2019 Workshop: Interviewers and Their Effects
from a Total Survey Error Perspective

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# Chapter 9: Why do Interviewers Vary in Achieving Interview Privacy and Does Privacy Matter? Appendix 9
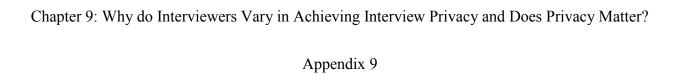
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Appendix 9

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Full book reference:

Olson, K., J. D. Smyth, J. Dykema, A. L. Holbrook, F. Kreuter, B. T. West. 2020. *Interviewer Effects from a Total Survey Error Perspective*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.

**Appendix 9A**

Table A9A.1 Description and univariate distribution of measures used in models

| Variable | Question wording / Item description | Coding of response options | Distribution |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dependent Variables** | | | |
| Third party presence at any point in the interview | Third party presence (aged 5+) during at least one section of the interview | 1 = Someone aged 5+ present; 0 = No one aged 5+ present | 36% |
| Smoker | Are you a current smoker, ex-smoker, or have you never smoked? | 1 = Current or ex-smoker; 0 = Never smoker | 23% |
| Suicide | Have you ever seriously thought about committing suicide? | 1 = Yes; 0 = No | 5% |
| Anger/Injure/Threaten | Did you ever have attacks of anger when you hit someone or tried to hurt someone or when you threatened to hit or hurt someone? | 1 = Yes; 0 = No | 32% |
| Ever physically abused a spouse[1] | Over the course of your marriage, how often have you ever done any of these things (pushed, grabbed, or shoved; threw something; slapped or hit) to your spouse? | 1 = Often, sometimes, rarely; 0 = Never | 19% |
| Ever been a victim of spousal physical abuse | Over the course of your marriage, how often has your spouse ever done any of these things (pushed, grabbed, or shoved; threw something; slapped or hit) to you? | 1 = Often, sometimes, rarely; 0 = Never | 15% |
| Marriage rating | Based on a 0 – 10 scale where 0 means 'the worst possible marriage' and 10 means 'the best', how would you rate your current marriage(s)? | Range 0 – 10 (Mean reported) | 8.3 |
| Polygamy endorsement | Mean of responses to 14 statements about polygamy (each variable coded so that "5" indicates strong endorsement of polygamy): <br>• Polygamy is a Sunnah that must be followed <br>• Polygamy is a system of the past that is no more suitable <br>• Polygamy is a tradition that should be maintained. <br>• Most men in polygamous marriages are happy. <br>• Most women in polygamous marriages are happy. | 1 = Lack of endorsement of polygamy; 5 = Strong endorsement of polygamy (Mean reported) | 2.9 |

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[1] Weighted percentages of respondents indicating the responses coded in these analyses as "1" are reported in this table for most variables. Where mean is reported rather than frequency, we note it accordingly. Frequency distributions are calculated using only those respondents who were asked these questions. For example, questions about spousal physical abuse were only measured among ever married respondents.

- Women in polygamous marriages are more satisfied than women in monogamous marriages.
- The system of polygamy is no longer effective in today's society.
- Men in polygamous marriages are more satisfied than men in monogamous marriages.
- Today's women should avoid entering into polygamous marriages
- Men should be discouraged from entering into polygamous marriages.
- Children of polygamous marriages are worse off than children of monogamous marriages.
- Polygamy is a social system of sexists.
- Children of polygamous marriages have more resources than children of monogamous marriages.
- Wives of a polygamous marriage are usually treated equally.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Polygamy acceptable if finances permit | If a man has the financial means to support more than one wife, when do you feel it is acceptable for the man to marry a second wife? | 1 = All the time, sometimes; 0 = Never | 81% |

**Independent Variables**

*Respondent Demographics*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| R Gender | Respondent gender | 1 = Male; 0 = Female | 50% |
| R Marital status | Current marital status and current polygamy status | | |
| | Currently married and never in a polygamous marriage | 1 = Current condition; 0 = Else | 46% |
| | Currently married and in a polygamous marriage | 1 = Current condition; 0 = Else | 3% |
| | Currently married and previously in a polygamous marriage | 1 = Current condition; 0 = Else | 2% |
| R Age | What is your age? (Reference category: Age 15 – 17) | | |
| | Age 18 – 29 | 1 = Current age; 0 = Else | 37% |
| | Age 30 – 44 | 1 = Current age; 0 = Else | 32% |
| | Age 45 – 54 | 1 = Current age; 0 = Else | 13% |
| | Age 55 – 65 | 1 = Current age; 0 = Else | 8% |
| R Education | What is the highest grade of school or year of college you completed? (Reference category: Less than Grade 7) | | |
| | Low level of education (7th – 9th grade) | 1 = Grades 7 – 9; 0 = Else | 14% |

| | Medium level of education (Some high school/college) | 1 = Grades 10 – 15; 0 = Else | 50% |
| | High level of education (Completed college) | 1 = Year 16+; 0 = Else | 19% |
| R Social phobia | Composite item using several variables, calculated according to DSM-IV Social Phobia diagnosis (12 month)[2] | 1 = Diagnosis; 0 = No diagnosis | 9% |
| R Disability status | Respondent reporting of the following disabilities[3] (Reference category: No disability) | | |
| | Current physical disability <br> • Disability1: Blind or deaf, have a serious hearing or vision impairment, or have a serious speech impairment <br> • Disability2: Any missing limbs or paralysis <br> • Disability3: Any other physical impairment, disfigurement, or handicap | 1 = Disability 1 thru 3; 0 = Else | 4% |
| | Current other disability <br> • Disability4: Any other serious chronic physical illness <br> • Disability5: Temporary physical illness/disability <br> • Disability6: Concentration, memory, or decision making problems <br> • Disability7: Serious learning disability, Down Syndrome, or mental retardation <br> • Disability8: Manic depression, schizophrenia, or any other serious emotional problem | 1 = Disability 4 thru 8; 0 = Else | 12% |
| Social conformity | Summary of responses to the five following items, where (1 = True; 0 = False) for each item <br> • I never met a person I didn't like. <br> • I have always told the truth <br> • I have never been bored <br> • I never get lost, even in places I've never been before <br> • I have never lost anything | 5 = High social conformity; 0 = Low social conformity (Mean reported) | 1.80 |

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[2] American Psychiatric Association. (1994). DSM-IV: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th edition.

[3] If respondent reports both physical and mental disability, only physical disability is recorded.

| Household size | Household size computed from household roster | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Household size 5 – 7 members | 1 = 5 – 7 members; 0 = Else | 42% |
| | Household size 8+ members | 1 = 8+ members; 0 = Else | 38% |
| Rural area | Household located in rural or urban area per PSU designation | 1 = Rural; 0 = Urban | 17% |
| Region | Region of country in which household is located (Reference category: Central region) | | |
| | Eastern region | 1 = Eastern region; 0 = Else | 18% |
| | Northern region | 1 = Northern region; 0 = Else | 7% |
| | Southern region | 1 = Southern region; 0 = Else | 11% |
| | Western region | 1 = Western region; 0 = Else | 31% |

*Interview Context*

| Time of interview | Timing of interview based on time/date stamps (Reference category: Interview starts/ends fully outside working days/hours) | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Interview fully during working days/hours | 1 = Interview starts/ends during working days/hours; 0 = Interview at least partially outside working days/hours | 17% |
| | Interview both during and outside working days/hours | 1 = Interview occurs both within and outside working hours; 0 = Interview either fully within or outside working hours | 23% |
| ACASI | Variable indicating whether ACASI was used, if ACASI were an option | 1 = ACASI used; 0 = ACASI not used | 82% |
| Type of third party presence during the questionnaire section in which the dependent variable of interest appeared[4] | Interviewer observation: The following list presents types of relationships to the respondent. Select the one(s) that represent the person(s) who were present at any time during this section. (Reference category: no one aged 5+ present) | | |
| | Parent/Parent in-law present (father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law) | 1 = Parent/parent in-law present; 0 = No one aged 5+ present | 6% |
| | Non-parent adult family member present (husband, wife, older brother, older sister, child aged 18+) | 1 = Non-parent adult family member present; 0 = No one aged 5+ present | 5% |

[4] Data on specific type of person present were collected at the end of each section. The dependent variables included in the models reported in Table 2 originated in several different sections (e.g., item on suicide was in the screener section; items on polygamy were in the marriage section, etc.). Therefore, different sets of independent variables on type of person present were used in different models. Reported in this table are univariate distributions for the third-party presence data collected at the end of the Screener section, which contained the survey item relating to suicide. These data were consistent across different sections, varying only 1% - 2%, and we report only this set to demonstrate the typical range distribution range for this variable.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Child/Teenager present (child aged 5 – 17) | 1 = Child/teenager member present; 0 = No one aged 5+ present | 4% |
| | Unspecified other present | 1 = Unspecified other present; 0 = No one aged 5+ present | 7% |

*Interviewer Demographics*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I Education | Interviewer's highest grade of school or year of college completed | 1 = Completed college degree, graduate degree, or professional degree; 0 = Some college or less | 79% |
| I Age | Interviewer age | 1 = Aged 30+; 0 = Aged less than 30 | 36% |
| I Citizenship | Interviewer citizenship | 1 = Saudi; 0 = Else | 72% |
| I Marital status | Interviewer's current marital status | 1 = Married; 0 =Separated; divorced; widowed; never married | 45% |
| I Income | Interviewer annual income (Reference category: less than SR75,000) | | |
| | High income | 1 = SR100,000+; 0 = Else | 39% |
| | Medium income | 1 = SR75,000 –SR99,999; 0 = Else | 26% |
| I Experience | Other than the Saudi National Health and Stress survey, have you ever worked as an interviewer at any other survey or market research organization? | 1 = Yes; 0 = No | 25% |
| I Other work | During the time you were an interviewer for the Saudi National Health and Stress survey, did you have any other paying jobs? | 1 = Yes; 0 = No | 43% |
| I Religiosity | How important is religion in your daily life? | 1 = Very important; 0 = Somewhat important or not important | 91% |

*Interviewer attitudes*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Respect for privacy | The overall culture in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia respects one's privacy needs | 1 = Strongly disagree/Disagree; 0 = Strongly agree/Agree | 37% |
| Difficult to request privacy | It is difficult to ask for interview privacy in a culture like KSA | 1 = Strongly disagree/Disagree; 0 = Strongly agree/Agree | 38% |
| Like asking for privacy | On a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 means "dislike very much" and 10 means "like very much", how much do you like asking for a private interview? | | |
| | Like a lot | 1 = 9, 10; 0 = Else | 44% |
| | Like somewhat | 1 = 7, 8; 0 = Else | 34% |
| Better non-private interview | Which statement comes closest to how you feel as an interviewer? | 1 = It's better to conduct an interview with a respondent in the presence of a family member rather than to accept a refusal, even when you feel respondents won't give very accurate answers; 0 = When you can't achieve a private interview setting, it's better to postpone an interview with a respondent even if it might end up in a refusal | 59% |

**Appendix 9B**

Table A9B.1 Random Intercept Two Level Logistic Regression Model Predicting Third-party Presence during the Interview

| Respondent-level Sociodemographics | Model 1 (n = 2475) | | Model 2 (n = 2475) | | Model 3 (n = 2475) | | Model 4 (n = 2475) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Coefficient | SE | Coefficient | SE | Coefficient | SE | Coefficient | SE |
| Intercept | 0.738 | 0.498 | 0.180 | 0.595 | 1.098 | 0.549 | 0.150 | 0.651 |
| Male vs. Female | -1.023** | 0.251 | -0.914** | 0.246 | -0.951** | 0.223 | -0.880** | 0.228 |
| Marital status (ref. currently unmarried) | | | | | | | | |
| Currently married – never in a polygamous marriage | -0.330* | 0.154 | -0.329* | 0.155 | -0.330* | 0.154 | -0.331* | 0.154 |
| Currently married – currently in polygamous marriage | 0.389 | 0.366 | 0.390 | 0.366 | 0.381 | 0.367 | 0.380 | 0.365 |
| Currently married – previously in polygamous marriage | -0.299 | 0.504 | -0.323 | 0.503 | -0.283 | 0.507 | -0.282 | 0.514 |
| Age (ref. 16-18 years old) | | | | | | | | |
| Age 18 – 29 | -0.353 | 0.229 | -0.358 | 0.229 | -0.363 | 0.229 | -0.360 | 0.229 |
| Age 30 – 44 | -0.258 | 0.284 | -0.260 | 0.283 | -0.270 | 0.284 | -0.268 | 0.283 |
| Age 45 – 54 | -0.540 | 0.389 | -0.551 | 0.390 | -0.557 | 0.392 | -0.558 | 0.392 |
| Age 55 – 65 | -0.914** | 0.353 | -0.921** | 0.349 | -0.945** | 0.346 | -0.943** | 0.344 |
| Education (ref. <=6 yrs.) | | | | | | | | |
| 7 – 9 yrs education | -0.745* | 0.292 | -0.745* | 0.290 | -0.755** | 0.291 | -0.751** | 0.290 |
| 10 – 15 yrs education | -0.533** | 0.179 | -0.537** | 0.178 | -0.545** | 0.180 | -0.541** | 0.178 |
| 16+ yrs education | -1.007** | 0.220 | -1.025** | 0.219 | -1.032** | 0.222 | -1.038** | 0.220 |
| Social phobia 12-month diagnosis | 0.290 | 0.213 | 0.281 | 0.212 | 0.296 | 0.212 | 0.287 | 0.210 |
| Disability (ref. no disability) | | | | | | | | |
| Physical disability | 0.401 | 0.302 | 0.4050 | 0.304 | 0.424 | 0.304 | 0.435 | 0.304 |
| Other disability | 0.353 | 0.208 | 0.347 | 0.207 | 0.358 | 0.205 | 0.351 | 0.205 |
| Household Size (ref. 1-4 members) | | | | | | | | |
| HH size 5 – 7 members | 0.484** | 0.142 | 0.481** | 0.141 | 0.485** | 0.141 | 0.487** | 0.139 |
| HH size 8+ members | 0.250 | 0.194 | 0.246 | 0.194 | 0.251 | 0.196 | 0.255 | 0.197 |
| Rural vs. Urban area | 0.272 | 0.193 | 0.284 | 0.194 | 0.279 | 0.196 | 0.279 | 0.196 |
| Region (ref. central) | | | | | | | | |
| Eastern region | -0.187 | 0.272 | -0.153 | 0.280 | -0.174 | 0.270 | -0.102 | 0.279 |
| Northern region | 0.238 | 0.289 | 0.249 | 0.284 | 0.235 | 0.287 | 0.225 | 0.282 |
| Southern region | 0.106 | 0.353 | 0.108 | 0.346 | 0.100 | 0.343 | 0.082 | 0.340 |
| Western region | -0.33 | 0.238 | -0.328 | 0.252 | -0.353 | 0.243 | -0.374 | 0.254 |
| Interview conducted (vs. outside working hours) | | | | | | | | |
| Interview during working hours | -0.184 | 0.157 | -0.189 | 0.157 | -0.190 | 0.157 | -0.192 | 0.157 |
| Interview during & outside working hours | 0.234 | 0.170 | 0.232 | 0.171 | 0.221 | 0.171 | 0.222 | 0.171 |
| Interviewer-level Sociodemographics | | | | | | | | |
| Have a college degree vs. lower education level | | | -0.04 | 0.280 | | | 0.266 | 0.260 |

| | M1 | | M2 | | M3 | | M4 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Older age (30-44 years old) vs. younger | | | 0.11 | 0.322 | | | 0.0615 | 0.279 |
| Saudi citizen vs. foreign | | | 0.110 | 0.254 | | | -0.144 | 0.277 |
| Currently married vs. not | | | -0.632* | 0.315 | | | -0.191 | 0.346 |
| Income (ref: low) | | | | | | | | |
|   High income | | | 0.243 | 0.327 | | | 0.002 | 0.323 |
|   Middle income | | | 0.201 | 0.251 | | | -0.046 | 0.252 |
| Prior interviewing experience vs. none | | | -0.515 | 0.291 | | | -0.088 | 0.308 |
| Concurrent job vs. none | | | 0.571 | 0.322 | | | 0.375 | 0.308 |
| Religion important vs. not | | | 0.526 | 0.413 | | | 0.568 | 0.400 |
| Interviewer-level Attitudes | | | | | | | | |
|   Disagree that KSA culture respects privacy vs. agree | | | | | 0.508* | 0.247 | 0.734** | 0.275 |
|   Find it difficult to ask for privacy in KSA vs. not | | | | | -0.033 | 0.229 | -0.006 | 0.214 |
|   Like Asking for a private setting | | | | | | | | |
|     Very much like vs. a little/none | | | | | -0.653* | 0.277 | -0.495† | 0.300 |
|     Somewhat vs. a little/none | | | | | -0.540* | 0.274 | -0.367 | 0.266 |
|   Preference for non-private interviewer (vs. refusal) | | | | | -0.082 | 0.213 | -0.071 | 0.216 |
| Interviewer variance (Standard error) | 0.552 (0.157) | | 0.407 (0.139) | | 0.410 (0.159) | | 0.322 (0.128) | |
| -2 Log Likelihood | 2947.16 | | 2940.70 | | 2934.92 | | 2929.88 | |

Weighted estimates; Level 1=respondent, Level 2=interviewer, Rescaled Part I weight. †p<0.1; * p< 0.05; **p < 0.01