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Imagine you are 60 ...

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User guide to the data (First Edition)

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Centre for Longitudinal Studies

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The Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS) is an ESRC Resource Centre based at the Institution of Education. It provides support and facilities for those using the three internationally-renowned birth cohort studies: the National Child Development Study (1958), the 1970 British Cohort Study and the Millennium Cohort Study (2000). CLS conducts research using the birth cohort study data, with a special interest in family life and parenting, family economics, youth life course transitions and basic skills. The views expressed in this work are those of the author(s) (amend as necessary) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Economic and Social Research Council. All errors and omissions remain those of the author(s).

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Preface

This document has been prepared to accompany the deposit, with the UK Data Archive at the University of Essex, of a data set of textual responses to an open ended question asked as part of the 2008/9 follow-up of the 1958 National Child Cohort Study (NCDS), a continuing, multidisciplinary, national, longitudinal study.

The elements of the deposit, to which reference will be made throughout this document, are identified below. Users are advised that they will need to consult all elements of the documentation to gain a full understanding of the data.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS) request that any work which is based wholly or in part on analysis of National Child Development Study data includes the following acknowledgement:

“The analyses in this work are based wholly or in part on analysis of data from the 1958 National Child Development Study (NCDS). The data was deposited at the UK Data Archive by the Centre for Longitudinal Studies at the Institute of Education, University of London. NCDS is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).”

CLS also request that the term ‘NCDS’ be included when compiling keywords to accompany any publications based on analysis of the study’s data.

CLS would like to acknowledge the work of Kakia Chatsiou at the Economic and Social Data Service who anonymised these textual responses.

The self completion questionnaire and the open question 'Imagine you are 60...'

Those cohort members who were eligible to take part in the 2008/9 sweep of the national Child Development Study (NCDS) (also known as the 1958 cohort study), were sent a paper self-completion questionnaire by post, and asked to complete it in advance of their face to face interview. The questionnaire was A4 size and sixteen pages long, and was estimated to take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Questions focused on how cohort members spend their leisure time, how they rate their health and whether their health impacts on their daily life and overall well being. The questionnaire also included a fifty-item personality inventory (Goldberg, 1999). Where cohort members had not completed the questionnaire by the time the interviewer arrived, they were asked if they could spare the extra time at the end of the interview to complete it then and there. Where this was not possible, the interviewer arranged to return to pick up the completed questionnaire or left a free post envelope for the respondent to return it to the office themselves. In this way the response to the paper self-completion questionnaire was maximised.

The fieldwork agency (NatCen) recorded that out of 9,790 productive interviews, 8,844 paper questionnaires were completed (90.3%). There were no instances where a paper questionnaire was received but there was no main or partner interview. However, analysis of useable data from the self-completion questionnaire suggests a slightly lower response rate with 8,788 completed questionnaires returned (i.e. 89.8%).

The paper questionnaire also included an open question at the end which asked respondents to imagine that they were 60 years old. The exact wording is provided below:

Imagine that you are now 60 years old...please write a few lines about the life you are leading (your interests, your home life, your health and well-being and any work you may be doing).

This question parallels a question asked of the cohort members when they were 11 years old and wrote about their imagined life at age 25. The question could potentially be used as a way to code for cohort members' pessimism or optimism about the future, and the extent to which they are planning for the future. It could also be of methodological use and inform the design of future sweeps by providing evidence of some of the key concerns of cohort members at this point in the life course. Asking a question such as this on a longitudinal study will, in subsequent sweeps of the study, potentially allow comparisons to be made between actual circumstances at this future point and the future as imagined at age 50.

The open-ended question was piloted as part of the development work for the 2008 sweep of the study and was found to elicit more detailed responses than a retrospective question asking cohort members about the most important things that had happened over the past five years (Brown, 2008). Answering an open-question, particularly one of this nature, requires considerably more cognitive effort than answering the closed questions. As such, as one might expect, the level of non-response on this item was considerably higher than

any of the closed items (16% compared with the highest level of non-response to a closed item which was 2%). This means that of the 8788 completed questionnaires, 7383 included an answer to this open ended question.

Further information about the conduct of and response to the age 50 survey is provided in the technical report written by NatCen (2010). The user guide (Brown et al 2010) provides details of the data available for analysis from the main quantitative survey. This quantitative data can be matched to the textual responses using the unique cohort member id (NCDSID).

Transcription and anonymisation

The original answers to the 'Imagine you are 60' open ended question were hand-written by cohort members at the end of a self-completion questionnaire. In order to deposit them and make them more available for analysis they have been transcribed and anonymised. Initial transcription was carried out by NatCen, the fieldwork agency who carried out the age 50 survey of the 1958 cohort. At this stage the responses were partially anonymised so that if a cohort member provided their name, or other clearly identifying information, this was replaced with the word 'Personal'. Before archiving, the responses were further anonymised by staff at the Economic and Social Data Service to remove *all* proper names and locations which could potentially identify an individual respondent. **Where material has been anonymised this has been indicated by the use of curly brackets {}.**

For example, in the following response, the cohort member provided the place that she is currently living, the place that one of her sons is living and the names of both of her sons. These have all been anonymised to prevent her identification. The NCDSID for this cohort member is 'N10843Y' and this is used both to index her textual response and to index the data from her main quantitative interview.

'Both my husband and I will be enjoying our retirement. Interests will be travelling, still supporting 'heats' gardening, cooking, bridge, dancing. We will be living in {PLACE1 Scotland}. The boys will visit with their wives & family. {SON1} will be living & working in {PLACE2 Scotland} and {SON2} will be living anywhere but {PLACE1}! Apart from my knees we will both in good health. I will not be doing any paid work but will probably be back to enjoying voluntary work in the local community.' (N10843Y)

Responses to the 'Imagine you are 60' question

There were a total of 7383 cohort members who wrote in response to the 'Imagine you are 60' question at the end of the self-completion questionnaire. All of these responses have been transcribed and form the central part of this deposit. Women were more likely than men to provide a response to the open ended question. As can be seen in Table 1 below this was partly because they were more likely to return the self completion questionnaire and partly because among those who returned the self completion questionnaire they were more likely to write a response to the open-ended question. However, despite this slight gendered

response bias, there are still large numbers of men who provided an answer to this open-ended question.

Table 1: Response to the open ended question by gender

			Response to the 'Imagine you are 60' question			Total
			Response provided	No response	Self completion qnnre not completed	
Cohort Member's gender	Male	Count	3429	800	593	4822
		%	71.1%	16.6%	12.3%	100.0%
	Female	Count	3954	605	409	4968
		%	79.6%	12.2%	8.2%	100.0%
Total		Count	7383	1405	1002	9790
		%	75.4%	14.4%	10.2%	100.0%

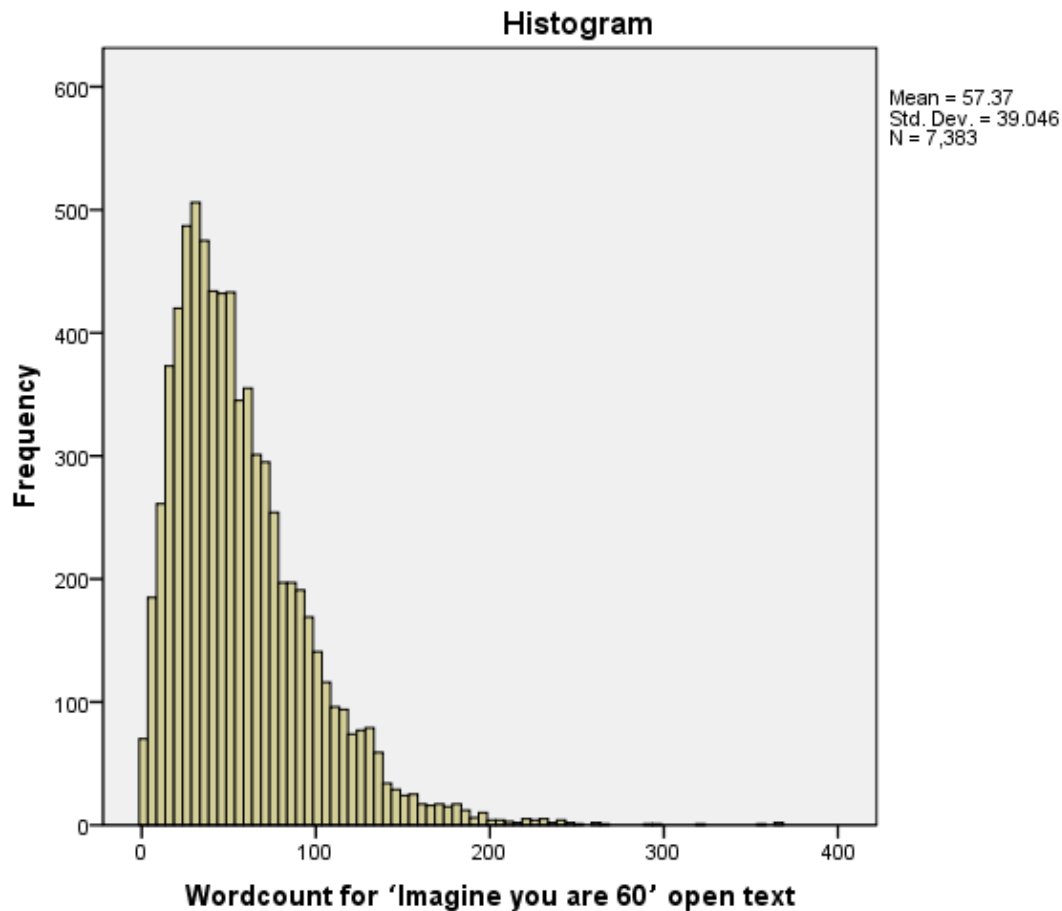
Cohort members with higher levels of qualifications were also more likely to provide a response to the open ended question than those with lower levels of qualifications or with no qualifications. However, once again, despite this bias, there were still over 60 per cent of those with no qualifications who provided a response (see Table 2).

Table 2: Response to the open ended question by highest academic qualification at age 50

			Response to the 'Imagine you are 60 question'			Total
			Response provided	No response	Self-completion qnre not returned	
Highest academic qualification at age 50	None	Count %	1179 61.7%	437 22.9%	294 15.4%	1910 100.0%
	Bad O levels, CSE 2-5	Count %	988 70.0%	281 19.9%	142 10.1%	1411 100.0%
	Good O-levels. 1 A-level	Count %	2555 76.8%	447 13.4%	326 9.8%	3328 100.0%
	2 or more A-levels	Count %	657 84.8%	60 7.7%	58 7.5%	775 100.0%
	Sub-degree	Count %	379 83.8%	35 7.7%	38 8.4%	452 100.0%
	Degree	Count %	1327 85.5%	110 7.1%	115 7.4%	1552 100.0%
	Higher Degree	Count %	298 83.7%	35 9.8%	23 6.5%	356 100.0%
Total	Count %	7383 75.5%	1405 14.4%	996 10.2%	9784 100.0%	

Length of responses – word count

Responses had a mean length of 57 words, but, as shown in the histogram below, there was considerable variation in the length of response.



The distribution of word count of individual responses is slightly skewed with a small minority of cohort members writing much longer responses of over 150 words. The median length of responses was 49 words and includes answers such as the following:

All 3 children have finished education. @Retired. @Healthy @Sufficient income to travel abroad. Prepared to work part-time to supplement income and keep mind active. @Physically active - running, working out, swimming, hill walking, golf. @Looking forward to extending 35 year married. Visiting grandchildren! (If we have any.)

Apart from less hair and more weight, I would imagine my life being pretty much the same, maybe taking things a little easier, and looking forward to retirement. But on a day to day basis doing the same work, having the same home life, following my footy team etc . . .

There were 10 per cent of responses that were under 17 words in length. Some examples include:

'ASK ME AGAIN WHEN I AM 60. '

'I hope at 60 years I AM About the SAME AS NOW. Running a business.'

'@Re-married. @Knackered & worn out.'

'@Reasonably happy. @OR DEAD!! who knows?'

In contrast there are a number of responses that are considerably more detailed. There are 10 percent that are over 109 words in length for example:

'With my husband having retired 6 yrs previously, I hope that our plans & dreams have been met. (we have planned to live between south africa, france & here) I would pray that our health is excellent & that we are able to still drive , do the gardening DIY & housework & some sport activities: That our children are happy & healthy & perhaps have given us some grandchildren which I would love. That we still have our immediate friends around us, who being of similar age I would hope are well & healthy. That all my sisters are happy & in excellent health, & if possible that my mum will still be with us, (perhaps she will be living with me by this time.) [126 words]

Among those who wrote an answer to the question, women on average provided longer responses than men (62.6 words vs. 51.3 words). A t-test confirmed that this gender difference was significant ($t=-12.6$, $p < 0.001$). As might be predicted those with higher qualifications also tended to write longer responses and this is summarised in the table below:

Table 3: Word count by level of highest academic qualifications at age 50

NCDS 2008: Highest academic qualification (nd8aghm)	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
None	45.57	1179	34.085
Bad O levels, CSE 2-5	47.29	988	30.659
Good O-levels, 1 A-level	55.55	2555	37.687
2 or more A-levels	64.04	657	42.628
Sub-degree	67.16	379	46.037
Degree	69.35	1327	40.639
Higher Degree	72.56	298	43.087
Total	57.37	7383	39.046

NCDS 'Imagine you are 60' Dataset

The NCDS 'Imagine you are 60' dataset contains 1 record for each cohort member who took part in the main interview at age 50. In the dataset there are therefore 9790 records. A total of 1002 cohort members did not return the self completion questionnaire (variable n8scq21 = -1), a further 1405 cohort members returned the self completion questionnaire but did not respond to the open ended 'Imagine you are 60' question (variable n8scq21 =2). There are 7383 cohort members who did write a response (variable n8scq21 =1) and their transcribed responses are provided as one column of the dataset/spreadsheet. A set of 15 key quantitative variables is provided, together with these qualitative responses. These have been chosen as those variables most likely to be relevant to the analysis of the textual responses from cohort members. However researchers can use the unique identifier NCDSID to link the data in this deposit with any of the longitudinal quantitative data collected as part of the 1958 cohort study.

The description of the variables included in the dataset is as follows:

Table 4: Summary of variables

Variable Name	Label	Self completion or main interview	Total valid cases	Valid cases who have also completed 'Imagine you are 60...'
n8scq21	[Q21] SC: Open question	Self completion	7383	7383
wordcnt	Wordcount for 'Imagine you are 60' open text	Self completion	7383	7383
n8sex	CM's sex	Main interview	9790	7383
nd8spphh	Cohort member lives with a spouse or partner?	Main Interview	9759	7370
nd8nchhh	(Derived) Number of cohort member's natural children in household	Main Interview	9759	7370
n8ten	Home ownership/tenure status	Main Interview	9718	7355
n8econ02	(Derived) CM's current economic activity	Main Interview	9762	7378
n8hlthgn	CM self-assessment of health	Main Interview	9734	7365
ND8KHLDS	(Derived) Whether CM registered disabled (incl all CM/proxys)	Main Interview	9777	7373

Variable Name	Label	Self completion or main interview	Total valid cases	Valid cases who have also completed 'Imagine you are 60...'
ND8KHLLT	(Derived)[KHLLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys)	Main Interview	9777	7373
ND8NS3P	(Derived) NS-SEC analytic 3 class version - person level	Main Interview	9629	7291
ND8HAGHM	(Derived) Highest academic qualification (GHM) - info from 1991,2000,2004,2008	Derived from several sweeps	9784	7383
ND8WEMWB	(Derived) Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale	Self completion	8643	7282
ND8CSP12	(Derived) Overall CASP-12 Quality of Life Score	Self completion	8631	7277

A list of the variables included in the dataset together with their frequency tables is found in appendix 1.

These variables can be used to identify specific subsets of cases that might be of interest for detailed textual or discourse analysis. For example, as Table 5 shows there is a subset of 575 cases who have a low quality of life and who report that their health limits their everyday activities.

Table 5: ND8KHLLT (Derived)[KHLLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys) * ND8CSP12d (Derived) Overall CASP-12 Quality of Life Score dichotomosed Crosstabulation

			ND8CSP12d (Derived) Overall CASP-12 Quality of Life Score dichotomosed		Total
			1.00 Low quality of life	2.00 Moderate or high quality of life	
ND8KHLLT (Derived)[KHLLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys)	1 Yes	Count	575	462	1037
		% within ND8KHLLT (Derived)[KHLLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys)	55.4%	44.6%	100.0 %
	2 No	Count	1538	4693	6231
		% within ND8KHLLT (Derived)[KHLLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys)	24.7%	75.3%	100.0 %
Total		Count	2113	5155	7268
		% within ND8KHLLT (Derived)[KHLLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys)	29.1%	70.9%	100.0 %

Some examples from this subset with reported low quality of life and who also reported having a limiting illness or condition are given below. Examples have deliberately been chosen from the 10% of the sample who gave an elaborated response of over 120 words. These give an indication of the rich material that is available for analysis.

My grandchildren will then be seventeen and twelve. As I have always luckily been involved in their upbringing and care. I see myself as being as 'advice giver' and hopefully their 'rock' in the future. @I expect to still be quite a stronge sort of person as I have always worked hard. Although I know I will suffer from shortness of breath and probably arthritis. I don't think I will look 60 in appearance. I will still be doing a lot in the garden and home, and probably other peoples too. I don't mean a bit of weeding - but larger projects, like now. I always take on big jobs. And feel happy when I have achieved something. I will still be trying to look after everybody. (N10125Z)

Positive version: I will have found a loving and supportive partner who will live with me. We will be working part-time or self employed so that work does not dominate our lives. We will have foster children or neices, nephews etc to stay at weekends. We will also have enough leisure time to explore parts of England Wales etc together for long weekends away. My back problem will be under control & I will not have constant pain in my neck & shoulders. @Negative version: I will still have constant pain in my neck & shoulders I will still be lonely but making the best of it (as now) I will be fat and have diabetes or some other condition relating to my stomach or blood sugar. My lower back problem will get worse. I will not feel accepted or valued in this market town (or another I have moved to) to start afresh i.e. my plans will not work out. I will be doing a job where I don't feel valued enough (as now) (N23732K).

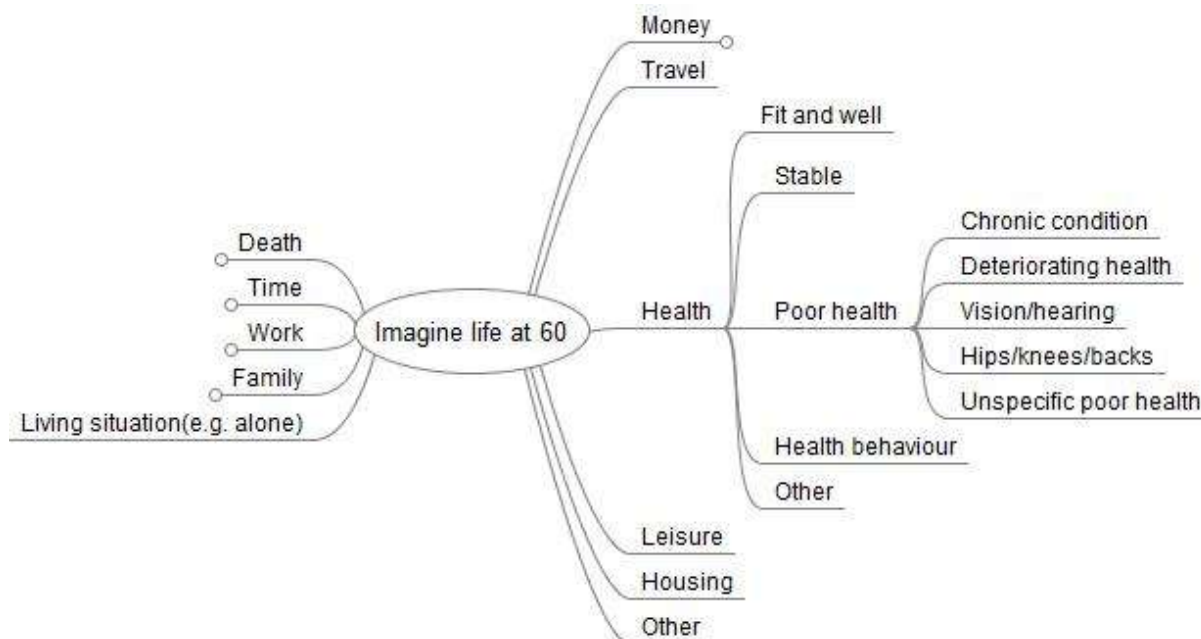
My aspirations were to have given up my job with the same employer since I left school at 16 and to be drawing my pension doing some part time work that actually interests me but with no responsibilities. This would have including paying off the mortgage & spending time travelling with the wife. @The changes appear to be lining up to prevent me ever achieving such ambition. The endowment will leave a big hole in the mortgage, having paid into my pension for so long the rules are changing that now require I work for longer & leave with less. However my biggest fears are for my children - can they afford anything like the lifestyle we have experienced. I can see them relying upon us for longer both financially & for practical help and assistance with child minding. My own health has taken a downward step over the past 5 years - Too much weight & blood pressure & of late problems with motorbiking with my knees & hips in particular. My wife has diabetes & her own health issues. At present I am finding it difficult to break what has become a routine around work to find time to address my health problems. In 10 years time unless I take action I will have progressed further down the track reducing any possibility of recovery. For years I have been telling myself that things will eventually get better - I will find the me time to do the things I want to do. When I get to 60 I expect to still be looking.(N27952M)

I have now retired from work (HOPEFULLY) we will hopefully be moving shortly, possibly to Derbyshire. I am still pursuing my interests; railways, buses, stamps and jigsaw puzzles. Music and films are still a big part of my life too. I would like to do more DIY but my health now prevents that and I'm also not able to work in the garden as often as I would like. It's lovely seeing the grandchildren and my own daughters as often as I can. I also still enjoy walking with my wife and look forward to when we move, discovering new walks etc. I also still enjoy going out for meals with my wife. Life is much more enjoyable now. Just wish I had a younger body! (N24413B)

Developing a coding scheme for the open-ended question responses

Researchers using this dataset will almost certainly wish to develop their own coding scheme from the qualitative textual material - shaped by their specific substantive interests. However, Figure 1 provides an illustration of the type of hierarchical coding frame that can be constructed. This is based on preliminary analysis and coding of a sample of 400 responses. It can be seen that ten 'top-level' themes were identified and an additional top

level code 'other' was also used. Figure 1 shows how the top-level theme 'health' can then be divided into five sub-themes, and that the sub-theme 'poor health' can further be subdivided into a further five themes. As would be expected, several of the themes illustrated in Figure 1 map onto the main topics suggested by the question itself (i.e. cohort members were invited to '[write about] *your interests, your home life, your health and well-being and any work you may be doing*').



The most dominant top-level themes were 'health' (243 responses), 'work' (242 responses), 'family' (210 responses), 'interests and leisure' (195 responses), and 'travel/holidays' (125 responses). Themes which were also coded at this top level, but were slightly less common, included: 'money' (88 responses), 'housing' (80 responses), and 'time' (48 responses). A further theme, coded within 14 responses, was 'death'. For example;

Too hard to imagine what I will be doing in 10 years time. At the moment I am in good health but I know from experience things can change just this week I have been to a funeral of a friend who died of cancer aged 57(N10592Y).

Many responses addressed several separate themes. For example this relatively brief response (N10066F below) was coded with the five themes: Interests and leisure, work, family, health and time:

My interests would take up more of my time, work would be part time and I would be spending more time with my wife pursuing as many shared interests as possible I would expect a slight decline in my health but nothing to stop me from doing what I want to do. (N10066F)

There were a minority of cohort members who provided a response to the open question 'Imagine you are 60' (23 of 400) but who did not address any of the themes suggested by

the question wording. These were coded using a top-level code of 'Other': approximately half of these wrote that they 'didn't know' or it was 'impossible to say' (13 of 23) and approximately half wrote that they expected life to be very similar to life now.

For example:

'I WILL TELL YOU WHEN I'AM 60. CANT READ THE FUTURE, BUT PROBABLEY THE SAME AS NOW.'

and

'I hope at 60 years I AM About the SAME AS NOW.'

This approach to coding the main themes in the written responses can be used to create a new set of variables indicating what topics are mentioned by cohort members in their answers. The data can then be explored, analysed and summarised using standard quantitative techniques. Alternatively, once the main themes have been identified, a subgroup of responses that include discussion of a particular theme can be analysed in more detail with attention paid to the concepts, discourse or vocabulary used. Further discussion of a variety of methods for the analysis of large sets of qualitative/textual material of this type is provided by Castro et al (2010); Hsieh and Shannon (2005); and Sandelowski et al (2009).

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Appendix 1: Variables in NCDS Imagine you are 60 Dataset

nd8sex (Derived) Cohort Member's Sex

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 male	3429	46.4	46.4	46.4
	2 female	3954	53.6	53.6	100.0
	Total	7383	100.0	100.0	

nd8spphh (Derived) Cohort member lives with a spouse or partner

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0 No	1421	19.2	19.3	19.3
	1 yes	5949	80.6	80.7	100.0
	Total	7370	99.8	100.0	
Missing	-6 Didn't complete hhgrid	13	.2		
Total		7383	100.0		

nd8nchhh (Derived) Number of cohort member's natural children in household

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0	3228	43.7	43.8	43.8
	1	1901	25.7	25.8	69.6
	2	1717	23.3	23.3	92.9
	3	429	5.8	5.8	98.7
	4	79	1.1	1.1	99.8
	5	9	.1	.1	99.9
	6	4	.1	.1	100.0
	7	1	.0	.0	100.0
	8	1	.0	.0	100.0
	9	1	.0	.0	100.0
	Total	7370	99.8	100.0	
Missing	-6 Didn't complete hhgrid	13	.2		
Total		7383	100.0		

n8ten [TENURE] Home ownership / tenure status

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Own - outright	1844	25.0	25.1	25.1
	2 Own - buying with help of a mortgage/loan	4453	60.3	60.5	85.6
	3 Pay part rent and part mortgage (shared/equity ownership)	35	.5	.5	86.1
	4 Rent it	887	12.0	12.1	98.2
	5 Live rent-free, incl. rent-free in relative's/friend's property	94	1.3	1.3	99.4
	6 Squatting	1	.0	.0	99.4
	7 Other	41	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	7355	99.6	100.0	
Missing	-9 Refused	1	.0		
	-1 Item not applicable	27	.4		
	Total	28	.4		
Total		7383	100.0		

n8Econ02 [ECONACT2] (Recoded) CM's current economic activity

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Full-time paid employee (30 or more hours a week)	4207	57.0	57.0	57.0
	2 Part-time paid employee (under 30 hours a week)	1164	15.8	15.8	72.8
	3 Full-time self-employed	778	10.5	10.5	83.3
	4 Part-time self-employed	184	2.5	2.5	85.8
	5 Unemployed and seeking work	161	2.2	2.2	88.0
	6 Full-time education	12	.2	.2	88.2
	7 On a government scheme for employment training	2	.0	.0	88.2
	8 Temporarily sick/disabled	39	.5	.5	88.7
	9 Permanently sick/disabled	287	3.9	3.9	92.6
	10 Looking after home/family	394	5.3	5.3	98.0
	11 Wholly retired	53	.7	.7	98.7
	12 Other (SPECIFY AT NEXT QUESTION)	97	1.3	1.3	100.0
	Total	7378	99.9	100.0	
Missing	-8 Don't Know	1	.0		
	-1 Item not applicable	4	.1		
	Total	5	.1		
Total		7383	100.0		

n8HlthGn [HLTHGEN] CM self-assessment of health

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	-6 Misrouted - incomplete interview	12	.2	.2	.2
	1 Excellent	1532	20.8	20.8	20.9
	2 Very good	2497	33.8	33.8	54.8
	3 Good	2132	28.9	28.9	83.7
	4 Fair	852	11.5	11.5	95.2
	5 Poor	352	4.8	4.8	100.0
	Total	7377	99.9	100.0	
Missing	-8 Don't Know	2	.0		
	-1 Item not applicable	4	.1		
	Total	6	.1		
Total		7383	100.0		

ND8KHLDS (Derived) [KHLDSBL] Wh. CM registered disabled (incl all CMs/proxys)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Yes	272	3.7	3.7	3.7
	2 No	7101	96.2	96.3	100.0
	Total	7373	99.9	100.0	
Missing	-9 Refusal	1	.0		
	-8 Don't Know	9	.1		
	Total	10	.1		
Total		7383	100.0		

ND8KHLLT (Derived)[KHLLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 Yes	1061	14.4	14.4	14.4
	2 No	6312	85.5	85.6	100.0
	Total	7373	99.9	100.0	
Missing	-9 Refusal	1	.0		
	-8 Don't Know	9	.1		
	Total	10	.1		
Total		7383	100.0		

ND8NS3P (Derived) NS-SEC analytic 3 class version - person level

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	-5 retired @s8 (no job/unemp prev 5yrs)	18	.2	.2	.2
	-4 Sick @s8 (nojob/unemp prev 5yr)	233	3.2	3.2	3.4
	-3 Home/family @swp8(nojob/unemp prev 5yr)	281	3.8	3.9	7.3
	1 Managerial and professional occupations	3318	44.9	45.5	52.8
	2 Intermediate occupations	1519	20.6	20.8	73.6
	3 Routine&man occ/long-term unemp	1922	26.0	26.4	100.0
	Total	7291	98.8	100.0	
Missing	-8 uncodeable at most recent job	40	.5		
	-2 Missing (oth-non-work/proxy/nodata @s8)	52	.7		
	Total	92	1.2		
Total		7383	100.0		

ND8HAGHM (Derived) Highest academic qualification (GHM) - info from 1991,2000,2004,2008

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0 None	1179	16.0	16.0	16.0
	1 Bad O levels, CSE 2-5	988	13.4	13.4	29.4
	2 Good O-levels. 1 A-level	2555	34.6	34.6	64.0
	3 2 or more A-levels	657	8.9	8.9	72.9
	4 Sub-degree	379	5.1	5.1	78.0
	5 Degree	1327	18.0	18.0	96.0
	6 Higher Degree	298	4.0	4.0	100.0
Total		7383	100.0	100.0	

Statistics

		ND8WEMWB (Derived) Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale	ND8CSP12 (Derived) Overall CASP-12 Quality of Life Score
N	Valid	7282	7277
	Missing	101	106
Mean		49.57	26.32
Median		50.00	27.00
Std. Deviation		8.059	5.745
Minimum		14	2
Maximum		70	36
Percentiles	25	44.00	23.00
	50	50.00	27.00
	75	55.00	31.00

Appendix 2: NCDS Imagine you are 60 SPSS Dataset Filename

Dataset	File names
NCDS Imagine you are 60 dataset - SPSS system file with 15 variables including NCDSID to allow for matching of other quantitative data	ncds8_imagine.sav
Tab delimited file with 9790 rows and including the anonymised responses from cohort members to the 'Imagine you are 60' question, posed at age 50	ncds8_imagine_text.tab
Tab delimited file with 9790 rows and including the anonymised responses from cohort members to the 'Imagine you are 60' question, posed at age 50, together with the 15 variables summarised in this document	ncds8_imagine.tab

Appendix 3: Definitions and labels for the variables in the tab delimited file

N8SCQ21: [Q21] SC: Open question

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-9	Not answered
-8	Multicode
-1	Self completion qnaire not completed
1	Text present
2	No Text present

ND8SEX: Cohort members birth sex

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
1	Male
2	Female

ND8SPPHH: (Derived) Cohort member lives with a spouse or partner

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-6	Didn't complete hhgrid
0	No
1	yes

ND8NCHHH: (Derived) Number of cohort member's natural children in household

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-6	Didn't complete hhgrid

N8TEN: [TENURE] Home ownership / tenure status

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-9	Refused
-8	Don't know
-1	N/a: proxy / does not live in private residence
1	Own - outright
2	Own - buying with help of mortgage/loan
3	Pay part rent/part mortgage(shared/eq o)
4	Rent it
5	Live rentfree,incl in rels/friends prop
6	Squatting
7	Other

N8ECON02: [ECONACT2] (Recoded) CM's current economic activity

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-9	Refusal
-8	Don't Know
-2	Schedule not applicable
-1	n/a: proxy
1	Full-time paid employee (30+ hrs)
2	Part-time paid employee (<30 hrs)
3	Full-time self-employed
4	Part-time self-employed
5	Unemployed and seeking work
6	Full-time education
7	On gov. scheme for employment training
8	Temporarily sick/disabled
9	Permanently sick/disabled
10	Looking after home/family
11	Wholly retired
12	Other (SPECIFY AT NEXT QUESTION)

N8HLTHGN: [HLTHGEN] CM self-assessment of health

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-8	Don't Know
-6	Misrouted - incomplete interview
-2	Schedule not applicable
-1	N/a: proxy/block not entered
1	Excellent
2	Very good
3	Good
4	Fair
5	Poor

ND8KHLDS: (Derived) [KHLDSBL] Wh. CM registered disabled (incl all CMs/proxys)

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-9	Refusal
-8	Don't Know
1	Yes
2	No

ND8KHLT: (Derived)[KHLT] Wh. health limits everyday activities (incl all CMs/proxys)

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-9	Refusal
-8	Don't Know
1	Yes
2	No

ND8NS3P: (Derived) NS-SEC analytic 3 class version - person level

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-8	uncodeable at most recent job
-5	retired @s8 (no job/unemp prev 5yrs)
-4	Sick @s8 (nojob/unemp prev 5yr)
-3	Home/family @swp8(nojob/unemp prev 5yr)
-2	Missing (oth-non-work/proxy/nodata @s8)
1	Managerial and professional occupations
2	Intermediate occupations
3	Routine&man occ/long-term unemp

ND8HAGHM: (Derived) Highest academic qualification (GHM) - info from 1991,2000,2004,2008

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
0	None
1	Bad O levels, CSE 2-5
2	Good O-levels. 1 A-level
3	2 or more A-levels
4	Sub-degree
5	Degree
6	Higher Degree

ND8WEMWB: (Derived) Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-2	incomplete information
-1	Self completion qnaire not completed

ND8CSP12: (Derived) Overall CASP-12 Quality of Life Score

<i>Value</i>	<i>Label</i>
-3	No questions answered
-2	Incomplete information
-1	Self completion qnaire not completed

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