

# Screening for Adolescents in RDD Surveys

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# Introduction to the Problem

- Issues in telephone surveys of adolescents
- Identifying households with adolescents
- Requires both consent of parents and assent of adolescent
- Ensuring confidentiality
- Age definition of adolescent
- Response rates

# Surveys of Alcohol and Drug Use and Drinking and Driving

- Washington State survey of 1993 HHs
- Idaho State survey of HHs
- California State survey - First Quarter
- California State survey - Third Quarter
- Washington State survey of 1999 HHs

# Methods for Identifying Adolescent HHs

- Full parent interview with HH listing
- Simple Screen for HHs with adolescents
- Partial parent interview with content
- Partial parent interview with demographics

# Washington 1993 & Idaho Survey Procedures

- Interviewer indicates that we are conducting a survey of HH with people age 18 or older.
- Interviewer asks to speak to a randomly selected person age 18 to 45.
- Interview of 20-30 minutes is completed with adult selected. The interview includes getting a HH listing. HH's with adolescents 12 to 17 are requested permission to interview a randomly selected adolescent.
- An appointment is made to interview the selected adolescent.

# California Q1 Procedure

- Interviewer indicates that we are conducting a survey of HH with people age 15 to 20.
- Interviewer obtains HH listing of everyone in HH who is between 15 and 20 years old.
- Interviewer selects respondent. If between 15 and 17, parent is asked for permission. If between 18 and 20, asks to speak to randomly selected respondent.
- An appointment is made to interview (30 minutes) the selected adolescent or young person.

# California Q3 Procedure

- Interviewer indicates that we are conducting a survey of HH with people age 18 or older. Asks to speak with a randomly selected person age 18 or older.
- Interview about drinking and driving (2 minutes) is completed with adult selected. The interview includes getting a HH listing. HH's with youth between 15 and 20 are requested permission to interview selected youth.
- Interviewer selects respondent. If between 15 and 17, parent is asked for permission. If between 18 and 20, asks to speak to randomly selected respondent.
- An appointment is made to interview (30 minutes) the selected adolescent or young person

# Washington 1999 Procedure

- Interviewer indicates that we are conducting a survey of HH with people age 18 or older. Asks to speak with a randomly selected person age 18 or older.
- Interview of demographic questions (5 minutes) is completed with adult selected. The interview includes getting a HH listing. HH's with youth between 12 and 17 are requested permission to interview selected youth.
- An appointment is made to interview (30 minutes) the selected adolescent or young person

# Parent Permission Questions

- Are you someone who can give permission for (eligible respondent) to participate in this interview?
- **PAR2** May I speak with the parent, guardian, or other person who can give us permission to speak with (eligible respondent)?
- **INPAR** Hello, I'm \$I and I'm calling from the Pacific Institute, with a few questions about drinking and driving by young people. Are you the parent or guardian for (name of adolescent) and someone who can give permission for (name of adolescent) to participate in this interview?

# Parental Permission

- **PERM** The survey is concerned with alcohol use and driving by young people.
- All of the questions we ask are strictly confidential. No names will ever be associated with any of the answers. In fact, your household was selected completely at random. It is very important for the survey that the people we talk with feel comfortable answering the questions so we usually like to schedule a time when they are free to talk with us uninterrupted. The interview is voluntary and if there is any question that (name of adolescent) does not want to answer, all they have to do is tell us so. I would like to ask first for your permission to interview (name of adolescent), and I will then ask for (name of adolescent)'s permission.

# California Q1 Introduction

- **START** Hello, I'm XXX and I'm calling for the XXX, with a few questions about drinking and driving by young people. Is there anyone in you household who is between 15 and 20 years old, with whom I could speak about this survey?
- **NAME2** Since the survey is supposed to be random, I need to ask to speak with only one person between 15 and 20 years of age. The person I need to interview is the one who has had the most recent birthday. Who would that be?  
IWR: FIRST NAME OR INITIALS ONLY

# California Q3 Introduction

- **START** Hello, this is (name) from Washington State University and I'm calling on behalf of the XXX. We are doing a research project on California resident's experiences and opinions on drinking and driving. I have just a few questions to ask you. First, are you 18 years of age or older?
- **CONFD** This interview is voluntary and has been approved by Washington State University. While portions of this interview may be monitored by my supervisor, all of the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. No names will be associated with any of the answers. If I come to any question you prefer not to answer just let me know. This interview will take about 7 minutes to complete.

# Washington 1999 Introduction

- **BEGIN** Hello, my name is (name), from Washington State University. We have been asked by the Department of Social and Health Services to conduct a survey of Washington State adolescents. I just have a few questions which I need to ask so that we interview the right person. First, are you 18 years of age or older?
- **CONFD** This interview is voluntary and has been approved by Washington State University. While portions of this interview may be monitored by my supervisor, all of the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. No names will be associated with any of the answers. If I come to any question you prefer not to answer, just let me know and I'll skip over it.

# Percent of HHs with Children (1990 Census)

	Washington	Idaho	California
Children < 18	35%	40%	37%
Teens 12-17	20%	27%	22%

# Results - Washington State Survey - 1993

<u>Sample Disposition</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>All HH%</u>	<u>Teen HH%</u>
• Adult Interviews	7326	100%	-
• HH w/children	3720	51%	-
• HH w/teens	1839	25%	100%
• Identify parent	1466	20%	80%
• Permission request	1317	18%	72%
• Consent obtained	1178	16%	64%
• Assent obtained	859	12%	47%

# Results - Idaho State Survey

<b><u>Sample Disposition</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>All HH%</u></b>	<b><u>Teen HH%</u></b>
• Adult Interviews	6417	100%	-
• HH w/children	3941	61%	-
• HH w/teens	1959	31%	100%
• Identify parent	1884	29%	96%
• Permission request	1748	27%	89%
• Consent obtained	1674	26%	85%
• Assent obtained	1101	17%	56%

# Results - Washington State Survey - 1999

<b><u>Sample Disposition</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>All HH %</u></b>	<b><u>Teen HH%</u></b>
• Adult Interviews	9628	100%	-
• HH w/children	4335	45%	-
• HH w/teens	1981	21%	100%
• Identify parent	1806	19%	91%
• Permission request	1777	18%	90%
• Consent obtained	1458	15%	74%
• Assent obtained	1107	11%	56%

# Results -California Q1

<b><u>Sample Disposition</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>All HH%</u></b>	<b><u>Teen HH%</u></b>
• Adult Interviews	4523	100%	-
• HH w/15-20	487	11%	-
• HH w/15-17	302	7%	100%
• Identify parent	264	6%	87%
• Permission request	217	5%	72%
• Consent obtained	197	4%	65%
• Assent obtained	143	3%	47%

# Results - California Q3

<b><u>Sample Disposition</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>All HH%</u></b>	<b><u>TeenHH%</u></b>
• Adult Interviews	2927	100%	-
• HH w/15-20	615	21%	-
• HH w/15-17	314	11%	100%
• Identify parent	305	10%	97%
• Permission request	300	10%	96%
• Consent obtained	244	8%	78%
• Assent obtained	145	5%	46%

# Interviewer Comments

- Both interviewers and supervisors preferred the content screen over the demographic screen because it increased “trust”.
- Interviewers had problems with one parent giving permission, but the other parent not on callbacks.
- Long permission scripts were problematic.

# Conclusions

- Simple Screening for adolescent HHs doesn=t work well.
- Partial interviews that reflect survey content with parents seem to work best.
- Creates complexities for CATI surveys.
- Response rate calculation becomes more complex.