

**Australia**  
**ISSP 1990 – Role of Government II**  
**Questionnaire**

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

|       |                             |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| Yes!! | -- Definitely should be     |
| Yes   | -- Probably should be       |
| No    | -- Probably should not be   |
| No!!  | -- Definitely should not be |
| -     | -- (Can't choose)           |

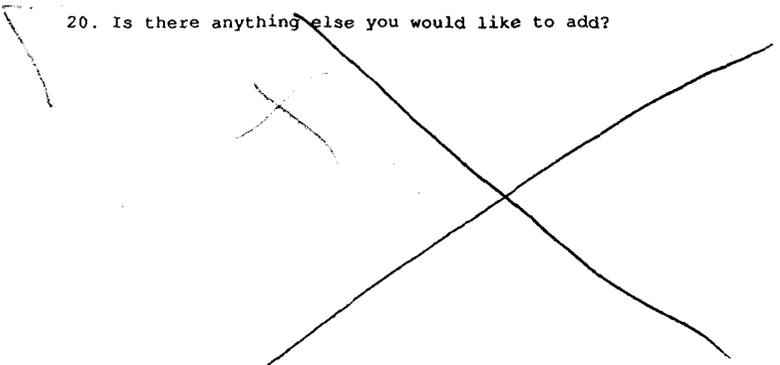
**GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY?**

|  | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
|--|-------|-----|----|------|---|
| a. Provide a job for everyone who wants one . . .                                | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| b. Keep prices under control . . . . .   | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| c. Provide health care for the sick . . . . .                                    | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| d. Provide a decent standard of living for the old. . . . .                      | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| e. Provide industry with the help it needs to grow . . . . .                     | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| f. Provide a decent standard of living for the unemployed. . . . .               | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| g. Reduce income differences between the rich and poor . . . . .                 | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| h. Give financial help to university students from low income families . . . . . | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
| i. Provide decent housing for those who can't afford it . . . . .                | Yes!! | Yes | No | No!! | - |
|  | 1     | 2   | 3  | 4    | - |

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

- Very interested . . . . . 1
- Fairly interested . . . . . 2
- Somewhat interested . . . . . 3
- Not very interested . . . . . 4
- Not at all interested . . . . . 5
- (Can't choose) . . . . . -

20. Is there anything else you would like to add?



**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR FILLING OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE!!**

>> 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!



# 1990 Election Panel Survey

**Confidential**

## National Social Science Survey

Research School of Social Sciences  
The Australian National University  
Canberra ACT



### International Social Survey Programme

Australia \* Austria \* Britain \* Hungary \* Italy \*  
The Netherlands \* West Germany \* United States  
Israel \* Ireland \* Norway

Next comes the international part of the questionnaire. These questions are being asked in Australia and also in Austria, Britain, Ireland, West Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States. Because we need to ask them in exactly the same order as the other countries do, we'll have to go back over some topics we've already covered, as well as covering entirely new topics.

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?

- Obey the law without exception . . . . . 1
- Follow conscience on occasions . . . . . 2
- (Can't choose) . . . . . -

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...

|       |    |                        |
|-------|----|------------------------|
| Yes!! | -- | Definitely allowed     |
| Yes   | -- | Probably allowed       |
| No    | -- | Probably not allowed   |
| No!!  | -- | Definitely not allowed |
| -     | -- | (Can't choose)         |

**ALLOWED?**

- a. Organizing public meetings to protest against the government. . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- b. Publishing pamphlets to protest against the government. . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- c. Organizing protest marches & demonstrations Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- d. Occupying a government office and stopping work there for several days. . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- e. Seriously damaging government buildings. . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- f. Organizing a nationwide strike of all workers against the government. . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -

3. There are some people whose views are considered extreme by the majority. First, consider people who want to overthrow the government by revolution. Do you think such people should be allowed to ...

**ALLOWED?**

- a. Hold public meetings to express their views? . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- b. Publish books expressing their views . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -

4. Second, consider people who believe that whites are racially superior to all other races. Do you think that such people should be allowed to ...

- a. Hold public meetings to express their views? . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -  
1    2    3    4
- b. Publish books expressing their views . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -

5. Suppose the police get an anonymous tip that a man with a long criminal record is planning to break into a warehouse. Do you think police should be allowed without a court order to ...

**ALLOWED?**

- a. Keep the man under surveillance? . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- b. Tap his telephone? . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- c. Open his mail? . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -
- d. Detain the man overnight for questioning? . . . . . Yes!! Yes No No!! -  
1    2    3    4

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

- To convict an innocent person . . . . . 1
- To let a guilty person go free . . . . . 2
- (Can't choose) . . . . . -

7. What are your personal feelings about ...

|       |    |                                    |
|-------|----|------------------------------------|
| Yes!! | -- | Extremely favourable               |
| Yes   | -- | Favourable                         |
| ??    | -- | Neither favourable or unfavourable |
| No    | -- | Unfavourable                       |
| No!!  | -- | Extremely unfavourable             |
| -     | -- | (Can't choose)                     |

**FAVOURABLE?**

- a. People who organize protests against a government action they strongly oppose. . . . . Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -
- b. People who want to overthrow the government by revolution. . . . . Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -
- c. People who believe whites are racially superior to all other races . . . . . Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -  
1    2    3    4    5

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 of their earnings in taxes. Do you think those with high incomes should ...

- Pay a much larger proportion . . . . . 1
- 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) . . . . . -

9. 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
- Agree . . . . . 2
- Neither agree or disagree . . . . . 3
- Disagree . . . . . 4
- Disagree strongly . . . . . 5
- (Can't choose) . . . . . -

10. Here are some things the government might do for the economy. Are you in favour or against...

Yes!! -- Strongly in favour  
 Yes -- In favour  
 ?? -- Neither in favour of nor against  
 No -- Against  
 No!! -- Strongly against  
 - -- (Can't choose)

|  | IN FAVOUR? |     |    |    |      |
|--|------------|-----|----|----|------|
|  | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| a. Control of wages by legislation. . . . .                              | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| b. Control of prices by legislation . . . . .                            | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| c. Cuts in government spending . . . . .                                 | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| d. Government financing of projects to create new jobs. . . . .          | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| e. Less government regulation of business . . . . .                      | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| f. Support for industry to develop new products and technology . . . . . | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| g. Support for declining industries to protect jobs . . . . .            | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
| h. Reducing the work week to create more jobs . . . . .                  | Yes!!      | Yes | ?? | No | No!! |
|  | 1          | 2   | 3  | 4  | 5    |

11. Listed below are various areas of government spending. Please show 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...

More!! -- Spend much more  
 More -- Spend more  
 == -- Spend the same as now  
 Less -- Spend less  
 Less!! -- Spend much less  
 - -- (Can't choose)

|   | SPENDING |      |    |      |        |
|---|----------|------|----|------|--------|
|   | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| a. The environment -- spend more or less? . . . . . | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| b. Health. . . . .                                  | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| c. The police and law enforcement. . . . .          | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| d. Education . . . . .                              | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| e. The military and defence. . . . .                | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| f. Old age pensions. . . . .                        | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| g. Unemployment benefits . . . . .                  | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
| h. Culture and the arts. . . . .                    | More!!   | More | == | Less | Less!! |
|   | 1        | 2    | 3  | 4    | 5      |

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  
 Keeping down unemployment . . . . . 2  
 (Can't choose) . . . . . -

Now some questions on power...

1 Far too much power  
 2 Too much power  
 3 About the right amount of power  
 4 Too little power  
 5 Far too little power  
 - (Can't choose)

|   | POWER    |   |   |   |            |
|---|----------|---|---|---|------------|
|   | Too much |   |   |   | Too little |
| 13. Do you think that trade unions in this country have too much power or too little power? . . . . . | 1        | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5          |
| 14. How about business and industry, do they have too much power or too little power? . . . . .       | 1        | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5          |
| 15. And what about the federal government, does it have too much power or too little power? . . . . . | 1        | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5          |

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

Excellent . . . . . 1  
 Very good . . . . . 2  
 Fairly good . . . . . 3  
 Not very good . . . . . 4  
 Not good at all . . . . . 5  
 (Can't choose) . . . . . -

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

OWN it  
 CONTROL prices and profits but not own it  
 NEITHER own it nor control its prices and profits  
 - (Can't choose)

|                                   | PLEASE CIRCLE A WORD |         |         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|
|                                   | Own                  | Control | Neither |
| a. Electric power . . . . .       | Own                  | Control | Neither |
| b. The steel industry . . . . .   | Own                  | Control | Neither |
| c. Banking and insurance. . . . . | Own                  | Control | Neither |
|                                   | 1                    | 2       | 3       |