

Australia
ISSP 1987 – Social Inequality I
Questionnaire

National Social Science Survey

The National Social Science Survey is an Australia-wide survey conducted by the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University.

It is devoted entirely to academic research in the social sciences, is non-profit, and is not connected with any business or political party.

It is directed by
Dr Jonathan Kelley.

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International Social Survey Programme

The International Social Survey Programme is a collaborative venture by leading academic research institutions in eight nations.

It conducts yearly nation-wide surveys in each of the participating countries.

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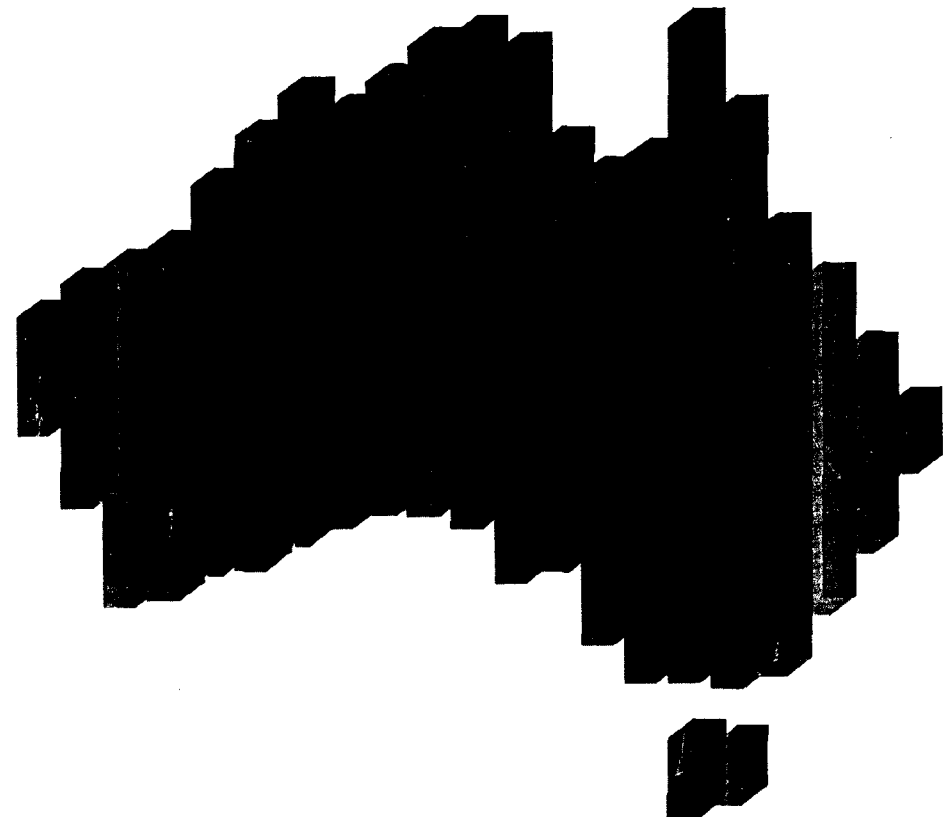
National Social Science Survey

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



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

>> These are important questions and we think you'll find them very interesting

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

78. Please show for each of these how important you think it is for getting ahead in life...

- 1 Essential
 2 Very important
 3 Fairly important
 4 Not very important
 5 Not important at all
 - (Can't choose)

	<u>Essential</u>					<u>Not important</u>
a. First, how important is coming from a wealthy family?	1	2	3	4	5	-
b. Having well educated parents?	1	2	3	4	5	-
c. Having a good education yourself?	1	2	3	4	5	-
d. Ambition?	1	2	3	4	5	-
e. Natural ability -- how important is that?	1	2	3	4	5	-
f. Hard work?	1	2	3	4	5	-
g. Knowing the right people?	1	2	3	4	5	-
h. Having political connections?	1	2	3	4	5	-
i. One's race?	1	2	3	4	5	-
j. One's religion?	1	2	3	4	5	-
k. The part of the country one comes from?	1	2	3	4	5	-
l. Being born a man or a woman?	1	2	3	4	5	-
m. One's political beliefs?	1	2	3	4	5	-

79. The way things are in Australia, people like me and my family have a good chance of improving our standard of living -- do you agree or disagree?

- Strongly agree 1
 Agree 2
 Neither agree nor disagree 3
 Disagree 4
 Strongly disagree 5

(Can't choose) -

Some people earn a lot of money while others do not earn very much at all...

80. In order to get people to work hard, do you think large differences in pay are...

- Absolutely necessary 1
 Probably necessary 2
 Probably not necessary 3
 Definitely not necessary 4

(Can't choose) -

81. Do you agree or disagree...

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

Please circle a word

a. People would not want to take extra responsibility at work unless they were paid extra for it	Yes!!	Yes	??	No	No!!
b. Workers would not bother to get skills and qualifications unless they were paid extra for having them	Yes!!	Yes	??	No	No!!
c. Inequality continues to exist because it benefits the rich and powerful	Yes!!	Yes	??	No	No!!
d. No one would study for years to become a lawyer or doctor unless they expected to earn a lot more than ordinary workers	Yes!!	Yes	??	No	No!!
e. Large differences in income are necessary for Australia's prosperity	Yes!!	Yes	??	No	No!!
f. Allowing business to make good profits is the best way to improve everyone's standard of living	Yes!!	Yes	??	No	No!!
g. Inequality continues to exist because ordinary people don't join together to get rid of it	Yes!!	Yes	??	No	No!!
	1	2	3	4	5

82. We would like to know what you think people in these jobs actually earn.

>> Please choose how much you think they usually earn each year, before taxes.

>> Many people are not exactly sure about this, but your best guess will be close enough.

>> This is very important, but it may be difficult. So please try.

ACTUALLY earn each year

- a. First, about how much do you think a bricklayer earns? \$ _____ ..
- b. A doctor in general practice? \$ _____ ..
- c. A bank clerk? \$ _____ ..
- d. The owner of a small shop? \$ _____ ..
- e. The chairman of a large national corporation? . . . \$ _____ ..
- f. A skilled worker in a factory? \$ _____ ..
- g. A farm labourer? \$ _____ ..
- h. A secretary? \$ _____ ..
- i. A city bus driver? \$ _____ ..
- j. An unskilled worker in a factory? \$ _____ ..
- k. A cabinet minister in the federal government? . . . \$ _____ ..

83. 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...

OUGHT to earn

- a. First, about how much do you think a bricklayer should earn? \$ _____ ..
- b. A doctor in general practice? \$ _____ ..
- c. A bank clerk -- how much ought they earn? \$ _____ ..
- d. The owner of a small shop? \$ _____ ..
- e. The chairman of a large national corporation? . . . \$ _____ ..
- f. A skilled worker in a factory? \$ _____ ..
- g. A farm labourer -- how much ought they earn? \$ _____ ..
- h. A secretary? \$ _____ ..
- i. A city bus driver? \$ _____ ..
- j. An unskilled worker in a factory? \$ _____ ..
- k. A cabinet minister in the federal government? . . . \$ _____ ..
- l. Anything to add?

----- INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS -----

84. Do you agree or disagree...

[61-71]
[72-80]R

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

Please circle a word

- a. Differences in income in Australia are too large 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!! -
- c. The government should provide more chances for children from poor families to go to university Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -
- d. The government should provide a job for everyone who wants one Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -
- e. The government should spend less on benefits for the poor Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -
- f. The government should provide a decent standard of living for the unemployed Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -
- g. The government should provide everyone with a guaranteed basic income Yes!! Yes ?? No No!! -
1 2 3 4 5

85. Generally, how would you describe taxes in Australia today...

>> We mean all taxes together, including social security, income tax, sales tax, and all the rest.

- Please circle a phrase
- a. First, for those with high incomes, are taxes Much too high Too high About right Too low Much too low (Can't choose)
- b. Next, for those with middle incomes, are taxes Much too high Too high About right Too low Much too low (Can't choose)
- c. Lastly, for those with low incomes, are taxes Much too high Too high About right Too low Much too low (Can't choose)
1 2 3 4 5

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

Much larger share 1
Larger 2
The same share 3
Smaller 4
Much smaller share 5

(Can't choose) -

----- INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS -----

Card 17 17 [1-7]
[8-17]

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

VERY STRONG conflicts
STRONG conflicts
NOT VERY strong conflicts
There are NO CONFLICTS
(Can't choose)

Please circle a phrase

- | | Very strong | Strong | Not very | No Conflict | |
|--|-------------|--------|----------|-------------|---|
| a. Poor people and rich people? | | | | | - |
| b. The working class and the middle class? | | | | | - |
| c. The unemployed and people with jobs? | | | | | - |
| d. Management and workers? | | | | | - |
| e. Farmers and city people? | | | | | - |
| f. Young people and older people? | | | | | - |
| g. Men and women? | | | | | - |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |

87. In our society there are some social groups which are higher and some which are lower. Where do you think you are on this scale?

High 1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
Low 10

88. 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 14, would you choose 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

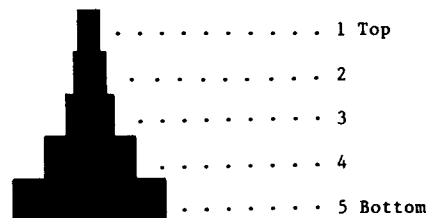
(I never had a job) -
(I don't know what my father did) +

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

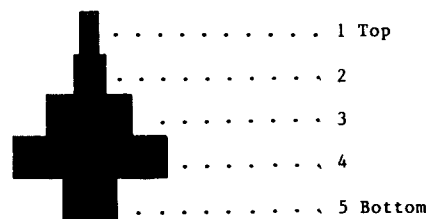
Type A. A small elite at the top, very few people in the middle, and the great mass of people at the bottom.



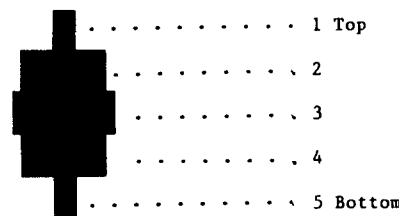
Type B. A society like a pyramid, with a small elite at the top, more people in the middle, and most at the bottom.



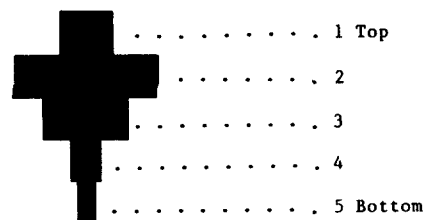
Type C. A pyramid except that just a few people are at the very bottom.



Type D. A society with most people in the middle



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



89a. First, what type of society is Australia today -- which diagram comes closest?

Type A Type B Type C Type D Type E

b. Which comes next closest?

Type A Type B Type C Type D Type E

c. And what do you think Australia was like 30 years ago, in the 1950s -- just your best guess?

Type A Type B Type C Type D Type E

d. And what do you think Australia was like 60 years ago, in the 1920s -- just your best guess?

Type A Type B Type C Type D Type E

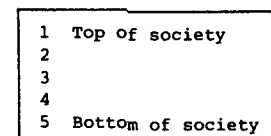
e. What do you think Australia will be like 30 years from now, in the future -- just your best guess

Type A Type B Type C Type D Type E

f. What do you think Australia ought to be like -- which would you prefer?

Type A Type B Type C Type D Type E

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



	Top					Bottom				
a. Where would you say <u>you</u> and your family actually are -- at the top, somewhere in the middle, or toward the bottom?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
b. Where would you say a bricklayer fits in?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
c. A doctor in general practice?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
d. How about a bank clerk?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
e. The owner of a small shop?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
f. The chairman of a large national corporation? .	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
g. A skilled worker in a factory?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
h. A farm labourer?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
i. A secretary?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
j. A city bus driver?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
k. An unskilled worker in a factory?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
l. A cabinet minister in the federal government? .	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

91. Here is a list of different types of work. Which type did your father have when you were 14?

>> If your father did not have a job, then please give the job he used to have.

	Father	Your first job	Your job now
Professional and technical (examples: doctor, teacher, engineer, artist, accountant)	1	1	1
Higher administrator (examples: banker, executive in big business, high government official, union official)	2	2	2
Clerical (examples: secretary, clerk, office manager, civil servant, bookkeeper	3	3	3
Sales (examples: sales manager, shop owner, shop assistant, insurance agent)	4	4	4
Service (examples: restaurant owner, policeman, waitress, barber, janitor)	5	5	5
Skilled worker (examples: foreman, motor mechanic, printer, seamstress, electrician)	6	6	6
Semi-skilled worker (examples: bus driver, cannery worker, carpenter, sheet metal worker, baker)	7	7	7
Unskilled worker (examples: labourer, porter, unskilled factory worker)	8	8	8
Farm (examples: farmer, farm labourer, tractor driver). (Never had a job)	9 -	9 -	9 -

b. Was he (were you) self-employed, or working for someone else?

	Father	Your first job	job now
Self-employed, had own business or farm .	1	1	1
Worked for someone else	2	2	2
(Never had a job)	-	-	-

92. And how about your first job -- the first job you had after you finished your full time education? (Please answer in the box above)

>> Even if that was many years ago, we would still like to know about it.

93. And how about your job now (If you are not working now, please tell us about your last job; use the box above).

SECTION U. FAMILY

Card 18 18 [1-7]
[8-54]

94. Now some questions about your brothers and sisters.

First, how many do you have?

Brothers	Sisters
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Please tell us about all of them.

>> If you have more than three, tell us about the two oldest and one of the others, the one whose name comes first in alphabetical order.

	Oldest	Second	Third	
a. First, please write in their first names, just so there is no confusion	name	name	name	
b. Is this a brother or a sister? Brother Sister	Brother Sister	Brother Sister	Brother Sister	1 2
c. When was he or she born?	19 Year	19 Year	19 Year	..
d. How much schooling did each get? None Only a few years of primary school. Finished primary (about year 6) . . Left school about age 14 or 15 . . A little more than that Finished secondary school (6th form) University	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	..
e. How old was he or she when they married (first time)?	Not yet or Age	Not yet or Age	Not yet or Age	..
f. How old was he or she when their first child was born?	No child or Age	No child or Age	No child or Age	..
g. Has he or she ever been divorced? How old were they then?	No or Age	No or Age	No or Age	..
h. What kind of work does he or she do now? What is their occupation called? (If retired or dead, please give previous job. If a housewife, write that in.) >> PLEASE DESCRIBE FULLY, USING TWO WORDS OR MORE				
i. What are some of his or her main duties?				
j. What political party does he or she usually support? (Just your best guess) Liberal Party Australian Labor Party National (Country) Party Other (what?)	1 2 3 —	1 2 3 —	1 2 3 —	