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*Prestige and Association in an
Urban Community*

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**Prestige
and Association
In an
Urban Community**

An Analysis of an Urban Stratification System

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To my wife, Susan

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Appendix B

The Interview
Schedules

The interview schedule may be divided into three sections. The first section is the main interview schedule. After the first nine items had been asked, the interviewer presented the respondent with the Social Distance Booklet (second section). Of course, this booklet was not identified as a Social Distance Booklet. After the respondent had filled out this booklet (which took, on the average, between ten and fifteen minutes), the interviewer gave the respondent the single-page checklist (third section) which asked whether he had ever had a friend who was a carpenter, high-school teacher, and so on. The interviewer then returned to Item Q11 in the main interview schedule and proceeded with the rest of the questions.

Every fifth respondent (for a given interviewer) was included in an open-ended subsample. This respondent was asked at the very end of the interview to discuss his answers in the Social Distance Booklet for the five specified occupations. The interviewer was instructed to let the respondent structure the discussion in his own way and to ask only open-ended and nondirective questions. Although the data yielded in this section were not strictly comparable across respondents because of the unstructured nature of the discussion, the data provided some very useful insights into how people were responding to this booklet. The average discussion lasted another five minutes.

Section 1. Interview Schedule

Q1. Some people say there is not much opportunity in America today—that the average man doesn't have much chance to really get ahead. Others say that there's plenty of opportunity, and anyone who works hard can go as far as he wants. How do you feel about this?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> much opportunity | <input type="checkbox"/> not much opportunity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> some opportunity | <input type="checkbox"/> no real opportunity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> undecided (don't know) | |

Q2. During the last ten years there have been a number of corporations that sold one billion dollars or more of goods each year. Which of these four statements comes closest to describing your feeling about a corporation that does this much business? (*Hand respondent card.*)

- ☐ a. (1) It is dangerous for the welfare of the country for any companies to be this big, and they should be broken up into small companies.
- ☐ b. (2) While it may be necessary to have some very large companies, we should watch their activities very closely and discourage their activities as much as possible.
- ☐ c. Don't know or undecided.
- ☐ d. (3) There may be some drawbacks to having such large companies, but on the whole, they do more good than harm to the country.
- ☐ e. (4) It is foolish to worry about a company just because it is big; large companies have made America the kind of country it is today.

Q3. With which of these four statements do you come closest to agreeing? (*Hand card.*)

- ☐ a. (1) Labor unions in this country are doing a fine job.
- ☐ b. (2) While they do make some mistakes, on the whole unions are doing more good than harm.
- ☐ c. Don't know or undecided.
- ☐ d. (3) Although we need labor unionism in this country, the way they are run now they do more harm than good.
- ☐ e. (4) This country would be better off without any labor unions at all.

Q4. Do you believe that the big business interests (as represented by the N.A.M. or the National Association of Manufacturers, and the U. S.

Chamber of Commerce) have too much influence in Washington at the present time, or is it just about the right amount, or is it too little?

☐ too much ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ just about the right amount ☐ too little

Q5. Would you agree that everybody would be happier, more secure, and more prosperous if the working people were given more power and influence in government, or would you say that we would be better off if working people had no more power and influence than they have now, or that they should have less power and influence than they have now?

☐ more power and influence ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ no more power and influence ☐ less power and influence

Q6. In strikes and disputes between working people and employers, do you usually side with the workers or with the employers?

☐ workers ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ neither (sometimes one; ☐ employers
 sometimes the other)

Q7. With which of these two statements do you come closer to agreeing? (*Hand card.*)

☐ a. (1) Nowadays working people are usually fairly and squarely treated by their employers.

☐ b. Don't know or undecided.

☐ c. (2) Nowadays employers often take advantage of working people.

Q8. With which one of these statements do you come closer to agreeing? (*Hand card.*)

☐ a. (1) The most important job for the government is to make it certain that there are good opportunities for each person to get ahead on his own.

☐ b. Don't know or undecided.

☐ c. (2) The most important job for the government is to make sure every person has a decent and steady job and standard of living.

Q9. Would you agree or disagree that the Federal or local government should own and operate public utilities like gas and electric companies, telephone companies, railroads and so on? (*Probe for degree of agreement or disagreement.*)

☐ strongly agree ☐ disagree
☐ agree ☐ strongly disagree
☐ undecided or don't know

Q10. Here is a set of interesting questions. I would like you to check your own answers in this booklet. You can answer these questions quite quickly because the same question is asked for each of a number of people in different jobs (only the jobs change). Don't spend much time in thinking carefully about each question. We are really interested in your most immediate reaction. We are interested in your personal preferences in your relationships with other people. You can tell us how much you agree or disagree with each of these questions by just putting a circle at the right place. (*Hand booklet and pencil.*)

Q11. There's quite a bit of talk these days about different social classes. If you were asked to use one of these four names for *your* social class, which would you say you belonged in—the middle class, the lower class, the working class, or the upper class?

☐ upper class ☐ lower class
☐ middle class ☐ don't know
☐ working class ☐ don't believe in the
 existence of classes

Q12. Would you say that you are about an average (middle or working class) person or that you are in the upper part of the (middle or working) class?

☐ average ☐ upper ☐ don't know or undecided

Q13. In talking with your family, friends, or neighbors, do you ever use these class names or names like them to talk about yourself or other people?

☐ yes ☐ don't remember ☐ no

Q14. In deciding whether a person belongs to your class or not, which of these things do you think is most important to know: who his family is, how much money he has (or makes), what sort of education he has, what his occupation is, or how he believes and feels about certain things? (*Note primary one if respondent picks more than one.*)

☐ family ☐ beliefs and feelings
☐ money ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ education ☐ all
☐ occupation

Q15. Which kind of social club or informal social group (like a bowling team or bridge club) would you rather belong to: one whose members are all of your own social class or one whose members are persons of various classes?

☐ same social class ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ as your own ☐ various classes

Q16. If you have children, which social class do you think they will be in when they have families of their own? (*Give middle, lower, working, and upper alternatives if asked.*)

☐ same class as mine ☐ various classes (depends
☐ higher class than mine on their ability etc.)
☐ lower class than mine ☐ don't know or undecided

Q17. To what extent do you think the people in the following groups stick together on matters or issues that affect them all, like automation or tax increases? (*Hand card.*)

White collar workers

☐ always ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ nearly always ☐ sometimes
☐ frequently ☐ rarely (not often)

Big businessmen

☐ always ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ nearly always ☐ sometimes
☐ frequently ☐ rarely (not often)

Blue-collar workers (labor, working people)

☐ always ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ nearly always ☐ sometimes
☐ frequently ☐ rarely (not often)

Physicians (medical doctors)

☐ always ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ nearly always ☐ sometimes
☐ frequently ☐ rarely (not often)

Small businessmen

☐ always ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ nearly always ☐ sometimes
☐ frequently ☐ rarely (not often)

Q18. Do you think people of your own group should stick together on matters or issues that may affect all of them more than they do now, or is it just about the right amount, or should they do less?

☐ more than they do now ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ just about right ☐ less than they do now

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Q19. Could you tell me your age? _____

Q20. Are you married, single, or what?

☐ married ☐ single
☐ divorced or separated ☐ unanswered
☐ widowed

Q21a. (*If ever married*): Do you have any children?

☐ yes ☐ no

Q21b. (*If ever married*): How old are they? _____

Q21c. (*If ever married*): What is (was) your father-in-law's main job or occupation? _____

Q22. Last week, were you working, going to school, looking for work, or what?

☐ working for pay or profit or doing unpaid family work in business

☐ looking for work
☐ had job or business, but did not work because of illness, bad weather, labor dispute (strike), or temporary lay-off
☐ going to school
☐ summer employment, regularly a student
☐ permanently unable or too old to work
☐ retired or voluntarily idle

Q23. What do you do for a living? (*Probe to clarify ambiguous answers.*) _____

Q24. Are you employed or self-employed? (*Determine principal source of income if both.*)

☐ self-employed (commissions, profits, fees) ☐ employed both

Q25. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with your present job? (*Probe for degree.*)

☐ very satisfied ☐ somewhat dissatisfied
☐ satisfied ☐ dissatisfied
☐ somewhat satisfied ☐ very dissatisfied

Q26. Do you think you have a good chance to get ahead in your present line of work?

☐ very good chance ☐ don't know or undecided
☐ good chance ☐ no chance, no opportunities
☐ fair chance ☐ no chance, too old, not qualified

Q27a. (Ask employer only): About how many people do you employ?

Q27b. (Ask supervisors, managers, foremen only): About how many people do you have working under your direction?

Q27c. (Ask employed people only—this excludes people answering 27b): Do you sometime hope or expect to own your own business?

yes, expect to own business no, do not expect to own business
don't know or undecided yes, already have business part time

Q27d. (Ask those who answered 27c): Do you ever hope or expect to be a foreman, manager, or executive of some kind?

yes don't know or undecided no

Q28a. (Ask all employed people): Do you belong to a union?

yes no

Q28b. (Ask only members of unions): Suppose there is a section of the country where very few workers are unionized. A drive is started to unionize the companies there. Union workers all over the country are asked to give some money to support the drive. Some union people think they should give money; others think they shouldn't. How do you think you would feel about this?

think would give don't think would give
unsure, undecided, don't know

Q29. What is (was) your father's job or occupation? (Get specific answers.)

Q30. (Ask everyone): How important is it to you to have opportunities for advancement in your present line of work? (Probe for degree.)

very important don't know or undecided
important not too important
fairly important not important at all

Q31. What was your job or occupation before you got your present job or occupation?

always had present job or worked for different people but essentially same job
Other

Q32. Could you tell me the jobs or occupations of three of your closest friends whom you see most often? Don't tell me their names. They can be relatives of yours.

Occupation A Relative
Occupation B Relative
Occupation C Relative

Q33. Could you tell me the jobs or occupations of your next-door neighbors?

Occupation A Don't know
Occupation B Don't know

Q34. Which of the following would best describe the kind of relations you have with your neighbors? (Hand card.)

- a. Good friends of the family.
- b. Often visit one another in each other's homes.
- c. Casual chatting in the yard or if you happen to run into each other on the street.
- d. Hardly know my neighbors.
- e. Other

Q35. How long have you been living in this neighborhood?

Q36a. Do you ever have people over for supper in your home?

yes no

Q36b. (If yes to 36a): How many times a month (year) would you say you have people over for supper?

Q36c. Are these people usually relatives or friends?

relatives friends both

Q37. Do you belong to any social clubs, fraternities, lodges, or informal social groups?

yes no

Q38. (If yes to 37): Which ones?

Q39a. What was the last year (or grade) you completed in school?

- no formal schooling technical or vocational school
- grammar school (1-6) some college (1-3)
- grammar school (7-8) finished college
- some high school (9-11) graduate or professional school
- completed high school

Q39b. Did you go to public, private or parochial grade or high school?

public private parochial

Q39c. (If college): Which college did you attend?

Q39d. (If graduate or professional school): Graduate or professional school? _____

Q40. In what country was your grandfather on your father's side born? _____

Q41a. Do you have any religious preference?

_____ yes _____ no

Q41b. (If yes to 41a): Is it Catholic, Protestant (specify denomination), or Jewish?

_____ Catholic
 _____ Protestant Denomination _____
 _____ Jewish
 _____ Other _____

Q42a. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

_____ Republican
 _____ Democrat
 _____ Independent (tending toward: _____ Republican _____ Democrat)
 _____ Other (specify) _____
 _____ Don't know or unanswered

Q42b. Would you say you had a strong, moderate, or relatively weak (Republican, Democratic or Other) party preference?

_____ strong _____ relatively weak
 _____ moderate _____ don't know or unanswered

Nota bene: Is this respondent in your open-ended probe SUBSAMPLE?

INTERVIEWER'S NOTES

Interviewer _____ Date _____
 Respondent's Name _____ Address _____

Q43. _____ Original sample _____ Substitute sample

Q44. _____ First call _____ Second call _____ Third call

Q45. _____ Census tract number

Q46. Type of dwelling:

_____ single detached house _____ duplex-triplex _____ apartment building

Q47. House type:

_____ Excellent _____ Average _____ Very poor
 _____ Very good _____ Fair
 _____ Good _____ Poor

Q48. Interviewer's rating of ecological area:

High status area, generally (based on estimate of quality of dwelling units)

_____ ecologically homogeneous _____ ecologically mixed

Middle status area

_____ ecologically homogeneous _____ ecologically mixed

Lower status area

_____ ecologically homogeneous _____ ecologically mixed

OPEN-ENDED SUBSAMPLE

Carpenter
 High-school teacher
 Doctor
 Machine operator in factory
 Top executive of a large business firm

Section 2. Social Distance Booklet

Interview number _____

SA = Strongly agree U = Undecided D = Disagree

A = Agree

SD = Strongly disagree

1. I believe I would like to have a *carpenter*

a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD

b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD

c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD

d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD

e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD

f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD

g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD

2. I believe I would like to have a *high-school teacher*

a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD

b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD

c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD

- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
3. I believe I would like to have a *banker*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
4. I believe I would like to have a *factory foreman*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
5. I believe I would like to have a *truck driver*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
6. I believe I would like to have a *salesclerk in a department store*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD

- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
7. I believe I would like to have an *electrical engineer*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
8. I believe I would like to have a *garage mechanic*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
9. I believe I would like to have a *physician (doctor)*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
10. I believe I would like to have an *unskilled construction worker*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD

- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
11. I believe I would like to have a *college professor*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
12. I believe I would like to have a *machine operator in a factory*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
13. I believe I would like to have a *street sweeper*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
14. I believe I would like to have a *bank teller*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD

15. I believe I would like to have an *owner-manager of a small store*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
16. I believe I would like to have a *janitor*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
17. I believe I would like to have a *top executive of a large business firm*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
18. I believe I would like to have a *high school graduate*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
- c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
- d. as a person I would have over
for supper in my home SA A U D SD
- e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
- f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
- g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
19. I believe I would like to have a *person who had professional training after college*
- a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD

178 Prestige and Association

- b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
 c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
 d. as a person I would have over
 for supper in my home SA A U D SD
 e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
 f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
 lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
 g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
20. I believe I would like to have a *person who finished grade school only*
 a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
 b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
 c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
 d. as a person I would have over
 for supper in my home SA A U D SD
 e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
 f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
 lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
 g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
21. I believe I would like to have a *college graduate*
 a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
 b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
 c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
 d. as a person I would have over
 for supper in my home SA A U D SD
 e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
 f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
 lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
 g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD
22. I believe I would like to have a *person who had gone to high school
 but had not finished*
 a. as my son-in-law SA A U D SD
 b. as my father-in-law SA A U D SD
 c. as my closest, personal friend SA A U D SD
 d. as a person I would have over
 for supper in my home SA A U D SD
 e. as a person I might often visit with SA A U D SD
 f. as a member of one of my social clubs,
 lodges, or informal social groups SA A U D SD
 g. as my next-door neighbor SA A U D SD

Section 3. Occupational Friends and Acquaintances

Interview number _____
 Please circle your answer.

Have you ever had a friend who was a:

carpenter	yes	no
high-school teacher	yes	no
banker	yes	no
factory foreman	yes	no
truck driver	yes	no
salesclerk in a		
department store	yes	no
electrical engineer	yes	no
garage mechanic	yes	no
physician (doctor)	yes	no
unskilled construction worker	yes	no
college professor	yes	no
machine operator in a factory	yes	no
street sweeper	yes	no
bank teller	yes	no
owner-manager of a		
small store	yes	no
janitor	yes	no
top executive of a		
large business firm	yes	no