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1979 OPINION SURVEY

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT, UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX, WIVENHOE PARK, COLCHESTER

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- ②
- ①

PART I

Please answer the following questions. Each question is a little different but you will find them quick and easy to answer. All you do in this first part is just put a tick in the box alongside the items you select, like this

If you find that none of the items in a question exactly fit what you think, please choose those which are closest to your views. Where you feel that you cannot answer the question, just leave it and go on to the next one

I. Below is a list of a number of things which people think are important. Please read through the list and choose just 4 or 5 which are most important to you

The most important things for me are to . . . .

- |                   |                          |                              |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| work hard         | <input type="checkbox"/> | get equal treatment          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| have a religion   | <input type="checkbox"/> | be respected by others       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| end poverty       | <input type="checkbox"/> | save for the future          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| help other people | <input type="checkbox"/> | eliminate class differences  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| have a safe job   | <input type="checkbox"/> | have an equal chance         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| be middle class   | <input type="checkbox"/> | have personal choice         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| do my duty        | <input type="checkbox"/> | have moral standards         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| be well-off       | <input type="checkbox"/> | be secure against hardship   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| be independent    | <input type="checkbox"/> | improve the lot of workers   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| be British        | <input type="checkbox"/> | have a say in things at work | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| end privilege     | <input type="checkbox"/> | have opportunities to get on | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| be working class  | <input type="checkbox"/> | see everybody equal          | <input type="checkbox"/> |

II. There are three groups of statements on this page which express different points of view about what people are like and how things get done in Britain. Please choose one statement in each group that comes closest to what you think.

1. a) People are not perfect so there has to be some control over what they can do.
- b) People are individuals and should be left to decide for themselves what to do.
- c) People naturally get on well together and consider others when they decide what to do.
- d) If there was less domination in our society then people would be free to live and work together in harmony.
- 

2. a) Some people are bound to have more influence on things than others because they are more clever and capable.
- b) The best way to get things done is to leave them to the people who know best.
- c) In this country there are a few people with a lot of power while the rest have to do as they are told.
- d) We need some people who can get things organised but it's natural for us to work together.
- 

3. a) Too much meddling goes on. We should leave people alone to sort things out for themselves.
- b) What important people want still comes before the needs of ordinary people in this country.
- c) We have to think of what is right for everybody as a whole, not just what we want for ourselves.
- d) This country will only be a good place to live when the needs of its workers comes first.

III. Here are three more groups of statements which express what some people think about Britain today. Again, please choose one statement from each group that comes closest to what you think.

1. a) There are many different kinds of people in Britain but that does not mean that it's divided into different classes.
- b) Britain is still divided into two classes, ordinary workers and the better-off.
- c) All this talk about classes is nonsense: it's being British that matters most.
- d) Britain is a class-divided society and the capitalist class controls everything.
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2. a) It's the government's job to improve the lives of the less-well-off.
- b) The government should leave people to get on with their own lives and not interfere so much.
- c) The first task of government is to get rid of all forms of class distinction and inequality.
- d) The government should look after the interests of the nation as a whole, not just those of certain groups.
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3. a) Institutions like the civil service, the courts and the police service simply make sure that the country is run properly.
- b) The institutions of this country are run by a small group of people who use them to control the rest of us.
- c) It's important to keep up such institutions as the monarchy, the Church and the House of Lords because they are part of the British way of doing things.
- d) If we want to achieve reforms in Britain then we should keep our institutions but alter the way they work.

IV. Below is a list of many of the things people think help to make a good society. Please read through the list and choose just 4 or 5 which you consider most important

A good society is where there is . . .

- |                      |                          |                          |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| national unity       | <input type="checkbox"/> | equality of opportunity  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| great wealth         | <input type="checkbox"/> | individual enterprise    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| social justice       | <input type="checkbox"/> | limited personal wealth  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a planned economy    | <input type="checkbox"/> | no industrial conflict   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| personal freedom     | <input type="checkbox"/> | respect for authority    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| strong government    | <input type="checkbox"/> | state welfare provision  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| economic efficiency  | <input type="checkbox"/> | no social privilege      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| no private business  | <input type="checkbox"/> | strong military defence  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a sense of community | <input type="checkbox"/> | limited government power | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| strong leadership    | <input type="checkbox"/> | equality of incomes      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| economic security    | <input type="checkbox"/> | no class distinctions    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| social harmony       | <input type="checkbox"/> | limited private property | <input type="checkbox"/> |

V. Here are three final groups of statements which express different points of view about affairs in Britain today. Please choose one statement in each group that comes closest to your view.

1. a) We all have a responsibility to make sure that everybody in Britain has a decent life.
- b) It's a mistake to interfere in peoples lives because variety in the way people live is essential.
- c) Only when we have achieved equality will there be social justice in Britain.
- d) The important thing is that we are all members of one community, not that we all lead the same kind of life.
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2. a) The British economy will never recover until business and industry are left to get on without interference
- b) British business and industry can only meet the needs of the people when it is no longer dominated by capitalists and the demand for profits
- c) The best way to run the economy is in a combination of private business and publicly-owned companies
- d) On the whole private business is best but the government should step in when there are difficulties.
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3. a) Britain is a world power and needs military strength to protect her interests.
- b) Britain should concentrate on advancing her trading interests, particularly through the EEC
- c) Britain should pull out of NATO and the EEC and help the under-developed countries of the world.
- d) Britain can best exercise her influence in the world by active membership of UNO, NATO and the Commonwealth.

VI. Answering this question is a little different.

Set out below are a number of things that people have different views about. The list looks a bit long but it will only take you a few minutes to go through it.

Please read each item and indicate whether or not you agree with it. If you agree just circle the 'Yes', if you disagree circle the 'No' and if you are uncertain about what you think then circle the '?'

monarchy	Yes ? No	comprehensive schools	Yes ? No
nuclear weapons	Yes ? No	prescription charges	Yes ? No
worker control	Yes ? No	wider police powers	Yes ? No
food subsidies	Yes ? No	high unemployment pay	Yes ? No
censorship	Yes ? No	Scottish parliament	Yes ? No
easy divorce	Yes ? No	lower pay for top jobs	Yes ? No
council houses	Yes ? No	private enterprise	Yes ? No
defence cuts	Yes ? No	regional government	Yes ? No
private schools	Yes ? No	land nationalisation	Yes ? No
death penalty	Yes ? No	control of profits	Yes ? No
socialism	Yes ? No	strong trade unions	Yes ? No
NATO membership	Yes ? No	Rhodesian white rule	Yes ? No
rent controls	Yes ? No	National Enterprise Board	Yes ? No
House of Lords	Yes ? No	industrial democracy	Yes ? No
minimum wage laws	Yes ? No	control of wages	Yes ? No
arts subsidies	Yes ? No	racial equality laws	Yes ? No
foreign aid	Yes ? No	redistribution of wealth	Yes ? No
wealth taxes	Yes ? No	higher welfare spending	Yes ? No
means testing	Yes ? No	closer Commonwealth ties	Yes ? No
home ownership	Yes ? No	state control of industry	Yes ? No
capitalism	Yes ? No	tough gaol sentences	Yes ? No
EEC membership	Yes ? No	high death duties	Yes ? No
control of prices	Yes ? No	UN membership	Yes ? No
private medicine	Yes ? No	state control of business	Yes ? No
wage differentials	Yes ? No	abortion	Yes ? No

Thank you for answering the questions in Part I. It will help us a great deal in our work.

There is a second part to this questionnaire, on this page and the next. It is short and quite straightforward. If you would answer these questions as well, it will help us even more.

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PART II

Everyone in Britain is affected by what the government does or fails to do. We would like to know what you think about what the government is doing.

Please answer the questions below in your own words.

VII. What do you think are the two or three most important problems facing the government today?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

VIII. Are there, in your opinion, any important problems in Britain today which the government has failed to tackle?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

IX. What are the main problems that you, personally, experience because of the policies of the present government?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

X. Which of the political parties did you vote for in the last General Election, held in 1974. Please tick below.

Conservative   
Liberal

Labour   
Other party

XI Please think for a moment about casting your vote in 1974. What were the chief things you were hoping for if the party you voted for won that election?

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else? Please use this space if you have anything further to add

XII Will you vote for the same party in the next General Election

Yes

No

Do not know

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Thank you again for answering these questions. If there are any further comments you would like to make, please use the space below



COLUMN	VAR	ITEM	IDEAL TYPE	CODING
CARD 1				
1-4	1	CASENUMBER		
5		CARD NUMBER		
6	2	Response		Completed = 1
7	3	Survey Wave		1st wave = 1
				2nd wave = 2
				3rd wave = 3
8		QUESTION I		
9	4	work hard	neo-Liberal	0/1
10	5	have a religion	Tory	0/1
11	6	end poverty	Socialist	0/1
12	7	help other people	Tory	0/1
13	8	have a safe job	Labour	0/1
14	9	be middle class	neo-Liberal	0/1
15	10	do my duty	Tory	0/1
16	11	be well-off	neo-Liberal	0/1
17	12	be independent	neo-Liberal	0/1
18	13	be British	Tory	0/1
19	14	end privilege	Socialist	0/1
20	15	be working class	Socialist	0/1
21	16	get equal treatment	Labour	0/1
22	17	be respected by others	Labour	0/1
23	18	save for the future	Tory	0/1
24	19	eliminate class differences	Socialist	0/1
25	20	have an equal chance	Labour	0/1
26	21	have personal choice	neo-Liberal	0/1
27	22	have moral standards	Tory	0/1
28	23	be secure against hardship	Labour	0/1
29	24	improve the lot of workers	Labour	0/1
30	25	have a say in things at work	Socialist	0/1
31	26	have opportunities to get on	neo-liberal	0/1
32	27	see everybody equal	Socialist	0/1
33		QUESTION II		
34	28	1 a)	Tory	0/1
35	29	1 b)	neo-Liberal	0/1
36	30	1 c)	Labour	0/1
37	31	1 d)	Socialist	0/1
38	32	2 a)	neo-Liberal	0/1
39	33	2 b)	Tory	0/1
40	34	2 c)	Socialist	0/1
41	35	2 d)	Labour	0/1
42	36	3 a)	neo-Liberal	0/1
43	37	3 b)	Labour	0/1
44	38	3 c)	Tory	0/1
45	39	3 d)	Socialist	0/1

## CODEBOOK for QUICK.DAT

COLUMN	VAR	ITEM	IDEAL TYPE	CODING
46		QUESTION III		
47	40	1 a)	neo-Liberal	0/1
48	41	1 b)	Labour	0/1
49	42	1 c)	Tory	0/1
50	43	1 d)	Socialist	0/1
51	44	2 a)	Labour	0/1
52	45	2 b)	neo-Liberal	0/1
53	46	2 c)	Socialist	0/1
54	47	2 d)	Tory	0/1
55	48	3 a)	neo-Liberal	0/1
56	49	3 b)	Socialist	0/1
57	50	3 c)	Tory	0/1
58	51	3 d)	Labour	0/1

## CARD 2

1-4		CASE NUMBER		
5		CARD NUMBER		
6		QUESTION IV		
7	52	national unity	Tory	0/1
8	53	great wealth	neo-Liberal	0/1
9	54	social justice	Socialist	0/1
10	55	a planned economy	Labour	0/1
11	56	personal freedom	neo-Liberal	0/1
12	57	strong government	Tory	0/1
13	58	economic efficiency	neo-Liberal	0/1
14	59	no private business	Socialist	0/1
15	60	a sense of community	Tory	0/1
16	61	strong leadership	neo-Liberal	0/1
17	62	economic security	Labour	0/1
18	63	social harmony	Labour	0/1
19	64	equality of opportunity	Labour	0/1
20	65	individual enterprise	neo-Liberal	0/1
21	66	limited personal wealth	Labour	0/1
22	67	no industrial conflict	Tory	0/1
23	68	respect for authority	Tory	0/1
24	69	state welfare provision	Labour	0/1
25	70	no social privilege	Socialist	0/1
26	71	strong military defence	Tory	0/1
27	72	limited government power	neo-Liberal	0/1
28	73	equality of incomes	Socialist	0/1
29	74	no class distinctions	Socialist	0/1
30	75	limited private property	Socialist	0/1

CODEBOOK for QUICK.DAT

COLUMN	VAR	ITEM	IDEAL TYPE	CODING
31		QUESTION V		
32	76	1 a)	Labour	0/1
33	77	1 b)	neo-Liberal	0/1
34	78	1 c)	Socialist	0/1
35	79	1 d)	Tory	0/1
36	80	2 a)	neo-Liberal	0/1
37	81	2 b)	Socialist	0/1
38	82	2 c)	Labour	0/1
39	83	2 d)	Tory	0/1
40	84	3 a)	Tory	0/1
41	85	3 b)	neo-Liberal	0/1
42	86	3 c)	Socialist	0/1
43	87	3 d)	Labour	0/1

CARD 3

1-4		CASE NUMBER		
5		CARD NUMBER		
6		QUESTION VI		Yes = 1 ? = 3 No = 5 N.R. = 9
7	88	monarchy	Tory	
8	89	nuclear weapons	Tory	
9	90	worker control	Socialist/(Tory)	
10	91	food subsidies	Labour/Socialist	
11	92	censorship	Tory	
12	93	easy divorce	neo-Liberal/Socialist	
13	94	council houses	Labour/Socialist	
14	95	defence cuts	Labour/Socialist	
15	96	private schools	Tory/neo-Liberal	
16	97	death penalty	Tory	
17	98	socialism	Socialist	
18	99	NATO membership	Tory/neo-Liberal/Labour	
19	100	rent controls	Labour/Socialist	
20	101	House of Lords	Tory	
21	102	minimum wage laws	Labour/Socialist	
22	103	arts subsidies	Tory/Socialist	
23	104	foreign aid	Socialist	
24	105	wealth taxes	Labour/Socialist	
25	106	means testing	Tory/neo-Liberal	
26	107	home ownership	Tory/neo-Liberal/Labour	
27	108	capitalism	neo-Liberal	
28	109	EEC membership	neo-Liberal/Labour	
29	110	control of prices	Labour/Socialist	
30	111	private medicine	Tory/neo-Liberal	
31	112	wage differentials	Tory/neo-Liberal	
32	113	comprehensive schools	Labour/Socialist	
33	114	prescription charges	Tory/neo-Liberal	

CODEBOOK for QUICK.DAT

COLUMN	VAR	ITEM	IDEAL TYPE	CODING
		QUESTION VI (cont)		Yes = 1 ? = 3 No = 5 N R. = 9
34	115	wider police powers	Tory	
35	116	high unemployment pay	Labour/Socialist	
36	117	Scottish parliament	Labour/Socialist	
37	118	lower pay for top jobs	Labour/Socialist	
38	119	private enterprise	Tory/neo-Liberal	
39	120	regional government	Labour/Socialist	
40	121	land nationalisation	Labour/Socialist	
41	122	control of profits	Labour/Socialist	
42	123	strong trade unions	Labour/Socialist	
43	124	Rhodesian white rule	Tory	
44	125	National Enterprise Board	Labour/Socialist	
45	126	industrial democracy	Labour/Socialist	
46	127	control of wages	Labour/Socialist	
47	128	racial equality laws	neo-Liberal/Labour/Soc	
48	129	redistribution of wealth	Labour/Socialist	
49	130	higher welfare spending	Labour/Socialist	
50	131	closer Commonwealth ties	Tory	
51	132	state control of industry	Socialist	
52	133	tough goal sentences	Tory	
53	134	high death duties	Labour/Socialist	
54	135	UN membership	Tory/neo-Liberal/Labour	
55	136	state control of business	Socialist	
56	137	abortion	neo-Liberal/Socialist	

QUESTION VII	OPEN
QUESTION VIII	OPEN
QUESTION IX	OPEN

CARD 4

1-4	CASE NUMBER
5	CARD NUMBER

6	138	QUESTION X	CONS = 1 LIBERAL = 3 LABOUR = 5 OTHER = 7 N R. = 9
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QUESTION XI	OPEN
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7	139	QUESTION XII	YES = 1 NO = 3 DK = 5 NR = 9
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CODEBOOK for QUICK.DAT

CODEBOOK FOR DEAD.DAT

COLUMN	VAR	ITEM	CODING
CARD 1			
1-4	1	CASE NUMBER	
5		CARD NUMBER	
6	2	RESPONSE	Moved = 2 Deceased = 3 Refused = 4 No Response = 5

FORMAT STATEMENT - for QUICK DAT

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FIXED(F4.0,1X,2F1.0,1X,24F1.0,1X,12F1.0,1X,12F1.0/6X,24F1 0,1X,12F1.0/  
6X,50F1 0/5X,2F1.0)
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