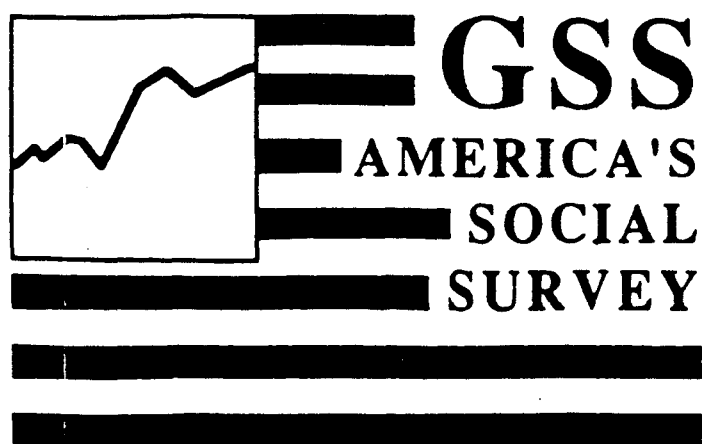


USA
ISSP 1990 – Role of Government II
Questionnaire



NORC
5325
01/90

NORC

University of Chicago

International Self-Administered Questionnaire

CONFIDENTIAL

**TO BE USED ONLY
WITH SCIENTIFICALLY
SELECTED RESPONDENT**

BEGIN DECK 16

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01-06/

PUT CASE ID LABEL HERE

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GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY

CONFIDENTIAL

In this part of the survey we are interested in your opinions about politics, social issues and other things that affect our way of life in America.

We would like you to fill out this questionnaire on your own using a pencil. When you are finished please return the questionnaire to our interviewer.

HOW TO FILL OUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

To answer most questions you need only circle a number. Here are two examples:

Example A:

Do you think the government is doing a good job or a poor job?

A very good job1

A fairly good job.....(2)

A poor job3

A very poor job.....4

(IF YOU THINK THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING A "FAIRLY GOOD JOB", CIRCLE "2",
CIRCLE ONE ANSWER ONLY).

Example B:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER FOR EACH STATEMENT)

- | |
|-------------------------------|
| 1. Strongly agree |
| 2. Agree |
| 3. Neither agree nor disagree |
| 4. Disagree |
| 5. Strongly disagree |



CIRCLE A NUMBER

It is difficult to raise children.....(1) 2 3 4 5

A woman should devote almost all
her time to her family..... 1 2 3 (4) 5

(YOU WOULD CIRCLE "1" IF YOU STRONGLY AGREE WITH THE FIRST STATEMENT, AND
"4" IF YOU "DISAGREE" WITH THE SECOND STATEMENT).

* * * * *

PLEASE READ EACH QUESTION CAREFULLY, REMEMBER THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR WRONG
ANSWERS--WE JUST WANT TO KNOW YOUR OWN PERSONAL OPINION.

1. In general, would you say that people should obey the law without exception, or are there exceptional occasions on which people should follow their consciences even if it means breaking the law?
(CIRCLE ONE ANSWER)

Obey the law without exception.....1 07/
Follow conscience on occasions.....2
Can't choose.....8

2. There are many ways people or organizations can protest against a government action they strongly oppose.

Please show which you think should be allowed and which should not be allowed by circling a number after each question.

1. Definitely allowed
2. Probably allowed
3. Probably not allowed
4. Definitely not allowed
8. Can't choose

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. Organizing public meetings to protest against the government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 08/ |
| B. Publishing pamphlets to protest against the government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 09/ |
| C. Organizing protest marches and demonstrations..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 10/ |
| D. Occupying a government office and stopping work there for several days..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 11/ |
| E. Seriously damaging government buildings..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 12/ |
| F. Organizing a nationwide strike of all workers against the government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 13/ |

3. There are some people whose views are considered extreme by the majority.
First, consider people who want to overthrow the government by revolution.

1. Definitely allowed
 2. Probably allowed
 3. Probably not allowed
 4. Definitely not allowed
 8. Can't choose

Please circle a number after each question to show if you think such people should be allowed to . . .

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

- | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. Hold public meetings to express their views..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 14/ |
| B. Publish books expressing their views..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 15/ |

4. Second, consider people who believe that whites are racially superior to all other races.

1. Definitely allowed
 2. Probably allowed
 3. Probably not allowed
 4. Definitely not allowed
 8. Can't choose

Circle a number after each question to show if you think such people should be allowed to . . .

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

- | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. Hold public meetings to express their views..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 16/ |
| B. Publish books expressing their views..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 17/ |

5. Suppose the police get an anonymous tip that a man with a long criminal record is planning to break into a warehouse.

1. Definitely allowed
 2. Probably allowed
 3. Probably not allowed
 4. Definitely not allowed
 8. Can't choose

Please circle a number for each question to show if you think the police should be allowed without a court order to . . .

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

- | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. Keep the man under surveillance..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 18/ |
| B. Tap his telephone..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 19/ |
| C. Open his mail..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 20/ |
| D. Detain the man overnight for questioning..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 21/ |

6. All systems of justice make mistakes, but which do you think is worse?

To convict an innocent person.....1

or

To let a guilty person go free.....2

Can't choose.....8

22/

7. What are your personal feelings about ...

A. People who organize protests against a government action they strongly oppose

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Extremely favorable..... | 1 | 23/ |
| Favorable..... | 2 | |
| Neither favorable or unfavorable..... | 3 | |
| Unfavorable..... | 4 | |
| Extremely unfavorable..... | 5 | |
| CAN'T CHOOSE..... | 8 | |

B. People who want to overthrow the government by revolution

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Extremely favorable..... | 1 | 24/ |
| Favorable..... | 2 | |
| Neither favorable or unfavorable..... | 3 | |
| Unfavorable..... | 4 | |
| Extremely unfavorable..... | 5 | |
| CAN'T CHOOSE..... | 8 | |

C. People who believe whites are racially superior to all other races

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Extremely favorable..... | 1 | 25/ |
| Favorable..... | 2 | |
| Neither favorable or unfavorable..... | 3 | |
| Unfavorable..... | 4 | |
| Extremely unfavorable..... | 5 | |
| CAN'T CHOOSE..... | 8 | |

8. Some people think those with high incomes should pay a larger proportion (percentage) of their earnings in taxes than those who earn low incomes. Other people think that those with high incomes and those with low incomes should pay the same proportion (percentage) of their earnings in taxes.

Do you think those with high incomes should . . .

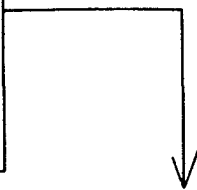
| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Pay a much larger proportion..... | 1 | 26/ |
| Pay a larger proportion..... | 2 | |
| Pay the same proportion as those who earn low incomes..... | 3 | |
| Pay a smaller proportion..... | 4 | |
| Pay a much smaller proportion..... | 5 | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | |

9. What is your opinion of the following statement?

It is the responsibility of the government to reduce the differences in income between people with high incomes and those with low incomes.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-----|
| Agree strongly..... | 1 | 27/ |
| Agree..... | 2 | |
| Neither agree nor disagree..... | 3 | |
| Disagree..... | 4 | |
| Disagree strongly..... | 5 | |

10. Here are some things the government might do for the economy. Circle one number for each action to show whether you are in favor of it or against it.

1. Strongly in favor of
 2. In favor of
 3. Neither in favor of nor against
 4. Against
 5. Strongly disagree
- 

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. Control of wages by legislation..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 28/ |
| B. Control of prices by legislation..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 29/ |
| C. Cuts in government spending..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 30/ |
| D. Government financing of projects to create new jobs..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 31/ |
| E. Less government regulation of business.... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 32/ |
| F. Support for industry to develop new products and technology..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 33/ |
| G. Supporting declining industries to protect jobs..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 34/ |
| H. Reducing the work week to create more jobs..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 35/ |

11. Listed below are various areas of government spending. Please indicate whether you would like to see more or less government spending in each area. Remember that if you say "much more", it might require a tax increase to pay for it.

1. Spend much more
 2. Spend more
 3. Spend the same as now
 4. Spend less
 5. Spend much less
 8. Can't choose

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. The environment..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 36/ |
| B. Health..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 37/ |
| C. The police and law enforcement..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 38/ |
| D. Education..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 39/ |
| E. The military and defense..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 40/ |
| F. Retirement benefits..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 41/ |
| G. Unemployment benefits..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 42/ |
| H. Culture and the arts..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 43/ |

12. If the government had to choose between keeping down inflation or keeping down unemployment to which do you think it should give highest priority?

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-----|
| Keeping down inflation..... | 1 | 44/ |
| Keeping down unemployment..... | 2 | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | |

13. Do you think that labor unions in this country have too much power or too little power?

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Far too much power..... | 1 | 45/ |
| Too much power..... | 2 | |
| About the right amount of power..... | 3 | |
| Too little power..... | 4 | |
| Far too little power..... | 5 | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | |

14. How about business and industry, do they have too much power or too little power?

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Far too much power..... | 1 | 46/ |
| Too much power..... | 2 | |
| About the right amount of power..... | 3 | |
| Too little power..... | 4 | |
| Far too little power..... | 5 | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | |

15. And what about the federal government, does it have too much power or too little power?

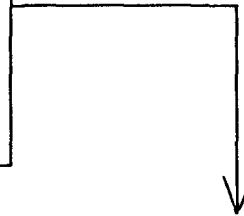
| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Far too much power..... | 1 | 47/ |
| Too much power..... | 2 | |
| About the right amount of power..... | 3 | |
| Too little power..... | 4 | |
| Far too little power..... | 5 | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | |

16. In general, how good would you say labor unions are for the country as a whole?

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-----|
| Excellent..... | 1 | 48/ |
| Very good..... | 2 | |
| Fairly good..... | 3 | |
| Not very good..... | 4 | |
| Not good at all..... | 5 | |
| CAN'T CHOOSE..... | 8 | |

17. What do you think the government's role in each of these industries should be.

1. Own it
 2. Control prices and profits but not own it
 3. Neither own it nor control its prices and profits
 8. Can't choose



PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. Electric power..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 49/ |
| B. The steel industry..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 50/ |
| C. Banking and insurance..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 51/ |

18. On the whole, do you think it should or should not be the government's responsibility to . . .

1. Definitely should be
 2. Probably should be
 3. Probably should not be
 4. Definitely should not be
 8. Can't choose



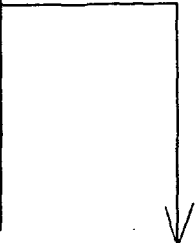
PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. Provide a job for everyone who wants one..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 52/ |
| B. Keep prices under control..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 53/ |
| C. Provide health care for the sick..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 54/ |
| D. Provide a decent standard of living for the old..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 55/ |
| E. Provide industry with the help it needs to grow..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 56/ |
| F. Provide a decent standard of living for the unemployed..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 57/ |
| G. Reduce income differences between the rich and poor..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 58/ |
| H. Give financial assistance to college students from low-income families..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 59/ |
| I. Provide decent housing for those who can't afford it..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 60/ |

19. How interested would you say you personally are in politics?

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----|
| Very interested..... | 1 | 61/ |
| Fairly interested..... | 2 | |
| Somewhat interested..... | 3 | |
| Not very interested..... | 4 | |
| Not at all interested..... | 5 | |
| Can't choose..... | 6 | |

20. Here are some other areas of government spending. Please indicate whether you would like to see more or less government spending in each area. Remember that if you say "much more", it might require a tax increase to pay for it.

1. Spend much more
 2. Spend more
 3. Spend the same as now
 4. Spend less
 5. Spend much less
 8. Can't choose
- 

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

- | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| A. | Prenatal care for pregnant mothers who can't afford it..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 62/ |
| B. | Health care for children whose families don't have insurance..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 63/ |
| C. | Preschool programs like Head Start for poor children..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 64/ |
| D. | Child care for poor children..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 65/ |
| E. | Child care for all children with working parents..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 66/ |
| F. | Housing for poor families with children... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 67/ |
| G. | Services for disabled and chronically ill children | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 68/ |
| H. | Drug abuse prevention and treatment for children and youth..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 69/ |
| I. | Nutrition programs for poor children and families, such as food stamps and school lunches..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 70/ |
| J. | Contraceptive services for teenagers..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 71/ |

THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR COMPLETING
THE QUESTIONNAIRE