

APPENDIX B

QUESTIONNAIRE USED IN STUDY

Bates _____ 101-4

**Just Punishment for Convicted
Criminals**

Questionnaire

Conducted for

United States Sentencing Commission

JUST PUNISHMENT FOR CONVICTED CRIMINALS

Questionnaire

Now I have a few questions to ask.

1. First, let's talk about some things that people say are problems in their neighborhood. As I read each one, please tell how serious a problem it is in your neighborhood. I'll ask you whether you think it's a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not a serious problem, or not a problem at all. Let's start with . . .

(READ ITEM) Is that a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not a serious problem, or not a problem at all in your neighborhood or the general area in which you live?

	VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM	SOMEWHAT SERIOUS PROBLEM	NOT A SERIOUS PROBLEM	NOT A PROBLEM AT ALL	DON'T KNOW	REFUSED	
a. Purse-snatching, robbery, assault, and other street crimes	1	2	3	4	7	8	130
b. Burglary, automobile stealing, shoplifting, and other property crimes	1	2	3	4	7	8	31
c. Embezzling, consumer fraud, passing bad checks, and other white collar crimes	1	2	3	4	7	8	32
d. Selling illegal drugs	1	2	3	4	7	8	33
e. Using, but <u>not</u> selling illegal drugs	1	2	3	4	7	8	34

2. Now I want to ask you about some crimes that may have been committed against you or another member of your household in the last year) that is, anytime in 1993.

First, was your household burglarized at any time during 1993?

- 35
- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1 | YES |
| 4 | NO |
| 7 | DON'T KNOW |
| 8 | REFUSED |

3. In the past year) that is, anytime in 1993) have you or another member of your household had your purse or wallet snatched or been robbed while out in a public place?
(IF YES: Did that happen to **you** or to another member of your household?)

136 1 YES, RESPONDENT
 2 YES, OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBER
 3 YES, REFUSED TO SPECIFY
 4 NO
 7 DON'T KNOW
 8 REFUSED

4. Were you or another member of your household cheated in a purchase at anytime in 1993?
(IF YES: Did that happen to **you** or to another member of your household?)

37 1 YES, RESPONDENT
 2 YES, OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBER
 3 YES, REFUSED TO SPECIFY
 4 NO
 7 DON'T KNOW
 8 REFUSED

5. In the past year) that is, anytime in 1993) has anything such as a car, bicycle, or car radio been stolen from you or another member of your household?
(IF YES: Was that item stolen from **you** or from another member of your household?)

38 1 YES, RESPONDENT
 2 YES, OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBER
 3 YES, REFUSED TO SPECIFY
 4 NO
 7 DON'T KNOW
 8 REFUSED

6. Were you or another member of your household assaulted or raped at anytime in 1993?
(IF YES: Did that happen to **you** or to another member of your household?)

39 1 YES, RESPONDENT
 2 YES, OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBER
 3 YES, REFUSED TO SPECIFY
 4 NO
 7 DON'T KNOW
 8 REFUSED

7. Now, I'd like to ask you about the amount of influence or power different groups have. Let's start with . . . ?

	TOO LITTLE/ FEW	RIGHT AMOUNT	TOO MUCH/ MANY	DON'T KNOW	REFUSED	
a. Minority groups in the United States and their civil rights) Would you say that they have too few civil rights, about the right amount, or too many civil rights?	1	2	3	7	8	140
b. People accused of serious crimes and their legal rights) Would you say they have too few legal rights, about the right amount, or too many legal rights?	1	2	3	7	8	41
c. Police departments and the freedom they have in investigating crimes) Would you say they have too little freedom, about the right amount, or too much freedom?	1	2	3	7	8	42
d. Poor people in the United States and their public welfare benefits) Would you say they have too few welfare benefits, about the right amount, or too many welfare benefits?	1	2	3	7	8	43
e. The environment and the attention given to protecting it against sources of pollution) Would you say that protecting the environment receives too little attention, about the right amount, or too much attention?	1	2	3	7	8	44

8. People often classify their views on political and social issues as conservative, moderate, or liberal. In general, would you say that **your** views usually tend to be . . . (READ LIST)?

- 45
- 1 Very conservative,
 - 2 Somewhat conservative,
 - 3 Moderate,

- 4 Somewhat liberal, or
- 5 Very liberal
- 7 DON'T KNOW
- 8 REFUSED

9. Most people have some contact with the police or the court system at some time in their lives. The next few questions are about contacts that **you** personally may have had with the police or the court system. Please tell me whether or not you have had any of the following experiences.

	YES	NO	REFUSED	
a. Have you ever served on a jury?	1	2	8	146
b. Have you ever reported a crime to the police?	1	2	8	47
c. Have you ever been sued?	1	2	8	48
d. Have you ever testified as a witness in court?	1	2	8	49
e. Have you ever been arrested?	1	2	8	50
f. Have you ever served time in jail or prison after having been convicted of a crime?	1	2	8	51

10. Now, I have a few additional questions to ask you about yourself.

How old were you on your last birthday?

52-54 _____ YEARS OF AGE
 998 REFUSED

11. Are you currently . . . ? (READ LIST.)

- 55
- 1 Married,
 - 2 Divorced,
 - 3 Separated,
 - 4 Widowed,
 - 5 Living with a partner, or
 - 6 Single and never married
 - 8 REFUSED

12. What is the highest grade or year that you completed in school or college?

- 56
- 1 LESS THAN 12 YEARS
 - 2 12 YEARS/HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE/G.E.D

- 3 1 OR 2 YEARS OF COLLEGE OR JUNIOR COLLEGE
- 4 3 OR MORE YEARS OF COLLEGE BUT NO DEGREE
- 5 COLLEGE GRADUATE
- 6 ADVANCED DEGREE
- 8 REFUSED

13. Are you currently employed for pay) either full-time or part-time? (FULL-TIME IS 30 OR MORE HOURS PER WEEK.)

- 157
- 1 YES, FULL-TIME
 - 2 YES, PART-TIME) CONTINUE
 - 3 NO, NOT EMPLOYED) SKIP TO Q. 15
 - 8 REFUSED) SKIP TO Q. 17

IF "YES" IN Q. 13, ASK:

14. Last week were you . . . ? (READ LIST.)

- 58
- 1 At work all week,
 - 2 Out on vacation or sick leave all week, or
 - 3 At work part of the week and out part of the week) SKIP TO Q. 16
 - 8 REFUSED

IF "NO" IN Q. 13, ASK:

15. Are you . . . ? (READ LIST.) (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY.)

- 59
- 1 Looking for work,
 - 2 **Not** currently looking for work,) CONTINUE
 - 3 A homemaker,
 - 4 Retired, or
 - 5 Something else (SPECIFY): _____ 60-) SKIP TO Q. 17
 - 8 REFUSED

IF "YES" IN Q. 13 OR "1 OR 2" IN Q. 15, ASK:

16. What is your usual occupation? What kind of work do you usually do? (PROBE TO CLARIFY.)

ASK EVERYONE

17. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish descent?

- 63 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 7 DON'T KNOW
- 8 REFUSED

Which of these groups best describes you? (READ LIST.)

- 164 1 White,
- 2 Black or African-American,
- 3 American Indian/Alaskan Native,
- 4 Asian or Pacific Islander, or
- 5 Something else (SPECIFY):
- 7 DON'T KNOW
- 8 REFUSED

65-

19. Would you say that your total annual household income from all sources before taxes is above or below \$25,000? (IF AMOUNT IS ON BORDERLINE, CODE IN HIGHER CATEGORY.)

- 66 1 ABOVE) CONTINUE
- 2 BELOW) SKIP TO Q. 21
- 7 DON'T KNOW) SKIP TO Q. 22 (VERIFY)
- 8 REFUSED

IF "ABOVE" IN Q. 19, ASK:

20. Is it . . . ? (READ LIST.) (IF AMOUNT IS ON BORDERLINE, CODE IN HIGHER CATEGORY.)

- 67 1 \$25,000 up to \$50,000
- 2 \$50,000 up to \$75,000, or
- 3 \$75,000 or more) SKIP TO Q. 22 (VERIFY)
- 7 DON'T KNOW
- 8 REFUSED

IF "BELOW" IN Q. 19, ASK:

21. Is it . . . ? (READ LIST.) (IF AMOUNT IS ON BORDERLINE, CODE IN HIGHER CATEGORY.)

- 68 1 Less than \$5,000
- 2 \$5,000 up to \$15,000, or
- 3 \$15,000 up to \$25,000
- 7 DON'T KNOW
- 8 REFUSED

ASK EVERYONE

22. (VERIFY QUESTION) My supervisor may want to verify that our interview was conducted in a courteous and businesslike manner and that the information was collected properly. May I have your . . . ?

Name:

Street Address/Apt No.:

City/State/ZIP Code:

Telephone Number: (____)

That's all the questions I have for you. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation.

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS INTERVIEW.

23. RECORD SEX OF RESPONDENT.

169 1 MALE
 2 FEMALE

24. Did the respondent appear to have any problems reading or understanding the directions or the crime descriptions in the vignette booklet?

70 1 NO PROBLEMS
 2 MAYBE SOME SLIGHT PROBLEMS
 3 SOME PROBLEMS
 4 MANY PROBLEMS
 7 NOT SURE

25. Did the respondent have any interruptions while working on the vignette booklet?

71 1 NO INTERRUPTIONS
 2 A FEW SLIGHT INTERRUPTIONS
 3 SOME INTERRUPTIONS
 4 MANY INTERRUPTIONS
 7 NOT SURE

26. If **REFUSED** Q. 17 (HISPANIC ORIGIN), please estimate:

72 1 YES, IS HISPANIC, LATINO, OR SPANISH
 2 NO, IS NOT
 7 CAN'T TELL/DON'T KNOW

27. If **REFUSED** or **HISPANIC** in Q. 18 (RACE), please estimate: (NOTE: DO NOT ANSWER "HISPANIC" TO THIS ITEM.)

- 73 1 WHITE,
- 2 BLACK OR AFRICAN-AMERICAN,
- 3 AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE,
- 4 ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER, OR
- 5 SOMETHING ELSE (SPECIFY):
- 7 CAN'T TELL/DON'T KNOW

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INTERVIEWER SIGNATURE: _____

ID #:

END TIME:	a.m. p.m.
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