to me. I also like the NIH Current Population Survey/Tobacco Use Supplement

http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/studies/tus-cps/

State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation (STATE) System
www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statesystem  Peter Mariolis Peter Mariolis, Ph.D.Health ScientistCenters for Disease Control and PreventionOffice on Smoking and HealthMS K503005 Chamblee-Tucker RoadAtlanta, GA 30341(Voice) 770-488-5845(Fax) 770-488-5848    ----Original Message----From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael KogerSent: Friday, June 12, 2009 10:52 AMTo: AAPORNET@ASU.EDUSubject: Smoking research I found this interesting: http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/12/business/12tobacco.html?_r=1&hp

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Date: Mon, 15 Jun 2009 11:02:25 -0400
Reply-To: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Subject: Smoking research
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="----=_Part_6391_20753500.1245078145381"

------=_Part_6391_20753500.1245078145381
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

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www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statesystem  Peter Mariolis Peter Mariolis, Ph.D.Health ScientistCenters for Disease Control and PreventionOffice on Smoking and HealthMS K503005 Chamblee-Tucker RoadAtlanta, GA 30341(Voice) 770-488-5845(Fax) 770-488-5848    ----Original Message----From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael KogerSent: Friday, June 12, 2009 10:52 AMTo: AAPORNET@ASU.EDUSubject: Smoking research I found this interesting: http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/12/business/12tobacco.html?_r=1&hp

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Date: Mon, 15 Jun 2009 08:35:19 -0700
Reply-To: Janet Brigham Rands <jzbrands@EARTHLINK.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Janet Brigham Rands <jzbrands@EARTHLINK.NET>
Subject: Re: Smoking research
Comments: To: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU

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www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statesystem  Peter Mariolis Peter Mariolis, Ph.D.Health ScientistCenters for Disease Control and PreventionOffice on Smoking and HealthMS K503005 Chamblee-Tucker RoadAtlanta, GA 30341(Voice) 770-488-5845(Fax) 770-488-5848    ----Original Message----From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael KogerSent: Friday, June 12, 2009 10:52 AMTo: AAPORNET@ASU.EDUSubject: Smoking research I found this interesting: http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/12/business/12tobacco.html?_r=1&hp

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

Date: Mon, 15 Jun 2009 08:35:19 -0700
Reply-To: Janet Brigham Rands <jzbrands@EARTHLINK.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date: Mon, 15 Jun 2009 08:35:19 -0700
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Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Janet Brigham Rands <jzbrands@EARTHLINK.NET>
Subject: Re: Smoking research
Comments: To: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In the interest of not reinventing the wheel...

Our research group at the Center for Health Sciences, SRI International (Menlo Park, CA), has been doing smoking research for several decades; my work there dates to 1997. I recently developed a chart comparing the question sets in five major smoking surveys, and would be happy to send a PDF of it to anyone who might find it useful. The list includes these:

- NHANES, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey
- BRFSS, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Questionnaire
- NHIS, National Health Interview Survey
- CHIS, California Health Interview Survey
- HINTS, Health Information National Trends Survey

I also have the full question sets relating to tobacco use from all five surveys.

Janet Brigham, Ph.D.
Senior Research Psychologist
Center for Health Sciences
SRI International
333 Ravenswood Ave.
Menlo Park, CA  94043

Michael Koger wrote:
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> State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation (STATE) System
www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statesystem Peter Mariolis Peter Mariolis, Ph.D.
Health Scientist
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Office on Smoking and Health
MS K503005 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341 (Voice) 770-488-5845 (Fax) 770-488-5848

[mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Koger
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2009 10:52 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Smoking research I found this interesting:
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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
I am glad that you mentioned that as many of the surveys have same or similar questions. The English and Spanish versions of BRFSS are interesting.

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Office on Smoking and Health
K503005 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
Voice 770-488-5845 Fax 770-488-5848

From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Koger
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2009 10:52 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu

Subject: Smoking research I found interesting:

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/12/business/12tobacco.html?_r=1&hp
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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Koger
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2009 10:52 AM
To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Subject: Smoking research I found interesting:

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------=_Part_425_24229892.1245162356957--

Date:       Wed, 17 Jun 2009 10:26:57 -0400
Reply-To:   Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Sender:     AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:       Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Subject:    Smoking surveys
Comments:   To: AAPORNET@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="----=_Part_962_19583098.1245248817483"

Some have requested information comparing smoking surveys. Here is one link:


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------=_Part_962_19583098.1245248817483--

Date:       Wed, 17 Jun 2009 10:47:23 -0400
Reply-To:   Cristine Delnevo <delnevo@UMDNJ.EDU>
Sender:     AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:       Cristine Delnevo <delnevo@UMDNJ.EDU>
Subject:    Re: Smoking surveys
Comments:   To: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <31263385.963.1245248817484.JavaMail.help@alum.mit.edu>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Preventive Medicine did an entire supplement on tobacco control surveillance which includes all these surveys. The "Host" paper includes a table which cross references all the major tobacco surveys


-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Koger
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2009 10:27 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Smoking surveys

Some have requested information comparing smoking surveys. Here is one link:


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-------------------------------------------------------------------------
Date: Wed, 17 Jun 2009 10:37:05 -0700
Reply-To: Natalia Usmanova-Elsner <natalia_usmanova@YAHOO.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Natalia Usmanova-Elsner <natalia_usmanova@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: open-ended questions in web surveys
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Is anybody aware of published research, or perhaps has personal experience, on use of open-ended questions in online surveys and the quality of responses?

My experience is that with salient topics (employee surveys, some customer satisfaction research), the quality of responses can be very good; we've obtained very extensive comments - in some instances maybe better than with phone interviewing.

What has your experience been with that and what is your advice in general in regard to open-ended questions?

Let me know if this topic is of interest to others. I will then post the summary of responses.

Thank you,
We used a couple of open ended questions in an on-line survey of late-teen to young adult respondents. The number of joke answers was far lower than I expected but probably about 10% (a guess, not a tally.) On the other hand there were many quite thoughtful responses and most were easily classifiable. All in all, we thought the open ended questions were a valuable addition to the survey.

Allan Rivlin
Partner, Hart Research Associates
1724 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington DC 20009
(202) 234-5570
Co-Editor, CenteredPolitics.com

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu]On Behalf Of Natalia Usmanova-Elsner
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2009 1:37 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: open-ended questions in web surveys

Is anybody aware of published research, or perhaps has personal experience, on use of open-ended questions in online surveys and the quality of responses?

My experience is that with salient topics (employee surveys, some customer satisfaction research), the quality of responses can be very good; we've obtained very extensive comments - in some instances maybe better than with phone interviewing.

What has your experience been with that and what is your advice in general in regard to open-ended questions?
Let me know if this topic is of interest to others. I will then post the summary of responses.

Thank you,

Natalia

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Date:         Wed, 17 Jun 2009 14:11:41 -0400
Reply-To:     Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject:      End hold on Bob Groves's nomination
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

End hold on Bob Groves's nomination

By DAVID HILL
Posted: 06/16/09 06:40 PM [ET]
An anonymous Republican senator has placed a hold on the nomination of Bob Groves to head the Census Bureau. This furtive opposition is ill-advised and overlooks the fact that there is a strong Republican case for be made for the nomination.

SNIP

As for the sampling controversy that dogs the bureau, Groves has said that methodology won't be used in 2010. But what about sampling in the years beyond? Here's one idea. Win control of at least one chamber of Congress in 2010 and then insist on Republican-sponsored policies that won't allow bureau misuse of sampling. If the election strategy doesn't work out, have someone running Census whose own published research documents the troublesome impacts of non-response in sampling. Bob Groves's own written words would be an ideal foil for inappropriate reliance on sampling. What more could we possibly ask or hope for?

Hill is director of Hill Research Consultants, a Texas-based firm that has polled for GOP candidates and causes since 1988.
Hill: The GOP Case for Bob Groves

By Mark Blumenthal

Texas based Republican pollster David Hill is speaking out in favor of confirming Bob Groves as director of the U.S. Census Bureau and against the mysterious "hold" placed on his nomination by an unnamed Republican Senator. In his weekly column, Hill described the "furtive opposition" by his own party as "ill-advised" and outlined "a strong Republican case" for Groves' confirmation.

SNIP

One of these classes, Introduction to the Federal Statistical System, presented and described the federal statistical agencies (Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, etc.). We spent a lot of time discussing how these agencies could better fulfill their missions while remaining independent of political pressure. It is the memory of those sessions, more than anything else, that makes me want to laugh out loud at the notion of Groves as a partisan appointee bent on "political manipulation." That is exactly backward. Groves is, as Hill puts it, someone certain to "serve science and the data, not political partisanship."

David Hill deserves a lot of credit for bucking some in his own party by standing up for this nomination -- and do read the whole column to get his complete argument. I hope more Republican pollsters follow his example.

--
Leo G. Simonetta
For people interested in open-ended data:

A conference on this topic was held in Ann Arbor last December, co-sponsored by the American National Election Studies, the General Social Survey, the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, and the National Longitudinal Survey, and funded by the National Science Foundation.

You can read about the conference, see the slides, and read full transcripts of the presentations and discussion here:

http://www.electionstudies.org/conferences/methods/MethodsConference.htm

Best,

Jon Krosnick and Arthur Lupia
Principal Investigators
American National Election Studies

At 10:37 AM 6/17/2009, Natalia Usmanova-Elsner wrote:
> Is anybody aware of published research, or perhaps has personal
> experience, on use of open-ended questions in online surveys and the
> quality of responses?
> >
> >My experience is that with salient topics (employee surveys, some
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Let me know if this topic is of interest to others. I will then post
the summary of responses.

Thank you,

Natalia

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

Interested in recommendations/experiences with low cost, hand held data
collection devices for field surveys.

Thanks, Phillip

Phillip Downs, Ph.D.
Senior Partner | Kerr & Downs Research
Professor of Marketing | Florida State University
800.564.3182 | 850.906.3112 (f)

littleKDRclean

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

Re: open-ended questions in web surveys
See this month's POQ journal:
URL: http://poq.oxfordjournals.org/content/vol73/issue2/index.dtl?etoc

Jolene D. Smyth, Don A. Dillman, Leah Melani Christian, and Mallory Mcbride
Open-Ended Questions in Web Surveys: Can Increasing the Size of Answer Boxes and Providing Extra Verbal Instructions Improve Response Quality?
   http://poq.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/73/2/325?etoc

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jon Krosnick
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2009 1:56 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: open-ended questions in web surveys

All:

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Natalia,

I run or coordinate a couple dozen surveys each year of students, faculty, staff and alumni, including both comprehensive and topical surveys. We use the surveys for assessment and planning and I can say without any hesitation that in many cases responses to the open-ended questions give more actionable data than the quantitative questions.

Certainly the standard multiple choice and Likert-scale questions provide very useful data, especially where we have either time-series or benchmarking data for comparison. But what do you actually do with those numbers? In many instances, responses to the open-ended questions provide far more specific, nuanced information that actually tells you what is right and what is wrong. The best example of this was in a very short survey asking faculty, staff and students to report their experiences with a test of our state-mandated emergency alert system. The multiple choice questions
told us by which method they got the notification first, and how long it
took them to get it (if at all). That was valuable. But it was the specific
information reported by people who had trouble with the system that turned
out to be even more valuable still. Within a week of the test an e-mail was
sent out by our university's office responsible for the system with a very
helpful list of answers, solutions and instructions that responded directly
to the problems people had reported. If we had not included that question,
we would have known if and when and by what means they received the alert,
but we would have had no idea how to solve their problems! And the next test
went much better (as shown by the quantitative as well as qualitative
responses).

Certainly the occasional joker can't resist the opportunity to mouth off
(e.g., in our undergraduate campus climate survey one student used every
comment box and "other especific" opportunity to make statements about the
"Borg Collective" and the need to "be assimilated"). However, this kind of
thing is very, very rare and of course easy to spot. As for the tone,
faculty can be especially curmudgeonly and rude at times. But generally
speaking, even when people are rude or profane they are on topic and they
are letting us know how they feel, which is what this is all about, isn't
it?

So I generally include one open-ended comment box at the end of each topical
section or each screen of a multi-screen survey as well as a catch-all
"anything else?" question at the end.

I hope this is helpful. Best,

-- Joel

--
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
Cell: 541-579-6610
E-mail: jbloom@albany.edu
Web: http://www.albany.edu/ir/

On Wed, Jun 17, 2009 at 1:37 PM, Natalia Usmanova-Elsner <
natalia_usmanova@yahoo.com> wrote:

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> 
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> aapornet-request@asu.edu
> 
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>

Date:         Wed, 17 Jun 2009 16:26:51 -0400
Reply-To:     Keith Neuman <Keith.Neuman@ENVIRONICS.CA>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Keith Neuman <Keith.Neuman@ENVIRONICS.CA>
Subject:      Re: Handheld devices for data collection
Comments: To: Phillip Downs <pd@KERR-DOWNS.COM>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:  A<032201c9ef81$ab19bc608014d3520$@com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

There is currently a very impressive device and software developed and offered through a Canadian company called Advitek. (www.advitake.com) which I came across at a research conference last month in Montreal. It's designed specifically for research purposes, and includes a voice recorder option that can capture verbatim responses. They also use the voice part for quality control by having interviewers record the first and last questions of the survey (both interviewer and respondent) - to verify that interviewers actually conducted the interviews they claim to have done.

The conference featured a case study of using these devices to conduct a nation-wide face-to-face survey in Belize (a challenging place to do research).

Keith Neuman
Environics Research Group
Ottawa, Ontario

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Phillip Downs
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2009 3:28 PM  
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU  
Subject: Handheld devices for data collection

Interested in recommendations/experiences with low cost, hand held data collection devices for field surveys.

Thanks, Phillip

Phillip Downs, Ph.D.
Senior Partner | Kerr & Downs Research  
Professor of Marketing | Florida State University  
800.564.3182 | 850.906.3112 (f)
littleKDRclean

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Date: Wed, 17 Jun 2009 16:43:22 -0400  
Reply-To: Sid Groeneman <sid@GROENEMAN.COM>  
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
From: Sid Groeneman <sid@GROENEMAN.COM>  
Subject: Re: open-ended questions in web surveys  
Comments: To: Natalia Usmanova-Elsner <natalia_usmanova@YAHOO.COM>  
Comments: cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU  
In-Reply-To: <903875.68142.qm@web55204.mail.re4.yahoo.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed; delsp=yes  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v935.3)

In terms of useful information yield, I've received excellent quality responses to open-end questions in online surveys. The main challenge, in my experience, is framing the question in a way that minimizes irrelevant, rambling answers which can reach epic proportions in length. Be prepared to read through a lot of extraneous material.

Sid Groeneman

Groeneman Research & Consulting  
Survey Design/Analysis/Management  
sid@groeneman.com
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----------
Date: Wed, 17 Jun 2009 17:21:30 -0400
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Shocker! Most Americans know of Obama eligibility questions
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Shocker! Most Americans know of Obama eligibility questions

Despite near media blackout on coverage, 49.3% 'troubled,' think he should release birth certificate
or
http://tinyurl.com/mtqeql
Editor's note: This is the second of a series of monthly "Freedom Index" polls conducted exclusively for WND by the public opinion research and media consulting company Wenzel Strategies.

WASHINGTON - It may be the issue few in the media dare address, but a new scientific public opinion survey of a cross-section of Americans shows they are not only aware of questions about Barack Obama's constitutional eligibility for office, but almost half are either "troubled" by the questions or believe he should release all relevant documents including his long-form birth certificate.

SNIP

You can get to the questions and the crosstabs here

http://wenzelstrategies.com/?page_id=383

(It is a survey of listed numbers)

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

----------------------------------------------------
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Parallel to Sid's excellent point to set some boundaries on what the respondent thinks is relevant, I regularly add the phrase "{PLEASE BE SPECIFIC}" after questions calling for an open-ended response.

Milton Goldsamt
On Jun 17, 2009, at 4:43 PM, Sid Groeneman wrote:

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EXCLUSIVE: Minn. lawmaker vows not to complete Census

Washington Times
Stephen Dinan (Contact)
or
http://tinyurl.com/np3d55

EXCLUSIVE:
Outspoken Republican Rep. Michele Bachmann says she's so worried that information from next year's national census will be abused that she will refuse to fill out anything more than the number of people in her household.

In an interview Wednesday morning with The Washington Times "America's Morning News," Mrs. Bachmann, Minnesota Republican, said the questions have become "very intricate, very personal" and she also fears ACORN, the community organizing group that came under fire for its voter registration efforts last year, will be part of the Census Bureau's door-to-door information collection efforts.

"I know for my family the only question we will be answering is how many people are in our home," she said. "We won't be answering any information beyond that, because the Constitution doesn't require any information beyond that."

Shelly Lowe, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Census Bureau, said Mrs. Bachmann is "misreading" the law.
DMDC anticipates filling two positions in DMDC’s Human Resources Strategic Assessment Program (HRSAP) division. [Please note that additional announcements are expected soon for mathematical statisticians in HRSAP.]

Current (2009) salaries, including local market supplement for the Washington metropolitan area, are up to $79,280 for pay band 1 and up to $113,007 for pay band 2.

HRSAP conducts primarily Web-based and paper-and-pencil surveys to support the personnel information needs of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness [USD(P&R)]. These surveys assess the attitudes, opinions, and experiences of the entire Department of Defense (DoD) community-active duty, Reserve, civilian employees, and military families-on a wide range of personnel issues, including job satisfaction, employee engagement, household financial health and income, evaluations of personnel support programs, deployments and retention decisions, and gender and race relations in the Armed Forces and Service Academies.

These positions are interdisciplinary and applicant(s) may be selected in any of the following government job series: Psychologist (0180), Sociologist (0184), or Survey Statistician (1530). Employees apply theories, methodologies, and advanced quantitative social science analytic techniques of statistics, personnel psychology, and/or sociology to survey-based analyses and evaluations of DoD personnel management and policies.
The primary functions of the first position are survey planning, instrument/measure design/pretest/review, operations management/oversight, planning the development of related data for comparison, and disseminating the results of analyses. Analysts participate in teams responsible for overall planning of assigned surveys, including initial negotiations or development of requirements and establishing general specifications and detailed time schedules; and use new approaches to develop information, evaluate alternatives, and resolve problems.

The primary functions of the second position are to (1) apply advanced techniques to quick turnaround statistical analyses for specific policy questions, (2) design, assemble, and analyze complex cross sectional and longitudinal survey datasets merged with administrative records, (3) plan and execute longitudinal investigations, (4) plan and execute sophisticated modeling, and (5) prepare briefings and other products presenting results using both technical and lay language. Employees participate in teams responsible for overall planning and execution, including initial negotiations or development of requirements and establishing general specifications and detailed time schedules; use of new approaches to develop information, evaluate alternatives, and resolve problems; and design, develop, and adapt mathematical methods and techniques for analysis of complex sample data.

Employees in all positions use SAS (and some may require the use of SUDAAN, SPSS, or other statistical programming packages) for analyses and must be proficient in use of Office automation products, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. Additionally, duties require experience in the development of technical reports that summarize research methods, analyses performed, and results, as well as developing reports for senior officials who use the data for policy formulation purposes.

Both positions will be advertised in NSPS pay bands 1 and 2. The target, fully function, pay band is level 2. In pay band 1, employees serve in a developmental capacity and have non-competitive growth potential to pay band 2 positions. As such, the employee participates in formal and on-the-job training designed to prepare for advancement to the full performance level based on completion of training, supervisor's recommendation, and availability of work at time of advancement. The trainee may be required to meet certain training milestones, standardized assessment, and/or certification requirements as part of a training plan. The trainee carries out assignments designed to provide the competencies, skills and experiences needed to perform pay band 2 work using basic principles, concepts, and methodologies of the occupation. For more information on NSPS, please see http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/

The positions will be announced though DLA for Federal employees and other "status" candidates as defined in the announcements; please see http://www.hr.dla.mil/prospective/apply/. Scroll down the page to find this position description, DMDC-09-2669 under the link for "DHRA Jobs (Excluding CPMS)." Due to unintended programming features, at several points the announcement will only use the title "Survey Statistician (1530), Interdisciplinary." However, Government employees (and other status candidates) can use this announcement to apply if they qualify by experience and education as a Psychologist (180), Sociologist (184), or Survey
Statistician (1530)-qualifying requirements are listed for all three job series. Please follow the tabs to see the basic qualifications that are listed for all three series (180, 184, and 1530). An application can be made for any of these series under this announcement. Closing date for applications is 7/6/2009.

Applications by the U.S. citizens for any of the three series can be done on any of three identical announcements, DMDC-09-265690. To find the announcement enter "DHRA" in the SEARCH JOBS box on www.usajobs.gov OR find the announcements though the procedure described above for http://www.hr.dla.mil/prospective/apply/.) On any of the three announcements DMDC-09-265690, directions are given as to where in the application to indicate the job series for which you wish to be considered. Closing date for applications is 7/6/2009.

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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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Date: Thu, 18 Jun 2009 17:04:47 -0400
Reply-To: Carl M Ramirez <RamirezC@GAO.GOV>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Carl M Ramirez <RamirezC@GAO.GOV>
Subject: Re: open-ended questions in web surveys
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: inline
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

It may have already been mentioned, but I think it's an easy working conclusion that the sheer volume (in terms of number of characters) of open-ended response length in web vs. other modes is likely to be higher. That is, your web open-ended responses are likely to be longer, if for no other reason than it's easier to type than to write (for self-administered mail surveys, anyway). It's certainly been the case in mode comparisons I've made, and I think I've seen it in others' studies as well.

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> Natalia
>
>----------------------------------------------------------
>
Carl Ramirez
Assistant Director, Design Methodology
Center for Design, Methods & Analysis
U.S. Government Accountability Office
Phone: (202) 512-3721
Fax: (202) 512-3938
Email: ramirezc@gao.gov

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

We looked at Web vs. mail in a study as part of an ongoing satisfaction
research program. As part of this we compared response to the one open-ended question. The following are a few snippets from a subsequent unpublished paper. You will see that it confirms what most have said.

"Respondents to the Web survey not only answered more questions (i.e., demonstrated a lower item non-response) but also were significantly more likely to respond to the open-ended question asking for their suggestions to improve...satisfaction...The sentiment of these comments (i.e., positive vs. negative vs. neutral remarks) did not differ greatly across modes; however, the length of these comments varied hugely by mode. The average word coun="
of comments made by [those] responding to the online survey was 13 times higher than the word count among [those] responding on paper — 268 words per comment vs. 20 words per comment, respectively...There is also some indication that the quality of the open-end comments in the Web mode may be superior to that in the paper mode. A cursory analysis of comments in both modes suggests that comments from Web respondents are more detailed (e.g., references to specific examples or names) and tend to be more constructive (i.e., offer suggestions for improvement) than comments from the paper questionnaire..."

--
Margaret R. Roller
Roller Marketing Research
rmr@rollerresearch.com

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Date: Fri, 19 Jun 2009 13:36:30 -0700
Reply-To: "P. Moy" <pmoy@U.WASHINGTON.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "P. Moy" <pmoy@U.WASHINGTON.EDU>
Subject: Reminder: MAPOR conference deadline - 30 June
Comments: To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; format=flowed; charset=US-ASCII

Dear AAPORnet,

This is a reminder that Tuesday, 30 June is the deadline for abstract submissions for our annual conference which convenes in Chicago, 20-21 November 2009. Join us for over two dozen panels related to our conference theme, "Exploring the Future of Public Opinion Research." Our luncheon speaker will be Jeffrey Moore, who will share his insights on the surveying of special populations (notably, the deceased).

Accepted student-only papers are eligible for the MAPOR Fellows Student Paper Competition.

The call for participation, our latest newsletter (which highlights a few prominent AAPOR members), and additional information about MAPOR are available at www.mapor.org.

Best wishes, Patricia
Hello,

I need some advice, preferably but not necessarily based on experience in surveys: a colleague and I are developing a survey of Muslims in the US, and we want to ask about experiences before and after the attacks of 9/11/01. Items could include questions about 1) whether the R suffered discrimination in various ways before 9/11 and then (separately) after 9/11; 2) whether R felt religious commitment or took various steps in accord with his/her faith before 9/11, and then (separately) after 9/11; 3) items about how nonMuslims treated R in workplace, neighborhood, political arena, etc.

My question is: what does the evidence show about people's ability to remember accurately events or feelings in the past, in this case roughly a decade? We know that, over time, memories fade, get distorted by current emotions and circumstances, etc -- but will people be able to
give us a reasonably reliable report of what they did or felt, or what happened to them, before and after this traumatic event? (Of course, their current view of their past life is interesting for a different reason, but that's not my concern here.)

thanks, Jennifer

--

Jennifer L. Hochschild
Harvard University
Henry LaBarre Jayne Professor of Government,
Professor of African and African American Studies, and
Harvard College Professor

Department of Government
Harvard University
CGIS -- 1737 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
Phone: 617-496-0181
Fax: 617-495-0438
Hochschild@gov.harvard.edu

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Jennifer, I would recommend considering an event history calendar approach, designed to stimulate retrospective memories in relationship to salient personally-experienced events. Here are some possibly-relevant references:


Debbie Miller

On Sat, Jun 20, 2009 at 7:23 AM, Jennifer Hochschild <hochschild@gov.harvard.edu> wrote:

> Hello,
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> --
> Jennifer L. Hochschild
> Harvard University
> Henry LaBarre Jayne Professor of Government,
> Professor of African and African American Studies, and
> Harvard College Professor
> 
> Department of Government
> Harvard University
> CGIS -- 1737 Cambridge Street
> Cambridge, MA 02138
> Phone: 617-496-0181
> Fax: 617-495-0438
> Hochschild@gov.harvard.edu
> 
> ---
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People "remember" voting for the Presidential candidate who was successful in the election held just a month before, despite the fact that they actually voted for another candidate, as ANES has shown must be the case given the incongruity between the actual vote and the results of the post-election survey. In several Censuses before the sample question was deleted, people "remembered" their occupation of only five years previously, although these same people had responded very differently in the CPS.

While event history reporting is a big aid in jogging people's memories, I would not be at all inclined to trust people's recollection of their feelings of even a few years ago. It would be very hard to construct something like an event history matrix to spur memory of attitudes, opinions, and knowledge. Events, yes; feelings, not likely. But a study of how people's recollections of their feelings differ from those they express today might be interesting.

Jennifer, I would recommend considering an event history calendar approach, designed to stimulate retrospective memories in relationship to salient personally-experienced events. Here are some possibly-relevant references:

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> --
> Jennifer L. Hochschild
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Dear colleagues,

I am designing a study that includes a mail survey and a telephone follow-up. The follow-up will seek to determine the reasons for non-response (out of scope respondent, never received packet, refusal, etc.) but also try to convert non-responders and have them complete the survey on the phone.

I have a general question and a request for information:

1. Generally, does the process of seeking an explanation for non-response ("would you be willing to tell us why you did not complete the survey"?) constitute "research" - thereby needing a consent script first? This would be awkward, but we'd be gathering data that results in social scientific knowledge; on the other hand, we routinely record reasons for non-response given by potential respondents who refuse well before the verbal consent portions of an interview script.

2. If anybody has a script that navigates this kind of follow-up, I'd would be grateful if you would be willing to share a copy.

Thanks much!

Eric

________________________________________
Eric Plutzer, Guest Researcher (until Aug 2009)
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Harvard University invites applications for the position of Preceptor in Survey Research beginning August 1, 2009. The person who fills this position will also have an administrative role as Assistant Director for the Program on Survey Research (PSR). These roles are both distinct and overlapping.

Both roles require pedagogical mentoring, advising on issues of survey design and implementation and coordinating resources in survey research; creating resources for questionnaire design, sampling and analysis; and developing, integrating and maintaining innovative survey training materials.

As preceptor, this person is expected to develop and teach courses in survey research, including Introduction to Survey Research and Survey Practicum (undergraduate and graduate level). S/he will work in collaboration with faculty to build infrastructure and support survey research courses across the Government Department.

As Assistant Director of PSR, this person will have significant administrative and management responsibilities. S/he will work with the faculty Director of PSR to define and implement the strategic direction of PSR; maintain regular communications with the PSR community through bulletins, website content and outreach efforts; and plan related events.

Applicants must have a strong background and experience in survey research, preferably including a Ph.D. in a relevant field, as well as sophistication about undergraduate teaching, learning, and curricular issues generally. Responsibility, initiative, good judgment, and the ability to work well on a team are required.

Please apply on-line at http://jfr.gov.harvard.edu/. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until position is filled. The position is renewable on a yearly basis for up to eight years, based on performance, enrollments, and curricular needs.

Harvard University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from women and members of minority groups.
Alec Gallup, one of the polling world's most committed practitioners and dedicated supporters of the value of polling and all around good guys passed away last night. Alec was one of two sons of Dr. George Gallup and was the long time Chairman of the Gallup Poll. Alec lived in Princeton, New Jersey. Anyone who has worked at or with the Gallup Organization over the years and who came into contact with Alec recognized what a truly unique individual he was. He literally devoted all of his life to polling -- spanning his childhood days when he worked with his father as poll "ballots" came in via train to be tabulated at Gallup headquarters up to as recently as a week or two ago, when, even in declining health, he would call up and make suggestions about what poll questions Gallup should be asking in the current political environment. Polling has never had a greater champion, and those who knew Alec personally have never had a greater friend. Everyone who knew Alec will miss him immensely.

Frank Newport

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DMDC has two positions in the Human Resources Strategic Assessment Program (HRSAP) division. Both positions will be advertised in NSPS pay bands 1 and 2. Closing date for applications is 7/13/2009. Current salaries, including local market supplement, are up to $79,280 for pay band 1 and up to $113,007 for pay band 2. For more information on NSPS, please see http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/.

Primary duties are to plan and execute approved statistical designs for personnel surveys to determine a wide range of personnel issues including attitudes, opinions, voting behaviors, job satisfaction, employee engagement, household financial health and income, evaluations of personnel support programs, deployments and retention decisions, and gender and race relations in the Armed Forces and Service Academies; maintaining DMDC survey data sets; and providing appropriate survey data and estimates to internal and external requestors. Surveys and studies range from quick turn around topical surveys, to recurring omnibus surveys, including initial negotiations or development of requirements and establishing general specifications and detailed time schedules. Employee uses new approaches to develop information to evaluate alternatives and resolve problems; designs, develops, and adapts mathematical methods and techniques for survey sampling; and applies mathematical/statistical theory in a production setting to the tasks of frame development, sample design and selection, weighting, imputation, variance estimation, disclosure analysis, data masking, and methodological documentation.

Employee develops means for collecting data that are not available within DoD or from the Military Services, and conducts analyses of survey data for standard tabulations, briefings, and special studies. Originates designs for probability samples; develops and implements sampling and weighting plans; and develops and implements plans for analysis of highly complex sample data. Also provides guidance and technical support to statistical analysts, maintains documentation of sampling and weighting procedures, writes statistical methodology reports, and provides statistical advice to DoD officials and program managers. Maintains, adapts, and originates a variety of procedures for survey sampling, weighting, and design-based analysis. Coordinates with survey analysts, operations staff, and programmers to construct and manage data files. Develops and performs formal testing and evaluation of new survey methodologies. Maintains contact with high level staff in organizations both internal and external to the Federal Government. Presents DoD survey findings to senior officials in OSD, the Military Services, Defense agencies, other government organizations, contractors, and the public.
Both positions will be advertised in NSPS pay bands 1 and 2. The target, fully function, pay band is level 2. In pay band 1, employee serves in a developmental capacity and has non-competitive growth potential to pay band 2 positions. As such, the employee participates in formal and on-the-job training designed to prepare for advancement to the full performance level based on completion of training, supervisor's recommendation, and availability of work at time of advancement. The trainee may be required to meet certain training milestones, standardized assessments, and/or certification requirements as part of a training plan. The trainee carries out assignments designed to provide the competencies, skills and experiences needed to perform pay band 2 work using basic principles, concepts, and methodologies of the occupation. For more information on NSPS, please see http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/.

Federal employees and other status candidates as defined in the announcements: see http://www.hr.dla.mil/prospective/apply/

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Insight Policy Research, Inc., an emerging consulting business specializing in public policy research, is seeking a Senior Project Director and a Research Analyst to join our growing team. Headquartered in Rosslyn, VA, Insight conducts program evaluations in the areas of health, education, and social welfare to meet our clients' short and long term needs. Insight offers the opportunity to work on high profile projects, develop skills in a multitude of areas, and experience hands-on research that makes a difference in people's lives. Come and grow with a small, dynamic, professional organization. Flexi-place, competitive salary and comprehensive benefits provided. For further information on the company, please visit our website at www.insightpolicyresearch.com <http://www.insightpolicyresearch.com/> .
Senior Project Director

Job Description: The Senior Project Director will lead research studies in health and education policy, including program and impact evaluations, feasibility studies, cost-benefit analyses, needs assessments and large scale data collection efforts. Specific responsibilities may include designing and directing long and short term research projects, developing research proposals, preparing reports, delivering presentations, and managing teams.

Qualifications: Ph.D (preferred) or Master's in social sciences, public policy, health services research or other relevant discipline, with eight years of progressively responsible experience designing and leading complex research studies in the areas of education, health and social welfare. Qualified candidates will have specific skills and experience in quantitative and qualitative research methods, the design and development of data collection instruments, application of advanced statistical techniques in the analysis of survey data, experience producing written reports and developing proposals, and a proven ability to communicate complex ideas to professional and lay audiences.

Research Analyst

Job Description: The Research Analyst will conduct literature reviews in the areas of health, education and social welfare, work with researchers and public policy staff in the planning and conduct of research studies, analyze qualitative and quantitative data, including public data files, develop databases and contribute to reports and proposals.

Qualifications: Master's in survey methodology, behavioral or social sciences, public policy, public health or related discipline. Qualified candidates will also have strong quantitative and qualitative research skills, experience developing survey instruments and interviewing guides, proficiency using SAS or SPSS to analyze survey data, and experience contributing to written reports and research proposals. Ideal candidates will also have: interest in education policy, health policy, or survey methodology; experience moderating focus groups and conducting semi-structured interviews; training and experience in advanced statistical methods; and strong organizational skills with demonstrated ability to work both independently and as part of a team.
EEO: All candidates will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

Contact: Please send a cover letter, resume/CV via email, fax or regular mail to:

Bryan Johnson
Insight Policy Research, Inc.
1901 N. Moore St.; Suite 601
Arlington, VA 22209
Email: info@insightpolicyresearch.com
Fax: (703) 504-9481

Perils of Polling in Election '08
by Scott Keeter, Jocelyn Kiley, Leah Christian and Michael Dimock,
Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

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The analysis of total survey error has evolved over many decades to consider a wide variety of potential threats, including concerns about the contribution of both bias and variance, and an attention to errors of both observation and non-observation (Groves 1989). The validity of public opinion polling in the presidential election of 2008 was thought to be seriously imperiled by a wide range of these potential errors. Among these were coverage error due to the growth of the wireless-only population, nonresponse error potentially caused by differential nonresponse among Republicans and racially conservative voters, and measurement error potentially resulting from racially-related understatement of support for the Republican candidate and greater-than-usual difficulties in forecasting turnout and identifying likely voters.
Research Analyst/Project Manager: MENA Focus

InterMedia Survey Institute—a global research, evaluation and consulting firm specializing in media and communication—is seeking an experienced Research Analyst/Project Manager who will be responsible for the management of quantitative and qualitative research and evaluation projects throughout the Middle East/North Africa. This is a highly multifaceted position with duties including client interface and new business development, research design, project management, subcontractor oversight, fieldwork observation, research analysis, report writing, presentations and proposal support. The Project Manager will have primary responsibility for Iran and Afghanistan and secondary responsibility for other MENA countries.

Key Requirements

Knowledge, Skills & Experience:

* A minimum of a Master's Degree in political or social science, market research, international affairs or related field

* A minimum of 3 years of relevant professional experience in applied social or market research, analysis and reporting with an emphasis on insight generation

* Solid knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods

* Strong ability to analyze, synthesize and present quantitative and qualitative data

* Proficiency with statistical analysis (e.g., SPSS), word processing and presentation software

* Deep interest in and knowledge of media, communication and development trends and issues throughout the MENA region, ideally with first-hand on-the-ground experience

* Strong oral and written communication skills

* Ability to work with colleagues and clients of diverse =
professional
and cultural backgrounds

* Proven organizational, and project and time management skills
* Ability to work to multiple and tight deadlines
* Knowledge of Arabic a plus
* Ability to travel (approximately 25%)

Personal Characteristics:

* Innate curiosity; passion for research, analysis and delivering insights to clients
* Commitment to quality and accuracy
* Team player; self-starter; shows initiative; works independently
* First-rate interpersonal skills

The position is based in Washington, D.C. InterMedia provides a friendly work environment and a generous benefits package and salary commensurate with experience. Qualified candidates should send a cover letter and resume to pm-mena@intermedia.org or via fax # 866-500-4095.

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Senior Analyst-African Media/Development Communications

InterMedia is a leading global research, evaluation and consulting firm specializing in the field of media and communications. Based in Washington, D.C. and the U.K., InterMedia staff and associates have decades of accumulated research and consulting experience and vast geographical expertise spanning 100 countries around the world.

Recently, we were awarded a contract which has led us to seek a qualified candidate to join our team as a consultant with the role of Senior Analyst. This consultant will assist with in-depth analysis of media attitudes and communication behavior based on quantitative and qualitative studies in countries throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. This is a highly visible role working closely with a dedicated research team and producing analytical reports for broad consumption throughout the development community and could potentially evolve into a staff position.

Key Requirements:

Knowledge & Skills

* Strong ability to analyze and synthesize quantitative and qualitative, as well as primary and secondary research data

* Deep interest in and knowledge of media, communication and development trends and issues throughout Sub-Saharan Africa

* Superior analytical, problem solving and quantitative skills, with...
ability to carry out advanced statistical analysis

* Advanced proficiency with statistical analysis software (SPSS preferred), spreadsheets, databases, word processing and presentation software

* Demonstrated ability to present research findings in clear, compelling, user-friendly and graphically interesting ways

* Strong oral and written communication skills

* Ability to work with colleagues and clients of diverse professional and cultural backgrounds

* Ability to work to multiple and tight deadlines

* Knowledge of local African languages a plus

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Education & Experience

* A minimum of a Master's Degree in communications, political or social science, international relations, or related field, plus 10 years of professional experience; higher education may substitute for some years of experience

* Professional experience in research, analysis and reporting with an emphasis on insight generation

* Proven ability to work with large and complex data sets

* Experience living, studying and/or working abroad a plus

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Characteristics

* Innate curiosity; passion for research, analysis and delivering insights to clients

* Commitment to quality and accuracy

* Team player; self-starter; shows initiative; works independently

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Qualified candidates should send their letter of interest and resume to
amcahr@intermedia.org.
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Thank you for your cooperation.

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From:         "Jeffrey C. Moore" <jeffrey.c.moore@CENSUS.GOV>
Subject:      Fw: Recording Interviews -- Nonresponse Effects? [SUMMARY OF
             REPLIES]
Comments: To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
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My posting a few weeks ago (see below) generated quite a few "please share
what you find" responses. So here goes (with apologies to those for whom
this topic holds little interest), starting with the bottom line: There's
way more anecdotal wisdom than research, but recording does not seem to be
that big a deal for respondents, and there's very little evidence that it
causes people to bail out of responding entirely.

And now the gory details:

Responses from several high-volume commercial practitioners who regularly
(if not always) record interviews were quite similar: Respondents do, with
some frequency, decline to be recorded, but refusals to be interviewed
because of recording are extremely rare events. Although refusal to record
is not a major problem, the practitioners tend track this phenomenon pretty
carefully. Not so with regard to the impact of recording on survey
nonresponse, which is pretty much a data-free zone: "We don't hear any
complaints about this from our telephone center," and "In the last five
years I have only heard of one respondent that has refused due to being
recorded" is about as hard-data as anyone gets.
A few responders cited actual papers and presentations, a few of which are relevant. For example:

No experimental design; a possible effect on cooperation, but the authors suspect an “overload” effect from multiple consents -- to the interview and to the recording -- being lumped together.

No experimental design; separated interview and recording consents; a very small effect, which the author suspects is attributable to inadequate efforts to get interviewers “on board” -- she sees interviewer resistance, not respondent resistance, as the problem.

CARI feasibility study; no experimental design; no information concerning impact on survey cooperation, but the authors report a high level of R consent to record (despite sensitive survey content) and mostly positive (or neutral) R attitudes about recording.

Ongena, Y. “working paper; some results presented at AAPOR 2008”
Non-experimental; very high (95%) level of consent to the recording request; no apparent impact on cooperation (of course due to the fact that permission to record was asked after the interview had been running for about 15 minutes).

Looks at predictors of consent to be recorded; finds that variation in consent to record is mostly attributable to interviewer effects, not R characteristics (noting again that it would be hard for it to be otherwise since the request to record the interview almost always comes after the respondent has agreed to be interviewed).

Jennifer Dykema shared an informal summary of her recent inquiry into this topic, which I quote here:

- There appears to be very little published work on this topic most likely because the request to record comes after the respondent has agreed to participate and in general, break-offs are low in interviewer-administered surveys.
- In my quick search through work by Charlie Cannell and the Groves et al. article from TSMII, no one mentions the effect of recording on response rates. In the Groves et al. article from TSMII, the authors mention having to explicitly ask for permission to record but do not report any effects on response rates.
- Historically people have worried more about whether recording affects interviewers’ or respondents’ behaviors within the interview
but mostly no effects.
- While a request to record will have virtually no effect on response rates overall, not all Rs will consent to be recorded. In our Parent Study 3 (telephone administered list sample) we had 20 of 566 who agreed to do the iw, refuse to be taped.

Jennifer also tipped me off to what seems to be the planet's one and only published experimental study, a very nice paper by...

Basson finds no effect of a request to record on survey cooperation (or on any other indicator of data quality for that matter). Interestingly, she notes that this finding runs directly counter to interviewers’ impressions -- interviewers were convinced that the recording request made obtaining cooperation more difficult.

Thanks to all who responded.

-- Jeff Moore --

What's the impact of an intent to record an interview on survey cooperation?
If anyone is aware of any published work which looks at the impact of
interview recording on nonresponse/refusal I would appreciate whatever leads you could share.

Thanks.

Jeff Moore
Research Psychologist
US Census Bureau

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For those following the Bob Groves saga. It's really escalated now. He made Colbert:


Patrick Murray
Monmouth University

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