

Australia

ISSP 1993 - Environment I

International Social Science Surveys
Australia

1993 Family
&
The Environment

National Social Science Survey

Research School of Social Sciences

ANUTech

The Australian National University

International Social Survey Programme

Australia - Austria - Britain - Bulgaria - Canada - Czech Republic - Germany

Hungary - Ireland - Israel - Italy - Japan - The Netherlands - New Zealand

Norway - The Philippines - Poland - Russia - Slovenia - Sweden - United States



Confidential

INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS: ENVIRONMENT

>> These questions -- like the last set -- are being asked in more than a dozen nations. They are important questions, mostly about the environment, and we think you will find them very interesting...

Yes!! -- Strongly agree
 Yes -- Agree
 ?? -- Neither agree nor disagree
 No -- Disagree
 No!! -- Strongly disagree
 - (can't choose)

1a. Private enterprise is the best way to solve Australia's economic problems Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

b. It is the responsibility of the government to reduce the differences in income between people with high incomes and those with low incomes. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

2a. Looking at the list below, which one thing do you think should be Australia's highest priority, the most important thing it should do...

Maintain order in the nation.
 Give people more say in government decisions.
 Fight rising prices
 Protect freedom of speech
 (can't choose).

Highest priority
1
2
3
4
-

Next highest
1
2
3
4
-

b. And which one do you think should be Australia's next highest priority, the second most important thing it should do? (Answer in the box above.)

Yes!! -- Strongly agree
 Yes -- Agree
 ?? -- Neither agree nor disagree
 No -- Disagree
 No!! -- Strongly disagree
 - (can't choose)

3a. We believe too often in science, and not enough in feelings and faith Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

b. Overall, modern science does more harm than good Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

c. Any change humans cause in nature -- no matter how scientific -- is likely to make things worse. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

d. Modern science will solve our environmental problems with little change to our way of life. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

4a. We worry too much about the future of the environment and not enough about prices and jobs today. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

b. Almost everything we do in modern life
harms the environment. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

c. Animals should have the same moral
rights that human beings do. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

d. Human beings should respect nature
because it was created by God. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

5a. People worry too much about human
progress harming the environment Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

b. Nature would be at peace and in harmony
if only human beings would leave it alone. . Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

c. In order to protect the environment,
Australia needs economic growth. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

d. It is right to use animals for medical
testing if it might save human lives Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

e. Nature is really a fierce struggle
for survival of the fittest. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

f. Economic growth always harms
the environment. Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

6. Which statement comes closest to your views...

Nature is sacred because it is created by God. 1

Nature is spiritual or sacred in itself. 2

Nature is important, but not spiritual or sacred . . . 3

(can't choose) -

Very	--	Very willing
Fairly	--	Fairly willing
??	--	Neither willing nor unwilling
Not	--	Fairly <u>un</u> willing
Not!!	--	Very <u>un</u> willing
-	--	(can't choose)



7a. How willing would you be to pay HOW WILLING?
much higher prices in order to
protect the environment?. Very Fairly ?? Not Not!! -

b. And how willing would you be to pay
much higher taxes in order to
protect the environment?. Very Fairly ?? Not Not!! -

c. And how willing would you be to
accept cuts in your standard of living
in order to protect the environment?. . Very Fairly ?? Not Not!! -

Do you agree or disagree...

d. It is just too difficult for someone
like me to do much about the environment. . Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

e. I do what is right for the environment,
even when it costs more money or
takes more time Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -

True!!	-- Definitely true
True	-- Probably true
False	-- Probably not true
False!!	-- Definitely not true
-	-- (Can't say)



8. In your opinion, how true is this...

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------|------|-------|---------|---|
| a. All radioactivity is made by humans. . . | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| b. Antibiotics can kill bacteria,
but not viruses | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| c. Astrology -- the study of star
signs -- has some scientific truth. . . . | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| d. Human beings developed from earlier
species of animals. | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| e. All man-made chemicals can cause
cancer if you eat enough of them. | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| f. If someone is exposed to any amount
of radioactivity, they are certain
to die as a result. | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| g. Some radioactive waste from nuclear
power stations will be dangerous for
thousands of years. | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| h. The greenhouse effect is caused by
a hole in the earth's atmosphere. | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| i. Every time we use coal or oil or gas,
we contribute to the greenhouse effect. . | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| j. All pesticides and chemicals used on
food crops cause cancer in humans | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| k. Human beings are the main cause of
plant and animal species dying out. . . . | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |
| l. Cars are not really an important
cause of air pollution in Australia . . . | True!! | True | False | False!! | - |

9a. In general, do you think air pollution caused by cars is...

- | | |
|---|---|
| Extremely dangerous to the environment | 1 |
| Very dangerous | 2 |
| Somewhat dangerous | 3 |
| Not very dangerous | 4 |
| Not dangerous at all to the environment | 5 |
| (can't say) | - |

b. And do you think air pollution caused by cars is...

- | | |
|--|---|
| Extremely dangerous to <u>your family</u> | 1 |
| Very dangerous | 2 |
| Somewhat dangerous | 3 |
| Not very dangerous | 4 |
| Not dangerous at all to <u>your family</u> | 5 |
| (can't say) | - |

c. Within the next 10 years how likely is it that there will be a large increase in ill-health in Australia's cities as a result of air pollution caused by cars?

Certain to happen 1
 Very likely to happen 2
 Fairly likely to happen 3
 Not very likely to happen 4
 Certain not to happen 5
 (can't say) -

Yes!!	-- Extremely dangerous
Yes	-- Very dangerous
Some	-- Somewhat dangerous
Not	-- Not very dangerous
Not!!	-- Not dangerous at all



10a. In general, do you think that nuclear power stations are dangerous to the environment? Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

DANGEROUS?

b. And do you think that nuclear power stations are dangerous to you and your family? . . . Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

11a. In general, do you think air pollution caused by industry is dangerous to the environment? Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

b. And do you think air pollution caused by cars is dangerous to you and your family? . . Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

12a. In general, do you think that pesticides and chemicals used in farming are dangerous to the environment? Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

b. And do you think that pesticides and chemicals used in farming are dangerous to you and your family? Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

13a. In general, do you think that pollution of Australia's rivers, lakes and streams is dangerous to the environment? Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

b. And do you think that pollution of Australia's rivers, lakes and streams is dangerous to you and your family? Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

14a. In general, do you think that a rise in the world's temperature caused by the 'greenhouse effect' is dangerous to the environment? Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

b. And do you think that a rise in the world's temperature caused by the 'greenhouse effect' is dangerous to you and your family? . . . Yes!! Yes Some Not Not!! -

15a. If you had to choose, which one of the following would be closest to your views?

	Ordinary people	Businesses
Government should let <u>ordinary people</u> decide for themselves how to protect the environment, even if it means they don't always do the right things.	1	1
<u>OR</u> Government should pass laws to make ordinary people protect the environment even if it interferes with people's rights to make their own decisions.	2	2
(can't choose)	-	-

b. And how about businesses? (Answer in the box above)

not applicable: recycling
not available where I live;
no car; etc.

16a. How often do you make a special effort to sort glass or metal or plastic or paper and so on for recycling? Always Often Some-
times Never -

b. How often do you make a special effort to buy fruits and vegetables grown without pesticides or chemicals? Always Often Some-
times Never -

c. How often do you refuse to eat meat for moral or environmental reasons? Always Often Some-
times Never -

d. How often do you cut back on driving a car for environmental reasons? Always Often Some-
times Never -

17a. Are you a member of any group whose main aim is to preserve or protect the environment? Yes No -

18 In the last 5 years have you...
a. Signed a petition about an environmental issue? Yes No -

b. Given money to an environmental group? Yes No -

c. Taken part in a protest or demonstration about an environmental issue? Yes No -

	Live now	Like to live
19a. Would you describe the place where you live as...		
A big city	1	1
The suburbs or outskirts of a big city	2	2
A small city or town	3	3
A country village.	4	4
A farm or home in the country.	5	5

b. And if you could choose, where would you like to live? (Answer in the box above)

1. Would you like us to send you another report summing up the results of the survey?

Yes 1

No, thanks 2

2. Is there anything you would like to add?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR FILLING OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE!!

>> We know that there have been some hard questions. But they were important and we really appreciate your dedication in seeing it through to the end.

>> Please put it in the return envelope and mail it back to us at the Australian National University. Your co-operation has been a great help. Thanks again!

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