

APPENDIX N:

CHANGES IN QUESTION WORDING, RESPONSE
CATEGORIES, AND FORMAT

It is the general policy of the General Social Survey to exactly replicate questions over time. In certain instances, by design—and in other cases by accident—wordings, response categories, skip patterns, or formats have changed across surveys. This appendix documents the alterations that have occurred and, when applicable, the necessary reconciliations that were made. See Appendix T, GSS Methodological Reports Nos. 55 and 56.

Question
Mnemonics

Changes

WRKSTAT, HRS1, HRS2,
EVWORK, SPWRKSTA
SPHRS1, SPHRS2,
SPEVWORK

In the 1972 survey, the first unread response was "Working full time (35 hours or more)" and the second response was "Working part time (1 to 34 hours)." Since 1972, the hour references were dropped.

OCC, PRESTIGE,
WRKSLF, WRKGOVT
COMMUTE, INDUSTRY

In 1982 and 1983, it read "(do you/did you) normally do."

SPOCC, SPPRES,

In the 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1978, 1983 and 1984 surveys, part A read "(does [spouse] SPWRKSLF, SPIND (did[spouse] normally)." In 1974, it was "(does [spouse] usually)." In 1976, 1980, 1982, and 1985+, it was "(does/did) your [spouse] normally."

PAOCC16, PAPRES16
PAWRKSLF, PAIND16

The wording for the first two surveys (1972-73) was "What kind of work did your father (FATHER SUBSTITUTE) normally do?" In the following surveys (1974-78, 1980, 1982+), it was "What kind of work did your father (FATHER SUBSTITUTE) normally do while you were growing up?"

SIBS

In the 1976 survey, the word "please" preceded "count" at the start of the second sentence. In the 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, and 1977+ surveys, "please" was not used. In 1972, 7 means 7 or more siblings.

TAXRICH

In the 1996 survey, respondents were asked:

Generally, how would you describe taxes in America today...

Again, we mean all taxes together, including social security, income tax, sales tax, and all the rest.

First, for those with high incomes, are taxes...

PLEASE CHECK ONE BOX ONLY

...much too high,

too high,

about right

too low

or, are they much too low?

Can't chose

In 2006, the wording was changed to:

Generally, how would you describe taxes in America today? (We mean all taxes together, including wage deductions, income tax, taxes on goods and services and all the rest.)

First, for those with high incomes, are taxes...**TAXRICH**

(Would you say...)

...much too high
too high
about right
too low, or
are they much too low?

In 2008, the wording was changed to:

Generally, how would you describe taxes in America today, meaning all taxes together, such as social security, income tax, sales tax, and all the rest: First, for those with high incomes? Would you say...

TAXRICH

Much too high
Too high
About right
Too low, or
Much too low?
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

AGE In the 1972-75 surveys, age was recorded from the question "In what year were you born?" In 1976+, it was coded from "What is your date of birth?"

EDUC, PAEDUC
MAEDUC, SPEDUC
DEGREE, PADEG, MADEG
SPDEG In the 1972-74 surveys, those answering 11th or 12th grade to the introductory question were asked "Did you ever get a high school diploma?" In the 1975-78, 1980, 1982+ surveys, those who finished at least the 9th grade were asked part A: "Did you get a high school diploma or a GED certificate?" In the 1972-74 surveys, part B asked "Did you complete one or more years of college for credit?"

In the 1975-84, the phrase "... not including schooling such as business college, technical or vocational school" was appended. In the 1972, 1975-78, 1980, 1982+ surveys, part B1 inquired "How many years did you complete?" In the 1973-74 surveys, "--not including schooling such as business college, technical or vocational school" followed. In the 1972-73 surveys, part B3 asked "What degree?" and the unread responses were Jr. College, Bachelor's, and Graduate. In the 1974 survey, the first response was changed to "Junior College." In the 1975 survey, the question became "What degree or degrees?" This wording was also used in the 1976-78, 1980, 1982+ surveys, but the first response was changed to "Associate/Junior College." In 1972 and 1973, high levels of No Answers occurred on DEGREE, PADEG, MADEG, and SPDEG. This was corrected in 1974 by a reformatting of the physical layout of the items.

MAEDUC, MADEG

In 1991, an error on a skip instruction on Ballot B meant that a number of respondents were not asked mother's education.

SEX

Due to nonresponse, FP samples under represent males (SEX) (See GSS Methodological Report No. 9). The degree of the under representation is exaggerated when the raw data rather than data weighted for number of adults in the household are employed (Stephenson, 1978). Since NORC's BQ sample places a quota on gender, males are not under represented, but match the level set by the quota (See GSS Methodological Report No. 7). Census/CPS figures show virtually no changes in the gender distribution of adults over this period (e.g. 1970 = 47.5% male; 1980 = 47.6; 1984 = 47.7). Separate time series for gender are presented for the BQ (SEXBQ) and FP (SEXFP) samples.

RACE

The increased proportion other since 1982 is largely due to a tendency to classify Hispanics as a distinct race.

FAMILY16, FAMDIF16

The unread response categories of the family situation question were changed between the 1972 and 1973+ surveys as follows:

	<u>1972</u>	
Both own mother and father.....		1
Father and stepmother.....		2
Mother and stepfather.....		3
Father only.....		4
Mother only.....		5
Some other male relative (SPECIFY)		6
<hr/>		
Some other female relative (SPECIFY) ...		7
<hr/>		
Other arrangement (SPECIFY)		8
<hr/>		
	<u>1973-78, 80, 82+</u>	
Both own mother and father (GO TO NEXT QUESTION).....		1
Father and stepmother ... (ASK A)		2
Mother and stepfather ... (ASK A)		3
Father only (ASK A)		4
Mother only (ASK A)		5
Some other male relative (No female head) (SPECIFY AND ASK A).....		6
<hr/>		
Some other female relative (No male head) (SPECIFY AND ASK A).....		7
<hr/>		
Other arrangement with both male and female relatives (e.g., aunt and uncle, grandparents) .. (ASK A)		8
Other (SPECIFY AND ASK A).....		0

INCOM16

Not Applicable (living in institution) not coded in 1974+.

HOMPOP, BABIES
PRETEEN, TEENS
ADULTS

In the 1972-74 and 1976 surveys, the following question was used to determine household composition:

- A. How many persons altogether live here, related to you or not? Please include any persons who usually live here but are away temporarily—on business, on vacation, or in a general hospital—and all babies and small children. Do not include—college students who are living away at college, persons stationed away from here in the Armed Forces, or persons away in institutions. (Don't forget to include yourself in the total.)

IF TOTAL IS ONE PERSON, ENTER 01 . . TOTAL PERSONS:
AND SKIP TO NEXT QUESTION

- B. How many of these persons are babies or children under 6 years old? UNDER 6 YEARS:
- C. How many are children age 6 thru 12? 6-12 YEARS:
- D. How many are teenagers 13 thru 17? 13-17 YEARS:
- E. And how many are persons 18 and over? 18+ YEARS:

B-E SHOULD TOTAL TO A; IF NOT,
CHECK ANSWERS WITH RESPONDENT.

In the 1975 and 1982+ surveys, household composition was determined from household enumeration questions used in full probability samples. They were:

- 2) Please tell me the names of the people who usually live in this household?
- 3) Have we forgotten anyone—such as babies or small children; roomers; people who usually live here but are away temporarily, on business trips, vacations, [82: at school,] temporarily in the hospital, and so on?
- 7) How old was (HEAD/PERSON) on (his/her) last birthday?
- 9) Are any of the people we have listed staying somewhere else right now?

IF YES:

- 10) Who is staying somewhere else right now?
- 11) Where is (PERSON) living right now: is (PERSON) staying at another household; is (he/she) traveling; is (he/she) in some institution or dormitory—like at college, or in a hospital or somewhere; or what?
-

UNRELATE

In the 1972-74 and 1976 surveys, relation of household members to respondent was asked as follows:

Is everyone in the household related to you in some way?

Yes	1
No ... (ASK A)	2

A. IF NO: How many persons in the household are not related to you in any way

In the 1975 survey, relationship was determined from the following question from the household enumeration questions:

5) What is (PERSON'S) relationship to (HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD)?

In the 1977+ surveys, relationship was asked as follows:

Now I would like you to think about the people who live in this household. Please include any persons who usually live here but are away temporarily—on business, on vacation, or in a general hospital -and include all babies and small children. Do not include college students who are living away at college, persons stationed away from here in the Armed Forces, or persons away in institutions.

Is everyone in this household related to you in some way?

Yes	1
No ... (ASK A)	2

A. IF NO: How many persons in the household are not related to you in any way

PERSONS :

INCOME, INCOME72,
INCOME77, INCOME82
INCOME86, INCOME91
INCOME98, INCOME06
INCOME16

In order to avoid bunching in a few income groups, the response categories were revised between 1972 and 1973, 1976 and 1977, 1980 and 1982, 1985 and 1986, 1990 and 1991, and 1996 and 1998. Each of these three groupings are treated as a separate question and variable.

RINCOME, INCOME72,
RINCOM82

In 1975, 1976, 1980, 1982+, "occupation" appeared in the parentheses. In 1974 and 1977, "job" was used. In 1978, "occupation" was used first and "job" second.

XNORCSIZ, SRCBELT
SIZE

The size of place variables were reevaluated in 1978 and standard conventions were used to code all years. Cases from the 1980 frame used 1980 Census figures.

PARTYID

The skip pattern within PARTYID varied over the years. In the 1972-74 surveys, those responding Republicans or Democrats were asked Part A, those answering Independent were asked part B, and those giving Other were asked the next question. In 1975, 1977-78, 1980, 1982+, those answering Other and the new response, No preference, were asked part B. In the 1976 survey, those answering Other and No preference were asked the next question. In the 1975 survey, the following underlined articles were used: "a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent." In the 1972, 1973, 1974, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1980, 1982+ surveys, no articles were used.

The appearance of 10 DK cases in 1975 suggests that a different coding and recording scheme was used in 1975 than in other years.

VOTE68, PRES68 IF68WHO, VOTE72	On VOTE68 in 1972 and 1973 and on VOTE72 in 1973, 1974, and 1975, "ineligible" (Punch 3) was a precoded category that included volunteered responses only. On VOTE72 in 1976 and 1977 and on VOTE76 in 1977, 1978, 1980, and 1982, "ineligible" (Punch 3) included volunteered responses plus respondents who had not turned 18 by election day in 1972 (for VOTE72) or in 1976 (VOTE76). Note that in initial versions of the 1977 and 1978 surveys, VOTE72 in 1977 and VOTE76 in 1977 and 1978 "ineligible" (Punch 3) included volunteered responses plus respondents who had not turned <u>17</u> by the appropriate election day. PRES72, IF72WHO, PRES76, IF76WHO were adjusted accordingly.
VOTE72, PRES72, IF72WHO	In the 1973-74 surveys, "Refused," (Punch 4)" was not precoded but was coded from verbatim responses. In the 1975 survey, "Did not vote for President," punch "5," was a precoded response. In the 1976-77 surveys, coding specifications called for coding verbatim responses as "wouldn't vote." (Punch 5.)" In general, codes "4" and "5" can be considered as equivalent codes across surveys. In 1978, response "8" was "Don't know/Can't remember."
NATSPAC, NATENVIR NATHEAL, NATCITY, NATCRIME, NATDRUG NATEDUC, NATRACE NATARMS, NATAID, NATFARE, NATROAD, NATSOC, NATMASS NATPARK, NATCHLD, NATSCI	The first spending area was "Space Exploration Program" in 1973-76 and "The Space Exploration Program" in 1977+.
NATRACEZ	In 1977, the phrase "(Negroes/Blacks)" was used.
TAX	Response "R pays no income tax" (Punch 4) was not employed on the 1980 survey.
SPKATH	The 1976 survey used "community" alone.
SPKCOM, COLCOM LIBCOM	In 1980, "was" was used instead of "is." In 1982 and 1983, "would" was used instead of "should."
CAPPUN2, CAPPUN	The capital punishment question was reworded between the 1973 and 1974 surveys.
GUNLAW	In the 1974, 1975, and 1977 surveys, "get" was used instead of "obtain."
RUSSIA, JAPAN ENGLAND, CANADA BRAZIL, CHINA, ISRAEL EGYPT	In the 1974, 1975, 1977, 1982 surveys, 10 boxes are vertically arranged with a gap between the pluses and minuses. Only numbers with positive and negative signs are displayed with no countries, labels, or "don't know" categories are provided. In the 1983 survey, 10 lines are arranged vertically with no gap between the pluses and minuses. Countries are not listed and no "don't know" category is indicated. The endpoints are labeled "Like very much" and "Dislike very much." In the 1985 and 1986 surveys, 10 boxes are arranged horizontally with no gap between pluses and minuses. Countries and a don't know category are indicated in writing. The endpoints are labeled "Like very much" and "Dislike very much." In the 1988 and 1989 surveys, 10 lines are arranged vertically with no gap between the pluses and minuses. Countries are represented by one column each. In this case, numbers, positive and negative signs, punch codes, and a "don't know" category are all indicated.
RELIG, DENOM, JEW	In the 1972 survey, codes for Other Protestant denominations were slightly different than the post

FUND, 1972 codes. To reconcile these differences the following recodes were made:

1972 <u>Code</u>	1973+ <u>Codes</u>	1972 <u>Code</u>	1973+ <u>Codes</u>
11 =	77	55 =	20
21 =	20	57 =	97
32 =	09	62 =	63
34 =	20	63 =	75
38 =	63	66 =	19
39 =	36	67 =	43
50 =	12	73 =	74
52 =	68	75 =	71

Since 1984, a more refined list of Protestant denominations has been employed. Items coded simply as Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, or Presbyterian in 1972-1983 were coded into the "Don't know which" categories, respectively 18, 38, 28, and 48.

PRAY

While wording, interviewer specifications, and coding instructions were unchanged up to 2004 on the frequency of prayer question (PRAY), it appears that more "Nevers" were identified and coded in 1983 than in subsequent years. This might have been due to more emphasis in interviewer training or greater care by the coding supervisor. The collapsing of "Never" with "Less than Once a Week" should create a more comparable time series. In 2004, "Never" is added as a precoded category. There is an increase in the number of "Never" due to this format.

GRACE

The item on feeling close to "a powerful, spiritual force that seemed to lift you out of yourself" (GRACE) was originally part of a five-item, paranormal scale. When asked alone in 1983, it appeared to deviate notably from the previous reading. The replication of the entire scale in 1984 produced GRACE readings comparable to the previous observation, suggesting that a context effect was operating (See GSS Methodological Report No. 30). Because of this apparent effect, only the data points using the entire scale are compared across time.

MAPA, MASTERSP
JUDGELUV, FRNDKING
CRTRHEAL, RDEMLIB
POPEPKS

In the 1984 survey, codes of "Don't know" were not systematically distinguished from "No answer" codes.

DENOM16, SPDEN
SPDEN16

The switch from the 1970 sample frame to the 1980 sample frame added a primary sampling unit (PSU) in Utah. This significantly increased the number of Mormons in the sample. A Utah PSU was also part of the 1960 frame used in the 1972 survey, and this accounts for the higher proportion Mormon in that year.

Sampling groups with unique (or very limited) geographic representations presents special problems for multi-stage samples utilizing geographical clustering. Take, for example, the problem of representing Topekans. Either Topeka is not a primary sampling unit (PSU) and thus Topekans are completely unrepresented, or Topeka is a PSU and Topekans are over-represented. (The inclusion of a locality in a multi-stage, area probability sample does not guarantee that it will be over-represented, since areas could make up the same share of the sample as they do the universe. However, this would be the exception rather than the rule, since areas are designed not to represent themselves, but classes of areas like themselves.) In the case of Topeka, it makes up 0.05% of the national population, but in the multi-stage sample used by the GSS, it would account for about 1% of the sample. (The NORC sample frame is described in Appendix A.) We do not worry about the actual coverage of Topekans, since for most purposes we do not consider them a sociologically meaningful or distinct group. If not in the sample, they are in some sense represented by "similar" Omahans, Lincolmites, or Wichitans. But certain sociologically significant groups are heavily geographically clustered in limited areas (e.g. the Mormons in Utah; Aleuts in Alaska; Cajuns in Southern Louisiana; Lumbees in Robeson County, North Carolina; Gullah speakers on the Sea Island; etc.) Though these groups all have an equal probability of being represented in a multi-stage, area probability sample, as unique groups they will tend to be either under represented or over-represented. (e.g. the 1980 sample frame "hits" the Mormons, Cajuns, and Lumbees and "misses" the Aleuts and the Gullahs.)

FUND16, SPFUND
SPFUND16

Fundamentalism/liberalism codes are assigned to denominations using the most detail applicable code of religious affiliation (RELIG, DENOM, OTHER, etc.). With the refinement of the major denomination codes (DENOM, etc.) in 1984 [see note for RELIG], the fundamentalism/liberalism assignment procedure also changed. By using the pre-1984 major denomination categories, the fundamentalism/liberalism codes can be assigned in the same manner across all years. For details on the fundamentalism/liberalism codes, see GSS Methodological Report No. 43.

LIBTEMP, CONTEM
PROTTEMP, CATHTEMP
JEWTEMP, MSLMTEMP

The deletion of a Q-by-Q after 1987 (See Appendix B) apparently resulted in a large increase in the coding of 50° in 1988.

RACMAR, RACDIN,
RACOPEN, RACLIVE,
RACPUSH, RACSEG,
RACSCHOL, RACFEW,
RACHAF, RACMOST,
RACPRES

Until 1978, RACMAR, RADIN, RACPUSH, RACSEG, RACOPEN, RACLIVE, RACINTEG, RACHOME, RACFEW, RACHAF, RACMOST, and RACPRES were asked of non-blacks only. Since 1978, they have been asked of all respondents. RACDIN, RACOPEN, RACLIVE, RACCLOS, RACDIS, RACHOME, and RACFEW were asked in terms of opposite race. RACMAR, RACMAR10, RACSEG, and RACINTEG were asked in reference to blacks as given.

RACMAR, RACPUSH
RACSEG, RACOPEN,
RACLIVE, RACCLOS,
RACDIS, RACINTEG
RACHOME, RACFEW,
RACHAF, RACMOST,
BUSING, RACPRES,
RACCHURH

Surveys prior to 1993 used the phrase "Negro/Black" or "Negroes/Blacks." Since 1993, the questions wording has been "Black/African-American" and "Blacks/African-Americans."

RACPUSH, RACSEG	In the 1972-73 surveys, "Negro" was used instead of "(Negro/Black)." In the 1973 survey, the lead was "I'm going to read some opinions other people have expressed in connection with Negro-White relations. Please tell me which statement on this card comes closest to how you yourself feel about each one of these opinions." In the 1975 survey, the lead was "Here is an opinion other people have expressed in connection with (Negro/Black)-White relations. Please tell me which statement on this card comes closest to how you, yourself feel about it." The phrase "The first one is ..." is used in years that both parts are asked (1972, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1985).
RACOPEN	In the 1976 survey, the B option was refusing "to sell to someone because of his race or color." In 1973, 1975, 1978, 1980 and 1983+, the word "their" was used instead of "his." In the 1973, 1975, and 1976 surveys, this question was asked of whites only. In the 1978, 1980, 1983, 1984 and 1986 surveys, this was asked of both races. In 1973 and 1975, "who" was used. In 1976, 1978, 1980, 1983, 1984 and 1986+, "whom" was used. In 2004, "neither" was not a response category.
RACOPEN,RACLIV RACCLOS, RACDIS, RACINTEG, RACFEW, RACHAF, RACMOST BUSING, RACPRES, RACCHURH	From 1983 to 1991 the choice of racial terms was listed "Black/Negro." In earlier years, it was "Negro/Black."
RACLIV, RACCLOS RACDIS, RACINTEG	In 1972, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982+, the question read "Are there any (Negroes/blacks) living in this neighborhood now?" In the 1974 and 1977 surveys, the "now" was omitted. In the 1972-77 surveys, the question was asked of whites only. In the 1978, 1980, 1982+ surveys, this was asked of both races. In RACLIVE, RACCLOS, RACDIS and RACINTEG, whites were asked about "Negro[es]/black(s)." In RACLIVE, RACCLOS, and RACDIS, blacks were asked about "whites." In RACINTEG, blacks were asked about "Negro/black." In 1972-75, 1977, 1978, 1982+, 129B asked "blocks (or miles)." In 1976 and 1980, it read "(blocks/miles)." Since 1983, "Black" was used instead of "Negro/Black."
	In 1987, RACCLOS, RACDIS] were asked regardless of response to RACLIVE.
RACSCHOL	In the 1977 survey, "same school" (singular) was used. In 1972, "Negro" was used. Since then, "Negro/Black" was used.
RACFEW, RACHAF RACMOST,	In the 1972, 1974, 1975, and 1977 surveys, this was asked of whites only. Since the 1977 survey, this was asked of both races. Whites were asked about "Negroes/Blacks," and blacks were asked about "Whites."
RACPRES	In the 1972, 1975, and 1977 surveys, this was asked of whites only. Since the 1977 survey, this was asked of all respondents.
RACCHURH	Attending an integrated church (RACHURH) appears to be affected by changes in context due to the rotation design (See Appendix Q and GSS Methodological Report Nos. 55 and 56). Based on the 1988+ split-ballot comparisons, previous years can be adjusted for these effects.
HAPPY	Two separate context effects have distorted the time trend on personal happiness (HAPPY). First, personal happiness is higher for married persons when preceded by an item on marital happiness (HAPMAR). Marital happiness has preceded personal happiness on all surveys except 1972 and Form 3 in 1980 and Form 3 in 1987. To make a consistent series, we have a) used the experimental comparisons in 1980 and 1987 to adjust the 1972 personal happiness figures and have eliminated the variant experimental forms in 1980 and 1987 (GSS Social Change Report No. 6). Second, personal

happiness is lower when not preceded by the five-item, satisfaction scale (SATCITY, SATHOBBY, SATFAM, SATFRND, SATHEALT). This scale has routinely preceded personal happiness except in 1972, in 1985, on Form 2 in 1986, and on Forms 2 and 3 in 1987. The use of the experimental comparisons in 1986 and 1987 allows adjustments to be made (GSS Methodological Report No. 34).

HAPMAR

Marital happiness (HAPMAR) is lower when not preceded by the five-item, satisfaction scale (SATCITY, SATHOBBY, SATFAM, SATFRND, SATHEALT). This scale preceded marital happiness in all years except 1985 and on Form 2 in 1986 and Forms 2 and 3 in 1987. To create a consistent time series, use the experimental comparisons in 1986 and 1987 to adjust the 1985 figures (GSS Methodological Report No. 34).

HELPFUL

Belief in the helpfulness of people (HELPFUL) appears to be affected by ballot (GSS Methodological Report No. 55). Results from the 1988+ ballot comparisons can be used to adjust earlier years.

TRUST

Belief in the trustworthiness of people (TRUST) appears to be affected by ballot (GSS Methodological Report No. 55). Results from the 1988+ ballot comparisons can be used to adjust earlier years.

SATCITY

The item on community satisfaction (SATCITY) shows a significant ballot difference in 1988. While the other items on the satisfaction scale (SATFAM, SATHEALT, SATFRND, and SATHOBBY) do not show individually significant differences in 1988, the five items taken as a scale show significant, ballot-like differences prior to 1988 and borderline significance in 1988 (GSS Methodological Report No. 55).

SATFRND

Satisfaction with friends (SATFRND) appears to be affected by ballot (GSS Methodological Report No. 55). Results from the 1988+ ballot comparisons can be used to adjust earlier years.

CONFINAN, CONBUS
CONCLERG, CONEDUC
CONFED, CONLABOR
CONPRES, CONMEDIC
CONTV, CONJUDGE
CONSCI, CONLEGIS
CONARMY,

The question was asked as indicated in the 1973, 1974, 1977, 1978, 1980, 1982-84, and 1986+ surveys (except that the banking institution appeared only since 1977). In the 1975-76 surveys, the institutions were asked in the following order with the indicated phrases inserted:

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| A. | First, how much confidence do you have in the people running the Executive branch of the federal government? | G. Education? |
| <hr/> | | H. Medicine? |
| <hr/> | | |
| B. | How about people running organized labor? | I. TV? |
| <hr/> | | |
| C. | Press? | J. U.S. Supreme Court? |
| <hr/> | | |
| D. | Military? | K. How about the people running the scientific community? |
| <hr/> | | |
| E. | Major companies? | L. Congress? |
| <hr/> | | |

- F. How about the people running organized religion?
- M. Banks and financial institutions?

MANNERS, SUCCESS
HONEST, CLEAN,
JUDGEMENT, CONTROL
ROLE, AMICABLE,
OBEYS, RESPONSI
CONSIDER, INTEREST
STUDIOUS

In the 1975 survey, part A reads "The qualities on this card may all be important, but which three would you say are the most desirable for a child to have?" In the 1973, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1986 surveys, it reads "Which three qualities listed on this card would you say are the most desirable for a child to have?"

MANNERSY, SUCCESSY
HONESTY, CLEANY,
JUDGEMENTY, CONTROLY
ROLEY, AMICABLEY,
OBEYSY, RESPONSIY
CONSIDERY, INTERESTY
STUDIOUSY

In 1984 on Form 3, the gender-neutral Kohn child value items were asked in reverse order with "good student" first on the list and "good manners" last (GSS Methodological Report No. 30).

AGED

Support for having parents cared for in their children homes (AGED) is influenced by context resulting from the rotation scheme. The ballot experiments in 1988+ can be used to adjust for the rotation variation in prior years.

ANOMIA1, ANOMIA2
ANOMIA3, ANOMIA4
ANOMIA5, ANOMIA6
ANOMIA7, ANOMIA8
ANOMIA9

There have been variations in which words in the introduction were underlined. In 1977, 1978, 1980, 1983, and 1985, more or less/more or less was underlined. In 1976, agree/disagree was underlined. In 1974, more or less agree/more or less disagree was underlined. In 1973, both the 1977-78 and 1974 variations were used on parts of this question.

SATJOB

In the 1972 survey, those keeping house were not asked this question. In all later surveys, they were. In the 1972-74, and 1977+ surveys, those "unemployed, laid off, looking for work" were asked this question, but in the 1975-76 surveys, they were not.

RICHWORK

In the 1973-74, 1977, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1985, and 1987+ surveys, respondents "unemployed, laid off, looking for work" were asked this question. In the 1976 survey, they were not.

RANK, RANK10

In 1987, this was self-administered. Interviewer instructions, "Hand...below," were replaced with respondent instruction, "Please mark box below."

WKSUBS

In the 1976, 1982 and 1985 surveys, the question read "he or she."

WKSUB, WKSUBS
WKSUP, WKSUPS

No answers increased notably in 1988 due to an incorrect skip instruction on ballot A. In 1991, WKSUB was asked of respondents on all three ballots instead of on only two ballots as in previous years. This question was still asked of respondents' spouses, when applicable, on two ballots.

GETAHEAD

In the 1973-74 surveys, there was an unread response on "Other [Specify]" that was eliminated from the later surveys. The precoded unread response was "Luck most important or help from other people" in the 1976 survey.

CHLDMORE, CHLDNUM CHLDSOON	Code "4," "Not asked, inappropriate," was not precoded in surveys after 1977 as it had been in the 1972 and 1974-77 surveys. Because of this and changes in interviewer specifications (see Appendix B), marginals are not comparable across surveys.
CHLDNUM	One response of "12" in the 1972 survey and one response of "10" in the 1974 survey were recoded to "8 or more." Code "9" includes "don't know" and "no answer" responses.
TEENPILL	Approval of birth control information for teenagers (TEENPILL) used a Depends code in 1974. Since this code was selected by only three respondents, it has simply been recorded with Don't know and eliminated from the percentaged responses.
SEXEDUC	Approval of sex education (SEXEDUC) included a Depends category in 1974.
DIVLAW	When this item appeared on form 2 in 1978, the distribution varied from that of form 1 in 1978 and from the distributions of all forms in other years.
PREMARSEX, TEENSEX	This lead was used for PREMARSX, XMARSEX in 1974, 1975, 1977, 1978, 1980, and 1983+. In 1973 and 1976, the lead was "There has been a lot of discussion about the way morals and attitudes about sex are changing in this country."
HOMOSEX	In the 1973-74 surveys, there was an unread response of "Other [Specify]" which was dropped in later surveys.
PORNINF, PORNMORL PORNRAPE, PORNOUT	In the 1973 survey, the question used a card listing items A-D and used the following opening, "On this card are some opinions about the effects of looking at or reading such sexual materials." In the 1976 survey, no card was used, but the same opening sentence was used. In the 1975, 1978, 1983, 1984, and 1986-1994 surveys, "do" and "do not" were underlined.
PORNMORL	In the 1976 survey, the article "a" was inserted as follows: "Sexual materials lead to <u>a</u> breakdown of morals. Emphasis added.
PORNLAW	In the 1973 and 1975 surveys, no card was used.
HITOK, HITMARCH HITDRUNK, HITCHLD HITBEATR, HITROBBER POLHITOK, POLABUSE POLMURDR, POLESCAP POLATTAK	In the 1973 and 1975 surveys, those replying "no" to the introductory questions skipped on to the next question. Since 1975, the situational subparts were asked of all respondents regardless of their answer to the introductory question.
POLHITOK, POLABUSE POLMURDR, POLESCAP POLATTAK	In the 1975 survey, the list of situations was introduced with the lead, "Would you approve of a policeman striking a citizen who" In 1973, 1976, 1978, 1980, and 1983+, the lead was "Would you approve if the citizen" Also in the 1975 survey, part C was introduced "Would you approve of a policeman striking a citizen who"
FEAR	In the 1977 survey, the word "right" was omitted.

AREA CODE NUMBER

19. Where is this phone?

Code location of phone:

- In household..... 1
- In home of neighbor..... 2
- Other (SPECIFY)..... 3

IF NO NUMBER GIVEN CODE:

- No phone..... 4
- Refused..... 5

1994+

PHONE (cont.)

My office sometimes needs to confirm that interviews were conducted. These next questions will be used for that purpose. Your answers will remain confidential.

1. What is your name?

- R's name
.....1
- R Refused.....2

2. What is your phone number?

- R's Phone #
.....(GO TO INDUS80, PRESTG80, INDUS80).....1
- R has no phone...(GO TO SPOCC, SPPRES, SPWRKSLF, SPIND).....2
- R Refused.....(GO TO SPOCC, SPPRES, SPWRKSLF, SPIND).....3

3. Is this phone located in your own house?

- Yes.....(GO TO SPWRKSTA)..... 1
- No.....(GO TO MARITAL)..... 2

4. Where is the phone located?

5. In whose name is your phone listed?

- R's Name.....1
- Other (SPECIFY).....2

COOP2, COOP

Between the 1972 and 1973 surveys, the response categories for respondent cooperation were altered. The original usage appears as COOP2 and the revised usage as COOP.

RACAVOID, RACCHNG
RACQUIT, RACDIF1,
RACDIF2, RACDIF3
RACDIF4

Questions prior to 1993 used the phrase "Negroes/Blacks," while those asked in or since 1993 used "African-Americans/Blacks."

RACDIF1, RACDIF2
RACDIF3, RACDIF4

In 1977, this was asked of non-blacks only. Since 1985, it has been asked of everyone.

MESERV

In 1982 on Form 2, the question on national service for men (MESERVE) was asked immediately after a similar question on national service for women (FESERVE). This variant ordering produced a

norm of even handedness context effect (GSS Methodological Report No. 55).

HELPBLK	Questions prior to 1993 used the phrase "Negroes/Blacks," while those asked in or since 1993 used "African-Americans/Blacks."
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NUMGIVEN	In 1987, the modified question read "From time to time, most people discuss <u>important matters</u> with other people. Who are the <u>people</u> with whom you discuss such matters? Just tell me their first names or initials. IF LESS THAN 3 NAMES MENTIONED, PROBE, ANYONE ELSE? ONLY RECORD FIRST THREE NAMES, BELOW AND ON NEXT PAGE." Since probes stopped after 3 mentions, the distribution is sharply truncated at 3 in 1987.
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EQCLOSE, RCLOSE1 RCLOSE2, RCLOSE3 RCLOSE4, RCLOSE5	In 1987, more people reported they were equally close to all mentioned people, since this referred to a maximum of 3 instead of a maximum of 5 as in 1985. This lowered the percent "especially close" for RCLOSE1-RCLOSE3. Also, the number of missing values (Punch 9) are much higher in 1987.
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SPOUSE1, SPOUSE2 SPOUSE3, SPOUSE4 SPOUSE5, PARENT1 PARENT2, PARENT3 PARENT4, PARENT5 SIBLING1, SIBLING2 SIBLING3, SIBLING4 SIBLING5, CHILD1, CHILD2, CHILD3 CHILD4, CHILD5 OTHFAM1, OTHFAM2 OTHFAM3, OTHFAM4 OTHFAM5, COWORK1 COWORK2, COWORK3 COWORK4, COWORK5 MEMGRP1, MEMGRP2, MEMGRP3, MEMGRP4 MEMGRP5, NEIGHBR1 NEIGHBR2, NEIGHBR3 NEIGHBR4, NEIGHBR5 FRIEND1, FRIEND2 FRIEND3, FRIEND4 FRIEND5, ADVISOR1 ADVISOR2, ADVISOR3 ADVISOR4, ADVISOR5 OTHER1, OTHER2, OTHER3 OTHER4, OTHER5	In 1987, the categories on the card were Spouse/Parent/Sibling/Child/Other family/Co-worker/Member of group/Neighbor/Friend/Advisor/Other. This clearly inflated the mentions on ADVISOR1-ADVISOR3.
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MEMFRAT, MEMSERV MEMVET, MEMPOLIT MEMUNION, MEMSPORT MEMYOUTH, MEMSCHL MEMHOBBY, MEMGREEK	Originally in the 1974 data, this was precoded as a dichotomy (belongs to no organizations/belongs to one or more). The 1974 data were revised to conform to the latter practice of coding the total number of organizations that respondent belonged to. Part P, "Any other groups," was not listed on the show card on Ballot C in 1990 and 1991 and on Ballot B in 1991. In 1990 Part P, "Any other groups," was not asked on Ballot C. Part P, "Any other groups" was listed on the show card for all ballots in 1993.
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MEMNAT, MEMFARM
MEMILT, MEMPROF
MEMCHURH, MEMOTHER

FRNDREL1, FRNDREL2
FRNDREL3, FRNDREL4
FRNDREL5

The 1988 variables FRNDREL1 to FRNDOTH3 were subsequently recoded to include the religions of the friends who were in the same congregation as the respondent (previously considered missing). In 1989, codes of 4 and 5 on FRNDREL1 to FRNDREL3 were reversed to correct a coding error.

SATHOME

In 1996, Ballot B omitted the instruction "READ CATEGORIES BELOW."

LAWYERA

In 1996, Ballot B used the phrase "of the place" instead of "of the firm or attorney."

LAWYERG

In 1996, this appeared only on Ballot B.

DRCTLINK, TYPEURL
SRCHENG, BOOKMARK
CATDRCTY, HYPERLNK

In 2000, the question text was "Uses a bookmark".

HLTHINFO, 793A-G

In 2000, response option 3, "6 or more times," was not offered. Response option 2 read simply "3 or more times".

BUYINFGN, INVESTGN
TRAVELGN, PEOPLEGN
GAMEGN, NEWJOBGN
POLDISGN, POLINFGN
PERFRMGN, ARTGN,
POLCANGN,

In 2000, response option 3, "6 or more times," was not offered. Response option 2 read simply "3 or more times".

WWWLINE2

In 2000 "Wireless connection (e.g. from a satellite)" was not an option offered on the Hand Card, and "Other, not mentioned above" was a precoded option, whereas in 2002 it was volunteered only.

OPRICH, OPPROF
OPFAMILY,

The response categories and the wording of the question itself have not varied. In 1985, 1990, and 1996, it was a stand-alone item with the introduction, "What is your opinion of the following statement?" In 1987 and 2000, it was part of a battery with the introduction, "Do you agree or disagree..." In 1993 and 1994, it was part of a battery with the introduction, "How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?"

INCGAP
GOVEDOP, GOVJOBS
GOVLESS, GOVUNEMP
GOVMINC

In 1996, items were not asked as part of ISSP. "Somewhat" appeared with "agree" and "disagree," and "can't choose" was not an explicit option.

GOVEQINC

From 1987 through 2000, the category "Can't choose" appeared on the questionnaire; in 2008 and 2010, "Don't know" appeared instead on the questionnaire. In 1996 and 2010, responses used on the questionnaire were "Agree strongly" and "Disagree strongly" instead of "Strongly agree" and "Strongly disagree". In 2010, due to a programming error, DKs and NAs were not separately coded; they were later separated based on the pattern of responses to adjoining questions.

FAMBUDGT	In 1994 the first option listed was punch one "I manage all the money and give my partner his/her share." Punch two also used "partner" instead of "spouse/partner. Punch six read "Not married or living as married," respondents answering this way are recorded under punch zero "I am not currently living with a spouse or partner."
TWOINCS	In 1994, a fifth response option, "strongly disagree," was included.
LOCALNUM	In 1991, this question was asked of all employed people as part of the Work Organization Module. The screener for this question was used in 1989.
SEXSEX	In 1991, some respondents who should have been asked this question (SEXSEX) were unintentionally skipped out. Based on analysis of the 1988-1990 pattern and manual inspection of the questionnaires we were able to largely correct this problem. However, 1991 may still be different somewhat from other years.
GENEGOOD	In 1996, this question did not use the precoded response category "IT DEPENDS," Punch 3.
ETH1, ETH2, ETH3	<p>In the 1972-73 surveys, American Indians were coded as "Other," punch "29." In the 1974-78, 1980, 1982+ surveys, American Indians were a precoded ethnicity, punch "30." American Indians have been recoded to "30" for all surveys. After the 1977 survey, a general review of the ethnicity coding was made and all "Other" lists for 1972-77 were examined. Based on this review, the pre-listed "National Codes" were revised. Nations that were not on the list but accounted for 0.1 percent of the cases from 1972 to 1977 (an arbitrary minimum percentage) were prelisted in the "National Codes" in 1978, 1980, 1982+. This added Belgium, India, Lithuania, Portugal, Rumania, and Yugoslavia. One code, "West Indies," was deleted from the "National Codes," since it referred neither to a country nor a distinct ethnic group.</p> <p>At the same time, several changes were made in the general coding of the ethnicity question. First, the review revealed that a few cases coded "Other" actually represented countries already precoded (e.g., Bohemia to Czechoslovakia, Togo to Africa, and Dutch to The Netherlands). These were recoded to their proper nationality. Second, the cases in 1972-1977 matching the six new nationalities added in 1978 were recoded into their proper nationality. Third, codes of "West Indies" were examined and recoded into Non-Spanish West Indies (e.g., Jamaica), not specified West Indies, or into a new grouped category, Other Spanish. Fourth, two new grouped categories, Other Spanish (Spanish West Indies, Central America, and South America) and Arabic (Arabic countries of the Middle East and North Africa) were added. Finally, a large group of "Other" cases giving their origin as "United States," or "American," some particular region or state of the United States, or the like were recoded as "America." (While these responses were frequent enough to justify the creation of a precoded "America" category, this was not done in order not to encourage this response.) This minimized the number of cases remaining in the "Other" category to about eight cases per survey.</p> <p>Since 1984, the ethnicity question was adapted to record up to three ethnicities mentioned. In 1994, the following new response codes were introduced: 40) Other Asian, 41) Other European.</p>
WWWHR, WWWMIN	<p>Before 2004 and on versions 5-6 in 2004 WWWHR and WWWMIN were screened on USEWWW and COMPUSE. On versions 1-4 in 2004 and in 2006 there were no screening questions. To make WWWHR and WWWMIN more similar across years, those indicating no use were coded as "Not Applicable" on version 1-4 in 2004 and in 2006 (i.e. in effect as "screened-out"). There are some cases in 2000 and 2002 which have zero use indicated on WWWHR and WWWMIN. Users might consider also recoding these as "Not Applicable" for comparisons across years.</p>
EQUALIZE	<p>From 1985 through 1998, this question was self-administered, and it had "Can't choose" among options. In 2006, it was administered with interviewer assistance, and it had "Don't know" instead.</p>

SEXFREQ	This question appeared on only form 1 in 1990. Variants of this question, SEXFREQ1 and SEXFREQ2, were asked on form 2 in 1990. In 2012 only, SEXFREQ was skipped if the respondent answered “No partner” on the PARTNERS question.
JEW AJ, SPJEW AJ, JEW16AJ, SPOTHJEW SPREL16, SPDEN16, SPOTH16	In 2012: OTHJEW screened respondents for JEW AJ; before 2012, OTHJEW screened respondents for JEW. OTHJEW16 screened respondents for JEW16AJ; before 2012, OTHJEW16 screened respondents for JEW16AJ. SPOTHJEW screened respondents for SPJEW AJ; before 2012, SPOTHJEW screened respondents for SPJEW. SPOTHJEW was asked if RELIG=3, or OTHJEW=1 or 2, or RELIG16=3, or OTHJEW16=1 or 2, or JEW16=2 and SPREL=4 or DK, and MARITAL=1. SPREL16 was asked if MARITAL=1 and OTHJEW=1 or 2, or RELIG=3, or OTHJEW16=1 or 2, or RELIG16=3.
MARELIG, PARELIG	In 2008, MARELIG and PARELIG were only asked to respondents who selected "Jewish" as their own religion. In 2012, they were asked if RELIG=3, or OTHJEW=1 or 2, or RELIG16=3, or OTHJEW16=1 or 2.
KIDNUM, KD1RELIG - KD8RELIG	In 2012, KIDNUM was asked if RELIG=1, or OTHJEW=1 or 2, or SPOTHJEW=1 or 2. In 2012, KD1RELIG-KD8RELIG were asked if RELIG=3, or OTHJEW=1 or 2, or SPREL=3, or SPOTHJEW=1 or 2, and if the respondent said he/she was currently living in the household under the age of 18.
AIDCOL	This question is part of the ISSP Role of Government module. In 1990 and 1996, the standard ISSP question was changed to better reflect the terms that Americans used to discuss this issue, using “college students” and “financial assistance” instead of “university students” and “financial help”. In 2006, this change was not made.
HRSMONEY	In 1989, the word ‘any’ was omitted from the first sentence, only asking about regular overtime.
WRKENJOY	In 1989, the question specified “paying job” and “that money” instead of the current wording. I would enjoy having a paying job even if I did not need that money
VIGVERSN	In 1996, the schizophrenia vignette was asked “[Name] is [a/an Race/Ethnicity] [man/woman] who has completed [education].”, and omitted the following sentences: [Name] became so preoccupied with what s/he was thinking that [he/she] skipped meals and stopped bathing regularly. At night, when everyone else was sleeping, [he/she] was walking back and forth in [his/her] room. In 2006 and 2018, it was asked “[Name] is [a/an Race/Ethnicity] [man/woman] with an [8 th grade/HS/college] education.” In 1996, the drug vignette referred to cocaine use. In 2018, it referred to opioid use.