

**USA**

**ISSP 1999 - Social Inequality III**

**Questionnaire**

1. To begin, we have some questions about opportunities for getting ahead...

A. First, how important is coming from a wealthy family?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

B. Knowing the right people?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

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2. Do you agree or disagree...

A. In America people get rewarded for their effort.

Strongly agree .....	1
Agree .....	2
Neither agree nor disagree .....	3
Disagree .....	4
Strongly disagree .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

B. In America people get rewarded for their intelligence and skills.

Strongly agree .....	1
Agree .....	2
Neither agree nor disagree .....	3
Disagree .....	4
Strongly disagree .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

C. To get all the way to the top in America today, you have to be corrupt.

Strongly agree .....	1
Agree .....	2
Neither agree nor disagree .....	3
Disagree .....	4
Strongly disagree .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

3. Next, some questions about inequality...Do you agree or disagree...

A. Inequality continues to exist because it benefits the rich and powerful.

Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Can't Choose	8

B. No one would study for years to become a lawyer or doctor unless they expected to earn a lot more than ordinary workers.

Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Can't Choose	8

C. Large differences in income are necessary for America's prosperity.

Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Can't Choose	8

D. Inequality continues to exist because ordinary people don't join together to get rid of it.

Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Can't Choose	8

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4. Would you say that you earn...

*If you are not working now, please tell about your last job.*

Much less than I deserve	1
Less than I deserve	2
What I deserve	3
More than I deserve	4
Much more than I deserve	5
Never Worked	6
Can't Choose	8

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5. We would like to know what you think people in these jobs actually earn. Please write how much you think they usually earn each year before taxes.

*Many people are not exactly sure about this. Your best guess will be close enough. This may be difficult, but it is very important. So please try.*

**Please write in  
how much they  
ACTUALLY  
earn each year**

A. First, about how much do you think a skilled worker in a factory earns? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

B. A doctor in general practice? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

C. The chairman of a large national corporation? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

D. A lawyer {-- about how much do they actually earn}? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

E. A salesclerk in a department store? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

F. The owner-manager of a large factory? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

G. A Supreme Court Justice? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

H. An unskilled worker in a factory? ..... \_\_\_\_\_

I. A member of the cabinet in the federal government?..... \_\_\_\_\_

J. People in your occupation—about how much do they actually earn? ... \_\_\_\_\_

*(If not working now, please tell about your last occupation)*

*I have never worked.....[ ]*

6. Next, what do you think people in these jobs ought to be paid—how much do you think they should earn each year before taxes, regardless of what they actually get...

**Please write in  
how much they  
SHOULD earn  
each year**

- A. First, about how much do you think a skilled worker in a factory should to earn? .....
- B. A doctor in general practice? .....
- C. The chairman of a large national corporation? .....
- D. A lawyer? {-- about how much ought they earn?} .....
- E. A salesclerk in a department store? .....
- F. The owner-manager of a large factory? .....
- G. A Supreme Court Justice? .....
- H. An unskilled worker in a factory? .....
- I. A member of the cabinet in the federal government .....
- J. People in your occupation—about how much ought they earn? .....

*(If not working now, please tell about your last occupation)*

*I have never worked.....[ ]*

7. Do you agree or disagree...

A. Differences in income in America are too large.

Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Can't Choose	8

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

Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Can't Choose	8

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8. Do you think people with high incomes should pay a larger share of their income in taxes than those with low incomes, the same share, or a smaller share?

Much larger share	1
Larger	2
The same share	3
Smaller	4
Much smaller share	5
Can't Choose	8

9. Turning to international differences , do you agree or disagree ...

A. Present economic differences between rich and poor countries are too large.

Strongly agree .....	1
Agree .....	2
Neither agree nor disagree .....	3
Disagree .....	4
Strongly disagree .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

B. People in wealthy countries should make an additional tax contribution to help people in poor countries.

Strongly agree .....	1
Agree .....	2
Neither agree nor disagree .....	3
Disagree .....	4
Strongly disagree .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

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10. Is it just or unjust—right or wrong—that people with higher incomes can...

A. Buy better health care than people with lower incomes?

Very just, definitely right .....	1
Somewhat just, right .....	2
Neither just nor unjust, mixed feelings .....	3
Somewhat unjust, wrong .....	4
Very unjust, definitely wrong .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

B. Buy better education for their children than people with lower incomes?

Very just, definitely right .....	1
Somewhat just, right .....	2
Neither just nor unjust, mixed feelings .....	3
Somewhat unjust, wrong .....	4
Very unjust, definitely wrong .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

11. In all countries, there are differences or even conflicts between different social groups. In your opinion, in America how much conflict is there between...

A. Poor people and rich people?

Very strong conflicts .....	1
Strong conflicts .....	2
Not very strong conflicts .....	3
There are no conflicts .....	4
Can't Choose .....	8

B. The working class and the middle class?

Very strong conflicts .....	1
Strong conflicts .....	2
Not very strong conflicts .....	3
There are no conflicts .....	4
Can't Choose .....	8

C. Management and workers?

Very strong conflicts .....	1
Strong conflicts .....	2
Not very strong conflicts .....	3
There are no conflicts .....	4
Can't Choose .....	8

D. People at the top of society and people at the bottom?

Very strong conflicts .....	1
Strong conflicts .....	2
Not very strong conflicts .....	3
There are no conflicts .....	4
Can't Choose .....	8

E. Young people and older people?

Very strong conflicts .....	1
Strong conflicts .....	2
Not very strong conflicts .....	3
There are no conflicts .....	4
Can't Choose .....	8



12. In our society there are groups which tend to be towards the top and groups which tend to be toward the bottom. Below is a scale that runs top to bottom. Where would you put yourself on this scale?

Top .....


Bottom .....

13. And ten years ago, where did you fit in then?

Top .....


Bottom .....

14. Please think of your present job (or your last one if you don't have one now). If you compare this job with the job your father had when you were 16, would you say that the level or status of your job is (or was)...

Much higher than your father's .....	1
Higher .....	2
About equal .....	3
Lower .....	4
Much lower than your father's .....	5
I never had a job .....	6
I don't know what my father did/father never had job/never knew father/father dead .....	7

15. In deciding how much people ought to earn, how important should each of these things be, in your opinion ...

A. How much responsibility goes with the job—how important do you think that ought to be in deciding pay?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

B. The number of years spent in education and training?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

C. Whether the job requires supervising others {—how important should that be in deciding pay} ?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

D. What is needed to support a family

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

E. Whether the person has children to support {—how important should that be in deciding pay} ?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

F. How well he or she does the job {—how important should that be} ?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

G. How hard he or she works at the job?

Essential .....	1
Very important .....	2
Fairly important .....	3
Not very important .....	4
Not important at all .....	5
Can't Choose .....	8

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16. Is your pay just? We are not asking about what you do earn, nor what you would like to earn—  
but what you feel is just given your skills and effort. Is your pay ...

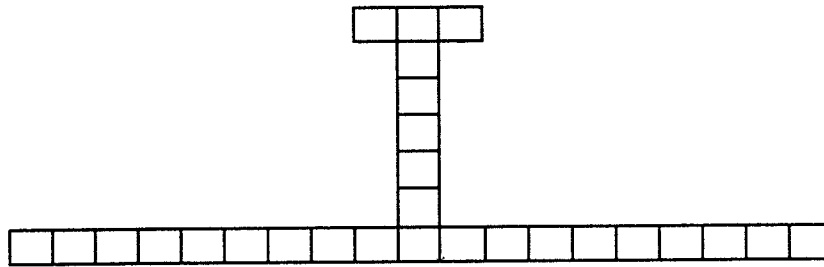
*If not working now, please tell about your last job.*

Much less than is just .....	1
A little less than is just .....	2
About just for me .....	3
A little more than is just .....	4
Much more than is just .....	5
Never had a job .....	6
Can't Choose .....	8

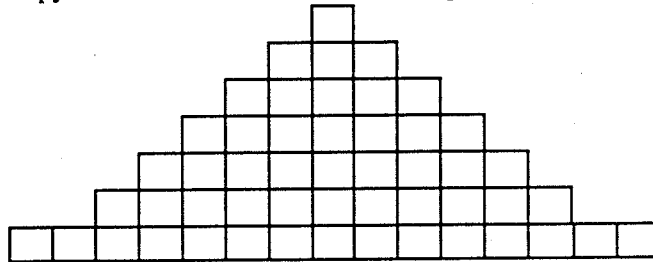
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17. These five diagrams show different types of society. Please read the descriptions and look at the diagrams and decide which you think best describes America today. . .

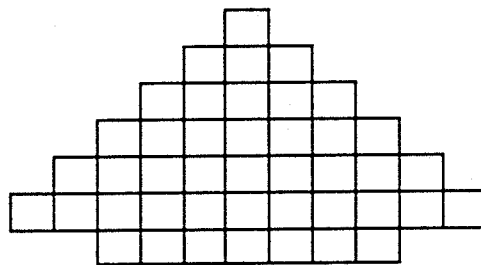
**Type A:** A small elite at the top, very few people in the middle and the great mass of people at the bottom.



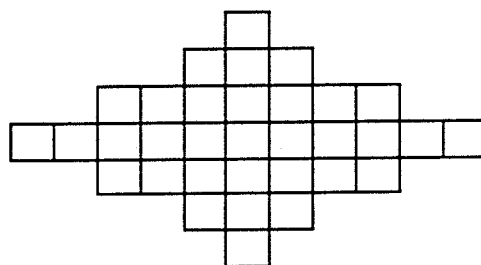
**Type B:** A society like a pyramid with a small elite at the top, more people in the middle, and most at the bottom.



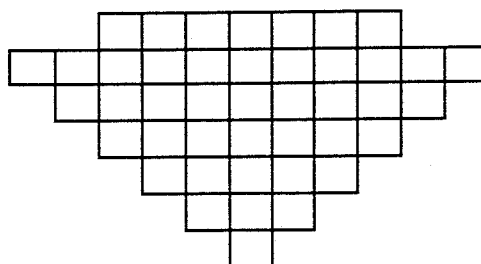
**Type C:** A pyramid except that just a few people are at the very bottom.



**Type D:** A society with most people in the middle.



**Type E:** Many people near the top, and only a few near the bottom.



18. First, what type of society is America today—which diagram comes closest?

- Type A ..... 1
  - Type B ..... 2
  - Type C ..... 3
  - Type D ..... 4
  - Type E ..... 5
  - Can't Choose ..... 8
- 

19. What do you think America ought to be like—which would you prefer?

- Type A ..... 1
  - Type B ..... 2
  - Type C ..... 3
  - Type D ..... 4
  - Type E ..... 5
  - Can't Choose ..... 8
- 

20. Now we would like to know where you and other people fit in. Please look at the diagram you think best describes America today, the one you chose first...

A. Where would you say you and your family actually are—at the top, somewhere in the middle, or toward the bottom?

- Top ..... 1
- ..... 2
- ..... 3
- ..... 4
- ..... 5
- ..... 6
- Bottom ..... 7
- Can't Choose ..... 8

B. Where would you say an unskilled worker in a factory fits in?

- Top ..... 1
- ..... 2
- ..... 3
- ..... 4
- ..... 5
- ..... 6
- Bottom ..... 7
- Can't Choose ..... 8

C. The chairman of a large national corporation?

Top .....	1
.....	2
.....	3
.....	4
.....	5
.....	6
Bottom .....	7
Can't Choose .....	8

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21. In the job your father had when you were growing up, did your father supervise anyone who was directly responsible to him?

No, did not supervise .....	1
Yes, supervised 1 to 9 people .....	2
Yes, supervised 10 or more .....	3
Don't know if he supervised anyone .....	4
I don't know what my father did/father never had job/never knew father/father dead .....	5

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22. About how many books were there around your family's house when you were 16 years old?

None .....	1
1 or 2 .....	2
Around 10 .....	3
Around 20 .....	4
Around 50 .....	5
Around 100 .....	6
Around 200 .....	7
Around 500 .....	8
1,000 or more .....	9

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23. Which of these statements applies to you? CODE ONE ONLY.

- A. I am married and living in the same household  
as my husband or wife ..... 1
  - B. I am living as married and my partner and I  
together live in the same household ..... 2
  - C. I have a husband or wife or steady partner  
but we don't live in the same household ..... 3
  - D. I don't have a steady partner ..... 4
-

**SELF-ADMINISTERED QUESTIONNAIRE (S-A)**

**General Social Survey**

**Part 2**



There is a great deal of concern today about the AIDS epidemic and how to deal with it. Because of the grave nature of this problem, we are going to ask you some personal questions and we need your frank and honest responses. Your answers are confidential and will be used only for statistical reports.

***The Past 12 Months***

1. How many sex partners have you had in the last 12 months?

**PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER**

- No partners ..... (Skip to Question 5) ..... 0
  - 1 partner ..... 1
  - 2 partners ..... 2
  - 3 partners ..... 3
  - 4 partners ..... 4
  - 5 - 10 partners ..... 5
  - 11 - 20 partners ..... 6
  - 21 - 100 partners ..... 7
  - More than 100 partners ..... 8
- 

2. Was one of the partners your husband or wife or regular sexual partner?

- Yes ..... 1
  - No ..... 2
- 

3. If you had NO other partners beside your husband or wife or regular sexual partner, **PLEASE GO TO QUESTION 4.**

If you had other partners, please indicate all categories that apply to them.

**CIRCLE ALL THE ANSWERS THAT APPLY.**

- Close personal friend ..... 1
  - Neighbor, co-worker, or long-term acquaintance ..... 2
  - Casual date or pick-up ..... 3
  - Person you paid or paid you for sex ..... 4
  - Other (PLEASE SPECIFY) ..... 5
-

4. Have your sex partners in the last 12 months been . . .

**PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER.**

- Exclusively male . . . . . 1
  - Both male and female . . . . . 2
  - Exclusively female . . . . . 3
- 

5. About how often did you have sex during the past 12 months?

- Not at all . . . . . 0
  - Once or twice . . . . . 1
  - About once a month . . . . . 2
  - Two or three times a month . . . . . 3
  - About once a week . . . . . 4
  - Two or three times a week . . . . . 5
  - Four or more times a week . . . . . 6
- 

***The Past 5 Years***

6. Now thinking about the past five years--the time since February/March 1995, and including the past 12 months. How many sex partners have you had in that five year period?

- No partners . . . . . (Skip to Question 8) . . . . . 0
- 1 partner . . . . . 1
- 2 partners . . . . . 2
- 3 partners . . . . . 3
- 4 partners . . . . . 4
- 5 - 10 partners . . . . . 5
- 11 - 20 partners . . . . . 6
- 21 - 100 partners . . . . . 7
- More than 100 partners . . . . . 8

7. Have your sex partners in the last five years been . . .

**PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER.**

- Exclusively male . . . . . 1
  - Both male and female . . . . . 2
  - Exclusively female . . . . . 3
-

**Since Your 18th Birthday**

8. Now thinking about the time since your 18th birthday, (again, including the recent past that you have already told us about) how many **female** partners have you ever had sex with?

\_\_\_\_\_ Female Partners.

9. Again, thinking about the time since your 18th birthday, (including the recent past that you have already told us about) how many **male** partners have you ever had sex with?

\_\_\_\_\_ Male Partners.

- 
10. Thinking about the time since your 18th birthday, have you ever had sex with a person you paid or who paid you for sex?

Yes ..... 1  
No ..... 2

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**While Married**

11. Have you ever had sex with someone other than your husband or wife while you were married?

Yes ..... 1  
No ..... 2  
Never Married ..... 3

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**Most Recent Sexual Experience**

12. The last time you had sex, was a condom used? By "sex" we mean vaginal, oral, or anal sex.

Yes, the last time I had sex,  
a condom was used ..... 1  
  
No, the last time I had sex,  
a condom was not used ..... 2

- 
13. The last time you had sex, was it with someone you were in an on-going relationship with, or was it with someone else? Remember that by "sex" we mean only vaginal, oral, or anal sex.

Yes, the last time I had sex,  
it was with someone I was in  
an on-going relationship with. .... 1  
  
No, the last time I had sex,  
it was not with someone I was  
in an on-going relationship with. .... 2

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14. Have you ever, even once, taken any drugs by injection with a needle (like heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, or steroids) . . . DO NOT include anything you took under a doctor's orders.

- Yes . . . . . 1 → [GO TO Q. 15]
  - No . . . . . 2 → [GO TO Q. 16]
- 

15. How long has it been since you last used a needle to inject drugs?

- Within the past 30 days . . . . . 1
  - More than 30 days ago but within the past 12 months . . . . 2
  - More than 12 months ago but within the past 3 years . . . . 3
  - More than 3 years ago . . . . . 4
  - Don't know . . . . . 8
- 

16. Have you ever, even once, used 'crack' cocaine in chunk or rock form?

- Yes . . . . . 1 → [GO TO Q. 17]
  - No . . . . . 2 → [DONE]
- 

17. How long has it been since you last used 'crack' cocaine in chunk or rock form?

- Within the past 30 days . . . . . 1
  - More than 30 days ago but within the past 12 months . . . . 2
  - More than 12 months ago but within the past 3 years . . . . 3
  - More than 3 years ago . . . . . 4
  - Don't know . . . . . 8
- 

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. PLEASE PLACE FORM IN ENVELOPE, SEAL IT, AND GIVE IT TO THE INTERVIEWER. IF NO INTERVIEWER IS PRESENT, PLEASE DROP SEALED ENVELOPE IN A MAILBOX.**