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Without this, the headline should read, "Small number most admiring of Clinton larger, though insignificantly, than small number most admiring of Palin"

Steven Kull
Director
I will just add that in my employee work I am, with a few exceptions, not in favor of financial incentives for a variety of reasons including the potential for response bias. I find that employers will typically allow employees to participate in the research on company time and this is attractive to staff and middle management. Executives will participate as a sense of duty to their organization. Support for the research from the top people is key.

--
Margaret R. Roller
rmr@rollerresearch.com

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Colleen Porter
Gainesville, FL

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Director
WorldPublicOpinion.org
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Washington, DC 20036
(202) 232-0431 (phone)
http://www.worldpublicopinion.org

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNENET.
The Rasmussen factor

Did Politico fall down in the homework department? Check out this piece: "Democrats are turning their fire on Scott Rasmussen, the prolific independent pollster . . .

"While Scott Rasmussen, the firm's president, contends that he has no ax to grind -- his bio notes that he has been 'an independent pollster for more than a decade' and 'has never been a campaign pollster or consultant for candidates seeking office' -- his opponents on the left insist he is the hand that feeds conservative talkers a daily trove of negative numbers that provides grist for attacks on Obama and the Democratic Party."

Sounds fair. But the liberal advocacy group Think Progress came up with this:

"According to the non-partisan Center for Public Integrity, Rasmussen has been a paid consultant for the RNC and President Bush's 2004 campaign. The RNC paid Rasmussen $95,500 between 2003 and 2004 for items listed as 'survey,' 'survey cost' and 'voter data.' Bush's campaign paid Rasmussen $45,500 for 'survey research.'"

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

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Date: Wed, 6 Jan 2010 12:25:09 -0700
Reply-To: Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>
Subject: Re: Is Glenn Beck more admired than the Pope?
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

A quick note that Politifact.com did a nice "fact check" on Dana Milbank's poll reference. It includes a reaction from Frank Newport:


Mark

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

Date:         Wed, 6 Jan 2010 13:36:04 -0600
Reply-To:     "Newport, Frank" <Frank_Newport@GALLUP.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "Newport, Frank" <Frank_Newport@GALLUP.COM>
Subject:      Re: Is Glenn Beck more admired than the Pope?
X-To:         Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>,
               "AAPORNET@ASU.EDU" <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
In-Reply-To:  <LISTSERV%201001061225092013.C399@LISTS.ASU.EDU>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

For those interested, I have reviewed this issue in my blog column here:

http://pollingmatters.gallup.com/

Frank Newport

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Mark Blumenthal
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2010 2:25 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Is Glenn Beck more admired than the Pope?

A quick note that Politifact.com did a nice "fact check" on Dana Milbank's
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http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2010/jan/04/dana-
milbank/milbank-says-americans-admire-glenn-beck-more-they/


Mark

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http://www.aapor.org
Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
signoff aapornet
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What I find more appalling is that anything as simpleminded as that particular USA Today article could be called news reporting.

Frank Newport's comments on his blog are well considered, but unless USA Today was provided similar guidance along with the poll results, I'd have to consider Gallup equally culpable in this matter.

Jan Werner

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signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Not a problem with writing the recommendation. Good luck with finding a mentor.

aa

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> reports as news, not in any way a statement of belief by the author.
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The Charles Cannell Fund in Survey Methodology of the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan was established by students, colleagues and friends of Charlie to honor him as a mentor and to further research and training on the interviewer-respondent interaction and its effects on the val=
In making awards, special emphasis will be placed on efforts to develop social psychological theories, test hypotheses and techniques derived from these theories, and develop techniques for measuring and improving the interaction between the respondent and the interviewer. Preference will be given to proposals that examine respondent and interviewer behavior as opposed to inferring the behavior based on statistical analysis. Possible uses of the funds include, but are not limited to, support related to dissertation research by a graduate student, small experimental studies by graduate students or junior researchers, or visiting scholars conducting related research. Special attention will be given to activities that will produce results that are visible in the field and that will attract or sustain interest in research related to the interaction between the interviewer and the respondent. Awardees will be invited to present findings from their research to the research staff of the Survey Research Center. 

Junior researchers, including Graduate Students, Assistant Research Scientists, Assistant Professors, Research Investigators, and Postdoctoral Fellows are eligible. Other things being equal, preference will be given to graduate students for research or training carried out at the University of Michigan.
Oops! Sorry for mistaken send - should have sent to the Pope and Glenn Beck...

Angela Aidala

On Wed, 6 Jan 2010, Angela A Aidala wrote:

> Not a problem with writing the recommendation. Good luck with finding
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>
> aa
>
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Date: Thu, 7 Jan 2010 12:10:40 -0700
Reply-To: "Matthew A. Vile" <matthew.vile@GOODWILL.ORG>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Matthew A. Vile" <matthew.vile@GOODWILL.ORG>
Subject: 1/2010 Gallup note on ideological affiliation
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable


I'm certain most people on this list noticed this today and didn't think=20=
too much about it. Instead I have a question about the survey methods

"Results are based on aggregated data from Gallup polls conducted in 2009,
each based on telephone interviews with 1,000 or more national adults,
aged 18 and older. For results based on the total sample of 21,905
national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin
of sampling error is ±11 percentage point."

My initial reaction to this paragraph was along the lines of, "that's
nice, but what are the margins for the specific ideology questions and
crosstabs?" What do you think? As I re-read the specific part it sure
sounds like they are saying the margins are +/- 1%.

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I think it's clear that the MOE applies only to the total sample:
",,results based on the total sample of 21,905".

MOEs for sub-samples are rarely stated, although you sometimes see a cautio=
n "results based on less than the total sample" will have larger MOEs.

In the body of the story, a statement of MOE for the total sample appears a=
fter the results by party chart. Should have been placed higher in the stor=
y instead, after a chart of total sample results.

BTW, I get +/- 1.0% for a sample of 10,000.

Nick
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enter, in Yonkers, N.Y., is the largest nonprofit educational and consumer-product testing center in the world. We are a comprehensive source for unbiased advice about products and services, personal finance, health and nutrition, and other consumer concerns. We report on current issues of concern to consumers. Our staff of researchers, editors, and consumer advocates brings you in-depth information on matters that affect your health, your money, and your well-being.

Our advocacy offices and Consumer Policy Institute address the crucial task of influencing policy that affects consumers, which is so integral to Consumers Union's mission. The advocacy offices operate in Washington, D.C., Austin, Texas, and San Francisco, CA and in Yonkers, NY. Our specialized auto test center in Colchester, CT is the largest, most sophisticated consumer-based facility of its kind in the world.

Job Opportunity - Survey Research Associate

Qualifications:

Please note that this is a part-time, limited-duration position, 24 hours per week until May 28, 2010 (flexible schedule).

Bachelor's degree in social or behavioral sciences, marketing, economics or journalism (Graduate degree preferred). Knowledge of a full range of research techniques and analytical tools is essential. Must have three-plus years of experience in all stages of research - from project conceptualization to survey data analysis and presentation of results. Experience with multivariate statistics is a plus. Precision and attention to detail, with both numbers and words, are critical requirements, as this position will involve working with both quantitative and qualitative data. Experience within the media/publishing industry is a plus. Computer/software skills requirements include competence with SPSS, online survey software (e.g. ConfirmIt) and Microsoft Office (especially Excel and Access). Prospective candidates should be able to demonstrate application of research techniques through projects they have completed in academic and/or professional settings.

Responsibilities:

Works jointly with other members of the department as well as client groups in formulating project objectives, writing questionnaires, designing samples, analyzing data, authoring reports and making presentations.

Supervises field operations and data processing, including questionnaire editing and coding.

Link to apply for job -
https://jobs-consumers.icims.com/jobs/intro

Jim Schwartz
Consumer Reports(r) National Research Center
schwji@consumer.org

Great to see someone hiring researchers!

On a sort of related note, have we ever had a debate in this forum on the "opt-in" style of research that CR sometimes does, as with the vehicle evaluations? Some could hypothesize that such methods attract complainers disproportionately and thus distort the findings. "Opt-in" research might also perhaps be subject to manipulation by industry.

Any thoughts? Shouldn't CU switch to probability-based sampling for ALL its data gathering?

Woody
To: AAPORNETH@ASU.EDU

Consumers Union, the publisher of Consumer Reports(r) and ConsumerReports.org(r), is an expert, independent nonprofit organization whose mission is to work for a fair, just, and safe marketplace for all consumers and to empower consumers to protect themselves. Our National Testing and Research Center, in Yonkers, N.Y., is the largest nonprofit educational and consumer product testing center in the world. We are a comprehensive source for unbiased advice about products and services, personal finance, health and nutrition, and other consumer concerns. We report on current issues of concern to consumers. Our staff of researchers, editors, and consumer advocates brings you in-depth information on matters that affect your health, your money, and your well-being.

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>
> Jim Schwartz
> Consumer Reports(r) National Research Center
> schwji@consumer.org
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Date: Thu, 7 Jan 2010 18:36:04 -0500
Reply-To: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Subject: American Psychiatric Association
X-To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
More Americans are being prescribed multiple psychiatric medications for use at the same time, but most people diagnosed with recent depression don't get adequate treatment, according to two independent studies published Monday.

In national surveys of more than 15,000 adults, researchers found that 8.3% met the diagnostic criteria for major depression during the previous year. About half those diagnosed received some form of treatment for depression, but less than a quarter were treated using strategies considered effective and used in accordance with American Psychiatric Association practice guidelines, one study found.

"Few Americans with depression actually get any kind of care, and even fewer get care consistent with the standards of care," said Hector Gonzalez, first author on the study published by the Archives of General Psychiatry and an assistant professor of family medicine, public health and gerontology at...
t Wayne State University in Detroit.

Each year, depression affects about 15 million adults in the U.S., or 6.7% of the population, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. It is the country's leading cause of disability.

With major depression, people experience a consistent and profound feeling of being down, or lack of sense of pleasure, to the point where it affects their daily functioning, such as their ability to eat, sleep and work. Of those who sought treatment, about a third received medication and 44% reported seeking talk therapy.

The factors impeding treatment are still being investigated, but could involve difficulty finding or receiving insurance coverage for care, as well as concern over stigma, according to Dr. Gonzalez. "If you create any type of barrier people will avoid [treatment]," he says.

At the same time, psychiatrists are increasingly prescribing more than one psychotropic drug for patients during a single office visit, according to a separate study also published in the Archives of General Psychiatry.

Analyzing data from 13,000 psychiatric office visits, researchers from Johns Hopkins University and Columbia University found that the percentage of visits in which two or more psychotropic medications were prescribed increased to 60% in 2006 from 43% in 1996. Visits in which three or more drugs were prescribed climbed to 33%, up from 17% a decade earlier.

There isn't any indication that patients are more depressed now than previously, according to the data analyses. And in many cases, there isn't good evidence to show that combining medicines is better than taking just one.

But there is a greater concern about additional side effects, particularly longer-term ones that may not be apparent immediately, according to Ramin Mojtabai, a study author and associate professor of mental health at Johns Hopkins's Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Changes in psychiatric practice, the influence on both patients and physicians of drug industry promotion of medications and the greater comfort of doctors in prescribing these medications may be responsible for the growth in simultaneous prescriptions of multiple psychotropic medications, according to Dr. Mojtabai.

Some doctors may prescribe more drugs in an effort to reduce patients' symptoms, and some may prescribe these medications for purposes not approved by regulators, such as to help patients sleep, Dr. Mojtabai said.

The results from the two papers reflect a larger issue in mental-health care that some people are overtreated while others are undertreated, Dr. Mojtabai said.

"A large proportion of people who are in need of treatment don't receive treatment," he said.

----------------------------------------------------
OK you folks from the UK. What do you know about this one??

Happy New Year!

Susan

----- Original Message -----  
From: SpringBoard <noreply@livestomp.com>
Date: Thursday, January 7, 2010 3:47 pm
Subject: Earn Survey Cash redeemable for cheques or charity!
To: SLOSH <slosh@garnet.acns.fsu.edu>

Hi there,

Make your voice heard! Give your opinions in surveys about everyday topics, and you'll earn cash. Plus, you could win £1000 just for joining!

This is a brand new site that I haven't seen before and looks like its well worth joining up to. Just fill in your details and click the confirmation link in the e-mail they send you to get earning. You'll be sent survey invites regularly by e-mail which you can then take for cash rewards.

Click here for your chance to win!

{NOTE: I haven't clicked on the link and don't intend to; the url appears quite different from this "survey" address so I suspect a hoax or a hack. SCL)

Regards,

Catherine Jones
kate@cashillion.com
Cashillion UK Limited

This is an email from Cashillion UK Limited (Company Number 06727877). Registered in England. Registered Office: Cashillion UK Limited, 197 Streetly Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 7AJ
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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So...I decided to try seeing what "http://www.cashillion.com/" was all about.

Norton blocked this as a hacking attempt. Not a Survey Research outfit.

We are all warned. Ah...the sleaze factor here never ends...

According to other information I pulled up apparently this company runs something akin to Britons Got Talent.
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: Fri, 8 Jan 2010 07:55:06 -0700
Reply-To: Barb Gunderson <bgunderson@AAPOR.ORG>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Barb Gunderson <bgunderson@AAPOR.ORG>
Subject: 2011 Waksberg Award- Nominations
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Posted on behalf of Janice Ballou.

Nominations Sought for 2011 Waksberg Award

The journal Survey Methodology has established an annual invited paper series in honor of Joseph Waksberg to recognize his contributions to survey methodology. Each year a prominent survey statistician is chosen to write a paper that reviews the development and current state of an important topic in the field of survey methodology. The paper reflects the mixture of theory and practice that characterized Joe Waksberg's work.

The recipient of the 2011 Waksberg Award will give the 2011 Waksberg Invited Address at the Statistics Canada Symposium to be held in the autumn of 2011. The paper will be published in a future issue of Survey Methodology.

The author of the 2011 Waksberg Award will be selected by a four-person committee appointed by Survey Methodology and the American Statistical Association. Nominations of individuals to be considered as authors or suggestions for topics should be sent before February 28, 2010 to the chair of the committee, Dan Kasprzyk (DKasprzyk@Mathematica-Mpr.com).

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Date:         Fri, 8 Jan 2010 11:09:25 -0500
Reply-To:     kenneth.steve@DOT.GOV
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         kenneth.steve@DOT.GOV
Subject:      Re: More on Cashillion
X-To:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:  A<f6c389263f9a.4b463610@fsu.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

This doesn't fall into the same category as Cashillion, but I would be interested to hear reactions from other AAPORnetters.

http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100104_3443.php

http://www.surveyonthespot.com/

Best

Kenneth W. Steve, M.S.

Survey Statistician
Office of Survey Programs, E34-431
Bureau of Transportation Statistics
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D. C. 20590
P: (202) 366-4108
F: (202) 366-3640
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Many thanks to all of your for your valuable expertise and advice!

Trent Buskirk
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Bad idea.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Trent Buskirk" <tbuskirk@SLU.EDU>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 10:37 PM
Subject: predictive dialers

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> 
> --
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> Trent D. Buskirk, Ph.D.
> Associate Professor of Biostatistics
> School of Public Health
> Saint Louis University

Jonathan,

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PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:27 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: predictive dialers

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signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
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> > Saint Louis University
> > >
> > Salus Center, 3rd Floor
> > 3545 Lafayette Avenue
> > St. Louis, MO 63104
As well, the devil is in the details...the settings for such dialers can be set to be extremely aggressive--leading to nuisance calls (when you, the potential respondent, say "hello" and hear nothing, because the computer was essentially overly-optimistic as to when an interviewer would be ready to take the call) to quite conservative. However, my understanding is even with the most conservative settings you get some delay when the computer transfers the call to a live interviewer, leading to some nuisance calls. We have done some randomized experiments internally with predictive settings compared to proactive dialing (where the computer still dials but not until an interviewer individually commands it to do so) compared to manual dialing, and there is a clear linear relationship to refusal rates and cooperation rates, with of course manual dialing attaining the highest response rate. That said, of course, predictive dialers, especially when set to aggressive settings, get the best dial rate, which is why it's a method of choice for telemarketers who want to reach as many people in as little amount of labor as possible. But I agree in general for those interested in response rates and quality (as
most of us on AAPORnet are), predictive dialers should be approached with high caution in general, and if used, should be set to the most conservative settings possible.

DD

David Dutwin PhD
Vice President
SSRS/Social Science Research Solutions
484-840-4406
www.ssrs.com

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Paul J Lavrakas PhD
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:55 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: predictive dialers

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PJL

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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:27 AM
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Also, the delay in connection with the interview that the call recipient would typically experience when a predictive dialer is used would likely have a detrimental impact upon cooperation and response rate.

Bad idea.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
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From: "Trent Buskirk" <tbuskirk@SLU.EDU>  
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 10:37 PM  
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3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
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e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
To: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>;
<AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:55 AM
Subject: RE: predictive dialers

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> > From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill
> > Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:27 AM
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A quick question on this topic. Can anyone point to some lit on the relative difference in response rates between predictive and non-predictive dialing?

Thanks,

Cliff

----- Original Message ----- 
From: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu> 
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU> 
Sent: Sat Jan 09 11:40:53 2010 
Subject: Re: predictive dialers 

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>>
The Department of Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), located in Arlington, VA, anticipates immediate openings for individuals with Federal government employment status (current employee or reinstatement eligible) in the survey division (Human Resources Strategic Assessment Program). Positions may be filled at either NSPS pay band 2 or 3. Current (2010) salaries, including local market supplement, are $51,794 to $115,742 for pay band 2 and $98,798 to $155,500 for pay band 3. Under NSPS, we are limited to offering no more than a 5% salary increase to current government employees. For more
information on NSPS, please refer to http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/
DoD will be moving back to the GS system this year with no pay reductions. Ability to obtain and hold a Secret clearance required.

Positions may be filled in multiple job series: Psychologist (0180), Sociologist (0184), or Survey Statistician (1530).

Primary functions of survey research analysts include:
--Applying advanced techniques to requests for quick turnaround statistical analyses that address specific policy questions
--Designing, assembling, and analyzing complex cross sectional and longitudinal survey datasets merged with administrative records
--Planning and executing longitudinal investigations and sophisticated modeling
--Instrument/measure design/pretest/review

Survey research analysts work in teams on personnel surveys supporting the information needs of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. These needs include determining attitudes, opinions, experiences (e.g., gender and racial discrimination and harassment), behaviors, household incomes, voting behaviors, etc., of the military community (e.g., Service members and their spouses). Surveys and studies range in scope and completion time from quick turnaround, single topic surveys, to recurring surveys covering multiple issues, to longitudinal investigations.

Reports are primarily written for non-academic audiences and vary in complexity from routine, simple reporting of univariate results to preparation of reports for senior department officials and the U.S. Congress.

Core competencies at pay band 2 include:
--Mastery of and knowledge of sociology/psychology and quantitative sociological/psychological research methods as it relates to the needs of the Department of Defense (DoD) and how personnel policy and issues are addressed via surveys.
--Mastery of knowledge to perform multiple projects measuring human characteristics.
--Mastery of advanced statistical theories, principles, concepts, methods, techniques, and practices; specialized statistical functions, expert knowledge of statistical (descriptive, inferential, univariate, regression, and other multivariate) techniques commonly used in behavioral science research to analyze data from large-scale, probability based sample surveys to measure attitudes and opinions.
--Experience in applying methods of hypothesis testing and statistical modeling, plus descriptive, inferential, univariate, regression and other multivariate techniques commonly used to analyze data from large-scale, probability-based, cross-sectional and longitudinal sample surveys.
--Comprehensive knowledge of statistical software, such as SAS or SUDAAN, to perform the duties in a dynamic production environment.

In addition to pay band 2 competencies, core competencies at pay band 3 include:
--Thorough knowledge of analysis methods for modeling complex sample data, and applied methods for hypothesis testing and statistical modeling.
--Experience performing and leading the full range of survey analysis tasks.
--Experience providing statistical consultation and advice to researchers or managers and mentoring, training, or providing technical support to coworkers.

For more information please contact Dr. Timothy Elig at timothy.elig@osd.pentagon.mil

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Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.

Date:         Sat, 9 Jan 2010 20:16:43 +0000
Reply-To:     Joe Stead <Joe.Stead@IPSOS.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Joe Stead <Joe.Stead@IPSOS.COM>
Subject:      Re: predictive dialers
X-To:         "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>, "AAPORNET@ASU.EDU" <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
In-Reply-To:  <0B59D9B025804DB5A0A51EB81A913628@USLPT4217>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Jonathan/Paul,

As far as I am aware the only restrictions on Automated Dialling refers to cell phones and also a limit on the proportion of nuisance calls that can be made. The Do Not Call list is not tied to dialling equipment, nor is is the use of dialling equipment placing survey research in with marketing purposes/restrictions.

However I believe the comments regarding delay in calls being transferred to interviewers and lower response rates to be misleading. As well as there being hundreds of dialers available on the market, there are also in turn thousands of software algorithms which determine how the dialer works. The majority of these algorithms can be tweaked by users resulting in thousands and thousands of ways in which dialers can be implemented. It would be impossible for any organisation to effectively evaluate the whole marketplace (despite every dialer vendor claiming they have the best product).

Dialers operate in four main ways:

(1) Preview Dialing: Where the interviewer reads the call history then initiates the call by pressing a button
(2) Power Dialing: Where the dialer will call automatically but only in a 1:1 ratio resulting in no dropped calls/delays
(3) Predictive Dialing: Where the dialer predicts the likelihood of calls to be answered and will dial more numbers than interviewers available.
(4) Hybrid Preview/Predictive: Where the dialer automatically switches between preview and predictive based on predefined criteria. For example calls where there is a known history of someone answering may run in preview, giving the interviewer a chance to see the history, however where there is a history of no replies then the dialer will use predictive to save productivity.

Within predictive differing algorithms can take into account previous call dispositions to assess likelihood to answer, or just looking at time segments of the number of calls answered in the last 5 minutes say to decide how many to dial. Others are completely manual and rely on human adjustment.

Also within predictive there are common user configurable settings:

(1) Time to ring before assuming no reply
(2) If no interviewer available, length of time to hold the call open waiting for an interviewer before terminating
(3) percentage of 'acceptable' nuisance calls which will affect the aggressiveness of dialing

Cliff, for these reasons I would take any research (unless conducted by yourself) on response rates with a pinch of salt as you have no way of knowing the detailed algorithms that were used or how other variables were configured.

Trent, in response to your original query, the starting point is usually the CATI software in use and also the size of the survey unit. If you can follow up with this info then I'd be happy to respond directly with a few pointers.

Joe

From: AAPORNET [AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill [jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU]
Sent: 09 January 2010 16:40
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: predictive dialers

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Feinberg) warned me that even this kind of automated dialing was risky in terms of telemarketing regulation. (I decided to go with the crippled predictive dialer approach, willing to assume what I judged to be a small risk of incurring legal costs and potential penalties to challenge the legislation in court if fines were levied by authorities.) Perhaps Howard would weigh in on this again to help us out on this matter.

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
To: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>;
<AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:55 AM
Subject: RE: predictive dialers

> Jonathan,
> 
> Maybe you meant to specify that predictive dialing violates federal 
> regulations to call cell phone numbers, but it does not in regards to 
> calling landline line numbers and many large survey firms use predictive 
> dialers for many RDD landline studies, regardless of the negative impact 
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> has on their response rates due in part to (1) the noticeable delay in 
> connecting the line to an interviewer and (2) that it precludes 
> interviewers 
> from reviewing the number's call history before placing the call. 
> 
> PJL 
> 
> -----Original Message----- 
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill 
> Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:27 AM 
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU 
> Subject: Re: predictive dialers 
> 
> Trent, 
> 
> Use of predictive dialers for survey research is inappropriate. If you 
> use 
> a dialer, you are subject to telemarketing laws (e.g., Do Not Call List 
> legislation) which could result in huge fines (e.g., $5,000 a call to a 

Also, the delay in connection with the interview that the call recipient would typically experience when a predictive dialer is used would likely have a detrimental impact upon cooperation and response rate.

Bad idea.

Regards,
Jonathan

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> e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message -----
From: "Trent Buskirk" <tbuskirk@SLU.EDU>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 10:37 PM
Subject: predictive dialers

Happy New Year fellow AAPORites!

I am requesting information for a colleague conducting a telephone study of landlines in a particular county in Missouri. She is planning on using a total of 9600 phone numbers for the study and has inquired about the use of predictive dialers. Does anyone know where/which type of device to buy and an estimated cost for a single license/unit?

Many thanks to all of your for your valuable expertise and advice!

Trent Buskirk

--

Trent D. Buskirk, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Biostatistics
School of Public Health
Saint Louis University
Salus Center, 3rd Floor
3545 Lafayette Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63104
Voice: 314-977-8127
Fax: 314-977-3534

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Date: Sat, 9 Jan 2010 16:27:18 -0500
Reply-To: David Dutwin <ddutwin@SSRS.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Cliff and others,

Offhand I am not aware of any literature...and out of curiosity I ran a basic search in EbscoHost and found nothing of note.

As far as our own research, let me assure anyone interested that it was a clean, randomized trial of three settings: manual, power (proactive), and a predictive setting typically used in market research. It was for internal research to make cost-benefit decisions on the wide range of studies done at ICR and SSRS, from market research to policy research. I make no claims from its results other than what I said before...we found a strong linear relationship in refusal rate. Perhaps it is time to consider making such research public (and expanding it), since there is such interest in the topic!

Anyway I agree with Joe: Again the devil is in the details of the particular settings used.

DD

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Clifford Young
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 11:50 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: predictive dialers

A quick question on this topic. Can anyone point to some lit on the relative difference in response rates between predictive and non-predictive dialing?

Thanks,

Cliff

----- Original Message -----
From: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Sat Jan 09 11:40:53 2010
Subject: Re: predictive dialers

Paul,

I actually did not mean to limit my comments to cell phone numbers and, perhaps I am mistaken or my memory is hazy on this, but I do seem to recall checking into this quite carefully when I was setting up a CATI facility at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ several years ago. My understanding was that use of any kind of automated dialing at all, whether
used to call POTS (landlines) or cell phones, runs the risk of placing survey research under the umbrella of Do Not Call List legislation. I ended up using a predictive dialer in manual mode - which allowed display of call history and ensure there could be no delay (because there had to be a 1 to 1 correspondence of outgoing lines to interviewers) and essentially served like a push button dialer on your home phone since the interviewer would push a button to tell the dialer to dial the number. The cost of the dialer was worth it because it gave us a whole host of analytical capabilities in terms of sample performance and management that we would not have been able to achieve with the CATI system otherwise. But the folks at CASRO (Howard Feinberg) warned me that even this kind of automated dialing was risky in terms of telemarketing regulation. (I decided to go with the crippled predictive dialer approach, willing to assume what I judged to be a small risk of incurring legal costs and potential penalties to challenge the legislation in court if fines were levied by authorities.) Perhaps Howard would weigh in on this again to help us out on this matter.

Regards,
Jonathan

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Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
To: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>;
<AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:55 AM
Subject: RE: predictive dialers

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> from reviewing the number's call history before placing the call.
> 
> PJL
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> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill

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Bad idea.

Regards,

Jonathan

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Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu
Date: Sat, 9 Jan 2010 18:42:56 -0500
Reply-To: "Miriam L. Gerver" <mgerver@GMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Miriam L. Gerver" <mgerver@GMAIL.COM>
Subject: Usability of e-government web forms (including surveys) around the world
I am working on a presentation about usability of e-government web forms (including surveys) around the world (including the U.S.) for a conference this Spring, and am looking for additional research to supplement what I have already. (I do usability and cognitive testing for the U.S. Census Bureau business surveys.) The presentation will highlight best practices for e-government web forms based on usability research in different countries. If you work, or have worked, on e-government web surveys and have research you'd be willing to share with me, I'd greatly appreciate it. I would obviously be happy to give you credit for whatever you share with me, and would only share whatever I have your permission to share.

Thank you,
Miriam Gerver

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* Identifying and recommending data collection and processing methods, tools, technologies, and suppliers.

* Issuing requests for vendor costs, helping recommend and select suppliers, negotiate prices and vendor contracts.

* Supervising data collection and processing functions (quantitative) and recruitment efforts for focus groups and in-depth interviews (qualitative) to ensure adherence to quality control processes.

* Reviewing and updating internal and vendor quality control standards and procedures.

* Communicating project progress and discussing any issues with project teams.

* Educating and informing staff on emerging quantitative and qualitative methods, tools, technologies and suppliers.

* Meeting with new suppliers to uncover and discover new methods and relationships that could enhance KRC’s product offerings.

The Director will work closely and collaboratively with KRC’s leadership and project managers to ensure appropriate methodological recommendations, tools, and suppliers are utilized and research is implemented accurately and with high quality.

Qualifications & Requirements

* 5 years or more of primary research experience and a minimum of 2 years experience directly associated with field management and vendor relationship building.

* Ability to provide recommendations and counsel on various quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

* Ability to understand and apply a wide variety of advanced statistical analysis.

* Ability to manage a team of up to 3 people and handle multiple projects in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment.

* Ability to build positive and mutually beneficial relationships with suppliers and sub-contractors.

* Strong organizational skills and the ability to work with all levels of management.

B.A. or M.A. in related field, e.g., public opinion or market research, business management or other behavioral sciences; graduate degree preferred.

* Full working knowledge of Microsoft applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, etc.)

Must be authorized to work in the United States and have the ability to travel for business purposes.
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Mr. Chris Lawrence
jobs@krcresearch.com

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Date: Sun, 10 Jan 2010 14:45:31 -0500
Reply-To: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Michael Koger <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Subject: Intimate partner violence survey
X-To: aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
boundary="-----_Part_22475_13454030.1263152731961"

------=_Part_22475_13454030.1263152731961
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/123196830/HTMLSTART

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Date: Sun, 10 Jan 2010 14:40:48 -0500
Reply-To: "Sr." <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Comments: RFC822 error: <W> More than one sender was specified. Second and following senders discarded.
From: "Sr." <mkoger@ALUM.MIT.EDU>
Subject: Wiley InterScience Content Link
X-To: aapornet@asu.edu

The following link to content from Wiley InterScience has been sent to you by Michael Koger, Sr. <mkoger@alum.mit.edu>

Women's "Justification" of Domestic Violence in Egypt
Journal of Marriage and Family
http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/123196830/HTMLSTART
Iain Noble
Research and Enterprise Service (RES)
University of Westminster
Room G1
4-12 Little Titchfield Street
London W1W 7UW

Tel: 0207 911 5000 Ext 2651
Mobile: 0753 832 8523

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Susan Losh
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2010 7:29 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: More on Cashillion

So...I decided to try seeing what "http://www.cashillion.com/" was all about.
Norton blocked this as a hacking attempt. Not a Survey Research outfit.

We are all warned. Ah...the sleeze factor here never ends...

According to other information I pulled up apparently this company runs something akin to Britons Got Talent.

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
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On your return send this: set aapornet mail
While flattered at being mentioned by folks on AAPORNENET, I am director
do...
It is also necessary to review whether or not there is an applicable state autodialer law. Some state laws are more stringent than the federal law. In this instance, Missouri does not have an applicable state autodialer law and as a result the TCPA only applies.


And you can contact our General Counsel, LaToya Lang, with further questions (cc'ed above).

Cheers,
Howard Fienberg, PLC
Director of Government Affairs
Marketing Research Association (MRA)
howard.fienberg@mra-net.org
1111 16th St. NW, Suite 120
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 775-5170
Fax: (202) 775-5172
http://www.mra-net.org

Disclaimer: The information provided in this message is for guidance and informational purposes only. It is not intended to be a substitute for legal advice. MRA advises all parties to consult with private legal counsel regarding the interpretation and application of any laws to your business.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Joe Stead
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 3:17 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: predictive dialers

Jonathan/Paul,

As far as I am aware the only restrictions on Automated Dialling refers to cell phones and also a limit on the proportion of nuisance calls that can be made. The Do Not Call list is not tied to dialling equipment, nor is the use of dialling equipment placing survey research in with marketing purposes/restrictions.

However I believe the comments regarding delay in calls being transferred to interviewers and lower response rates to be misleading. As well as there being hundreds of dialers available on the market, there are also in turn thousands of software algorithms which determine how the dialer works. The majority of these algorithms can be tweaked by users resulting in thousands and thousands of ways in which dialers can be implemented. It would be impossible for any organisation to effectively evaluate the whole marketplace (despite every dialer vendor
claiming they have the best product).

Dialers operate in four main ways:

(1) Preview Dialing: Where the interviewer reads the call history then initiates the call by pressing a button
(2) Power Dialing: Where the dialer will call automatically but only in a 1:1 ratio resulting in no dropped calls/delays
(3) Predictive Dialing: Where the dialer predicts the likelihood of calls to be answered and will dial more numbers than interviewers available.
(4) Hybrid Preview/Predictive: Where the dialer automatically switches between preview and predictive based on predefined criteria. For example calls where there is a known history of someone answering may run in preview, giving the interviewer a chance to see the history, however where there is a history of no replies then the dialer will use predictive to save productivity.

Within predictive differing algorithms can take into account previous call dispositions to assess likelihood to answer, or just looking at time segments of the number of calls answered in the last 5 minutes say to decide how many to dial. Others are completely manual and rely on human adjustment.

Also within predictive there are common user configurable settings:

(1) Time to ring before assuming no reply
(2) If no interviewer available, length of time to hold the call open waiting for an interviewer before terminating
(3) percentage of 'acceptable' nuisance calls which will affect the aggressiveness of dialing

Cliff, for these reasons I would take any research (unless conducted by yourself) on response rates with a pinch of salt as you have no way of knowing the detailed algorithms that were used or how other variables were configured.

Trent, in response to your original query, the starting point is usually the CATI software in use and also the size of the survey unit. If you can follow up with this info then I'd be happy to respond directly with a few pointers.

Joe

From: AAPORNET [AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Jonathan E. Brill [jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU] 
Sent: 09 January 2010 16:40 
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU 
Subject: Re: predictive dialers 

Paul,
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Regards,
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Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Paul J Lavrakas PhD" <pj lavrak@optonline.net>
To: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>; <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 10:55 AM
Subject: RE: predictive dialers

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PJL

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Bad idea.

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e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

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Many thanks to all of you for your valuable expertise and advice!

--

Trent D. Buskirk, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Biostatistics
School of Public Health
Saint Louis University

Salus Center, 3rd Floor
3545 Lafayette Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63104

Voice: 314-977-8127
Fax: 314-977-3534

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY

Job Description:
The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (Center) has an outstanding career opportunity for an Assistant Director, California Health Interview Survey. The Center is one of the nation's leading health policy research centers and the premier source of health policy information for California. Established in 1994, the Center is based in the School of Public Health and affiliated with the School of Public Affairs.

The Assistant Director will manage and be responsible for a variety of critical functional areas of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), the nation's largest state health survey. CHIS is conducted by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in collaboration with the California Department of Public Health, Department of Health Care
Services, and the Public Health Institute. CHIS is supported by grants and contracts from many major public agencies and foundations. Major responsibilities include:

* Oversight, tracking, and coordination of project deliverables, operations of a secure Data Access Center (DAC), and delivery/receipt of CHIS data products to/from funders and others.

* Assist in the management of multiple contracts, ensuring compliance with programmatic terms and conditions and directing the activities of several staff.

* Contributor to the direction of future enhancements to the operations, design, implementation, and dissemination of CHIS.

Qualifications:

* Degree in Biostatistics, Statistics, Social Survey Research, Sociology, or a relevant Public Health field, with a minimum of three years of increasing responsibility in social and/or health surveys.

* Demonstrated knowledge of statistical methods and administration of survey projects.

* Experience working with SAS, SPSS, or other statistical programs.

* Demonstrated experience in project management and the management of a data collection project.

* Demonstrated skills in financial planning and budget management.

* Excellent writing and analytic skills required.

* Supervisory experience. Demonstrated ability to develop, plan and direct the work of support staff.

* Experience in survey instrument design, development and testing, preferred

Compensation:
Full-time, contract position. Salary: $5070 - $9126 monthly, dependent on experience. Excellent benefits. EOE.

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I encourage anyone who will be in New York City next Tuesday to attend this informative and I believe entertaining session.
Exploring the Visual Presentation of Data
A presentation by the New York Times Graphics Department
Tuesday, January 19, 2010

Each day, The New York Times uses information graphics in print and on the Web to present data, tell stories and make information more understandable for more than a million readers.

Matthew Ericson, Deputy Editor of The New York Times graphics department, will explain the process behind information graphics at The Times, from choosing which stories to explain visually, reporting and visualizing data, and marshalling a staff of 25 editors, reporters and cartographers to produce the graphics.

Tuesday, January 19, 2010
6:00-6:30pm Registration/Networking
6:30-8:00pm Program
at
The New York Times
620 Eighth Avenue (40th and 41st Streets)
15th Floor

This event is Free to NYAAPOR members and student members
Non-members - $20.00

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Visit our website, www.nyaapor.org to learn about upcoming events.

*******************************
Joe Lenski
Executive Vice President
edison research

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 Date: Tue, 12 Jan 2010 08:14:31 -0700
 Reply-To: Barb Gunderson <bgunderson@AAPOR.ORG>
 Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
 From: Barb Gunderson <bgunderson@AAPOR.ORG>
 Subject: Job Posting: Research Analyst
Arbitron Inc. is a media and marketing research firm serving radio broadcasters, cable companies, advertisers, advertising agencies and outdoor advertising companies. Arbitron’s core businesses are measuring network and local market radio audiences across the United States; surveying the retail, media and product patterns of local market consumers; and providing application software used for analyzing media audience and marketing information data. The Company has developed the Portable People Meter, a new technology for media and marketing research.

Through our Scarborough Research joint venture, Arbitron also provides additional media and marketing research services to the broadcast television, newspaper, out-of-home and online industries.

We are looking for a Research Analyst, to join our Panel Research Methods team located in Columbia, MD.

**Primary Duties**

Responsible for supporting the development, documentation and communication of research standards and practices pertaining to Arbitron’s worldwide media and marketing research services. Including research related to the domestic and international deployment of the Portable People Meter (PPM) system, the development and testing of new panel research methods and special studies designed to support Arbitron’s entry into new markets. May also assist in conduct of data cleaning, data processing and report generation for wide variety of research projects.

Specific duties include:

- Assist in designing, implementing and managing pilot studies, methods experiments, detailed secondary analyses and related activities to support the development of new research services. Including primary data analysis activities.
- Assist in preparing detailed project plans, written reports and statistical analyses describing findings from research tests and secondary analyses. This includes reports for internal documentation purposes as well as reports for clients and other external uses.
Supporting Arbitron marketing and business expansion objectives by participating in the development of detailed written technical proposals for new research services.

Assist in preparing presentations for clients and industry groups on topics pertaining to Arbitron research activities and findings.

Skills/Experience Requirements:

Four-year degree in a related field required (Research Methods, Statistics, Sociology, Psychology). Specific academic training in survey research methods and statistical analysis strongly preferred.

Two years work experience in an applied research setting, or equivalent education (MA/MS).

Experience with survey design, including data collection processes (e.g. questionnaire design, sampling, data preparation and processing, and performance calculations).

Strong computer skills, including expertise in SPSS, and/or SAS and/or Access. Excel, Word, and PowerPoint skills also necessary.

Excellent written and oral communication skills, with demonstrated performance in both areas.

Strong analytic and problem-solving skills, including knowledge of statistical tools and principles.

We believe a company is only as good as its people. Our mission is to create a diverse workplace where each individual is valued and respected.

We offer a comprehensive employment package, including competitive compensation, excellent health care plans, 401K matching, tuition assistance, stock purchase, skill development, flexible work environment and more.

Immigration Sponsorship will not be available for this position.

Send your resume to: opsjobs@arbitron.com or Fax: 410-312-8607 Arbitron Inc., Attn: OE Recruiter, 9705 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD. 21046

Visit us at www.arbitron.com!!

Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V
CALL FOR PAPERS: TOTAL SURVEY ERROR

Public Opinion Quarterly seeks submissions for a 2010 special issue of the journal devoted to total survey error.

The total survey error concept emphasizes the interactions among multiple error sources arising from the measurement process, nonresponse, the sampling frame, the sampling process and data processing. Papers that deal with only one source of error (such as nonresponse bias or measurement error variance) are discouraged. Some examples of topics that are solicited in this call include but are not limited to:

* simultaneous evaluations of the contributions to survey error of two or more error sources; for example, the interaction between nonresponse and measurement errors;

* methods for reducing the errors from multiple sources though optimal survey design and post-survey statistical adjustments;

* methods for simulating the effects of multiple error sources on the data quality;
reviews of the literature and meta-analyses of total survey error and its impact on survey methodology;

new methods for simultaneously estimating the multiple components of the total mean squared error;

reports on efforts to evaluate total survey error in complex surveys;

uses of prior estimates of nonsampling error in the design of new surveys or for allocating resources for survey error reduction;

trade-offs among the components of total survey error; for example, the trade-off between sampling variance and nonsampling bias; and

exemplary studies of nonsampling error components and their findings.

Highly technical papers are acceptable as long as they provide ample translation into language accessible by a less technical audience.

The deadline for manuscript submissions is February 15, 2010. To submit a manuscript, please follow the manuscript preparation instructions provided at the journal's website.

Blinded and unblinded electronic copies of the paper should be submitted online at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/poq, and it should be clearly stated in a cover letter that the manuscript is for consideration of the total survey error special issue. Submissions will be peer-reviewed in accord with normal journal practice. For queries about this special issue, please feel free to contact special guest editor, Paul P. Biemer at ppb@rti.org.

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We have a job opening for a project director in the Special Projects Group at YouGovPolimetrix. This group is responsible for all academic and health outcomes studies at YouGovPolimetrix.

I’ve posted the description below. Please forward this ad to anybody you think may be interested. If you have any questions about the position, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
Sam Luks

-----

Survey Project Director
Location: Palo Alto, CA

We are seeking an experienced and enthusiastic candidate to join our Special Projects team as a project director. This team is responsible for all academic and health outcomes studies at YouGovPolimetrix.

The survey project director's primary responsibilities are:
* Oversee survey research projects from start to finish
* Delegate tasks and responsibilities to appropriate personnel
* Direct survey analysts on survey design, sampling, and deliverable production
* Communicate and advise clients on project progress.
* Creation of methodological reports for survey projects

This position requires an energetic individual with the ability to adapt to a dynamic workplace and to manage many different projects simultaneously.

Strong communication and analytical skills are essential.

Qualifications

Candidates should have the following qualifications:
* Bachelor's degree (Master's or higher preferred) in a social science or quantitative field
* Minimum 2-4 years experience in a survey research environment
* Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and meet deadlines consistently within a high-speed environment
* Strong analytical skills, including the ability to analyze data and develop recommendations
* Aptitude with statistical packages and data management tools (e.g. R, SAS)
SPSS, Stata) = 20
* Prior experience or training in survey research and market research is mandatory = 20
* Experience with SQL desirable

The ideal candidate has performed quantitative research in either an academic or professional environment. Candidate should have a distinguished academic record.

The office is located within walking distance from the Palo Alto Caltrain station.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to: jobs@polimetrix.com.

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The Southern Association of Public Opinion Research (SAPOR) will hold its 2nd Annual Mid-Year Event on Thursday, March 25, at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel in downtown Atlanta, Georgia. Mansour Fahimi, Ph.D, will lead a short course on address-based sampling from 2:00-5:00 p.m. A cocktail reception will follow from 5:00-6:00 p.m., featuring an open bar, hors d'oeuvres, and musical entertainment. Mario Callegaro, Ph.D, will provide a keynote speech on the decade's most important methodological advances in survey research from 6:00-7:00 p.m. To see more details and register for the event, visit the SAPOR website: http://www.southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/annual_conference.htm

For those who are interested in being a sponsor for the event, see our marketing prospectus at this link: http://www.southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/docs/2010_%20Mid-Year_Marketing_Prospectus.pdf

Please share our event flyer with your colleagues and students:
http://www.southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/docs/SAPOR_Mi
It appears that long url addresses are not compatible with this listserv. To view details about the SAPOR 2nd Annual Mid-Year event, please see our website at www.southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org Under "What's New" is a link for the 2010 Mid-Year Event. From the Mid-Year Event page there are separate links for the flyer, the marketing prospectus, registration information, accommodations, etc.

Thanks for your patience!
Kristine Fahrney
SAPOR President

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Fahrney, Kristine
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2010 9:37 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Southern Association of Public Opinion Research 2nd Annual
Mid-Year Event in Atlanta, GA
The Southern Association of Public Opinion Research (SAPOR) will hold its 2nd Annual Mid-Year Event on Thursday, March 25, at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel in downtown Atlanta, Georgia. Mansour Fahimi, Ph.D, will lead a short course on address-based sampling from 2:00-5:00 p.m. A cocktail reception will follow from 5:00-6:00 p.m., featuring an open bar, hors d'oeuvres, and musical entertainment. Mario Callegero, Ph.D, will provide a keynote speech on the decade's most important methodological advances in survey research from 6:00-7:00 p.m. To see more details and register for the event, visit the SAPOR website: http://www.southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/annual_conference.htm

For those who are interested in being a sponsor for the event, see our marketing prospectus at this link: http://www.southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/docs/2010_%20Mid-Year_Marketing_Prospectus.pdf

Please share our event flyer with your colleagues and students: http://www.southernassociationforpublicopinionresearch.org/docs/SAPOR_Mid-YearEvent.pdf

Hope to see you there!

Kristine Fahrney
SAPOR President

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Date: Wed, 13 Jan 2010 10:22:02 -0500
Reply-To: Eric Plutzer <exp12@PSU.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Eric Plutzer <exp12@PSU.EDU>
Colleagues: I need to scan the original (unabridged) essay by Converse on mass belief systems for a seminar I am teaching this semester.

Unfortunately, all of our library's copies of the Apter book are penciled in fairly heavily. I am hoping that perhaps somebody has, and would be willing to share, a readable PDF version that was scanned for electronic course reserves.

If so, please reply to me (not the list): Plutzer@psu.edu

Thanks!
Eric

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

Eric Plutzer, Professor of Political Science
and Academic Director, Survey Research Center
The Pennsylvania State University

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We have an international mail study. We would normally include postage paid return business reply envelope in the mail packet. We are grappling with the issue of return postage internationally as U.S. postal permits may not be accepted in all countries. Would appreciate any guidance in this regard.

Thanks much.

Chintan Turakhia
Have you considered including an incentive in lieu to reimburse the respondent for the cost of postage and ask them to kindly remember to affix the necessary stamps on the envelope when they mail the survey back?

--

Safaa R. Amer, PhD
Senior Statistician
Department of Statistics and Methodology
NORC at the University of Chicago

----- Original Message ----- 
From: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu> 
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU> 
Sent: Wed Jan 13 10:10:18 2010 
Subject: International Return Postage 

We have an international mail study. We would normally include postage paid return business reply envelope in the mail packet. We are grappling with the issue of return postage internationally as U.S. postal permits may not be accepted in all countries. Would appreciate any guidance in this regard.

Thanks much.
I don't think I've seen any discussion on the new Precision Polling offering (http://www.precisionpolling.com/home), so I figured I'd start one.

The tech geek in me says that this is an extremely cool idea. The entrepreneur in me says that it could be a great way to exploit the IVR niche. The researcher in me says that this may just be the worst thing to hit surveying since somebody came up with the idea of SUGging and, if moderately successful, could become a catalyst for even greater regulation of phone-based interviewing.
I'm so conflicted.

Thoughts?

---

Mike Donatello
Director, Research
USA TODAY
7950 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, VA 22108
V 703.854.4572   F 703.854.2165
mdonatello@usatoday.com

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Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 9.0.725 / Virus Database: 270.14.138/2618 - Release Date: 01/13/10 =
02:35:00

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-----------------------------AVGMAIL-5B33109E-----------------------------
Interesting.

Many states already have laws regulating how, when and who (pollsters, candidates or whoever) can use IVR to make contacts/polls, while Precision Polling does not really mention that. Wonder if naive user ends up calling in a state or time they are not supposed to.

In terms of the price, looks like it is slightly more expensive than other IVR vendors, but for a small project, it might suite well...

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Mike Donatello
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 08:34
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Precision Polling: IVR gone Frankenstein?

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I'm so conflicted.
While I certainly can't speak to methodology concerns, Masahiko is correct that many states regulate or severely restrict automated calls.
I'm busy lobbying to hold back the wave of similar legislation in other states and at the federal level:

If you need more info on the different existing state laws, I recommend contacting our general counsel, LaToya Lang. Also, MRA members get free access to the Compliance Guide, which has that info for the federal and every state jurisdiction.

Cheers,
Howard Fienberg, PLC
Director of Government Affairs
Marketing Research Association (MRA)
howard.fienberg@mra-net.org
1111 16th St. NW, Suite 120
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 775-5170
Fax: (202) 775-5172
http://www.mra-net.org

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Masahiko Aida
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 9:03 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Precision Polling: IVR gone Frankenstein?

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Thoughts?

---

Mike Donatello
Director, Research
USA TODAY
7950 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, VA 22108
V 703.854.4572   F 703.854.2165
mdonatello@usatoday.com
Serious issues have surfaced about Strategic Vision LLC’s political polls.

They’re all the more serious because they - and other polls - are widely used as reporting tools by the news media, including the Morning News.

Statistician-blogger Nate Silver and pollster-journalist Mark Blumenthal say the Georgia firm may simply make up its numbers. That is, without doing any polls.

The American Association for Public Opinion Research also has criticized the firm, which releases poll figures for Georgia and other states.

Others claim Strategic Vision CEO David Johnson has failed to give credible answers - or any at all - about some aspects of his operations.

SNIP

Some pollsters include cross-tabs with their results; others supply them
only to paying clients. Until now, Johnson has said he's among the latter.

But he's opted for a nod to critics who say his lack of transparency raises suspicions that he may have at least cut some corners.

He's provided the Morning News cross-tabs for a recent Georgia survey. And says he'll provide them to the news media with a survey his firm plans to conduct later this month.

No doubt, they'll be scrutinized by experts.

In the meantime, some parting thoughts.

The prospect that a major pollster long may have gotten away with cooking numbers is troubling.

But there is an equally troubling prospect.

It's that - if he did - his numbers were about as good - or a bit better - than ones from most supposedly legit pollsters.

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

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Birth Defects the Top Worry of Moms-to-Be
Mon Dec 14, 11:48 pm ET
MONDAY, Dec. 14 (HealthDay News) -- Birth defects, preterm birth, breastfeeding and eating sushi are a few of the many concerns of pregnant women, according to a new March of Dimes survey.

The poll of about 1,200 mothers found that the leading cause of worry was birth defects (78 percent), followed by concern that stress in their life might harm their baby's health (74 percent) and wondering whether their baby would be born too soon (71 percent).

About 70 percent said they thought about the pain of childbirth, 55 percent said they worried they wouldn't get to the hospital on time, 60 percent were concerned they wouldn't be able to breast-feed successfully, 59 percent wondered about their ability to lose weight after delivery and 59 percent also worried about getting pregnant in the first place. The leading food-related concern was sushi and fish (61 percent).

The findings were presented Dec. 9 at a meeting of the March of Dimes National Communications Advisory Council.

"Women should discuss all their questions with their doctors and should be concerned about their overall health -- quit smoking, control their blood pressure, weight and any chronic diseases, such as diabetes -- before they become pregnant so they will have a better chance at a healthy pregnancy," Dr. Diane Ashton, deputy medical director of the March of Dimes, said in a news release.

More information

The U.S. National Women's Health Information Center has more about having a healthy pregnancy.

http://womenshealth.gov/pregnancy/
Thanks to Leo Simonetta for sharing this interesting article.

It does seem to me, however, that this article muddies the waters in a few ways.

"Some analysts say the surplus sevens and eights might be a red flag but also note that Silver didn't do similar analyses of polls by other survey takers."

But Silver did do a comparison analysis:


One might argue that this analysis is not definitive but it would appear that some of the analysts here didn't do their homework. Since Silver puts all this stuff on a blog it is, in fact, pretty easy to do this homework. The reporter should have rather than just citing analysts (who are they anyway?) on this.

David Johnson's response to the last-digit analysis is:

"That's just the way the numbers came out," Johnson countered. "It reflected the responses we got."

But that's not really much of a counter. The trick would be to explain why one should not be surprised by such strong deviations from a uniform distribution on final digits that the estimates of Strategic Vision polls display.

Finally, Strategic Vision has apparently conducted a new poll and provided cross tabs to at least some people who will apparently check these out. This is very nice but there seems to be an implicit assumption here that if these cross tabs check out then that would provide some evidence that earlier polls were not fabricated. Such an assumption would make little sense. A roughly analogous situation would be that I stand accused of robbing banks so I transparently enter a bank with people observing me and refrain from robbing it. This wouldn't really prove that I haven't robbed banks before. It would be more convincing if Strategic Vision were to provide crosstabs on the polls that Nate Silver analyzed that display strange patterns in their trailing digits.

Mike Spagat
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Steve Koczela notes that Mark Blumenthal has already responded. Work is really getting in the way of my Googling.

Strategic Vision: Yet Another Promise of Crosstabs

Mark Blumenthal | January 11, 2010

http://www.pollster.com/blogs/strategic_vision_yet_another_p.php
or
http://tinyurl.com/ydwmrvo

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

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The Office of Survey Methods Research (OSMR) in the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has two vacancies for job candidates interested in investigating survey measurement error and conducting cognitive and methodological research. Detailed information about the job can be

If you have any questions about the job posting, please contact the following person:

Oscar Iraheta
Phone: 202-691-6606
Fax: 202-691-6606
TDD: 202-691-7835
Email: DOORS@bls.gov

Thanks,
Kathy

Kathy Downey, Ph.D.
Research Psychologist
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Phone: 202-691-7382
Fax: 202-691-7426

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-------------------------------------------------------------------------
Date: Thu, 14 Jan 2010 10:34:59 -0700
Reply-To: Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>
EXCLUSIVE: Rasmussen Breaks Up Bar Fights
In an exclusive profile interview with FrumForum, pollster Scott Rasmussen discusses the coming launch of Pulse, a service that will allow anyone to commission a national poll for only $600. In the face of ongoing controversy about his loyalties, he also talks about his political leanings and his upcoming book, In Search of Self-Governance, as well as the path that took him from being a founder of sports broadcasting giant ESPN to becoming a leading expert in the realm of public opinion.

Read more:
http://www.frumforum.com/scott-rasmussen-breaks-up-bar-fights

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Survey Research Scientist position available at Google Inc. Mountain View, CA

*This position is based in Mountain View, CA.*

http://www.google.com/support/jobs/bin/answer.py?answer=145739
The area: Marketing

The Google Marketing team is responsible for marketing the company's exceptional product portfolio to end users, partners and customers on a worldwide basis. Our approach is to embrace the strength of our products and
pace of innovation to drive marketing programs that are as entrepreneurial, data-driven and respectful of our users as Google itself. We have a variety of roles, including product marketing, creative services, event management, quantitative marketing and field marketing.

The role: Survey Research Scientist

The Survey Research Scientist will have the opportunity to design, execute, and analyze complex surveys across the most important parts of Google's business and products, globally. This effort involves applying the latest research methods to complex surveys and combining results with transactional data to improve understanding. You will be expected to accomplish this work in a dynamic, fast changing business environment by collaborating with other analysts, sales associates, product managers, and engineers.

Responsibilities:

- Apply advanced statistical methods.
- Apply and research the latest survey research methods.
- Work with large, complex data sets and solve difficult, non-routine problems.
- Clearly communicate highly technical results and methods.
- Interact cross-functionally with a wide variety of people and teams.

Requirements:

- PhD in Statistics, Biostatistics, or Survey Research required or relevant work experience.
- Experience with sample design, missing data/imputation, non-response.
- Experience with manipulating large data sets.
- Proficient with R, SAS, SQL etc.
- Experience with longitudinal data and causal methods a plus.

All interested applicants must apply via this link:

--
Mario Callegaro Ph. D.
Survey Research Scientist
Google Inc.
1600 Amphitheatre Pkwy
Mountain View, CA 94043

http://www.aapor.org
Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Date: Thu, 14 Jan 2010 15:06:45 -0500
Reply-To: MMichaels@MichaelsResearch.com
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Yikes! What the release below didn't mention or understand was....

"The poll was conducted Nov. 6 to Nov. 13, 2009 using the online software Zoomerang. There were 123 valid responses from the 1,224 women from the March of Dimes Moms e-Panel and March for Babies Family Teams who were invited by email to answer the 65 questions. Some 90 percent of the women surveyed have a child who was born preterm. Nearly two-thirds of the respondents are employed, about 60 percent are between the ages of 25 and 34, 90 percent have children under the age of five and 95 percent had attended some college. The survey was written by Betty Wolder Levin, Ph.D., professor of Public Health, Graduate Center of the City University of New York."

--Maureen Michaels

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Michael Koger
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 12:20 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Maternal concerns during pregnancy

Birth Defects the Top Worry of Moms-to-Be
Mon Dec 14, 11:48 pm ET
MONDAY, Dec. 14 (HealthDay News) -- Birth defects, preterm birth, breast-feeding and eating sushi are a few of the many concerns of pregnant women, according to a new March of Dimes survey.

The poll of about 1,200 mothers found that the leading cause of worry was birth defects (78 percent), followed by concern that stress in their life might harm their baby's health (74 percent) and wondering whether their baby would be born too soon (71 percent).

About 70 percent said they thought about the pain of childbirth, 55 percent said they worried they wouldn't get to the hospital on time, 60 percent were concerned they wouldn't be able to breast-feed successfully, 59 percent wondered about their ability to lose weight after delivery and 59 percent also worried about getting pregnant in the first place. The leading food-related concern was sushi and fish (61 percent).
The findings were presented Dec. 9 at a meeting of the March of Dimes National Communications Advisory Council.

"Women should discuss all their questions with their doctors and should be concerned about their overall health -- quit smoking, control their blood pressure, weight and any chronic diseases, such as diabetes -- before they become pregnant so they will have a better chance at a healthy pregnancy," Dr. Diane Ashton, deputy medical director of the March of Dimes, said in a news release.

More information

The U.S. National Women's Health Information Center has more about having a healthy pregnancy.

http://womenshealth.gov/pregnancy/

http://www.aapor.org
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

With respect to the Strategic Vision affair, the most surprising thing to me is how little David E. Johnson seems to understand about polls, how they are conducted and what data they provide. In a few hours, and
armed with little more than a spreadsheet and some Census data, a reasonably experienced researcher can easily create a phony dataset that will pass just about any statistical test designed to unmask fraud.

Given a genuine survey dataset, crosstabs can help determine whether the data collected can be considered useful or not, but by themselves, crosstabs cannot provide any indication of whether a dataset is genuine to begin with.

In the absence of far greater standards of transparency, the public has absolutely no way of knowing whether most polls are what they seem to be, other than blind faith in the integrity of the pollsters themselves. That is not a good place to be for an industry that likes to think of itself as based on scientific principles.

Jan Werner

Spagat, M wrote:
> Thanks to Leo Simonetta for sharing this interesting article.
> 
> It does seem to me, however, that this article muddies the waters in a few ways.
> 
> "Some analysts say the surplus sevens and eights might be a red flag but also note that Silver didn't do similar analyses of polls by other survey takers."
> 
> But Silver did do a comparison analysis:
>
>
> One might argue that this analysis is not definitive but it would appear that some of the analysts here didn't do their homework. Since Silver puts all this stuff on a blog it is, in fact, pretty easy to do this homework. The reporter should have rather than just citing analysts (who are they anyway?) on this.
>
> David Johnson's response to the last-digit analysis is:
>
> "That's just the way the numbers came out," Johnson countered. "It reflected the responses we got."
>
> But that's not really much of a counter. The trick would be to explain why one should not be surprised by such strong deviations from a uniform distribution on final digits that the estimates of Strategic Vision polls display.
>
> Finally, Strategic Vision has apparently conducted a new poll and provided cross tabs to at least some people who will apparently check these out. This is very nice but there seems to be an implicit assumption here that if these cross tabs check out then that would provide some evidence that earlier polls were not fabricated. Such an
> assumption would make little sense. A roughly analogous situation would
> be that I stand accused of robbing banks so I transparently enter a bank
> with people observing me and refrain from robbing it. This wouldn't
> really prove that I haven't robbed banks before. It would be more
> convincing if Strategic Vision were to provide crosstabs on the polls
> that Nate Silver analyzed that display strange patterns in their
> trailing digits.
>
> Mike Spagat
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNENET [mailto:AAPORNENET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
> Sent: 14 January 2010 16:38
> To: AAPORNENET@ASU.EDU
> Subject: Strategic Vision
>
> Political Notes: Poll's credibility under fire
> Savannah Morning Post
>
> -under-fire
> or
>
> http://tinyurl.com/ycsqht5
>
> Serious issues have surfaced about Strategic Vision LLC's political
> polls.
> They're all the more serious because they - and other polls - are widely
> used as reporting tools by the news media, including the Morning News.
>
> Statistician-blogger Nate Silver and pollster-journalist Mark Blumenthal
> say the Georgia firm may simply make up its numbers. That is, without
> doing any polls.
>
> The American Association for Public Opinion Research also has criticized
> the firm, which releases poll figures for Georgia and other states.
>
> Others claim Strategic Vision CEO David Johnson has failed to give
> credible answers - or any at all - about some aspects of his operations.
>
> SNIP
>
> Some pollsters include cross-tabs with their results; others supply them
> only to paying clients. Until now, Johnson has said he's among the
> latter.
But he's opted for a nod to critics who say his lack of transparency raises suspicions that he may have at least cut some corners.

He's provided the Morning News cross-tabs for a recent Georgia survey. And says he'll provide them to the news media with a survey his firm plans to conduct later this month.

No doubt, they'll be scrutinized by experts.

In the meantime, some parting thoughts.

The prospect that a major pollster long may have gotten away with cooking numbers is troubling.

But there is an equally troubling prospect.

It's that - if he did - his numbers were about as good - or a bit better - than ones from most supposedly legit pollsters.

--

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

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__________ Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus
signature database 4771 (20100114) __________

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

http://www.eset.com
Dear AAPOR colleagues:

I'd like to call your attention to two new survey research positions that have just been posted at the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. The Pew Forum seeks to promote a deeper understanding of issues at the intersection of religion and public affairs. It has an ambitious survey research agenda, including both U.S. and international surveys.

One position is relatively senior:

http://pewresearch.org/docs/?DocID=3D110

The other is a research assistant position:

http://pewresearch.org/docs/?DocID=3D112
The job descriptions include information about how to apply.

Scott

Scott Keeter

Pew Research Center / 1615 L St. N.W., Suite 700 / Washington, DC 20036

202-419-4362

skeeter@pewresearch.org / http://pewresearch.org /
http://people-press.org

Personal website http://pollcats.net

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The Department of Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), in Arlington, VA, has multiple, immediate positions in the survey division. DMDC is seeking individuals with Federal government employment status (current employee or reinstatement eligible). Positions may be filled at either NSPS pay band 2 or at pay band 1 with promotion potential to 2. Current (2010) salaries, including local market supplement, are $33,528 to $81,612 for pay band 1 and $50,800 to $116,315 for pay band 2. Under NSPS, we are
limited to offering no more than a 5% salary increase to current
government employees. For more information on NSPS, please refer to

DoD will be moving back to the GS system in May 2010 with no pay
reductions.

Ability to obtain and hold a Secret clearance required.

Mathematical statisticians are responsible for planning and executing
the approved statistical designs for personnel surveys supporting the
information needs of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. These
needs include determining attitudes, opinions, experiences (e.g. gender
and racial discrimination and harassment), behaviors, household incomes,
voting behaviors, etc. of the military community (e.g., Service members
and their spouses) Surveys and studies range in scope and completion
time from quick turnaround, single topic surveys; to recurring surveys
covering multiple issues; to longitudinal investigations. Employees
participate in overall planning of assigned surveys, including initial
negotiations to develop requirements, establish general specifications
and detailed time schedules.

Employees design, develop and adapt mathematical methods and techniques
for survey sampling and analyses of complex sample data. Position
applies mathematical statistical theory in an applied setting to the
practice of frame development, sample design and selection, weighting,
imputation, variance estimation, disclosure analysis, data masking and
methodological documentation.

Core competencies at entry level (entry pay band 1) include:
--Basic understanding and familiarity with the concepts, theories,
practices, methodologies, etc., of Mathematical Statistician work
pertaining to probability-based survey sample designs and weighting.
--Ability to communicate orally and in writing.
--Ability to apply analytical skills to specialist-level work.
--Ability to develop and maintain data files for sampling and analysis.

Financial support for continuing graduate education can be provided to
build to competencies required at the full performance (top of pay band
2) level:
--Mastery of advanced mathematical and statistical concepts, practices
and principles in applying this knowledge to statistical procedures for
full responsibility for complex probability survey sampling and
weighting.
--Knowledge of applied methods for hypothesis testing and statistical
modeling, plus descriptive, inferential, univariate, regression and
other multivariate techniques commonly used to analyze data from
large-scale, probability-based, cross-sectional and longitudinal sample
surveys.
--Comprehensive knowledge of analytical software, such as SAS or SUDAAN,
to perform the duties in a dynamic production environment.
On 1/15/10 8:45 AM, "Tim Elig" <timothy.elig@verizon.net> wrote:

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> has multiple, immediate positions in the survey division. DMDC is seeking
> individuals with Federal government employment status (current employee
> or reinstatement eligible). Positions may be filled at either NSPS pay
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--Mastery of advanced mathematical and statistical concepts, practices and principles in applying this knowledge to statistical procedures for full responsibility for complex probability survey sampling and weighting.
--Knowledge of applied methods for hypothesis testing and statistical modeling, plus descriptive, inferential, univariate, regression and other multivariate techniques commonly used to analyze data from large-scale, probability-based, cross-sectional and longitudinal sample surveys.
--Comprehensive knowledge of analytical software, such as SAS or SUDAAN, to perform the duties in a dynamic production environment.

------ End of Forwarded Message

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Date: Fri, 15 Jan 2010 15:57:53 -0500
Reply-To: rfunk787@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "G. Ray Funkhouser" <rfunk787@AOL.COM>
I've been waiting all day for someone to post this, guess I'll have to.


We pollsters do stick together, don't we?

Ray Funkhouser

Stanford University seeks a social scientist to work on a survey research project entitled "Understanding Public Opinion About Education."

We are seeking a social scientist to join our team in carrying out a series of public opinion surveys about the ways the American public, and especially Hispanics and young people, view education.

The project will bring together Stanford’s
leading experts on education policy and public opinion surveys, and education reporters and editors from the news media to collaborate on innovative surveys about education issues. The project is being developed with the cooperation of The Associated Press, the world’s largest independent news organization with a daily audience of almost half the world’s population. The project will include rarely done surveys of Hispanics and young people and tackle issues that few public opinion surveys have tackled before.

The Understanding Public Opinion About Education Project is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

We are seeking a researcher to join our staff and to contribute to all aspects of running the project. We do data analysis and manuscript writing for publication. We design questionnaires. We test the functioning of questionnaires that will be administered via computers and orally to assure that they are effective measurement tools. And we edit data files, analyze data, conduct methodological research, supervise data collection firms, manage a budget, and conduct administrative tasks.

Our new staff member will accomplish this work collaboratively with the study’s Principal Investigators and research assistants.

The new staff member’s work will include:

·      Working collaboratively with a multidisciplinary team of researchers.
·      Writing, editing, and reviewing questionnaires and their programming specifications.
·      Testing computer implementation of questionnaires.
·      Reviewing and analyzing data files using statistical software (SPSS, Stata, or R).
·      Preparing data files for analysis.
·      Writing, editing, and reviewing survey documentation and reports.
·      Managing and monitoring the activities of firms doing data collection.
·      Supervising undergraduate research assistants.
·      Managing administrative tasks for the project.
·      Co-authoring journal articles for publication.
Collaborating with Associated Press personnel.

Qualifications desired:

- Doctoral degree in a quantitative social science (e.g., political science, psychology, sociology, communication, economics, statistics) or a related field.
- Experience conducting social science research.
- Proficiency using statistical software (e.g., SPSS, Stata, or R).
- Experience planning and conducting surveys.
- Experience writing social science articles for academic journal publication.
- Expertise in one or more of the following areas: Statistical data analysis, questionnaire design, research methodology, project management, education.

The position is a full-time, exempt, term appointment for 12 months, with full benefits, with the possibility of extension, dependent on availability of funding.

The position will be filled as soon as possible.

To apply, go to:

http://jobs.stanford.edu/index.html

click on "Job Search" on the left side.

Search for 36901 by typing that number into the "Keyword Search" box.

Click on "Academic Research and Program Officer"

Go to the bottom of the page and click "Apply".

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Date: Sun, 17 Jan 2010 17:25:24 -0500
Reply-To: jwerner@jwdp.com
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jan Werner <jwerner@JWDP.COM>
Organization: Jan Werner Data Processing
Subject: Report from Ground Zero
X-To: AAPORNET <aapornet@asu.edu>
From today's Boston Globe:

s_of_senator_election_outcome_in_mass/

or

http://tinyurl.com/y96cclh

As a citizen of the Commonwealth, I am relieved to know that, in a little more than 48 hours, we will be able to answer our telephones again. At this point, no-one with Caller ID would dare pick up on a call from an unknown number. So far this weekend, Bill Clinton and Joe Biden are among the politicians who have left lengthy messages on our answering machine and there have been at least a dozen unidentified callers who did not leave any message at all.

I will admit that I was intrigued by one call from area code 202 identified as P30PLRSCH, but it came while we were out. It turns out to be from an anti-abortion political action group (Americans in Contact PAC - http://www.americansincontact.org ), clearly attempting to pass themselves off as pollsters.

For all the bloviating about how this special election is a harbinger of national trends, that's not what it looks like around here.

Martha Coakley is a singularly unappealing candidate who won a primary with a ridiculously low turnout -- not even a single vote was cast at several polling places here in Berkshire County, where she grew up! -- against three opponents most people had never heard of, and then sat back to wait for her election to the Senate.

Scott Brown is a photogenic character who was the quiet beneficiary of immense expenditures, mostly from out-of-state groups opposed to health care reform. Until this past week, I doubt many Massachusetts voters had any idea who he was or what he stood for, beyond the fact that he looks a little like Mitt Romney.

Whatever happens on Tuesday, it certainly won't indicate that Massachusetts is shifting one way or another. If Coakley loses, it will be a reflection on her own lack of political acumen. If she wins, it will be because the national Democratic party noticed in enough time to help overcome her inadequacies. Either way, it won't say much about the 2010 midterm election.

No trend here folks! Move along!

Jan Werner
As a member of AAPOR Executive Council, I am in the process of organizing a new working committee for AAPOR that would focus on the use of survey-based evidence in legal proceedings. The preliminary charge of the group is to make recommendations on how to improve the manner in which the reliability and validity of survey-based evidence is evaluated in legal proceedings. AAPOR's current long-term plan explicitly calls for the Association to address the educational needs of courts and attorneys to better understand
the reliability and validity of survey research findings:

"Survey data are used in the courts in a number of different ways, ranging from information to determine damage estimates in single-plaintiff cases to large class-action lawsuits and patent-infringement cases. Lawyers both commission new data collection efforts in support of their case and hire experts to critique the work of others. Although the Manual on Scientific Evidence provides a chapter entitled "Survey Research," no published manual can stay up to date with respect to standards of practice." (AAPOR. 2006. REPORT OF THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, p. 10).

I am seeking a few volunteers who have experience with legal proceedings that involve survey-based evidence and who would be willing to serve on this important task force in 2010 and 2011. I especially encourage members who may not regularly participate on AAPOR committees to volunteer.

If you would be willing to be considered for membership in this new working committee, please email me at pjlavrak@optonline.net, with a brief summary of your relevant background and interests.

Thanks, PJL

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Press Release

Survey Says Consumers Hungry for Accurate Nutrition Information

Friday, January 15, 2010

From Weight-loss Cookies to Acai Diet Drinks: Many Consumers Have Trouble Finding Accurate Online Nutrition Information, American Dietetic Association=

Survey Says=20
CHICAGO – A new survey from the American Dietetic Association shows more than 60 percent of people have trouble finding accurate food and nutrition information on the Internet, while nearly eight in 10 are interested in locating reliable online sources of nutrition information.

According to ADA’s online survey of more than 1,000 adults, nearly seven in 10 people visit two or three Web sites when using the Internet to find food and nutrition information and virtually everyone surveyed believes the information they find online is reliable and trustworthy.

Unfortunately, we know from experience that not all sites are created equal and not all food and nutrition information you find online is reliable, said registered dietitian and ADA Spokesperson Dawn Jackson-Blatner.

From weight-loss cookies to acai diet beverages, there are countless Web sites promising magic cures. ADA’s survey shows consumer interest in food and nutrition information is high, and we need to be concerned about the credibility of online sources, said Blatner.

You wouldn’t take advice from someone who walked up to you on the street and told you all of your health concerns could be solved with a special food item, Blatner said, but that is essentially what people are doing when they take nutrition advice from some of these Web sites.

Findings of ADA’s survey include:

- 61 percent of adults say they have trouble, at least sometimes, finding accurate food and nutrition information on the Internet.
- 78 percent are interested in finding new, reliable sources of online information.
- Fewer than 1 percent of respondents answered “no” to the question “Do you feel that the food/nutrition information you get on the Internet is reliable and trustworthy?”
- Seeking out reliable information from experts such as registered dietitians gives consumers their best opportunity to make healthful nutrition choices, Blatner said. The American Dietetic Association’s completely redesigned Web site, www.eatright.org, contains a wealth of science-based information and advice for the public on eating well and optimizing health. Whether you want to know if a best-selling diet book is worth the money or are seeking ways to cut salt out of your diet, ADA’s site should be in every consumer’s list of bookmarks and favorite sites when seeking food and nutrition advice.

You don’t want to pin your health on just any site to show...
up on a Google search, Blatner said. You deserve the best information written by the experts in food and nutrition registered dietitians of the American Dietetic Association.

ADA’s survey was conducted online in December 2009 by Impulse Research with a random sample of 1,041 men and women 18 and older. The overall sampling error rate for this survey is plus-or-minus 3 percent at the 95 percent confidence level.

The American Dietetic Association is the world’s largest organization of food and nutrition professionals. ADA is committed to improving the nation's health and advancing the profession of dietetics through research, education and advocacy. Visit the American Dietetic Association at www.eatright.org

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----------=_Part_3602_12146746.1263833575847--
Date: Mon, 18 Jan 2010 14:34:39 -0500
Reply-To: "Link, Michael W" <Michael.Link@Nielsen.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Link, Michael W" <Michael.Link@Nielsen.COM>
Subject: Need suggestions for good text on clustering effects in surveys
X-To: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@asu.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Looking for a good text or article that describes the potential effects of clustering under two different conditions: (1) in area probability samples that cluster homes within sampled geographic areas and (2) for instances where all eligible members of a household are surveyed (i.e., household flooding). Thanks!

Michael

Michael W. Link, Ph.D.
VP Methodological Research/Chief Methodologist
The Nielsen Company

1145 Sanctuary Parkway, Suite 100
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Michael.Link@Nielsen.com
Prof. Stanley Kelley, Jr. passed away Sunday Jan. 17 at age 83.

There is an obit on the Princeton University website under "news."

- Mike Kagay
- Kagay@nytimes.com

I have known several cell-only couples that added a landline (wireline or VoIP) for safety purposes when they added a child to their family. Landlines are more likely to work during disasters than cell phones and also have an address associated with the telephone number that is displayed when 911 calls are made, so I think this makes sense. This could partially explain why cell-only households are so much less likely than their landline counterparts to have children present in the home. Does anyone know of any data related to this issue?

thanks,

Lynda Voigt
Lynda F. Voigt, Ph.D.
Cancer Epidemiology Research Cooperative
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Seattle, WA
206 667-4519

Lynda,

I do not have any specific data to support your intuition, however, our latest paper in Survey Practice (http://surveypractice.org/2009/12/09/topology-landline-sample/) sheds further light on the fact that the US telephony is not what it used to be when telephone-based surveys (particularly list-assisted RDD) became popular. Until the new realities are better understood, it behooves us to use phraseology such as what you have: "this could partially explain......"

_Mansour.

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Voigt, Lynda
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 6:30 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Adding landlines?

I have known several cell-only couples that added a landline (wireline or VoIP) for safety purposes when they added a child to their family. Landlines are more likely to work during disasters than cell phones and also have an address associated with the telephone number that is displayed when 911 calls are made, so I think this makes sense. This could partially explain why cell-only households are so much less likely than their landline counterparts to have children present in the home.

Does anyone know of any data related to this issue?

thanks,

Lynda Voigt

Lynda F. Voigt, Ph.D.

Cancer Epidemiology Research Cooperative

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Seattle, WA

206 667-4519

Lvoigt@fhcrc.org
Lynda,

No data regarding your hypothesis. But as a member of a cell-only-household-with-a-landline-for-emergency I will offer an observation.

We had the option for setting up our landline for local calls only, thus we can neither make nor receive long distance calls. This has completely eliminated marketing and survey calls. Before this change we were getting 2-4 unsolicited calls a day (that we knew about).
Best,
John

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To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
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Lynda Voigt

Lynda F. Voigt, Ph.D.
Cancer Epidemiology Research Cooperative
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Seattle, WA
206 667-4519

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Dear Colleagues,

Please circulate/share as appropriate.

Thanks,

Vish Viswanath

K. Viswanath, Ph. D.
Department of Society, Human Development and Health
Harvard School of Public Health
Department of Medical Oncology
Dana Farber Cancer Institute

LW 630, 44 Binney Street Boston, MA 02115
Tel: (617) 632-2225
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www.viswanathlab.org

SURVEY METHODOLOGIST
Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School
The Clinical Research Program (CRP) at Children's Hospital Boston (CHB) and Harvard Medical School, in collaboration with the Center for Population Sciences at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI) seeks a PhD-level Survey Methodologist at the level of Instructor, Assistant, or Associate Professor to provide research support for investigators conducting observational studies and clinical trials throughout Children's Hospital and DFCI. We are seeking to increase our capacity to support survey-based research through the growth of our Survey Research Core (SRC), and at the same time to build a collaborative relationship with clinical and population researchers at DFCI.
This individual will work approximately half-time with the faculty and staff of the CRP SRC, and half-time with the Data Technologies Core within the Center for Population Sciences at DFCI. She or he will provide survey design expertise and scientific leadership in the development of grant applications and support of ongoing studies; interact with clinical investigators and research staff on measurement issues, sample development, survey/questionnaire design, and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data including psychometric evaluation of instruments; pursue new opportunities for programmatic growth and research funding; and participate in teaching seminars on survey research topics to faculty and trainees.

Qualified candidates must have a doctorate in the social and behavioral sciences, or a closely related field such as psychology, epidemiology, or public health. In addition, candidates must have some postdoctoral experience (3 or more years) in conducting research involving all aspects of sampling, survey design, implementation and analysis. Additional analytical and technical skills should include knowledge of statistical software, as well as of qualitative analysis software such as NVivo. The successful candidate should have a record of collaborative research along with peer-reviewed publications, and excellent communications skills. Faculty appointment will be at the Harvard Medical School in a clinical department relevant to the candidate's expertise. Rank will be commensurate with experience, training and achievement.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter describing their background and experience, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references via email to Harold.Thurston@childrens.harvard.edu (or Harold Thurston, Clinical Research Program, Children's Hospital Boston, 300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115). Applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School are Equal Opportunity Employers. Women and underserved minorities are encouraged to apply.
NEW YORK -- Americans are more than twice as likely to express prejudice against Muslims than they are against Christians, Jews or Buddhists, a new survey found. Nearly two-thirds of Americans say they have little or no knowledge of Islam. Still, a majority dislike the faith.

The analysis, for release Thursday, is from the Gallup World Religion Survey and is part of a project on finding ways to increase understanding between Americans and Muslims.

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

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Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text: signoff aapornet  
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---
Date: Thu, 21 Jan 2010 09:31:12 -0500
Reply-To: "Timothy D. MacKinnon" <tim.mackinnon@RUTGERS.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "Timothy D. MacKinnon" <tim.mackinnon@RUTGERS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Another shocking poll finding
X-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <3248A9B21DD5574785FE5E2C8E521684F10173@exchange.local.artscience.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This poll would shock one person for sure, Brit Hume

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 9:21 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Another shocking poll finding

More bias in US against Muslims than other faiths

By RACHEL ZOLL
The Associated Press
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/20/AR201001
2005728_pf.html
or
http://tinyurl.com/y9npncy

Wednesday, January 20, 2010; 11:39 PM

NEW YORK -- Americans are more than twice as likely to express prejudice against Muslims than they are against Christians, Jews or Buddhists, a new survey found. Nearly two-thirds of Americans say they have little or no knowledge of Islam. Still, a majority dislike the faith.

The analysis, for release Thursday, is from the Gallup World Religion Survey and is part of a project on finding ways to increase understanding between Americans and Muslims.
Least we think that negative evaluations of Muslims are only a post-9/11 effect, it is worth noting that a Gallup poll in 1990 ranked Muslims as the group Americans least wanted as neighbors and in the 2000 General Social Survey Muslims ranked last of 12 ethno-religious groups in their perceived contribution to America. Other pre-9/11 polls show similar results.

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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 8:21 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Another shocking poll finding

More bias in US against Muslims than other faiths

By RACHEL ZOLL
The Associated Press
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/20/AR2010012005728_pf.html
NEW YORK -- Americans are more than twice as likely to express prejudice against Muslims than they are against Christians, Jews or Buddhists, a new survey found. Nearly two-thirds of Americans say they have little or no knowledge of Islam. Still, a majority dislike the faith.

The analysis, for release Thursday, is from the Gallup World Religion Survey and is part of a project on finding ways to increase understanding between Americans and Muslims.

SNIP

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

Hi,

1) I found the following sentence in the article:
"Personally knowing a Muslim is not linked to a lower level of prejudice, although not knowing a Muslim is related to the greatest level of bias". Can somebody explain??
2) The situation in the U.S. seems quite similar to the situation in many European countries. I remember having seen similar figures for Belgium many years ago. However, we have to be careful about how the questions are asked and what they reflect concretely. Saying that I have a little prejudice against Muslims is perhaps "honest" in a situation where Muslims are under scrutiny the way they are in the media nowadays. It seems more "socially acceptable" to admit having some prejudice against Muslims than against Buddhists or Jews.

Best,

Best,

>Le 09:42 2010-01-21, vous avez écrit:
>>Least we think that negative evaluations of Muslims are only a post-9/11 effect, it is worth noting that a Gallup poll in 1990 ranked Muslims as the group Americans least wanted as neighbors and in the 2000 General Social Survey Muslims ranked last of 12 ethno-religious groups in their perceived contribution to America. Other pre-9/11 polls show similar results.
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>>Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 8:21 AM
>>To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
>>Subject: Another shocking poll finding
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>>More bias in US against Muslims than other faiths
>>
>>By RACHEL ZOLL
>>The Associated Press
>>http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/20/AR2010012005728_pf.html
>>or
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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

Claire Durand,
professeur titulaire
Claire.Durand@umontreal.ca
Site Web:
<http://www.mapageweb.umontreal.ca/durandc>
514-343-7447
Great point Tom. The tendency is to think of our times as unique -- or at least write the press release that way.

John Nienstedt
Sent from my Treo

-----Original Message-----
From: Smith-Tom <smitht@NORC.UCHICAGO.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 6:40 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Another shocking poll finding

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Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 8:21 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
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The Associated Press
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/20/AR201001
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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: Thu, 21 Jan 2010 11:04:55 -0800
Reply-To: Jon Krosnick <krosnick@STANFORD.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Jon Krosnick <krosnick@STANFORD.EDU>
Subject: 2010 Summer Institute in Political Psychology
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed
2010 Summer Institute in Political Psychology

Stanford University will host the 2010 Summer Institute in Political Psychology (SIPP) this coming summer. Directed by Stanford Professor Jon Krosnick, SIPP is a three-week intensive training program introducing graduate students and professionals to the world of political psychology scholarship.

SIPP was founded in 1991 at Ohio State University, and Stanford has hosted SIPP since 2005, with support from Stanford University and from the National Science Foundation. Hundreds of participants have attended SIPP during these years.

The 2010 SIPP curriculum will be designed to accomplish one preeminent goal: to produce skilled, creative, and effective scholarly researchers who would do more and better work in political psychology as the result of their attendance at SIPP. To achieve this goal, the training experience is designed to: 1) provide broad exposure to theories, empirical findings, and research traditions; 2) illustrate successful cross-disciplinary research and integration; 3) enhance methodological pluralism; and 4) strengthen institutional networks.

The schedule of activities mixes lectures with opportunities for students to talk with faculty lecturers and with each other in structured and less formal atmospheres. Some of the topics covered in past SIPP programs include race relations, conflict and dispute resolution, voting and elections, international conflict, decision-making by political elites, moral disengagement and violence, social networks, activism and social protest, political socialization, and justice.

On-line applications are being accepted now. For more information, please visit the SIPP website at www.stanford.edu/group/sipp.
Census Figures Challenge Views of Race and Ethnicity

By SAM ROBERTS
Published: January 21, 2010

or
http://tinyurl.com/yenn6ah

New census figures that provide a snapshot of America's foreign-born population are challenging conventional views of immigration, race and ethnicity.

What it means to be African-American, for example, may be redefined by the record number of blacks - now nearly 1 in 10 - born abroad, according to the report from American Community Survey data, which was released Wednesday. It found that Africa now accounts for one in three foreign-born blacks in this country, another modern record.

More than 1 in 50 Americans now identify themselves as "multiracial."
But the pattern of race reporting for foreign-born Americans, is markedly different than for native-born Americans. The foreign born are more likely to list their nation of origin when identifying race or ethnicity.

For example, while 87 percent of Americans born in Cuba and 53 percent born in Mexico identified themselves as white, a majority born in the Dominican Republic and El Salvador, who are newer immigrants, described themselves as neither black nor white.

SNIP

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

----------------------------------------------------
http://www.aapor.org
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
========================================================================
Date:         Fri, 22 Jan 2010 13:03:58 -0500
Reply-To:     Melissa Marcello <mmarcello@PURSUANTRESEARCH.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Melissa Marcello <mmarcello@PURSUANTRESEARCH.COM>
Subject:      RNC "Official Census"
X-To:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Today my husband, who is not registered Republican, received an "official census" from the RNC with a letter signed by Michael Steele. It is hardly a "census," but rather is obviously a fundraising campaign with a request for a donation to offset the data processing costs. While it is not unusual certainly for organizations to mask fundraising efforts as research, I found the "official census" language to be an affront (and ironic), for so many reasons that are probably obvious to all on this list.

Does AAPOR's public affairs group have an official response to things like this?

Thanks!
Melissa

Melissa Marcello
President
pursuant research

DATA - DRIVEN STRATEGY

Please note our new address as of July 1, 2009:
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Suite 300, PMB 386
Washington, DC 20006
d: 202.887.0070
c: 202.352.7462
f: 800.567.1723
<mailto:mmarcello@pursuantresearch.com> mmarcello@pursuantresearch.com

Visit our Website at <http://www.pursuantresearch.com>
www.pursuantresearch.com
Would you mind making a pdf of the entire document and sending it to us so we can see what you are referring to.

MS

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

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Melissa Marcello
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:04 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: RNC "Official Census"

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Visit our Website at <http://www.pursuantresearch.com>

www.pursuantresearch.com

http://www.aapor.org


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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
Subject: Re: RNC "Official Census"
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU

I received one of these last week. Blogged about it briefly and meant to post here about it, but forgot.

I never got around to scanning the image -- my scanner wouldn't cooperate that day, but my blog post is here:


I kinda describe the envelope, etc.

----------------------
Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
and Mass Communication
University of Georgia
barry@uga.edu
www.barryhollander.com
www.whatpeopleknow.com

----------------------------------------------------
http://www.aapor.org
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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

On the blog posting
I just added an image of the "census" envelope I received in the mail.

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Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
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On the blog posting

I just added an image of the "census" envelope I received in the mail.

If you need a copy of ours, too, would be happy to share it.
M

Melissa Marcello
President
pursuant research
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d: 202.887.0070
c: 202.352.7462
f: 800.567.1723
mmarcello@pursuantresearch.com

Visit our Website at www.pursuantresearch.com
-----Original Message-----
From: Michael Sullivan [mailto:michaelsullivan@fscgroup.com]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:04 PM
To: Melissa Marcello; AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: RE: RNC "Official Census"

Would you mind making a pdf of the entire document and sending it to us so we can see what you are referring to.

MS

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

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Melissa Marcello
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:04 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: RNC "Official Census"

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Call me simple minded, but I just assumed that it was a federal crime to misrepresent documents sent to households as part of the Census. Is that not the case?

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

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Barry Hollander
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:46 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: "Census" mailing

On the blog posting
I just added an image of the
"census" envelope I received
in the mail.

----------------------
Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
and Mass Communication
University of Georgia
barry@uga.edu
www.barryhollander.com
www.whatpeopleknow.com

http://www.aapor.org
Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Date:         Fri, 22 Jan 2010 14:21:44 -0500
Reply-To:     "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>
Subject:      Re: "Census" mailing
X-To:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:  <28CCEB02B0B64D4091ED6FD17DF5716918379CB843@EX-BE-024-
SV1.shared.themessagecenter.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed; charset="iso-8859-1";
              reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for the posting of the envelope image.

It would be helpful to have the contents of the envelope accompanying it for
viewing as well.

After all, from the envelope, who is to say that is not a US Bureau of the Census document inside?

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Michael Sullivan" <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:00 PM
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

> Call me simple minded, but I just assumed that it was a federal crime to
> misrepresent documents sent to households as part of the Census. Is that
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>
> MS
>
> Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
> Chairman
> Freeman, Sullivan & Co.
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Barry Hollander
> Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:46 AM
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> Subject: "Census" mailing
>
> On the blog posting
> I just added an image of the
> "census" envelope I received
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> ----------------------
> Barry Hollander
> Grady College of Journalism
> and Mass Communication
> University of Georgia
> barry@uga.edu
> www.barryhollander.com
> www.whatpeopleknow.com
>
> ----------------------
> http://www.aapor.org
> Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Not to dissuade anyone from taking action, but if you search the listserv archives, this activity has been reported to this list several times - dating back to 2004.

Good luck.

Nick

To access the archives you will need the e-mail you registered and a password.

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:21:44 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

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Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

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> > ---------------
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> >
> > http://www.aapor.org
> > Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
> > Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to:
> > aapornet-request@asu.edu
> >
>
My girlfriend received this mailing last week. It was sent to her address in Virginia's 8th congressional district. The mailing included a letter from Michael Steele and the survey (identified as the Census in the letter).

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Melissa Marcello
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:52 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: RNC "Official Census"

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President  
pursuant research  
DATA - DRIVEN STRATEGY

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Washington, DC 20006  
d: 202.887.0070  
c: 202.352.7462  
f: 800.567.1723  
mmarcello@pursuantresearch.com

Visit our Website at www.pursuantresearch.com

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From: Michael Sullivan [mailto:michaelsullivan@fscgroup.com]  
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:04 PM  
To: Melissa Marcello; AAPORNET@ASU.EDU  
Subject: RE: RNC "Official Census"

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Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D.  
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Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:04 AM  
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Melissa

Melissa Marcello
President
pursuant research

DATA - DRIVEN STRATEGY

Please note our new address as of July 1, 2009:

1701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Suite 300, PMB 386
Washington, DC 20006

d: 202.887.0070
c: 202.352.7462
f: 800.567.1723

mailto:mmarcello@pursuantresearch.com
mmarcello@pursuantresearch.com

Visit our Website at <http://www.pursuantresearch.com>
www.pursuantresearch.com

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http://www.aapor.org
Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
Search words: Republican census

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:36:54 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Not to dissuade anyone from taking action, but if you search the listserve archives, this activity has been reported to this list several times - dating back to 2004.

Good luck.

Nick

To access the archives you will need the e-mail you registered and a password.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:21:44 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Thanks for the posting of the envelope image.

It would be helpful to have the contents of the envelope accompanying it for viewing as well.

After all, from the envelope, who is to say that is not a US Bureau of the Census document inside?

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Call me simple minded, but I just assumed that it was a federal crime to misrepresent documents sent to households as part of the Census. Is that not the case?

MS

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

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Barry Hollander
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:46 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: "Census" mailing

On the blog posting http://bit.ly/5HhnzN
I just added an image of the "census" envelope I received in the mail.

Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
and Mass Communication
University of Georgia
barry@uga.edu
www.barryhollander.com
www.whatpeopleknow.com

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

http://www.aapor.org
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3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

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From: "Michael Sullivan" <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>  
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:00 PM  
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

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KRC Research sponsored and designed a nationally representation survey of 1,000 adults to learn how the U.S. public is responding to the earthquake in Haiti and the horrible aftermath. Braun Research conducted interviews by telephone on Jan. 18-20, 2010.

The survey offers insights into the degree to which people are paying attention to the issue, where they're getting information, how closely they feel connected, and how they're engaging and contributing.

This is an interesting snapshot of an outpouring of compassion to help the people of a neighboring nation in the face of tragedy. Learn more here:


Best regards,

Mark David Richards

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Mark,

I may have missed the following information about the survey, but if it was not in the posted source documents, can it be made available?

1. Whether this was a landline only RDD survey or did it also include an RDD
cell phone sample? If so, in what balance was the cell and landline samples, and were all contacted by cell numbers eligible for interview or was there some form of screening?
2. The wording of the Introduction used by interviewers.

I applaud an investigation of this topic, but would need to learn more about these aspects of the methodology before deciding how reliable/valid the findings likely are to be.

Thanks, PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Mark David Richards
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 9:01 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake

KRC Research sponsored and designed a nationally representation survey of 1,000 adults to learn how the U.S. public is responding to the earthquake in Haiti and the horrible aftermath. Braun Research conducted interviews by telephone on Jan.18-20, 2010.

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Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
Hi Paul,
=C2=A0
Certainly. In response to your request:
=C2=A0
1. This was a landline only RDD telephone survey. Data was weighted to reflect the demographic distribution of the adult population (18+) based on census data.
2. The introduction was as follows:
=E2=80=9dHello. My name is ____________, and I=E2=80=99m calling from KRC Research, a survey research company. We=E2=80=99re conducting a public opinion study in your area about important issues in the news, and I=E2=80=99m very much like to have the opinions of someone in your household. I am not selling anything, and I won=E2=80=99t ask for any contributions or donations. May I speak with the (youngest/oldest) (man/woman) in your household, age 18 or older, who is at home right now?
3. The response rate was 29.5% (using AAPOR method for calculating).
We=E2=80=91l add additional methodological information about this survey to the page with the other information provided on our website.
Let me know if you have additional questions.
Mark

--- On Sat, 1/23/10, Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@optonline.net> wrote:

From: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
Subject: RE: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake
To: mark@markdavidrichards.com, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2010, 6:57 AM

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not in the posted source documents, can it be made available?

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MS

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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Colleen Porter
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:57 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

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When my non-public-opinion-professional husband got home last night, he ranted about this for some time. He made the point that this tactic is particularly egregious in an actual decennial year, when folks are expecting "official Census" materials to arrive in their mailbox any day.

He complained on his Facebook page, drafted a letter to the editor of our local newspaper, went online and de-registered as a Republican, and of course sent back an outraged note in the postage-paid envelope provided.

So it isn't just professionals in our field who are unhappy about this, but people from all walks of life and political persuasions who care about honesty. Just to put it into context. (BTW, he begged AAPOR to use what influence we have to do "something" about this--although I tried to explain some of the challenges that Don Ferree articulated so
well.)

Colleen Porter
Gainesville, FL

On Sat, Jan 23, 2010 at 2:32 PM, Michael Sullivan wrote:
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Vacation hold? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
set aapornet nomail
On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date:         Sat, 23 Jan 2010 12:18:01 -0800
Reply-To:     Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Subject:      Re: "Census" mailing
X-To:         "G. Donald Ferree, Jr." <gferree@ssc.wisc.edu>
X-cc:         "aapornet@asu.edu" <aapornet@asu.edu>
In-Reply-To:  <1552.216.165.158.86.1264277095.squirrel@webmail.ssc.wisc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

I guess I see the problem as a quite ordinary case of false advertising or
unfair trade practices. Organizations engaging in this activity are trading
on consumer confusion and damaging the ability of the US Census Bureau to do
its business. There is a well developed legal framework for private
commercial enterprises to work out disagreements about these matters.
Ironically, surveys are often used in such litigation to establish consumer
confusion -- that is to measure the likelihood that consumers are misled by
print or electronic advertising. Ignoring for the moment the quality of the
research that often underlies this sort of dispute, it is certainly possible
to determine whether parties who receive these mailings are confused by them
and whether the ability of the Census Bureau to do its business is being
damaged.

So I think we should just ask our lobbying representatives to establish an
initiative designed to bring these clowns under control and soon.

-----Original Message-----
From: G. Donald Ferree, Jr. [mailto:gferree@ssc.wisc.edu]
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great resource!), it should be noted that Democrats also do this kind
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Gainesville FL

On Jan 22, 2010, at 2:46 PM, nickp@marketsharescorp.com wrote:

Search words: Republican census
----- Original Message -----
From: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:36:54 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Not to dissuade anyone from taking action, but if you search the
listserve archives, this activity has been reported to this list
several times - dating back to 2004.

Good luck.

Nick

To access the archives you will need the e-mail you registered and a
password.
----- Original Message -----
From: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:21:44 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Thanks for the posting of the envelope image.

It would be helpful to have the contents of the envelope
companying it for
viewing as well.

After all, from the envelope, who is to say that is not a US Bureau
of the
Census document inside?
Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

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From: "Michael Sullivan" <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:00 PM
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Call me simple minded, but I just assumed that it was a federal
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misrepresent documents sent to households as part of the Census. Is
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MS

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

----- Original Message ----- 
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Barry Hollander
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:46 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: "Census" mailing

On the blog posting
I just added an image of the
"census" envelope I received
in the mail.

Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
and Mass Communication
University of Georgia
barry@uga.edu
www.barryhollander.com
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http://www.aapor.org
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to:
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I agree.

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Date: Sat, 23 Jan 2010 12:51:39 -0800
Reply-To: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing
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I'm not too concerned about this sort of stuff coming back to bite us, but the devil is in the details. It is like all kinds of regulation, you have to set up some ground rules or people will do all sorts of things that put the community at risk in order to realize individual gain. We have a situation here that clearly calls for a definition of "out of bounds" so that innovative thinkers are not inclined to take actions that we all understand are not in our collective interest.

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From: Woody Carter [mailto:wcarter@uchicago.edu]
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 12:58 PM
To: Michael Sullivan; AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

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e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message -----
From: "Michael Sullivan" <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:00 PM
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Call me simple minded, but I just assumed that it was a federal crime to misrepresent documents sent to households as part of the Census. Is that not the case?

MS

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

----- Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Barry Hollander
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 10:46 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: "Census" mailing

On the blog posting
I just added an image of the "census" envelope I received in the mail.

----------------------------------
Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
>On your return send this: set aapornet mail
> Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORT.
> Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
>
>----------------------------------------------------
>http://www.aapor.org
>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
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> On your return send this: set aapornet mail
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> Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
>=========================================================================
>Date:         Sat, 23 Jan 2010 16:21:38 -0500
>Reply-To:     Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
>Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
>From:         Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
>Subject:      Re: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake
>X-To:         mark@markdavidrichards.com
>X-cc:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
>In-Reply-To:  <563614.59355.qm@web1111.biz.mail.sk1.yahoo.com>
>MIME-version: 1.0
>Content-type: text/plain; charset=utf-8
>Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Mark,

=20

Thanks for this informative and quick reply. It=E2=80=9380=99s =
methodological information such as this that AAPOR=E2=80=9380=99s =
transparency initiative is hoping all surveys released for public consumption will include on websites for easy/ready access for those interested in such details.

BTW, I asked about the Introduction, as I wondered if any mention of Haiti was in it. I was glad to see there was not. Had there been, that would have likely biased the cooperating sample towards those more interested and concerned about the earthquake and its impact on the Haitian populace.

Regarding the response rate, do you know if that was the AAPOR3 rate?

Thanks again, PJL

---

From: mark@markdavidrichards.com [mailto:mark@markdavidrichards.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 12:11 PM
To: Paul J Lavrakas PhD
Cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: RE: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake

Hi Paul,

Certainly. In response to your request:

1. This was a landline only RDD telephone survey. Data was weighted to reflect the demographic distribution of the adult population (18+) based on census data.

2. The introduction was as follows:

Hello. My name is __________, and I am calling from KRC Research, a survey research company. We are conducting a public opinion study in your area about important issues in the news, and I am very much like to have the opinions of someone in your household. I am not selling anything, and I won't ask for any...
contributions or donations. May I speak with the (youngest/oldest) = (man/woman) in your household, age 18 or older, who is at home right = now?

3. The response rate was 29.5% (using AAPOR method for calculating).

We will add additional methodological information about this = survey to the page with the other information provided on our website. 

Let me know if you have additional questions.

Mark

--- On Sat, 1/23/10, Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@optonline.net> wrote:

From: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@optonline.net>
Subject: RE: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake
To: mark@markdavidrichards.com, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2010, 6:57 AM

Mark,

I may have missed the following information about the survey, but if it was not in the posted source documents, can it be made available?

1. Whether this was a landline only RDD survey or did it also include an = RDD cell phone sample? If so, in what balance was the cell and landline = samples, and were all contacted by cell numbers eligible for interview or was = there some form of screening?
2. The wording of the Introduction used by interviewers.

I applaud an investigation of this topic, but would need to learn more about these aspects of the methodology before deciding how = reliable/valid the findings likely are to be.
Thanks, PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNEXT [mailto:AAPORNEXT@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Mark David Richards
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 9:01 PM
To: AAPORNEXT@ASU.EDU
Subject: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake

KRC Research sponsored and designed a nationally representation survey of 1,000 adults to learn how the U.S. public is responding to the earthquake in Haiti and the horrible aftermath. Braun Research conducted interviews by telephone on Jan.18-20, 2010.

The survey offers insights into the degree to which people are paying attention to the issue, where they're getting information, how closely they feel connected, and how they're engaging and contributing.

This is an interesting snapshot of an outpouring of compassion to help the people of a neighboring nation in the face of tragedy. Learn more here:


Best regards,

Mark David Richards

----------------------------------------------------
http://www.aapor.org
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe? don't reply to this message, write to: =
aapornet-request@asu.edu =
=20

http://www.aapor.org
Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
I believe there were two of you who received the mailing.

I am in touch with a Tribune reporter. I sent him the envelope copy. Please send me a copy of the letter ASAP.

Thanks.

Nick Panagakis

----- Original Message -----
From: "Michael Sullivan" <michaelsullivan@fscgroup.com>
To: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 2:51:39 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: RE: "Census" mailing

Alternatively, we could all send out our next survey under the guise of being the US Census Bureau. Can you imagine what would happen -- besides all of us getting fired I mean.

MS

----- Original Message -----  
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of nickp@marketsharescorp.com
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 12:40 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

This is especially serious since a Census will be taken in a few months which is mostly by mail.

The envelope bears these statements: "Census Document Registered To:" looks like the Census to me, not a census.

And "Do Not Destroy, Official Document" which could appear to be an official
Census document to some recipients.

What will recipients think? That this is THE Census? Or that the Census Bureau works for the Republican party? How will this affect cooperation when the real Census is underway much is done by mail.

AAPOR a should protest, at least by issuing a news release to the media. Would make a good story.

Nick Panagakis

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Michael Sullivan" <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 1:32:49 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

The answer here seems to be -- everybody does it. It seems to me that AAPOR should take a stand on this and the stand should be that it should be illegal for anybody (ourselves especially) to falsely represent data collection or fund raising as part of the US Census. Doing a legitimate census of the population is hard enough without this sort of stuff going on in the course of it. This data is extremely important and I have read that the Government is spending about $14 Billion to collect it. We could the fine as say $10 million per instance and that would probably discourage people from doing it.

MS

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Colleen Porter
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:57 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

While I applaud Nick's advocacy of the listserv archives (which are a great resource!), it should be noted that Democrats also do this kind of thing from time to time.

Colleen Porter
Gainesville FL

On Jan 22, 2010, at 2:46 PM, nickp@marketsharescorp.com wrote:

> Search words: Republican census
> ----- Original Message ----- 
> From: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:36:54 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
> Subject: Re: "Census" mailing
> 
> Not to dissuade anyone from taking action, but if you search the listserv archives, this activity has been reported to this list several times - dating back to 2004.
Good luck.

Nick

To access the archives you will need the e-mail you registered and a password.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:21:44 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Thanks for the posting of the envelope image.

It would be helpful to have the contents of the envelope accompanying it for viewing as well.

After all, from the envelope, who is to say that is not a US Bureau of the Census document inside?

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

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Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

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University of Georgia
barry@uga.edu
www.barryhollander.com
www.whatpeopleknow.com

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On Jan 23, 2010, at 4:21 PM, Paul J Lavrakas PhD wrote:

> I was glad to see there was not. Had there been, that would have
> likely biased the cooperating sample towards those more interested
> and concerned about the earthquake and its impact on the Haitian
> populace.

Dr. Lavrakas,

I wonder about the point and I'm quoting above: I re-read the
introduction used by KRC interviewers and found it fairly broad, and
rather typical of other telephone scripts in which a potential
respondent may not get a clear sense of the purpose of the phone contact. As such, they may care to hang up quickly, in a sense valuing their privacy, since the interviewer has not readily gotten to the purpose of their call. Instead, I would think that since most people have in one way or another heard of the earthquake and its impacts, the saliency of building some of that concern into the interviewer's opening remarks may actually bring about a greater identification with the call's purpose, once it is expressed.

After all, if the purpose was: "The survey offers insights into the degree to which people are paying attention to the issue, where they're getting information, how closely they feel connected, and how they're engaging and contributing"--- why not directly get to that purpose by at least mentioning Haiti to some extent?

Do you have some basis for concluding that a broader initial statement, rather than actually desiring to turn to a topic of such urgency, will produce a greater positive effect? This may be an instance of a situation in which a more direct approach would pay off.

Thanks for your views,

Milton Goldsamt

Milton R. Goldsamt, Ph.D.
Consulting Research Psychologist & Statistician
Silver Spring, MD
miltrgold@comcast.net
301-649-2768
(C) 240-671-7201

http://www.aapor.org
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, 23 Jan 2010 21:56:01 -0600
Reply-To: =?iso-8859-1?q?Alis=FA_Schoua-Glusberg?= <Alisu@EMAIL.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: =?iso-8859-1?q?Alis=FA_Schoua-Glusberg?= <Alisu@EMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
This reminds me of the Louisiana interviewer we discovered had falsified data in a number of cases, when in validation calls none of the respondents remembered the survey or the organization, but several volunteered: "Nope, there was an interviewer who came around last month but he was not from your organization; he was from the Census Bureau." A little more digging revealed that was just the tip of the iceberg...

Alisú

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Woody Carter
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 2:58 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Not too preposterous. I once had an interviewer tell me their method was to yell out "Census!" from street level to gain access to locked buildings. Hard to know what dubious and/or duplicitous techniques face to face interviewers use under the pressure we put them for completes. Probably rivals marketing efforts like the one being discussed here. Do I detect a mote here?

Woody

----- Original message ----
> Date: Sat, 23 Jan 2010 12:51:39 -0800
> From: Michael Sullivan <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM>
> Subject: Re: "Census" mailing
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU

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>
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Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

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Good luck.

Nick

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US/Canada Central

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Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

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Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html . Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to:
I believe the crux here is the difference between a higher response rate versus the possibility of higher nonresponse bias.

I believe the concern about mentioning Haiti in the Intro is consistent with the implications of Leverage Saliency theory (Groves, Singer and Corning, 2000; POQ) and the potential biasing effects of knowing of the specific topic in making the decision about whether or not to participate. Although the response rate may well be higher if the topic is a popular/well-known/interesting topic, such as the Haiti earthquake and its aftermath, and if the topic is mentioned in the Intro, the representativeness of the mix of the final sample of people who actually participate will not be correlated with knowledge, interest, and concern.
about the topic if the specific topic is not mentioned during the Intro. Since being interested about and concerned with the Haitian earthquake will very likely correlate with many of the measures asked in the questionnaire about the tragedy, a disproportionately higher response rate from those most interested/concerned and a disproportionately lower response rate among those least interested/concerned will obviously bias the findings from questions such as "have you made a donation?" Thus, in this case, I believe not mentioning the topic, despite the possibility of that lowering the response rate, brought in a more representative final sample of the population that the survey was trying to represent. In turn, I believe that had the survey Intro mentioned Haiti there would have been a nonnegligible increase in nonresponse bias.

Additionally, despite the final sample being weighted to standard demographic characteristics in the general population, there would have been no guarantee that such weighting would adequately correct for the impact of topic interest/concern had the topic been mentioned in the Intro. And since there would be no population parameters available for interest/concern, these constructs could not have been weighted for had the survey Introduction mentioned the topic.

PJL

From: Milton R. Goldsamt [mailto:miltrgold@comcast.net]
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 9:30 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Cc: Paul J Lavrakas PhD
Subject: Re: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake

On Jan 23, 2010, at 4:21 PM, Paul J Lavrakas PhD wrote:

I was glad to see there was not. Had there been, that would have likely biased the cooperating sample towards those more interested and concerned about the earthquake and its impact on the Haitian populace.

Dr. Lavrakas,
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Thanks for your views,

Milton Goldsamt

Milton R. Goldsamt, Ph.D.
Consulting Research Psychologist & Statistician
Silver Spring, MD
miltrgold@comcast.net
301-649-2768
(C) 240-671-7201
This story was covered last Friday.

Below is a link to stories from a google news search of "Republican", "census" and "mail". Hope this link works otherwise copy and paste.

http://news.google.com/news/more?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&cf=all&ncl=dh-jyJa7-WXaCxMKy06KHqy0t256M
I seem to remember that AAPOR has established procedures for dealing with sugging and frugging--this is certainly an instance of the latter, and maybe the former, too. At the least, the Standards Committee should invoke those procedures in this case.

Eleanor Singer

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of nickp@marketsharescorp.com
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 1:21 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Fwd: Republican Census mail

This story was covered last Friday.

Below is a link to stories from a google news search of "Republican", "census" and "mail". Hope this link works otherwise copy and paste.

http://news.google.com/news/more?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&cf=all&ncl=dh-jyJa7-WXaCxMKy06KHqy0t256M

----------------------------------------------------
http://www.aapor.org
Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
signoff aapornet
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Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
signoff aapornet
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
We used the AAPOR Outcome Rate Calculator developed by Rob Daves and Tom Smith, Rate3. http://www.aapor.org/Standard_DEFINITIONS1.htm

Regards, Mark

--- On Sat, 1/23/10, Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET> wrote:

From: Paul J Lavrakas PhD <pjlavrak@OPTONLINE.NET>
Subject: Re: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Date: Saturday, January 23, 2010, 4:21 PM

Mark,

Thanks for this informative and quick reply. It’s methodological information such as this that AAPOR’s transparency initiative is hoping all surveys released for public consumption will include on websites for easy/ready access for those interested in such details.

BTW, I asked about the Introduction, as I wondered if any mention of Haiti was in it. I was glad to see there was not. Had there been, that would have likely biased the cooperating sample towards those more interested and concerned about the earthquake and its impact on the Haitian populace.

Regarding the response rate, do you know if that was the AAPOR3 rate?

Thanks again, PJL

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Hi Paul,

Certainly.

1. This was a landline only RDD telephone survey. Data was weighted to reflect the demographic distribution of the adult population (18+) based on census data.

2. The introduction was as follows:

Hello, My name is ____________, and I am calling from KRC Research, a survey research company. We are conducting a public opinion study in your area about important issues in the news, and I was very much like to have the opinions of someone in your household. I am not selling anything, and I would like to ask for any contributions or donations. May I speak with the (youngest/oldest) (man/woman)?
an) in your household, age 18 or older, who is at home right now?

3. The response rate was 29.5% (using AAPOR method for calculating).

We will add additional methodological information about this survey to the page with the other information provided on our website.

Let me know if you have additional questions.

Mark

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Date: Saturday, January 23, 2010, 6:57 AM

Mark,

I may have missed the following information about the survey, but if it was not in the posted source documents, can it be made available?

1. Whether this was a landline only RDD survey or did it also include an RDD cell phone sample? If so, in what balance was the cell and landline samples, and were all contacted by cell numbers eligible for interview or was there some form of screening?
2. The wording of the Introduction used by interviewers.

I applaud an investigation of this topic, but would need to learn more about these aspects of the methodology before deciding how reliable/valid the findings likely are to be.

Thanks, PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu <http://us.mc11.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=3DAAPORNET@asu.edu>] On Behalf Of Mark David Richards
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 9:01 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU <http://us.mc11.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=3DAAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Subject: KRC Research Survey: Public Response to Haiti Earthquake

KRC Research sponsored and designed a nationally representation survey of 1,000 adults to learn how the U.S. public is responding to the earthquake in Haiti and the horrible aftermath. Braun Research conducted interviews by telephone on Jan.18-20, 2010.
The survey offers insights into the degree to which people are paying attention to the issue, where they're getting information, how closely they feel connected, and how they're engaging and contributing.

This is an interesting snapshot of an outpouring of compassion to help the people of a neighboring nation in the face of tragedy. Learn more here:


Best regards,

Mark David Richards
How about this. Any piece of mail that in any part is for fundraising must be labeled on the front of the envelope in 24-point font "FUNDRAISING SOLICITATION". Any solicitation that comes in an envelope not so marked is automatically criminal fraud. All parties complicit in the creation, manufacture, and distribution of the fraudulent solicitation (i.e., fundraising consultants and fundraising production outfits as well as the originating organization, in this case the RNC), with the exception of mail delivery companies, would be liable. Any "contract" created by the fraudulent solicitation (e.g., promised donations, sent donations) are null and void and cannot be enforced. Sent donations must be returned with interest.

Phone calls could be handled the same way. The first sentence must contain information that tells the receiver whether the call involves any solicitation, be it a donation (charitable or otherwise, for that organization or any other) or a solicitation for business. It appears most survey firms already do this (in the negative of course), so why not have everybody do it.

Oh, right, who wouldn't rip up that piece of mail and hang up the phone. I guess the organizations would have to work harder and be more open about what they are doing.

Lance M. Pollack, PhD
University of California, San Francisco
Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)
50 Beale Street, Suite 1300
San Francisco, CA 94105
tel: 415-597-9302
fax: 415-597-9213
e-mail: Lance.Pollack@ucsf.edu
-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of G. Donald Ferree, Jr.
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 12:05 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Fellow AAPORites,

I certainly wish that all and sundry would stop sending things out that are (or seem to be) deliberately worded to confuse. At the same time legislating can be more than a tad tricky. Note that it does not say "US Census" or "Official Business, Penalty for Private Use" or any such. Census is unfortunately a perfect normal English word even if commonly used as shorthand for the Census Bureau. How many of us have conducted studies in which there was no sampling, but the complete membership of something was surveyed (a "census")? Ditto "official", which many take as shorthand for the (US Federal) government, but banning its use altogether
would probably take in rather more than we might want. That said, I certainly have no qualms about saying that deliberately misleading potential respondents about sponsorship, and especially trying to suggest that participation is legally required, is unethical. Where it can be show that this was the intent (alas, perhaps not always easily), condemnation on ethical grounds is appropriate. But whether this mailing meets the standard of "falsely represent(ing) data collection or fundraising as part of the US Census" is another story.

Don

> The answer here seems to be -- everybody does it. It seems to me that AAPOR should take a stand on this and the stand should be that it should be illegal for anybody (ourselves especially) to falsely represent data collection or fund raising as part of the US Census. Doing a legitimate census of the population is hard enough without this sort of stuff going on in the course of it. This data is extremely important and I have read that the Government is spending about $14 Billion to collect it. We could the fine as say $10 million per instance and that would probably discourage people from doing it.

> MS

> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Colleen Porter
> Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:57 PM
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> Subject: Re: "Census" mailing
>
> While I applaud Nick's advocacy of the listserv archives (which are a great resource!), it should be noted that Democrats also do this kind of thing from time to time.

> Colleen Porter
> Gainesville FL
>
> On Jan 22, 2010, at 2:46 PM, nickp@marketsharescorp.com wrote:
>
> Search words: Republican census

Not to dissuade anyone from taking action, but if you search the listserve archives, this activity has been reported to this list several times - dating back to 2004.

Good luck.

Nick

To access the archives you will need the e-mail you registered and a password.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Jonathan E. Brill" <jonathan.brill.wh82@WHARTON.UPENN.EDU> 
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU 
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 1:21:44 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central 
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Thanks for the posting of the envelope image.

It would be helpful to have the contents of the envelope accompanying it for viewing as well.

After all, from the envelope, who is to say that is not a US Bureau of the Census document inside?

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D. 
Intelligence - Research - Strategy 
3 Oak Ridge Court 
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043 
Office: 856.772.9030 
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Michael Sullivan" <michaelsullivan@FSCGROUP.COM> 
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU> 
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 2:00 PM 
Subject: Re: "Census" mailing

Call me simple minded, but I just assumed that it was a federal crime to misrepresent documents sent to households as part of the Census. Is that not the case?

MS

Michael J. Sullivan, Ph.D. 
Chairman 
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.
On the blog posting
I just added an image of the
"census" envelope I received
in the mail.

Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
and Mass Communication
University of Georgia
barry@uga.edu
www.barryhollander.com
www.whatpeopleknow.com

http://www.aapor.org
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to:
aapornet-request@asu.edu
I read this thread with interest on Friday and was rather surprised to find the same mailing in my mailbox when I got home. I share the same concerns as others have so well voiced in this space.

In addition to that, I'm really upset with the construction of the questions in the "survey". There are so many leading, biased and poorly constructed questions that it would be an embarrassment to first day...
methods class student. I'm assuming they will use the results of this so called research to trumpet their anti Obama agenda.

Perhaps this factor needs to be included in any discussion of actions against this sort of activity.

Norm Trussell

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Eleanor Singer
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 4:59 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Republican Census mail

I seem to remember that AAPOR has established procedures for dealing with sugging and frugging--this is certainly an instance of the latter, and maybe the former, too. At the least, the Standards Committee should invoke those procedures in this case.

Eleanor Singer

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of nickp@marketsharescorp.com
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 1:21 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Fwd: Republican Census mail

This story was covered last Friday.

Below is a link to stories from a google news search of "Republican", "census" and "mail". Hope this link works otherwise copy and paste.

http://news.google.com/news/more?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&cf=all&ncl=dh-jiyJa7-WXaCxMKy06KHyqyt256M

----------------------------------------------------
http://www.aapor.org
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.

----------------------------------------------------
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For those who care, I stuck a copy of the envelope and all four pages of the questionnaire on my blog today if you’d like to see the question construction.


As an aside, when I first mentioned the envelope shot on my blog last week, the Google Analytics on my blog went nuts with a 20-fold increase. Only wish I had Google Adsense on the site -- coulda made tens of cents.

----------------------
Barry Hollander
Grady College of Journalism
and Mass Communication
University of Georgia
barry@uga.edu
www.barryhollander.com
www.whatpeopleknow.com

http://www.aapor.org
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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu
Hello all,

Many thanks to Barry for posting the contents. On ethical grounds, I continue to feel uneasy about the appearance of the envelope, and think phrases like "census document" and "do not destroy/official document" are problematic. Others might argue that the explicit statement about "representing Republican voters" lessens the confusion. The "non-profit organization" notice may suggest non-political to some, though it is legally required I think for the reduced postage rate shown in the stamp. Whether it makes the reader more or less inclined to believe the mailing comes from the government is another question.

As to the contents. First, I would doubt that anyone actually reading the document could be left believing it was actually from the US Census. Rather prominently, it is sponsored by the Republican party and the introduction makes clear its purpose is to advance Republican candidates and electoral prospects. One may well object to those goals politically, as I suspect many of us do, but there is nothing unethical or illegal about them per se.

Moving to question wording, certainly I agree that the wording is not going to produce a fair reading of public opinion in general. I would be troubled if some were used as evidence for what "the public" thinks or to be reported as such in the media. But both the tone of the document and explicit notice makes clear that it does not purport to be a measurement of public opinion as such. Insofar as it is "message testing" for one party to mobilize its supporters (and doesn't pretend to be anything else), I would not be any more disturbed at most of the wordings than I have been for parallel efforts on behalf of other points of view.

A small note. If the purpose is to figure out how to mobilize votes, the items in the certification page may work at cross purposes with the fundraising appeal. While I DO doubt that someone actually reading the document would think it was an
official US Census form requiring participation, the choice on the check boxes could easily be interpreted to mean that one must contribute at least $15 to have one's answers counted. If for any reason, a potential Republican voter did not want to make such a contribution, then how they responded to the questions would be lost to the RNC. And the request for certification might seem to be an attempt to make the whole effort seem more legitimate, but it also could be an attempt to dissuade recipients from duplicating the forms and stuffing the RNC's ballot boxes. Indeed, the very length of the questionnaire may discourage some from filling out the form and sending in a contribution.

This continues to be an interesting thread. The distinction between what is unethical and what is illegal (or should be) remains important. Just because something OUGHT not be done does not mean the law should prohibit it. Conversely, just because something is NOT against the law does not make it right. And whenever the law is involved, we do well to consider unintended consequences and the relative costs of casting a net too broadly or not broadly enough.

Don

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> >
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> >
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> envelope shot on my blog last week, the
> Google Analytics on my blog went nuts
> with a 20-fold increase. Only wish I had
> Google Adsense on the site -- coulda made
> tens of cents.
> >
> ----------------------
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Looking at Barry's posted images, though, you'll see the envelope and its contents BOTH tell the recipient s/he's "been selected to represent Republican voters in ____ Congressional District." Sounds like they're saying right up front they're NOT doing a census but, instead, are sampling.

If the RNC is using the word deliberately to mislead (capitalizing on public awareness of the pending decennial census) and not to describe what it's doing with the mailing, that crosses the line (I think). I wonder if they DID send these things to all the Republicans in the target districts, regardless of what they say on the materials...

Steve

Steve Everett
The Everett Group
Gambrills, MD  21054
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Don

http://www.aapor.org
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Unsubscribe?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

I have long thought that it should be illegal to use the words "survey" or "census" on the outside of an envelope and ask for money inside. Doing so is always a form of fraud.

Those words could be allowed if the words "donation request" also appeared before or after "survey" or "census" in the same typeface and size (e.g., "Survey and Donation Request Inside"). I think such a law would take care of most circumstances.

The absence of such a law lets the RNC and some otherwise worthwhile organizations prey on what remaining goodwill there is toward genuine survey
research. Every such envelope diminishes that goodwill to some extent. I would like to see AAPOR, CMOR and others push for such a law.

Hank

Hank Zucker
Creative Research Systems
(707) 765-1001
hank@surveysystem.com

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Steve Everett" <see@EVERETTGROUP.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2010 10:45 AM
Subject: Re: Republican Census mail

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> target districts, regardless of what they say on the materials...
> 
> Steve
> 
> Steve Everett
> The Everett Group
> Gambrills, MD  21054
> 
> 
> -------- Original Message --------
> Subject: Re: Republican Census mail
> From: "G. Donald Ferree, Jr." <gferree@SSC.WISC.EDU>
> Date: Mon, January 25, 2010 1:05 pm 
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> 
> Hello all,
> 
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http://www.aapor.org
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

I'm not sure if anyone from California has weighed in here, but my household received this mailing way back at the end of November (Orange County, CA).
I definitely did a double-take on the envelope, even though I knew it wasn't a true U.S. Census survey.

Of interest is that my spouse, who is not in the research field, tossed the envelope to me and said "This is from the Census - you can fill it out." He was convinced that this was the U.S. Census form based on the envelope (he did not open it). I would think that would be the reaction of many average Americans.

Best regards,

Lynn

Lynn Stalone, PRC
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 Steve Everett
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2010 10:46 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Republican Census mail

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Hi all,

Over the past few years, we have conducted a number of in-person longitudinal surveys of low-SES populations in developing countries. We are now struggling to get our results published due to concerns by the journal reviewers that we did not have an 80% response rate for our initial survey and that our retention rate between the baseline and followup waves was less than 80%. We worked extremely hard in these surveys to maximize response and followed every best practice that we could, given the research context.

Our argument has been that it simply is not realistic to expect this level of response given highly mobile/transitory, low SES populations in incredibly poor areas of the world.

Two questions: for those of you who have worked in developing countries, what have you experienced related to response and panel retention rates? And, are any of you aware of work that has focused on setting response rate standards for longitudinal studies in developing countries? (for the latter, I'd be highly surprised, but wanted to ask anyhow).

Thanks!
--Matt
Matthew W. Courser, Ph.D  
Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation--Columbus Office  
phone: (502) 634-3694, x7381  
fax: (502) 634-5690  
email: mcourser@pire.org  

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

Date:         Mon, 25 Jan 2010 19:24:01 -0800  
Reply-To:     Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>  
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>  
From:         Paul DiPerna <pd_wpa21@YAHOO.COM>  
Subject:      Re: Republican Census mail  
X-To:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU  
In-Reply-To:  <20100125192358.E302F75809B@smtpauth00.csee.onr.siteprotect.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  

Some good reporting earlier today by Ben Smith. He provides additional context surrounding this story on Politico. Apparently this type of mailer has been used since at least 2000.


Smith also links to letters from the U.S. postal service, responding to recent concerns raised by Rep. Carolyn Maloney:

http://www.politico.com/static/PPM110_100122_postal_response.html

__________

Paul DiPerna  
cell/text: 202-641-1858  
email: pd_wpa21@yahoo.com  
onlineID: http://claimid.com/pdiperna

From: Lynn Stalone <Lynn.Stalone@IHR-RESEARCH.COM>  
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU  
Sent: Mon, January 25, 2010 2:23:56 PM  
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Looking at Barry's posted images, though, you'll see the envelope and its contents BOTH tell the recipient s/he's "been selected to represent Republican voters in ____ Congressional District." Sounds like they're saying right up front they're NOT doing a census but, instead, are sampling.

If the RNC is using the word deliberately to mislead (capitalizing on public awareness of the pending decennial census) and not to describe what it's doing with the mailing, that crosses the line (I think). I wonder if they DID send these things to all the Republicans in the target districts, regardless of what they say on the materials...

Steve

Steve Everett
The Everett Group
Gambrills, MD  21054

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

Subject: Re: Republican Census mail

From: "G. Donald Ferree, Jr." <gferree@SSC.WISC.EDU>

Date: Mon, January 25, 2010 1:05 pm

To: AAPORET@ASU.EDU

Hello all,
Many thanks to Barry for posting the contents. On ethical grounds, I continue to feel uneasy about the appearance of the envelope, and think phrases like "census document" and "do not destroy/official document" are problematic. Others might argue that the explicit statement about "representing Republican voters" lessens the confusion. The "non-profit organization" notice may suggest non-political to some, though it is legally required I think for the reduced postage rate shown in the stamp. Whether it makes the reader more or less inclined to believe the mailing comes from the government is another question.

As to the contents. First, I would doubt that anyone actually reading the document could be left believing it was actually from the US Census. Rather prominently, it is sponsored by the Republican party and the introduction makes clear its purpose is to advance Republican candidates and electoral prospects. One may well object to those goals politically, as I suspect many of us do, but there is nothing unethical
or illegal about them per se.

Moving to question wording, certainly I agree that the wording is not going to produce a fair reading of public opinion in general. I would be troubled if some were used as evidence for what "the public" thinks or to be reported as such in the media. But both the tone of the document and explicit notice makes clear that it does not purport to be a measurement of public opinion as such. Insofar as it is "message testing" for one party to mobilize its supporters (and doesn't pretend to be anything else), I would not be any more disturbed at most of the wordings than I have been for parallel efforts on behalf of other points of view.

A small note. If the purpose is to figure out how to mobilize votes, the items in the certification page may work at cross purposes with the fundraising appeal. While I DO doubt that someone actually reading the document would think it was an official US Census form requiring participation, the choice on the check boxes could easily be interpreted to mean that one must contribute at least $15 to
have one's answers counted. If for any reason, a potential Republican voter did not want to make such a contribution, then how they responded to the questions would be lost to the RNC. And the request for certification might seem to be an attempt to make the whole effort seem more legitimate, but it also could be an attempt to dissuade recipients from duplicating the forms and stuffing the RNC's ballot boxes. Indeed, the very length of the questionnaire may discourage some from filling out the form and sending in a contribution.

This continues to be an interesting thread. The distinction between what is unethical and what is illegal (or should be) remains important. Just because something OUGHT not be done does not mean the law should prohibit it. Conversely, just because something is NOT against the law does not make it right. And whenever the law is involved, we do well to consider unintended consequences and the relative costs of casting a net too broadly or not broadly enough.
I appreciate getting the interpretation of Lynn's spouse. Although this is a sample of one, it is the only reaction to the mailing by someone other than a professional researcher. I'd therefore give his observations greater weight than ours.

My interpretation is that the mailers carefully crafted something that looked official enough to increase the likelihood of an envelope being opened while at the same time carefully avoiding crossing a legal line.

AAPOR members: likely to take offense. The public: far less likely. Legal status: within the law.

And I feel certain their sole real purpose was fundraising.

Mike O'Neil
www.mikeoneil.org
On Mon, Jan 25, 2010 at 12:23 PM, Lynn Stalone <Lynn.Stalone@ihr-research.com> wrote:

> I'm not sure if anyone from California has weighed in here, but my
> household
> received this mailing way back at the end of November (Orange County, CA).
> I definitely did a double-take on the envelope, even though I knew it
> wasn't
> a true U.S. Census survey.
> >
> >
> > Of interest is that my spouse, who is not in the research field, tossed the
> > envelope to me and said "This is from the Census - you can fill it out."
> > He was convinced that this was the U.S. Census form based on the envelope
> > (he did not open it). I would think that would be the reaction of many
> > average Americans.
> >
> >
> > Best regards,
> > Lynn
> >
> > Lynn Stalone, PRC
> > 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 Steve Everett
> >Sent: Monday, January 25, 2010 10:46 AM
> >To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> >Subject: Re: Republican Census mail
> >
> >Don has pointed out (rightly) that "census" is a perfectly good word,
and I agree with him that many would doubt the Census Bureau's involvement once they get into the "questionnaire" inside. There's nothing wrong in using "census" to describe what the RNC is doing.

Looking at Barry's posted images, though, you'll see the envelope and its contents BOTH tell the recipient s/he's "been selected to represent Republican voters in ____ Congressional District." Sounds like they're saying right up front they're NOT doing a census but, instead, are sampling.

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Steve Everett

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Gambrills, MD 21054

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object to those goals politically, as I suspect many of us do, but there is nothing unethical or illegal about them per se.

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Don

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

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

--
Mike O'Neil
www.mikeoneil.org

http://www.aapor.org
Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
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Date:       Tue, 26 Jan 2010 06:28:28 -0500
Reply-To:   Jim Ellis <jme2ce@VIRGINIA.EDU>
Sender:     AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:       Jim Ellis <jme2ce@VIRGINIA.EDU>
Subject:    Mush, Bob, mush!
X-To:       AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Just had to toss this out this morning after I saw it on our local paper, it gave me a chuckle and also a little collegial pride:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8479962.stm

Jim Ellis
Director of Research
Center for Survey Research
University of Virginia
434-243-5224

Anyone know if there's a penalty for impersonating a census taker?

http://www.aapor.org
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
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Date:         Tue, 26 Jan 2010 07:21:53 -0800
Reply-To:     phil@trounstine.com
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Phil Trounstine <trounstine@SBCGLOBAL.NET>
Subject:      Impersonating a census taker?
X-To:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:  <D751154249FA5F46A6A415852659668970110F965@mraexch.mra-dom.mranet.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

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

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For those planning primary polls in the coming months, this question might =
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This question was asked Jan. 16-20 for Chicago Tribune Illinois primary pol= 
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Thinking now about a new political movement, do you mostly agree or disagree with the Tea Party protest movement and issues? If you never heard of them please say so.

Likely Republican Voters - Illinois
Heard Of (Net) 80%
Agree 54%
Disagree 8%
No opinion/don't know 17%

Never heard of 20%
Base: (592)

Nick Panagakis

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Date:         Tue, 26 Jan 2010 11:24:34 -0600
Reply-To:     Peter Miller <p-miller@NORTHWESTERN.EDU>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Peter Miller <p-miller@NORTHWESTERN.EDU>
Subject:      The "Republican Census"
X-To:         aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1

Thanks to all who have contributed information and views on the "Republican Census."

The issues have been rather fully vetted at this point, so I will not add much commentary. Rather, I want to inform you that I have written to the Chairman of the Republican Party to express AAPOR's dismay at this fund raising scheme. It is a clear example of "frugging" -- fund raising under the guise of research. AAPOR has long been on record in opposition to this practice. For those who have not recently consulted the list of "practices we condemn," here is the language from our website:

AAPOR joins the Research Industry Coalition and the National Council on Public Polls in condemning certain misleading practices sometimes performed in the name of research. In no case are the following practices deemed legitimate or acceptable elements of professionally conducted research:

1. *Requiring a monetary payment or soliciting monetary contributions
from members of the public as part of a research process.*
This set of practices amounts to fund raising under the guise of research. It takes unfair advantage of the cooperative attitude that a majority of the public manifests when asked to take part in a legitimate information gathering process. In some cases, unwary members of the public are enticed to contribute money as a condition of gaining some future "benefit" from their participation.

"Frugging" is historically ubiquitous and bipartisan. For many years, both major political parties and many other interests have engaged in the practice of cloaking a fund raising appeal in what appears to be a research effort. I believe that Helen Crossley used to come to our annual business meeting with a sheaf of frugging appeals so that the Standards Chair could protest them. When I was Standards Chair, I was obliged to quit the Sierra Club because it defended its use of the tactic after I wrote to ask them to stop. The practice, of course, undercuts the legitimacy of our profession, no matter who employs it.

The use of the Census label, as many of you have noted, is particularly lamentable, though apparently legal. There is potential damage to participation in the real Census if US residents who receive the fund raising appeal come to view the Census mailing as partisan or as just another piece of "junk mail." For this reason, I have pointed out to Chairman Steele that the "Republican Census" is an egregious violation of the principle that research and fund raising should not be mixed.

There was a time when the majority of the AAPOR Standards Chair's job was to write letters to "fruggers" or "suggers" (those selling under the guise of research) asking them to cease and desist. The efficacy of this practice gradually was judged to be negligible. But, now that the Web offers more avenues for publicity, we might find more success in targeted cases. The Council will discuss ways in which we might attack this old enemy in a more effective way. If you have ideas, please send them along. I will report back to you.

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

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What percentage said 'So?'

Iain Noble
Research and Enterprise Service (RES)
University of Westminster
Room G1
4-12 Little Titchfield Street
London W1W 7UW

Tel: 0207 911 5000 Ext 2651
Mobile: 0753 832 8523

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-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of nickp@marketsharescorp.com
Sent: 26 January 2010 16:40
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Tea Party Polls

For those planning primary polls in the coming months, this question might yield surprising results. I was. Didn't expect the Tea Party faction to have such a following.

This question was asked Jan. 16-20 for Chicago Tribune Illinois primary poll stories that began last Friday. Election day here is Feb. 2.

"Thinking now about a new political movement, do you mostly agree or disagree with the Tea Party protest movement and issues? If you never heard of them please say so."

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Agree 54%
Disagree 8%
No opinion/don't know 17%

Never heard of 20%
Base: (592)

Nick Panagakis

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--
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Date:         Tue, 26 Jan 2010 13:39:02 -0500
Reply-To:     jwerner@jwdp.com
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Jan Werner <jwerner@JWDP.COM>
Organization: Jan Werner Data Processing
Subject:      Re: Tea Party Polls
X-To:         "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
X-cc:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

I don't find these numbers at all surprising, but I regret that, given such a golden opportunity, respondents were not asked whether or not
they thought the Public Affairs Act of 1975 should be repealed.

Jan Werner

nickp@marketsharescorp.com wrote:
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> faction to have such a following.
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>
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> Nick Panagakis

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

> -----------------------------------
> Date: Tue, 26 Jan 2010 18:56:26 +0000
We were long on questions.

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jan Werner" <jwerner@jwdp.com>
To: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
Cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 12:39:02 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls

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I'm looking for suggestions of software for developing over 40 unique self-administered paper-and-pencil survey instruments.

The surveys all use approximately 50 core variables, but we allow for selected variables to be inserted within the core. In order to maintain quality control during the development process, I've listed below the criteria we'd like the software to provide.

If you have used or know of software that fits this list, please let me know! Appreciate it!

Software allows us to:
* Develop a "bank" of questions from which we select specific questions to generate each unique survey. The bank should allow us assign skip rules to the particular questions.
* Create multiple, unique surveys from the bank of questions.
* Output formatted files of the surveys - most useful would be in a 2-
Jeremy Jacobs, a reporter with Politics magazine, is interested in speaking with any researchers with experience in or knowledge about using CAPI in foreign countries, especially Europe and Asia. jjacobs@politicsmag.com or 703-778-4023.

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

www.brspoll.com
202.822.6090

http://www.aapor.org
Mary,

While it is not "survey software", MS Word and MS Excel (or any other wordprocessing and spreadsheet application tandem) can be VERY EASILY programmed to accomplish this by coding your research design "battery" into an Excel spreadsheet and then running a merge print routine. This will allow you to produce survey forms with full customization of question content and, I might, any other printed features you might like (e.g., ID numbers).

Regards,
Jonathan

Jonathan E. Brill, Ph.D.
Intelligence - Research - Strategy
3 Oak Ridge Court
Voorhees, New Jersey 08043
Office: 856.772.9030
e-Mail: jonathan.brill.wh82@wharton.upenn.edu

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "MaryElizabeth ONEil" <meoneil@GMAIL.COM>
To: <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 2:25 PM
Subject: Suggestions?: Software for survey development

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Mary Elizabeth O'Neil
MONeil@gmail.com

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Peter

A very prompt and public web rebuke might have some effect.

Especially if we could accompany this with a press release and coin a media-grabbing characterization of the offense (e.g., "The Dirty Dozen?").

Mike ONeil
On Tue, Jan 26, 2010 at 10:24 AM, Peter Miller <p-miller@northwestern.edu> wrote:

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>
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>
> --
>
> Peter V. Miller, PhD.
> Department of Communication Studies
> Northwestern University
> President, American Association for Public Opinion Research
> p-miller@northwestern.edu
>
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>
> --

Mike O'Neil
www.mikeoneil.org

http://www.aapor.org
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Problems?-don't reply to this message, write to: aapornet-request@asu.edu

Date:         Tue, 26 Jan 2010 20:46:29 -0500
Reply-To:     David Moore <dmoore62@COMCAST.NET>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         David Moore <dmoore62@COMCAST.NET>
Subject:      Re: Tea Party Polls
X-To:         "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>,
              AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To:  <2040460354.14282771264524005405.JavaMail.root@sz0107a.emeryville.ca.mail.comcast.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="utf-8"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Nick,

=20
I wonder if the results aren't a reflection more of the public’s general openness to new parties than a reflection of approval of tea party ideas as such. What is it that Republican LVs mostly agree with in the Tea Party protest movement? There is no question (at least that you report below) that gets at what these people know about the Tea Party protest, so the general percentages are difficult to interpret.

Previous polls have shown that whenever people are asked if a new party or an independent party or a third party would be a good idea, the response is quite favorable even among people who are quite happy with their own party affiliation. The question taps into a deeper value of fairness perhaps, or of allowing all voices to be heard.

So, this is an intriguing start into measuring response to the Tea Party movement, but I would want to know more about these voters’ views before concluding that it is the Tea Party ideas per se that produce such favorable responses.

David Moore

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of nickp@marketsharescorp.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 11:40 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Tea Party Polls

For those planning primary polls in the coming months, this question might yield surprising results. I was. Didn't expect the Tea Party faction to have such a following.
This question was asked Jan. 16-20 for Chicago Tribune Illinois primary poll stories that began last Friday. Election day here is Feb. 2.

Thinking now about a new political movement, do you mostly agree or disagree with the Tea Party protest movement and issues? If you never heard of them please say so.

Likely Republican Voters - Illinois

Heard Of (Net) 80%

Agree 54%

Disagree 8%

No opinion/don't know 17%

Never heard of 20%

Base: (592)

Nick Panagakis

http://www.aapor.org
Or a catch phrase ...

"It Just Doesn't Make Census"
"Census and Sensibility"
"If it's not on a dogsled it's not the U.S. Census"

More nominations and we will have a contest and a second t-shirt for AAPOR.

Woody

---- Original message ----
>Date: Tue, 26 Jan 2010 17:37:58 -0700
>From: Mike O'Neil <mikeoneilaz@GMAIL.COM>
>Subject: Re: The "Republican Census"
>To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
>
>Peter
A very prompt and public web rebuke might have some effect.

Especially if we could accompany this with a press release and coin a media-grabbing characterization of the offense (e.g., "The Dirty Dozen").

Mike ONeil

On Tue, Jan 26, 2010 at 10:24 AM, Peter Miller <p-miller@northwestern.edu> wrote:

Thanks to all who have contributed information and views on the "Republican Census."

The issues have been rather fully vetted at this point, so I will not add much commentary. Rather, I want to inform you that I have written to the Chairman of the Republican Party to express AAPOR's dismay at this fund raising scheme. It is a clear example of "frugging" -- fund raising under the guise of research. AAPOR has long been on record in opposition to this practice. For those who have not recently consulted the list of "practices we condemn," here is the language from our website:

AAPOR joins the Research Industry Coalition and the National Council on Public Polls in condemning certain misleading practices sometimes performed in the name of research. In no case are the following practices deemed legitimate or acceptable elements of professionally conducted research:

1. Requiring a monetary payment or soliciting monetary contributions from members of the public as part of a research process.

This set of practices amounts to fund raising under the guise of research. It takes unfair advantage of the cooperative attitude that a majority of the public manifests when asked to take part in a legitimate information gathering process. In some cases, unwary members of the public are enticed to contribute money as a condition of gaining some future.
"benefit" from their participation.

"Fruggling" is historically ubiquitous and bipartisan. For many years, both major political parties and many other interests have engaged in the practice of cloaking a fund raising appeal in what appears to be a research effort. I believe that Helen Crossley used to come to our annual business meeting with a sheaf of fruggling appeals so that the Standards Chair could protest them. When I was Standards Chair, I was obliged to quit the Sierra Club because it defended its use of the tactic after I wrote to ask them to stop. The practice, of course, undercuts the legitimacy of our profession, no matter who employs it.

The use of the Census label, as many of you have noted, is particularly lamentable, though apparently legal. There is potential damage to participation in the real Census if US residents who receive the fund raising appeal come to view the Census mailing as partisan or as just another piece of "junk mail." For this reason, I have pointed out to Chairman Steele that the "Republican Census" is an egregious violation of the principle that research and fund raising should not be mixed.

There was a time when the majority of the AAPOR Standards Chair's job was to write letters to "fruggers" or "suggers" (those selling under the guise of research) asking them to cease and desist. The efficacy of this practice gradually was judged to be negligible. But, now that the Web offers more avenues for publicity, we might find more success in targeted cases. The Council will discuss ways in which we might attack this old enemy in a more effective way. If you have ideas, please send them along. I will report back to you.

--
Peter V. Miller, PhD.
An announcement of an information session that might be of interest to
members - please feel free to pass this along to anyone interested.
Thanks and all best wishes - Chris

-------------
Columbia University's Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (QMSS) program, a unique M.A. degree program that provides rigorous research and analytical training, helps students develop the tools they need to better understand and succeed in today’s world. The combination of innovative curriculum, numerous research opportunities, and outstanding opportunities after graduation offer an experience like no other. Please join QMSS Director Christopher Weiss, program faculty, and current QMSS students and alumni to learn more about the program.

*Monday, February 8, 2010*
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Columbia University
 Philosophy Hall <http://www.columbia.edu/about_columbia/map/philosophy.html>
Room 301

For questions please visit the QMSS website <http://qmss.columbia.edu/>
or contact ecb2125@columbia.edu

--
Christopher Weiss
Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences Program (QMSS)
Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP)
Columbia University
420 W. 118th St., Room 807A
Mail Code 3355
New York, NY  10027
Phone: (212) 854-7559
FAX: (212) 854-8925
www.qmss.columbia.edu

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Date: Wed, 27 Jan 2010 09:06:09 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Fox leads for trust
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Tuesday, January 26, 2010
Fox leads for trust
Americans do not trust the major tv news operations in the country—except for Fox News. Our newest survey looking at perceptions of ABC News, CBS News, CNN, Fox News, and NBC News finds Fox as the only one that more people say they trust than distrust. 49% say they trust it to 37% who do not.

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

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Company number: 2512551
Registered office: GfK NOP Limited, Ludgate House, 245 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 9UL
FYI to those on AAPORnet who may be interested but are not ASA-SRMS members.

-----Original Message-----
From: asamail@amstat.org [mailto:asamail@amstat.org]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 8:49 AM
To: pjlavrak@optonline.net
Subject: Registration for Next ASA SRMS Webinar Closes Friday, February 5

Dear Survey Research Methods Section of ASA Member:

Registration for the next webinar in the SRMS web-based training series closes on Friday, February 5. If you would like to attend 'The Psychology of Survey Response' and have not already registered, please do so soon. To register, visit the training series web page:
http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/webinar.cfm

Webinar Description:

This two-hour course examines survey questions from a psychological perspective. It covers the basics on how respondents answer survey questions and how problems in this response process can produce reporting errors. The class will focus on behavioral questions. The course is intended as an introduction for researchers who develop survey questionnaires or who use the data from surveys and want to understand some of the potential problems with survey data. It describes the major psychological components of the response process, including comprehension of the questions, retrieval of information from memory, combining and supplementing information from memory through judgment and inference, and the reporting of an answer. The course has no specific perquisites, though familiarity with survey methodology or questionnaire design would be helpful.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rick Peterson at the ASA office using the below information.

Rick Peterson
Education Programs Associate
American Statistical Association
732 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22153
(703) 684-1221 ext. 1864
FAX: (703) 684-3768
rick@amstat.org
www.amstat.org

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

Date: Wed, 27 Jan 2010 09:23:36 EST
Reply-To: AGage95526@AOL.COM
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Andrew Gage <AGage95526@AOL.COM>
Subject: Re: Fox leads for trust
X-To: nick.moon@GFK.COM, AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Interesting poll and a narrow view on Nicks part.

In a message dated 1/27/2010 9:17:15 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, nick.moon@GFK.COM writes:

OK, that's it - it's time we gave up polling altogether
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: 27 January 2010 14:06
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Fox leads for trust

Tuesday, January 26, 2010
Fox leads for trust

http://publicpolicypolling.blogspot.com/2010/01/fox-leads-for-trust.html
or
http://tinyurl.com/ydpmmht

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Our newest survey looking at perceptions of ABC News, CBS News, CNN, Fox News, and NBC News finds Fox as the only one that more people say they trust than distrust. 49% say they trust it to 37% who do not.

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Journal of Official Statistics - Call for Papers Special Issue on “Nonresponse”

The Journal of Official Statistics seeks submissions for a 2010 special issue of the journal devoted to nonresponse. In 2010 the International Workshop of Household Survey Nonresponse is coming of age. The Nonresponse Workshop was founded in 1990 in Stockholm by Professor Robert Groves, Professor Lars Lyberg, and Dr. Bob Barnes. Since then the problem of nonresponse in households as well as establishment surveys has drastically increased. It is time to summarize what has been learned, and to add a fresh perspective of what can be done differently in the future. As is the tradition within the Nonresponse Workshop context, the special issue will...
focus on nonresponse in household surveys. Papers selected for the special issue will be featured at the 2010 Nonresponse Workshop, which is held 30th August - 1st September 2010 in Nürnberg, Germany. For this special issue we welcome manuscripts on various aspects of nonresponse, including (but not restricted to):

* Developments in nonresponse research over the last 21 years
* Strategies for reducing nonresponse in household surveys
* Strategies for dealing with nonresponse bias in household surveys
* Trade-offs between nonresponse reduction and nonresponse adjustment
* Studies assessing nonresponse processes and nonresponse biases
* Studies assessing the role of interviewers in the contact and cooperation processes
* Survey climate issues
* Nonresponse in multi-mode surveys
* Developments in nonresponse adjustment techniques
* Developments in theories of nonresponse in household surveys
* Measurement of nonresponse outcomes and processes
* Item versus unit nonresponse

The deadline for manuscript submissions is May 31, 2010. To submit a manuscript, please follow the manuscript preparation instructions provided at the journal’s website www.jos.nu. It should be clearly stated in the cover letter that the manuscript is for consideration of the nonresponse special issue. Submissions will be peer-reviewed in line with normal journal practice. For queries about this special issue, please feel free to contact the special guest editors, Annelies Blom and Frauke Kreuter at JOSSpecialIssue@gmail.com.

---

+-------------------------------------------------------------+
| Dr. Annelies G. Blom                                       |
| Survey of Health, Aging and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)   |
| Mannheim Research Institute for the Economics of Aging (MEA)|
| University of Mannheim                                     |
| L13, 17                                                    |
| 68131 Mannheim                                             |
| Phone: +49 (0)621 181 1866                                 |
| Email: blom@mea.uni-mannheim.de                            |
| www.mea.uni-mannheim.de                                    |
+-------------------------------------------------------------+
The poll, as reported, is just conventional wisdom that doesn't reveal very much. People who watch the top-rated cable news network find it more trustworthy than others?

I think the technical term for that is: Yawn.

The more important question to ask, if we're being analytical here, is which group inside the poll is driving that Fox News number. I think if folks read the fourth and fifth paragraphs on the link they might find the overall answer.

But the more interesting question (to me) is who are the Democrats and Independents who find Fox News more trustworthy than other sources. Where do they live? Who have they voted for? It would also be essential to know which Republicans do not consider Fox News trustworthy.

(Coughs) cross-tabs?

Cordially,

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 Jan 27, 2010, at 9:23 AM, Andrew Gage wrote:

> Interesting poll and a narrow view on Nicks part.
> >=20
> >=20
> In a message dated 1/27/2010 9:17:15 A.M. Eastern Standard Time,
> nick.moon@GFK.COM writes:
> >=20
> OK, that's it - it's time we gave up polling altogether
>=20
> -----Original Message-----
> From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
> Sent: 27 January 2010 14:06
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> Subject: Fox leads for trust
>=20
> Tuesday, January 26, 2010
> Fox leads for trust
>=20
> =
> http://publicpolicypolling.blogspot.com/2010/01/fox-leads-for-trust.html
> or
> http://tinyurl.com/ydpmmht
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> Our newest survey looking at perceptions of ABC News, CBS News, CNN, =
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>=20
> --
> Leo G. Simonetta
> Director of Research
> Art & Science Group
> 6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
> Baltimore, MD 21209
>=20
> ----------------------------------------------------
Doesn't Fox News have an advantage in these kind of polls?

They are, after all, one of a kind. (No wisecracks.)

Meanwhile, followers of other network news shows choose between several alternatives. Some prefer ABC, others prefer NBC, etc. etc.

This goes for poll findings as well as TV ratings.

Nick Panagakis
----- Original Message -----
From: "Andrew Gage" <AGage95526@AOL.COM>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 8:23:36 AM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
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--
Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
Confidence in television correlates negatively with education. Try holding education constant and see what you get. See Bill Schneider and Marty Lipset, The Confidence Gap, p. 123.

Phil

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Company number: 2512551
Registered office: GfK NOP Limited, Ludgate House, 245 Blackfriars Road,
London, SE1 9UL

http://www.aapor.org
Conducting the 2010 Census
(an edited transcript)

Speakers:
* Robert Groves, U.S. Census Bureau director, formerly director of the University of Michigan Survey Research Center.
* Constance F. Citro, Director, Committee on National Statistics
* Jeffrey Passel, Senior Demographer, Pew Research Center
* Joseph Salvo, Director, Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning

Moderator: Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research, Pew Research Center


or

http://tinyurl.com/y8tetgx

--
Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
Art & Science Group
I think sometimes the best analysis of our news organizations come from how they handle key moments in a news cycle. I was actually watching Fox News the night the returns were coming in for Scott Brown. I think we can generally agree that Fox talking heads are all "right" leaning not necessarily Republicans. The Fox talking heads that night were clearly pleased with the results as they saw it as an opportunity to slow an Obama Agenda they disagree with. They talked about what if any message was being sent to both Republicans and Democrats with this election. They were talking about the impact for both sides of the aisle.

What I found more interesting was how MSNBC and CNN handled it. I turned to CNN first and found the Larry King show on as usually with a guest. No mention of the election results. They weren't even covering it as they went with their regular programming. Question is did they not consider what was happening news worthy or were they choosing to not report it as some kind of political statement saying "this doesn't really matter." I then switched over to MSNBC. Rachel Maddow was in a bar around Boston talking less about the election and more about Scott Browns truck and ripping the stupid voters of Massachusetts. More of the same when Keith Olbermann.
came on. In fact, Keith Olbermann made some rather offensive remarks that later he had to apologize for. So they were covering the event however they were taking the time to bash Republicans and call Massachusetts voters stupid as opposed to reporting on how this event impacts the Democrats and what they can do going forward. Again this is empirical and is a point in time event. However, if I were watching each of these networks for the first time and wanted the news and reaction about what happened in Massachusetts I would have chosen Fox. This example may be exactly what the respondents were trying to communicate in their responses.

In a message dated 1/27/2010 10:03:16 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, mkshares@COMCAST.NET writes:

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A Domino's Pizza commercial ran during both football conference playoff games on Sunday 1/24/10. It was less than a minute long. The commercial showed two Domino's chefs hearing focus group participants criticize the Domino's pizza. Then it showed the same chefs in white chef garb goi=
ng to the homes of several focus group participants to ask them to try the=
new improved Domino's pizza. Domino's intent appears to be to demonstrat=
e, based on opinion change occurring during at-home taste tests taking jus=
t a few seconds with previous focus group participants, that dissatisfied =
customers should now realize that Domino's has a great new product.

This commercial is a threat to research ethics and does damage to =
the research profession, especially qualitative research. It indicates th=
at the commercial sponsor of a focus group can know the identify of focus =
group participants and be able to go to their homes to follow up. Perhaps=  
Domino's had the focus group participants sign a waiver legally authorizi=
g Domino's employees to go to homes. But if done that legal waiver was u=  
ethical. I will not be surprised if Domino's shows the same commercial a=
t the Super Bowl.

I called Domino's Pizza and asked for the URL of the commercial, b=
ut was told that it is not available in the less then minute form shown on=
TV. However, I was told that all the content for that commercial appears=  
in the YouTube link provided below which lasts 4:34 minutes. Here is the=
description appearing with the video:
"In December of 2009, Domino's Pizza chefs Sam Fauser and Brandon Solano h=
it the road to find out what our critics would think of the #newpizza they=  
inspired. Two cameras went along for the ride to capture their reactions.=
" PizzaTurnaround.com

At the Door of Our Harshest Critics
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3D-SwLn8ZPcUk

Should anyone else wish to register their concern with Domino's, here is s=
ome contact information.
President - Patrick Doyle
Marketing Director - Karen Kaiser
Domino's Pizza World Resource Center
Domino's Pizza LLC
30 Frank Lloyd Wright Drive, Ann Arbor MI 48106-0997
(734) 930-3030
http://www.dominos.com/home/pages/faq.jsp

Advertising agency:
Crispin Porter and Bogusky. www.cpbgroup.com<http://www.cpbgroup.com>

Jim Schwartz
Consumer Reports(r) National Research Center
schwij@consumer.org
www.ConsumerReports.org

**
This e-mail message is intended only for the designated recipient(s) named=
above. The information contained in this e-mail and any attachments may b=
Clearly need to look at this in more detail, is this everyone who was
asked the trust Q or only those who watched it (ever? regularly?) if the
latter this 'trust' thing might be driven by brand loyalty (as alluded
to in an earlier post) where the distinctive nature of Fox's product
might set it apart in terms of reaction from its regular viewers (that
is, they tune in because they 'trust' it to cater to their
prejudices/produce news that fits in better with their worldviews
(delete according to preference).

What's 'trust' mean cognitively/discursively here any way? Rely on it to
produce a bunch of frothing at the mouth right wing fairy tales and
scare stories? I certainly trust it to do that. Must check the questions
before writing further.

Iain Noble
Research and Enterprise Service (RES)
University of Westminster
Room G1
4-12 Little Titchfield Street
London W1W 7UW

Tel: 0207 911 5000 Ext 2651
Mobile: 0753 832 8523
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They are, after all, one of a kind. (No wisecracks.)

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Nick Panagakis
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From: "Andrew Gage" <AGage95526@AOL.COM>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 8:23:36 AM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: Fox leads for trust

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In a message dated 1/27/2010 9:17:15 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, nick.moon@GFK.COM writes:

OK, that's it - it's time we gave up polling altogether

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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Leo Simonetta
Sent: 27 January 2010 14:06
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Fox leads for trust

Tuesday, January 26, 2010
Fox leads for trust

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or
http://tinyurl.com/ydpmhht

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Our newest survey looking at perceptions of ABC News, CBS News, CNN, Fox News, and NBC News finds Fox as the only one that more people say they trust than distrust. 49% say they trust it to 37% who do not.

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

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London, SE1 9UL

-----------------------------------------------
http://www.aapor.org
Answers to several methodological questions would be helpful in interpreting the results of this poll.

(1) Were registered voter files used as the sampling frame or was the RDD frame used in conjunction with an RV filter question?

(2) Was data collection done using CATI or IVR?

(3) Were cell phones included in the sample?

The claim that the results represent all Americans may not be appropriate.
I think that this poll illustrates issues that still need to be
addressed with respect to methods disclosure. My concern is not with
the substantive findings, but rather how the poll methodology is
described.

-Courtney

Quoting "Michael D. Cohen" <mcohen@COHENRESEARCHGROUP.COM>:

> The poll, as reported, is just conventional wisdom that doesn't
> reveal very much. People who watch the top-rated cable news network
> find it more trustworthy than others?
> 
> I think the technical term for that is: Yawn.
>
> The more important question to ask, if we're being analytical here,
> is which group inside the poll is driving that Fox News number. I
> think if folks read the fourth and fifth paragraphs on the link they
> might find the overall answer.
>
> But the more interesting question (to me) is who are the Democrats
> and Independents who find Fox News more trustworthy than other
> sources. Where do they live? Who have they voted for? It would also
> be essential to know which Republicans do not consider Fox News
> trustworthy.
>
> (Coughs) cross-tabs?
>
> Cordially,
>
> 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
>
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--
Leo G. Simonetta
Director of Research
Art & Science Group
6115 Falls Road, Suite 101
Baltimore, MD 21209
From the PPP website:

"Fox News is the only major tv news operation that more Americans trust than distrust."

From the PPP press release:

"PPP conducted a national survey of 1,151 registered voters on January 18th and 19th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-2.8%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify."

Question: How do you project from a sample of registered voters to all Americans?

Of course, there are too many other issues with this quickie automated poll to give it credence, but it is the kind of thing that the press, not least Fox News, will lap up.

Jan Werner

Leo Simonetta wrote:
> Tuesday, January 26, 2010
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> Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
> signoff aapornet
> Please ask authors before quoting outside AAPORNET.
>  
> Date:         Wed, 27 Jan 2010 08:50:33 -0700
> Reply-To:     Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>
> Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
> From:         Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>
> Subject:      Re: Fox leads for trust
> X-To:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
> Mime-Version: 1.0
> Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
>  
> Keep in mind that I'm not PPP and PPP isn't me, but some answers based on=
> past reporting:
> > (1) Were registered voter files used as the sampling frame or
> > was the RDD frame used in conjunction with an RV filter question?
> They use a list of registered voters provided by Aristotle Intl to select=
> households, then interview whomever answers the phone with the instructio=
> n to hang up if you're not a registered voter. They weight to demographic
targets (no idea how those are determined).
> > (2) Was data collection done using CATI or IVR?
> IVR.
> > (3) Were cell phones included in the sample?
> No.
> Crosstabs are here:
> http://bit.ly/cWw1kH
NYAAPOR is very excited to present this evening session on Sports Marketing Research. It will be the very first time that the Directors of Market Research for the four major professional sports leagues will be on the same panel. We believe this session will be of interest to AAPOR members and to many outside the AAPOR community. Please pass along the invitation to anyone else you think might be interested in attending this panel discussion.

Joe Lenski

The New York chapters of the Marketing Research Association and American Association for Public Opinion Research jointly present ...

Sports Marketing Research:
An Evening with the Research Directors of MLB, NBA, NFL and NHL

Tuesday, February 23, 2010
Refreshments and mingling "kick-off" at 5:30 pm
"Game Time" begins promptly at 6:15 pm, ending at 8 pm

State University of New York - State College of Optometry
Joseph and Roberta Schwarz Theater
33 West 42nd Street (between 5th and 6th Avenues)

We present an unprecedented panel discussion with the Marketing Research Directors of the four major professional sports leagues in the United States.
States - baseball, basketball, football and hockey. Learn how each league uses marketing research to reach its target audience. The discussion will be followed by time to ask our panelists questions. This is a great opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at some of America's most enduring and high profile cultural institutions.

Panelists:
Dan Derian, Vice President of Research and Strategic Planning, Major League Baseball
Jason Kaufman, Director, Market Research, National Basketball Association
Alicia Rankin, Director of Research and Fan Insights, National Football League
Mark Erlichson, Director of Market Research, National Hockey League

Moderator:
Jon Last, President, Sports & Leisure Research Group

This event is Free to NYAAPOR & NYMRA members.
Non-members - $20.00 (cash or check only, payable onsite)

Professional Researcher Certification (pending)
Space is limited. You MUST RSVP to NYAAPOR for security access to the building - no Walk-Ins
Registration deadline: Friday, February 19, 2010

PLEASE RSVP TO: info@nyaapor.org or you can call (212) 684-0542

=20

Joe Lenski
Executive Vice President
edison research
Tel: 908.707.4707 / Fax: 908.707.4740
www.edisonresearch.com

Check out our newly redesigned web site @ www.edisonresearch.com <http://www.edisonresearch.com/>

http://www.aapor.org
Archives: http://lists.asu.edu/archives/aapornet.html
Unsubscribe? Send email to listserv@asu.edu with this text:
Findings can be downloaded from the PPI site.

Sample was of 1,151 registered voters.

Q1 "Do you trust ABC News? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you’re not sure, press 3" apparently followed CBS News, CNN, Fox News, and NBC News. No indication of rotation although there may have been.

No mention of national news. All but CNN have local news outlets in most TV markets.

MSNBC not included. Who would they associate those call letters with, NBC News or Microsoft?

Sample profile:
47% voted for Obama, 46% for McCain.
14% Liberal, 47% Moderate, 39% Conservative.
36% Democrat, 35% Republican, 29% Independent.
I think sometimes the best analysis of our news organizations come from how they handle key moments in a news cycle. I was actually watching Fox News the night the returns were coming in for Scott Brown. I think we can generally agree that Fox talking heads are all "right" leaning not necessarily Republicans. The Fox talking heads that night were clearly pleased with the results as they saw it as an opportunity to slow an Obama Agenda they disagree with. They talked about what if any message was being sent to both Republicans and Democrats with this election. They were talking about the impact for both sides of the aisle.

What I found more interesting was how MSNBC and CNN handled it. I turned to CNN first and found the Larry King show on as usually with a guest. No mention of the election results. They weren't even covering it as they went with their regular programming. Question is did they not consider what was happening news worthy or were they choosing to not report it as some kind of political statement saying this doesn't really matter.

I then switched over to MSNBC. Rachel Maddow was in a bar around Boston talking less about the election and more about Scott Brown's truck and ripping the stupid voters of Massachusetts. More of the same when Keith Olbermann came on. In fact, Keith Olbermann made some rather offensive remarks that later he had to apologize for. So they were covering the event however they were taking the time to bash Republicans and call Massachusetts voters stupid as opposed to reporting on how this event impacts the Democrats and what they can do going forward.

Again this is empirical and is a point in time event. However, if I were watching each of these networks for the first time and wanted the news and reaction about what happened in Massachusetts I would have chosen Fox. This example may be exactly what the respondents were trying to communicate in their responses.

In a message dated 1/27/2010 10:03:16 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, mkshares@COMCAST.NET writes:

Doesn't Fox News have an advantage in these kind of polls?

They are, after all, one of a kind. (No wisecracks.)

Meanwhile, followers of other network news shows choose between several alternatives. Some prefer ABC, others prefer NBC, etc. etc.

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6115 Falls Road, Suite 101=20
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*********************************************************
Any views or opinions are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of GfK NOP or
Greetings,

This note may be of interest to academic members of AAPOR. Feel free to share as appropriate.

Thanks!

I write to ask you to help spread the word about AASRO, the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations, to other university-based survey centers that are not yet AASRO members. Founded just two years ago, AASRO is an association of over 50 university-based survey organizations (not individual members). Nearly all of our participants are AAPOR members and stalwart AAPOR fans.

Our Annual Directors Meeting is scheduled for February 25-27 at the IU campus in Bloomington. It's an invaluable experience for anyone directing an academic center; you'll get to meet your peers and exchange information and views on the issues we face today. For a program listing and details about registering, please contact John Kennedy, our Program Chair, at kennedyj@indiana.edu.

If your organization needs to renew its membership or if you know of an organization that might want to consider joining, please contact our membership chair, Burke Grandjean, at burke@uwyo.edu. Our membership year runs January through December; dues for 2010 remain $100 per survey center.

I hope you will encourage the directors of prospective member organizations to find out more about AASRO by visiting our website (www.aasro.org), or by contacting me.

I hope to see you in February,

Best wishes,

Ron Langley
You may have seen advertisements for Roger's Webinar on the psychology of survey response on February 9. I want to make a couple announcements in connection with this event.
First, ASA and AAPOR have agreed to work together on webinar initiatives of mutual interest. AAPOR members have the opportunity to participate in the Feb 9 webinar for the same price paid by ASA members ($75). Note that this fee is not per individual, but per computer connection. So, you and other members of your organization or your students can participate for the $75 flat fee.

Second, AAPOR's Education Committee, headed by Melissa Herrmann, and the ASA Survey Research Methods Section's education head, Mike Larsen, are working together to plan a couple more webinars for this year. We look forward to working with ASA in this educational venture.

Paul Lavrakas sent out registration information for the Tourangeau webinar earlier today. I suggest waiting a few days before registering to give ASA some time to integrate our member list into their online registration system so that you get charged the correct rate. Once we hear that ASA is ready, we will send out another announcement.

A description of Roger's webinar follows. I encourage everyone to sign up once the system is ready.

The Psychology of Survey Response will be presented by Roger Tourangeau on Tuesday, February 9, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Webinar Description:

This two-hour course examines survey questions from a psychological perspective. It covers the basics on how respondents answer survey questions and how problems in this response process can produce reporting errors. The class will focus on behavioral questions. The course is intended as an introduction for researchers who develop survey questionnaires or who use the data from surveys and want to understand some of the potential problems with survey data. It describes the major psychological components of the response process, including comprehension of the questions, retrieval of information from memory, combining and supplementing information from memory through judgment and inference, and the reporting of an answer. The course has no specific prerequisites, though familiarity with survey methodology or questionnaire design would be helpful.

Roger Tourangeau is a Research Professor at the University of Michigan's Survey Research Center and the Director of the Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JSPM) at the University of Maryland. Tourangeau is well-known for his methodological research on the impact of different modes of data collection and on the cognitive processes underlying survey responses. He is the lead author of a book on this last topic (The Psychology of Survey Response, co-authored with Lance Rips and Kenneth Rasinski and published by Cambridge University Press in 2000); this book received the 2006 Book Award from the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR). In 2002, Tourangeau received the Helen
Dinerman Award for his work on the cognitive aspects of survey methodology. This is the highest honor given by the World Association for Public Opinion Research. In 2005, he received the 2005 AAPOR Innovators Award (along with Tom Jabine, Miron Straf, and Judy Tanur). He was elected a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 1999.

---

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

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Date: Wed, 27 Jan 2010 15:02:07 -0500
Reply-To: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Leo Simonetta <Simonetta@ARTSCI.COM>
Subject: Gary Langer on the Public Policy Polling poll
X-To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

If You Disagree, Press 2
January 27, 2010 1:55 PM


or
http://tinyurl.com/ya2s8uz

I spend a major chunk of my days locked in mortal combat with data that don't meet our standards for validity and reliability. One of today's entries cuts pretty close to home - so close that a response may look like I'm carrying water for my employer. Stick with the evidence, though, and see what you think.

SNIP

FWIW I too thought the numbers on Voting, party and ideology seemed a bit skewed but was too busy to draft a well thought-out comment.

--
Hi again,

There is now an option for AAPOR members to register for the Tourangeau Webinar on Feb 9. For a flat $75 fee, you and your colleagues sharing the same computer connection can participate in this event. I recommend it to you.

Here is the link for registration:

http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/webinar.cfm

All best wishes. Peter

--

Peter V. Miller, PhD.
Department of Communication Studies
Northwestern University
President, American Association for Public Opinion Research
p-miller@northwestern.edu
WASHINGTON, DC — Healthcare and Government Contracts Director

Company Description

KRC Research is a non-partisan opinion and market research firm that specializes in the kind of research needed for effective communications—communications that reach, engage, and persuade. We believe that insight is the difference between communications that break through and communications that fall flat.

A unit of the Interpublic Group of Companies (NYSE: IPG), KRC Research offers the quality and custom service of a small firm along with the reach of a global organization. For over 30 years, we have worked on behalf of corporations, governments, not-for-profits and the communications firms that represent them.

Staffed with research professionals from the worlds of political campaigns, consumer marketing, journalism and academia, we are flexible, practical, creative, knowledgeable and fast, combining sophisticated research tools with real-world communications experience. For more information about KRC Research, visit www.krcresearch.com

Position Description

The Healthcare and Government Contracts Director is a specialized position within KRC located in our Washington, DC office, responsible for (1) managing and supporting both research assignments and proposal development for a broad range of healthcare-related clients; (2) managing and supporting research projects conducted for government clients (not necessarily limited to healthcare); (3) leading ongoing and new government related business efforts (not limited to healthcare), including identifying opportunities and managing proposal development. This individual’s work would be assigned by KRC’s senior managers and would be involved in 5-7 large projects and/or proposals at any given time. Responsibilities include:

Healthcare and Government Client Project Management:

Serve as a project manager and client-contact for top healthcare and government clients;
Oversee other client service team members and field team members on project teams;
Ensure the project and research design of each study meets the client’s objectives as well as KRC’s project management standards;
Offer guidance to clients, with the ability to recommend a variety of research methodologies as well as the ability to interpret results in a way that is relevant to clients’ decision-making;
Executive review and/or design of screeners, questionnaires, discussion guides;
des, reports, and other documents; 
Deliver presentations to all levels of clients’ management teams; 
Train and mentor junior staff.

Government Contracting:

Serve as the primary project manager for developing government proposals (primarily but not exclusively for the U.S. federal government); 
Oversee other proposal team members; 
Manage relationships and coordinate with participating partner-company teams (both inside and outside IPG), including contract and financial specialists; 
Executive review and/or development of all proposal components; 
Develop and deliver in-person presentations as needed; 
Train and mentor staff.

Other Responsibilities:

Manage a minimum of $500,000 of net revenue/sales on a yearly basis; 
Build strong, ongoing relationships with clients, leading to organic growth of their work with KRC; 
Identify, pursue and secure new business opportunities; 
Work collaboratively with others to promote and enhance the firm’s management, growth, and culture.

The position would also require the qualified candidate to stay current on both healthcare industry trends, analytic methodologies, and social and emerging media trends. This position offers fabulous growth potential for the right person!

Experience Requirements

5-8 years of primary market research experience with a focus on healthcare clients and issues, using various qualitative and quantitative research methodologies; 
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Experience managing multiple small project/account teams; 
Experience moderating focus groups and conducting in-depth interviews; 
Experience managing project budgets to ensure profitability and revenue targets; 
Experience in aspects of finance, budget, and monthly reporting related to government projects; 
Strong organizational, project management and presentation skills; 
Strong writing and analytic skills; 
Relevant BA/BS or higher degree; 
Full working knowledge of Microsoft applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, etc.); 
Experienced in and working with SPSS and statistical analysis helpful; 
Must be authorized to work in the United States and have the ability to tra
vel for business purposes.

To apply, send appropriate information to jobs@krcresearch.com

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Date:         Thu, 28 Jan 2010 08:38:02 -0800
Reply-To:     mark@markdavidrichards.com
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Mark David Richards <mark@MARKDAVIDRICHARDS.COM>
Subject:      Job opening, Washington, DC=E2=80=93Healthcare?= and Government Contracts Director
X-To:         aapornet@asu.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=utf-8
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

WASHINGTON, DC =E2=80=93 Healthcare and Government Contracts Director

KRC Research is a non-partisan opinion and market research firm that specializes in the kind of research needed for effective communications=E2=80=94communications that reach, engage and persuade. We believe that insight is the difference between communications that break through and communications that fall flat.

A unit of the Interpublic Group of Companies (NYSE: IPG), KRC Research offers the quality and custom service of a small firm along with the reach of a global organization. For over 30 years, we have worked on behalf of corporations, governments, not-for-profits and the communications firms that represent them.

Staffed with market research professionals from the worlds of political campaigns, consumer marketing, journalism and academia, we are flexible, practical, creative, knowledgeable and fast, combining sophisticated research tools with real-world communications experience. For more information about KRC Research, visit: www.krcresearch.com

The Healthcare and Government Contracts Director is a specialized position within KRC located in our Washington, DC office, responsible for (1) managing and supporting both research assignments and proposal development for a broad range of healthcare-related clients; (2) managing and supporting rese=
arch projects conducted for government clients (not necessarily limited to healthcare); (3) leading ongoing and new government related business efforts (not limited to healthcare), including identifying opportunities and managing proposal development. This individual’s work would be assigned by KRC’s senior managers and would be involved in 5-7 large projects and/or proposals at any given time. Responsibilities include:

Healthcare and Government Client Project Management:

Serve as a project manager and client-contact for top healthcare and government clients;
Oversee other client service team members and field team members on project teams;
Ensure the project and research design of each study meets the client’s objectives as well as KRC’s project management standards;
Offer guidance to clients, with the ability to recommend a variety of research methodologies as well as the ability to interpret results in a way that is relevant to clients’ decision-making;
Executive review and/or design of screeners, questionnaires, discussion guides, reports, and other documents;
Deliver presentations to all levels of clients’ management teams;
Train and mentor junior staff.

Government Contracting:

Serve as the primary project manager for developing government proposals (primarily but not exclusively for the U.S. federal government);
Oversee other proposal team members;
Manage relationships and coordinate with participating partner-company teams (both inside and outside IPG), including contract and financial specialists;
Executive review and/or development of all proposal components;
Develop and deliver in-person presentations as needed;
Train and mentor staff.

Other Responsibilities:

Manage a minimum of $500,000 of net revenue/sales on a yearly basis;
Build strong, ongoing relationships with clients, leading to organic growth of their work with KRC;
Identify, pursue and secure new business opportunities;
Work collaboratively with others to promote and enhance the firm’s management, growth, and culture.

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No phone calls, please.

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www.mikeoneil.org

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From: AAPORNENET [mailto:AAPORNENET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of nickp@marketsharescorp.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 11:40 AM
To: AAPORNENET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Tea Party Polls

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Likely Republican Voters - Illinois

Heard Of (Net) 80%

Agree 54%

Disagree 8%

No opinion/don’t know 17%

Never heard of 20%

Base: (592)

Nick Panagakis
Job Opening - Assistant Director, Monmouth University Polling Institute

The Monmouth University Polling Institute has an opening for an Assistant D=
The Assistant Director's primary responsibilities will be to conduct the institute's contract policy research projects and work with the Director on the institute's public interest polling operation and other public policy activities. The position requires very strong attention to detail and advanced quantitative and qualitative analytic ability.

The ideal candidate will be an early to mid-career policy researcher with autonomous experience conducting survey research, which includes directing projects, questionnaire design, analysis, and report writing. The applicant must have a proven ability to see a research project through from start to finish (from question development to report writing). The ideal candidate will also have a keen interest in politics and policy and see survey research as one part of the puzzle toward better policy decisions.

Requirements: Master's degree in social sciences (e.g. Survey Methodology, Public Policy, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Political Science, Communications) or related field is required. Candidates must have a minimum of five years experience in survey design and analysis, with three years experience at the project director or senior analyst level.

Must have an interest in politics and public policy, and an ability to work with non-survey data (e.g. demographic databases), including proficiency with statistical packages (preferably SPSS), Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), and Internet databases. Experience working with clients, as well as on grant-funded projects, is a plus. Spanish language proficiency is a plus.

About the Institute: The Monmouth University Polling Institute was established in 2005 to be a leading center for the study of public opinion on important state, regional, and national issues. The Polling Institute conducts and disseminates public opinion research to foster greater governmental accountability by ensuring that the voice of the public is part of the policy discourse. The Polling Institute also strives to go beyond the headlines to cover quality of life issues that affect residents in their daily lives.

The Polling Institute's activities include research services for government agencies and private organizations to assist with policy planning and assessment. The institute also collaborates with faculty and students to enhance research and training opportunities in survey research.

The Polling Institute is currently planning to expand the scope of its activities, both in terms of the areas where it conducts survey research and engagement in activities to increase public trust in government. The Associate Director position was created to support this expansion.

For additional information about the Polling Institute, please go to: http://www.monmouth.edu/polling
Interested candidates can apply online at: https://jobs.monmouth.edu
(click "Administrative Positions" button)

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Date: Fri, 29 Jan 2010 17:16:06 +0000
Reply-To: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls
X-To: Mike ONeil <mike.oneil@ALUMNI.BROWN.EDU>
X-cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <1399872810.563481264785324496.JavaMail.root@sz0107a.emeryville.ca.mail.comcast.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=utf-8
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Nick Panagakis

----- Original Message -----=
From: "Mike ONeil" <mike.oneil@ALUMNI.BROWN.EDU>
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2010 3:14:54 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heard Of (Net)</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>No opinion/don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never heard of 20%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: (592)

Nick Panagakis

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www.mikeoneil.org

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Wednesday, January 27, 2010 3:14:54 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central

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--

Mike O'Neil
Clarification. Not just Governor. Republicans won other state offices too and occasionaly the Legislature.

Illinois was a bellwether state, based on national popular vote (might get an argument here) Illinois voted like the nation for decades until 2004. There was one miss, went for Ford in 1976.

Nick

----- Original Message -----=
From: "Mike ONeil" <mike.oneil@alumni.brown.edu>
To: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@COMCAST.NET>
Cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 12:00:33 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls

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Nick Panagakis

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President
2170 4th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101
619-702-CERC x307
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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of
nickp@marketsharescorp.com
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 10:18 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls

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To: "nickp@marketsharescorp.com" <mkshares@comcast.net>
Cc: AAPORNET@asu.edu
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 12:00:33 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
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Mike O'Neil
www.mikeoneil.org

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Mike ONeil
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Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 11:40 AM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
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Anyone data sources? Ideas?

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Despite conventional wisdom, self-reported exercise in January is at one of the lowest points of the year.

Frank Newport

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Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 2:03 PM
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Gainesville, FL

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Colleen,
You might also try the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) at CDC.

Jim

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From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Newport, Frank
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 2:20 PM
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Jan: I'm with you on the "counterbalance" theory. I never have felt compelled to adopt it because I don't think the American electorate is strategic in their voting. I'm sure there are exceptions, but with all the other issues swirling around them, I find it really hard to believe that that "balance" would factor in to their calculus. And, research-wise, it would probably be very tricky to separate the "balance-driven" votes from the "it's time for a change-driven" votes.

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From: Jan Werner [mailto:jwerner@jwdp.com]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 12:57 PM
To: John Nienstedt
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> Mike O'Neil www.mikeoneil.org
> ----------------------------------------------------
When I've tested this idea in surveys, responses seem to be driven primarily by partisanship, that is, Democrats want "checks and balances" when Republicans are in charge and vice versa. The main area of research interest is to see how political independents split on the question, and that is often correlated to their other primary attitudes such as preferring the "change candidate over the "experience" candidate (or vice versa) in a given election. So my sense is that in reality, it is very rarely a driver on vote.
choice, but is instead one way people have of expressing other beliefs th= 
t =20
are actually driving their vote choice. =20
Amy=20
Amy R. Simon
Goodwin Simon Strategic Research
3645 Grand Avenue, Suite 101
Oakland, CA  94610
www.goodwinsimon.com
office: (510)  428-9995
cell:    (415 ) 517-7823

In a message dated 1/29/2010 1:10:48 P.M. Pacific Standard Time, =20
john@CERC.NET writes:

Jan:  I'm with you on the "counterbalance" theory. I never  have felt=20
compelled to adopt it because I don't think the American electorate  is st= 
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in their voting. I'm sure there are exceptions, but with all the  other=20
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saying "I don't know." Then again, AAPOR may tip me off to some research= 
that shows it holds water. We'll see.

John Nienstedt, Sr.
President
2170 4th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101
619-702-CERC x307
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-----Original Message-----
From: Jan Werner  [mailto:jwerner@jwdp.com]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 12:57 PM
To:  John Nienstedt
Cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Tea Party  Polls

The "counterbalance" hypothesis is popular among commentators, but I've
never seen any serious evidence to support it. I'd also be interested in hearing of any solid research on the subject.

As for Massachusetts, none of the Democratic candidates who lost to a Republican for statewide office since I moved here 16 years ago provides any support for such a theory. In each and every case, the Democrat was a truly terrible candidate and deserved to lose.

Martha Coakley may have been the worst of all. I tend to agree with David Plouffe (who was advising Deval Patrick before being recalled to Washington by Obama after Brown's victory) when he said that "even a mediocre candidate could have pulled this out."

Coakley is both highly unpopular and an amazingly incompetent political campaigner. She had long ago alienated many liberals with law and order posturing as Middlesex DA (notably in the Amirault case) and as AG. She offended Kennedy loyalists by conspiring to run for his seat as soon she found out Teddy had cancer and then declaring almost before he was buried. Those tactics did get her the nomination, but although she won the primary by 19 points, it was with barely 47% of the vote in a 4-way race, and less than 8% of registered voters. Few Democratic leaders in the state spoke up for her until the White House and the DNC woke up to what was happening and put the screws on, and even then, it without obvious enthusiasm. I'd guess that many Massachusetts Democrats would rather have Scott Brown (who is much more liberal overall than any Republican in the current Senate, and probably several Democrats) hold the seat for 3 years than have Coakley run as the incumbent in 2012.

Jan Werner

John Nienstedt wrote:
> Would like to know what solid research there is on the
> "counterbalance" hypothesis that Mike refers to below.
> 
> John Nienstedt, Sr. President 2170 4th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101
> 619-702-CERC x307 Get the Edge at www.cerc.net
> 
> ----- Original Message ----- From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu]
> On Behalf Of nickp@marketsharescorp.com Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 10:18 AM
> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls
> 
> Clarification. Not just Governor. Republicans won other state offices
> too and occasionally the Legislature.
> 
> Illinois was a bellwether state, based on national popular vote
> (might get an argument here) Illinois voted like the nation for
> decades until 2004. There was one miss, went for Ford in 1976.
> 
> Nick
> 
> ----- Original Message ----- From: "Mike
> ONeil"
> To:
My guess is that the tendency of IL voters to elect a Republican governor is similar to the appeal of a Republican governor in MA: when the Democrats control everything else, there is a tendency for the voters to want a counterbalance, someone other than a fox to guard the henhouse.

Mike O'Neil www.mikeoneil.org

--Sent from AZ, where we often elect Democratic governors for much the same reason.

On Fri, Jan 29, 2010 at 10:16 AM, nickp@marketsharescorp.com<mkshares@comcast.net> wrote:

Mike and David.

It may be too early to think of this as a third party because there is no single Tea Party organization. There are Tea Party Patriots, Tea Party Express and Tea Party Nation, the sponsor of the convention next week. That Knoxville convention itself is an issue. Many will not attend: 1) due to reports that the latter group is a for-profit organization, 2) the high cost of admission ($500+) and 3) that Sarah Palin will be paid $100,000 to give the keynote speech. As a consequence, two members of Congress, Michele Bachmann (MN) and Marsha Blackburn (TN), have now decided not to appear.

This is a grass-roots populist movement with chapters throughout the country - more like the peasants with pitchforks Buchanan claimed as supporters in the 1996 primaries.

In Illinois where fiscal conservatives outnumber social conservatives, the GOP Senate primary may not a good test. Five-term, pro gun control, pro choice Congressman Mark Kirk whose District has voted Democratic for president since 1996 faces five unknown, under-funded opponents. He is about 40 points ahead of his nearest rival =E2=80=93=E2=80=94 but no difference between Tea Party movement supporters and other GOP primary voters. A well-funded, more viable rival could have made a difference.
There were no differences in the race for governor with better-known moderate candidates ahead. (Despite Illinois=’s current Blue state status, moderate Republicans held that office from 1976 to 2002.) There were differences on issues. Among Tea Party movement supporters there was more opposition to a state tax increase and more belief that a tax increase was even necessary. We should have asked more questions specific to the movement itself, but in the absence of the extent of support they had, that’s hindsight.

Nick Panagakis

----- Original Message ----- From: "Mike ONeil"

mike.oneil@ALUMNI.BROWN.EDU> To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2010 3:14:54 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls

David's observations remind me of a polling artifact about the Arizona controversy some years ago about the MLK holiday.

After the Governor rescinded the holiday, there were numerous polls which asked whether the matter should be referred to the voters (rather than be handed legislatively).

The responses overwhelmingly favored a public vote. I remember researching this a bit back then and remembering that every question I could found that essentially had the format "Do you think the Voters should get to vote on the XXX issue" met with a very positive response.

My conclusion at the time was that this likely tapped a generalized disposition: a YES response was seen as democratic (small D), while a NO response undemocratic.

I wonder if these responses don't reflect the same attribute. New undefined groups have the advantage that voters may project their feelings on them. There is a lot of discontent in the country, but much of it is based on conflicting views. A voter who feels generalized discontent may be attracted to a group that reflects this discontent without examining its nature too carefully. The Tea Party people thus have much in common with the early Perot support. People didn't know much about him at first, and his support surged. (We did an AZ poll that captured his support at its apex: he briefly came in FIRST in a presidential trial heat).

Sustaining such support over time, however, is increasingly difficult.
Let's wait and see how this plays out. Or probe more deeply the basis of Tea Party support. We know it reflects generalized discontent, but what else do we know about this group.

Mike O'Neil www.mikeoneil.org

On Tue, Jan 26, 2010 at 6:46 PM, David Moore< dmoore62@comcast.net> wrote:

Nick,

>> I wonder if the results aren't a reflection more of the public’s general openness to new parties than a reflection of approval of tea party ideas as such. What is it that Republican LV’s mostly agree with in the Tea Party protest movement? There is no question (at least that you report below) that gets at what these people know about the Tea Party protest, so the general agreement percentages are difficult to interpret.

>> Previous polls have shown that whenever people are asked if a new party or an independent party or a third party would be a good idea, the response is quite favorable even among people who are quite happy with their own party affiliation. The question taps into a deeper value of fairness perhaps, or of allowing all voices to be heard.

>> So, this is an intriguing start into measuring response to the Tea Party movement, but I would want to know more about these voters’ views before concluding that it is the Tea Party ideas per se that produce such favorable responses.

David Moore
For those planning primary polls in the coming months, this question might yield surprising results. I was. Didn't expect the Tea Party faction to have such a following.

This question was asked Jan. 16-20 for Chicago Tribune Illinois primary poll stories that began last Friday. Election day here is Feb. 2.

Thinking now about a new political movement, do you mostly agree or disagree with the Tea Party protest movement and issues? If you never heard of them please say so.

Likely Republican Voters - Illinois

Heard Of (Net) 80%
Agree 54%
Disagree 8%
No opinion/don't know 17%
> Never heard of 20%
>> Base: (592)

>> Nick Panagakis

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> Mike O'Neil www.mikeoneil.org

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Date: Fri, 29 Jan 2010 16:51:27 -0500
Reply-To: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>
Sender: AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From: Philip Meyer <pmeyer@EMAIL.UNC.EDU>
Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls
X-To: John Nienstedt <john@CERC.NET>
X-cc: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
In-Reply-To: <CA62D583B8F55A4BADEEF50C662DF622674A454C7@EXCHANGE.CERC2.cerc.local>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8; format=flowed
To the chagrin of journalists and political scientists alike, there are data showing that public doesn't mind -- or even prefers -- divided government, including having different parties control Congress and the White House. Here is a Gallup summary from 2008:

http://tinyurl.com/yh5yjeo

Phil

John Nienstedt wrote:
> Jan: I'm with you on the "counterbalance" theory. I never have felt compelled to adopt it because I don't think the American electorate is strategic in their voting. I'm sure there are exceptions, but with all the other issues swirling around them, I find it really hard to believe that that "balance" would factor in to their calculus. And, research-wise, it would probably be very tricky to separate the "balance-driven" votes from the "it's time for a change-driven" votes.
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Date:         Fri, 29 Jan 2010 15:49:36 -0700
Reply-To:     Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>
Sender:       AAPORNET <AAPORNET@ASU.EDU>
From:         Mark Blumenthal <mark@POLLSTER.COM>
Subject:      Obama vs. Luntz
X-To:         AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

For those not glued to their televisions this afternoon, President Obama used his the last question in his Q & A session with the House Republican=
s
today to call out Frank Luntz:

"That's how we start off every time somebody speaks in congress, the fir= 
ting in the front. He has already polled it and he said the way you're= 
really going to -- I've done a focus group and the way we're going to rea= 
box in Obama on this one or make Pelosi look bad on that one -- I know 
Frank. I like Frank. We've had conversations between Frank and I, but tha= 
t's how we operate. It's all tactics. It's not solving problems."

I've posted a more complete transcript and video on Pollster:

http://www.pollster.com/blogs/obama_vs_luntz.php
http://tr.im/M3MI

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Preference for party control of the legislative branch be the opposition vis-

As it is I think you are all trying to compare apples to oranges. Legislators
and executives are never voted on at the same "level". House members and state
legislators represent districts, senators and governors (and other statewide
offices) represent states, and only the president is voted on nationally. The
election dynamics of those "levels" are all different. The only comparable
level is for senators and statewide offices. If you are looking for
"counterbalance" it is going to have to be among those offices.

In addition, legislators and executives (governors and the President) do not
do the same things and my opinion is voters consider this, although I suspect a voter when probed would not be able to speak to this very clearly. As background you may need to get opinions from voters (especially independents) on whether they believe any given party is better at legislating than governing or vice-versa. I suspect most will come down to saying it's the individual's abilities, but perception of abilities is often colored by party affiliation of the candidate.

At the very least, researchers should be acknowledging these nuances rather than sticking with what to me is an overly simplistic conceptualization.

Lance M. Pollack, PhD
University of California, San Francisco
Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)
50 Beale Street, Suite 1300
San Francisco, CA 94105
tel: 415-597-9302
fax: 415-597-9213
email: Lance.Pollack@ucsf.edu

-----Original Message-----
From: AAPORNET [mailto:AAPORNET@asu.edu] On Behalf Of Philip Meyer
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2010 1:51 PM
To: AAPORNET@ASU.EDU
Subject: Re: Tea Party Polls

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