

**PERCEPTIONS OF POVERTY  
AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION  
1998**

Report on Preparatory Research

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September 1998



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## Acknowledgements

The *Breadline Britain in the 1990s* Survey was funded by London Weekend Television (LWT) with additional funding from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and was carried out by Marketing and Opinion Research International (MORI). It was conceived and designed by Joanna Mack and Stewart Lansley for Domino Films, with the help of Brian Gosschalk of MORI.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has supported this project as part of its programme of research and innovative development projects, which it hopes will be of value to policy makers and practitioners. The facts presented and the views expressed in this report are, however, those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Foundation.

We would like to thank Barbara Ballard from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation for her advice, encouragement and support throughout this project.

We would also like to thank Björn Halleröd of the University of Umeå, Tony Manners, Linda Murgatroyd and June Bowman at the Office for National Statistics, Richard Berthoud and Jonathan Gershuny at the University of Essex, Rick Davies of Swansea University, Glen Bramley of Heriot Watt University and Michael Bittman at the University of New South Wales for their helpful advice.

We would also like to thank Brian Gosschalk, Mark Speed and Sarah Birtles from MORI for their helpful comments and their work on the Omnibus Questions.

Helen Anderson edited, typed and formatted this report.

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## Executive Summary

**Background** In October 1997, the JRF Work, Income and Social Policy Committee discussed a proposal for a project to replicate the *Breadline Britain* surveys of 1983 and 1990, the interviews for which were carried out by MORI. The committee felt that a larger sample should be used and that new indicators of deprivation and/or social exclusion needed to be developed to modernise and strengthen the research.

Accordingly, a fresh proposal was drawn up by the team in three universities (Bradshaw *et al*, December 1997). The team undertook (i) to revisit all elements of the survey instrumentation to reflect the latest scientific thinking in preparing indicators of social exclusion as well as poverty and deprivation and, in particular, to operationalise the notions of absolute and overall poverty accepted by 117 countries after the 1995 World Summit on Social Development; (ii) to hold up to 18 group discussions in the North, Midlands and South of England to explore how people define poverty and social exclusion; develop and test new indicators of poverty and social exclusion, and test elements of the redesigned survey instrumentation; (iii) to test the newly generated indicators of poverty and social exclusion in one of the regular MORI omnibus surveys; and (iv) to pilot the new questionnaire for the survey, including the new indicators of perceived social necessities.

**Progress** The first three of these above undertakings have been completed. These are reported below and the fourth has been prepared and discussed with MORI. A new questionnaire has been devised and is attached to this report. The team now recommends delay in conducting the pilot interviews using the full questionnaire until this can be done in conjunction with the launch of a national survey.

Not all the funds made available for the preparatory research have therefore been committed. After referring extensively to survey methodologies of the 1980s and 1990s in different countries; discussing how new indicators could be incorporated into the questionnaire; examining the results of the preparatory focus group research (following the submission of a progress report in April 1998 by Sue Middleton of the Centre for Research in Social Policy, University of Loughborough) and preparing, in draft, the full questionnaire, the team agreed that piloting the full questionnaire should be combined with the national survey at the second stage of research. Approval for funds to achieve this purpose is therefore sought. The total cost of piloting the new questionnaire itself would be less in those circumstances.

If funding is secured for work on the main stage, the interviewers recruited to pilot the survey questionnaire could go straight on to apply the revised national questionnaire. The team took the view that this would represent better use of total resources made available.

## The Report on the Preparatory Stage

The research team came to the following conclusions in relation to its terms of reference:

- (i) **Reviewing concepts and especially operational definitions of poverty, deprivation and social exclusion:** Two distinct lists of socially approved necessities have been drawn up - one material and one social. This fulfils the team's purpose to provide more resilient definitions of the key concepts, which can be replicated scientifically in different countries. The results of measurement have to be demonstrably valid and not hypothetical or administratively convenient. The second list has also been designed to provide criteria for the notion of social exclusion. We consider this procedure innovatory, as well as building on the European and Australian research itemised in the original proposal. In particular, the team has sought to strengthen the childhood deprivation index used in Middleton's work as a basis for measurement of poverty among children.
- (ii) **Distinguishing "absolute" and "overall" poverty:** Drawing on experimental research in Britain in 1997 (Townsend, Gordon, Bradshaw and Gosschalk, 1997) and the CRSP pilot, a set of questions designed to establish the extent of both forms of poverty in the UK and also provide the basis for wider application in other countries, has been drawn up. This is reviewed in the body of the report. Some in the team have recently obtained ESRC support to organise a series of European scientific conferences with the objective, among other things, of thrashing out a European consensus on this subject. More than 100 European social scientists have agreed to play a part in the programme. Members of the team are also seeking support for pilot research on the extent of absolute and overall poverty in Africa.
- (iii) **Harmonising government and European methodologies:** The form, scope and content of indicator questions used in the proposed questionnaire reflect successful practice in some of the major surveys in the UK and elsewhere in Europe. One important example is the European Community Household Panel. This is also intended to achieve scientific and statistical consensus in what principal methodologies should be applied in future investigations internationally as well as nationally of poverty, deprivation and social exclusion.
- (iv) **Improving the measure of income:** The design of both the questionnaire and the survey procedures have been re-modelled to give greater priority to the accuracy of the measure of income. More information is also being sought about assets, free and subsidised services and income in kind to allow the income measure to be broadened and checked. As discussed in the body of the report, the income bands currently used as standard in the UK Office of National Statistics surveys have been adopted for purposes of comparability.
- (v) **Adapting the 1983 and 1990 methodologies to 1998:** The team point out that modernisation of survey method is difficult to reconcile with reliable measurement of trends. For example, context can influence answers to single questions, even when these questions are identical with those put in previous years. However, the problem is a familiar one to statisticians (for example in distinguishing economic growth from inflation) and the team has drawn up a questionnaire which deliberately reproduces the "continuity" questions in the early stages of the



interview and keeps them together in a form as representative as possible of the 1983 and 1990 predecessors.

(vi) **Changing the *Breadline Britain* questionnaire**: The 1983 *Breadline Britain* study pioneered the 'consensual' or 'perceived deprivation' approach to measuring poverty which has since been widely adopted by other studies both in Britain and abroad. The results from the last survey in 1990 are now becoming dated, hence the need for a new survey to provide baseline data on the extent of poverty in Britain.

The research team have decided to retain the basic structure of the 1990 *Breadline Britain* questionnaire but also make a number of significant improvements. Specifically, they will:

1. develop and test out new ways of identifying those experiencing exclusion from the life of society due to lack of resources, including necessities designed to represent better the notion of social exclusion.
2. revise the questions on the lifestyles and living standards of children.
3. operationalise the notions of absolute and overall poverty accepted by 117 countries after the 1995 World Summit on Social Development.
4. adopt the Office of National Statistics harmonised question wordings where appropriate.
5. drop the questions that do not work and add some of the deprivation questions from the European Community Household Panel Survey.
6. improve the income questions.

None of these changes will prevent the survey results being compared with those from other countries or the earlier *Breadline Britain* surveys. The full report sets out the reasons for the conclusions reached.



## Chapter 1

### Definitions of Concepts for the Perceptions of Poverty and Social Exclusion

David Gordon

#### What is Poverty?

Poverty is a widely used and understood concept but its definition is highly contested. The term 'poverty' can be considered to have a cluster of different overlapping meanings depending on what subject area or discourse is being examined (Gordon and Spicker, 1998). For example, poverty, like evolution or health, is both a scientific and a moral concept. Many of the problems of measuring poverty arise because the moral and scientific concepts are often confused. In scientific terms, a person or household in Britain is 'poor' when they have both a low standard of living and a low income. They are not poor if they have a low income and a reasonable standard of living or if they have a low standard of living but a high income. Both low income and low standard of living can only be accurately measured relative to the norms of the person's or household's society.

A low standard of living is often measured by using a deprivation index (high deprivation equals a low standard of living) or by consumption expenditure (low consumption expenditure equals a low standard of living). Of these two methods, deprivation indices are more accurate since consumption expenditure is often only measured over a brief period and is obviously not independent of available income. Deprivation indices are broader measures because they reflect different aspects of living standards, including personal, physical and mental conditions, local and environmental facilities, social activities and customs. (See also Chapter 7 of this volume relating to definitions of social exclusion).

Figure 1.1 (overleaf) illustrates the relationship between low income, low standard of living and poverty through the use of an 'objective' poverty line/threshold. This can be defined as the point that maximises the differences **between** the two groups ('poor' and 'not poor') and minimises the differences **within** the two groups ('poor' and 'not poor'). Unfortunately, this can best be done using multivariate statistics<sup>i</sup> (which makes it hard to explain) since there are no accurate equivalisation scales (Whiteford, 1985; Buhman *et al*, 1988; De Vos & Zaidi, 1997). For scientific purposes broad measures of both income and standard of living are desirable. Standard of living includes both the material and social conditions in which people live and their participation in the economic, social, cultural and political life of the country

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<sup>i</sup> Usually some variant of the General Linear Model is used such as Discriminant analysis, MANOVA or Logistic Regression depending on the nature of the data.

**Figure 1.1: Definition of poverty**



This 'scientific' concept of poverty can be made universally applicable by using the broader concept of resources instead of just monetary income. It can then be applied in developing countries where barter and 'income in kind' can be as important as cash income. Poverty can then be defined as the point at which resources are so seriously below those commanded by the average individual or family that the poor are, in effect, excluded from ordinary living patterns, customs and activities. As resources for any individual or family are diminished, there is a point at which there occurs a sudden withdrawal from participation in the customs and activities sanctioned by the culture. The point at which withdrawal escalates disproportionately to falling resources can be defined as the poverty line or threshold (Townsend, 1979; Townsend and Gordon, 1989).

### **Dynamics of Poverty**

From the previous definition, it is clear that people/households with a high income and a high standard of living are not poor whereas those with a low income and a low standard of living are poor. However, two other groups of people/households that are 'not poor' can also be identified in a cross-sectional (one point in time) survey, such as *Breadline Britain*:

*People/households with a low income but a high standard of living.* This group is not currently poor but if their income remains low they will become poor - they are currently sinking into poverty.

This situation often arises when income falls rapidly (e.g. due to job loss) but people manage to maintain their lifestyle, for at least a few months, by drawing on their savings and using the assets accumulated when income was higher.

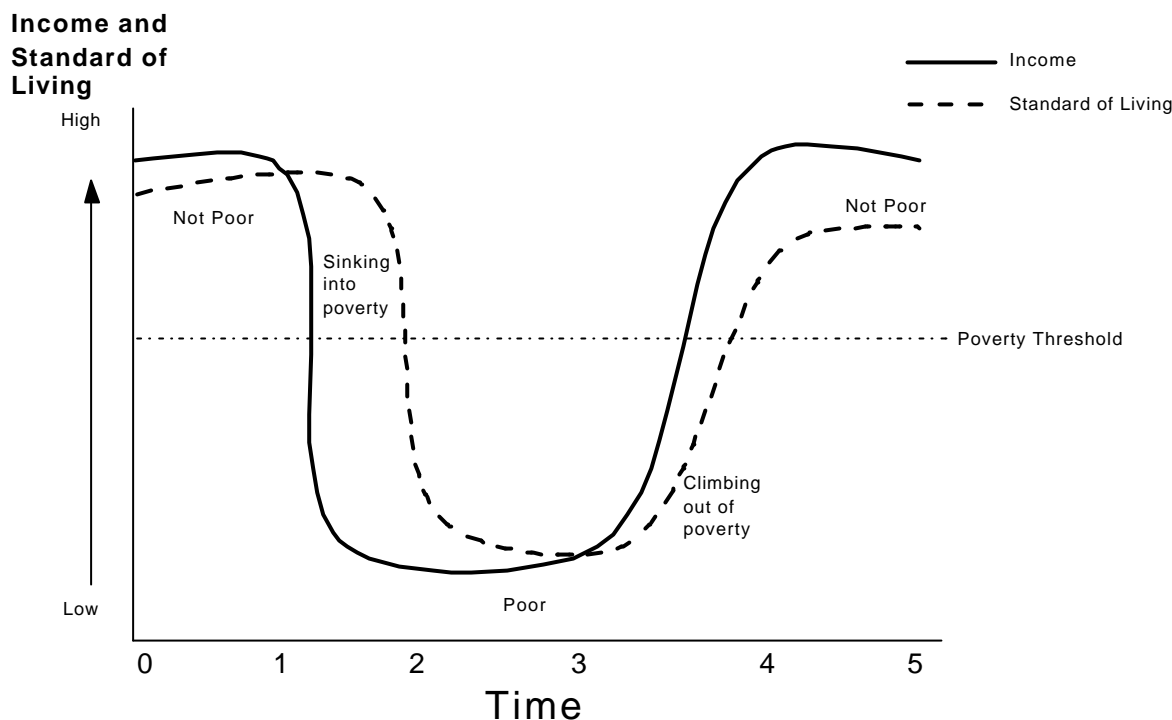
*People/households with a high income but a low standard of living.* This group is currently ‘not poor’ and if their income remains high their standard of living will rise – they have risen out of poverty. This group is in the opposite situation to the previous group. This situation can arise when the income of someone who is poor suddenly increases (e.g. due to getting a job), however, it takes time before they are able to buy the things that they need to increase their standard of living. Income can both rise and fall faster than standard of living.

A cross-sectional ‘poverty’ survey can provide some limited but useful information on the dynamics of poverty since it is possible not only to identify the ‘poor’ and the ‘not poor’ but also those sinking into poverty (i.e. people/households with a low income but a high standard of living) and those escaping from poverty (i.e. people/households with a high income but a low standard of living)

Poverty is, by definition, an extremely unpleasant situation to live in so it is not surprising that people go to considerable lengths to avoid it and try very hard to escape from poverty once they have sunk into it. Therefore, a cross-sectional poverty survey ought to find that the group of households sinking into poverty was larger than the group escaping from poverty since, when income falls people will try to delay the descent into poverty but, if the income of a poor person increases, she will quickly try to improve her standard of living.

Figure 1.2 illustrates this concept:

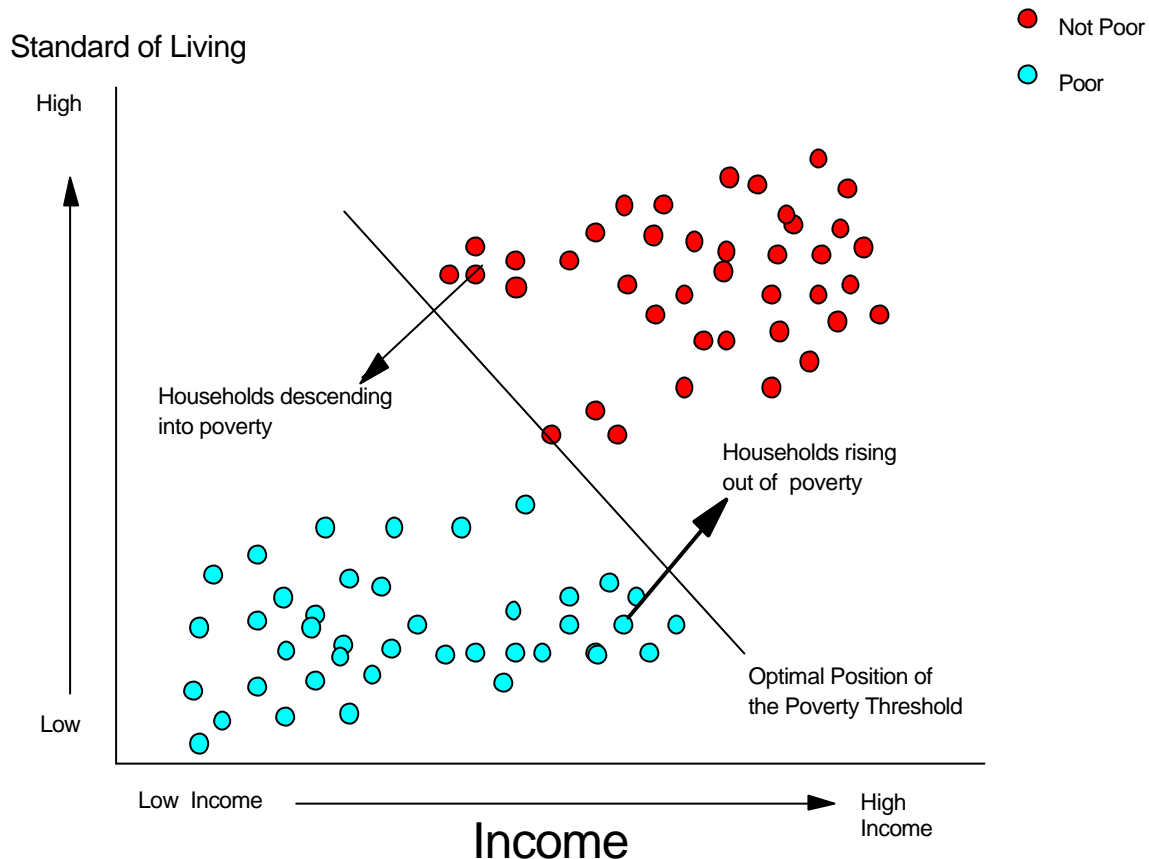
### **Figure 1.2: Dynamics of poverty**



Between time 0 and 1 the household has both a high standard of living (dotted line) and a high income (solid line): it is 'not poor'. At time 1, there is a rapid reduction in income (e.g. due to job loss, the end of seasonal contract income, divorce or separation, etc), however, the household's standard of living does not fall immediately. It is not until time 2 that the household's standard of living has also fallen below the 'poverty' threshold. Therefore, between time 1 and time 2, the household is 'not poor' but is sinking into poverty (i.e. it has a low income but a relatively high standard of living). At time 3, income begins to rise rapidly, although not as fast as it previously fell. This is because rapid income increases usually result from gaining employment but there is often a lag between starting work and getting paid. Standard of living also begins to rise after a brief period as the household spends its way out of poverty. However, this lag means that there is a short period when the household has a high income but a relatively low standard of living. By time 5, the household again has a high income and a high standard of living.

On the basis of this discussion, it is possible to update Figure 1.1 to give a more realistic picture of movements into and out of poverty. Figure 1.3 illustrates this.

**Figure 1.3: Movements into and out of poverty**



In Figure 1.3, the sizes of the groups moving into and out of poverty have been exaggerated for clarity. However, it is clear that movements into and out of poverty tend to occur close to the X and Y-axes and there is little movement across the poverty threshold at the centre of the graph. Households in Britain typically become poor when their income falls precipitously followed by a gradual decline in their standard of living. Households rarely slide into poverty because their income and standard of living declines gradually together. Similarly, moves out of poverty tend to follow a rise in income followed by a rise in standard of living. It would be rarer for both income and standard of living to rise gradually together.

### Dynamic Definitions of Poverty

The division of the population into two groups, the 'poor' and 'not poor', is obviously an oversimplification which takes no account of the length of time spent living in poverty. Research in Europe and America, using crude income-based poverty lines, has shown that, although at any one time a large number of households may experience low incomes, for many this experience might be for only a relatively brief period. The *Breadline Britain in the 1990's* survey found that, although 20% of households were poor, only 4% of respondents had been poor in the past 'most of the time'. Although poverty in Britain is widespread, virtually nobody in Britain lives continuously in poverty for very long periods of time. The welfare state may not prevent households from slipping into poverty but often it does appear to be successful at preventing them falling so far that they cannot escape from poverty at a later date.

Studies on income dynamics led Duncan *et al* (1993) to suggest that:

*“the static dichotomy of poor Vs not poor is very misleading and needs to be replaced by at least four dynamic categories of economic position - persistent poverty, transition poverty, the economically vulnerable and the financially secure.”*

We intend to attempt to try to estimate the size of these groups in the new study, as accurately as possible given the cross-sectional survey design. This may be possible if a cross-sectional analysis like the one described above is combined with the answers to a question on the history of poverty, such as the modified Question 17 asked in the 1990 survey.

**Q17 Looking back over your life, how often have there been times in your life when you think you have lived in poverty by the standards of that time?**

Never	53
Rarely	15
Occasionally	19
Often	8
Most of the time	4
Don't know	1

In addition, a new question will be asked:

**Is there anything that has happened recently in your life or is likely to happen in the near future which will affect your standard of living or income?**

Yes, reduce my standard of living  
Yes, increase my standard of living  
Yes, increase my income  
Yes, reduce my income  
No  
Don't know

These 'history of poverty' questions will help to identify Duncan *et al*'s four 'dynamic' poverty groups:

*The persistent poor.* Those households currently poor and that have been poor in the past 'most of the time' and/or 'often'.

*Transition poverty.* Those currently poor but who have only been poor in the past 'rarely' or 'occasionally'.

*The economically vulnerable.* Those currently not poor but who have been poor in the past 'occasionally', 'often' or 'most of the time'. We could also include those with a low income and a



high standard of living and those with a low standard of living but a high income (see previous discussion) in this group.

*The financially secure.* Those households not currently poor and that have never been poor in the past.

### **The 'Subjective' Poverty Line/Threshold**

This can be derived from the answers to the Minimum Income Questions (MIQ). It can be either the average amount given in answer to this question or the amount of income of those in 'budgetary balance', using either the SPL or CSP methods (see Townsend *et al*, 1997 for discussion).

### **'Absolute' and 'Overall' Poverty**

We began from the basis of the MORI questions asked by Townsend *et al* (1997) which have subsequently been modified based on the results from the focus group research (see Chapter 8).

After the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, 117 countries adopted a declaration and programme of action which included commitments to eradicate "absolute" and reduce "overall" poverty, drawing up national poverty-alleviation plans as a priority (UN, 1995).

Absolute poverty was defined by the UN as *"a condition characterised by severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income but also on access to services."* (UN, 1995, p. 57)

Overall poverty was considered to takes various forms, including *"lack of income and productive resources to ensure sustainable livelihoods; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increased morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments and social discrimination and exclusion. It is also characterised by lack of participation in decision-making and in civil, social and cultural life. It occurs in all countries: as mass poverty in many developing countries, pockets of poverty amid wealth in developed countries, loss of livelihoods as a result of economic recession, sudden poverty as a result of disaster or conflict, the poverty of low-wage workers, and the utter destitution of people who fall outside family support systems, social institutions and safety nets."* (UN, *ibid*, p.57)

Too little attention seems to have been given in 1995 and 1996 to the agreement reached at the Copenhagen Summit on Social Development (UN, 1995; UN, 1996 and see the commentary in Townsend, 1996). The summit was called because many governments were becoming restive with the lack of progress in reducing the gap in living standards between rich and poor countries and, despite the work of the international financial agencies, the growth of rock-bottom forms of poverty. At the same time, there were other, associated, problems of unemployment and social disintegration that were clamouring for equally urgent attention by governments.

Absolute poverty means being so poor that you are deprived of basic human needs. In order to avoid absolute poverty, you need enough money to cover all these things:

- adequate diet;
- housing costs/rent;
- heating costs;
- clothing;
- adequate sanitation facilities (sewage rates and water rates);
- access to basic health care;
- access to education/schooling.

In order to avoid overall poverty, you need to have enough money not only to cover all things mentioned in the absolute poverty list above, but enough money to ensure that you are able to:

- live in a safe environment/area;
- have a social life in your local area;
- feel part of the local community;
- carry out your duties/activities in the family and neighbourhood and at work;
- meet essential costs of transport.

### **Income and Resources**

The term 'resources' is often used in poverty studies but it is seldom discussed in detail. It is often assumed to be synonymous with 'usual' income in industrialised nations like Britain. However, the concept of resources is broader than just 'current' or 'usual' cash income. Income in many poverty studies is often used to refer only to the main component of monetary income for most households - i.e. wages and salaries or business income. Others use the term widely to include all receipts including lump sum receipts and receipts that draw on the household's capital.

The definition and measurement of income is such an important concept that it is dealt with in detail in a separate section.

### **Social Exclusion<sup>i</sup>**

This concept is dealt with in detail in Chapter 7. Social exclusion as a discourse emerged in France during the 1970s and has since spread across the rest of Europe. The Commission of the European Community (now Union) started to use the concept in the 1980s and it is now widely applied by both social scientists and politicians. How to interpret the concept is nevertheless unclear and the definition of the concept varies among countries, different school of thoughts and different experts and researchers (Silver, 1994).

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<sup>i</sup> This section is largely based on the edited submissions by Ruth Levitas, Björn Halleröd and others in Gordon and Spicker, 1998.

The key text in the genesis of social exclusion does not actually use the term but seeks to redefine poverty as an objective condition of relative deprivation where individuals, families or groups lack the resources for participation in the customary activities of the society to which they belong:

*“Their resources are so seriously below those commanded by the average individual or family that they are, in effect, excluded from ordinary living patterns, customs and activities”* (Townsend, 1979, p.31).

In this initial formulation, poverty is a lack of resources (income, wealth, housing) and social exclusion a common consequence of poverty. This definition is accepted by, for example, the British Child Poverty Action Group:

*“people live in poverty when they are excluded from participating in the accepted way of life in the society in which they live because of the low level of their resource”* (Oppenheim, 1993, p.vii).

What constitutes social exclusion is therefore dependent upon judgements both *within and about* society in assessing the accepted necessarily way of life and adequate participation. Notably, the question of participation goes beyond the levels of consumption afforded to those with restricted resources. Golding (1986) addresses exclusion from leisure pursuits, political life, financial institutions and the new entertainment and communication technologies, while Lister (1990) writes about exclusion from citizenship. This broad approach is also reflected in the United Nations Agenda 21. In less precise usage, social exclusion is sometimes used as synonymous with poverty. This has a double drawback. Firstly, it obscures the possibility, noted by Townsend, that there may be circumstances in which restricted resources do not produce social withdrawal and isolation. Secondly, there may be other causes of exclusion and marginalisation - such as disability - which are not solely related to lack of resources.

Although social exclusion is sometimes used only as a substitute for poverty, many researchers have tried to establish a distinction between poverty and social exclusion. Sometimes it is argued that poverty is a narrow concept dealing with problems that are directly related to economic resources, while social exclusion deals with a broad range of questions dealing with individuals integration in the society. This means that *“exclusion includes poverty, poverty does not include exclusion”* (Delors cited in Abrahamson, 1996). It is also argued that poverty is a static phenomenon, dealing solely with people’s economic situation at one point of time, while social exclusion represents a dynamic perspective focusing on the processes that leads to a situation of exclusion and, for that matter, poverty (Room, 1995). A third distinction turns the argument the other way around, arguing that social exclusion represents an extreme form of poverty. The socially excluded are the worst off, the poorest among the poor (Abrahamson, 1996). Thus, the distinctions between poverty and social exclusion are not always easy to interpret and they do not give a uniform picture of the differences. It can also be argued that they to a significant degree are based on a caricature of the concept of poverty (Nolan and Whelan, 1996).

However, in European Union documents in the 1990s, social exclusion has a much narrower meaning than that outlined above, being focused on unemployment, or exclusion from paid work. It is considered a problem less because of the consequences for individuals than because it threatens

social cohesion. Its opposite is not participation but integration and integration through paid work. Social exclusion is thus increasingly being used as virtually synonymous with unemployment. Although unemployment is a major cause of poverty, and thus of social exclusion, this usage is far more restrictive. It also has political implications, since it suggests that social exclusion can be addressed only through employment policy and not through improved welfare provision or through initiatives aimed directly at increasing a range of forms of social participation.

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## Chapter 2

### Measuring Income in the *Breadline Britain 1998 Survey*

David Gordon

#### Introduction

The most serious weakness of the attempts of the 1983 and 1990 *Breadline Britain* surveys to estimate poverty resulted from their 'poor' measurement of household income. In almost all households, the measurement of deprivation was more reliable (and also probably more accurate) than the measurement of income. This meant that a deprivation poverty line (lacking three or more necessities) was used rather than a combined income and deprivation poverty line (where poverty is defined as having both a low income and low standard of living). A major task of the next Survey will be to try to improve the measurement of income in terms of both quality and response rate.

#### The Problem

Obtaining accurate and complete information on income from households has long been considered to be one of the most intractable problems facing British social survey researchers. Survey researchers often claim that:

*"people are more willing to talk about their sexual behaviour than about their financial affairs and even if they are willing to talk they may not have the necessary knowledge to answer the questions"* (Martin, 1990)

This perception may in part be a historical truth resulting from class based differences within British society to discussing financial affairs. In the past, financial matters were only considered to be a 'proper' topic of conversation between a suitor and his prospective father-in law in 'upper' and 'upper middle' class families. However, 'working' class households were often more forthcoming and indeed the Welfare State required disclosure of financial matters in order to claim means-tested benefits. This historical caricature of British society may contain an element of truth but it is not apparent that it remains true in the late 1990s.

There is unfortunately a great lack of comparative research into the effectiveness of different survey methods in obtaining income information in Britain. This is also one area of survey methodology where research findings from other countries are of only limited value to the British context. The main British research results have been published in SCPR's *Joint Centre for Survey Methods Newsletter* and ONS's *Survey Methodology Bulletin*.

#### Summary of Research Findings

Research on the 1977 *Survey of Older Workers and Retirement* fortuitously allowed a comparison to be made between the answer given by 31 couples (who had been interviewed separately) to identical questions on the family's sources of income (divided into 10 categories). There was disagreement in three cases (out of the 31). In one case, the husband gave an extra income source and in two cases the wife did (Parker, 1980).

In 1983, the London Borough of Hackney carried out a detailed means tested benefits survey of 2,077 households. A screening questionnaire was used with all households and an in-depth, one hour long detailed financial questionnaire with 560 low income 'claiming units'. The survey found that one of the advantages of focusing on people in lower income groups was that respondents *"knew their own income accurately, although they did not necessarily know their partners income"*. However, only 6% of interviews needed to be discarded because of incomplete financial information (Ritchie, 1990).

OPCS tried to compare the results of the usual gross household income results from the 1986 General Household Survey (GHS) and the 1985/86 National Travel Survey (NTS). The GHS access income by asking a detailed set of over 50 income questions from each household member whereas the NTS simply asks the informant into which income band their household falls. The detailed income questions in the GHS result in a lower response rate for income than the simple NTS question (GHS 71%, NTS 86%). Income results divided into 6 bands were compared for sub-groups based on 11 variables; e.g. number employed in the household, number of cars, working status of HOH, number of adults, number of children, length of residence, address type, SEG of HOH, number of persons, family structure and tenure. Table 2.1 below shows the results from one person and one-car households.

**Table 2.1: Income distribution for one-person households and one-car households**

Income Group	One Person Household		One Car Household	
	GHS %	NTS %	GHS %	NTS %
<b>A (Highest)</b>	2.8	2.5	19.5	19.4
<b>B</b>	3.4	3.8	20.8	20.3
<b>C</b>	8.5	8.6	23.7	22.1
<b>D</b>	14.0	12.6	19.6	20.4
<b>E</b>	16.2	15.8	11.7	13.4
<b>F (Lowest)</b>	55.1	56.7	4.7	4.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	100	100	100
<i>Base</i>	<i>2,103</i>	<i>2,321</i>	<i>3,172</i>	<i>3,923</i>

The comparison showed that:

*"the percentage of one-person households falling into each income group is not significantly different in the two surveys. The same is true for one-car households. The*

*above analysis was carried out for the eleven variables listed above. The results obtained from this analysis were generally as similar as the examples shown in Table 1" (Kelly, 1990)*

The simple NTS question seemed to be as good for classificatory purposes as the detailed GHS income questions (Kelly, 1990).

In 1991, OPCS conducted an experiment to compare measures of gross income derived from the same individuals and households using a simple banded income question as well as the detailed set (50+) income questions (Foster and Lound, 1993). The test questions were asked of all respondents to the fourth quarter of the 1990/91 GHS, which ran from January to March 1991, and were inserted in the GHS schedule directly before the usual income section.

The three test questions each involved use of a show card and were based on questions used in the Survey of English Housing. Informants were first asked to indicate which of a number of possible sources of income they personally received. Those who had any source of income were then shown a card on which 20 income bands were listed, with values corresponding to both weekly and approximate annual amounts, and asked into which group their gross income fell. Gross income was described as income before deductions for Income Tax, National Insurance etc.

The third question was concerned with household income. In households comprising two or more adults, it was usually asked of the head of household but could be answered by the spouse. In single person households, the income of the individual was taken to be the total income for the household. The income bands used were the same as for individual income.

This experiment showed that banded income questions achieve a much higher response rate for all types of household than detailed income questions (Table 2.2).

**Table 2.2: Household income response rates using different methods**

Household Type	Standard GHS Income	Test Questions		Base
		Household Question	Sum of Individual Incomes	
One Adult	84%	93%	93%	670
Two Adults	74%	87%	93%	1,260
Three+ Adults	52%	80%	88%	459
All Households	73%	87%	92%	2,389

When the standard GHS income measure was coded into income bands and the results compared, 69% of individuals were in the same income band. Similarly, 65% of households were in the same income band using the household income question and 67% of households were in the same income band if the sum of individual banded incomes was used to define household income. The correspondence between the detailed and test questions was much greater for low income and small



households than it was for large and/or rich households. This results from the difficulty of asking one household member to estimate the income of others rather than using information collected from the individual personally.

Nevertheless, the distribution of gross household income as measured by the three methods was effectively identical (Table 2.3 overleaf).

**Table 2.3: Gross weekly household income: Comparison of frequency distributions for Standard GHS Variable and Test Questions**

<i>Total Gross Weekly Income of all Adults in the Household</i>	<i>All Households</i>			<i>Households of 3+ Adults</i>		
	Standard GHS Income	Test Questions		Standard GHS Income	Test Questions	
		Household Question	Sum of Individual Incomes		Household Question	Sum of Individual Incomes
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than £60	10	10	10	-	0	0
£60 < £100	13	14	13	1	3	1
£100 < £140	9	10	9	4	4	2
£140 < £200	10	10	10	5	7	7
£200 < £300	14	15	15	11	14	14
£300 < £400	14	13	12	18	17	15
£400 < £500	10	10	11	19	18	20
£500 < £600	7	6	6	10	11	10
£600 or more	12	13	14	31	26	30
<i>Base = 100%</i>	<i>1,737</i>	<i>2,079</i>	<i>2,198</i>	<i>239</i>	<i>351</i>	<i>402</i>

The study concluded that the banded income section was successful in providing measures of individual and household income that compared well with those based on a longer and more detailed income section. The simple banded questions also resulted in markedly higher response rates. The analysis suggests that the household question works less well for larger households, particularly those of three or more adults, but this can be overcome by combining the responses to the test question on individual income where the information is available for all adults in the household (Foster and Lound, 1993).

### **The 2001 Census and European Harmonisation**

The possibility of including an income question in the 2001 Census (as required by United Nations Census guidelines) has led to some recent research by ONS into simple but accurate ways of measuring income. A number of cognitive interview studies have been undertaken to explore respondents understanding and reaction to banded income questions (Sykes and Manners, 1998; Sykes, 1998).

The other recent development is that ONS found itself to be in a minority of one in favouring European harmonisation on gross rather than net household income. The 1996 Eurostat Workshop on Harmonisation of Survey Concepts decided in principal to use monetary net income as the harmonised income concept (ONS, 1997).

Considering the results of the research studies and these recent developments, it would seem desirable to use a modified set of questions from the 1990 *Breadline Britain* survey in addition to a modified version of trial harmonised net income questions.

These questions need to be asked at the beginning of the survey after a brief socio-demographic section. If respondents refuse to answer the income questions, then the interview should be ended. This will ensure a 100% response rate for income on the fully completed questionnaires as well as basic socio-demographic data on the respondents who refused to answer income questions.

## NEW BENEFITS AND INCOME SECTION

**MODIFIED QUESTION (Q30)** *How many people in this household at present receive?*

**(READ OUT)**

	<i>None</i>	<i>One</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three</i>	<i>No + answer</i>
Family Credit					
Income Support					
Job Seekers Allowance					
Housing Benefit					
Council Tax Benefit					
Widow's Benefit					
Sick Pay/benefit					
Incapacity Benefit					
Attendance Allowance					
Disability Living Allowance					
Other disability benefit					
A State Retirement Pension					
An occupational/private Pension					

**NEW QUESTION:** *This card shows various possible sources of income. Can you please tell me which kinds of income (A) you and (B) your household receive?*

**CODE ALL THAT APPLY**

	<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>
	<i>You</i>	<i>Your Household</i>
Earnings from employment or self-employment		
Child benefit		
Maintenance/Child Support		
Interest from savings, dividends, etc.		
Student Loan/Grant		
Social Fund Loan		
Other kinds of regular allowance from outside the household		
A state benefits on the previous card		
A pension on the previous card		
Other benefits or pensions		
Other sources of income e.g. rent		

**NEW QUESTION** Will you please look at this card and tell me which group represents your total income from all these sources after taking off Income Tax, National Insurance and any contribution towards a pension?

SHOW CARD U

ENTER BAND NUMBER

	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	ANNUAL
1	Less than £10	Less than £43	Less than £520
2	£10 less than £20	£43 less than £86	£520 less than £1,040
3	£20 less than £30	£86 less than £ 130	£1,040 less than £1,560
4	£30 less than £40	£ 130 less than £ 173	£1,560 less than £2,080
5	£40 less than £50	£173 less than £217	£2,080 less than £2,600
6	£50 less than £60	£217 less than £260	£2,600 less than £3,120
7	£60 less than £70	£260 less than £303	£3,120 less than £3,640
8	£70 less than £80	£303 less than £347	£3,640 less than £4,160
9	£80 less than £90	£347 less than £390	£4,160 less than £4,680
10	£90 less than £100	£390 less than £433	£4,680 less than £5,200
11	£100 less than £120	£433 less than £520	£5,200 less than £6,240
12	£ 120 less than £ 140	£520 less than £607	£6,240 less than £7,280
13	£ 140 less than £ 160	£607 less than £693	£7,280 less than £8,320
14	£ 160 less than £ 180	£693 less than £780	£8,320 less than £9,360
15	£ 180 less than £200	£780 less than £867	£9,360 less than £10,400
16	£200 less than £220	£867 less than £953	£10,400 less than £11,440
17	£220 less than £240	£953 less than £1,040	£11,440 less than £12,480
18	£240 less than £260	£1,040 less than £1,127	£12,480 less than £13,520
19	£260 less than £280	£1,127 less than £1,213	£13,520 less than £14,560
20	£280 less than £300	£1,213 less than £1,300	£14,560 less than £15,600
21	£300 less than £320	£1,300 less than £1,387	£15,600 less than £16,640
22	£320 less than £340	£1,387 less than £1,473	£16,640 less than £17,680
23	£340 less than £360	£1,473 less than £1,560	£17,680 less than £ 18,720
24	£360 less than £380	£1,560 less than £1,647	£18,720 less than £19,760
25	£380 less than £400	£1,647 less than £1,733	£19,760 less than £20,800
26	£400 less than £450	£1,733 less than £1,950	£20,800 less than £23,400
27	£450 less than £500	£1,950 less than £2,167	£23,400 less than £26,000
28	£500 less than £550	£2,167 less than £2,383	£26,000 less than £28,600
29	£550 less than £600	£2,383 less than £2,600	£28,600 less than £31,200
30	£600 less than £650	£2,600 less than £2,817	£31,200 less than £33,800
31	£650 less than £700	£2,817 less than £3,033	£33,800 less than £36,400
32	£700 or more	£3,033 or more	£36,400 or more

(Income £36,400 or more annually)

*Could you please look at the next card and give me your total income, AFTER deductions, as an annual amount from this card?*

SHOW CARD V

ENTER BAND NUMBER

ANNUAL INCOME

1	£36,400 less than £37,000	31	£130,000 less than £135,000
2	£37,000 less than £38,000	32	£135,000 less than £140,000
3	£38,000 less than £39,000	33	£140,000 less than £145,000
4	£39,000 less than £40,000	34	£145,000 less than £150,000
5	£40,000 less than £41,000	35	£150,000 less than £155,000
6	£41,000 less than £42,000	36	£155,000 less than £160,000
7	£42,000 less than £43,000	37	£160,000 less than £165,000
8	£43,000 less than £44,000	38	£165,000 less than £170,000
9	£44,000 less than £45,000	39	£170,000 less than £175,000
10	£45,000 less than £46,000	40	£175,000 less than £180,000
11	£46,000 less than £47,000	41	£180,000 less than £185,000
12	£47,000 less than £48,000	42	£185,000 less than £190,000
13	£48,000 less than £49,000	43	£190,000 less than £195,000
14	£49,000 less than £50,000	44	£195,000 less than £200,000
15	£50,000 less than £55,000	45	£200,000 less than £210,000
16	£55,000 less than £60,000	46	£210,000 less than £220,000
17	£60,000 less than £65,000	47	£220,000 less than £230,000
18	£65,000 less than £70,000	48	£230,000 less than £240,000
19	£70,000 less than £75,000	49	£240,000 less than £250,000
20	£75,000 less than £80,000	50	£250,000 less than £260,000
21	£80,000 less than £85,000	51	£260,000 less than £270,000
22	£85,000 less than £90,000	52	£270,000 less than £280,000
23	£90,000 less than £95,000	53	£280,000 less than £290,000
24	£95,000 less than £100,000	54	£290,000 less than £300,000
25	£100,000 less than £105,000	55	£300,000 less than £320,000
26	£ 105,000 less than £ 110,000	56	£320,000 less than £340,000
27	£ 110,000 less than £ 115,000	57	£340,000 less than £360,000
28	£115,000 less than £120,000	58	£360,000 less than £380,000
29	£ 120,000 less than £ 125,000	59	£380,000 less than £400,000
30	£ 125,000 less than £ 130,000	60	£400,000 or more

(Note if any member of the household is in receipt of housing benefit, Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance then interviewer MUST give the following prompt: *Can I just check that this figure includes money (benefit) that you receive for your rent/housing costs*)?

(If there is a spouse/partner) *Does (spouse/partner) have any separate income of their own?*

(If yes) *Which group represents (spouse/partner's) total income from all these sources after deductions for Income Tax, National Insurance and any contribution towards a pension?*

(If income £36,400 or more annually) *Could you please look at the next card and give me (spouse/partner's) total income, after deductions, as an annual amount from this card?*

(If 'don't know' or refusal obtained when asking about either respondent's or spouse/partner's income) *Would it be possible for you to tell me which group represents the total income of you and (spouse/partner) taken together, after any deductions?*

(If joint income band is £36,400 annually or more) *Could you please look at the next card and give me that total income taken together as an annual amount from this card?*

(If more than two adults in household or two adults who are not respondent and partner) *Can I just check, does anyone else in the household have a source of income?*

(If yes) *And now thinking of the income of the household as a whole, which of the groups on this card represents the total income of the whole household after deductions for Income Tax, National Insurance and any contributions people make towards a pension?*

**MODIFIED QUESTION: Q31** *Do you or does your spouse/partner get Job Seekers Allowance, the old Income Support, nowadays or not? If yes, for how long have you/has he/she been getting it?*

Yes, for up to 3 months  
Yes, for up to 6 months  
Yes, for up to 12 months  
Yes, for over a year  
No  
No answer

**ASK Q32**

**MODIFIED QUESTION: Q32** *Have you or your spouse ever received Job Seekers Allowance or Income Support, or not?*

Yes, in the last year  
Yes, in the last 5 years  
Yes, more than 5 years ago (except as a student)  
No, never  
No answer

IF IN WORK, ASK Q33

**MODIFIED QUESTION Q33** *Do you or your spouse/ partner contribute to an occupational/private pension scheme or not?*

a)                      b)  
You                      Partner

1) Yes  
2) No  
9) Don't know

The ONS harmonised net income questions have been modified for the following reasons:

1. References to Head of Household have been changed to Respondent, since the concept of Head of Household is becoming increasingly problematic and of dubious importance. In many households, it has ceased to have any meaning.
2. ONS's cognitive interviewing studies (Sykes and Manners, 1998; Sykes, 1998) showed that a major reason for inaccuracy in respondent's net income estimates was that they simply forgot about some of their sources of income. In particular, people sometimes forgot about or didn't include interest from savings, child benefit, housing benefit or student loans. Therefore, three questions are asked before the banded income questions; on benefits received by the household members, on the respondent's sources of income and on the sources of income received by all household members. These questions are primarily designed to make the respondents think about both their own and their household's sources of income.
3. Many low income households that are in receipt of housing benefit have their rent paid directly to their landlord i.e. they never see the Housing Benefit they receive and so they sometimes forget to include it in their net income estimates (Sykes, 1998). However, these households will almost certainly know how much their rent is since the Housing Benefit system effectively requires them to do so. Therefore, an interviewer prompt has been added to the ONS protocol to check that respondents in receipt of Housing Benefit have included this in their net income estimate.

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## Appendix to Chapter 2: Definitions of Income

Income is a key concept in almost all definitions and studies of poverty. However, 'income' is an extremely difficult concept to define and agree upon. The term is sometimes used loosely to refer only to the main component of monetary income for most households - i.e. wages and salaries or business income. Others use the term widely to include all receipts including lump sum receipts and receipts that draw on the household's capital.

Classically, income has been defined as the sum of consumption and change in net worth (wealth) in a period. This is known as the *Haig-Simons approach* (see Simons, 1938 in Atkinson and Stiglitz, 1980, p260). Unfortunately, this approach fails to distinguish between the day-to-day 'living well' and the broader 'getting rich' aspects of individual or household finances (in technical terms, it fails to distinguish between current and capital receipts).

There are a number of international organisations that have provided guidelines on defining and measuring income. The United Nations provides two frameworks: the 1993 System of National Accounts (UN, 1992) and guidelines on collecting micro-level data on the economic resources of households (UN, 1977 and 1989). The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has also produced guidelines on the collection of data on income of households, with particular emphasis on income from employment (ILO, 1971: 1992 and 1993). Recently, (January 1997) the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) tried to get an international agreement on definitions of income, consumption, saving and wealth. The ABS (1995) has proposed the following definition:

*“income comprises those receipts accruing (in cash and in-kind) that are of a regular and recurring nature, and are received by the household or its members at annual or more frequent intervals. It includes regular receipts from employment own business and from the lending of assets. It also includes transfer income from government, private institutions and other households. Income also includes the value of services provided from within the household via the use of an owner-occupied dwelling, other consumer durables owned by the household and unpaid household work. Income excludes capital receipts that are considered to be an addition to stocks, and receipts derived from the running down of assets or from the incurrence of a liability. It also excludes intra-household transfers.”*

Townsend (1979; 1993) has argued that broad definitions of income should be used, particularly if international comparisons are to be made. It is crucial, when comparing individual or household incomes of people in different countries, that account is taken of the value of government services in, for example, the fields of health, education and transport (Evandrou *et al*, 1992). Unfortunately, many economic studies of poverty use relatively narrow definitions of income such as wages and salaries or business income. International comparisons based on narrow definitions of this kind can be misleading and of only limited use.

(Source: Gordon, D. and Spicker, P. 1998, *The International Poverty Glossary*. Zed Books, in press)



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## Chapter 3

### Gender and Poverty in the New *Breadline Britain* Survey

Sarah Payne and Christina Pantazis

*Breadline Britain in the 1990s* included a chapter which focused specifically on the relationship between gender and poverty and explored the extent to which the data collected had helped to measure the different experience of poverty and deprivation for men and women (Payne and Pantazis, 1997). We were able to look at current and life-long experience of poverty, for each sex, and also at the ways in which perceptions of necessities differed for each sex. (See also Chapter 8 of this volume which deals with the results of the group discussions relating to gender poverty).

The results were interesting. The question on history of poverty and present experience of poverty revealed that women were more likely to report themselves as having experienced poverty in the past and also that more women than men reported themselves as poor at the time of the survey. However, these were questions relying on self-reporting of being poor, rather than poverty measured using the *Breadline Britain* index.

The questions concerning items seen as necessities found that there were significant differences between men and women in the perception of what is seen as necessary in modern Britain. Women were more likely than men to see as necessities items which related to their childcare and domestic responsibilities, whilst men were more likely than women to see as necessities items which related more to leisure and to luxury goods.

The most obvious gap in the 1990 Survey, as a result of the methodology adopted, is that the data on levels of poverty experienced, measured by the index on necessities, refers to households and not to individuals and this remains restricted by what Pahl (1989) has described as the economists 'black box' vision of intra-household behaviour. We know whether a household is 'poor', using this measure, but not whether people within the household suffer different levels of deprivation. However, research which has unpacked the 'black box' suggests that assumptions of inequality within the household are false and failing to go beyond the household as the level of investigation prevents an exploration of these inequalities (Land, 1983; Pahl, 1989; Wilson, 1987; Brannen and Wilson, 1991). Food, in particular, has been shown to be shared unequally within households, where resources are constrained (Charles and Kerr, 1987; Graham, 1993). Women report not heating a home while they are on their own, especially during the day (Craig and Glendinning, 1990). Private transport is more frequently used by men than their partners (Payne, 1991).

Going back to the *Breadline Britain* questions, this problem mainly relates to Q11 (old survey) where the respondent is asked to say whether they have a list of items, with four different shuffleboard responses possible. However, looking at these items shows that in fact the list includes a mixture of items which are household items and which could not sensibly be asked of each individual - the refrigerator, for example, is not owned by an individual but shared within the household and we do not need to worry about differences within the household. A number of other items - two meals a day, for example, or a warm waterproof coat - are more obviously individually

consumed. In the original wording of Q11, there is no mention of who the respondent is answering for - if three out of four people in the household have a warm coat, is the answer yes or no? Whilst it is likely that respondents thought of their own experience, this may not be true either for every respondent or even for the same respondent throughout the questionnaire. Thus, a respondent might switch from talking about herself (in relation to the coat, for example), her children (in relation to new clothes) and her partner, in relation to the questions on food.

In the next *Breadline Britain* survey, the question can be phrased so as to make it clear that the respondent is to give her or his own experiences, rather than think of others within the household. It may be simpler to re-order the list so as to divide them into 'individually consumed' and 'shared' items. Two questionnaires will be used where the initial respondent has a partner and this means that in each case it can be clear that the questionnaire is asking about their own experience.

In addition, the question of car ownership and car use requires a slightly different approach, as the way in which a car is shared in the household is complex. Research shows that women are less likely to have access to private cars even within car-owning households. For some women, this is because of not having a driving licence but this applies more often to older women. Amongst younger age groups, a greater proportion of whom can drive, the car is less often available to them at times when they may want to use it because the car is used by their partner for travelling to work. It is availability of private transport when it is required that allows participation in social activities and leisure but also which enables some childcare and domestic work to be carried out more easily. In the next survey it is this availability which should be stressed and, although the original question on having a car should be retained, a further question inserted later asks about access to a car to develop this point.

However, there are further gender differences in the experience and impact of poverty. The central issue seems to be that survey methods used to date have been largely unsuccessful in capturing differences in the intra-household experience of poverty which have been demonstrated by qualitative research such as the work of Pahl (1989). There are three main areas of difficulty. The first - that men and women seem to have a different understanding of poverty and of the things which are necessary to avoid poverty - has been discussed above and follows on from the 1990 study.

The second difficulty relates to household division of financial resources. Some men seem to find it difficult to recognise that they have personal spending money or that things are bought by their partner which are for the man's personal use. Men often see money which their partner spends on the children as being the woman's own personal spending money. In addition, research has demonstrated an important difference between responsibility for managing resources when funds are short, which is more often women's responsibility within the household. Conversely, when resources are less constrained, it is more often men who have power to decide on purchasing. In order to study this in more depth, a new set of questions have been developed which focus on household divisions of money and responsibility for money and these will be included in the second, shorter, questionnaire for 'partners'.

The third element of this gendered experience is that women and men may each behave differently in times of shortage and women in particular may be more likely to go without certain necessities in order that the household's needs are met. Rather than complicate the question on necessities early in

the study with further detail about this, a new set of questions have been devised which ask respondents to indicate which out of a list of key times they would go without if money was tight and which they could least do without. Respondents are also asked which of these items they have gone without recently (see Chapter 9). By asking this of both respondents in a two-person household, we can explore the gendered differences in what is given up in order to make ends meet.

There remains a difficulty in that it can be hard to unpick these differences when partners are interviewed together and the problem will be to try and interview respondents separately wherever possible. One suggestion which has been used successfully in other surveys is that interviewers could work in pairs. In this way, they can often get both interviews done at the same time in different rooms.

The 1990 Survey also included a question on provisions of an occupational pension but this could not be used in the analysis of gender differences due to the wording of the original question. Pension provision is a vital aspect of poverty risks in old age and women are less likely to have such provision on their own account (Joshi and Davies, 1992). This increases women's financial dependence on their partners and increases women's risks of poverty in old age both as a result of relationship breakdown or where their partner's pension turns out to be inadequate. The question on occupational pension in the new survey has been altered to ask about the respondent's own pension provision and their partner's pension provision but remains quite straightforward.

Finally, in order to be able to measure the numbers of men and women, as opposed to households of different kinds, living in poverty as measured by the *Breadline Britain* index, we need to extend the demographic questions at the end of the survey. In the earlier version, the demographic questions focused on household type but information was not collected on number of male and female adults in each household. Such information would allow comparison on the data from this survey with others and would allow estimates of the proportion of adult women and men nationally living in circumstances of poverty.

In conclusion, it is important to remember that this survey is not an ideal tool for measuring women's experience of poverty and deprivation and the ways in which this might differ from men's experiences, as this would require more complex questions. However, fairly simple changes to the existing questionnaire would facilitate greater comparison with other surveys, both here and abroad, while retaining comparability with the 1990 version.

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## Chapter 4

### Poverty and Mental Health in the *Breadline Britain* Survey

Sarah Payne

The 1990 *Breadline Britain* survey asked a number of questions on mental health and poverty and these were analysed in the final report and the version published by Avebury. These questions should be repeated in the new survey with some additions, for reasons outlined below.

There is increasing evidence of an association between poor mental health and the experience of poverty and deprivation whether at the individual level or the ecological level (Burgess *et al*, 1992; Jarman, 1992; Kammerling and O'Connor, 1993). There is also a growing body of literature exploring the association between suicide, parasuicide and deprivation (Gunnell *et al*, 1995; Congdon, 1996). Less research has been carried out which looks more specifically at what might be termed social exclusion, although there are significant pieces of work around the experience of various forms of discrimination and, in particular, racism and sexism (Fernando, 1995; Littlewood and Lipsedge, 1988; Miles, 1988; Ussher, 1991).

One of the difficulties in the research has long been the issue of 'drift'. This theory suggests that the greater proportion of psychiatric admissions from poorer areas and higher levels of observed psychiatric symptoms is the result of inward migration which is prompted by poor mental health, either due to decreasing income or to 'disintegration' which means that people with mental health problems are attracted to such areas. Increasingly, research has focused on multi-factorial explanations which accepts the possibility of some drift (Muijen and Brooking, 1989), whilst also acknowledging that, particularly at the lower levels of symptomology, drift is less likely to occur.

The relationship between poverty, deprivation and mental health will always be a complex one to explore using survey data, due to the difficulties over the measurement of mental health/mental illness. The 1990 Survey used questions on mental health which were based on the respondent's own perceptions of their mental health and the impact of poverty. The value of this approach is that it avoids clinicians' definitions of mental health - self-perceived mental ill-health is a good reflection of how people view their mental health and the way this is affected by living circumstances and the experience of exclusion. Self-assessment also avoids problems of bias in psychiatric models of mental health (for example, there is some question over the high levels of psychiatric admission with diagnoses of schizophrenia amongst young Afro-Caribbean men).

The negative aspect of the 'self-assessment' question is that the stigma associated with mental ill-health may result in an under-reporting of mental illness. However, the 1990 *Breadline Britain* survey did not ask about all mental health problems but only those seen, by the respondent, as being caused by poverty/deprivation - this may have encouraged greater reporting, though it is hard to say.

We ran a test of the reliability of Q18, used in the 1990 version of the survey, which asked the respondent whether they had experienced a range of effects as a result of being poor. The reliability test used - Cronbach's Coefficient Alpha - gave an overall coefficient alpha score of 0.7564, which

indicates a high degree of reliability for these questions. Individually, the questions had the following scores:

**Table 4.1: Reliability analysis on personal difficulties question (Q18) from the 1990 *Breadline Britain* survey**

	Scale Mean if Item Deleted	Corrected Item Total Correlation	Alpha if Item Deleted
Being depressed	.4778	.5393	.6878
Relations with friends	.6108	.3775	.7242
Relations with family	.5914	.4261	.7132
Being bored	.5093	.3300	.7371
Feeling looked down on	.5937	.5121	.7010
Feeling a failure	.5787	.5067	.6976
Lack of hope	.5273	.4511	.7064
Letting down family	.5573	.4414	.7075

Overall Coefficient alpha = 0.7564

However, the original question from 1990 could be shortened to two basic questions relating to self-report of depression and/or isolation due to lack of money. The essential elements in this question are the self-reported nature and also that the respondent attributed these problems to lack of money.

To add to this measurement, however, it would be valuable to include a measure which is not based on self-report. Using one of the standardised interview schedules devised by clinicians, would strengthen the analysis of this area of the survey. Such a schedule would also enable comparison with other studies and other groups. One approach is to use the short version of the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ) which has a good pedigree and has been tested on a number of occasions (Goldberg and Williams, 1988; Goldberg *et al*, 1997). The Short GHQ (GHQ 12) has been used in the Health Survey for England (1995) which gives a good benchmark comparison sample. It has also been used by other studies, including the Avon-based ALSPAC study which follows parents of children born in 1991-92, has valuable socio-demographic data, material on deprivation and had an original sample of around 14,000. With the GHQ 12, a threshold score of 4 or more will be used to identify respondents with a possible psychiatric disorder (See Appendix to this Chapter).

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## Appendix to Chapter 4

### Short General Health Questionnaire (GHQ 12)

Have you recently?

1. Been able to concentrate on what you're doing?	Better than usual	Same as usual	Less than usual	Much less than usual
2. Lost much sleep over worry?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
3. Felt you were playing a useful part in things?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less useful than usual	Much less useful
4. Felt capable of making decisions about things?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less capable
5. Felt constantly under strain?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
6. Felt you couldn't overcome your difficulties?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
7. Been able to enjoy your normal day-to-day activities?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less than usual
8. Been able to face up to your problems?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less able
9. Been feeling unhappy and depressed?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
10. Been losing confidence in yourself?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
11. Been thinking of yourself as a worthless person?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
12. Been feeling reasonably happy, all things considered	More so than usual	About same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less than usual;

## Chapter 5

### Crime and Fear of Crime

Christina Pantazis

As well as seeking to measure the extent and nature of poverty, the 1990 *Breadline Britain* survey attempted to establish the extent to which the damage to the lives of people living in poverty is compounded by social problems such as crime and fear of crime (Pantazis and Gordon, 1997). The view held by Mack and Lansley (1985) is that poor people suffer disproportionately from victimisation, as well from the effects of victimisation.

This idea has strong support from the 'new realist' criminologists who argue that poor people are the disproportionate victims of working class crime (Lea and Young, 1984). The development of the local victimisation survey as a method of tapping into the crimes committed against poor people, women, and ethnic minorities is one of the main ways the 'new realist' criminologists have sought to take inner city crime more seriously (Kinsey, 1984; Jones, Maclean and Young, 1986; Anderson *et al.*, 1990).

This view, that victimisation is concentrated amongst the poorest groups, is also shared by government policy-makers. The Department of the Environment's (DoE) Priority Estates Project of the late 1970s sought to reduce crime and fear of crime on disadvantaged council estates through improved management strategies (Foster and Hope, 1993). More recently, resolving the problems of crime and disorder on Britain's 'worst housing estates' is one of the priorities of the Social Exclusion Unit.

The 1990 *Breadline Britain* survey challenged this consensus on the relationship between poverty and victimisation. The data that was collected revealed that, whilst poor households experienced high rates of fear of crime, their levels of victimisation were not markedly dissimilar to the rest of the population. Further analyses of other data sets (e.g. the British Crime Survey and the General Household Survey) confirmed that poorer households do not experience disproportionately higher levels of crime. Indeed, the main victims of crime in poor areas were the better-off households rather than the poorer households and it has been suggested that previous studies examining the impact of poverty on victimisation may have suffered from the ecological fallacy e.g. that, since poor areas experience a high level of crime, that poor individuals must also suffer from a lot of crime (Pantazis and Gordon, 1998).

The questions on crime and fear of crime will be improved and extended in the new Survey, to include, for example, domestic violence and racial attacks. The new Survey will also reflect feminist criticisms of national victimisation surveys for their failure to capture the full experiences of women (Stanko, 1995). Of particular importance here, are incidents of harassment which are essentially sexual in nature. Although they may be sometimes considered trivial, most victims of harassment experience several of these incidents in any one year (Jones, Maclean and Young, 1986). The effect of such incidents, particularly the cumulative influence, is certain to exacerbate fear, apprehension and avoidance behaviour.

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## Chapter 6

### Area Deprivation

Christina Pantazis

The 1990 *Breadline Britain* survey included a small number of questions on area deprivation, such as whether respondents perceived their area to be dirty and unpleasant, whether it lacked pleasant and open spaces, and whether nearby houses were boarded up. These questions were subsequently analysed in the contexts of local services (Bramley, 1997) and mental health (Payne, 1997).

The importance of area deprivation has recently received heightened political emphasis with the setting up of the Social Exclusion Unit (SEU), which has emphasised the need to combat social exclusion on Britain's 'worst housing estates'. The SEU prioritises the need to resolve the problems of poor housing conditions, crime, disorder, as well as unemployment, community breakdown, poor health, educational underachievement and inadequate public transport and local services in deprived neighbourhoods (SEU, 1998).

The section on area deprivation will be expanded in the new Survey and efforts have been made to ensure greater compatibility with questions from other surveys. This task has been complicated by the fact that there exist two contrasting set of literatures: i) the urban/housing literature and ii) the criminological/victimological literature.

Housing surveys (e.g. the English House Condition Survey, the Survey of English Housing) have examined area deprivation by asking respondents about the condition of the neighbourhood and the environment. More recent sweeps of housing surveys have also examined problems arising directly from neighbours. For example, the Survey of English Housing (1995/96) examined a whole range of problems experienced by householders with their neighbours: e.g. noise, problems with cars, dogs, children, vandalism, racial attacks, drug dealing, violence, verbal abuse and disputes relating to gardens and boundaries.

In contrast, the criminological/victimological literature comments on the characteristics of the area in terms of 'incivilities' (e.g. racist attacks, drunks and tramps) and the effects that these 'incivilities' may have on fear of crime and indeed on crime itself. Much of the thinking on incivilities stems from the 'broken windows' thesis which was developed in the United States by Wilson and Kelling (1982) and which has the support of the present Home Secretary, Jack Straw. A high level of incivilities in an area is believed to influence levels of fear amongst residents, which can lead to avoidance behaviour (e.g. avoid going out at night, avoid walking down certain roads and avoid walking past certain types of people). Avoidance behaviour is considered to exacerbate crime in an area because property and people are left unguarded. Moreover, an area with a high level of incivilities indicates a lack of social cohesion and community involvement. Furthermore, it is this kind of thinking which has contributed to the recent 'zero tolerance' policing policies and practices in Kings Cross and other parts of the UK, such as Middlesborough (Fooks and Pantazis, forthcoming).

There is an additional issue at stake, when attempting harmonisation with other surveys, that is relevant to the consideration of area characteristics. Even if we are able to agree on a list of indicators to measure area deprivation or area incivilities (e.g. noise, graffiti), there are at least two ways in which we may ask respondents about them. Most surveys (e.g. the Survey of English Housing, the British Crime Survey) ask respondents how much of a problem are certain incidents, situations or people in their area. For example, respondents in the British Crime Survey are asked the following question: *Can you tell me how much of a problem are 'racist attacks' in your area?*

This type of questioning attempts to assess the extent to which the respondents perceive certain incidents (e.g. racial attacks) as a problem in their area. It is less concerned with ascertaining the frequency of racial attacks in the respondent's area. There exist other surveys (e.g. the British Social Attitudes Survey) that are more interested in establishing frequency. For instance, respondents are asked how common are certain types of people or incidents in their area. The new Survey will incorporate both methods. Respondents will be asked about their perceptions of certain situations (e.g. poor street lighting, lack of open public spaces) and the frequency of types of behaviour (e.g. begging) and types of incidents (e.g. racist attacks).

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## Chapter 7

### Social Exclusion in the New *Breadline Britain* Survey

Ruth Levitas

With the setting up of the Social Exclusion Unit (SEU) in December 1997, the question of social exclusion has become central to the social policies of the new Labour government. The SEU itself is initially concerned with truancy and school exclusions and their contribution to crime and with reducing the numbers of rough sleepers. It is also concerned with, for example, the exclusion of sections of the population from access to financial services such as banks. Exclusion is seen to afflict areas, rather than simply individuals. The guiding principle of the SEU is that the multi-dimensional problems of poverty and social exclusion (presumed to be connected but not identical) require co-ordinated policy initiatives. The remit of the unit also includes developing indicators of success in combating social exclusion. Over the coming years, establishing appropriate measures of social exclusion and monitoring their movement will be a key issue in social policy. If *Breadline Britain* is to address questions of poverty and disadvantage in this new context, it needs to relate them explicitly to the question of social exclusion.

The problems of operationalising social exclusion begin with the lack of a clear consensus as to its meaning. The term originated in France in the 1970s but, although it is now widely used within and beyond the European Union, there is no universally accepted definition either theoretically or operationally. There are a variety of overlapping national discourses about social exclusion and, often competing, versions within individual countries (SOSTRIS, 1997; Room, 1995). In Britain, it is possible to detect three competing discourses (Levitas, 1998; Silver, 1994). (See also Chapter 1 of this volume for definitions).

The first of these (RED) is a redistributive discourse developed in critical social policy over the last twenty years which emphasises the way in which poverty inhibits or prevents social participation or the exercise of full citizenship (Townsend, 1979; Lister, 1990, 1997; Walker and Walker, 1997). The term 'social exclusion' may be preferred to 'poverty' because it refers to a process rather than a state and because it captures the multi-dimensional character of social disadvantage. If poverty is the '*lack of material resources, especially income, necessary to participate in British society*', social exclusion '*refers to the dynamic process of being shut out, fully or partially, from any of the social, economic, political and cultural systems which determine the social integration of a person in society*' (Walker and Walker, 1997). If poverty is principally about the resources to which people (do not) have access, social exclusion is primarily about what they are (not) enabled to do. Within RED, poverty is seen as a key cause of social exclusion, although inequalities and discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity, (dis)ability and sexual orientation also contribute. Since poverty and social exclusion are partially (though not totally) analytically distinct, the degree of their connection can be established only through an independent measure of exclusion.

There are, however, two other discourses relating to social exclusion which differ both in their characterisation of social exclusion itself and in their assumptions about causation. While they might not dissent from the definition above, the emphasis is not upon the relationship between poverty and

social exclusion. In SID (or the social integrationist discourse), the emphasis is on social inclusion or integration through paid work. The emphasis on work in the 1998 Budget statement places it firmly within SID, while the same discourse can also be found in EU policy documents and elsewhere. The key indicator of inclusion/exclusion in this discourse is labour market attachment. SID narrows the focus to one dimension of exclusion, while glossing over the ways in which paid work may fail to prevent exclusion (by being, for example, poorly paid) or even cause it where long or asocial hours or the nature of the work itself block other forms of social participation. Moreover, in focusing on paid work, SID neglects the role of unpaid work.

The third discourse, MUD (moral underclass discourse) emphasises moral and cultural causes of poverty and is much concerned with the issue of dependency. The key indicator for MUD is that of the number or proportion of working-aged households with no-one in work (and this seems certain to be one of the indicators chosen by the SEU) because they are dependent on benefits. Others, notably Demos 1997/8, are pursuing the question of social exclusion through analysis of social networks and social capital.

A comprehensive measure of social exclusion and its causes is beyond the scope of a survey which must retain continuity with its earlier versions and which is primarily about poverty. However, many of the processes now described as social exclusion are implicitly or explicitly recognised in the *Breadline Britain* approach to poverty. Following the broad definition emerging from RED, it is clear that much of the existing information gathered in the *Breadline Britain* survey touches on social exclusion. Some questions can be expanded and others added to give at least a minimal indication of participation in social, economic, cultural and political systems. Moreover, much of the information on labour market attachment and workless households is already gathered in the *Breadline Britain* survey, facilitating a comparison between the three perspectives.

It is difficult to justify a specification of the nature and types of participation deemed necessary for 'inclusion' at any given time and place, just as it is for the level and quality of material resources deemed minimally sufficient. A further merit of incorporating social exclusion into the *Breadline Britain* survey is that it simultaneously offers an opportunity to establish what forms of participation are (un)available to individuals and families and how much consensus there is about the importance of different dimensions of exclusion. The shuffleboard questions may also be developed to explore the contribution of different factors to social exclusion, by looking at the role of poverty, participation in paid and unpaid work - and relating these to the greater sensitivity to questions of gender being developed in the new survey.

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## Chapter 8

### Revising the *Breadline Britain* Questions: Relevant Findings from the Group Discussions

Sue Middleton

#### Background

The Centre for Research in Social Policy (CRSP) has undertaken a series of group discussions as part of the development phase for a new survey of poverty and social exclusion in Britain. The groups took place in two phases and participants in each group are described in Table 8.1. Five of the ten groups in the first phase were held in Leicester and the remaining five in Winchester. This was to ensure that differences in the circumstances of people living in urban and rural areas could be taken into account. In the second phase of the research, each of the three groups were mixed in terms of: the family characteristics in Phase 1; sex; and socio-economic group. The aim was to explore whether agreement could be reached about necessities among people in widely differing circumstances.

**Table 8.1: Group discussions**

	Phase 1					Phase 2
	Pensioners	Lone Parents	Couples with Children	Couples without Children	Single	Mixed
Midlands	1	1	1	1	1	3
South	1	1	1	1	1	

Participants were professionally recruited and completed the following instrumentation prior to attending their group discussion:

1. a recruitment questionnaire to collect basic demographic information about the participant and their household;
2. a self-completion diary of items consumed, kept for one week;
3. a self-completion inventory of clothes, furniture and other household equipment.

The main aim of the diary and inventory was to encourage participants to begin to consider their own living standards, so that they could negotiate in the groups on the basis of detailed knowledge.

The groups covered a wide range of topics relating to poverty and social exclusion. A full report of the discussions will be produced at a later date and will also be used to complement reports on the

survey data, if it is commissioned. This short report concentrates on findings relevant to the development of the questionnaire.

### Method in Group Discussions

In the first phase of the research (ten groups), participants negotiated and agreed lists of items, activities and facilities which all adults in Britain should be able to have and should not have to go without. Once the lists were complete, the groups were asked to consider whether all items are of equal importance in avoiding poverty or whether some are more important than others. Nine of the first phase groups (80 participants), also completed the first part of the socially perceived necessities question from the previous *Breadline Britain* questionnaire by indicating whether items are necessary or desirable. This was followed by a discussion of items included in the list which should not be there and items not included in the list which should be there. The first phase groups also discussed the dimensions of time and gender in relation to poverty in general terms.

Prior to the second phase of the research (three groups), the list of socially approved necessities was amended to include items which had emerged as strong priorities in the first phase. The second phase groups also discussed the length of time for which households and individuals could go without each item without slipping into poverty and whether more women or children were more likely to go without each individual item.

### Socially Perceived Necessities - Adults

The table below lists existing and suggested new necessities (including some proposals from David Gordon). All new items are in italics and items for deletion or amendment are in upper case. The list has been divided into household and individual necessities (second column) which will be necessary if a questionnaire is to be administered to more than one member of a household. It has also been divided into 'food, clothes, housing', 'furniture and equipment' and social items (although the ordering of these will need to be considered prior to completion of the questionnaire). The first column indicates the length of time for which most participants thought it was acceptable for each item to be gone without and relates to the follow-up question to be asked of those who do not have each item.

<b>Food:</b>	TIME	I or H
Two meals a day	A	I
<i>One good meal and two snacks every day</i>	A	I
Meat or fish or CHEESE every other day	A	I
<i>Fresh fruit or fresh vegetables every day</i>	A	I
A ROAST JOINT OR ITS VEGETARIAN EQUIVALENT ONCE A WEEK		
A PACKET OF CIGARETTES EVERY OTHER DAY		
<b>Clothes:</b>		
A DRESSING GOWN		

Two pairs of all weather shoes	W	I
New, not second hand, clothes	M	I
A warm waterproof coat	A	I
A "BEST OUTFIT" FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS		I
<i>An outfit to wear for social or family occasions, such as parties or weddings</i>	M	I
<i>Appropriate clothes to wear for job interviews</i>	A	I
<b>Housing:</b>		
Heating to warm living areas of the home if it is cold	A	H
Indoor toilet, not shared with another household	A	H
Bath, not shared with another household	A	H
Damp-free home	A	H
<b>Furniture and Equipment:</b>		
Carpets in living rooms and bedrooms in the home	M	H
BEDS FOR EVERYONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD		
<i>Mattresses and bedding for everyone in the household</i>	A	H
A television	M	H
Telephone	W	H
Refrigerator	W	H
A car	Y	I
<i>Access to public transport</i>	A	I
A washing machine	A	H
<i>Replacing any worn out furniture</i>	M	H
<i>Replace or repair broken electrical goods such as refrigerator or washing machine</i>	W	H
<b>Leisure and Social</b>		
<i>Access to a garden or park</i>	M	H
A night out once a fortnight	M	I
A hobby or leisure activity	M	I
A holiday away from home for one week a year, not with relatives	Y	I
Celebrations on special occasions such as Christmas	M	I
Presents for friends or family once a year	M	I
<i>Visits to friends and/or family once a week</i>	M	I
Friends/family round for a SNACK once a WEEK	M	I
<i>Going to the pub once a fortnight</i>	M	I
<i>Having a daily newspaper</i>	W	I
<i>A small amount of money each week to spend on yourself, not on the family</i>	M	I
<b>Health:</b>		

## Amendments to the List

### Food

#### *'Two meals a day'*

Groups proposed that 'Two meals a day' should be replaced with 'One good meal and two snacks every day'. Two meals a day suggested two large cooked meals which participants felt was not part of the British lifestyle nowadays. However, this is difficult to operationalise because of variations in understanding of 'snack'. Most participants meant breakfast and a sandwich or something similar. However, 'Breakfast, one good meal and a snack' might be open to too much misinterpretation - do we mean a traditional cooked breakfast, for example?

#### *'Fresh fruit or fresh vegetables every day'*

Participants were unanimous in including this item. Health education messages are obviously reaching their target!

#### *'A roast joint or its vegetarian equivalent once a week'*

It was suggested that this item should be deleted as it was considered to be irrelevant in people's lives today.

#### *'Cigarettes'*

The groups reached almost unanimous agreement that this should be excluded.

### Clothes

#### *'A best outfit for special occasions'*

This was thought to be either unnecessary or wrongly worded. It conjured up for participants Victorian images of children in sailor suits. Two alternatives emerged: one related to the need to have appropriate clothing to participate socially, 'An outfit to wear for social or family occasions such as parties or weddings'; and the other to allow people to have the best opportunity of securing work: 'Appropriate clothes to wear for job interviews'.

#### *'A dressing gown'*

This was only felt to be essential by older women. All other participants felt that it should be excluded from the list.

### Furniture and Equipment

#### *'Beds for everyone in the household'*

This should be replaced by 'mattresses and bedding for everyone in the household'. The justification was that 'beds' are not necessary - a mattress on the floor is adequate. However, sheets, pillows, quilts or blankets are necessary for hygiene and health.

***'A car'***

Access to some form of transport was agreed to be essential. However, most participants in Leicester felt that a car was not essential - access to public transport was sufficient. In Winchester, a car was considered to be essential largely because of the relative lack of public transport in the rural areas. Operationalising this is difficult. Including 'access to public transport' is likely to cause confusion when people try to answer the 'don't have' questions because the main reason is likely to be 'don't have, doesn't exist', rather than 'don't have, can't afford'. It is suggested that a car is left in and that the issue of transport is explored further through David Gordon's new questions (with amendments - see further below).

***'Replacing any worn out furniture'***

This is an important addition to the list (and emerged as important in the groups), along with a further indicator which I am proposing (also arising from the groups):

***'Replace or repair broken electrical goods such as refrigerator or washing machine'***

One of the central thrusts of discussions about poverty in the groups (confirming the findings of other qualitative research, Dobson, *et al*, 1994; Kempson, 1996) was that being poor means never having any money left over to meet emergencies such as broken washing machines and often having to make choices between, for example, paying bills and buying food. The problem with being poor over a long period is having no money to replace things as they become worn out. (See below for further suggestions about exploring this).

**Leisure and Social**

***'Access to a garden or park'***

This was felt to be essential for every individual's mental health and well-being - not simply for families with children.

***'Friends or family round for a meal once a month' and 'Visits to friends family once a week'***

Contact with friends and family was emphasised throughout all the discussions of necessities as being vital to survival. Being able to afford to visit friends and relatives was at least as important as friends and relatives coming to visit. Most participants suggested that 'friends/family round for a meal once a month' is not how most people live their lives - the provision of a cup of tea and a snack more regularly is more relevant and important.

***'A hobby or leisure activity'***

Although we should keep this indicator, participants were concerned that it is too general. However, in further discussions men and women could not agree on a more specific indicator. This is central to

the exploration of gender poverty (see further below). Two of David's suggested additional indicators provide a partial solution to this problem:

***'Going to the pub once a week' and 'A daily newspaper'***

Evidence from the group discussions and discussions with Jackie Goode and Ruth Lister suggest that these two indicators are good for measuring male exclusion. It is more difficult to find indicators for women who seem to define poverty/social exclusion much more in terms of their children. ***'A small amount of money each week to spend on yourself, not on the family'*** seems to be in poorer households what women do not have and men do.

***'All medicines prescribed by your doctor'***

Access to healthcare was one of the priorities in all of the group discussions. As prescription charges continue to rise it would be worth including this indicator. Obviously some respondents will be exempt but analysis could allow for this.

**Time**

The key to the letters in the column is as follows:

- A necessary for people to have all through their lives
- W it wouldn't matter if people went without for a week or two but no longer
- M it wouldn't matter if people went without for a month or two but no longer
- Y it wouldn't matter if people went without for a year or two but no longer

In subsequent discussions with the research team, it was agreed that following-up each item which respondents do not have with a question about the length of time gone without would be too time consuming. It is suggested that we follow up those items marked A which respondents say they go without (necessary for people to have all through their lives) with a question about how long they have been without the item.

**Socially Perceived Necessities - Children**

The children's index, drawn from the *Small Fortunes* survey, was completed by all the groups with children (Middleton *et al*, 1997). Items which participants felt could be removed are in upper case. Items which can be removed because they are covered in the household list are in italics.

Three meals a day
Toys (e.g. dolls, play figures, teddies, etc.)
Leisure equipment (e.g. sports equipment or a bicycle)
Enough bedrooms for every child over 10 of different sex to have his/her own bedroom
<i>A garden to play in</i>
Some new, not second-hand or handed on, clothes



A carpet in their bedroom
A hobby or leisure activity
A holiday away from home at least one week a year with her/his family
Celebrations on special occasions such as Christmas/birthday
COMPUTER GAMES
A 'BEST OUTFIT' FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS
A warm coat
A waterproof coat
<i>A bed and mattress to her/himself</i>
Books of her/his own
A bike, new or second hand
Construction toys such as Duplo or Lego
Educational games
<i>A television set in the home</i>
New, properly fitted shoes
At least seven pairs of new underpants
At least four jumpers, cardigans or sweatshirts
All the school uniform required by the school
At least four pairs of trousers, leggings, jeans or jogging bottoms
Swimming at least once a month
Play group at least once a week for pre-school aged children
Going on a school trip at least once a term for school aged children
At least 50 pence week to spend on sweets
Meat, fish or cheese at least twice a day
Fresh fruit at least once a day
Friends round for tea or a snack once a fortnight
COMPUTER SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL WORK

The questions to be asked are similar to the adult variant:

*'On these cards are a number of different items which relate to children's standard of living. Please would you indicate by placing the cards in the appropriate box the living standards you feel all children should have in Britain today? BOX A is for items which you think are necessary which all children should be able to have and which they should not have to do without. BOX B is for items which it may be desirable for children to have but are not necessary.'*

Follow up is similar to the four adult categories: Child(ren) have and couldn't do without, child(ren) have and could do without, child(ren) don't have but don't want, child(ren) don't have because you can't afford.

In *Small Fortunes*, the question related only to the one individual child which was the subject of the survey. However, there is no difficulty with asking it generally about children in the household.

## **Gender Poverty**

### **Background**

There are difficulties in 'unpacking the black box' of intra-household differences in the experience of poverty and social exclusion, particularly between men and women (see, for example, Cantillon and Nolan, 1998 and Chapter 3, this volume). In addition to exploring the group discussions transcripts and returning to some of the earlier literature and questionnaires, discussions have been held with Jackie Goode and Ruth Lister, (Goode *et al*, 1998).

The central issue is that survey methods used to date have been largely unsuccessful in capturing differences in the intra-household experience of poverty which have been demonstrated by qualitative research. There are three main areas of difficulty: first, men and women seem to have a different understanding of poverty and of the things which are necessary to avoid poverty; second, some men seem to find it difficult to recognise that they have personal spending money, or their partner buys things which are for the man's personal use but which are not classed as 'personal' expenditure. Men often see money which their partner spends on the children as being the woman's own personal spending money. Third, it is almost impossible to unpick these differences when partners are interviewed together.

### **Individual questionnaires**

It is proposed that the new survey will include a second, shorter, questionnaire for 'partners'. The problem will be to try and interview respondents separately wherever possible. One suggestion which has been made, which has been used successfully in other surveys, is that interviewers could work in pairs. In this way they can often get both interviews done at the same time in different rooms.

### **Possible questions**

There are a number of ways of assessing financial management strategies within households. The first and simplest might be to ask:

*Who has the main responsibility for making ends meet in your household/family?*

*Partner - male*

*Partner - female*

*Equal responsibility*

*Other*

The preferred alternative would be to use the question from the SCEL I study:

*People organise their household finances in different ways. Which of the methods on this card comes closest to the way in which you organise yours? It doesn't have to fit exactly - you should choose the nearest one.*

*I look after all the household's money except my partner's personal spending money.*

*My partner looks after all the household's money except my personal spending money.*

*I am given a housekeeping allowance. My partner looks after the rest of the money.*

*My partner is given a housekeeping allowance. I look after the rest of the money.*

*We share and manage our household finances jointly.*

*We keep our finances completely separate.*

*Other (write in)*

The following suite of questions are suggested to explore differences in living standards between men and women:

*Which of the things on this list do you personally go without when money is tight? (READ OUT. CODE ALL THAT APPLY)*

*Clothes*

*Shoes*

*Cigarettes*

*Alcohol*

*Food*

*Occasional nights out with friends*

*Spending on a hobby or sport*

*Visits to the pub*

*A holiday*

*Never go without*

*Money never tight*

*Which of the things on this list would you personally find really difficult to give up even if money was tight? ( READ OUT. CODE ALL THAT APPLY)*

*Clothes*

*Shoes*

*Cigarettes*

*Alcohol*

*Food*

*Occasional nights out with friends*

*Spending on a hobby or sport*

*Visits to the pub*

*A holiday*

*Never go without  
Money never tight*

*And could you tell me HOW OFTEN you personally have gone without each of these things in the last year because of shortage of money? READ OUT.*

	<i>All year</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Never</i>
<i>Clothes</i>				
<i>Shoes</i>				
<i>Occasional nights out with friends</i>				
<i>Cigarettes</i>				
<i>Alcohol</i>				
<i>Food</i>				
<i>A hobby or sport</i>				
<i>Visits to the pub</i>				
<i>A holiday</i>				

**ASK IF PARTNER LIVES IN HOUSEHOLD**

*And what about your partner, how often has he/she gone without each of these things in the last year because of shortage of money? READ OUT.*

	<i>All year</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Never</i>
<i>Clothes</i>				
<i>Shoes</i>				
<i>Occasional nights out with friends</i>				
<i>Alcohol</i>				
<i>Cigarettes</i>				
<i>Food</i>				
<i>A hobby or sport</i>				
<i>Visits to the pub</i>				
<i>A holiday</i>				

*And what about your child(ren), how often has he/she/they gone without each of these things in the last year because of shortage of money? READ OUT.*

	<i>All year</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Never</i>
<i>Clothes</i>				
<i>Shoes</i>				
<i>Food</i>				
<i>A hobby or sport</i>				
<i>School trips or holidays</i>				
<i>A holiday not with school</i>				

*How often do you go out in the evenings without your partner on average?*

- Every evening*
- At least two or three times a week*
- Once a week*
- Once a fortnight*
- Once a month*
- Once every two or three months*
- Once every six months*
- Once a year*
- Less than that*
- Never*

#### ***IF EVER GOES OUT ALONE***

*And when you go out without your partner what do you do? (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY)*

- Visit friends/relatives*
- Go to the pub alone*
- Go to the pub with friends/relatives*
- Take the children out somewhere*
- Go to a social club/community centre*
- Go to the cinema/theatre*
- Go to a restaurant/cafe*
- Go to a night-club*
- Go to child's school*
- Go to church/temple/mosque/synagogue/other religious*
- Go to night school/hobby*
- Go to watch sport*
- Go to play sport*

#### **Absolute and Overall Poverty**

One of the aims of the development phase for the survey was to explore further the operationalisation of the United Nations definition of absolute and overall poverty. The questions developed by Jonathan Bradshaw, Peter Townsend and David Gordon were completed in all except one of the 13 group discussions (103 people). Participants were asked to complete the instrument quite early in the discussion, usually following an introductory discussion of poverty in Britain. In the first phase of the groups the instrument used was as follows:

*The United Nations and the Government of 117 countries wish to prepare national plans to get rid of poverty. They have agreed that poverty can be defined in two ways: absolute poverty and overall poverty. The definition of absolute and overall poverty are given on the next page - please read them to yourself then answer the questions below.*

**B1** *How many pounds a week, after tax, do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in, out of ABSOLUTE poverty?*

£  per week

**B2** *How far above or below that level would you say your household is? Please tick one box only*

*A lot above that level of income*

*A little above*

*About the same*

*A little below*

*A lot below that level of income*

*Don't know*

**B3** *How many pounds a week, after tax, do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in, out of OVERALL poverty?*

£  per week

**B4** *How far above or below that level would you say your household is? Please tick one box only*

*A lot above that level of income*

*A little above*

*About the same*

*A little below*

*A lot below that level of income*

*Don't know*

### **ABSOLUTE POVERTY**

*Absolute poverty means being so poor that you are deprived of basic human needs. In order to **avoid** ABSOLUTE poverty, you need enough money to cover all these things:*

- 1. adequate diet*
- 2. housing costs/rent;*
- 3. water bills;*
- 4. adequate sanitation facilities (sewage disposal, flushing toilet, etc.);*
- 5. access to clean water;*
- 6. access to basic health care;*
- 7. access to education/schooling.*

## **OVERALL POVERTY**

*In order to avoid OVERALL poverty, you need to have enough money not only to cover all things mentioned in the ABSOLUTE poverty list above, but enough money to ensure that you are able to:*

1. *live in a safe environment/area;*
2. *have a social life in your local area;*
3. *feel part of the local community carry out your duties/activities in the family and neighbourhood, and at work;*
4. *meet essential costs of transport.*

### **The Definitions**

In general, participants felt that the definitions were good. Most interpreted the definitions 'correctly', that is, the overall poverty line was seen as representing a higher standard of living than the absolute poverty line. However, there was disagreement about which of the definitions had relevance for Britain. Some groups identified the absolute poverty definition with 'third world' poverty which did not happen here, whereas overall poverty was recognised as occurring in Britain. It was said that absolute poverty is 'not allowed' to occur in Britain because of State intervention. This was particularly so in two of the groups, each of which included one person who had lived and worked in Africa. Participants in the Winchester groups were also less likely to accept that absolute poverty exists in Britain, particularly in their area. Other groups felt that the definition was very relevant to Britain. For some groups the absolute definition represented those who are at the 'bottom of the pile' and who have little hope of 'bettering themselves'. Overall poverty is a stage at which people have a chance of moving out of poverty altogether. One group, the Leicester lone parents, saw absolute poverty as how they were living at the moment and overall as how they would like to be able to live.

Participants identified some elements as missing from the absolute definition. All groups said that clothing and heating had to be added to the list in order for people in Britain to avoid absolute poverty.

The majority of groups felt that meeting the essential costs of transport should be moved from the overall to the absolute definition. Absolute poverty could not be avoided if people were unable to get to shops to buy food, to doctors and hospitals for healthcare and to schools and colleges for education.

Overall poverty was described variously as 'allowing people a life rather than just an existence'; 'giving more than just survival'; and 'social poverty'. The ability to keep in contact with friends and relatives was felt to be the crucial element of this definition. (This emphasis on the importance of friends and relatives emerged throughout the discussions.) People were less sure about 'having a social life in your local area', particularly if this meant 'being able to go down the pub every night'. Despite not considering themselves as living in overall poverty, many of the Leicester participants in particular felt that they did not have a social life in their local area, which they interpreted as referring

to the specific neighbourhood in which they lived rather than the City as a whole. For some, this was because they had little contact with neighbours or because there was said to be no social life in their area. Others referred to the need for a social life as a matter of personal choice which not everyone wanted. The part of the definition referring to 'feeling part of the local community' seemed to have no resonance whatsoever. People did not understand what it meant and it formed no part of their thinking in setting the poverty lines.

Participants differed in their interpretation of 'living in an area where you feel safe'. Some thought that this meant living in an area which was free from crime or where people could go out without fearing crime. This was particularly strong for people who had themselves experienced crime (burglary, mugging, vandalism) or who feared that they would be the victims of crime. However, some participants defined 'safety' as freedom from war or natural disasters such as earthquakes. For others, safety meant living in houses which were structurally sound and had 'safe' gas and electricity supplies.

### **Answering the Questions**

It took most respondents a long time to complete these questions, an average of approximately five minutes. Their difficulties arose for three main reasons. First, and crucial was the difficulty of dealing with housing costs. Some respondents simply included their current housing costs. Others were unsure about this, saying that they would not be able to afford their current housing if they were simply avoiding absolute poverty. Participants who felt that they did not live in an area where they felt safe were unsure whether to include the costs of being able to move to a safe area in their overall poverty line. Those who owned their homes outright, mainly retired participants, discussed whether they should include elements for notional 'rent' and maintenance.

Second, the approach to answering the questions differed. Some simply worked out approximately what their current outgoings were and either equated this with avoiding absolute poverty or reduced the amount by a sum which they felt represented 'luxury' spending in their budgets. Debates developed about whether the costs of insurance, running a car and buying food at the more expensive supermarkets should be included. Others admitted to simply plucking a figure out of the air. A few who were on Income Support or who had a good idea of current benefit levels for families like theirs used these amounts. They focused on the difficulty of allowing sufficient for the 'unexpected' such as the washing machine breaking down. In setting the overall poverty line, most simply added a sum to the absolute poverty line with very little thought about the amount or how it was made up.

Finally, those who tried to work out their current outgoings before answering the question found it difficult to come up with weekly or monthly figures for infrequent expenditure such as on clothing or water rates.

### **Analysis of Responses**



The number of respondents who either did not or could not complete the four questions is shown below. Non-response, whilst low, apparently increased as they worked through the questions.

**Table 8.2: Non-response**

	N
B1 (Absolute Poverty Line)	4
B2 (Own Income in relation to B1)	7
B3 (Overall Poverty Line)	11
B4 (Own Income in relation to B3)	15

A comparison of responses to the absolute and overall poverty line questions shows that most responses were in the anticipated direction, that is with the overall poverty line set higher than the absolute. However, a small but significant minority of respondents either set the absolute and overall lines at an equal figure or set the absolute poverty line at a level above the overall.

**Table 8.3: Comparison of absolute and overall poverty lines**

	N	%
Absolute less than overall	80	85
Absolute equal to overall	9	10
Absolute greater than overall	5	5

### **Recommendation for Questionnaire/Piloting**

In amending the questions, I have tried to reach a compromise between needing to keep a standard definition which could be used in other countries and producing questions which respondents are able to answer more easily and, hopefully, more meaningfully. Adequate sanitation facilities and access to clean water have been excluded from the absolute definition since we can assume that everyone in Britain has these and would not be able to put a cost on them. Clothing, heating and transport have been added. 'Feel part of the local community' has been excluded from the overall definition.

### ***Revised Question***

*'Poverty is sometimes divided into two types: absolute and overall poverty.'*

*In order to keep you and your family out of absolute poverty you need to have adequate housing, food, water, clothing, heating, lighting, cooking facilities, basic health care, access to education/schooling and to transport.*

1 *Ignoring housing costs, how many pounds a week do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in out of ABSOLUTE poverty?*

2 *How far above or below that level would you say your household is?*

*A lot above that level of income*

*A little above*

*About the same*

*A little below*

*A lot below that level of income*

*In order to keep your family out of overall poverty you need to have all of the things which keep you out of absolute poverty AND live in an area where you feel safe from crime; have a social life if you want one; be able to visit friends and relatives if you wish to.*

3 *Ignoring housing costs, how many pounds a week do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in out of absolute AND overall poverty?*

4 *How far above or below that level would you say your household is?*

*A lot above that level of income*

*A little above*

*About the same*

*A little below*

*A lot below that level of income*

### **Social Networks and Social Support**

The following is based on (and extended from) a questionnaire which we have used on a number of occasions in recruiting participants for group discussions. It also draws on findings from the groups about the importance and types of social contact which people have.

*Do you have a relative living?*

*In the same street*

*Within walking distance*

*A short bus/car journey away*

*Further than this*

*No (known) relatives*

(If has relatives)

*How often would you say you meet up with a relative (other than those living with you)?*

*Once a day*

*Two or three times a week*  
*Once a week*  
*Two or three times a month*  
*Once a month*  
*Less often*  
*Never*

(Those who meet up with relatives sometimes)

*What do you usually do when you meet up with relatives?*

*Visit them in their homes*  
*They visit your home*  
*Go shopping*  
*Go to the pub*  
*Go out for a meal*  
*Go to a club/other social venue*  
*Go to church/temple/synagogue/mosque/other place of worship*  
*Other (Specify)*

*Would you like to meet up with relatives more often or not?*

*Yes ANSWER NEXT QUESTION*  
*No*

*What is the main reason which prevents you from meeting up with relatives more often?*

*Lack of time*  
*Lack of transport*  
*Lack of money*  
*Other (Specify)*

*And how often, if ever, do you speak to relatives on the phone?*

*At least once a day*  
*Two or three times a week*  
*Once a week*  
*Two or three times a month*  
*Once a month*  
*Less often*  
*Never*

*And do you have friends living?*

*In the same street*

*Within walking distance*  
*A short bus/car journey away*  
*Further than this*  
*No friends*

(If has friends)

*How often would you say you meet up with a friend or friends?*

*Once a day*  
*Two or three times a week*  
*Once a week*  
*Two or three times a month*  
*Once a month*  
*Less often*  
*Never*

(Those who meet up with friends sometimes)

*What do you usually do when you meet up with friends?*

*Visit them in their homes*  
*They visit your home*  
*Go shopping*  
*Go to the pub*  
*Go out for a meal*  
*Go to a club/other social venue*  
*Go to church/temple/synagogue/mosque/other place of worship*  
*Other (Specify)*

*Would you like to meet up with friends more often or not?*

*Yes*    ANSWER NEXT QUESTION  
*No*

*What is the main reason which prevents you from meeting up with friends more often?*

*Lack of time*  
*Lack of transport*  
*Lack of money*  
*Other (Specify)*

*And how often, if ever, do you speak to friends on the phone?*

*At least once a day*

*Two or three times a week*  
*Once a week*  
*Two or three times a month*  
*Once a month*  
*Less often*  
*Never*

*Has there been one or more days during the past week when you have not had a conversation with another adult?*

*Yes*  
*No*

### **Social Support**

A new section on social support in the questionnaire would give us the opportunity to explore in detail the help which households get from and give to other family members and friends. The importance of such support and, crucially, of reciprocity was emphasised by the groups.

*In the last twelve months which of the following have you done for family members (not living with you) or friends?*

	<i>Other family members</i>	<i>Friends</i>
<i>Given them money</i>		
<i>Lent them money</i>		
<i>Given them food</i>		
<i>Lent them food</i>		
<i>Given them other things (specify)</i>		
<i>Lent them other things (specify)</i>		
<i>Taken them out for an evening</i>		
<i>Baby-sat in the evenings for them</i>		
<i>Looked after their children in the daytime</i>		

*And in the last twelve months which of the following have members of your family (not living with you) or friends done for you?*

	<i>Other family members</i>
<i>Friends</i>	
<i>Given you money</i>	
<i>Lent you money</i>	
<i>Given you food</i>	
<i>Lent you food</i>	
<i>Given you other things (specify)</i>	
<i>Lent you other things (specify)</i>	
<i>Taken you out for an evening</i>	
<i>Baby-sat in the evenings for you</i>	
<i>Looked after your children in the daytime</i>	

## **Attitudes Towards Poverty**

The concept of 'deserving' versus 'undeserving' was very strong in the groups' discussions of poverty and social exclusion. It would be valuable to include some questions on which groups of people are most likely to be poor and which are 'most/least deserving'. The following is a combination of my own questions, based on findings from the group discussions and adaptations of questions from Wim Van Oorschot's survey of Dutch Public Opinion on Social Security.

*I'm going to read you a list of people in different circumstances. For each could you tell me how likely you think it is that people in those circumstances will be poor in Britain today? Please take your answer from this card. (ALLOW DON'T KNOW)*

### **SHOWCARD**

*Very likely*

*Likely*

*Neither likely or unlikely*

*Unlikely*

*Very unlikely*

*How likely is it that \_\_\_\_\_ will be poor?*

*Families on low wages with children*

*Families on low wages without children*

*Pensioners*

*Young single men*

*Young single women*

*Disabled people*

*Divorced mothers living alone*

*Immigrants*

*Children*

*Young single mothers living alone*

*Unemployed men*

*Unemployed women*

*Refugees or asylum seekers*

*Widows*

*And thinking about the same groups of people, for each should the government increase benefits, decrease benefits or keep benefits at the level they are now? (ALLOW DON'T KNOW).*

## **Children and School**

Findings from the *Small Fortunes* survey show the extent to which parents experience repeated requests for money from schools. An average of almost £6 per week was being spent by parents of secondary aged children. The evidence also suggests that all parents, whatever their economic circumstances, seek to meet these requests in order to ensure their child(ren)s full participation in school life. As part of the proposed new section on children's education, I suggest that a question is asked about the extent to which parents meet requests for money from schools.

*Approximately how often do you receive requests for money from the school(s) which your child(ren) attend? (PROMPT if necessary, I mean for things such as books, school trips, charity donations and so on.)*

*Almost every day*  
*Every two or three days*  
*At least once a week*  
*Every two weeks*  
*At least once a term*  
*Less often than that*  
*Never*

#### ***IF EVER RECEIVE REQUESTS***

*And how often, if ever, do you turn down these requests because you can't afford to pay?*

*Always*  
*Often*  
*Sometimes*  
*Never*

#### **Conclusion**

The group discussions have provided some useful insights into how people understand poverty in Britain today and have been invaluable in assisting the redesign of the questionnaire. In depth analysis of the transcripts is ongoing and will be reported at a later stage.

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## Chapter 9

### Report on the MORI Omnibus Survey Test of New Questions

David Gordon and Christina Pantazis

#### Introduction

In order to pilot and test some of the new concepts and ideas in the proposed Survey of Poverty and Social Exclusion, three question modules were placed in the MORI Omnibus survey. This is a preliminary report on the results and a more detailed analysis will be published elsewhere by the research team. However, the results that can be achieved from an Omnibus survey are more limited than those that would be available from the full Survey of Poverty and Social Exclusion.

The three question modules in the Omnibus survey were designed to test:

- New perception of necessities questions (Q1).
- Time use (Q2).
- Intra household poverty (Q3).

The new perception of necessities questions tested in module Q1 serve to pilot the best questions on perceptions of necessities that have been developed in other European surveys but have never been asked in Britain before. Additionally, a number of the questions were designed to try to detect differences in perception that result from the different impact of poverty and social exclusion on men and women and the old and the young.

The results from module Q1 (see below) showed that a large majority of adults in Britain believe that it is necessary for people to have enough money to participate in social norms as well as to meet their physical needs. A majority of all social groups hold these beliefs. There are however a number of interesting variations in the apparent strength of feeling by socio-demographic group.

Time use studies are relatively underdeveloped in Britain compared with Australia, Canada and many European countries. The module Q2 questions represent the first attempt in Britain to test a simplified set of time use questions that can be used in a general social survey. They are based on the stylised time-activity matrix technique used in the Danish Time and Consumption Project Survey in 1988 (Körmendi, 1990; INSTRAW, 1995)

The results from module Q2 (see below) showed that both men and women in Britain spend on average about 9 hours each day working, either paid or unpaid. Women and men spend on average about 15 hours each day on sleeping, leisure and other activities. However, the pattern of paid work, unpaid work, sleep and leisure activities differs for men and women. Women spend more time doing unpaid work, sleeping and on personal care than men and men spend more time on paid work and leisure activities outside the home than do women.

The final question module (Q3) asked about the things that respondents had gone without in the previous year because of shortage of money. This question was based on the results of the focus group discussions (see Chapter 8) and was primarily intended to tap into the differential experiences of poverty.

The results from module Q3 (see below) showed that a large proportion of British adults had gone without basic necessities at some point during the past year due to a lack of money. Eight percent had gone without food and higher proportions had 'often' or 'sometimes' gone without clothes (44%), shoes (33%) and heating (13%). Similarly, 28% had had to cut back on their use of the telephone and 31% of the population had not been able to fully participate in family and other celebrations because of financial difficulties.

### **The MORI Omnibus Survey**

A nationally representative quota sample of 1,018 adults were interviewed by Computer Aided Personal Interviewing (CAPI), face to face in their homes between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July 1998. Respondents were selected in 85 Parliamentary Constituencies across Britain by means of a 10 cell quota sampling procedure. The quota used were:

Sex	(Male/Female)
Household Tenure	(Owner occupied, LA/HAT, Other)
Age	(15-24, 25-44, 45+)
Working status	(Full-time, part time/not working)

The resulting sample should be representative of all adults in Britain aged 15+. All results reported below after weighting to correct sampling biases<sup>i</sup>. The details of the three question modules were as follows:

**Q1)** *On this card are a number of different items and activities which relate to our standard of living. Please would you indicate whether the item/activity is either*

A) a necessity which you think ALL ADULTS should be able to afford and which they should not have to do without

or

B) an item which may be desirable but is not a necessity

### **SHOWCARD**

1. Replace or repair broken electrical goods such as refrigerator or washing machine

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<sup>i</sup> Some of the sampling bias resulted from interviewers having to go 'off-quota' because of the 'World Cup effect' e.g. women were much more willing to be interviewed than men in July 1998.

2. Appropriate clothes to wear for job interviews
3. All medicines prescribed by your doctor
4. A small amount of money to spend each week on yourself, not on your family
5. Having a daily newspaper
6. Access to the internet
7. Visits to friends or family
8. Going to the pub once a fortnight
9. Attending funerals, weddings, and other occasions
10. Attending church/mosque/synagogue or other places of worship

**Q2)** *I'd now like to ask you to split the day's 24 hours into certain broad task categories. Please indicate how many hours you think you typically spend on the following activities:*

	<b>On normal week days</b>	<b>At weekends (Saturdays and Sundays together)</b>
1. Paid employment, including any overtime and secondary jobs, transport to and from work		
2. Looking after the home, for example, shopping, cooking, cleaning and laundry		
3. Gardening, DIY, maintenance and repair of the home		
4. Child care, playing, and helping with school work		
5. Care of the elderly/disabled and/or voluntary work		
6. Education, studying, and training (including transport to and from place of study)		
7. Leisure/social life in the home (e.g. watching TV, reading, relaxing, thinking)		
8. Leisure/social life outside the home (e.g. visiting friends, going to the pub, sport)		
9. Sleeping, eating, and personal care (e.g. washing)		
10. Other		
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 hours</b>	<b>48 hours</b>

11. Too time consuming

## 12. Unable to complete question

INSTRUCTION TO INTERVIEWERS: total MUST add up to 24 hours/ 48 hours, if it does not, then prompt.

**Q3)** *I'm going to read you a list of things which adults have told us that they sometimes go without when money is tight. I'd like you to tell me how often you **personally** have gone without in the last year because of shortage of money.*

	All year	Often	Sometimes	Never	Not applicable
Clothes					
Shoes					
Food.					
Heating					
Telephoning friends/ family					
Going to celebrations for family and friends, e.g. birthdays					
A hobby or sport					
Going out e.g cinema, with friends					
Visits to the pub					
A holiday					
Cigarettes					

### Results from Q1 Module

The 'perception of necessities' questions in module Q1 have never been asked in Britain before. They have been derived from discussions amongst the research team, the focus group discussions or from other 'poverty and social exclusion' surveys in Europe. For example, a 'daily newspaper' has been used in poverty surveys in Ireland and Belgium (Callan, Nolan and Whelan, 1993; Nolan and Whelan, 1996; Van den Bosch, 1998) and 'prescribed medicines' in Vietnam (Davies and Smith, 1998) and Finland (Kangas and Ritakallio, 1998).

Previous poverty surveys that have used this 'consensual' method to measure standard of living have used questions that were specifically designed to try to elicit a broad consensus amongst respondents from different socio-demographic backgrounds. These attempts have been largely successful and surveys in Britain (Mack and Lansley, 1985; Gordon and Pantazis, 1997), Sweden (Halleröd, 1995, 1998) and Belgium (Van den Bosch, 1998) have measured a widespread consensus across society that people should be able to afford the basic necessities of life. For example, the overwhelming majority of all groups of respondents agreed that people in their own societies should be able to adequately heat their homes, clothe and feed themselves and their children, not become socially isolated, etc. This consensus has also been demonstrated to be stable over time in Belgium (Van den Bosch, 1998) (e.g. respondents who consider an item to be a necessity of life are highly likely to still hold that opinion if asked the same question several years later).

The new questions tested in module 1 (Q1) serve a dual purpose. Firstly, they pilot the best questions on perceptions of necessities that have been developed in other European surveys but have never been asked in Britain before. Secondly, some of the questions have been deliberately designed to try to detect differences in perception that result from the different impact of poverty and social exclusion on men and women and the old and the young. There is now considerable qualitative evidence that in British society men and women often experience poverty and exclusion in different ways (see Chapter 3). However, quantitative poverty surveys have generally failed to detect and measure these differences. One of the aims of the new survey of poverty and social exclusion is to begin to quantify the extent and nature of intra-household poverty and exclusion (e.g. poverty and social exclusion within the household as well as between households).

Similarly, given the increased regionalisation in Europe and the greater autonomy of Scotland and Wales cultural differences in the perceptions of necessities between the populations of England, Scotland and Wales are of growing policy importance.

Table 9.1.1 shows the percent of respondents by sex and age group, who considered these deprivation factors to be necessities of life which all adults in Britain should be able to afford.

Table 9.1.2 shows the results broken down by social class, country and household income.

**Table 9.1.1: Percent of population in Britain in 1998 considering item to be a necessity, broken down by sex and age**

Question	Total Population	Sex		Age		
		Female	Male	15-29	30 – Pension	Pension Age
All medicines prescribed by your doctor	89	89	88	90	89	86
Replace or repair broken electrical goods	75	82	67	72	74	81
Visits to friends or family	68	70	66	71	66	68
Clothes to wear for job interviews	63	60	65	67	63	58
Attending funerals, weddings, etc.	57	56	59	67	52	55
Small amount of money to spend each week on yourself	48	46	49	44	47	52
Attending church/mosque/synagogue	31	35	26	31	27	38
A daily newspaper	19	19	20	12	16	34
Pub once a fortnight	15	13	16	20	13	12
Access to the internet	3	3	3	5	2	3

**Table 9.1.2: Percent of population in Britain in 1998 considering item to be a necessity, broken down by social class, country and household income**

Question	Social Class				Country			Household Income		
	AB	C1	C2	DE	England	Scotland	Wales	<17500	17500 - 30000	30000+
All medicines prescribed by your doctor	91	90	87	87	88	96	90	87	91	88
Replace or repair broken electrical goods	74	70	76	80	73	90	90	81	73	73
Visits to friends or family	71	69	65	67	68	68	69	69	67	63
Clothes to wear for job interviews	63	62	62	64	61	73	77	63	59	68
Attending funerals, weddings, etc.	55	59	57	56	57	62	52	58	52	52
Small amount of money to spend each week on yourself	51	45	42	52	46	53	58	49	47	44
Attending church/mosque/synagogue	36	33	24	30	31	33	33	30	25	32
A daily newspaper	16	22	18	21	19	26	17	19	11	12
Pub once a fortnight	15	14	11	17	14	15	31	14	10	14
Access to the internet	2	4	1	4	3	3	2	3	3	1

The first column in Table 9.1.1 shows that 89% of the British population considers that everybody should be able to afford all the medicines prescribed by their doctor. Tables 9.1.1 and 9.1.2 show there is a widespread consensus on the necessity of this across the divisions of British society - across social class, age, gender, income and other groupings.

Consensual poverty surveys in Finland (Kangas and Ritakallio, 1998) and Vietnam (Davies and Smith, 1998) have found that over 90% of respondents consider having required medicines to be a necessity. Gordon and Pantazis (1997) have argued that the relative theory of poverty predicts that if a society gets richer, the number of people who perceive common possessions and activities as necessary will increase. Goods and services that are luxuries at first become generally available as a result of mass production. So it is surprising to find that a greater percentage of the Vietnamese population consider 'all medicines prescribed by their doctor' to be a necessity than do British people. Since Vietnam is a far 'poorer' country than Britain. The explanation for this apparent paradox lies in the greater consequences of not having access to necessary medicines in Vietnam compared with Britain. Lack of access to medicines is a major cause of suffering and premature morbidity and mortality in Vietnam at present. The 1998 World Health Report (WHO, 1998) estimates that only about 50% of the Vietnamese population has 'regular access to essential drugs' compared with almost 100% of the British population. The consequences of not being able to get hold of medicines are more obvious to the average Vietnamese person than to the average Briton.

In addition to all medicines prescribed by your doctor, Table 9.1.1 shows that four other items were considered to be necessities by more than 50% of the British population e.g. replace or repair

broken electrical goods; appropriate clothes to wear for job interviews; visits to friends or family and attending funerals, weddings, etc.

These results once again demonstrate that a large majority of the country agrees that it is necessary for people to have enough money to participate in social norms as well as to meet their physical needs. This consensus is attested to by the fact that Tables 9.1.1 and 9.1.2 show that a majority of all social groups consider these items to be necessities. There are however a number of interesting variations in the apparent strength of feeling by socio-demographic group.

Women are more likely than men to consider that replacing or repairing broken electrical goods is a necessity. Conversely, men are more likely than women to consider that having appropriate clothes to wear for job interviews is a necessity. A similar pattern is evident by age group with pensioners attaching greater importance to repairing or replacing broken electrical goods than do young adults under 30. Similarly, adults under 30 are more likely to consider that having appropriate clothes for job interviews is a necessity than do pensioners. Significant differences are also evident by country (Table 9.1.2). People in Scotland are more likely to consider all items to be necessities than do their English counterparts, indicating possible cultural as well as demographic differences in the perception of necessities of life. This issue will be explored in greater detail by the research team elsewhere since, if Scottish people are less tolerant of poverty and social exclusion than people are in England, this may have significant policy implications for expenditure by the Scottish Parliament.

Tables 9.1.1 and 9.1.2 show that five items were not considered to be necessities by a majority of people e.g. a small amount of money to spend each week on yourself, not on your family; having a daily newspaper; access to the internet; going to the pub once a fortnight and attending church/mosque/synagogue or other places of worship. The consensual method (*Breadline Britain*) of measuring poverty requires that questions on necessities be asked that elicit the whole range of opinion. The ten new questions tested in question module 1 (Q1) appear to have been very successful in achieving this desired aim, with opinions ranging from 89% of the population considering all medicines prescribed by the doctor to be a necessity to only 3% of the population considering access to the internet to be necessary.

It is interesting to note that so few people consider access to the internet and having a daily newspaper to be necessary given academic and political concern over the advent of the 'information society' and debates on the growth of the 'information rich' and the 'information poor'. In fact, the only 'information' sources that a majority of the British population probably consider to be necessities at present are contact with friends and family, television and telephones. The importance that people place on public sources of information such as the newspapers, televisions and the internet might be inversely related to their degree of social contact and the size of their social networks. Almost three times as many pensioners (34%) as adults under 30 (12%) consider that having a daily newspaper is a necessity. The proposed survey on Poverty and Social Exclusion should be able to shed new light on this question.



## Results from the Q2 (Time Use) module

Given the importance of how people spend their time, there is an extraordinary lack of information on the time use of adults in Britain. Time use data are needed to produce accurate national accounts which include measures of the unpaid work and the hidden economy (Neuburger, 1996) and they are essential for policy making purposes with regard to care of children, the elderly and disabled people and the voluntary sector. Unless we know how much work is being done in these areas, it is difficult to arrive at sensible evidence based policies. Time use data are also necessary for addressing ongoing debates about time poverty (for example, see discussion in Gordon, 1995). We simply do not know at present whether 'poor' people also suffer from 'time' poverty or whether time weighs heavily on their hands compared to the rest of the population. Do the 'poor' do more work or less than the majority? Are there large variations in the amount of 'time' stress that different groups of 'poor' people suffer from? e.g. lone parents compared with the working poor.

In order to provide answers to these important questions, a simple survey device is needed to accurately measure the major components of time use. Unfortunately, Britain has never had an official time use survey although one is currently in preparation by the Office for National Statistics and SCPR. All previous British time use surveys have been small scale and carried out by organisations like the BBC and the ESRC<sup>i</sup>. These have been dedicated time use surveys which have collected only very limited additional socio-economic and demographic information. They have adopted internationally approved detailed time diary and time budget methodologies (Harvey, 1993). Although accurate at the population level, these are complex and time-consuming survey instruments which often require multiple visits by an interviewer and often only produce information at the individual level on one days time use. Therefore, these methods are not suitable for a survey which wants to address issues of time poverty as well as other forms of social exclusion and poverty – for this a simpler, less time consuming survey instrument is necessary.

The module Q2 questions are based on the stylised time-activity matrix technique used in the Danish Time and Consumption Project Survey in 1988 (Körmendi, 1990; INSTRAW, 1995). Comparisons of the results obtained from stylised time use questions compared with full time use diaries in Canada (Paille, 1994) and Denmark (Körmendi, 1990) has indicated that the only major significant differences in the results are that stylised time matrices yield greater estimates for the amount of time spent on child care (in both Canada and Denmark) and DIY (in Denmark).

These differences arise, in part, because of the different ideologies of the two methods. Time diaries allow people to record secondary activities whereas stylised time use matrices do not. Many respondents will record childcare activities as a secondary activity in time diaries but will count childcare as the most important activity when faced with a stylised time use matrix. Whether or not this is problematic depends on the importance researchers place on childcare activities (and other unpaid work activities).

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<sup>i</sup> Some limited data on time use are available from the BHPS which contains questions on time spent on paid work and time spent on housework in the average week.

The results from the time use matrix question (Q2) are shown in Tables 9.2.1 and 9.2.2.

**Table 9.2.1: Time use by adults in Britain in 1998 on normal weekdays and at weekends**

	<b>On normal weekdays</b> <i>(N=865)</i>	<b>At weekends (Saturdays and Sundays together)</b> <i>(N=745)</i>
1. Paid employment, including any overtime and secondary jobs, transport to and from work	4h 27min	2h 55min
2. Looking after the home, for example, shopping, cooking, cleaning and laundry	2h 21min	4h 41min
3. Gardening, DIY, maintenance and repair of the home	0h 51min	2h 25min
4. Child care, playing, and helping with school work	1h 4min	2h 42min
5. Care of the elderly/disabled and/or voluntary work	0h 17min	0h 35min
6. Education, studying, and training (including transport to and from place of study)	0h 38min	0h 50min
7. Leisure/social life in the home (e.g. watching TV, reading, relaxing, thinking)	3h 28min	7h 56min
8. Leisure/social life outside the home (e.g. visiting friends, going to the pub, sport)	1h 36min	6h 0min
9. Sleeping, eating, and personal care (e.g. washing)	8h 32min	17h 49min
10. Other	0h 46min	2h 7min
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 hours (1440 min)</b>	<b>48 hours (2880 min)</b>

Table 9.2.1 shows the average time spent engaged in ten different activities on normal weekdays and on weekends. Using the European Statistical Office's (Eurostat) definition of paid work, unpaid work and leisure, all time recorded as item 1 is paid work, all time recorded under items 2 to 6 are unpaid work and time recorded under items 7 to 9 are leisure (Niemi, n.d.). After data cleaning to remove outliers, 865 respondents gave valid responses to the weekday stylised time use matrix question (e.g. a 84% response rate) and 745 respondents were able to fill the weekend matrix (e.g. a 72% response rate).

Table 9.2.1 shows that, on normal weekdays, British adults spend on average 4 hours 27 minutes on paid work, 5 hours 11 minutes doing unpaid work and 14 hours 22 minutes engaged in leisure, sleeping and other activities. On weekends, British adults spend on average 2 hours 55 minutes on paid work, 11 hours 13 minutes on unpaid work and 33 hours 52 minutes on sleeping, leisure and other activities.

**Table 9.2.2: Average daily time use (weekdays and weekends combined) by adults in Britain in 1998 by sex**

	<b>Female</b> (N=372)	<b>Male</b> (N=368)
1. Paid employment, including any overtime and secondary jobs, transport to and from work	2h 38min	4h 44min
2. Looking after the home, for example, shopping, cooking, cleaning and laundry	3h 6min	1h 30min
3. Gardening, DIY, maintenance and repair of the home	49min	1h 5min
4. Child care, playing, and helping with school work	1h 37min	41min
5. Care of the elderly/disabled and/or voluntary work	16min	16min
6. Education, studying, and training (including transport to and from place of study)	28min	40min
7. Leisure/social life in the home (e.g. watching TV, reading, relaxing, thinking)	3h 32min	3h 38min
8. Leisure/social life outside the home (e.g. visiting friends, going to the pub, sport)	1h 48min	2h 12min
9. Sleeping, eating, and personal care (e.g. washing)	8h 53min	8h 28min
10. Other	53min	45min
<b>Total</b>	<b>24 hours</b> (1440 min)	<b>24 hours</b> (1440 min)

Table 9.2.2 shows the average amount of time men and women spend on different activities in a day. This is calculated by multiplying the results for normal weekdays by five and adding them to the weekend results before dividing by seven. This is therefore a rather artificial construct since, as Table 9.2.1 has shown, people spend their time very differently on weekdays compared to weekends (particularly, if they are employed). Nobody actually spends their day as shown in Table 9.2.2 but it is a useful way of visualising differences in time use by gender.

Men on average spend 4 hours 44 minutes engaged in paid employment each day compared with women who on average only spend 2 hours 38 minutes doing paid work. By contrast, men spend 4 hours 12 minutes doing unpaid work compared with 6 hours 16 minutes of unpaid work done by women. It seems that both men and women in Britain spend on average about 9 hours each day working, either paid or unpaid. Both women and men spend on average about 15 hours each day on sleeping, leisure and other activities. However, the pattern of sleep and leisure activities differs for men and women. Women spend more time sleeping and on personal care than men and men spend more time on leisure activities outside the home than do women.

**Table 9.2.3: Time use by adults aged 20-60 in the UK - comparison of the Stylised Time Activity Matrix results from the MORI Omnibus Survey with those from other UK Diary Based Time Use Surveys**

Activity in minutes per day	BBC 1961	BBC 1974/75	ESRC 1983- 1987	ONS 1995	MORI Omnibus 1998
Personal care and domestic work	814	795	805	804	802
Paid work	316	305	267	291	292
Caring	14	12	23	18	14
Leisure in the home	214	204	221	215	224
Leisure outside the home	82	125	125	113	107

One of the major reasons for piloting the stylised time use matrix question (Q2) was to test if it would yield reliable results. Many respondents had difficulty in answering this question and a number of the MORI interviewers commented that they were concerned about the accuracy of some respondents answers to this question. Table 9.2.3 compares the results from the 1998 MORI Omnibus pilot of the stylised time use matrix question with those from other UK and British time diary and time budget surveys over the past 37 years. In order to try to achieve comparability, the results have been calculated in five broad categories: personal care and domestic work, paid work, caring, leisure in the home and leisure outside the home. The results shown in Table 9.2.3 have been recalculated from Gershuny and Smith (1995) and they show a remarkably high level of correspondence between the stylised time use matrix results and those from more complex time diary surveys for adults in the 20 to 60 age group.

Although there is a remarkable degree of correspondence when comparing broad categories of time use, significant differences remain when comparing smaller sub-divisions of time. In particular, the stylised time use matrix recorded that both men and women spent more time engaged in child care and DIY/gardening than did the 1995 UK time budget study by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (Gershuny and Smith, 1995). The MORI survey recorded that men spent on average 41 minutes on child care and 1 hour 5 minutes on DIY/gardening (see Table 9.2.2) compared with 17 minutes on child care and 54 minutes on DIY/gardening in the 1995 ONS survey. Similarly, women spent on average 1 hour 37 minutes on childcare and 49 minutes on DIY/gardening in the MORI survey and only 40 minutes on childcare and 26 minutes on DIY/gardening in the 1995 ONS survey.

These differences between the results for stylised time use matrix questions and time diaries in Britain are similar to those found in Canada and Denmark (INSTRAW, 1995). As previously discussed, the childcare differences arise at least in part from the ideological differences between these two methods. It is possible that, if the importance of childcare was stressed in the instructions given to participants in time diary studies, then the amount of time recorded spent on childcare as a primary activity would increase. Men and women spend a lot of their time doing several different things at once and what is recorded as the most important activity depends on the methods used. There

seems no reason to believe that the results from time diaries on childcare and DIY/gardening time use are preferable to those from stylised time use matrices such as question module 2.

### Results from the Q3 (going without) module.

The final MORI test question asked the population about the items that they have gone without in the previous year because of shortage of money. This question was devised for the focus group discussions and it was primarily intended to tap into the differential experiences of poverty. Feminist research has highlighted how poverty is a gendered experience, and one important element to this is that men and women may each behave differently in times of shortage, with women in particular being more likely to go without certain necessities in order that the household's needs are met (Charles and Kerr, 1987; Craig and Glendinning, 1990).

Table 9.3.1 below shows the percent of the population going without certain necessities (e.g. food, clothes, heating) and other items (e.g. hobby, visits to the pub, cigarettes) in the past year because of shortage of money. Eight percent of the population 'often' or 'sometimes' go without food. Unsurprisingly, higher proportions of the population go without clothes (44%), shoes (33%) and heating (13%) either 'often' or 'sometimes', whilst 28% and 31% of the population goes without using the telephone and family and other celebrations, respectively. An interesting observation to be made is that, in times of hardship, maintaining social contacts through use of the telephone or participating in celebrations appears to be more important than necessities such as clothes and shoes. This finding supports other studies that show that, when there is a drastic cut in resources, people sometimes act to fulfil their social obligations before they act to satisfy their physical wants. They require income to fulfil their various roles and participate in the social customs and associations to which they have become habituated and not only to satisfy their physical wants (Townsend and Gordon, 1989).

**Table 9.3.1: Percent of respondents who have gone without various items during the past year because of shortage of money**

	All Year	Often	Sometimes	Never	N/A
Clothes	2	13	28	56	2
Shoes	1	9	21	67	2
Food	-	1	6	92	1
Heating	-	2	9	87	2
Telephoning friends/ family	1	5	19	72	3
Going to celebrations for family and friends, e.g. birthdays	-	5	22	69	4
A hobby or sport	2	6	23	55	14
Going out e.g. cinema, with friends	1	9	26	49	15
Visits to the pub	1	10	23	38	28

A holiday	10	12	24	47	7
Cigarettes	-	4	8	25	63

Table 9.3.2 below demonstrates how gender and age might mediate the experience of going without in times of shortage of money. The results for gender reveal that similar proportions of women and men go without most items either ‘all year’ or ‘often’ because of shortage of money. Where discrepancies do exist (e.g. clothes, shoes, holidays), women are invariably more likely than men to go without. Age appears to be a more important factor in illuminating differences in the experiences of poverty. The experiences of going without certain items are quite pronounced when comparing the youngest (15-29) with the eldest population groups (pensionable age). Young people are four times more likely than the elderly to say that they have gone without clothes ‘all year’ or ‘often’ because of a shortage on money. Indeed, excluding food and heating where the numbers are too small to be meaningful, young people are more likely to say that they have gone without items due a shortage of money.

**Table 9.3.2: Percent of respondents who have gone without various items ‘all year’ or ‘often’ during the past year by sex and age group**

Question	Total Population	Sex		Age		
		Female	Male	15-29	30 – Pension	Pension Age
Clothes	14	19	7	20	16	4
Shoes	10	13	6	15	11	3
Food.	1	1	-	1	1	-
Heating	2	3	1	2	1	-
Telephoning friends/family	6	7	5	6	7	2
Going to celebrations for family and friends, e.g. birthdays	6	6	5	13	4	1
A hobby or sport	8	8	6	8	9	4
Going out e.g. cinema, with friends	10	10	11	17	11	2
Visits to the pub	11	11	11	17	11	3
A holiday	22	26	19	33	22	10
Cigarettes	4	5	3	6	4	2

People from different parts of Britain are also likely to experience poverty differently. Table 9.3.3 below shows that the English are more likely to go without clothes, shoes and heating than either the Welsh or the Scottish due to shortage of money. Approximately equal proportions give up going out either to the cinema or the pub. This suggests that the Welsh and the Scottish are less likely to cut back on material necessities in times of financial hardship and this may be connected to the poorer weather conditions they experience. Conversely, the Scottish and the Welsh appear to be more

likely than the English to cut back on social necessities (such as going to celebrations, out with friends, etc.) in times of hardship.

Table 9.3.3 (overleaf) also shows the expected pattern of going without by social class and household income. The lower the social class or household income the more likely the respondent is to have gone without all items during the past year.

**Table 9.3.3: Percent of respondents who have gone without various items ‘all year’ or ‘often’ during the past year by social class, country and household income**

Item	Social Class				Country			Household Income		
	AB	C1	C2	DE	England	Scotland	Wales	<17500	17500-30000	30000+
Clothes	9	12	14	20	15	7	8	19	17	10
Shoes	5	9	9	16	11	4	4	16	9	8
Food.	-	1	-	2	1	2	-	2	-	-
Heating	1	3	2	2	2	1	-	3	-	-
Telephoning friends/ family	2	4	5	10	6	7	2	8	2	3
Going to celebrations for family and friends, e.g. birthdays	1	6	6	8	5	7	8	10	8	3
A hobby or sport	4	8	10	8	8	6	11	10	9	8
Going out e.g. cinema, with friends	7	11	9	14	10	10	11	14	13	10
Visits to the pub	8	9	11	13	11	12	13	14	14	11
A holiday	11	18	20	35	21	24	34	29	25	17
Cigarettes	2	2	5	7	4	3	10	6	6	4

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## Chapter 10

### Draft Questionnaire for the Survey on Poverty and Social Exclusion

#### DEMOGRAPHIC SECTION

Q.1 *What is your age?*

Q.2 *What is your sex?*

Male

Female

Q.3 *Can I check some details of the adult and child members of your household? First, how many people are there in your household?*

DETAILS OF EACH HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AGED 16+

Person number	Relationship to respondent (e.g. spouse, son or daughter)	Sex	Age

Q.4 *Which one of these applies to you at present?*

Married

Living together

Widowed

Divorced

Separated

Single (never married)

Q.5 *To which of the groups listed on this card to you consider you belong?*

White (non-Irish)  
White (Irish)  
Black-Caribbean  
Black-African  
Black-Other  
Indian  
Pakistani  
Bangladeshi  
Chinese  
Other

Q.6 *Does your household own this accommodation or rent it?*

Owned outright  
Being bought on mortgage  
Rent from local authority  
Rent from housing association  
Rent from private landlord  
Other

Q.7 *What type of accommodation do you live in?*

Whole house, bungalow, detached  
Whole house, bungalow, semi-detached  
Whole house, bungalow, terraced, end of terrace  
Purpose-built flat or maisonette in block  
Part of house/converted flat or maisonette/rooms in house  
Dwelling with business premises  
Caravan/houseboat  
Other  
Not applicable

Q.8 *What is the highest qualification you have on this list?*

**(SHOWCARD A)**

Q.9a *Which of these applies to you? And*

Q.9b *Which one applies to your spouse/partner?*

**(SHOWCARD B)**

**INCOME AND BENEFITS**

Q.10 *How many people in this household at present receive:*

None	One	Two	Three	No answer
------	-----	-----	-------	-----------

- Family Credit
- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Benefit
- Disability Working Allowance
- Widow's Benefit
- Sick Pay/benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- Attendance or Disability Living Allowance  
(or Other disability benefit)
- A State Retirement Pension
- An occupational/private Pension

Q.11 *Can you please tell me which kinds of income you and your household receive?*

You	Your Household
-----	----------------

- Earnings from employment or self-employment
- Child benefit
- Maintenance/Child Support
- Interest from savings, dividends, etc.
- Student Loan/Grant
- Social Fund Loan
- Other kinds of regular allowance from outside the household

- A state benefit on the previous card
- A pension on the previous card
- Other benefits or pensions

Other sources of income e.g. rent

Q.12a *Will you please look at this card and tell me which group represents your total income from all these sources after taking off Income Tax, National Insurance and any contribution towards a pension?*

**(SHOWCARD C)**

ENTER BAND NUMBER

Q.12b *Could you please look at the next card and give me your total income, AFTER deductions, as an annual amount from this card?*

**(SHOWCARD D)**

ENTER BAND NUMBER

Q.12c (If there is a spouse/partner) *Does (spouse/partner) have any separate income of their own?*

Q.12d (If yes) *Which group represents (spouse/partner's) total income from all these sources after deductions for Income Tax, National Insurance and any contribution towards a pension?*

Q.12e (If income £36,400 or more annually) *Could you please look at the next card and give me (spouse/partner's) total income, after deductions, as an annual amount from this card?*

Q.12f (If 'don't know' or refusal obtained when asking about either respondent's or spouse/partner's income) *Would it be possible for you to tell me which group represents the total income of you and (spouse/partner) taken together, after any deductions?*

Q.12g (If joint income band is £36,400 annually or more) *Could you please look at the next card and give me that total income taken together as an annual amount from this card?*

Q.12h (If more than two adults in household or two adults who are not respondent and partner) *Can I just check, does anyone else in the household have a source of income?*

Q.12i (If yes) *And now thinking of the income of the household as a whole, which of the groups on this card represents the total income of the whole household after deductions for Income Tax, National Insurance and any contributions people make towards a pension?*

Q.13 *Do you or does your spouse/partner get Job Seekers Allowance, the old Income Support, nowadays or not? If yes, for how long have you/has he/she been getting it?*

Yes, for up to 3 months

Yes, for up to 6 months

Yes, for up to 12 months

Yes, for over a year  
No  
No answer

ASK Q14

Q.14 *Have you or your spouse ever received Job Seekers Allowance or Income Support, or not?*

Yes, in the last year  
Yes, in the last 5 years  
Yes, more than 5 years ago (except as a student)  
No, never  
No answer

Q.15 *Do you or your spouse/ partner contribute to an occupational/private pension scheme or not?*

<b>You</b>	<b>Spouse/Partner</b>
------------	-----------------------

Yes  
No

Q.16 *I'd now like to ask you some questions about unemployment. By unemployment, I mean either those registered as unemployed or those not entitled to benefit but available for and seeking work. Are you/your spouse/partner unemployed at present? If yes, for how long?*

<b>You</b>	<b>Spouse/Partner</b>
------------	-----------------------

Yes, up to 3 months  
Yes, 3 to 5 months  
Yes, 6 to 11 months  
Yes, 12 months or longer  
No, not currently unemployed  
Not applicable

Q.17 *Have you/your spouse/partner been unemployed in the last year?*

<b>You</b>	<b>Spouse/Partner</b>
------------	-----------------------

Yes  
No  
Not applicable

Q.18 *Looking back over the last ten years, for how long have you been unemployed?*

Never  
Less than 2 months in total  
2 to 6 months in total  
7 to 12 months in total  
Over 12 months in total  
Not relevant  
Don't know

## **ABSOLUTE AND OVERALL POVERTY**

*Q.19 How many pounds a week, after tax, do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in, out of poverty?*

Nearest £

*Q.20 How far above or below that level would you say your household is?*

A lot above that level of income  
A little above  
About the same  
A little below  
A lot below that level of income  
Don't know

The United Nations and the Governments of 117 countries wish to prepare national plans to get rid of poverty. They have agreed that poverty can be defined in two ways: absolute poverty and overall poverty. The definitions of absolute and overall poverty are shown below.

### **(SHOWCARD E)**

*Q.21 How many pounds a week, after tax, do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in, out of ABSOLUTE poverty?*

Nearest £

*Q.22 How far above or below that level would you say your household is?*

A lot above that level of income  
A little above  
About the same  
A little below  
A lot below that level of income

Don't know

**(SHOWCARD F)**

Q.23 *How many pounds a week, after tax, do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in, out of OVERALL poverty?*

Nearest £

Q.24 *How far above or below that level would you say your household is?*

A lot above that level of income

A little above

About the same

A little below

A lot below that level of income

Don't know

**NECESSITIES**

Q.25 *On these cards are a number of different items which relate to our standard of living. Please would you indicate by placing the cards in the appropriate box, the living standards YOU feel ALL ADULTS should have in Britain today. BOX A is for items which you think are necessary, which all adults should be able to afford and which they should not have to do without. BOX B is for items which may be desirable but are not necessary.*

**(SHOWCARDS SET G)**

Q.26 *Now can you do the same for the following activities?*

**(SHOWCARDS SET H)**

Q.27 *Now can you do the same thinking of children?*

**(SHOWCARDS SET I)**

Q.28 *Now can you do the same for the following children's activities?*

**(SHOWCARDS SET J)**



Q.29 Now, could you please put the cards into these four boxes C, D, E and F?

(SHOWCARDS SET G)

C	D	E	F
Have and couldn't do without	Have and could do without	Don't have but don't want	Don't have and can't afford

Q.30 Can you do the same, for the following activities, into boxes G, H, I and J?

(SHOWCARDS SET H)

G	H	I	J
Do and couldn't do without	Do and could do without	Don't do but don't want	Don't do and can't afford

ASK ALL THOSE WHO ANSWERED 'DON'T DO' AT Q. 30.

Q.31 How important is each of these factors in preventing you from doing (mention activity)?

Very important	Quite important	Not important
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- Can't afford to
- Lack of time due to paid work
- Lack of time due to childcare responsibilities
- Lack of time due to other caring responsibilities
- Can't go out because of caring responsibilities
- No vehicle
- Poor public transport
- No one to go out with (social)
- Problems with physical access
- Too ill/sick/disabled
- Too old
- Fear of burglary/vandalism
- Fear of personal attack
- Feel unwelcome (ethnicity)
- Feel unwelcome (age)
- Feel unwelcome (gender)

Feel unwelcome (disability)  
Feel unwelcome (other)..... please specify  
Not interested

Q.32 *Thinking about the items for children, could you please put the cards into the previous four boxes C, D, E and F:*

**(SHOWCARDS SET I)**

Q.33 *Now can you do the same for the following children's activities with the previous boxes G, H, I and J?*

**(SHOWCARDS SET J)**

## **INTRA-HOUSEHOLD POVERTY**

**ASK ALL THOSE HOUSEHOLDS WITH A CAR**

Q.34 *Do you have access to the car when you personally need it?*

Yes  
No

**ASK IF RESPONDENT HAS A PARTNER/SPOUSE**

Q.35 *People organise their household finances in different ways. Which of the methods on this card comes closest to way you organise yours? It doesn't have to fit exactly - just choose the nearest one. You can just tell me which one applies.*

I look after the household money except my partner's personal spending money

My partner looks after the household's money except my personal spending money

I am given a housekeeping allowance. My partner looks after the rest of the money

My partner is given a housekeeping allowance. I look after the rest of the money.

We share and manage our household finances jointly

We keep our finances completely separate

Some other arrangement

**(USING SHOWCARD K)**

Q.36 *What is the first thing that you personally go without when money is tight?*

Q.37 *What would you personally find really difficult to give up if money was tight?*

Q.38 *I'm going to read you a list of things which adults have told us that they sometimes go without when money is tight. I'd like you to tell me HOW OFTEN you personally have gone without in the last year because of shortage of money?*

All year	Often	Sometime s	Never	Don't know
----------	-------	---------------	-------	------------

**ASK IF PARTNER/SPOUSE LIVES IN HOUSEHOLD**

Q.39 *And what about your partner, how often has he/she gone without each of these things in the last year because of shortage of money?*

All year	Often	Sometime s	Never	Don't know
----------	-------	---------------	-------	------------

**ASK IF CHILDREN IN THE HOUSEHOLD**

Q.40 *And what about your child(ren), how often has he/she/they gone without each of these things in the last year because of shortage of money?*

Clothes

Shoes

Food

A hobby or sport

School trips or holidays

A family holiday

Pocket money

All year	Often	Sometime s	Never	Don't know
----------	-------	---------------	-------	------------

Q.41 *How often do you go out socially without your spouse/partner on average?*

Every evening

Four or five times a week

Two or three times a week

Once a week

Once a fortnight

Once a month

Once every two or three months

Once every six months

Once a year

Less than that

Never

**ASK IF EVER GOES OUT ALONE**

Q.42 *And when you go out without your partner what do you do?*

**(SHOWCARD L)**

Q.43 *And thinking about the last time that you went out without your spouse/ partner, what did you do?*

## SOCIAL NETWORKS AND SUPPORT

Q.44 *Are your Mother and Father still alive?*

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
------------	-----------

Mother

Father

Q.45 *How many of the following members of your family age 18 or over, do you have? We mean family members who are still alive.*

<b>None</b>	<b>One</b>	<b>Two</b>	<b>Three</b>	<b>Four</b>	<b>Five plus</b>
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Sisters (include step-sisters, half sisters and adopted sisters)

Brothers (include step-brothers, half brothers and adopted brothers)

Daughters (include step-daughters and adopted daughters)

Sons (include step-sons and adopted sons)

Other relatives (grandparents, grandchildren, in-laws, aunts, uncles, etc.)

Q.46 *How often do you see or visit the members of your family? If you have more than one adult sister, brother, daughter or son, please think about the sister, brother daughter or son you have most contact with.*

<b>Mother</b>	<b>Father</b>	<b>Sister</b>	<b>Brother</b>	<b>Daughter</b>	<b>Son</b>	<b>Other relative</b>
---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	-----------------	------------	-----------------------

Lives in the same household

Daily

At least several times a week

At least once a week

At least once a month

Several times a year

Less often

Q.47 *About how long would it take you to get to where the members of your family live?  
Think of the time it usually takes door to door.*

Mother	Father	Sister	Brother	Daughter	Son	Other relative
--------	--------	--------	---------	----------	-----	----------------

Less than 15 minutes

Between 15 and 30  
minutes

Between 30 minutes and  
1 hour

Between 1 and 2 hours

Between 2 and 3 hours

Between 3 and 5 hours

Between 5 and 12 hours

Over 12 hours

Q.48 *And how often do you have any other contact with members of your family, besides  
visiting, either by telephone or letter?*

Mother	Father	Sister	Brother	Daughter	Son	Other relative
--------	--------	--------	---------	----------	-----	----------------

Daily

At least several times a  
week

At least once a week

At least once a month

Several times a year

Less often

*THINKING ABOUT YOUR CLOSE FRIENDS – NOT YOUR HUSBAND OR WIFE, OR  
PARTNER, OR FAMILY MEMBER - BUT PEOPLE YOU FEEL FAIRLY CLOSE TO:*

**PLEASE WRITE IN NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ or NONE FOR Q.49 to Q51**

Q.49 *How many close friends do you have?*

Q.50 *How many of these friends are people you work with now?*

Q.51 *How many of these friends are your close neighbours?*

Q.52 *Now thinking of your best friend, or the friend you feel closest to. How often do you visit this friend? (Please tick one)*

He/She lives in the same household

Daily

At least several times a week

At least once a week

At least once a month

Several times a year

Less often

Q.53 *About how long would it take you to get to where this friend lives? Think of the time it usually takes door to door.*

Less than 15 minutes

Between 15 and 30 minutes

Between 30 minutes and 1 hour

Between 1 and 2 hours

Between 2 and 3 hours

Between 3 and 5 hours

Between 5 and 12 hours

Over 12 hours

Q.54 *And how often do you have any other contact with this friend, besides visiting, either by telephone or letter?*

Daily

At least several times a week

At least once a week

At least once a month

Several times a year

Less often

Q.55 *What factors prevent you from meeting up with family or friends more often? Tick all that apply.*

Can't afford to

Lack of time due to paid work

Lack of time due to childcare responsibilities

Lack of time due to other caring responsibilities  
 Can't go out because of caring responsibilities  
 No vehicle  
 Poor public transport  
 Problems with physical access  
 Too ill/sick/disabled  
 Too old  
 Fear of burglary/vandalism  
 Fear of personal attack  
 Not interested

*Q.56 How much support would you get in the following situations?*

A lot	Some	Not much	None at all
-------	------	----------	-------------

Help around the home if you are in bed with flu/illness  
 Help with a household or garden job that you cannot manage alone, for example, moving furniture  
 Needing advice about an important change in your life, for example, changing jobs, moving to another area  
 Being upset because of problems with your spouse/partner.  
 Feeling a bit depressed and wanting someone to talk to.  
 Needing someone to look after children/elderly or a disabled adult.  
 Needing someone to look after your home/possessions when away.

*Q.57 In the last twelve months which of the following have you done for family members (not living with you) or friends?*

Other family members	Friends
----------------------	---------

Given them money  
 Lent them money  
 Given them food  
 Lent them food  
 Given them other things (specify)  
 Lent them other things (specify)  
 Taken them out for an evening  
 Baby-sat in the evenings for them  
 Looked after their children in the daytime



Q.58 *And in the last twelve months which of the following have members of your family (not living with you) or friends done for you?*

Other family members	Friends
----------------------	---------

Given you money  
Lent you money  
Given you food  
Lent you food  
Given you other things (specify)  
Lent you other things (specify)  
Taken you out for an evening  
Baby-sat in the evenings for you  
Looked after your children in the daytime

### PERCEPTION OF POVERTY

Q.59 *Over the last 10 years, do you think that poverty in Britain has been increasing, decreasing or staying about the same?*

Increasing  
Decreasing  
Staying about the same  
Don't know  
Refusal/NA

Q.60 *And over the next 10 years, do you think that poverty in Britain will?*

Increase  
Decrease  
Stay at the same level  
Don't know  
Refusal/NA

Q.61 *Why, in your opinion, are there people who live in need? Here are four opinions - which is the closest to yours?*

Because they have been unlucky  
Because of laziness and lack of willpower  
Because there is much injustice in our society  
It's an inevitable part of modern progress  
None of these  
Don't know

Q.62 *Still thinking about people who lack the things you have said are necessities for living in Britain today, do you think that the Government is doing too much, too little or about the right amount to help these people?*

- Too much
- Too little
- About the right amount
- Don't know

Q.63a *If the Government proposed to increase income tax by one penny (1p) in the pound to enable everyone to afford the items you have said are necessities, on balance would you support or oppose this policy?*

- Support
- Oppose
- Don't know

Q.63b *If the Government proposed to increase income tax by five pence (5p) in the pound to enable everyone to afford the items you have said are necessities, on balance would you support or oppose this policy?*

- Support
- Oppose
- Don't know

Q.64 *In your opinion how effective would the following be in reducing poverty?*

**(SHOWCARD M)**

<b>Very important</b>	<b>Less important</b>	<b>Not important</b>
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Q.65 *I'm going to read to you a list of people in different circumstances. For each, could you tell me how likely you think it is that people in those circumstances in Britain today will be poor?*

**(SHOWCARD N)**

<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Likely</b>	<b>Neither likely or unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Very unlikely</b>
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Q.66 *And thinking about the same groups of people, for each, should the government increase benefits, decrease benefits or keep benefits at the level they are now?*

<b>Increase benefits</b>	<b>Decrease benefits</b>	<b>Keep benefits at the same level</b>
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## AREA DEPRIVATION

Q.67 *How satisfied are you with this area as a place to live?*

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Q.68 *Can you tell me how common or uncommon each of these are in this area?*

<b>Very common</b>	<b>Fairly common</b>	<b>Not very common</b>	<b>Not at all common</b>
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- Noisy neighbours or loud parties
- Graffiti on walls and buildings
- Teenagers hanging around on the streets
- Homeless people and/or people begging
- Rubbish/litter lying around
- Dogs and dog mess
- Home and gardens in bad condition
- Vandalism and deliberate damage to property
- Insults or attacks to do with someone's race or colour

Q.69 *And can you tell me, how much of a problem are these in this area?*

<b>Very big problem</b>	<b>Fairly big problem</b>	<b>Not very big problem</b>	<b>Not a problem at all</b>
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- Poor street lighting
- Street noise (e.g. traffic, businesses, factories)
- Pollution, grime or other environmental problems caused by traffic or industry
- Lack of open public spaces

Traffic is a risk to pedestrians and cyclists

## LOCAL SERVICES

Q.70 *I am going to read out a number of services which may exist in your local area and which affect our standard of living. Please could you tell me whether you think that these services are essential and should be available or whether they may be desirable but are not essential?*

(SHOWCARDS O, P and Q)

Essential	Desirable	Don't Know
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Q.71 *Now, could you please tell me the category in which you would put the following items?*

(SHOWCARDS O, P and Q)

Use - adequate	Use - inadequate	Don't use - don't want/not relevant	Don't use – unavailable/ Unsuitable	Don't use – can't afford	Don't know
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Q.72 *How easy would it be for you to get to the following if you needed to?*

(SHOWCARD O)

Very Easy	Fairly easy	Fairly difficult	Not easy
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## FINANCE AND DEBTS

Q.73 *Have there been times during the past year when you were seriously behind in paying within the time allowed for any of the following items?*

(SHOWCARD R)

Yes	No
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Q.74 *Have you ever been disconnected or used less than you needed in relation to water, gas, electricity and the telephone because you couldn't afford it?*

<b>Disconnected</b>	<b>Used less than needed</b>
---------------------	------------------------------

Water  
Gas  
Electricity  
Telephone

Q.75 *And have there been times during the past year when you have had to borrow money from money lenders, excluding banks or building societies, or pawnbrokers, in order to pay for your day,-to-day needs?*

<b>Money lenders</b>	<b>Pawnbrokers</b>
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Yes  
No  
Don't know

Q.76 *Do you or your partner/spouse have a bank or building society current account?*

Yes, respondent only  
Yes partner only  
Yes, both  
No, neither  
Don't know

## **POVERTY AND TIME**

Q.77 *Do you think you could genuinely say you are poor now, all the time, sometimes, or never?*

All the time  
Sometimes  
Never  
Never

Q.78 *Looking back over your life, how often have there been times in your life when you think you have lived in poverty by the standards of that time?*

- Never
- Rarely
- Occasionally
- Often
- Most of the time

Q.79 *Is there anything that has happened recently (in the last two years) in your life which has? Tick all that apply.*

- Improved your standard of living
- Reduced your standard of living
- Increased your income
- Reduced your income
- None of these

Q.80 *Is there anything that you expect to happen in the near future (in the next two years) in your life which will? Tick all that apply.*

- Improve your standard of living
- Reduce your standard of living
- Increase your income
- Reduce your income
- None of these

## **HEALTH**

Q.81 *Over the last 12 months would you say that your health has on the whole been good, fairly good, or not good?*

- Good
- Fairly good
- Not good

Q.82 *Do you or does anybody else in your household have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity? By long-standing I mean anything that has troubled you over a period of time or that is likely to affect you over a period of time.*

Yes, respondent

Yes, other household member/s

No

No answer

Q.83 *Do any of these illnesses or disabilities limit your activities in any way?*

Yes, respondent

Yes, other household member

No

Don't know

Q.84 *Thinking about your health, are you ever in pain and discomfort?*

I have no pain or discomfort

I have moderate pain or discomfort

I have extreme pain or discomfort

Q.85 *How many times have you consulted a Doctor for reasons other than pregnancy, contraception, screening or other preventative health care services in the last 12 months?*

None

1-2

3-4

5-7

8-10

11-15

16+

Don't know

Not applicable

No answer

Q.86 *Have you consulted any of the people on this card for preventative health care services (e.g. for a routine check-up) in the last 12 months?*

Doctor

Dentist

Optician

Family planning



Other  
None of these

*Q.87 How many times have other members of your household consulted a Doctor for reasons other than pregnancy, contraception, screening or other preventative health care services in the last 12 months?*

None  
1-2  
3-4  
5-7  
8-10  
11-15  
16+  
Don't know  
Not applicable  
No answer

*Q.88 How many times have you required hospital treatment for reasons other than pregnancy, screening or other preventative health care in the last 12 months?*

None  
1  
2  
3  
4-5  
6-9  
10+  
Don't know  
Not applicable  
No answer

**Q.89** *How many times have other members of your household required hospital treatment for reasons other than pregnancy, screening or other preventative health care in the last 12 months?*

None

1

2

3

4-5

6-9

10+

Don't know

Not applicable

No answer

**Q.90** *Are you currently on a hospital waiting list?*

Yes

No

Don't know

**IF YES, ASK**

**Q.91** *How long have you been on a hospital waiting list?*

(Q.92 overleaf)

*Q.92 Have you recently?*

Been able to concentrate on what you're doing?	Better than usual	Same as usual	Less than usual	Much less than usual
Lost much sleep over worry?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
Felt you were playing a useful part in things?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less useful than usual	Much less useful
Felt capable of making decisions about things?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less capable
Felt constantly under strain?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
Felt you couldn't overcome your difficulties?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
Been able to enjoy your normal day-to-day activities?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less than usual
Been able to face up to your problems?	More so than usual	Same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less able
Been feeling unhappy and depressed?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
Been losing confidence in yourself?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
Been thinking of yourself as a worthless person?	Not at all	No more than usual	Rather more than usual	Much more than usual
Been feeling reasonably happy, all things considered	More so than usual	About same as usual	Less so than usual	Much less than usual;

Q.93 *Have there been times in the past year when you've felt isolated and cut off from society, or depressed, because of lack of money ?*

Yes	No
-----	----

Isolated  
Depressed

Q.94 *Have there been times in the past year when you have felt isolated and cut off from society for any of the reasons on this card? Tick all that apply.*

Paid work  
Childcare responsibilities  
Other caring responsibilities  
Lack of own transport  
Irregular or expensive public transport  
No friends  
No family  
Problems with physical access  
Sexism  
Racism  
Homophobia  
Discrimination relating to disability  
Other

Q.95 *This card lists a number of things which may have happened to you. Could you tell me please which, if any, of these have happened to you in the past 12 months?*

Yes	No
-----	----

Death of a close relative or friend  
Problems at work  
Changing your job  
A wage earner in your household losing their job  
Divorce, separation or break-up of an intimate relationship  
Problems with your children  
Problems with parents or close relatives  
You, or someone else in your household, having a road accident  
You, or someone else in your household, having an accident around the home (such as a fall, scalding, electric shock, or something like that).  
You, or someone else in your household, having an accident/injury at work  
You, or someone else in your household, becoming ill from food poisoning, e.g. BSE, salmonella.  
Other serious illness or injury to you  
Other serious illness or injury of someone close to you  
Moving house  
Financial difficulties  
Problem with neighbours

ASK FOR EACH IF ANSWERED YES AT Q.95

Q.96 *Could you tell me how stressful you found (answer to question).*

- Very stressful
- Fairly stressful
- Not very stressful
- Not at all stressful

Q.97 *Here is a list of things which some people have said are the main contributing factors to divorce in Britain today. Which, if any, do you think are the main causes? Tick all that apply.*

- Poverty
- Poor housing
- Career pressure on men
- Women working/ not at home with the children
- Too high expectations of marriage
- Money/ financial difficulties
- Being childless
- Having children
- Family/in-law problems
- Less social stigma for divorce
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Lower religious standards
- Other (please specify)
- Don't know

## TIME

**Q.98** *I'd now like to ask you to split the day's 24 hours into certain broad task categories. Please indicate how many hours you think you typically spend on the following activities:*

	<b>On normal week days</b>	<b>At weekends (Saturdays and Sundays together)</b>
Paid employment, including any overtime and secondary jobs, transport to and from work		
Looking after the home, for example, cooking, cleaning and laundry		
Gardening, DIY, maintenance and repair of the home		
Shopping		
Child care, playing, and school work		
Education, studying, and training (including transport to and from place of study)		
Voluntary work/care of others		
Leisure /social life in the home (e.g. Watching TV, reading, relaxing, thinking)		
Leisure/social life outside the home (e.g. visiting friends, going to the pub, sport)		
Sleeping, eating, and personal care (e.g. washing)		
Total	24 hours	48 hours

**Q.99** *I'd like to ask you some further questions relating to time. How often would you agree with the following? Tick all that apply.*

- I often feel under stress when I don't have enough time.
- When I need more time, I tend to cut back on my sleep.
- At the end of the day, I often feel that I haven't accomplished what I set out to do.
- I worry that I don't spend enough time with my family and friends.
- I feel that I am constantly under stress - trying to accomplish more than I can handle.
- I feel trapped in a daily routine.
- When I'm working long hours, I often feel guilty than I'm not at home.
- I consider myself a workaholic.
- I just don't have time for fun anymore.
- Sometimes I feel that my spouse doesn't know who I am anymore.

## HOUSING

Q.100 *How satisfied are you with this accommodation?*

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Q.101 *Would you describe the state of repair of your home as good, adequate or poor?*

- Good
- Adequate
- Poor
- Don't know

Q.102 *Do you have any of the following problems with your accommodation?*

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
------------	-----------

- Shortage of space
- Too dark, not enough light
- Lack of adequate heating facilities
- Leaky roof
- Damp walls, floors, foundations, etc.
- Rot in window frames or floors
- Mould
- No place to sit outside, e.g. a terrace or garden
- Other

Q.103 *Has your health problems or the health problems of anyone in your household been caused/made worse by housing situation?*

- Yes
- No



## CRIME

Q.104 *I'd like to ask you about some crimes that may have happened to you in the last year. I don't just want to know about the serious incidents - I want to know about small things too. It is sometimes difficult to remember exactly when things happen, so I will take the questions slowly, and would like you to think carefully about them. In the last year:*

### ASK THOSE WITH VEHICLE

*Have you or anybody else in this household had a...?*

Yes	No
-----	----

Vehicle stolen or anything stolen off or out it  
Vehicle tampered with or damaged by vandals or people out to steal

### ASK ALL

*Has anyone....?*

Yes	No
-----	----

Broken into or tried to break into your home  
Stolen anything out of your home  
Stolen anything from outside of your home, apart from milk bottles or newspapers

Deliberately damaged or vandalised your home

Stolen anything you were carrying  
Defrauded you or cheated you out of money, possessions or property? (please specify)

Made obscene phone calls to you  
Threatened or frightened you  
Racially harassed or racially abused you

Deliberately hit or assaulted you (including friends/relatives or acquaintances -but excluding household members).

### ASK IF OTHER ADULTS IN THE HOUSEHOLD

*Has any adult member of your household hit or kicked you, or used force or violence in any other way?*

**ASK WOMEN ONLY**

Q.105 *I would like to ask you about other unpleasant incidents that you may have experienced. In the last year, when you have been out in this area or elsewhere, have you ever been annoyed, upset or frightened by a man you did not know doing any of the things on this card?*

Yes	No
-----	----

- Followed you on foot
- Followed you by car or kerb crawling
- Indecently exposed themselves
- Made abusive or sexually offensive comments
- Positioned you in the street for sex

**ASK ALL**

Q.106 *How safe do you feel walking alone in this area after dark? (If never goes out, probe 'How safe would you feel'?)*

- Very safe
- Fairly safe
- A bit unsafe
- Very unsafe

Q.107 *How safe do you feel when you are alone in your own home at night? (If is never alone, probe 'How safe would you feel'?)*

- Very safe
- Fairly safe
- A bit unsafe
- Very unsafe

Q.108 *Most of us worry at some time or other about being a victim of crime. Using one of the phrases on this card, could you tell me how worried you are about the following items on this card?*

<b>Very worried</b>	<b>Fairly worried</b>	<b>Not very worried</b>	<b>Not at all worried</b>
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- Being burgled
- Being mugged
- Having your car stolen
- Being insulted or pestered, while in the street or any other public place
- Being physically attacked because your colour, ethnic origin or religion
- Being raped
- Being attacked in your home by someone you know
- Being attacked in your home by a stranger

Q.109 *I have already asked you some questions about how worried you are about particular crimes. I would now like to ask you about other worries.*

<b>Very worried</b>	<b>Fairly worried</b>	<b>Not very worried</b>	<b>Not at all worried</b>
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- You, or someone else, in your household being seriously ill
- Having financial debts such as HP, mortgage, loans, etc.
- A wage earner in your household losing their job
- You, or someone else in your household, having a road accident
- You, or someone else in your household, having an accident around the home (such as a fall, scalding, electric shock, or something like that).
- You, or someone else in your household, having an accident/injury at work.
- You, or someone else in your household, becoming ill from food poisoning, e.g. BSE, salmonella.

## CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

### ASK THOSE WITH CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE ONLY

Q.110 *Here is a list of problems which some children of school age have experienced at school. Which, if any, of the following apply to any of your children in the last 12 months?*

<b>Apply</b>	<b>Does not apply</b>
--------------	---------------------------

Child has missed classes because of teacher shortage  
Child has shared school books in key subjects  
Child has found difficulty in obtaining school books  
for homework  
School does not have enough computers  
Large class sizes (30+)  
School buildings are in a bad state of repair  
Other problems due to lack of resources at school

Q.111 *Does your child have special education needs?*

Yes  
No

### ASK IF YES AT Q.111

Q.112 *Has your child had a SEN?*

Yes  
No  
Don't know

Q.113 *Has your child ever been bullied or been accused of bullying?*

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
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Has been bullied  
Has been accused of bullying



Q.114 *Has your child ever been suspended or excluded from school?*

Yes

No

Don't know

**ASK IF YES AT Q.115**

Q.115 *Roughly how many days was that for?*

## **POLITICAL ACTIVISM**

Q.116 *Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green or what?*

Conservative

Labour

Liberal Democrat

Green

Plaid Cymru

Scottish National Party

Other

Refuse to say

Don't know

Q.117 *And which, if any, of the things on this list have you done in the last two or three years? Tick all that apply.*

Presented my views to a local councillor or MP

Written a letter to an editor

Urged someone outside my family to vote

Urged someone to get in touch with a local councillor or MP

Made a speech before an organised group

Been an officer of an organisation or club

Stood for public office

Taken an active part in a political campaign

Helped on fund raising drives

Voted in the last General election

Voted in the last local election

None of these

Q.118 *Are you currently an active member of any kinds of organisations on this card?*

Yes	No	Don't know
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- Political party
- Trade Union
- Environmental group
- Other pressure group
- Parents' / School Association
- Tenants' / Residents' Association or Neighbourhood Watch
- Religious group or church organisation
- Voluntary service group
- Other community or civic group
- Social club/ working men's club
- Sports club
- Women's Institute / Townswomen's guild
- Women's Group / Feminist organisation
- Other group or organisation
- None of these

## Appendix I: Details of the Proposed Changes to the Questionnaire and Sources for the New Questions

Comparison of the content of the *Breadline Britain* Survey and the proposed Survey of Poverty and Social Exclusion (see pilot questionnaire in report for further details)

<i>Breadline Britain</i> Survey 1990	Proposed survey of Poverty and Social Exclusion
<b><u>Demographic section</u></b>	
age of respondent	repeated (Q.1)
sex of respondent	repeated (Q. 2)
household composition	new matrix modified from GHS giving for each person relationship to respondent, sex and age (Q.3)
marital status	modified question that identifies cohabitants and differentiates separated from marriage and separated from cohabitation (Q.4)
ethnicity	modified from GHS (Q.5)
tenure	repeated (Q.6)
type of accommodation	modified from GHS (Q.7)
education	modified Census 1997 test (Q.8)
<b><u>Employment and Benefits</u></b>	
employment status of respondent and partner	modified (Q.9a and Q.9b)
benefits received	modified (Q.10)
income	sources of income - new question (Q.11)
length of time in receipt of JSA/IS	new question (Qs.12a-12I)
contribution to an occupational pension	modified (Q.13) and (Q.14)
unemployment at present	modified (Q.15)
unemployment recent past	repeated (Q.16)
unemployment last ten years	repeated (Q.17)
	repeated (Q.18)
	<b><u>Absolute and overall poverty (UN self perceived poverty questions)</u></b>
	new section (Qs.19-24)



### **Socially perceived necessities**

what items are necessary by adults	modification to the wording of two items, 14 new items added (Q.25). From GHS, ECHP, Lorraine Panel Survey and ESRI surveys
what activities are necessary by adults	Modifications to the wording of two items, 6 activities added. (Q. 26)
what items are necessary by children	modified from Small Fortunes Study (Q.27)
what activities are necessary by children	modified from Small Fortunes Study (Q.28)
lacking necessary items by adults	modification to the wording of two items, 13 new items added. (Q.29)
lacking necessary activities by adults	modifications to the wording of two items, 6 activities added. (Q.30)
	reasons for not doing activities - new question. (Q.31)
lacking necessary items by children	modified from Small Fortunes Study (Q.32)
lacking necessary activities by children	modified from Small Fortunes Study (Q.33)
	<b><u>Intra household poverty</u></b> - new section.
	access to a car (Q. 34)
	management of household finances from British Household Panel Survey (Q.35)
	first thing to go without when money tight (Q.36)
	difficulty in giving up when money is tight (Q.37)
	how often go without respondent/partner/children (Qs. 38-40)
	frequency of going out socially without partner (Q.41)
	what respondent does when out alone (Q.42)
	what respondent does when out with partner (Q.43)

**Social networks and support** - new section.

mother and father still alive (Q.44)

number of close relatives (Q.45)

contact with close relatives (Q.46)

time to travel to see close relatives (Q.47)

their contacts with family (Q.48)

number of close friends (Q.49)

at work (Q.50)

in neighbourhood (Q.51)

contact with best friend (Q.52)

time to visit best friend (Q.53)

other contact with best friend (Q.54)

reasons for not meeting family and friends more often (Q.55)

sources and amount of support in time of need (Q. 56) (from International Social Survey Programme)

services provided for family/friends (Q.57)

service received from family friends (Q.58)

**Perceptions of poverty**

poverty increased in past 10 years – new question from British Social Attitudes Survey (Q.59)

poverty will increase over next 10 years – new question from British Social Attitudes Survey (Q.60)

opinions on the causes of poverty repeated (Q.61)

opinions on government action to combat poverty repeated (Q.62)

attitudes to increases in income tax repeated (Q.63a and Q.63b)

opinions on the effectiveness of anti poverty policies - new question (Q.64)

opinions on the likelihood of different groups being poor - new question (Q.65)

opinions on whether the groups in poverty should have increases/decreases in poverty - new question (Q.66)

**Area deprivation** – new section

satisfaction with area – from Survey of English Housing (Q.67)

how common are neighbourhood problems – from British Social Attitudes Survey (Q.68)

how much of a problem from British Crime Survey, European Community Household Panel, British Social Attitudes Survey (Q.69)

**Local services**

local services essential/desirable modified (Q.70)

local services use/adequacy modified (Q.71)

local services accessibility - new question (Q.72)

**Debts**

arrears with bills modified (Q.73)

disconnections - new question (Q.74)

money lenders modified (Q.75)

access to bank/building society - new question (Q.76)

**Poverty and time**

poor now repeated (Q.77)

poor during life repeated (Q.78)

changes in standards of living in past two years - new question (Q.79)

changes in standard of living in next two years -  
new question (Q.80)

### **Health**

longstanding illness disability or infirmity	general health – new question from GHS (Q.81) modified (Q.82) limit activities – new question from GHS (Q.83)  pain or discomfort – new question from GHS, EuroQuol questions (Q.84)
number of times respondent consulted doctor in 12 months	repeated (Q.85)  number of times respondent has consulted for preventative health care in 12 months – new question (Q.86)
number of times other members of the household consulted doctor in 12 months	repeated question (Q.87)
number of times respondent received hospital treatment in 12 months	repeated (Q.88)
number of times other members of household received hospital treatment in 12 months	repeated (Q.89)
hospital waiting lists	modified (Qs. 90-1)

General Health Questionnaire (HQ12) new  
from Health Survey of England (Q92)

### **Isolation and depression**

experience of isolation/depression	repeated (Q.93) reasons for isolation – new question (Q.94)
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### **Life events** - new section

experience of life events from Edinburgh Single  
Regeneration Budget Survey and British Crime  
Survey (Q.95)

stressfulness of life events (Q.96)

causes of divorce – new question from Living in  
Britain Survey (Q.97)

### **TIME**- new section

hours spent on activities (Q.98)

feelings about time use new question from US  
Time use survey (Q.99)

## **Housing**

housing satisfaction - new question from Survey of English housing (Q.100)

state of repair repeated (Q.101)

problems with housing - new question from European Community Household Panel (Q.102)

housing and health repeated (Q.103)

## **Crime and Fear**

experience of crime modified (Q.104)

Unpleasant criminal incidents women only – new question from British Crime Survey (Q. 105)

sense of personal safety in neighbourhood modified from British Crime Survey (Q.106)

sense of personal safety at home – new question from British Crime Survey (Q.107)

worries about crime - new question from Living in Britain and British Crime Survey (Q.108)

worries about other things – new question from British Crime Survey (Q.109)

## **Children's Education**

problems with school facilities modified (Q.110)

special educational needs/SSEN – new questions (Qs. 111-2)

bullying – new question (Q.113)

school exclusion – new questions (Q.s114-5)

## **Political activism**

voting intentions repeated (Q.116)

active citizenship – new question (Q.117) from MORI activism question module

Memberships – new question (Q.118)



## Appendix II: Showcards

### SHOWCARD A

No qualifications  
Level 1 NVQ/SVQ  
Foundation GNVQ/GSVQ  
GCSE (grades D to G)  
CSE (graded 2 to 5)  
SCE O (grades D and E)  
SCE Standard (grades 4 to 7)  
SCOTVEC National Certificate Modules  
GCSE (grades A to C)  
GCE 'O' level passes  
CSE grade 1  
SCE O (grades A to C)  
SCE Standard (grades 1 to 3)  
School Certificate  
Matriculation  
Level 2 NVQ/SVQ  
Intermediate GNVQ/GSVQ  
BEC (General)  
BTEC (General)  
City and Guilds Craft or Ordinary level  
RSA Diploma  
GCE 'A' level  
SCE Higher (grades A to C)  
Level NVQ/SVQ  
Advanced GNVQ/GSVQ  
ONC/OND  
TEC (National)  
BEC (National)  
BTEC (National)  
City and Guilds Advanced Craft or Final Level  
Level 4 NVQ/SVQ  
HNC/HND  
BEC (Higher)  
TEC (Higher)  
BTEC (Higher)  
RSA Diploma  
First degree, e.g. BSc, BA, BEd.  
Other degree-level qualification including MAs at first degree level  
Level 5 NVQ/SVQ  
Higher degree e.g. MSc, MA, PGCE, PhD  
Other

## SHOWCARD B

Working full-time  
Working part-time  
Government scheme /New Deal  
Waiting to take up job  
Seeking work  
Temporarily sick  
Permanent unable work  
Retired  
Looking after the house and /or training  
Student /Training  
Other inactive

## SHOWCARD C

	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	ANNUAL
1	Less than £10	Less than £43	Less than £520
2	£10 less than £20	£43 less than £86	£520 less than £1,040
3	£20 less than £30	£86 less than £ 130	£1,040 less than £1,560
4	£30 less than £40	£ 130 less than £ 173	£1,560 less than £2,080
5	£40 less than £50	£173 less than £217	£2,080 less than £2,600
6	£50 less than £60	£217 less than £260	£2,600 less than £3,120
7	£60 less than £70	£260 less than £303	£3,120 less than £3,640
8	£70 less than £80	£303 less than £347	£3,640 less than £4,160
9	£80 less than £90	£347 less than £390	£4,160 less than £4,680
10	£90 less than £100	£390 less than £433	£4,680 less than £5,200
11	£100 less than £120	£433 less than £520	£5,200 less than £6,240
12	£ 120 less than £ 140	£520 less than £607	£6,240 less than £7,280
13	£ 140 less than £ 160	£607 less than £693	£7,280 less than £8,320
14	£ 160 less than £ 180	£693 less than £780	£8,320 less than £9,360
15	£ 180 less than £200	£780 less than £867	£9,360 less than £10,400
16	£200 less than £220	£867 less than £953	£10,400 less than £11,440
17	£220 less than £240	£953 less than £1,040	£11,440 less than £12,480
18	£240 less than £260	£1,040 less than £1,127	£12,480 less than £13,520
19	£260 less than £280	£1,127 less than £1,213	£13,520 less than £14,560
20	£280 less than £300	£1,213 less than £1,300	£14,560 less than £15,600
21	£300 less than £320	£1,300 less than £1,387	£15,600 less than £16,640
22	£320 less than £340	£1,387 less than £1,473	£16,640 less than £17,680
23	£340 less than £360	£1,473 less than £1,560	£17,680 less than £ 18,720
24	£360 less than £380	£1,560 less than £1,647	£18,720 less than £19,760
25	£380 less than £400	£1,647 less than £1,733	£19,760 less than £20,800
26	£400 less than £450	£1,733 less than £1,950	£20,800 less than £23,400
27	£450 less than £500	£1,950 less than £2,167	£23,400 less than £26,000



28	£500 less than £550	£2,167 less than £2,383	£26,000 less than £28,600
29	£550 less than £600	£2,383 less than £2,600	£28,600 less than £31,200
30	£600 less than £650	£2,600 less than £2,817	£31,200 less than £33,800
31	£650 less than £700	£2,817 less than £3,033	£33,800 less than £36,400
32	£700 or more	£3,033 or more	£36,400 or more

## SHOWCARD D

1	£36,400 less than £37,000	31	£130,000 less than £135,000
2	£37,000 less than £38,000	32	£135,000 less than £140,000
3	£38,000 less than £39,000	33	£140,000 less than £145,000
4	£39,000 less than £40,000	34	£145,000 less than £150,000
5	£40,000 less than £41,000	35	£150,000 less than £155,000
6	£41,000 less than £42,000	36	£155,000 less than £160,000
7	£42,000 less than £43,000	37	£160,000 less than £165,000
8	£43,000 less than £44,000	38	£165,000 less than £170,000
9	£44,000 less than £45,000	39	£170,000 less than £175,000
10	£45,000 less than £46,000	40	£175,000 less than £180,000
11	£46,000 less than £47,000	41	£180,000 less than £185,000
12	£47,000 less than £48,000	42	£185,000 less than £190,000
13	£48,000 less than £49,000	43	£190,000 less than £195,000
14	£49,000 less than £50,000	44	£195,000 less than £200,000
15	£50,000 less than £55,000	45	£200,000 less than £210,000
16	£55,000 less than £60,000	46	£210,000 less than £220,000
17	£60,000 less than £65,000	47	£220,000 less than £230,000
18	£65,000 less than £70,000	48	£230,000 less than £240,000
19	£70,000 less than £75,000	49	£240,000 less than £250,000
20	£75,000 less than £80,000	50	£250,000 less than £260,000
21	£80,000 less than £85,000	51	£260,000 less than £270,000
22	£85,000 less than £90,000	52	£270,000 less than £280,000
23	£90,000 less than £95,000	53	£280,000 less than £290,000
24	£95,000 less than £100,000	54	£290,000 less than £300,000
25	£100,000 less than £105,000	55	£300,000 less than £320,000
26	£ 105,000 less than £ 110,000	56	£320,000 less than £340,000
27	£ 110,000 less than £ 115,000	57	£340,000 less than £360,000
28	£115,000 less than £120,000	58	£360,000 less than £380,000
29	£ 120,000 less than £ 125,000	59	£380,000 less than £400,000
30	£ 125,000 less than £ 130,000	60	£400,000 or more

## SHOWCARD E

### ABSOLUTE POVERTY

Absolute poverty means being so poor that you are deprived of basic human needs.

In order to avoid ABSOLUTE poverty, you need enough money to cover all these things:

adequate diet;  
housing costs/rent;  
heating costs;  
clothing;  
adequate sanitation facilities (sewage rates and water rates);  
access to basic health care;  
access to education/schooling.

## SHOWCARD F

### OVERALL POVERTY

In order to avoid OVERALL poverty, you need to have enough money not only to cover all things mentioned in the ABSOLUTE poverty list above, but enough money to ensure that you are able to:

live in a safe environment;  
have a social life in your local area  
feel part of the local community;  
carry out your duties/activities in the family and neighbourhood,  
and at work;  
meet essential costs of transport.

## SHOWCARDS SET G

Two meals a day
Meat or fish or vegetarian equivalent every other day
Heating to warm living areas of the home if it's cold
A dressing gown
Two pairs of all weather shoes
New, not second hand, clothes
A television
A roast joint or its vegetarian equivalent once a week
Carpets in living rooms and bedrooms in the home
Telephone
Refrigerator
Beds and bedding for everyone in the household
Damp-free home

A car
A dictionary
Presents for friends or family once a year
A warm waterproof coat
A washing machine
A dishwasher
Regular savings (of £10 a month) for 'rainy days' or retirement
A video
Enough money to keep your home in a decent state of decoration
Insurance of contents of dwelling
Fresh fruit and vegetables every day
A home computer
An outfit to wear for social or family occasions such as parties and weddings
Microwave oven
Mobile phone
Tumble dryer
Deep freezer / Fridge freezer
Satellite TV
CD player
Replace any worn out furniture
Replace or repair broken electrical goods such as refrigerator or washing machine
Appropriate clothes to wear for job interviews
All medicines prescribed by your doctor
Access to the Internet
A small amount of money to spend each week on yourself, not on your family
Having a daily newspaper

### SHOWCARDS SET H

A night out once a fortnight
A hobby or leisure activity
A holiday away from home for one week a year, not with relatives
Celebrations on special occasions such as Christmas
A meal in a restaurant/pub once a month
Holidays abroad once a year
Coach/train fares to visit family/friends in other parts of the country four times a year
Friends or family round for a visit, for a meal/ snack /drink
Visits to friends or family
Going to the pub once a fortnight
Attending weddings, funerals and other occasions
Attending church/mosque/synagogue or other places of worship
Collect children from school
Visits to school, for example, sports day, parents evening

### SHOWCARDS SET I

Three meals a day
Toys (e.g. dolls, play figures, teddies, etc.)
Leisure equipment (e.g. sports equipment or a bicycle)
Enough bedrooms for every child over 10 of different sex to have his/her own bedroom
Computer games
A warm waterproof coat
Books of her/his own
A bike, new or second hand
Construction toys such as Duplo or Lego
Educational games
New, properly fitted shoes
At least seven pairs of new underpants
At least four jumpers, cardigans or sweatshirts
All the school uniform required by the school
At least four pairs of trousers, leggings, jeans or jogging bottoms
At least 50 pence week to spend on sweets
Meat, fish or vegetarian equivalent at least twice a day
Computer suitable school work
Fresh fruit or vegetables at least once a day
A garden to play in
Some new, not second-hand or handed-on clothes
A carpet in their bedroom
A bed and bedding to her/himself

## SHOWCARDS SET J

A hobby or leisure activity
Celebrations on special occasions such as birthdays, Christmas other religious festival
Swimming at least once a month
Play group at least once a week for pre-school aged children
A holiday away from home at least one week a year with his/her family
Going on a school trip at least once a term for school aged children
Friends round for tea or a snack once a fortnight

## SHOWCARD K

Clothes  
 Shoes  
 Food  
 Heating  
 Telephoning friends/family  
 Going out  
 Visits to the pub  
 A hobby or sport  
 A holiday

Cigarettes  
Never go without  
Money never tight

## **SHOWCARD L**

Go on your own to visit friends/relatives  
Go to the pub alone  
Go to the pub with friends/relatives  
Take the children out somewhere to do something together (e.g. cinema, park, visiting child friends)  
Go out to take children to activities (e.g. swimming lessons, clubs)  
Go to a social club/community centre  
Go to the cinema/theatre  
Go to a restaurant/cafe  
Go to a night-club  
Go to child's school (e.g. to help out at school)  
Go to church/temple/mosque/synagogue/other religious  
Go to night school/hobby  
Go to watch sport  
Go to play sport  
Go shopping

## **SHOWCARD M**

Increasing pensions  
Increasing Income Support/ Job Seekers Allowance  
Increasing other benefits e.g. Child Benefit  
Investing in skills training for the unemployed  
Investing in education for children  
Investing in job creation  
Improving access to child care  
Redistribution of wealth  
Minimum wage  
Better parenting  
Reducing truancy from schools  
Increasing trade union rights  
Reducing discrimination  
Requiring unemployed young people to work  
Requiring unemployed lone parents to work

## **SHOWCARD N**

Families on low wages with children  
Families on low wages without children

Pensioners  
Young single men  
Young single women  
Disabled people  
Divorced mother living alone  
Immigrants  
Children  
Young single mothers living alone  
Unemployed men  
Unemployed women  
Refugees or asylum seekers  
Widows

## **SHOWCARD O**

### **ALL ADULTS**

Libraries  
Public sports facilities e.g. swimming pools  
Museums and galleries  
Evening classes  
Public/Community/Village hall  
Places of worship  
Bus services  
Train/Tube Station  
Petrol stations  
Chemists  
Corner shop  
Medium to large supermarkets  
Post office  
Banks or building societies  
Pub  
Cinema /Theatre  
Hospital with accident and emergency department  
Doctor  
Dentist  
Optician

### **FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN**

Play facilities for children to play safely nearby

### **FAMILIES WITH SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN**

School meals  
Youth clubs  
After school clubs  
Public transport to school

## **SHOWCARD P**

### **FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 5**

Nurseries, playgroups, mother and toddler groups

## **SHOWCARD Q**

### **PENSIONERS OR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Access to home help

Access to meals on wheels

Special transport for those with mobility problems

## **SHOWCARD R**

Rent

Gas

Electricity

Water

Goods on hire purchase

Mortgage repayments

Council Tax

Credit card payments

Mail order catalogue payments

Telephone

Other loans

TV Licence

Road Tax

DSS Social Fund Loan

Child Support/ Maintenance

None of these