

1: Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind: working with alien SPSS files

Data sets explored

- Understanding Society (2010)
- ONS Opinions Survey, Well-Being Modules (2011)
including unrestricted access data set for April 2011.
- NORC General Social Survey (GSS) (2008)
- British Social Attitudes (2011)
- British Social Attitudes (2004)
- SSRC Multi-purpose survey (1975)
- Relative Deprivation and Social Justice (1963)

. . . and a couple of surveys, one requiring partial, the other complete restoration (plus a very long memory):

SSRC Survey Unit Multi-purpose survey (1975)
Relative Deprivation and Social Justice (1962-93 data and 1975 syntax)

Examples will examine how SPSS *.sav files for these surveys relate to their questionnaires, documentation and raw data (including use of 80-col records). Problems arise if questionnaires and SPSS files are not easy to navigate and use. Major surveys have dedicated authors to write up each topic, supported by teams of computer and statistics specialists. Many researchers, teachers and students wishing to use these surveys will be working on their own with little or no specialist support. This presentation shows how to make life easier for them.

Links to sites and files explored

Understanding Society

[Understanding Society](#) (UKDS: SN 6614)
[Commentary on Understanding Society 2010](#) (JFH)

ONS Opinions Survey, Well-Being Modules

(including unrestricted access data set for April 2011)

[Measuring National Well-being](#) (ONS website)
[Well-Being Modules April-Sep 2011](#) (UKDS: SN6893)
[Unrestricted Access Teaching Dataset](#) (UKDS: SN 7146)
[Introduction and Commentary: Unrestricted Access Teaching Dataset](#) (JFH)

NORC General Social Survey (GSS) 2008

- 1: [Commentary on full NORC General Social Survey 2008](#)
- 2: Sweet & Grace-Martin
[Data Analysis with SPSS: A First Course in Applied Statistics](#) (Pearson 2010)
[Commentary on subset of General Social Survey 2008](#)
- 3: Babbie, Halley, Wagner & Zaino
[Adventures in Social Research: Data Analysis Using IBM SPSS Statistics](#) (Sage 2103)
[Commentary on GSS 2008 SPSS files for Babbie et al](#)

British Social Attitudes (2011)

[British Social Attitudes 2011](#) (UKDS: SN 7237)
[Commentary on SPSS file for British Social Attitudes 2011](#) (JFH)

British Social Attitudes (2004)

Marsh & Elliott *Exploring Data* (Polity Press, 2008)
[Review of Exploring Data](#) (JFH)
[Exploring Data Teaching Datasets](#) (UKDS: SN 6096)
[Commentary on SPSS files in Teaching Datasets](#) (JFH)

European Social Survey (2002)

[Notes on SPSS files for European Social Survey 2002](#)
(private exchange between JFH and ESS team)

SSRC Survey Unit Multi-purpose survey (1975)

[SSRC Survey Unit Multi-Purpose Survey, 1975](#) (UKDS: SN 680)

Relative Deprivation and Social Justice

W G Runciman *Relative Deprivation and Social Justice* (RKP 1966)
[Relative Deprivation and Social Justice 1966](#) (UKDS: SN 28)
1975 SPSS files by Annette Scambler (Sociology, Surrey) Not yet processed for distribution by UKDS: complete restoration by JFH 2014.
(JFH) [SN28 Commentary on Relative Deprivation and Social Justice](#)
(JFH) [SN28 Appendix 1 - Download of original data from UKDS](#)
(JFH) [SN28 Appendix 4 - Annette Scambler's 1975 version](#)

Journeys in Survey Research

www.surveymethods.com
Reviews of Julie Pallant [SPSS Survival Manual](#) (JFH: all 4 editions)
[Mouse movie](#) (Hot Chocolate)

2: The Beginners' [Clods'¹] Guide to Survey Analysis Using SPSS

Will use at least one of the above, but will also include tried and trusted examples from:

Quality of Life in Britain

[Quality of Life; Urban Britain 1975 \(SN 915\)](#)

British Social Attitudes

[British Social Attitudes 1989](#) (UKDS: SN 2723)
Modified from **mnemonic** to **positional** variable names for teaching [Survey Analysis Workshop](#) which also includes:

Cumulative data from [pre-course questionnaire](#) completed by students at beginning of course.
(See: [Block1](#), especially section **1.2: From questionnaire to SPSS saved file**)

¹ Book title suggested as a joke during a conversation with [Steve Tagg](#) (Strathclyde) following a meeting at LSE in 1973