

Nightline Stock Market Poll, November 1987 (ICPSR 8886); Economy Poll, October 1987 (ICPSR 8887); Papal Visit Poll, August 1987 (ICPSR 8892); North Testimony Poll #2, July 1987 (ICPSR 8895); ABC News Reagan Speech Poll December 1987 (ICPSR 8924); Gary Hart Poll, December 1987 (ICPSR 8926)

ABC News / Washington Post Polls: May 1987 (ICPSR 8843); April 1987 (ICPSR 8844); March 1987 (ICPSR 8845); January 1987 (ICPSR 8846); June 1987 (ICPSR 8847); August 1987 (ICPSR 8849); Bork Vote Poll October 1987 (ICPSR 8888); Persian Gulf / Stock Drop Poll, October 1987 (ICPSR 8889); October 1987 (ICPSR 8890); Poindexter Testimony Poll #2 July 1987 (ICPSR 8893); Poindexter Testimony Poll #1 July 1987 (ICPSR 8894); Pre-Summit Poll, December 1987 (ICPSR 8922); December 1987 (ICPSR 8925)

Annual Survey of Governments, 1986: Employment Statistics (ICPSR 8977)

CBS News / New York Times National and Local Surveys, 1987 (ICPSR 8718)

CBS News / New York Times / Tokyo Broadcasting System Collaborative National Surveys of the United States and Japan: 1986 (ICPSR 8880); 1987 (ICPSR 8916)

Campaign Expenditures in the United States, 1985-1986: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Data (ICPSR 8939)

Campaign Expenditures in the United States, 1985-1986: Reports on Financial Activity (RFA) Data (ICPSR 8937)

Current Population Survey, January 1986: Displaced Workers (ICPSR 8978)

Dangerous Sex Offenders: Classifying, Predicting and Evaluating Outcomes of Clinical Treatment in Bridgewater Massachusetts, 1982-1985 (ICPSR 8985)

Disorder and Community decline in 40 Neighbourhoods in the United States, 1977-1983 (ICPSR 8944)

Effectiveness of Client Specific Planning as an Alternative Sentence, 1981-1982: Washington DC and Fairfax, Montgomery and Prince George Counties (ICPSR 8943)

English Language Proficiency Study (ELPS) 1982: [United States] (ICPSR 8974)

General Social Surveys, 1972-1988: [Cumulative File] (ICPSR 8974)

Homicides in Chicago, 1965-1981 (ICPSR 8914)

Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census, 1986-1987: Public Facilities (ICPSR 8973)

National Nursing Home Survey, 1985 (ICPSR 8914)

Nature and Sanctioning of White Collar Crime, 1976-1978: Federal Judicial Districts (ICPSR 8989)

Occupational Measures from the Dictionary of Occupational Titles for 1980 Census Detailed Occupations (ICPSR 8942)

Predicting Recidivism in North Carolina 1978 and 1980 (ICPSR 8987)

Public and Private Resources in Public Safety [United States]: Metropolitan Area Panel Data, 1977 and 1982 (ICPSR 8988)

Selecting Career Criminals for Priority Prosecution, 1984-1986: Los Angeles County, California and Middlesex County, Massachusetts (ICPSR 8980)

Survey of Common Cause Members 1981: [United States] (ICPSR 8632)

Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, July 1981 - December 1982 (ICPSR 8770-8787)

Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 1984 Panel: Health-Wealth Merged File (ICPSR 8903)

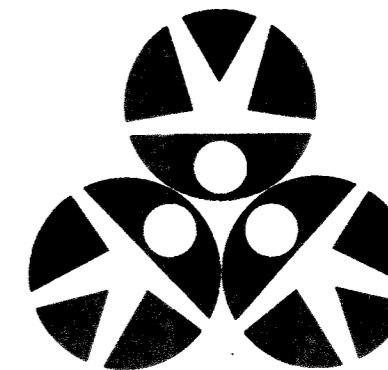
Survey of Youths in Custody, 1987: [United States] (ICPSR 8992)

Use of Adjuncts to Supplement Judicial Resources in Six Jurisdictions, 1983-1986: [United States] (ICPSR 8979)

WLS-TV / ABC News Chicago Primary Pre-Election Tracking Poll, February 1987 (ICPSR 8859)

# ACSPRI newsletter

Australian Consortium  
for Social and  
Political Research  
Incorporated



Number 19 March 1989

ISSN 0158-6882

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# The Second National Social Research Conference

Aquines College, University of Adelaide. 25th - 27th September, 1989

ACSPRI and the Sociology Discipline, Flinders University are jointly hosting the second national conference on empirical social research. Last year's conference, the first, was hosted jointly by ACSPRI and the Dept. of Anthropology & Sociology, University of Queensland.

Accommodation is available at Aquines College for \$40/night for bed and breakfast (\$25 for students) Accommodation is also available at the nearby Grosvenor Hotel.

The general themes of the conference are:

- Developments in research methodology
- Substantive research findings and their implications

Registration fees are: \$100 (Full-time students \$60) or \$40 per day.  
More details are available from: Dr. Sharyn Roach (08) 275 2122

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## This issue

This issue focuses on generic social science surveys as a resource for teaching and research. The last decade has witnessed the establishment of several large-scale, national surveys in Australia. These include the National Social Science Survey, The Australian Longitudinal Survey, Australian Values Study Survey, Australian Election Study and the Australian Class Project. These surveys, as well as two international survey projects, are described.

The focus for the next issue is on the role of social scientists as consultants. Academic social scientists are increasingly undertaking projects as consultants to Government and industry and some people are claiming that consultancy work is overtaking publication as a measure of productivity for academic social scientists. We would be interested in contributions to the newsletter which comment on this activity, describe individuals' experiences in the area, analyse its implications for social science or outline scenarios for the future.

## Contacting ACSPRI

You can contact us at:

ACSPRI, SSDA,  
Research School of Social Sciences,  
The Australian National University,  
GPO Box 4, Canberra 2601  
Tel: (062) 49 440 (Roger Jones), 49 0172 (Ken Reed)

## ...or by E-mail

Anyone who wants to contact ACSPRI or the SSDA can do so by E-mail. Contributions to the newsletter can be sent to Ken Reed on KXR310@CSC.ANU.OZ, while requests for information on SSDA data holdings and data orders should go to Gina Roach on GAR310@CSC.ANU.OZ. For general enquiries concerning ACSPRI or the SSDA, contact Roger Jones on SSB310@CSC.ANU.OZ.

## ACSPRI Summer Program

The ACSPRI Summer Program in Social Research Methods and Research Technology was held at the University of New South Wales from 5th to 17th February 1989.

Numbers were up on previous years with a total of 130 participants taking 173 courses. This compares with 70 participants taking 85 courses last year. With Sydney as the venue city, most participants came from New South Wales as might be expected. As always, there was a large contingent from Canberra.

A new development was the increase number of participants from non-academic organizations. The growth area here was State public services and instrumentalities.

In previous years the main introductory course was a two week unit, Data Analysis with SPSS-X. This year, it was replaced by Introduction to Statistics in the first week and a choice of one of three options: Data Analysis in SPSS-X, Data Analysis in SAS or Data Analysis on the Macintosh in the second week.

Other courses offered were: Introduction to Statistics; Principles of Qualitative Research; Survey Research Design; Introduction to Causal Modelling; Multiple Regression Techniques; Models for Analysing Change; Analysis of Qualitative Data; Multivariate Analysis Techniques; LISREL; Log Linear Modelling; Analysis of Survey Errors. Of these, Models for Analysing Change, Data Analysis on the Macintosh and Analysis of Qualitative Data were new courses.

A number of planned courses had to be cancelled owing to lack of numbers. These were: Life Table Analysis; Graphical and Exploratory Methods; Scaling Techniques; and Time Series Analysis and Forecasting.

Many thanks to all the teaching staff who contributed so much to the Program.

And, finally, thanks to Praxa Inc. who provided 'DataDesk Professional', the data analysis package used on the Macintosh course, and to Trio Technology who provided 'GOFER' used on the Analysis of Qualitative Data course.

## 1989 ICPSR Summer Program

The 1989 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods will run from June 26 to July 21 (first session) and July 24 to August 18 (second session).

In the first session there are five four-week lecture courses of one hour a day. These are:

- The Logic of Data Analysis: Measurement and Design
- Basic Mathematics
- Mathematics for Social Scientists
- Introduction to Computing
- Advanced Topics in Social Research

During the same session there are ten four-week workshops of two hours each day. These are:

- Mathematical Models: Game theory
- Quantitative Historical Analysis
- American Electoral Research
- Latino Research Issues
- Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis I
- Introduction to Regression Analysis
- Linear Models
- Multivariate Statistical Methods
- Scaling and Dimensional Analysis

During the first session there are also a series of one week workshops. These are:

- Survey of Income and Program Participation
- National Health Interview Survey
- Logit and Log-linear Models
- Network Analysis

The lecture courses for the second session are:

- Introduction to computing
- Formal models of social systems
- Matrix algebra, probability and estimation
- Advanced topics in social research
- Dynamic and Longitudinal Analysis

The workshops in the second session are:

- LISREL Models
- Linear Models
- Time Series Analysis
- Quantitative Analysis of Crime and Criminal Justice
- Mathematical Models: Rational choice
- Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis II
- Categorical Data Analysis
- Structural Equation (causal) Models
- Advanced Analysis of Variance

The one week workshops in session two are:

- General Structural Equation Models: Introduction
- General Structural Equation Models: Intermediate
- Regression Diagnostics

Further details, including application forms, are available from ACSPRI, but applications must be in by 8th May - so be quick.

## Microcomputer news

### SYSTAT developments

The company which developed SYSTAT has announced the release of a new product, 'FASTAT', and more components for SYSTAT.

FASTAT is a Macintosh application marketed on its ease of use, its low cost, its accuracy, the quality of the graphics and, as the name implies, its speed. Its statistical procedures include summary statistics; one-way and multi-way tables; chi-square; correlations; regression; non-parametric tests; ANOVA & ANOCOVA; series transformation and smoothing; forecasting; principal components and factor analysis.

The graphics component does two and three dimensional full-colour scatterplots, line plots and bubble plots; regression and confidence intervals; influence plots; probability plots; scatterplot matrices; box-and-whisker plots; histograms and cumulative histograms with smoothing; stem-and-leaf diagrams; time series plots, autocorrelation and partial autocorrelation plots; factor loading plots.

SYSTAT has also announced the release of supplements to the SYSTAT program. These are:

- ACROSPIN — for 3-D rotating plots
- DESIGN — to estimate sample sizes needed to obtain a desired statistical power; to calculate tables of expected mean squares for balanced experiments
- LOGIT — for logistic regression
- PROBIT — a maximum likelihood program for estimating a multiple regression module of analysis of covariance for dichotomous dependent variables
- SIGNAL — performs signal detection theory analysis of either binary or multiple response category data
- STAT/TRANSFER — allows the transfer of data between SYSTAT and other applications

SURVIVAL — provides survival, reliability and life-table analysis

TESTAT — provides test summary statistics, reliability coefficients, standard errors of measurement for selected score intervals; and item analysis statistics for multiple item tests

TOBIT — does regression analysis with any form of one-sided censored data

2SLS — estimates two stage least squares regression models and can compute heteroscedasticity consistent standard errors for both ordinary least squares and two stage least squares regression models

FASTAT costs \$599 or \$539 for educational institutions. SURVIVAL costs \$375 and the other modules cost \$210 (no discounts).

More details from DATABASE NETWORK, 23 Small St., Hampton, VIC, 3188. Ph: (03) 597 0133. FAX: (03) 598 6167.

### Data analysis workshop

A Workshop series designed for those who are interested in the analysis of complex data sets of fundamental practical importance is being organised under the auspices of the Consortium for Research in Computer Intensive Statistical Methods. Each Workshop will focus on a single theme chosen for its relevance and broad applicability and will establish the current 'state of the art' in its respective field.

The first Workshop will be held in September 1989 at the Australian National University, and its theme will be the formulation, fitting and statistical analysis of **linear simultaneous equation models**. These models are used in econometrics, marketing, quality control, education, psychometrics, physical and chemical sciences, biological and medical sciences, statistical science, behavioural science, social science and political science. It is hoped to attract researchers from all these disciplines. Linear simultaneous equation models have many alternative names, including covariance structure models, latent variable models and LISREL models. Many users will not be aware of the literature under these different titles. It is hoped to rectify this situation.

Professor Brian Everitt, author of the monograph *An Introduction to Latent Variable Models* (Chapman & Hall, 1984), will be the Workshop's keynote speaker. The Workshop will confront

the methodological and practical problems of linear simultaneous equation models with a novel format designed to have maximum impact. Two complementary data sets (either real or simulated) that highlight the fundamental methodological problems will be distributed to potential participants. Eligibility for Workshop participation will be determined by researchers presenting either an analysis of (part of) the data, or a theoretical contribution relevant to the workshops theme, one month prior to the Workshop. Those who have contributed data are also invited to attend. The greatest value of the Workshop will be the Discussion Sessions. Publication of the final proceedings is being planned.

If you are interested in participating on the Workshop contact the co-ordinator, Sue Wilson, for information on data distribution and Workshop contributions.

Dr Sue Wilson,  
DAW Co-ordinator,  
Dept. of Statistics, IAS,  
ANU, GPO Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2601.

### Norwegian Research Programme of Organization and Management

The European Political Data Newsletter reports that the Norwegian government has established a large social research programme focussing on organization and management. The programme (called Ledelse, Organisjon og Styring [LOS] in Norwegian) is the largest investment in the social sciences ever undertaken in Norway. It is co-ordinated by the Norwegian Council of Applied Social Sciences with an important part of the Programme being the establishment of a national multidisciplinary research centre in Bergen. This centre, the LOS centre will receive between one third and one half of the annual LOS budget. The remaining funds are to be allocated to researchers and research centres in other parts of the country.

The main aims of the LOS programme are to:

- Encourage research of a high standard within the field of Organisation and Management
- Create efficient meeting places for the researchers and users
- Transmit the research results to a wide range of users

Six themes have been given priority.

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Theme 1 | <i>Development of leadership, co-operation and motivation systems in organisations.</i>                     |
| Theme 2 | <i>Leadership systems and the use of resources within the public sector</i>                                 |
| Theme 3 | <i>Industrial policy and market development</i>   |
| Theme 4 | <i>Reforms and possibilities for development in the relationship between the public and private sectors</i> |
| Theme 5 | <i>Negotiation systems and their effects on society</i>   |
| Theme 6 | <i>Democracy and development in society: visions and framework conditions</i>                               |

For more information contact Terje Steen Edvarsen, Director, LOS Centre, C/- Norwegian Social Science Data Services, Hans Holmboesgate, N-5007, Bergen, Norway.

### Research training in the social sciences

The British Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) newsletter reports that the ESRC has earmarked a sum of £360,000 to establish a research programme on research training in the social sciences.

The programme will include a range of projects ranging from the collection and collation of basic data on PhD research to fundamental research into the research training process and the contribution of social science research training. The ESRC plan to use the results of the programme to help formulate their policy for the 1990's. They expect the results to help students, supervisors, departments and employers of trained researchers to carry out their tasks more effectively.

More details can be obtained from the Training Division, ESRC, Kembrey Park, Swindon SN2 6UQ.

### Conferences

The following are notices of conferences to be held in Australia and overseas in the next six to nine months. Readers interested in obtaining more details should contact the organisers listed.

If you want to publicise a conference or workshop to be held in the near future, or you want to report on a recent a conference, contact us at ACSPRI.

## 'Crime: Preventable or Inevitable'

July 3-6, 1989

Convened by:

The Australian Crime Prevention Council & The School of Community Services and Policy Studies, Phillip Institute of Technology.

Held at:

Coburg Campus,  
Phillip Institute of Technology,  
Melbourne, Victoria

Plenary sessions are organised around the following issues:

- *Can crime be effectively prevented?*
- *What are the most effective ways to prevent crime?*
- *How costly is crime prevention?*
- *Should crime prevention involve processes which foster community attitudes leading to social and law-abiding behaviour?*
- *What theories about the causes of crime underlie different crime prevention strategies?*
- *How adequate are traditional crime prevention activities?*
- *What alternative approaches are being tried?*
- *What potential dangers are inherent in some crime prevention approaches?*
- *Should crime prevention programmes be focussed on youth?*
- *What is the appropriate role of law enforcement in crime prevention?*
- *What are and should be the parameter of crime prevention activities?*
- *What impact does Government policy have on crime prevention?*
- *What are the ideological underpinnings of different crime prevention policies?*
- *What are some of the unintended consequences of crime prevention policies and practises?*

For more information call: (03) 439 3703

## GLIM 89 4th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling.

July 17-21, 1989

Held at:

Università degli Studi di Trento, Trento, Italy.

This meeting is to bring together those interested in the development and application both of generalised modelling in GLIM and statistical modelling in its widest sense. The aim is to include both papers on the applications of GLIM and more general modelling techniques in

particular fields, e.g. medicine, epidemiology, biology, economics, engineering and business.

For more details contact:

Brian Francis, Centre for Applied Statistics, University of Lancaster, Fylde College, GB-Lancaster, LA1 4YF.

E-mail: ASA005@UK.AC.LANCASTER on JANET.

## **Criminology Research Council: Research Grants**

The Criminology Research Council invites applications for research grants from individuals or organisations wishing to undertake research in connection with the nature, causes, correction or prevention of criminal behaviour or any related matter.

The council is interested in supporting research projects which make a contribution to the prevention and control of crime in Australia. Projects of an evaluative nature designed to throw light on measures which are effective are particularly invited. However, funding is not necessarily confined to such projects, and any proposal of sufficient high quality will be considered.

The Council, whose annual budget is at present \$250,000 meets three times each year and applications may be submitted any time.

Application forms may be obtained from:  
The Executive Officer,  
Australian Institute of Criminology,  
PO Box 28, Woden, ACT 2606  
TEL: (062) 83 3833

## **Publications**

### Statistics on Drug Abuse in Australia

Commonwealth Department of Community Services and Health (1988). AGPS : Canberra

This publication was compiled as an information resource for the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse. It summarises available data in order to present an overview of drug use and abuse in Australia over the last decade.

There are four main sections: drug use; drug problems; treatment services; and international comparisons.

The section 'Drug use' covers drug use by the young; pharmaceutical products; alcohol; tobacco; and the illicit use of drugs. The section on 'drug problems' covers deaths caused by drug use; poisonings and other illness; crime; and intravenous drug use and AIDS.

The ABS has released two publications in an ongoing series providing statistical profiles of social groups in Australia.

### Disabled and Aged Persons Australia

The Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1988.

The ABS has published the preliminary results from the 1988 Survey of Disabled and Aged Persons. The survey attempts to measure the need for, and receipt of, help for disabled, handicapped and aged people and of their principal carers.

The 1988 survey also measured the extent of disability and handicap using definitions and concepts comparable with the 1981 benchmark survey of handicapped persons.

### Overseas Born Australians

The Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1988.

The publication is divided into three parts. Part 1 provides a description and analysis of six broad aspects of the life of overseas born in Australia. 'Population and families' covers migration, demographics, geographic distribution, family size and family composition.

'Health' deals with mortality, illness, health care and lifestyle.

'Education' covers educational attainment, access to education, participation in education and transition from full-time education to work.

'Working life' describes labour force participation and characteristics of the employed and unemployed.

'Income' provides comparisons at the individual and household level between Australian and overseas born and among overseas born

'Housing' covers housing characteristics of individuals and households, residential mobility and proportional housing costs.

## Handbook of Comparative Urban Fiscal Data

The European Political Data newsletter reports that the Danish Data Archive has published a Handbook of Comparative Urban Fiscal Data compiled by Poul Erik Mouritzen and Kurt Houlberg-Nielsen.

The Handbook contains the most extensive collection so far of aggregated urban fiscal data. National teams from 13 countries (including Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, West Germany, United Kingdom, Holland, France, Italy, Greece, Japan, Canada and the United States) have collected data on more than 40 fiscal time series covering the period from 1978 to 1986. The data is presented both in raw form and as indices which show how expenditures, taxes etc. have changed in real terms over the 8 year period. The handbook also presents survey based information on the importance of 33 fiscal strategies like contracting out, reducing services, purchasing agreements, employee compensation etc.

The Handbook of Comparative Urban Fiscal Data sells for D.kr. 200 (about US\$30) including postage and handling. The data are also available on diskettes as LOTUS 123 files for an additional D.kr. 200.

If you are interested in acquiring the Handbook, contact Roger Jones at the SSDA.

## Landmarks in Australian Population History

This volume is a supplement to Volume 5 of the Journal of the Australian Population Association. It was conceived as a compendium of the best and most significant pieces of writing on Australian population history.

The book's chapters are arranged chronologically each dealing with some key issue at various periods in post-settlement history.

The chapters are reprints of original material — so the first chapter, 'The Aboriginal Population', is an extract from one of Governor Phillip's despatches to Lord Sydney.

Enquiries to:  
Secretary, Australian Population Association  
PO Box 317, Carlton South VIC 3053



# The major social science surveys

Over the past decade, there has been an increase in social science surveys designed to provide a general resource suitable for a wide variety of academic and other users and which aim to satisfy a range of research objectives.

A number of factors have contributed to this. The first is that the pool of users has increased and become more sophisticated and consequently a greater concern with the quality of survey data particularly with regard to standards of sampling, reliability, validity, coding and preliminary processing and so on has developed. It is clearly easier to improve quality by centralizing funding, resources, personnel and expertise. This centralization also makes possible the establishment of standards, programs to foster technical improvements, career paths and so on.

Secondly, research projects which can lay claim to a wide range of benefits are in a relatively strong position to attract funding. So, for example, the Australian Research Council (the main source of research funding for the social sciences) favours multi-person, multi-purpose projects. The Australian Values Study received funding from a consortium which included private industry, academia and the Government. In the United States, the General Social Survey is funded by the National Science Foundation because it is arguably a significant national resource.

Thirdly, the seventies witnessed a concern with international comparison for issues such as industrialization processes, social mobility, dependency theories and the universal applicability of class-based models of societies. As a result of this, there has been a demand for very large-scale international social science survey data.

Finally, there has been some concern about 'over-surveying'. For example, an overlap of concerns within industrial relations, academic sociology, labor economics and government policy has led to a proliferation of surveys of the workplace. Observers are beginning to note resistance to such surveys reflected in low response rates and unreliable responses.

These factors have contributed to three separate developments: the growth of large scale national and international surveys which increasingly dominate the survey research scene; the establishment of survey research centers allowing the

possibility of improved quality control; and the establishment of data archives to maximize accessibility to such data (for example, the Social Science Data Archives at the ANU).

Professor David Kemp, head of the Department of Politics at Monash, has contributed an article outlining the use of the large scale surveys in social research. A relatively unexploited aspect of the use of these surveys, however, is in the area of teaching research methodology. At one stage it was common for research methodology courses to have students design questionnaires, run a small survey, punch in the data and analyze it. There are a number of problems with this, especially the questionable desirability of loosing enthusiastic but inexperienced students on an unsuspecting public. Apart from anything else, this approach is also of dubious pedagogic value. For example, the actual interviewing component of survey work is now rarely carried out by the researchers themselves but is typically contracted out to specialist organizations. At the same time, data resulting from very small scale surveys is rarely of sufficiently high quality to produce interesting results and so does not provide a good basis for learning analysis skills. This means this approach focuses on the relatively useless experience of survey interviewing at the expense of the more valuable opportunity for learning data analysis. In addition, the issue of sampling becomes a completely theoretical problem in this approach.

The use of secondary data overcomes many of these sorts of problems. The use of a large, multi-purpose survey such as the National Social Science Survey allows students to work through the key stages of the research process except for the actual data collection and preliminary processing. With a survey of this size, it is quite feasible for a each student in a class to develop a unique research problem (constrained by the coverage of the survey) devise an appropriate questionnaire which can be compared to the original questionnaire, recover the relevant data from the main data set as a subset and produce an analysis based on data which is the best currently available. Similarly, the issue of sampling is a very real problem for a data set like the Australian Health Survey which has over 46,000 respondents and so requires a sample selection procedure which is appropriate to the research problem.

In sum, then, the use of secondary analysis provides students with the opportunity to work on 'real' research problems which are real to the extent that they mimic the actual practices of social researchers. They are able to evaluate examples of good questionnaire design, and they can compare their own work with work from the same study reported in the literature. In other words, their learning draws on what purports to be the best in the field rather than discovering the worst and attempting to improve from that.

The first of the contributions which follow uses the Australian Values Study Survey to illustrate the role of secondary analysis in social science research. Subsequent articles describe two of the major international survey projects and a selection of the major Australian surveys. Contact the SSDA if you require information on the availability of the data described in these articles.

## Secondary Analysis of Sample Surveys

David Kemp

*Dept. of Politics, Monash University*

The growing collection of sample surveys held by the Social Science Data Archives will undoubtedly give rise to an increasing amount of secondary analysis of Australian data. The presence in the archives of wide-scope surveys such as the National Social Science Surveys, the Australian Political Attitudes Surveys or the Australian Values Study Survey already provide wonderful opportunities to the researcher to examine fresh hypotheses without having to go to the expense and effort of organizing a new survey.

It is often not recognised that the original researchers who organize a major survey are generally able to undertake only a fraction of the possible analyses which may be made of the data. It is this fact which gives such great value to the development of data archives. In the United States the Inter-University Consortium for Social and Political Research has developed around such a recognition. Australian researchers are now beginning to derive similar benefits from the activities of ACSPRI and the SSDA.

Secondary analysis is not without its limitations, of course. Not all the variables of interest may have been measured directly or with satisfactory indicators, in an earlier survey. Ingenuity in

devising substitute measures may be required. Or the theoretically interesting variables may have been measured only in different surveys, preventing cross-analysis. Differences in the wording of key indicators may weaken conclusions based on cross-temporal comparisons.

Secondary analysis is particularly useful however, when :

- The study is concerned with historical or time series analysis;
- There is no theoretical reason to assume that relationships between the variables of interest have changed over time;
- Resources to conduct the research are very limited;

My book Foundations for Australian Political Analysis: Politics and Authority Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1988 has as one of its objectives to show the potential for theoretically significant secondary analysis in some of the major data sets noted above.

Take the Australian Values Study Survey. The theoretical framework used in the book gives considerable importance to people's values and beliefs in accounting for their identification with different organizations and institutions. It also places theoretical weight on the "belief in legitimacy" (following Weber) in accounting for levels of compliance with the decisions of those in authority in government, private companies and trade unions.

The Australian Values Study Survey provided questions which could serve as indicators of relevant values and of the belief in legitimacy. Because the Survey was part of an international project, some interesting international comparisons are also possible.

One matter I wanted to explore was the relationship between support for particular political parties and voters' attitudes to authority. Political parties are organizations which are specialized in the use of government authority, and party ideologies have a great deal to say about how authority should be used, and how it should be organized, exercised and legitimated. To the extent that supporters of different parties exhibit different attitudes to authority, it seems probable that these attitudes will themselves impose a constraint on party leaders and on acceptable processes of decision-making within the party.

A number of items in the Values Study Survey bore on this issue. One, for example, asked respondents whether they thought greater respect for authority would be a good thing, a bad thing, or "don't you mind"? The distribution of responses raised the possibility of some intriguing empirical consequences for the leadership and management of the major parties.

69 per cent of all respondents (N=939) thought greater respect for authority would be a good thing, and these respondents divided their support between the parties very much in proportion to the parties overall levels of support. Those who were indifferent, however, (23 per cent of the total) were much more likely to support Labor (63 percent) than the Liberals or Nationals (27 percent).

The most interesting aspect of the replies, however, was that of the relatively small percentage who thought that greater respect for authority would be a bad thing, 75 percent supported Labor and a further 8 percent supported the Democrats. Only 11 percent supported the Liberal and National Parties.

Taken in conjunction with other responses (reported on pp.266-267) this simple cross-tabulation is highly suggestive, and warrants further investigation. If those with less positive attitudes to authority are disproportionately attracted to the ALP and the Democrats we might hypothesize that leaders in these parties could experience particular difficulties in exercising authority. This observation suggests a research programme for another day!

The Values Study Survey also contains a very interesting set of questions of the legitimacy of managerial authority in the workplace. While much social theory simply treats private property as a given component of Australian institutional arrangements, the framework I was developing was one in which the amount of autonomy possessed by the owners and/or managers of property (and hence the degree of "private property-ness") was a variable. Max Weber's theory of legitimate authority involved the proposition that authority was most stable (i.e. less likely to be challenged) when there was a belief in its legitimacy. How legitimate is private property in Australia? How likely is the autonomy to make decisions of the owners of property to be challenged by employees?

The Values Study offered several items which could be particularly useful indicators in throwing light on the legitimacy of managerial authority in Australia. One item in the Values Study Survey showed that some 55 percent of Australians believed they should in principle follow the instructions of their superiors even if they didn't fully agree with them. However 37 percent said they should not be expected to follow superior's instructions without being convinced they were right. Compared with proportions responding to similar questions on the authority of government in another survey, it appeared that the legitimacy of property in Australia might be considerably less than that of the government. Some international comparisons suggested that substantially larger proportions of Australians questioned the legitimacy of managerial authority in Australia than in the United States, though managerial authority was considerably more legitimate than in Sweden.

Surveys such as the Australian Values Study Survey have considerable potential to throw light on theoretically interesting - and practically important - relationships.

#### The European Values Study

**Marcia Taylor**

*ESRC Data Archive University of Essex Wivenhoe Park Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ England*

The European Values Systems Study Group (EVSSG), an international group of researchers investigating values and norms, began discussions in 1979 and, after a number of preliminary studies, undertook pilot studies in France, Great Britain, West Germany and Spain during 1980. In 1981, fieldwork began in ten European nations on a major study - the European Values Survey. Its stated aim was "to investigate the nature and interrelationships of values systems, their degree of homogeneity and the extent to which they are subject to change across time." The questionnaire used in each country was developed by the group and translated into the relevant languages. Every attempt was made to ensure the comparability of questions in each country.

#### **The Study**

The populations of ten European nations were surveyed in the period between March and May of 1981:

France, Great Britain, Ulster, West Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Spain, Eire. A repeat survey is planned in these countries in 1990.

The same questionnaire has been employed in surveys in a number of other European countries as well (excluding only, the EVSSG reports, Luxembourg, Greece, Portugal, Switzerland and Austria, with the last two countries planning surveys in 1988). In addition, matching surveys were carried out in Hungary and the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe.

Outside Europe, the questionnaire has been used in the following countries: U.S.A., Canada, Japan, Mexico, South Africa, Chile, Argentina, South Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon and New Zealand.

#### **The ten nation data set**

The ESRC Data Archive has been asked by the EVSSG to distribute the data from the ten-nation European study on its behalf. An integrated codebook for the nine datasets has been prepared by the Archive. A full Study Description of these studies appears below.

#### **European Values Survey, 1981**

##### *Purpose*

A large scale cross-national and on-going survey of moral, religious, political, and social values in Western Europe.

##### *Variables*

Religious attitudes, beliefs, practice, affiliation. Moral outlook. Political interest, inclination, participation. Attitudes towards reform, civic institution, means of production. Other political values indicators. Personal values, attitudes towards the family, marriage, divorce, sex. Work values. Perception of the future. Satisfaction ratings, indicators of psychological well-being, health. Range of socio-demographic variables: sex, age, housing tenure and type, terminal education age, household size and composition, marital status, employment status, occupational code for respondent and chief wage earner, workplace details, trade union membership, regional codes, area types, income on a scale, (ethnic group and socio-economic status by interviewer observation). Additional data include: leisure activities, voluntary work. Attitudes towards science, war, terrorism. Index of internationalism. Attitudes towards a shorter working week.

#### The Australian Values Survey

**Bruce Headey**

*University of Melbourne*

The Australian Values Survey (AVS) conducted in 1983, was a clone or really a mutant of the European Values Survey (EVS).

In Australia the initiative was taken by Morgan Gallup and by Colin Benjamin of Ogilvie & Mather, an advertising agency. Unlike in most countries, where the churches and public sector bodies were prominent sponsors, most of the sponsorship in Australia came from the private sector. However the two major political parties, Telecom and the University of Melbourne also provided support.

The Australian sample size was 1228, selected according to Morgan Gallup's usual stratified probability sampling method. The 1 1/4 hour personal interview was supplemented by a 3/4 hour mail questionnaire, which was completed by about 80% of respondents. The interview schedule was similar to the original EVS document, but with rather fewer questions on religion and morals and more on the public's satisfactions and dissatisfactions (achievement and non-achievement of values). The mail supplement contained questions mainly of interest to private sector sponsors. The aim was to relate consumption patterns and company images to the more basic values tapped in the personal interview.

From a social science standpoint the strength of the project lies in the international comparisons it provides on attitudes to family life and sex roles, job priorities, religion and morals, life satisfaction and happiness, national pride and patriotism. It is fascinating, for example, to observe vast international differences in church attendance and religious belief, and quite substantial differences in self-reported happiness. The project's weaknesses include lack of an explicit framework in which to study values (what are values and what behaviours are they supposed to explain?), the use in places of unreliable single item scales, and problems of translating languages (can it really be true that Australians take more "pride" in their work than Japanese?).

Another round of the European Values Survey is planned but Australian participation is uncertain. The best person to contact about past and

future values surveys in Australia is Michelle Levine of Morgan Gallup in Melbourne.

### The International Social Survey Program

**Rolf Uher and Irene Mueller.**

*Zentralarchiv fuer empirische Sozialforschung an der Universitaet Koeln, Federal Republic of Germany*

The International Social Survey Program (ISSP) is a continuing, annual program of cross national collaboration. It brings together pre-existing national, social science projects and coordinates research goals by adding a cross-national perspective to the individual, national studies.

ISSP grew out of a bilateral collaboration between the Allgemeinen Bevoelkerungsumfrage der Sozialwissenschaften (ALLBUS) administered by the Zentrum fuer Umfragen, Methoden, und Analysen (ZUMA) in Mannheim, West Germany and the General Social Survey (GSS) of the National Opinion Research Center (NORC), University of Chicago. Both the ALLBUS - a joint project of ZUMA and the Zentralarchiv - and the GSS are replicating, time series surveys. The ALLBUS has been conducted biennially since 1980 and the GSS annually (except for 1979 and 1981) since 1972. In 1982 ZUMA and NORC devoted a small segment of the questionnaires on job values, importance of areas of life, abortion, and feminism. In 1984 the collaboration referred to questions on class differences, equality, and the welfare state.

Meanwhile, in late 1983 Social and Community Planning Research (SCPR), London, which was starting a social indicators series (the British Social Attitudes Survey) similar to the GSS and ALLBUS, secured funds from the Nuffield Foundation to sponsor meetings to further international cooperation. A meeting was held in London in June, 1984 with representatives from ZUMA, NORC, SCPR, and also the Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University. This group, soon to be christened the ISSP, agreed to 1) jointly develop topical modules dealing with important areas of social science, 2) this module would be a 15 minute supplement to the regular national surveys (or as a special survey if necessary), 3) include an extensive common core of the background variables, and 4) to make the data available to the social science community as soon as possible. Each national institution funds its own data collection

and bears any costs that it incurred through participation in the cooperative effort. Since its initial meeting in 1984, ISSP has grown to include eleven nations, the original four - Germany, the United States, Great Britain, and Australia, plus Austria, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, Hungary, Norway, and Israel. Other countries are currently applying for membership.

#### **Participating Organisations**

RSSS *Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University, Australia*

IS *Institut fuer Soziologie, Graz University, Austria*

ZUMA *Zentrum fuer Umfragen, Methoden, und Analysen, Mannheim, Federal Republic of Germany*

SCPR *Social and Community Planning Research, London, Great Britain*

TARKI *Tarsadalomkutatasi Informatikai Tarsulas, Budapest, Hungary*

EURISKO *Ricerca Sociale e di Marketing, Milano, Italy*

SSUC *Department of Social Science, University College, Dublin, Ireland*

Israel *Tel Aviv University, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, Ramat Aviv, Israel*

NSD *Norwegian Social Science Data Archives, Bergen, Norway*

SCP *Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau, Rijswijk, The Netherlands*

NORC *National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago, USA*

ZA *Zentralarchiv fuer empirische Sozialforschung an der Universitaet Koeln, Federal Republic of Germany*

ISSP's first theme was the role of government. This covered attitudes towards civil liberties, and law enforcement, education and directing the economy, and welfare and social equality. The second theme was social networks and support systems. This included a detailed account of one's contact with various relatives and friends and then a series of questions about where one would turn to for help when faced with various situations such as financial need, minor illness, career advice, and emotional distress. The third module, on social equality, is now being developed. Questions focus on equality of income, wealth, and opportunity. Respondents are asked for their perceptions of the extent of present inequality, explanations for inequality, and support for government programs to reduce inequality. The fourth module (1988) will deal with working women and the family, and fifth (1989) with work and leisure.

In 1990 ISSP will repeat the role of government theme. By replicating substantial parts of earlier modules, ISSP will not only have a cross national but also a time perspective. We will be able to compare nations and test whether similar social science models are valid for different societies. We will also be able to see if there are similar international trends and whether equivalent models of social change hold for different nations.

ISSP brings several new features to the area of cross national research. The collaboration among nations is not sporadic or intermittent but routine and continual. Although the international collaboration carried out by ISSP is more circumscribed than special cross national research projects, ISSP makes cross national research a basic part of the nation's research agenda.

#### **Perspectives for the future**

The International Social Survey Program is by now a dependable, continually enlarging and effective cooperation producing a valuable cross-national data with also some time-series quality. The trade off between ambition and pragmatism which is always necessary in such a heterogeneous international group of social scientists has reached a very high level of quality. This forces the Zentralarchiv to think about new and effective forms of services for this special data-collection.

As for now the main work is to merge the individual modules into a single file for international comparisons. For the future we have to plan an additional design. In doing so, we have to take into account that a complex data base will grow in which topics will be replicated over time. Indicators may be added, deleted or changed and additional countries will join the program. A kind of data organisation has to be found which is easy to handle on the side of the user-community and which allows the organization of a large enough body of data to serve most of the potential retrieval and research tasks. Similar to the concept of the ALLBUS the ISSP data-base could in the final step be organised in a data-base management system (DBMS) leaving options open to different needs as e.g on-line research or on-line retrieval, custom-tailored PC solutions, teaching packages and whatever else is conceivable. Thus the ISSP can serve as a prototype for forthcoming cross national studies also in terms of data management while it is already an

example of cooperation and coordination between national and international researcher groups.

Data files for the ISSP's first two rounds (The Role of Government and Social Networks & Support Systems) are available from the SSDA.

### The National Social Science Survey

**Jonathon Kelley**

*Dept. of Sociology, Research School of Social Sciences, ANU*

The National Social Science Survey, conducted since 1984-85 by the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University, is Australia's leading social science survey.

It is an annual survey of a large, representative national sample of citizens aged 18 and over. It typically includes some 35 pages of questions on attitudes and values and about 25 pages of very detailed background and demographic questions with a standard of precision equal to or exceeding that of the Census.

It has no connection with any business or political party. Rather, it is devoted entirely to academic research in a wide range of topics of interest in the social sciences, particularly political science, labour economics and sociology.

In addition, it is the Australian member of the International Social Survey Programme, a major collaborative project by leading academic surveys in Europe and the United States which annually collects exactly comparable data on attitudes and values in many countries.

Four surveys have been conducted so far. The data for each of them are as follows :

The 1984-85 NSSS : Data for this first NSSS were collected in face-to-face interviews in urban areas and by a mail questionnaire in rural areas. The urban data, based on an area probability sample, were collected by a respected private firm, Reark Research, in interviews averaging over two hours in length. The response rate was 58 per cent. The rural component is a simple random sample from the electoral rolls. The 60 page mail questionnaire had items identical to those in the urban interview schedule. After four follow-up mailings, the completion rate was a satisfactory 59 per cent. The combined urban and rural sample used in



this Report has 3012 respondents and is representative of Australia as a whole.

The 1986-87 NSSS : In this and subsequent surveys we switched to a mail sample with very satisfactory results. Selection is by simple random sample from the Commonwealth electoral rolls. This is more 'efficient' - more accurate - than the clustered samples typically used in face-to-face interviews. Everyone in the sample was sent an initial questionnaire with cover letter, followed 10 days later by a thank you/reminder letter; those who did not return the questionnaire were then pursued by up to four subsequent mailings. A toll-free telephone number for queries was provided. There was a final response rate of 61 per cent yielding 1528 respondents. Many of the questions have also been asked in Britain, the USA, West Germany, Austria and Italy as part of our international project.

The 1987 Panel Survey : This is a panel survey of respondents from the original 1984-85 NSSS, conducted at the time of the 1987 federal election. The original respondents were contacted again, this time by mail. All respondents whose address was known and who had not expressed opposition to being contacted again were approached; they comprised over 80 per cent of the original sample. The completion rate was 60 per cent, yielding 1311 respondents. Cross checks with other data sources indicate that the sample is representative of the population, save for a slight over-representation of Labor voters which has been eliminated by re-weighting.

The 1987-88 NSSS : This survey focuses on attitudes to income inequality. Many of the questions have also been asked in other countries as part of our international project. The first results from a preliminary sample of 1574 have appeared in issues of the NSSS Report.

The 1988-89 NSSS : This survey, including a major section on family values as part of our international project, is going into the field early this year. Results will begin to appear in the NSSS Report later this year.

## Using the NSSS for teaching and research

Brian Graetz

*LaTrobe University*

I have made extensive use of the Australian National Social Science Survey for both teaching and research purposes.

In teaching, I use a small subset of the data in two courses: one an Introduction to Quantitative Methods, the other an undergraduate/graduate course on Multivariate Analysis. The data is used to illustrate the application and interpretation of statistical procedures, ranging from elementary univariate and bivariate analyses through to multivariate techniques such as factor analysis and regression. Students also have the opportunity to access the data and conduct analyses of their own for assessed course assignments, using SPSSX on a mainframe computer. The data is also used by Honours and postgraduate students working under my supervision. Their topics include Cross-class Families, Religious Values and Australian Nationalism.

In my own research, I have made extensive use of NSSS data. First, it's been used as the basis for a book entitled *Dimensions of Australian Society* (Macmillan, 1988; co-authored with Ian McAllister), covering topics such as Family, Gender, Ethnicity, Religion, Education, Stratification, Class Sentiments, Political Attitudes and Voting.

Second, I have used the data for a major study of educational inequalities. This focuses on the reproduction of inequalities both between generations and over time. Research articles have been published in *Social Science Research* (16: 329-44, 1987) and *The British Journal of Sociology* (39: 358-76), and others are in preparation.

Other research using NSSS data includes studies of the politics of Australian Yuppies, cross-class families and the relationship between inequality and political activism (the latter forthcoming in M. Dobkowski and I. Walliman (eds) *Research In Inequality and Social Conflict*, vol. 2, JAI Press).

I have found the NSSS data to be an extremely valuable research and teaching resource. It allows me to study a wide range of topics, more than enough to keep me fully occupied for years to come. I also encourage Honours and post-

graduate students to consider using data sets of this sort for their own research, rather than collect separate data of their own. I can highly recommend the use of such data sets for teaching and research purposes.

## Measuring Political Opinion: The 1987 Australian Election Study

Ian McAllister.

*Dept. of Politics, University of New South Wales,*

Prior to the 1987 Australian Election Study (AES), only three major nationwide surveys of voting had been conducted in Australia. These were Don Aitkin's National Political Attitudes surveys of 1967, 1969 and 1979. One aim of the 1987 AES was to maintain continuity with these surveys, as a monitor on trends in Australian voting behaviour over the past two decades. A second aim was to extend our knowledge of Australian electoral behaviour by conducting a survey immediately after a federal election, so as to examine the importance of issues raised during the course of the campaign.

The AES had two further objectives, stemming from contemporary international research on political behaviour. First, we wanted to be able to place Australian electoral behaviour in a broader cross-national perspective, by collecting data closely comparable with election data from the other advanced industrial democracies. Second, the AES included the first comprehensive examination of federal candidates' political views conducted in Australia, enabling the relationship between these attitudes and those of voters to be examined.

### **The Survey**

The voter sample was a random sample of voters in electorates in all states and territories drawn from the Electoral Rolls. The survey was conducted by mail immediately after polling day; the result was 1,825 successful interviews, representing a response rate of 62.8 percent. The candidate component was a mail survey of all 868 Senate and House of Representatives candidates in the federal election; the response rate was 70.5 percent, representing 612 successful interviews. The response rate for candidates was particularly high, and was undoubtedly facilitated by the co-operation of the three main party secretaries, who endorsed the aims of the survey in letters to their candidates. These

their respective candidates along with the questionnaires. The response rate varied only slightly between the parties: the lowest response was among National candidates, 66.6 percent of whom responded to the survey, compared to the highest response of 76.6 percent among Labor candidates.

### ***The Survey of Voters***

The survey was designed to address the question of how far an election campaign influences the outcome, as opposed to longer-term factors such as social structure or parental socialisation.

Questions included the importance to the voter of short-term political issues; the timing of their decision on how to vote; the influence of mass media exposure; and the interaction of these factors with education, social status and political interest.

Political leadership is another factor which has been associated with election campaigns, and the survey included 'thermometer' ratings for the major political figures, as well as respondents' assessments of the leaders' personalities. It has been argued in international research that evaluations of the economy have become important electoral cues, and to test this, the survey asked the respondents to give their evaluations of the country's economy, as well as of their own household finances. These evaluations were asked both retrospectively (over the previous year) and prospectively (over the future year). In determining how far voters participate in the political system, political efficacy (the belief that an individual's actions can influence the operation of the political system) and political trust (the belief that those who run the system are honest) are key factors. The survey asked a range of questions designed to tap these feelings. They are particularly important in measuring political participation among those who are marginalised from mainstream Australian political culture: the young, the unemployed, and those who have been born in non-English speaking countries.

Finally, the survey asked 14 questions relating to political issues which had also been asked in Don Aitkin's 1967 and 1979 surveys. This will enable us to measure long term changes in political attitudes and their differential impact on electoral behaviour. In particular, we can monitor the declining importance of materialist or collectivist issues (such as the regulation of trade unions, the redistribution of wealth, and



societies, most of which are grounded on certain assumptions about the link between the views of the mass and the views of the elite.

Second, the data enable us to test the extent to which the popular control of elected representatives is exercised by voters (either directly via voters' views on certain issues, or indirectly through community and electorate involvement) or by the representative's own party.

Finally, we can analyse the extent to which female candidates have a political agenda which is distinctive from the political agenda of their male counterparts. The survey permits us to address these important questions with empirical data.

#### *The 1989/90 Australian Election Study*

It is planned to conduct the AES at the next federal election, due in 1989/90, although the option of re-interviewing election candidates is being kept open until funding levels are more accurately known. As with the 1987 survey, the data will be publicly available within 16 weeks of collection, without restriction or embargo.

The survey will be directed by Ian McAllister, David Gow (University of Queensland), Roger Jones and Frank Castles (Research School of Social Sciences, ANU). The focus of the 1989/90 AES will be on economic influences on voting. Comments/suggestions for issues to be addressed in the survey or questions to be included in the survey instrument are welcome.

Contact, in the first instance, Ian McAllister at: The Centre for the Study of Public Policy, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G1 1XQ, UK (EMail: CHLS19@VAXE.STRATHCLYDE) or Roger Jones at the SSDA,

The 1987 AES (voter and candidate surveys) was directed by Ian McAllister and Alvaro Ascui at the University College, University of New South Wales, by Roger Jones and Tony Mughan at the Research School of Social Sciences, ANU, and (candidate survey only) by Marian Simms at the Faculties, ANU. The costs of the survey were shared equally between the University College, University of New South Wales and the ANU.

#### **Publications using AES Data (as at February 1989)**

Clive Bean and Anthony Mughan, 'Leadership Effects in Parliamentary Elections: Australia and Britain' *American Political Science Review*, forthcoming 1989.

James Jupp, 'Ethnic and Aboriginal Issues' in Ian McAllister and John Warhurst (eds), *Australia Votes: The 1987 Federal Election* (Melbourne: Longman Cheshire)

Ian McAllister, 'Ethnic Issues and Voting in the 1987 Australian Federal Election' *Politics* Vol 23, Part 2 (1988), pp.11-15.

Ian McAllister, 'Australia: Changing Social Structure, Stable Politics' in Mark Franklin, Thomas T. Mackie and Henry Valen (eds), *Electoral Change: Responses to Evolving Social and Attitudinal Structures in Fifteen Countries* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).

Ian McAllister, 'Political Behaviour' in Dennis Woodward, Andrew Parkin and John Summers (eds), *Government, Politics and Power in Australia* (Melbourne: Longman Cheshire, fourth edition, forthcoming).

Ian McAllister and Alvaro Ascui, 'Voting Patterns' in Ian McAllister and John Warhurst (eds), *Australia Votes: The 1987 Federal Election* (Melbourne: Longman Cheshire)

Ian McAllister and John Warhurst (eds), *Australia Votes: The 1987 Federal Election* (Melbourne: Longman Cheshire)

#### The Class Structure of Australia Project

Professor John Western

*Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Queensland*

The Class Structure of Australia project is one component of an international comparative study focusing on class structure and class consciousness. The work of Erik Olin Wright provided the initial impetus, and substantive focus, for the various projects. National surveys have been undertaken in the United States, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Canada, West Germany, Britain, and New Zealand. The comparative scope of the study is however continuing to expand with preliminary work currently being undertaken in Denmark, China, Japan, Greece, Poland, Hungary, Turkey and The Soviet Union.

In each of the participating countries the survey instrument contains a core element concerned with measures of class structure and consciousness. In addition to this common core are added further components unique to each country and

the research interests of the principal investigators involved.

The primary objective of all the studies is to address empirically the perennially contentious issue of social class. Until fairly recently the question of the nature and importance of class has all too often been the subject of sophisticated theoretical discourses which are however somewhat loosely grounded empirically. The work of Wright and Goldthorpe marks a decisive shift in class analysis. Common to both the marxist orientation of Wright and the Weberian orientation of Goldthorpe is the view that class is most effectively understood through unambiguous operationalisations of theory.

The Australian project utilises a representative sample of 1195 Australians surveyed in August 1986. A data set of over 600 variables has now been developed. A noteworthy feature of the Australian data is the wide variety of conceptions of class which have been operationalised, for example, Wright, Carchedi, Giddens, Poulantzas, and Goldthorpe. These rather disparate models of class are now being used to examine the relationship between social class and "theoretically" class dependent factors such as political behaviour, ideology, the domestic division of labour and civil participation. The data has also been merged with the data sets produced in The United States, Britain, Canada, Norway and Sweden. While some preliminary comparative analyses have been completed the Class Project team is currently most actively involved in studies specifically concerned with Australian society.

A final point worth noting is that the class project in Australia is continuing to develop. Over the next three years a study of unemployed persons will be undertaken by the class project group. This study of the unemployed will be designed as a complement to the class project which is restricted to respondents who were working in August 1986.

#### *The Social Structure of Australia Project*

The results of some of these research projects are currently being drawn together and will be published as a book later in the year. The, as yet untitled, book will provide social scientists with a major empirical investigation of the political, ideological and cultural manifestations of class in Australia today.

Student involvement was actively encouraged. The courses offered by the department were extensively revised over time to incorporate the class projects into the teaching program. Computing and data analysis were included in the curriculum where they are relevant. "what's going on in the world" meant that approximately 10% of the data set to examine was which they have developed during undergraduate courses.

Over the last three years the Australia project has played a role in the department's project as a whole is no particular theoretical or methodological, diverse feature which might be seen as it is a general recognition of the challenge presented by the Goldthorpe. The size and scope however has meant that different theoretical approaches have been pursued empirically.

The variety of separate studies has not been entirely random. The decision was made by the department to ensure that collectively they would "fit together" as a class related phenomena at the macro economic level. This diversity in substance has not been matched by a methodological approach. In some instances simple bivariate cross-tabular analysis has been illuminating, in other cases more sophisticated techniques such as LISREL, Logit and Logistic regression have been revealing.

The extent of the comparison between the separate studies is just a few of the studies that are already completed. These include Income, Class and Electoral Participation, the Household Division, Civil Participation, Class and Mobility, Labour

Public and Private Identities, Labour Market Position and Work Satisfaction, The Worlds of Work (The Effect of Gender).

Finally, in addition to the studies relating to contemporary Australian society, work is continuing on the development of comparative measures in order that research over the next two to three years can exploit the possibilities entailed in what is rapidly becoming a very large international project.

The "Class Structure of Australia" data will be generally available through the SSDA late this year, however, researchers interested in more information regarding the project and data set can contact Mr Gary Marks or Mr Mark Lynch-Blosse, Anthropology and Sociology Department, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, 7000.

### The Australian Longitudinal Survey

**Mr. Geoff Parkinson**

*Dept. of Employment, Education & Training*

The Australian Longitudinal Survey (ALS) is a continuing study of a group of young Australians. The survey is based on 2 separate samples of young people aged 15-24 in 1984. The main objective of the survey is to explore the dynamics of the youth labour market, and thereby to help answer questions about how the labour market works.

The decision to conduct a longitudinal survey goes back to January 1983 when the Australian Government was considering ways of assisting the long term unemployed. In the course of deliberations it became obvious that not only was there a dearth of information about this group, but that certain key issues could not be resolved from traditional sources of cross-sectional data such as the ABS Labour Force Survey. Subsequently, funds were allocated for the conduct of a longitudinal survey of at least 3 years duration. The (then) Bureau of Labour Market Research was asked to conduct the survey.

The 2 samples which make up the ALS are the Youth sample and the CES sample. The first sample is representative of all Australians in the cohort aged 15-24 in 1984. This sample has been interviewed 4 times, in 1985, 86, 87 and 88. The other sample is representative of all people in the cohort aged 15-24 in 1984 who had been registered as unemployed with the CES for at least 3 months in September of that year. This sample

has also been interviewed 4 times, in 1984, 85, 86 and 87. In 1988 the CES sample was discontinued.

It is important to note that while there have been a number of longitudinal surveys conducted in Australia, the ALS was the first large scale survey, in the sense of covering large numbers of both people and data items. Most of the other longitudinal surveys have been based on school leavers, with an initial interview at school and mail follow ups at different periods (Blandy and Richardson 1982, Williams 1981, and Dowling and O'Brien 1979). While these surveys have been valuable, it has not been possible for them to closely control attrition nor to ask a wide range of questions. The ALS therefore represents the most substantial longitudinal study in Australia of both the unemployed and the wider community.

The main strength of the ALS lies in its rich source of data on the youth labour market, with comprehensive and detailed information on respondents' labour market activity, demographic background, education and training experience, financial situation and health. Its longitudinal nature allows a range of dynamic issues to be explored, such as:

- *How many people experience unemployment, and how many people are unemployed for protracted periods? Is unemployment concentrated in one small group, or is it spread thinly over a very large group?*
- *Do people who experience protracted periods of unemployment suffer the same/more/less difficulties than people who experience a large amount of unemployment in a number of spells spread out over a period of time?*
- *How do people who experience protracted spells of unemployment change over the period of the spell with respect to, for example, health, income, job search activity and family formation?*
- *Should job creation programs aim at producing many short term jobs or few long term jobs - i.e. do people benefit in the long term from having short term jobs?*
- *Does early experience of unemployment increase chances of later prolonged spells of unemployment (i.e. is there evidence of "scarring")?*
- *Which groups of people become "hidden unemployed"?*
- *Which of these return to the labour market and which leave it altogether?*

- *What is the influence of part-time work while at school on later labour market outcomes?*
- *What are the standard patterns of transition from school to work?*
- *What are the normal patterns of youth labour turnover?*
- *Which groups are likely to experience short/long transition durations?*

A weakness of the ALS, which is a weakness common to all longitudinal surveys, is that because of the complexity of analysis, the number of data items considered by researchers in any investigation is often less than the number of relevant data items available. In addition, data is often not analysed in a truly longitudinal fashion in the sense of looking for potentially causal connections between the information obtained at different points in time. A further problem, inherent in the survey, is that with each successive sweep of the survey sample the difficulties of longitudinal analysis of the data increase substantially.

As to the future of the ALS, starting in 1989 the Department of Employment, Education and Training will be embarking on a new program of longitudinal surveys. This program will have 2 parts - the continuation of the Youth sample component of the ALS and the introduction of a new longitudinal survey to be called the Australian Youth Survey (AYS). Information in the ALS will no longer be collected by personal interview, as in past years, but rather by mail questionnaire. This will require a significant reduction in questionnaire size and therefore some data items previously collected will no longer be available. The AYS will have a structure similar to that of the ALS and will be based on a sample of persons aged 15-19 in 1989. Information will be collected by personal interview on a range of labour force and other issues with emphasis on the rapidly changing school retention and school to work transition situation. Both the ALS and the AYS will be conducted annually for at least the next 3 years.

# SSDA News

In this, the second issue of SSDA News, a fairly wide range of topics - Australian Bureau of Statistics and Census news, recent releases from overseas archives, Australian research, as well as our regular information on recent data acquisitions from the SSDA and ICPSR.

## AUSTRALIAN ATTITUDES AND THE NSSS

Towards the end of 1988, the first of the in depth publications to come from the first wave of the Australian National Social Science Survey was published. (See pages 12 and 13 of this issue of the ACSPRI Newsletter for an introduction to the Australian National Social Science Survey.)

**Australian Attitudes. Social and political analyses from the National Social Science Survey** edited by Jonathan Kelley and Clive Bean, is published by Allen and Unwin as part of their *Studies in Society* series. The book is organised into twelve chapters, with different authors analysing data from the survey, and reporting on particular areas of interest.

Under the section heading Political and Moral Issues, are chapters entitled: Should abortion be legal?; Economic policy: what the electorate thinks; Charity begins at home? attitudes towards foreign aid; Politics and the public: mass attitudes towards the Australian political system; and Political ideology in Australia. A section on Education includes chapters on Free tertiary education: who benefits?, and The influence of public and private schools: religious and social attitudes. Three chapters on Work cover such issues as Job discrimination against immigrants? Perceptions, personal experience, norms and reality; Changes of work content: the Australian economy; and Working wives in Australia: Influences of the life cycle. The two concluding chapters deal with The life satisfactions and priorities of Australians and Belief versus Church: Beyond the secularisation debate.

As well as presenting a set of analyses on a wide

range of questions of interest to the Australian public, this volume should prove to be a useful companion to the data and codebook for the Australian National Social Science Survey, 1984 (SSDA Study No. 423), both of which are available from the Social Science Data Archives.

## DATA FROM OVERSEAS ARCHIVES

As part of the SSDA's continuing program of obtaining data from significant social surveys conducted overseas, we have recently received two datasets, one from the ESRC Data Archive at the University of Essex, and the other from Zentralarchiv, at the University of Cologne, which will certainly be of interest to Australian researchers involved in research on social and political attitudes.

From ESRC comes the fifth in the series of **British Social Attitudes, 1987**. The SSDA already holds the BSA surveys from 1983 onwards, and the technical report which will be received with the 1987 dataset will help to link the series together, by cross-indexing all questions asked to date. The data comes with an SPSS-X setup file, in which variable names identical to previous years are used.

As a companion to the dataset, a compilation volume, "British Social Attitudes: the 5th Report" edited by Jowell, Witherspoon and Brook was published in November 1988. This book contains not only marginal descriptions for all questions asked in the survey, but interpretative essays by various authors, on a large range of topic areas: the price of honesty; education matters; trends in permissiveness; working-class conservatives and middle-class socialists; the public's response to AIDS; the ailing state of National Health; trust in the establishment; one nation - on the influence of region and neighbourhood on people's attitudes; rural prospects and other "green" issues; and woman's place - attitudes towards women's work and women's roles inside and outside the home. The report is available from Gower Publishing, or direct from the Publications Officer, SCPR, 35

Northampton Square, London EC1V OAX, ENGLAND.

Following on from the 1987 British Social Attitudes Survey, is the announcement by Zentralarchiv that data from the 1986 module, the second in the International Social Survey Project series, on **Social Networks and Support Systems**, is now being made available to national archives in the project. Apart from Australia, other countries represented in the integrated data file are Austria, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the United Kingdom and the USA.

The ISSP Project began in 1984 as a collaborative project between four research organisations - ZUMA in West Germany, NORC in the USA, SCPR in Britain, and the Department of Sociology, RSSS at the Australian National University (see this edition of the ACSPRI Newsletter, pages 11 to 12 for a more comprehensive description of the ISSP project). The British module of the ISSP has been included in the regular BSA surveys mentioned above, and the Australian modules are covered by the National Social Science Survey project based at the ANU. The SSDA already holds data from the first module, on the role of government (ZA Study No. 1490), and the third module, on social equality, is now being developed.

Datasets from both these studies are now archived at the SSDA, and are available for distribution. Please contact the SSDA for more information, or to indicate your interest in obtaining copies of data.

## SWEDISH ELECTION DATA

The Swedish Election Studies, which have been carried out at every Swedish parliamentary election since 1956, are a major source of data on voting behaviour over the last thirty years. They are, together with studies from the United States, Norway, France and West Germany, the only academic studies that extend back to the 1950's.

The series currently consists of ten surveys conducted in conjunction with elections, and two conducted in conjunction with referenda, one of which, in 1980, dealt with the issues of nuclear power. Since 1960, the election studies have been financed through government grants, and carried out by the Swedish Central Bureau of Statistics (SCB) as part of their election statistics program.

All this data is currently archived at the Swedish Social Science Data Service (SSD), and under initial undertakings with the SCB, restrictions were placed on the distribution of election data to researchers outside Sweden. In the past, the only way for overseas researchers to access this data, was to travel to Sweden, and carry out their own analysis at the SSD.

In its last newsletter for 1988, the SSD announced that, under a new agreement with SCB, a Swedish Election Test-Data Series has been developed, to facilitate outside access to the data. The data file, using a system similar to that used by the Luxembourg Income Study database, contains a sample of 200 respondents drawn systematically from original data files. Some background variables have been aggregated or excluded, but the test sample files remain in other respects the same as the originals.

Users should try out various analysis techniques on their sample files, and become familiar with the extent of the variables represented in the files. SSD then suggests that users send them a request for analysis, in the form of a SPSS-x setup file, and they will then carry out the analysis specified on the main dataset.

Codebooks and test data files are available through the SSD, who also produce a continuity guide to the questions asked over the years of the series. Enquiries and requests for more information, should be directed in the first instance, to the SSDA, who will contact the SSD as a member organisation of the International Federation of Data Organisations (IFDO).

## AMERICANS TALK SECURITY PROJECT

From the IASSIST Quarterly for Spring 1988, comes details of surveys conducted as part of the Americans Talk Security (ATS) Project.

The ATS Project was conducted in the year preceding the 1988 presidential election in the USA, and the numerous nationwide surveys forming the Project deal with American attitudes towards national security issues. Four polling organisations - one aligned with Democratic Party, one with the



Republicans and two remaining politically neutral - cooperatively conducted twelve surveys, with each polling organisation having primary responsibility for three surveys.

In conjunction with the Roper Center, the ATS Project wishes the academic and corporate research communities to have the widest access to results and original data for secondary analysis. Data is available on either 3 1/2 or 5 1/4 inch disks at a cost of US\$35 per study. Requests for data or further information should be addressed to Americans Talk Security, 83 Church Street, Unit 17, Winchester MA 01890 USA.

### CENSUS 1986 UPDATE

ACSPRI has finally achieved secondary provider status! For those of you who have not followed the progress of this endeavour in the last few ACSPRI Newsletters, a brief summary of our efforts follows.

As a result of the new Australian Bureau of Statistics "user pays" pricing policy introduced on 1st January 1988, the price of ABS products and services increased substantially (eg. \$2000 per reel for unit record data on magnetic tape). After negotiations with the ABS, it was agreed that ACSPRI would act as a secondary provider of the ABS Section of State data file from the 1986 Census on magnetic tape to ACSPRI member institutions. To offset the cost structure and make this arrangement feasible, five ACSPRI member organisations willing to order this 1986 Census unit record data file were needed, before ACSPRI could begin to pass on cost savings to members.

We're now pleased to announce that five institutions have taken up this challenge, and with the cooperation of the ABS, ACSPRI will now be able to provide the 1986 Census Section of State data to other ACSPRI members as well. Fortunately, this arrangement was finalised prior to a further price rise for Census data at the beginning of 1989, which raised the fee for provision of Census unit record data to individuals from \$2000 to \$5000.

The SSDA will handle the distribution of Census data to ACSPRI members on behalf of ACSPRI, so contact the SSDA directly to order your copy of the file. Remember that the more ACSPRI members who order Census data, the lower the price for all users. Don't delay - order now!

### ABS UNIT RECORD FILES POLICY UPDATE

In a recent letter to the Head of the SSDA Roger Jones, Dennis Trewin, First Assistant Statistician, Statistical and Information Services Division at the Australian Bureau of Statistics outlined the current ABS policy on the pricing of unit record tapes. For the information of our readers, we reproduce here the text of the official policy statement on the matter.

#### Pricing of Unit Record Data.

1. The policy that follows is in regard to pricing of unit record data from those collections where the ABS has decided to undertake the collection using our resources rather than on a cost recovery basis. Pricing of unit record data from sponsored collections raise issues beyond the scope of this policy.

2. Some agencies are purchasing unit record data instead of publications and special data services. Consequently the return for information products from those surveys is sometimes quite small. It appears that we have been undervaluing the price of unit record data for many users. Certainly the price is small compared with the cost of undertaking a full data collection. At the very least, the ABS should be recovering the marginal cost of providing a unit record data service.

3. The ABS is very conscious of the needs of the research community but feels that it is not our role to subsidise this community to a greater extent than other users. As a principle, those responsible for allocating research funding should be aware of the full costs of research proposals including the cost of data. If the researcher was proposing a survey, funds would be sought for the costs of data collection and processing. The same principle should apply to data obtained in the form of a unit record tape (or special tabulations for that matter).

4. The ABS will bring this policy to the attention of the major bodies involved with research funding.

5. For some unit record releases we may know, generally from experience with previous releases, the size of the likely demand (e.g. Population Census, Household Expenditure Survey) and the size of that demand may be such that there will be no difficulty in recovering marginal costs. In such cases, the price

should be based on the market value of the data (i.e. the price that will maximise revenue to the ABS).

6. When the demand is unknown, or known to be small, the proposed policy is that a sponsor or consortium of sponsors pay for the marginal cost of developing and producing a unit record product. Unless such a sponsor can be found, it may not be produced. If it is produced, charges should be set so that all the costs would be recovered. A consortium may agree to different charges for individual members.

7. In the case when a unit record product is sponsored, there will probably be other users who would like to purchase a copy. The price shall depend on the market value of the data and the volume of data it contains. The minimum price should be \$2,500. In some cases it may be appropriate to share revenue from further sales with the original sponsor and such arrangements can be negotiated.

8. In the case where there is a sponsor, it is proposed that researchers pay the normal price for that particular unit record product. However, the sponsoring agency may agree to forgo its share of the revenue for researchers and a lower price can be offered. In some cases this should be encouraged as the sponsor may be an indirect beneficiary of the research.

9. To ensure some consistency with the application of this policy, the prices for individual unit record products will be determined after consultation with Information Services Branch. Marketing strategies should be developed at the same time.

As an illustration of the way this policy will work, the ABS is currently calling for expressions of interest in the release of expanded datasets from the 1984 Household Expenditure Survey. It is proposed that a second release of data containing extra items such as quarter of enumeration, imputed data from the fiscal incidence study, income data by source, employment status, hours worked and demographics for all income recipients, be released at a cost of \$60,000. To cover these costs, potential users are being invited to participate in a consortium of users, and to indicate the amount they would be willing to contribute.

It is planned that this policy will be listed for discussion at the next ACSPRI meeting. Any comments or questions on the policy should be

forwarded to your ACSPRI representative, to pass on at this meeting. Alternatively, write to Roger Jones at the SSDA, with your suggestions.

### NATIONAL ENERGY SURVEY SAMPLE FILE

The ABS conducted a National Energy Survey over the 12 months from June 1985, to collect data at a household level, on various aspects of energy usage. A number of publications describing results from this survey have already been released, and the ABS has now made available a unit record file with data for each household in the survey. (Related surveys which have also been released in the form of unit record files include the National Energy Survey 1982-83, and the NSW Energy Survey, October 1984, both of which are held by the SSDA. Information on both these files can be found in ACSPRI Newsletter No. 17, March 1988.)

The data have been organised into three phases. Because it was not possible to collect all information from all households - for example, annual usage data for households not in the current dwelling for the whole of the previous twelve months - weighting factors have been supplied to account for the varying chance of households being included in each phase.

Phase one, to which all households in the file responded, asks about appliance holdings, types of energy used, and dwelling characteristics. Phases two and three cover estimates by season of interview, on the daily usage of selected major appliances as recorded over a seven day period; the quantity of reticulated electricity and gas consumed over the seven days; and estimates of annual usage of reticulated energy, both in terms of quantity consumed and expenditure.

An Information Paper 1985-86 National Energy Survey, Household Sample File on Magnetic Tape (ABS Cat. No. 8215.0), giving details of sampling and the questionnaire can be obtained from ABS offices. Cost of the dataset is \$2500, plus a \$50 service charge.

**AUSTRALIAN DATA AVAILABLE**

Additions to SSDA holdings are listed below. Please note that some of these carry an Access Category which should be interpreted as follows:

**A:** the depositor wishes to be informed (by the Archives) of use being made of the data, in order to comment on that use and make contact with colleagues of similar interests

**B:** the depositor wishes to be informed of each request to use the data in order to give or withhold permission

**E:** there is an embargo period; no access at all is permitted until after the date specified

**S:** there are special access conditions peculiar to the data set in question

**U:** as specified in the User Undertaking Form, the user is required to obtain the permission in writing of the original depositor of the data, or an authorised representative, before publishing any interpretation of such materials

**t.b.a:** to be advised (currently unknown)

For datasets listed as having no special Access Category, users must still sign a standard SSDA User Undertaking Form prior to access.

Data sets can be ordered in writing from the SSDA, and intending users should specify particular magnetic tape or floppy disk requirements at this time. Charges for data can be supplied on request. Users can also request information or order data using E-mail.

**ANU Occupational Status Scales: Translations from ABS Classifications - Update (SSDA No. 338)**

Professor Frank Jones, from the Department of Sociology, Research School of Social Sciences, at the ANU, has recently provided the SSDA with an update to Study No. 338. Our original User's Guide described the development of the ANU1 and ANU2 status scales, which classify occupations to reflect status and worker function. This update, called the ANU3 scale, was developed in response to the new occupational classification, the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO), released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The new scale was produced using the ASCO/CCLO link file

described in the last issue of SSDA News, and can now be used in conjunction with the 1986 Census Households Sample File. Copies of a paper by Professor Jones outlining the production and background to this scale, along with the scale in the form of a machine-readable data file, can now be obtained from the SSDA.

**John Western et al. The Social Structure of Australia, 1986. (SSDA No. 493)**

The general aim of this wide ranging study is to investigate contemporary Australian class structure. As part of this general aim, the study also seeks to provide a profile of the class structure of contemporary Australian society in relational terms; relate the class model to a number of specific variables in the area of ideology and political participation; examine the differential nature of men's and women's access to, orientations toward and positions in the labour process; and to provide the Australian component of a major international comparative project on class structure of a number of advanced industrial societies.

There were two questionnaires - a workforce questionnaire which was administered by personal interview and a separated attitude questionnaire which the respondent completed alone. The workforce questionnaire covered many topic areas organised in different sections. Current occupation and employment asked detailed questions on current job, industry sector, employment status, promotion and seniority, educational qualifications required, and the male-female ratio in the job. Sections on job autonomy, supervision and decision making asked about job flexibility and ability to make effective decisions, job conditions and the respondent's supervisory role. Other sections covered work / unemployment history and union participation.

A detailed section on the household division of labour asked questions on living arrangements, partner's occupation and previous work experience, numbers of children in the household, and an extensive set of questions on many household tasks and who performs them, as well as family decision making. Family background covered financial support and parents' work and educational qualifications, while a section on friends and relatives asked about occupation details on the closest two friends or relatives. A final section on "ideology, interests, identity, alliances" asked about personal identification, views of Australian society, subjective views on social class, interest in

and participation in political process, voting behaviour, political actions and membership of organisations. Background variables are age, sex, education, birthplace of respondent and parents, religion and church attendance, home ownership, personal and household income and household composition.

The separate attitude questionnaire asked about views on current social and political issues, the media, opinions on poverty and strikes, economic issues such as taxes and big business, government and government institutions, women's issues, attitudes to work and work organisations,

Access Category: E

**Michael Bracher and Gordon Carmichael. The Australian Family Project, 1986 (SSDA Study No. 497).**

The Australian Family Project was established in 1985 to investigate the social, demographic and economic forces that have been changing the shape and nature of the Australian family over the last generation. To this end, a national survey program was initiated in 1986 to collect data which would facilitate this investigation.

Two surveys were conducted: the first, a survey of women aged 20 to 59 years; and the second, with men in the same household, also aged 20 to 59 years, as well as those older men who were the spouses of eligible women. The core of the women's questionnaire, which was conducted by personal interview, is a series of detailed life histories collected with the assistance of a life history chart, on marital unions, childbearing and children, contraception, work history, and residential mobility. The men's questionnaire covered the same ground, in slightly less detail, and was distributed to respondents for completion, and either collected personally, or mailed back.

Background information included date and country of birth; arrival in Australia; parents' country of birth, schooling; father's occupation; mother's age at marriage and subsequent work history; and details on respondent's childhood at age 14, such as place of residence and religious upbringing. Questions were also asked on respondent's schooling, both secondary and post secondary, and qualifications gained. Further sections dealt with marital unions - dates of commencement, background details of spouse, and

attitudes to remarriage; childbearing and children - numbers of children and timing of childbearing, as well as demographic details on respondent's children; and contraception and health. Respondent's work history covered periods of work, whether fulltime or parttime, changes to working hours, reasons for stopping and starting work, earnings, and satisfaction with current job. The section on residential history included timing of moves, housing and rental issues, mortgages and financing, and house acquisition. Questions were also asked on supplementary sources of income, division of household tasks and financial decision making. A final section dealt with opinions on the relative ease or difficulty of setting up a home and bringing up a family today, compared with twenty years ago.

Access Category: S

Access is currently restricted to members of the Research School of Social Sciences, The Australian National University, until January 1990, when the data will enter the public domain.

**Evaluation Task Force, National Campaign Against Drug Abuse, Social Issues in Australia, 1988 (SSDA Study No. 498)**

Since 1985, as part of the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse, substantial survey research has been undertaken to assess the extent of drug problems, the effectiveness of interventions, and the impact of aspects of the campaign. A baseline survey exploring these issues was conducted in 1985 (see Social Issues in Australia, 1985. SSDA Study No. 405). A follow-up survey was conducted in 1988, to repeat the measures obtained in 1985, and to ask additional questions to assess the awareness of and reactions to aspects of the drug campaign.

The questionnaire covered areas such as: literacy and fluency in English; social issues and problems for the community and for people of the respondent's own age; perceptions of "drug problems"; personal use of, and attitudes to drugs, drug use and drug users; information about drug use and services for users; evaluation of government policy and action on drug problems; participation in activities to increase knowledge about or more responsible use of drugs; awareness of "The Drug Offensive in general and specific components of the campaign; and an interviewer assessment of the respondent's openness and comfort in answering questions about drug use. Questions concerning drug use were placed in a

separate section in a sealed envelope, and replies to each question had a pre-coded random number which the respondent could call out. By this means, respondents could answer without the interviewer knowing either the question or the answer.

Background information included: sex, occupation, job and study status, education level completed, marital status, age of respondent and ages of others in the household.

Access Category: none

#### Australian Gallup Polls for 1986 and 1987

In December 1988, the SSDA received a deposit of 22 opinion polls from McNair Anderson Associates. These polls, Australian Gallup Polls, February to December 1986 (SSDA Study Nos. 499-509) and Australian Gallup Polls, February to September 1987 (SSDA Study Nos. 510-520) are the last in the series conducted by McNair Anderson, and hence the last that the SSDA will be receiving.

As usual, these polls cover a diverse list of topics and current issues. Included in this list are questions on: interest rates, savings and investment; personal finance; American sanctions against Libya; sport and trade with South Africa; the Australian dollar and its exchange rate; respect for the police; corporal punishment in schools; wages, salaries and productivity increases; aid to aborigines; nuclear bases; politicians' salaries; taxation; the Papal visit in 1986; racism and the RSL; AIDS and government prevention campaigns; intervention in Fiji; public concern about crime; housing, home ownership and finance; government enterprises; the cost of living; and the national ID card. In addition, standard questions on the approval rating of the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, national problems and government expenditure were asked frequently. Background variables include age, sex, education, occupation, income marital status, vote enrolment and vote intention, home ownership, country of birth and leisure activities.

In addition to the usual monthly polls, a Federal Election Survey (SSDA Study No. 516) was conducted in July 1987, and a Supplementary Survey (SSDA Study No. 520), covering approval ratings of the State and Federal governments, the Budget and the proposed Australia card, was conducted in

September 1987.

Access Category: none

#### USIA Studies on Defence and Security

The SSDA has recently received a deposit of data from 12 surveys conducted on behalf of the United States Information Agency from 1982 to 1985.

Four of these studies were conducted in New Zealand by Heylen Research Centre - **Security and Defence Issues, New Zealand, 1982, 1983, 1984 and 1985** (SSDA Nos. 521, 522, 523 and 524 respectively). The focus of these surveys was questions on the ANZUS treaty and its importance for New Zealand's defence, trust in the United States as a defence ally, and the role of the US in the Pacific and the Indian Oceans. Other questions covered relative strengths of the US and the Soviet Union; American nuclear powered ships visiting New Zealand ports; nuclear activities in the South Pacific; and foreign relations with the US. Background variables include age, sex, education level, employment and occupation, marital status, income and personal assessment of political orientation.

The remaining studies in the series (SSDA Nos. 525 to 532) were conducted in Australia by the Roy Morgan Research Centre. A series of 5 surveys **ANZUS and Australia's Security: Australian Attitudes** was carried out between July 1982 and September 1984 (SSDA Nos. 525-528 and 532). The questionnaires covered the importance of ANZUS; types of defence cooperation between Australia and the US, and benefits resulting; the risk of attack on Australia; naval presence in the South Pacific; nuclear powered warships; and the relative strength of the Soviet Union and the United States.

SSDA Study No. 529, **Attitudes to Arms Control, Australia, February 1985**, and Study No. 530, **ANZUS, Arms Control and Defence Systems: Australian Attitudes, June 1985**, canvassed opinions on confidence with the US and the Soviet Union on arms agreements; efforts being made to reach such agreements and the likelihood of this being achieved; US defence systems, Star Wars and the relationship to arms agreements; and deterrence and bargaining. The final survey in this series, **Foreign Affairs Issues, Australia, November/December 1985** (SSDA No. 531), deals in more general terms with international affairs: relations between the super powers; conflicts outside Europe; human rights; world peace and

international tensions, and the role of US and Soviet leaders; as well as ANZUS and arms control issues.

Standard background variables for these Australian studies include: marital status; education level; age; country of birth; occupation; income; household composition; house ownership and numbers of children.

Access Category: none

#### ICPSR ADDITIONS TO HOLDINGS

The following titles have been extracted from the ICPSR Bulletins dated September 1988 and December 1988. Datasets are not currently held by the SSDA, but can be ordered from ICPSR on request. Contact the SSDA for more details.

ABC News Polls: Reagan Tax Reform Speech Poll, June 1985 (ICPSR 8567); Reproductive Rights Poll, January 1985 (ICPSR 8559); Start Talks Poll, January 1985 (ICPSR 8556)

ABC News/ Washington Post Polls; Amal Hijacking Poll, June 1985 (ICPSR 8569); Bitburg Poll, April 1985 (ICPSR 8564); Hostage Release Poll, June 1985 (ICPSR 8585) January 1985 (ICPSR 8516) February 1985 (ICPSR 8560) March 1985 (ICPSR 8563) May 1985 (ICPSR 8634) May-June 1985 (ICPSR 8568) July 1985 (ICPSR 8886) September 1985 (ICPSR 8589) October 1985 (ICPSR 8592) December 1985 (ICPSR 8596) May 1986 (ICPSR 8582)

Convention Delegate Study, 1984: [United States] (ICPSR 8967)

Current Population Survey, June 1985: Marital History and Fertility (ICPSR 8899)

Deterrent Effects of Antitrust Enforcement [United States]: the Ready-Mix Concrete Industry, 1970-1980 (ICPSR 9040)

Differential Use of Jail Confinement in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Yolo Counties, 1981 (ICPSR 8920)

Effects of Prior Record in Sentencing Research in a Large Northeastern City, 1968-1979: [United States] (ICPSR 8929)

Fines as a Criminal Sanction: Practices and Attitudes of Trial Court Judges in the United States, 1985 (ICPSR 8945)

Guardian Angels: Citizen Response to Crime in Selected Cities of the United States, 1984 (ICPSR 8935)

Improving Prison Classification Procedures in Vermont: Applying an Interaction Model, 1983-1985 (ICPSR 8933)

International Social Science Program: Role of Government, 1985-1986 (ICPSR 8909)

Juvenile Court Statistics, 1984: [United States] (ICPSR 8940)

Longitudinal Study of Biosocial Factors Related to Crime and Delinquency, 1959-1962: [Pennsylvania] (ICPSR 8928)

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey I: Epidemiologic Followup Study, 1982-1984 (ICPSR 8900)

National Youth Survey [United States]: Wave IV, 1979 (ICPSR 8917)

Nature and Patterns of Homicide in Eight American Cities, 1978 (ICPSR 8936)

Nebraska Juvenile Court Records, 1975-1985 (ICPSR 8915)

Offender Based Transaction Statistics (OBTS) 1985 (ICPSR 8911)

Police Response to Street Gang Violence in California: Improving the Investigative Process, 1985 (ICPSR 8934)

Prison Crowding and Forced Releases in Illinois, 1979-1982 (ICPSR 8921)

SETUPS: American Politics: Financing Congressional Campaigns, 1983-1984 (ICPSR 8651)

State Appellate Court Adaptation to Caseload Increase, 1968-1984: [United States] (ICPSR 8262)

Supervised Pretrial Release Programs, 1979-1982: Miami, Milwaukee, and Portland (ICPSR 8919)

Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, July 1980 - June 1981 (ICPSR 8758-8769)

Survey of Inmates of State Correctional Facilities, 1986: [United States] (ICPSR 8711)

Taxpayer Opinion Survey, 1987: [United States] (ICPSR 8927)

WABC-TV / New York Daily News Polls: Hijacking Poll, June 1985 (ICPSR 8570); New York City Poll, May 1985 (ICPSR 8565); Subway Shooting Follow-up Poll, March 1985 (ICPSR 8562); Subway Shooting - Vigilante Poll, January 1985 (ICPSR 8555) December 1984 (ICPSR 8554) February 1985 (ICPSR 8561) May 1985 (ICPSR 8566) July 1985 (ICPSR 8587) October 1985 (ICPSR 8591) November 1985 (ICPSR 8594)

WABC-TV Sweeps Survey, January 1985 (ICPSR 8557)

World Tables of Economic and Social Indicators, 1960-1986 (ICPSR 8947)

ABC News Polls: Reagan Press Conference Poll, January 1986 (ICPSR 8571); National Security Council Poll, November 1986 (ICPSR 8852); Iran Poll #1, December 1986 (ICPSR 8853); Nightline AIDS Poll, June 1987 (ICPSR 8854); Reagan Press Conference Poll, March 1987 (ICPSR 8855); Reagan Speech Poll, March 1987 (ICPSR 8856); Tower Commission Poll, February 1987 (ICPSR 8857); Stockbroker Poll, February 1987 (ICPSR 8858); North Testimony Poll #1, July 1987 (ICPSR 8860); Reagan Speech Poll, August 1987 (ICPSR 8861);