

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 068 813

AC 012 934

TITLE Survival Literacy Study.
INSTITUTION Harris (Louis) and Associates, Inc., New York, N.Y.
SPONS AGENCY National Reading Council, Washington, D. C.
PUB DATE Sep 70
NOTE 38p.
EDRS PRICE MF-\$0.65 HC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Adult Literacy; Functional Illiteracy; *Functional Reading; Illiterate Adults; *Reading Ability; Reading Skills; *Reading Tests; Statistical Data; *Surveys; Tables (Data); Technical Reports

ABSTRACT

This study by Louis Harris and Associates was designed to determine the percentage of Americans lacking the functional or practical reading skills necessary to survive in this country. A test on reading and filling out application forms indicated that from 4.3 million to 18.5 million Americans are functionally illiterate. The average range of functional illiteracy for rural dwellers was 4-16%; the percentage of city residents with functional illiteracy was 4-13%. Fewer persons residing in small towns and cities had difficulty reading forms and suburban residents filled out the forms most easily. The South had the highest range of functional illiteracy (4-15%), and people in the West tended to have fewer reading deficiencies than those in other areas. Practical literacy appears to decrease in direct proportion to income in the United States. The age group from 16 to 24 proved the most literate and the oldest (50 and over) were the most deficient in reading ability. Women had fewer deficiencies than men. The literacy range of immigrants to the United States was 7-16% compared to a range of 3-13% for the native-born. Reading ability increased in direct proportion to years of education. (RS)

ED 068813

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRO-
DUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM
THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIG-
INATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPIN-
IONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY
REPRESENT OFFICIAL OFFICE OF EDU-
CATION POSITION OR POLICY

SCOPE OF INTEREST NOTICE

The ERIC Facility has assigned
this document for processing
to:

AC CS

In our judgement, this document
is also of interest to the clearing-
houses noted to the right. Index-
ing should reflect their special
points of view.

SURVIVAL LITERACY STUDY

Conducted for

THE NATIONAL READING COUNCIL

September 1970

by

LOUIS HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

LOUIS HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

FILMED FROM BEST AVAILABLE COPY

AC012934



PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

On July 31, 1970, President Nixon announced the appointment of 40 men and women (including businessmen, teachers; Congressmen, civic leaders and entertainers) to serve on the National Reading Council, a supervisory board to a new national reading program. The Council's most immediate and urgent task was to measure the extent of reading deficiencies in the United States. To undertake this task, the National Reading Council commissioned Louis Harris and Associates, Inc. This study, a ground-breaker in its attempt to measure scientifically the literacy rate among all sectors of the United States population, was to be completed in time for the Council's first annual meeting in Washington, D.C., on September 10th.

From its inception, the study was planned to measure the "survival" literacy rate in the United States. It would determine the percentage of Americans lacking the functional or practical reading skills necessary to "survive" in this country. How many Americans were prevented by reading deficiencies, we asked ourselves, from filling out application forms for such common needs as a Social Security number, a personal bank loan, Public Assistance, Medicaid, a driver's license? Fundamentally, this is a study of functional rather than by-rote literacy.

The purpose of this study was to measure reading ability and not application forms. In order to avoid a defensive reaction on the part of the respondent, however, he was told, "we are doing a survey on the subject of different application forms people have to fill out. It seems these days that nearly everyone has to fill out application forms for many of the things they do."

LOUIS HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.



3.

SCORING METHODS

Performance on each individual application form and overall performance on the five forms together were measured according to a simple percentile scoring system. The Harris firm first counted the number of correct answers and compared them to the number of possible answers on each form. On Form I (Identification Form), for example, 15 answers were required and should have been supplied by the literate respondent. Fifteen, therefore, was used as a base for scoring purposes. If only three appropriate answers were supplied, the raw score was 3/15.

The base for each of four of the five forms varied according to the nature of the questions asked. Some questions were to be answered only by those respondents who had answered the previous question negatively. (For example, one form asked: "Are you able to work now? _____ If unable to work now, why are you not able to work now? _____.") In cases where the respondent correctly skipped a question, the scoring base was reduced.

In tabulating the scores recorded by the coding department, our computer operators followed the percentile reference code shown below:

<u>Punch</u>	<u>Percentage Correct</u>
-1	0%
-2	1-9%
-3	10-19%
-4	20-29%
-5	30-39%
-6	40-49%
-7	50-59%
-8	60-69%
-9	70-79%
-0	80-89%
-x	90-100%
-y	Refusals

LOUIS HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

4.

If on Form I with a base of 15 possible answers, for example, the respondent supplied only three correct answers (20% correct), this score was recorded in Punch 4 of the computer column. Refusals to fill out an individual form also were recorded. After scoring each form separately, the computer arrived at an overall percentile score for each respondent.

"RANGE OF ILLITERACY"

Respondents who completed correctly 90-100% of the five forms averaged together are considered fully literate for the purposes of this study. Incorrect answers up to ten percent are overlooked in the scoring and attributed to carelessness, difficulty of the form structure and content, but not to reading deficiencies.

The basic approach in analyzing this study has been to order people on a continuum which reflects four types of "literacy groups":

1. "Low Survival Threshold" -- Respondents who average more than 30% incorrect, that is, less than 70% correct on all five forms. The survival probability of this group must be assumed to be low. Relatively, they are therefore considered functionally illiterate in modern American society. Despite the fact that these respondents may show anywhere up to 70% correct answers, they are still considered relatively illiterate. This pattern was followed in order to include in the functionally illiterate group those Americans who might recognize certain familiar words (i.e., "age", "name", "address"), but have serious reading and comprehension problems.

2. "Questionable Survival Threshold" -- Respondents who average more than 20% incorrect answers, that is, less than 80% correct answers. Since the groups are figured cumulatively, this group includes respondents in the more-than-30% group also. Members of this literacy group filled out the forms with considerable difficulty and belong therefore in a questionable survival group.



3. "Marginal Survival Threshold" -- Respondents who answer more than ten percent incorrect answers, that is, any number of correct answers below 90%. - Generally, this group lacks total survival reading ability and includes members of the above two groups.

4. "Likely Survival Threshold" -- Respondents who answer less than ten percent incorrect answers, that is, between 90-100% correct answers. This group is considered functionally literate.

The term "range of illiteracy" will appear throughout the report. It refers to the range between the "Low Survival" and "Marginal Survival" groups. This range includes members of groups 1, 2, and 3 above.

I

Chart I lists the application forms in the order of difficulty indicated by the results of the survey. Form IV (Application for Public Assistance) proves overall the easiest to read: only three percent of the people answered incorrectly more than ten percent of the form. Form V (Application for Medicaid) proved most difficult: nine percent of the people read incorrectly more than 30% of the form and 34% read incorrectly more than ten percent. The average range of illiteracy was from three percent (the percentage of people who averaged more than 30% incorrect) to 13% (the percentage who averaged more than ten percent incorrect). Converted into population, this represents a range of 4.3 million to 18.5 million. A total of 4.3 million Americans fall into the "Low Survival Threshold" group, 7.1 million into the "Questionable Survival Threshold" group, and 18.5 million into the "Marginal Survival Threshold" group.

The results of the study show, therefore, that, due to reading deficiencies, three percent of all Americans had difficulty filling out an application for Public Assistance, seven percent had difficulty completing a simple identification form (the equivalent of an application for a Social Security number), eight percent had trouble with an application for a driver's license, 11% with an application for a personal bank loan, and 34% with an application for Medicaid.



CHART I

TOTAL

	<u>More Than 30% Incorrect</u> %	<u>More Than 20% Incorrect</u> %	<u>More Than 10% Incorrect</u> %
Form IV	*	1	3
Form I	1	2	7
Form III	1	3	8
Form II	2	4	11
Form V	9	17	34
<hr/>			
Average	3	5	13
Projected to population (in millions)	4.3	7.1	18.5

* Less than 0.5%.

NOTE: Forms ranked according to difficulty with least difficult form first.

II

Charts II, III, IV and V break down the results of the study into the four locations where respondents live: Rural Areas, Cities, Towns and Suburbs. The average range of functional illiteracy for rural inhabitants (see Chart II) was 4-16%; that is, four percent of the rural population interviewed missed more than 30% of the answers, seven percent missed more than 20% of the answers, and 16% missed more than ten percent.

III

City dwellers had similar difficulty in filling out the forms. Their average range of functional illiteracy (see Chart III) was 4-13%; that is, four percent of the city population interviewed missed more than 30% of the answers, six percent missed more than 20%, and 13% missed more than ten percent.

IV

Fewer people who live in small towns and cities had difficulty reading the forms. Only an average of two percent read incorrectly more than 30% of the forms, a total of five percent failed on more than 20%, and 12% left more than ten percent unanswered.

V

Suburban residents filled out the forms most easily of these four groups. Their average range of functional illiteracy was a low 2-9%. Only Form V (Application for Medicaid) was difficult for some suburban residents: on this form six percent missed more than 30% of the answers, 11% missed more than 20%, and 28% missed more than ten percent.

VI

The results of the study also were looked at in terms of regional areas: the South, the East, the Midwest and the West. The South had the highest average range of functional illiteracy -- a range of 4-15%. Four percent answered incorrectly more than 30% of all forms averaged together; seven percent answered incorrectly more than 20% and 15% answered incorrectly more than ten percent.

VII

Among the regional groups, the East had the second highest range of functional illiteracy. Four percent of all Easterners interviewed missed more than 30% of the answers, six percent missed more than 20% and 10% missed more than ten percent.

VIII

The functional illiteracy rate of Midwesterners ranged from 3 to 13%. These figures suggest that the Midwest has an average illiteracy rate only slightly higher than that of the East and the South.

IX

People in the West tend to have fewer reading deficiencies than inhabitants of the other three regions, the study showed. A small average of one percent of all Westerners interviewed answered incorrectly more than 30% of the five forms. Four percent missed more than 20% and ten percent missed more than ten percent.

CHART VI - IX

<u>South</u>	More Than	& More Than	More Than
	<u>30% Incorrect</u>	<u>20% Incorrect</u>	<u>10% Incorrect</u>
	%	%	%
Form I	2	4	9
Form II	3	5	15
Form III	2	5	10
Form IV	2	2	3
Form V	11	21	37
<hr/>			
Average	4	7	15

East

Form I	2	3	7
Form II	3	5	12
Form III	3	5	11
Form IV	1	2	5
Form V	10	16	34
<hr/>			
Average	4	6	14

Midwest

Form I	1	2	7
Form II	3	5	10
Form III	2	4	9
Form IV	1	1	3
Form V	9	17	34
<hr/>			
Average	3	6	13

West

Form I	*		5
Form II	1	3	9
Form III	*	1	5
Form IV	*	*	2
Form V	5	14	28
<hr/>			
Average	1	4	10

* Less than 0.5%

X

Chart X illustrates that practical literacy decreases in direct proportion to income in the United States. A large five percent of the people with an annual income under \$5,000 missed over 30% of the answers, compared to only two percent with an income from \$5,000 to \$9,999, two percent with an income of \$10,000 to \$14,999, and a small one percent with an income of \$15,000 or more. While nine percent of those earning under \$5,000 missed 20% or more, only three percent of those earning \$15,000 or more missed the same number of answers. Likewise, 18% of those earning under \$5,000 missed more than ten percent, compared to seven percent who earn \$15,000 or more.

For the income group under \$5,000, the range of illiteracy was 5-18%, compared to 2-13% for the \$5,000-\$9,999 group, 2-10% for the \$10,000-\$14,999 group, and 1-7% for the \$15,000-and-over group.

INCOME

	More Than 30% Incorrect			More Than 20% Incorrect			More Than 10% Incorrect			
	Under \$5,000 %	to \$9,999 %	and Over \$14,999 %	Under \$5,000 %	to \$9,999 %	and Over \$14,999 %	Under \$5,000 %	to \$9,999 %	and Over \$14,999 %	
Form I	2	1	-	4	3	1	12	8	3	2
Form II	4	2	1	8	4	2	19	13	5	3
Form III	2	*	1	6	2	3	13	7	9	3
Form IV	3	*	*	3	1	*	6	3	1	3
Form V	16	9	7	25	17	14	40	35	30	24
Average	5	2	2	9	5	4	18	13	10	7

* Less than 0.5%.



XI

When reading deficiencies were correlated with race, the study revealed some striking figures. While the range of illiteracy for white respondents was a low 2-12%, the range for black respondents was a high 8-22%. Only two percent of all whites missed more than 30% of the answers, compared to eight percent of the blacks. While only five percent of the whites missed more than 20%, 13% of the blacks missed the same number. While only 12% of all whites answered incorrectly more than ten percent of the forms, a high 22% of all blacks interviewed answered incorrectly the same number.

CHART XI

RACE

	More Than 30% Incorrect		More Than 20% Incorrect		More Than 10% Incorrect	
	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Form I	1	3	2	6	6	15
Form II	2	6	3	11	10	21
Form III	*	4	2	9	7	18
Form IV	1	4	1	5	3	8
Form V	8	23	16	32	32	50
Average	2	8	5	13	12	22

* Less than 0.5%.

XII

In comparing race with literacy the study focused particularly on one limited sector of both racial groups -- those respondents earning less than \$5,000 annually. Even among members of this low income group, the illiteracy range of non-whites*(8-25%) was much higher than that of whites (4-16%). While only four percent of whites in this income group missed more than 30% of the answers, eight percent of non-whites missed the same amount. While only seven percent of whites in this group answered incorrectly more than 20%, 14% of non-whites answered incorrectly the same number. Finally, while 16% of whites here missed more than ten percent, an enormous 25% of all non-whites earning less than \$5,000 a year missed more than ten percent of the answers on the forms.

* Non-white here includes blacks (Negroes), orientals, Puerto Ricans, and Mexican Americans.

INCOME UNDER \$5,000 BY RACE

	More Than 30% incorrect		More Than 20% Incorrect		More Than 10% Incorrect	
	White %	Non-White %	White %	Non-White %	White %	Non-White %
Form I	1	3	2	7	10	18
Form II	4	6	7	13	18	23
Form III	2	4	5	11	10	22
Form IV	2	6	2	6	5	9
Form V	12	21	21	31	35	52
Average	4	8	7	14	16	25

XIII

For the purposes of this study, the U. S. population was divided into four age groups: people 16-24 years old, 25-29 years, 30-49 years and 50 and over years of age. The youngest group proved to be the most literate; their illiteracy range was a low 1-9%. The oldest (50 and over) group proved most deficient in reading ability, with an illiteracy range of 5-17%. Both the 25-29 year olds and the 30-49 year olds had an identical illiteracy range of 2-11%.

While only one percent of the youngest group missed over 30% of the answers on all forms averaged together, two percent of the 25-49 year olds missed over 30%, and five percent of the 50 plus group missed the same number. While only four percent of the under-25 year olds averaged more than 20% incorrect, five percent of the 25-49 year olds and eight percent of the 50 and over group missed more than 20%. Only nine percent of the 16-24 year olds answered incorrectly more than ten percent of the forms, while 11% of the 25-49 group and a large 17% of those 50 and over answered incorrectly more than ten percent.

CHART XIII

AGE

	More Than 30% Incorrect				More Than 20% Incorrect				More Than 10% Incorrect			
	16 to 24 %	25 to 29 %	30 to 49 %	50 and Over %	16 to 24 %	25 to 29 %	30 to 49 %	50 and Over %	16 to 24 %	25 to 29 %	30 to 49 %	50 and Over %
Form I	*	1	*	2	1	2	1	4	3	5	5	12
Form II	1	1	2	4	2	4	3	7	5	9	9	19
Form III	*	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	9	7	8	9
Form IV	-	-	*	2	1	2	*	2	2	5	2	4
Form V	6	9	8	15	12	14	16	25	27	29	33	43
Average	1	2	2	5	4	5	5	8	9	11	11	17

* Less than 0.5%.

XIV

In comparing age with literacy, the study focused particularly on a limited sector of all age groups--those with an income of less than \$5,000 annually. For this low income group, the illiteracy range for all age groups is noticeably higher than the range for age groups regardless of income. The illiteracy range for people under 30 years under \$5,000 is 2-13% (compared to a 2-10% range for all income groups together). The range for 30-49 year olds under \$5,000 is 4-16 (compared to the 2-11% range for all income groups). The range for 50 year olds and older earning less than \$5,000 is 7-21% (compared to the 5-17% range for all income groups in that age category). The old and the poor each have serious reading problems, but the elderly poor must struggle most for "survival".

CHART XIV

INCOME UNDER \$5,000 BY AGE

	More Than 30% Incorrect		More Than 20% Incorrect		More Than 10% Incorrect	
	Under 30	30 to 49	Under 30	30 to 49	Under 30	30 to 49
Form I	1	2	4	4	8	12
Form II	1	7	5	5	12	17
Form III	-	4	4	7	13	10
Form IV	-	5	-	-	4	3
Form V	7	19	13	20	28	36
Average	2	7	5	7	13	16

In their fight for equality, women have managed to surpass men slightly in reading ability. While only two percent of all women interviewed missed more than 30% of the answers, three percent of the men missed the same number. Only five percent of the women compared to six percent of the men incorrectly answered more than 20% of the forms. Only 11% of the women missed more than ten percent of the answers, while a larger 14% of the men missed the same number. Thus, the illiteracy range for the men was three to 14%, compared to a lower two to 11% for the women.

SEX

	More Than 30% Incorrect		More Than 20% Incorrect		More Than 10% Incorrect	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Form I	1	*	3	1	10	4
Form II	2	1	4	2	12	9
Form III	1	1	4	3	9	8
Form IV	1	1	1	2	4	3
Form V	9	9	18	17	36	33
<hr/>						
Average	3	2	6	5	14	11

* Less than 0.5%

XVI

Americans born outside the United States have assimilated relatively well into the literate population of this country. Their illiteracy range is only seven to 16%, compared with the three to 13% range among the total population. Seven percent of these immigrants (compared to three percent of all Americans) missed more than 30% of the answers. Nine percent missed more than 20% (compared to five percent of all Americans). Finally, 16% missed more than ten percent of all answers (compared to 13% of all Americans).

CHART XVI

BORN OUTSIDE OF UNITED STATES

	More Than 30% Incorrect		More Than 20% Incorrect		More Than 10% Incorrect	
	Respondents Born Out- side of U.S. %	Total Respon- dents %	Respondents Born Out- side of U.S. %	Total Respon- dents %	Respondents Born Out- side of U.S. %	Total Respon- dents %
Form I	3	1	5	2	9	7
Form II	8	2	9	4	19	11
Form III	5	1	6	3	10	8
Form IV	5	*	5	1	5	3
Form V	13	9	19	17	37	34
<hr/>						
Average	7	3	9	5	16	13

XVII

The final dimension was educational background. Not surprisingly, reading ability increased in direct proportion to years of education. The illiteracy range of people who completed eighth grade or less was seven to 23%, compared to a two to 12% range for those who completed some high school, and a one to eight percent range for people with some college education. It is striking, however, that 26% of the people with some college education missed more than ten percent of Form V. These figures suggest that the practical reading ability needed to complete the forms essential for "survival" may differ somewhat from the achievement-oriented or theoretical reading skills stressed in many of our schools and colleges.

CHART XVII

EDUCATION

	More Than 30% Incorrect		More Than 20% Incorrect		More Than 10% Incorrect	
	8th Grade or Less %	High School or College %	8th Grade or Less %	High School or College %	8th Grade or Less %	High School or College %
Form I	2	1 *	5	2	17	6
Form II	6	1	9	3	27	9
Form III	4	1	8	3	17	8
Form IV	4	*	5	1	8	3
Form V	20	8	29	17	46	34
Average	7	2	11	5	23	12
		1		3		8

* Less than 0.5%.



SAMPLING METHOD

The Harris study for the National Reading Council was based on a national sample survey of the civilian non-institutional population of the United States. (Alaska and Hawaii, however, are not represented in the sample.) Interviews were conducted with randomly designated respondents in 100 different locations throughout the country. The schedules (completed questionnaires) and forms were edited and coded in New York. The coded questionnaires were key punched and the data tabulated by standard computer equipment. Analysis of the data was done by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc.

The national sample used for this study is based on intercensal estimates of the population of each state in the country, and of the population resident in standard metropolitan areas and in the rest of the country. These population estimates are produced annually by the Bureau of the Census. The sample locations are selected biennially to reflect the cumulative changes in the country's demographic profile.

The national sample is stratified in two dimensions -- geographic region and metropolitan (and non-metropolitan) residence. Stratification insures that the sample will reflect, within one percent, the national proportions of the constituent strata.

Within each stratum the selection of the ultimate sampling unit (a cluster of adjacent households) was achieved in a series of steps, technically called multi-stage cluster sampling. First states, then counties and then minor civil divisions (cities, towns, townships) were selected with probability proportional to census estimates of their respective household populations. Maps of the selected civil division

were obtained and partitioned by segments containing approximately the same number of households. This was generally done in New York, but for the smaller civil divisions, segmenting was generally performed in the field. One of the segments in each civil division was included in the literary survey.

Interviewers contact 16 households within each segment. At each household the respondent was chosen by means of a random selection pattern, geared to the number of adults sixteen years or older of each sex who live in the household. On the average a segment produced one dozen respondents who met the age, sex and voting requirements of the survey.

When the completed interviews were received in New York a subsample of the respondents were re-contacted to verify that the data had been accurately recorded. Occupation, industry, and "open-ended" public opinion questions were coded. The information contained in the coded questionnaires was then transferred to punch cards to permit computer processing and tabulation of the data.

Attempted Interviews.....	<u>1685</u>	
		%
Interviews Completed.....	88	
Interviews Not Completed.....	<u>12</u>	
Communication barrier (language, deafness).....	8	
Refused to fill out forms.....	3	
Continuation prevented by blindness, visual defect.....	1	

LOUIS HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
1 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N. Y. 10020

August 1970

Study No. 2036

Male.... 14-1 Female..... 14-2

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY -- DO NOT FILL IN:

Questionnaire No. _____ 5- 6- 7- 8-

Sample Point No. _____ 10- 11- 12- 13-

Interviewer's Name _____ City/Town _____

County _____ State _____

I'm from Louis Harris and Associates, the national public opinion research firm. We've been asking your neighbors some questions as part of a survey and would now like to ask you some. Let me see just whom I am supposed to interview here.

HOW TO DETERMINE WHOM YOU ARE TO INTERVIEW IN THIS HOUSEHOLD

1. If only one woman or man lives here, interview that person, provided your quota for that sex has not been completed.
2. If more than one woman or man lives here, list only the women or men -- NOT BOTH. Then start at the bottom of the list and move upward until you come to the first "X" next to which you have entered a name (or described by position). The person next to this "X" is the only person you can interview.

IMPORTANT: List only the women or men who are at home -- NOT BOTH.

How many women or men 16 years or over live here? _____
(write in)

Who is the oldest woman or man who lives here and is at home now? And the next oldest?
(STARTING WITH THE OLDEST, LIST (BY AGE) EITHER ALL OF THE WOMEN OR ALL OF THE MEN -- NOT BOTH -- NOW AT HOME)

EITHER WOMEN OR MEN

Identify by name or position in the household
(Women -- wife, mother, daughter, boarder, etc.)
(Men -- husband, father, son, boarder, etc.)

AGE

1. X _____
2. _____
3. X _____

a. We are doing a survey on the subject of different application forms people have to fill out. It seems these days that nearly everyone has to fill out application forms for many of the things they do. In general, do you mind filling out forms a lot, some but not a lot, a little, or hardly at all?

- Mind a lot.....__15-1
- Some but not a lot.....__ -2
- A little.....__ -3
- Hardly at all.....__ -4
- Not sure.....__ -5

b. What are the two or three things you mind most in filling out application forms?

1c. What two or three specific application forms which you have had to fill out do you mind most filling out?

16-
17-

18-
19-

2a. Now I'd like to ask you to help us by filling out some forms. There will be nothing for you to sign and none of the forms are official in any way. They are just examples of the kinds of forms people have to fill out these days. Here is the first form. (HAND RESPONDENT FORM I) If you are unwilling to give us any information (such as your weight or your age) on this or any of the following forms, please make up an appropriate answer to those items.

NOTE: IF RESPONDENT HAS ANY PROBLEM FILLING OUT THE FORM, DO NOT READ THE CATEGORIES OR QUESTIONS UNDER ANY CONDITION. IF THE RESPONDENT CANNOT WRITE BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL HANDICAP, PROBLEMS WITH PENMANSHIP, OR ANY OTHER REASON, THEN VOLUNTEER TO WRITE IN HIS ANSWERS FOR HIM. NOTE ON THE FORM THAT YOU, AND NOT THE RESPONDENT, FILLED OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE. DO NOT READ ANY QUESTION OR VOLUNTEER ANY ANSWER.)

INTERVIEWER NOTE: VERY IMPORTANT

1. Blindness or Visual Defect 20-
If respondent is blind or has any visual defect which prevents his/her reading the forms, "X" above and SKIP TO FACTUAL. DO NOT COUNT TOWARD QUOTA.
2. Refusals or Cannot Continue ... 21-
If respondent refuses to continue or cannot continue, "X" above and explain

SKIP TO FACTUAL. DO NOT COUNT TOWARD QUOTA

2b. Now here is a second form I'd like you to fill out. (HAND RESPONDENT FORM II) It is the kind of form people have to complete when they apply for a personal bank loan. Let's suppose you are applying for a loan of \$500 today, to pay off bills, and would agree to pay off the loan in 12 monthly payments.

2c. Now here is a standard form given by some states to people who are applying for a driver's license. I'd like you to fill it out, just as though you were applying for a driver's license. (HAND RESPONDENT FORM III)

2d. Next we would like you to fill out a form that is typical for people who are applying for public assistance. Even though you may never make such an application, we'd appreciate your doing this for us. Let's suppose you have been ill for a long time and have no more money left. (HAND RESPONDENT FORM IV)

2e. Finally, we would like you to fill out a form that is similar to an application for Medicaid. Please complete the form as if you were applying for medical assistance. (HAND RESPONDENT FORM V)

INTERVIEWER NOTE:

If interviewer filled out any part of any form for the respondent because of physical handicap that prevents respondent from writing, record below.

Interviewer filled out:

Form I.....	22-1
Form II.....	-2
Form III.....	-3
Form IV.....	-4
Form V.....	-5

3. Which, if any, of these types of forms have you ever filled out before?

Form I (Identification form)...	23-1
Form II (Personal loan).....	-2
Form III (Driver's license)....	-3
Form IV (Public assistance)....	-4
Form V (Medicaid).....	-5

INTERVIEWER: TAKE BACK ALL FORMS. MAKE CERTAIN THAT ALL FIVE ARE FILLED IN AS BEST AS RESPONDENT CAN, THEN ATTACH THEM SECURE TO THE BACK OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE.



Now just a few factual questions. Even though you may have answered some of them before, I'd like you to answer now for statistical purposes only.

- What is your position in this household? Male head of household... 10-1, Wife of male head... -2, Female head of household (no male head)... -3, Other (specify)...

Is the head of the household an hourly wage worker, salaried, self-employed, on commission, or what?

- Hourly wage worker... 11-1, Salaried... -2 (ASK F3), Self-employed... -3, On commission, tips... -4, Retired... -5

- of the above: Student... -6, Military service... -7 (SKIP TO F4), Housewife... -8, Unemployed... -9, Other (specify)...

(ASK IF "HOURLY WAGE WORKER", "SALARIED", "SELF-EMPLOYED", "ON COMMISSION, TIPS", OR "RETIRED" IN F2) What type of work does (did, if retired) the head of household do? (FILL IN FULLY, FINDING OUT WHAT THE JOB IS CALLED, DUTIES INVOLVED, ETC., IN ORDER TO CATEGORIZE CORRECTLY BELOW)

- Professional, engineer... 12-1, Manager, official, proprietor... -2, Clerical worker... -3, Sales worker... -4, Skilled craftsman, foreman... -5, Operative... -6, Unskilled laborer (except farm)... -7, Service worker... -8, Farmer, farm manager, farm laborer... -9, Other (specify)...

(ASK EVERYONE) Are you single, married, divorced, widowed, or separated?

- Single... 13-1 (SKIP TO F6), Married... -2, Divorced... -3 (ASK F5), Widowed... -4, Separated... -5

(IF "MARRIED", "DIVORCED", "WIDOWED", OR "SEPARATED" IN F4) How many children under 18 years of age do you have?

- 1... 14-1, 2... -2, 3... -3, 4... -4, 5... 14-5, 6... -6, 7 or more... -7, None... -8

6. What is the last grade of school you completed?

- Less than 8th grade... 15-1, 8th grade... -2, Some high school... -3, 1970 high school graduate... -4, High school graduate... -5, Some college... -6, 2-year college graduate... -7, 4-year college graduate... -8, Post graduate... -9

7. In what age group are you? (READ LIST)

Table with columns for Male and Female across age groups: 16 to 17, 18 to 20, 21 to 24, 25 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 64, 65 & over.

8. Are you a member of a labor union or is any member of your family a member of a labor union?

- Union member... 18-1, Union member in family... -2, No union member in family... -3

9. What is your religion?

- Protestant... 19-1, Catholic... -2, Jewish... -3, Other... -4, None... -5

10a. Where were you born?

- United States... 20-1 (SKIP TO F11), Other... -2, Not sure... -3 (ASK F10b)

10b. (ASK IF "OTHER" OR "NOT SURE" IN F10a) How long have you lived in the United States?

- Less than 1 year... 21-1, 1 to 5 years... -2, 6 to 10 years... -3, More than 10 years... -4, Not sure... -5

11. (ASK EVERYONE) For statistical purposes only we need to know your total family income for 1969 before taxes. Will you please look at this card and tell me which letter best represents all the money the members of this household either earned or received from salary or wages or other sources, such as pensions, stocks and bonds, real estate, and other investments in 1969. (MARK RESPONDENT CARD "A")

- A. Under \$3,000... 22-1, B. \$3,000-\$4,999... -2, C. \$5,000-\$6,999... -3, D. \$7,000-\$9,999... -4, E. \$10,000-\$14,999... -5, F. \$15,000-\$19,999... 22-5, G. \$20,000-\$24,999... -7, H. \$25,000 and over... -8, I. Not sure/refused... -9

INTERVIEWER: IF "NOT SURE" OR "REFUSED", ESTIMATE AND "X" THE LETTER "I" PLUS THE LETTER YOU ARE ESTIMATING.

RECORD THE FOLLOWING -- DO NOT ASK:

- 12. Ethnic Group or Racial Background: White... 23-1, Black/Negro... -2, Oriental... -3, Puerto Rican... 23-4, Mexican-American... -5, Other (specify)...

13. Length of Interview ("X" ONLY ONE):

- Less than 15 minutes... 24-1, 16 to 30 minutes... -2, 31 to 45 minutes... -3, 46 minutes to 1 hour... -4, 1 hour 1 minute to 1 hour 15 minutes... -5, 1 hour 16 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes... -6, More than 1 hour 30 minutes... -7

Respondent's name: _____

Address: _____ CITY/TOWN: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Telephone: _____

THIS IS A ROMA FIDE INTERVIEW AND HAS BEEN OBTAINED ACCORDING TO MY AGREEMENT WITH LOUIS HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

Interviewer's name: _____ Date: _____

Time (o'clock): _____ Sample Point No.: _____

Validated by: _____ Date validated: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Table for office use with columns for Form I, Form II, Form III, Form IV and rows for numbers 25-28, 29-32, 33-36, 37-40.



FORM I -- IDENTIFICATION

1.) Print full name you use or would use if you worked.

(FIRST NAME)

(MIDDLE NAME)

(LAST NAME)

2.) Print full name given you at birth.

3.) Place of birth.

(CITY)

(STATE)

4.) Mother's full name before she married.

5.) Father's full name (regardless whether living or dead).

6.) Your present age (age on last birthday).

7.) Your sex.

8.) Your color or race.

9.) Your mailing address.

(NUMBER AND STREET, APARTMENT NO., P. O. BOX, OR RURAL ROUTE)

(CITY)

(STATE)

(ZIP CODE)

10.) Today's date.

11.) Telephone Number.

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE OF AN ANSWER TO ANY ITEM, DRAW A LINE THROUGH THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THE ANSWER.

(THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL FORM TO BE USED ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH.)

FORM II

APPLICATION FOR PERSONAL LOAN

I hereby apply for a loan of \$ _____ repayable in _____ monthly payments, beginning on the following date (today) _____.

Miss _____ Date of Birth: _____ Number of Dependents: _____
Mrs. _____
Mr. _____
(PLEASE PRINT YOUR FULL NAME) (MONTH, DAY & YEAR)

Home Address _____ Apartment Number: _____ Home Telephone: _____
(NUMBER AND STREET)

(CITY) (STATE) (ZIP CODE) Number of Years there _____

Last previous address _____
(NUMBER AND STREET) (CITY) (STATE)

Nearest Relative Not Living With You _____
(NAME) (ADDRESS) (RELATIONSHIP)

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE OF AN ANSWER TO ANY ITEM, DRAW A LINE THROUGH THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THE ANSWER.

(THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL FORM TO BE USED ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH.)

FORM III

APPLICATION FOR DRIVER'S LICENSE

1. What is your name? _____
2. What is your weight? _____
3. What is your height? _____ feet, _____ inches
4. What is the color of your eyes? _____
5. List any visual, physical, or mental conditions that might impair your ability to drive safely? _____

6. List any previous driver's license issued to you: State _____ Year _____

7. How many times have you previously been examined for a driver's license? _____
8. What day of the week would be most convenient for you to take the driver's examination? _____
9. What hour of the day would be most convenient for you to take the driver's examination? _____

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE OF AN ANSWER TO ANY ITEM, DRAW A LINE THROUGH THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THE ANSWER.

(THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL FORM TO BE USED ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH.)

FOIM IV

APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

1. Your name: _____
2. Sex (male or female): _____
3. Date of birth: _____
4. Place of birth: _____
5. I am applying for public assistance or care because: _____

5. Have you ever applied for or received any help from a Welfare Department? _____
6. (IF APPLIED FOR OR RECEIVED ANY HELP) What kind of assistance was that? _____

7. Are you able to work now? _____
8. (IF UNABLE TO WORK NOW) Why are you not able to work now? _____

9. How often do you visit a doctor or a clinic? _____
10. Where do you usually eat your meals? _____
11. List the name of anyone who helps you do housekeeping or helps you with personal needs such as bathing, dressing, running errands? _____

12. How many family members presently live in this household? _____

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE OF AN ANSWER TO ANY ITEM, DRAW A LINE THROUGH THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THE ANSWER.

A. Person applying for medical assistance:

(LAST NAME)

(FIRST NAME)

(INITIAL)

Address: _____

B. Do you earn a salary or wage? _____

Are you self employed? _____

If employed, write below:

Employer's name and address: _____

Total wages or income: _____

per (week, month, etc.) _____

How many hours per week are you usually employed? _____

C. Is any payment for room and board or other contribution received from any other person who resides in the household? _____

If another person paying, answer the following:

Name of person making payment or contribution: _____

Amount paid: _____

per (week, month, etc.) _____

D. Do you have cash savings or other liquid assets such as savings accounts, savings bonds, stocks, bonds, etc., or any claim pending for personal injury, disease or disability? _____

If have cash or other savings, answer the following:

Types of assets: _____

Name of bank, company invested in: _____

Cash value or estimated value: _____

E. Do you own life insurance policies? _____

If response is yes, answer the following:

Name of insurance company: _____

Type of policy: _____

(INDICATE WHETHER WHOLE LIFE, 20 PAYMENT LIFE, 20-YEAR ENDOWMENT, TERM INSURANCE, FAMILY PLAN, ETC.)

F. Do you expect to incur any medical expenses within the next three months? _____

If yes, what type of medical service is required? _____

Estimated cost: _____

G. Do you have any physical or mental handicap or disability? _____

If have handicap or disability, write below:

Description of handicap or disability: _____

Date started: _____

ERIC Clearinghouse
NOV 1972
Adult Education

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE OF AN ANSWER TO ANY ITEM, DRAW A LINE THROUGH THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THE ANSWER.