

Appendix G

Code Book for the General Social Survey, 2006

The General Social Survey (GSS) is a public opinion poll that has been regularly conducted by the National Opinion Research Council. A version of the 2006 GSS is available at the web site for this text and is used for all end-of-chapter exercises. Our version of the 2006 GSS includes about 50 variables for a randomly selected subsample of about 1500 of the original respondents. This code book lists each item in the data set. The variable names are those used in the data files. The questions have been reproduced exactly as they were asked (with a few exceptions to conserve space), and the numbers beside each response are the scores recorded in the data file.

The data set includes variables that measure demographic or background characteristics of the respondents, including sex, age, race, religion, and several indicators of socioeconomic status. Also included are items that measure opinion on such current and controversial topics as abortion, capital punishment, and homosexuality.

Most variables in the data set have codes for "missing data." These codes are italicized in the listings below for easy identification. The codes refer to various situations in which the respondent does not or cannot answer the question and are excluded from all statistical operations. The codes are: NAP ("not applicable," that is, the respondent was not asked the question), DK ("Don't know," that is, the respondent didn't have the requested information), and NA ("No answer," that is, the respondent refused to answer).

Please tell me if you think it should be possible for a woman to get a legal abortion if . . .

abany

She wants it for any reason.

1. Yes
2. No
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

abrape

The pregnancy is the result of rape
(Same scoring as abany)

affrmact

Some people say that because of past discrimination, blacks should be given preference in hiring and promotion. Others say that such preference is wrong because it discriminates against whites. Are you for or against preferential hiring and promotion of blacks?

1. Strongly supports preferences
2. Supports preferences
3. Opposes preferences
4. Strongly opposes preferences
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

age	Age of respondent 18–89. Actual age in years 99 NA
attend	How often do you attend religious services? 0. Never 2. Once or twice a year 4. About once a month 6. Nearly every week 8. Several times a week 9. <i>DK or NA</i> 1. Less than once per year 3. Several times per year 5. 2–3 times a month 7. Every week
cappun	Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder? 1. Favor 2. Oppose 0. <i>NAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>
childs	How many children have you ever had? Please count all that were born alive at any time (including any from a previous marriage). 0–7. Actual number 8. Eight or more 9. <i>NA</i>
chldidel	What do you think is the ideal number of children for a family to have? 0–6. Actual values 7. Seven or more – 1. <i>NAP</i> , 8. <i>As many as want</i> , 9. <i>DK, NA</i>
class	Subjective class identification 1. Lower class 2. Working class 3. Middle class 4. Upper class 0. <i>NAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>
degree	Respondent's highest degree 0. Less than high school 1. High school 2. Assoc./Junior college 3. Bachelor's 4. Graduate 7. <i>NAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>
educ	Highest year of school completed 0–20. Actual number of years 97. <i>NAP</i> , 98. <i>DK</i> , 99. <i>NA</i>
fear	Is there any area right around here—that is, within a mile—where you would be afraid to walk alone at night? 1. Yes 2. No 0. <i>NAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>

fefam It is much better for everyone involved if the man is the achiever outside the home and the woman takes care of the home and family.

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Disagree
4. Strongly disagree
0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

fepresch A preschool child is likely to suffer if his or her mother works.

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Disagree
4. Strongly disagree
0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

grass Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal or not?

1. Should
2. Should not
0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

gunlaw Would you favor or oppose a law which would require a person to obtain a police permit before he or she could buy a gun?

1. Favor
2. Oppose
0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

happy Taken all together, how would you say things are these days—would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?

1. Very happy
2. Pretty happy
3. Not too happy
0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

helppoor Some people think that the [federal] government ... should do everything possible to improve the standard of living of all poor Americans; other people think it is not the government's responsibility, and that each person should take care of himself. Where would you put yourself on this scale?

1. Government action
- 2.
3. Agree with both
- 4.
5. People should help selves
0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

hrs1 How many hours did you work last week?

- 1–89. Actual hours
–1. NAP, 98. DK, 99. NA

income06 Respondent's total family income from all sources

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Less than 1,000 | 2. 1,000 to 2,999 |
| 3. 3,000 to 3,999 | 4. 4,000 to 4,999 |

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 5. 5,000 to 5,999 | 6. 6,000 to 6,999 |
| 7. 7,000 to 7,999 | 8. 8,000 to 9,999 |
| 9. 10,000 to 12,499 | 10. 12,500 to 14,999 |
| 11. 15,000 to 17,499 | 12. 17,500 to 19,999 |
| 13. 20,000 to 22,499 | 14. 22,500 to 24,999 |
| 15. 25,000 to 29,999 | 16. 30,000 to 34,999 |
| 17. 35,000 to 39,999 | 18. 40,000 to 49,999 |
| 19. 50,000 to 59,999 | 20. 60,000 to 74,999 |
| 21. 75,000 to 89,999 | 22. 90,000 to 109,999 |
| 23. 110,000 to 129,999 | 24. 130,000 to 149,999 |
| 25. 150,000 or more | |
| 98. <i>DK</i> , 99. <i>NA</i> | |

letdie1

When a person has a disease that cannot be cured, do you think doctors should be allowed by law to end the patient's life by some painless means if the patient and his family request it?

1. Yes
2. No
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

letin1

Do you think the number of immigrants to America nowadays should be

1. Increased a lot
2. Increased a little
3. Remain the same as it is
4. Reduced a little
5. Reduced a lot
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

marblk

What about a close relative marrying a black person? Would you be

1. Strongly in favor
2. In favor
3. Neither favor nor oppose
4. Oppose
5. Strongly oppose
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

marhomo

Homosexual couples should have the right to marry one another.

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Neither agree or disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly disagree
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

marital

Are you currently married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

1. Married
2. Widowed
3. Divorced
4. Separated
5. Never married
9. *NA*

- news How often do you read the newspaper?
 1. Every day
 2. A few times a week
 3. Once a week
 4. Less than once a week
 5. Never
 0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- obey How important is it for a child to learn obedience to prepare him or her for life?
 1. Most important
 2. 2nd most important
 3. 3rd most important
 4. 4th most important
 5. Least important
 0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- paeduc Father's highest year of school completed
 0-20. Actual number of years
 97. NAP, 98. DK, 99. NA
- papres80 Prestige of father's occupation
 17-86. Actual score
 0. NAP, DK, NA
- partnrs5 How many sex partners have you had over the past five years?
 0. No partners
 1. 1 partner
 2. 2 partners
 3. 3 partners
 4. 4 partners
 5. 5-10 partners
 6. 11-20 partners
 7. 21-100 partners
 8. More than 100 partners
 9. 1 or more, don't know the number, 95 Several, 98 DK, 99 NA, - 1. NAP
- popleff3 The average citizen has considerable influence on politics.
 1. Strongly agree
 2. Agree
 3. Neither agree nor disagree
 4. Disagree
 5. Strongly disagree
 0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- polviews I'm going to show you a seven-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative. Where would you place yourself on this scale?
 1. Extremely liberal
 2. Liberal
 3. Slightly liberal
 4. Moderate
 5. Slightly conservative
 6. Conservative
 7. Extremely conservative
 0. NAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

- premarsx There's been a lot of discussion about the way morals and attitudes about sex are changing in this country. If a man and a woman have sex relations before marriage, do you think it is always wrong, almost always wrong, wrong only sometimes, or not wrong at all?
1. Always wrong
 2. Almost always wrong
 3. Wrong only sometimes
 4. Not wrong at all
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*
- pres04 In 2004, did you vote for Kerry (the Democratic candidate) or Bush (the Republican candidate)? (Includes only those who said they voted in this election.)
1. Kerry
 2. Bush
 3. *Other*, 6. *No presidential vote*, 0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*
- prestg80 Prestige of respondent's occupation
- 17–86. Actual score
0. *NAP*, *DK*, *NA*
- racecen1 Race of respondent
1. White
 2. Black
 3. American Indian or Alaska Native
 4. Asian American or Pacific Islander
 5. Hispanic
0. *NAP*, 98. *DK*
- region Region of interview
1. New England (ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI)
 2. Mid-Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA)
 3. East North Central (WI, IL, IN, MI, OH)
 4. West North Central (MN, IA, MO, ND, SD, NE, KS)
 5. South Atlantic (DE, MD, WV, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, DC)
 6. East South Central (KY, TN, AL, MS)
 7. West South Central (AK, OK, LA, TX)
 8. Mountain (MT, ID, WY, NV, UT, CO, AR, NM)
 9. Pacific (WA, OR, CA, AL, HI)
- relexper Has there been a turning point in your life when you made a new and personal commitment to religion?
1. Yes
 2. No
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*
- relig What is your religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, some other religion, or no religion?
1. Protestant
 2. Catholic
 3. Jewish
 4. None

t sex
efore
only

5. Other
8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

satjob

All in all, how satisfied would you say you are with your job?

1. Very satisfied
2. Moderately satisfied
3. A little dissatisfied
4. Very dissatisfied
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

Re-
ion.)

scresrch

Recently, there has been controversy over whether the government should provide any funds for scientific research that uses "stem cells" taken from human embryos. Would you say the government

1. Definitely should fund such research
2. Probably should fund such research
3. Probably should not fund such research
4. Definitely should not fund such research
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

sex

Respondent's gender

1. Male
2. Female

sexfreq

About how many times did you have sex during the last 12 months?

0. Not at all
1. Once or twice
2. About once a month
3. 2 or 3 times a month
4. About once a week
5. 2 or 3 times a week
6. More than 3 times a week
- 1. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

size

Size of place, in thousands. Population figures from U.S. Census. Add three zeros to code for actual values.

spanking

Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that it is sometimes necessary to discipline a child with a good, hard spanking?

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Disagree
4. Strongly disagree
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

tapphone

Suppose the government suspected that a terrorist act was about to happen. Do you think the authorities should have the right to tap people's telephone conversations?

1. Definitely should have the right
2. Probably should have the right
3. Probably should not have the right
4. Definitely should not have the right
0. *NAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

onal

ther

trust	<p>Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in life?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Most people can be trusted 2. Can't be too careful 3. Depends <p>0. <i>NAP</i>, 8. <i>DK</i>, 9. <i>NA</i></p>
tvhours	<p>On the average day, about how many hours do you personally watch television?</p> <p>00–22. Actual hours</p> <p>–1. <i>NAP</i>, <i>DK</i>, <i>NA</i></p>
wwwhr	<p>Not counting e-mail, about how many hours per week do you use the web (or Internet)?</p> <p>0–75. actual hours</p> <p>–1. <i>NAP</i>, 998. <i>DK</i>, 999. <i>NA</i></p>