

Prairie View A&M University

Digital Commons @PVAMU

All Theses

8-1963

A Comparison Of The Recreational And Leisure Time Pursuits of Selected Negro And White Aged Citizens Of Nacogdoches County, Texas

Dinah Johnson Orum

Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pvamu-theses>

Recommended Citation

Orum, D. J. (1963). A Comparison Of The Recreational And Leisure Time Pursuits of Selected Negro And White Aged Citizens Of Nacogdoches County, Texas. Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pvamu-theses/1121>

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @PVAMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Theses by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @PVAMU. For more information, please contact hvkoshy@pvamu.edu.

A COMPARISON OF THE RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE
TIME PURSUITS OF SELECTED NEGRO AND WHITE
AGED CITIZENS OF NACOGDOCHES COUNTY, TEXAS



ORUM

1963

N
301.435
Or9c
c.2

A COMPARISON OF THE RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE TIME
PURSUITS OF SELECTED NEGRO AND WHITE AGED
CITIZENS OF NACOGDOCHES COUNTY, TEXAS

By

Dinah Johnson Orum

Submitted In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Science

GV
184
078
1963

In The

Graduate Division

Of

Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College
Prairie View, Texas

August, 1963

Acknowledgement

The writer wishes to acknowledge her appreciation to Dr. Norman Johnson and Mr. Leroy Moore for their Assistance and guidance in developing this study. She also wishes to think the 200 aged citizens of Nacogdoches County who participated in this study.

Dedication

This paper is dedicated to my husband and two children, parents, and brothers who inspired me in this work.

TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
List of Tables	
Chapter	
I. Introduction	1
Problem	
Purpose	
Scope of the Study	
Source of Data	
Procedure	
Brief History of the County	
II. Review of Literature	7
III. Findings	16
Nacogdoches	
Garrison	
Cushing	
Douglass	
IV. Summary	43
Bibliography	46

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1. Aged Distribution of Nacogdoches by Race and Sex	17
2. A Comparison of Education of Nacogdoches by Race	17
3. A Comparison of the Reason for Retirement of Nacogdoches by Race	19
4. A Comparison of Social Services of Nacogdoches by Race	20
5. A Comparison of the Recreation and Hobbies of Nacogdoches by Race	22
6. Age Distribution of Garrison by Race and Sex .	25
7. A Comparison of Education of Garrison by Race	25
8. A Comparison of the Reason for Retirement of Garrison by Race	27
9. A Comparison of Social Services of Garrison by Race	27
10. A Comparison of the Recreation and Hobbies of Garrison by Race	29
11. Age Distribution of Cushing by Race and Sex .	31
12. A Comparison of Education of Cushing by Race	31
13. A Comparison of the Reason for Retirement of Cushing by Race	32
14. A Comparison of Social Services of Cushing by Race	34
15. A Comparison of Recreation and Hobbies of Cushing by Race	34

List of Tables (Continued)

Table	Page
16. Age Distribution of Douglass by Race and Sex	36
17. A Comparison of Education of Douglass by Race	36
18. A Comparison of Reasons for Retirement of Douglass by Race	38
19. A Comparison of Social Services of Douglass by Race	38
20. A Comparison of Recreation and Hobbies of Douglass by Race	39

INTRODUCTION

Until recent years the aged citizens of our population have been neglected as a topic of study, even though other segments have been the center of extensive surveys and have received a great deal of attention from social workers, socially conscious individuals in many walks of life, as well as scientists and lawmakers.

The sociologists, whose concern is the study of human society, believe that there are two possible reasons for the neglect of the aged as a special topic of study. "First it has been only recently that this category of people has composed any appreciable percentage of the total population of this country. Even now, in the total world population, the aged are of little statistical importance. Second, it will be noted that the categories which have come into the public eye for study are primarily those which seem to constitute problems in the American society".¹

Most social groups seem to believe that individuals should be prepared by society and that society should prepare themselves in the early years of life for the status positions which they will assume in young adulthood, middle age, and the older adult years.

¹Joseph T. Drake, The Aged In American Society, (New York: The Ronald Press Company, 1958), p. 6.

When it comes to defining or determining exactly what is meant when the expression "Old Age" is used, there seem to be no immutable criteria. Public programs and most private retirement agencies fix 65 as the beginning of old age. "Within the first half of this century the number of persons 65 years old or over quadrupled, rising from 3.1 million in 1900 to 12.3 million in 1950".¹ This shows that the aged population doubled, rising from 4 percent in 1900 to 8 percent in 1950.

The persons, usually, who get the most out of life after 65, are those who find ways to utilize their leisure time wisely. For a young adult who is still on the job, leisure time will be composed of week-ends, vacations, holidays, and after work hours. This is the surplus time which this age group will not use on the job. For one who is retired leisure is the major portion of time available to the individual. A two week vacation for an unemployed person presents him with many possible opportunities. For a retired person this means only another two weeks of doing nothing or another two weeks to live through if retirement has not been planned properly.

Leisure time, for one to get the most from it, must not be spent house keeping, visiting relatives, listening

¹John J. Carson and John W. McCornell, Economic Needs of Older People, (New York: The Twentieth Century Fund, 1965), p. 466.

to radio and watching television alone. Too often leisure time is allowed to become a depressing withdrawal from participation in various activities and resignation to a passive existence.

Research shows that people beyond the age of 65 rarely think of themselves as old nor do they classify themselves as such. Society must accept the aged citizens as an integral and important part of the total population.

PROBLEM

The problem in this study is to determine the recreational and leisure time pursuits of selected Negro and White aged citizens of Nacogdoches, Garrison, Cushing, and Douglass, Texas. Also to make a comparison of the recreational and leisure time pursuits of the Negro and White citizens.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to determine what the recreational and leisure time pursuits of the Negroes of Nacogdoches, Garrison, Cushing and Douglass are as compared with the Whites of the same towns.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

The importance of this study is to show the necessity for planning in the early years, for a successful and happy life after retirement. Also to show that the years beyond 65

can be just as important and meaningful as those under 65 in one important way, and that is, every one, regardless to his age, is a product of his heredity and his physical, cultural, and social environment.

THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study was limited to those persons 65 years of age and beyond using the first 25 Negro* and the first 25 White** citizens from each of the towns of Nacogdoches, Garrison, Cushing, and Douglass, Texas, who appeared on the United States Census roll. This was a total of 200 people interviewed.

SOURCE OF DATA

The sources of data used in this study were library searching, the 1960 United States Census roll, The Report of the Governor's Committee on Aging in Texas, and the President's Committee on Aging.

PROCEDURE

The 1960 United States Census was checked to secure the names of the first 25 citizens of Group I and the first

*From this point on in this study the word Negro will be substituted by Group I.

**From this point on in this study the word White will be substituted by Group II.

25 citizens of Group II 65 years of age and beyond of each of the towns mentioned in the scope of the study. A carefully prepared check list which contained questions concerning the age, education, reason for retirement, social services, and recreation and hobbies, was used in making personal interviews.

The interviews were completed and the data tabulated on a master tabulation sheet which was an exact replica of the checklist in regard to the questions that were asked. The dot tally method was used in making the tabulations. A different color of crayon was used to indicate Group I and Group II subjects.

After the data were tabulated, the investigator studied and interpreted it. A presentation, statistical analysis, and a discussion of the data were made.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COUNTY

Nacogdoches County is located in Central East Texas with a historical background, having, farming, livestock raising, industrial and educational interests. The county was created in 1863, organized in 1837, and is an original county. The county was named for Nacogdoches Indians.

Nacogdoches is the county seat, which is the center of poultry, dairying, and truck raising development.

Nacogdoches is the home of Stephen F. Austin State College,

The Nacogdoches Business College, Colonial Beauty School, City Memorial Hospital, and the historical Old Stone Fort and Adolphus Sterns Home.

Other places of interest are Mission San Jose De Los Nazoris, which was established in 1716 in Cushing and later became the Mission San Juan Capistrans at San Antonio, the first oil well in Texas which was drilled in 1867 at Chireno, and the historical Half-way Inn also at Chireno.

The prime county wide recreational activities, other than those carried on at Stephen F. Austin, are the Nacogdoches Horse Show in July, Nacogdoches County Fair in October, and the All-College Rodeo in April.¹

¹Dallas Morning News, Texas Almanac, (Dallas, Texas: 1950), p. 570.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Several studies have been made that bear significant relationship to this study. Raymond Harris¹ gave an explanation of how to make the added years more meaningful by giving an analysis of how Albany, New York developed a successful program of prevention and help for its aged citizens. In 1949 a group of people met weekly for cards, to talk, and play the piano. Out of this grew committee services. The Jewish Women and the Junior League both donated \$1,500 to organize a day care center for older people at the Y.W.C.A. The Albany Board of Education accepted the responsibility for providing educational activities for the group. The center was later moved to the Albany Boy's Club. In 1952 there was a Board of Directors formed and the name changed to Senior Citizens Center, which became an Agency of the Community Chest. Because of the action of this group a committee was set up in the Council of Community Services, which promoted an active and successful program for the aging.

On January 12, 1960 the White House Conference on

¹Raymond Harris, Aging In Today's Society, (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1960), p. 390.

Aging¹ was held in Washington D. C. The Conference was planned as a huge forum which brought together people constituting a cross section of America to examine the whole range of opportunities and problems associated with aging and the aged. The Conference was divided into twenty subject-matter areas. It was brought out that many community programs have been effective in alerting the community to understand the limitations of the aged and other obstacles to the employment of older workers, and more activities along this line were recommended at the local, state, and federal level. From this Conference grew many studies associated with the aged and aging.

The White House Council on Aging made a study of the needs of the older population and drew up the necessary blueprint for action as to be carried out by the states. The Council made an inventory of the resources serving them, and recommended suitable goals for action designed to create a climate for health and satisfying later years. The Council felt that by the 1980's the very concept of retirement will have changed its meaning from that of a withdrawal to transition, or shift to one or more self-satisfying activities chosen by the individual entirely on his own initiative. It was also believed that by the 1980's older people will be

¹Committee on National Voluntary Service and Services, Background Paper On National Voluntary Service and Services, Prepared by the Committee on National Voluntary Service and Services, (Washington, D. C.: 1960), p. 8.

engaged in a variety of leisure pursuits.

A study was conducted by the Committee on National Voluntary Services and Service Organization of voluntary organizations to find out how many operated within the social scene, how they use voluntary leadership, the special role and services they render, and how these things can be the most creative products of a democratic society. It was believed that the ability to serve, educate, develop new ideas and values, and change with the needs of time will determine the future destiny of the national voluntary groups in our society as related to the aged and aging.

The problems of the aged and aging cannot be confined within a narrow subject-matter compass. This was one of the findings of the Subcommittee on Aged and Aging.¹

It was thought that the nature of the problem today, its future growth and complexity, and its relationship was of such great importance that the committee recommended the creation of a special committee of the United States Senate on aging for a coordinated view of the total problem.

One of the studies done by the Governor's committee on aging in the state of Texas, which has some bearing on this study, was a study made of all senior colleges in the

¹Subcommittee on Problems of the Aged and Aging, Action for the Aged and Aging, (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1961), p. 3.

state to determine what training and research that had been done with regard to the aging. There were forty-four colleges used in the study and only four reported courses geared primarily to subjects of the aging. The committee concluded that education will become a lifelong process when colleges and schools come to recognize the desires of older people to pursue intellectual interests and keep abreast of the times.

On November 10, 1960, one hundred and seventy-five people from a cross section of the state of Texas met in Dallas, Texas to discuss the recommendations of the Governor's Conference on Aging. The purpose of this meeting was to get a frank expression of opinion on the recommendation made by the conference and of the Legislative Committee on Aging. The group let it be known that they were disturbed because the committee had lumped the aged population in the same group with the blind and cripple people in the assistance program. This group felt that a health insurance plan should be a part of the Federal Social Security Program. It was also the opinion of the group that there should be more low cost housing not too far out, close to shopping facilities and close to city transportation.

Martin¹ conducted a study which dealt with the

¹Robert Martin, The Aging American Veteran and the National Economy, (Washington, D.C.: U. S. Printing Office, 1961), p. 11

position of the aging veteran on the economy of the United States. It was concluded, from the information gathered, that veterans 65 and over are distinctly different from that of the non-veteran population in the same age group. It was also found that the aged veteran population was growing rapidly and under dynamic personal condition. Martin recommended, because of the growth mentioned above, that there be more guidance from the Veterans Administration and the aged veteran should seek to get more information from the Veterans Administration.

In a survey conducted by the United States Civil Service Commission, to determine what the government had accomplished in helping the aged to remain on the job, it was found that the government had no special program in effect as such for older workers in the Federal Service. It was found, of course, that the department emphasizes the ability to do and not chronological age.

A similar study was made by the Federal Council on Aging. This was a study of the Federal activities dealing with the problems of old people in our society. The conclusion reached was the Federal Government was becoming extensively engaged and heavily involved in direct and indirect services of older people. The council finally concluded that the Federal Government, along with voluntary organizations should

work together toward common objectives in dealing with the problems of older people in our society.

A series of studies have been conducted to determine the extent to which people of different ages subscribe to problems concerning older people. Laurance Foster¹ made a study to determine if young people felt obligated to support the aged in their family. This study was made with 1,006 college students and 373 high school students. The results showed that there was a wider range between Catholic-Protestant acceptance than was between rural-urban and 53 per cent rural Protestant; 74 per cent urban and 71 per cent rural Catholics agreed to the statement "that young people should support aged parents." Twenty per cent urban and 13 per cent rural Protestant; nine per cent urban and four per cent rural Catholics agreed "that aged parents should stand on their own without any help from children."

Jacob Tuckman and Irving Lorge² made a survey involving the attitudes of different age groups toward older people in general. The authors found a great deal of variation in the acceptance of specific statements by each of the age categories. There was also a variation in the acceptance of the

¹Laurance Foster, Aging In Today's World, (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1957), p. 189

²Jacob Tucker and Irving Lorge, The Effect of Family Environment on Attitudes Toward Older People, Journal of Social Psychology, XXXVIII (November, 1953), p. 207.

statement between the categories of respondents. It was found that women tend to subscribe to erroneous or stereotyped statements more than men do and younger people tend to agree with the erroneous or stereotyped statements more than older ones do. In another study, similar to the one mentioned above, a questionnaire was given to three groups of elders between the ages of 60-88. The findings of this study upheld the hypothesis that as individuals became less able to function in society they subscribe more to beliefs and erroneous ideas about older people. Older people who are in closer contact with younger people and are still able to function do not hold to negative ideas to the same degree as to the aged who are institutionalized.

In these studies the authors concluded that older people and those less able to function subscribe to erroneous and stereotyped statements because it is indicative of the concepts these people have about themselves. Responses from students and university undergraduates indicated that they look upon old age as a period of life characterized by economics insecurity, poor health, loneliness, resistance to change and failing mental and physical powers.

Joseph Drake¹ made a study regarding the attitudes of

¹Joseph Drake, The Aged In American Society, (New York: The Ronald Press Company, 1958), p. 388.

young people as to the roles they believed older people should play. A questionnaire was used which contained a list of activities which people over 65 might engage in. The respondents were of all ages. They were asked to assume that the older person was in reasonably good health. They were also asked to signify approval or disapproval of old people engaging in the activities listed by using a check mark.

The conclusion of this study was the public as a whole tends to favor greater activities for older men than for older women. This was particular true in the area of public life. Generally men favored more active participation for older men than they did for women. The women favored more active participation for older women than the men did for older men.

The National Recreation Association¹ asked a number of sponsors of successful programs for the aging which policies and practices they found most effective and what notes of warning should be given groups planning to undertake such programs. The findings will be discussed in the following paragraphs.

Programs for the aging should stress informality, fun,

¹Wilmer Clizbe, Why Recreational Programs for the Aging, Recreation, XLVIII (February, 1955), p. 59-60.

and a social atmosphere conducive to the formation of friendship. The schedule should allow ample time for unorganized activities and informal talking and visiting. Sociability is the key to success no matter what the formal program stresses. Although parties and entertainment with free refreshments are good ways to institute the program, they should be dispensed with as soon as possible because such activities increase the feeling of dependency among the participants. Practically all leaders believe that responsibility for the program and the cost of the program should be shared by members of the group for whom the program is designed. Programs which require the participation of all members should be stressed. This procedure guards against the tendency of some less socially and physically active people merely to sit and watch others perform. A point which was stressed by the group was that there should be a proper balance between activities such as playing cards and checkers. The group stated that participants need to enjoy themselves and should not be tied down with restrictions which detract from a feeling of freedom and good time.

It is important that there be a broad community interest and cooperation. Both trained and volunteer leaders should be used in helping to publicize the recreational program through the use of channels such as newspapers and radio. A feeling of participation can be obtained by having individual members write news notices of the activities.

CHAPTER III

FINDINGS

The data used in this study were obtained from a prepared checklist which was filled out by the investigator while making personal interviews of 100 subjects of Group I and 100 subjects of Group II, of which 25 of Group I and 25 of Group II were of Nacogdoches, 25 of Group I and 25 of Group II were of Garrison, 25 of Group I and 25 of Group II were of Cushing, and 25 of Group I and 25 of Group II were of Douglass, Texas.

The four towns mentioned above will be discussed individually and a comparison made at the end of the chapter of the four.

NACOGDOCHES

Since Nacogdoches is the largest town of the county the findings of it will be discussed first.

Table I* gives the age level of the subjects of Nacogdoches. There were three males of Group I and five males of Group II, eleven females of Group I and 10 females of Group II in age level one; five males of Group I and three males of Group II, five females of Group I and five females of Group II in age level two; while only one male of Group I and one female of Group II fell in age level three.

*As classified by the United States Census Bureau.

An examination of the data showed a total of nine males and sixteen females of Group I, and eight males and seventeen females of the Group II, which made up the 50 that were interviewed. This showed that of the 25 subjects of Group I, 36% were males and 64% were females. The data on Group II showed 32% were males and 68% were females. The combined percentage of males of both groups were 34% as compared with 66% of all the females of Nacogdoches.

TABLE I
Age Distribution of Nacogdoches
By Race and Sex

	Race and Sex			
	Group I		Group II	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
65-69	3	11	5	10
70-74	5	5	3	5
75 and above	1	0	0	2

TABLE II
A Comparison of Education of Nacogdoches
By Race

	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Grade School	16	9	23	2
College-One year	1	24	1	24
College-two years	1	24	1	24
College-three years	0	25	0	25
College-four years	0	25	0	25
College-five years and above	7	18	0	25

A grouping of data was based on the educational background of the subjects. In this study, as can be seen in Table II, the highest number of the subjects interviewed in Nacogdoches attended grade school. This was found to be true of both groups. Sixteen of the 25 of the subjects of Group I of Nacogdoches stated they had attended or finished grade school but never attended college. Twenty-three of the 25 subjects of Group II also attended grade school but never attended college. One of Group I and one of Group II stated they had gone to college for one year, while this same number of Group I and Group II had gone to college for two years. There were none of Group I nor Group II who had gone to college for two years. There were none of Group I nor Group II who had gone to college for four years. Eight of Group I had attended college for five years or above and the data showed there to have been none of Group II in this category.

When asked if they followed a profession, it was found that five of Group I followed the teaching profession, while there were none of Group II. The response to the question of whether the subjects were retired revealed that 20 of the 25 of Group I and 24 of the 25 of Group II were retired. This showed that 80% of Group I was retired and 96% of Group II.

The subjects were also asked the most important reason why they retired, if they had retired. Table III gives the response to this question. Most of the subjects of Group I

Most of the subjects of Group I retired because the job was too hard for their age, while the largest number of Group II retired because of poor health. This study showed that the smallest number of Group II retired because the job was too hard for their age, where as, Group I had the smallest number between the two categories of retiring because they wanted more time to themself and because of poor health. It was pleasing to find that there were no subjects of either Group who had to retire because of having had an accident.

TABLE III

A Comparison of the Reason for Retirement
of Nacogdoches by Race

Reason	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Wanted more time to myself	1	24	4	21
Was in poor health	1	24	6	19
Had an accident	0	25	0	25
The company worked for retired				
all employees at a certain age	8	17	11	14
The job was too hard for my age	10	15	3	23

Note: The remaining five of Group I and the remaining one of Group II were not retired.

Information concerning the social services of the participants of Nacogdoches used in this study is given in Table IV.

TABLE IV

A Comparison of Social Services of Nacogdoches
By Race

Activity	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Church work	25	0	24	1
Club Work	11	14	11	14
P. T. A. work	19	6	17	8
Youth Club work	11	14	10	15

It can easily be seen that most of the subjects of both groups devoted large portion of their social services performing some type of church work. The evidence presented shows that all 25 of Group I, which was 100 per cent engaged in church work as a social service and 24 out of 25 of Group II, which was 96 per cent, were doing church work as a social service. The same number of both groups which was eleven out of 25, engaged in some type of club work. Eleven out of 25 of Group I and 10 out of 25 of Group II were still engaged in youth club work. It was interesting to find that over half of the subjects of both groups were taking part in P. T. A. work. To sum up the social services of the subjects of Nacogdoches it can be said that, the largest number of the subjects interviewed of both groups perform church work as a social service. The activities which had the lowest number of participation of Group I were club work and youth club

leader work. The lowest number of participation of Group II was youth club leader work.

The largest group of questions on the checklist were those activities concerned with the subjects recreation and hobbies. Table V showed how the aged citizens, which were used in this study responded to this group of questions. The data showed that more subjects of Group I listened to radio and watched T.V. than group II. The statistics show that 20% of Group I and 28% of Group II listened to records, 76% of Group I and 52% of Group II listened to radio, and 48% of Group I and 28% of Group II watched T.V.

The information on the subjects also showed that 24% of Group I and 16% of Group II attended the movies. It was also found that a larger percentage of Group II engaged in gardening than Group I. It should be mentioned that gardening, as used in this study, consisted of both vegetable and flower gardening. Most of the females of Group II worked in a flower garden, whereas, the majority of the females of Group I worked in a vegetable garden.

Twenty-four per cent of Group I painted as a hobby as compared with 40% of Group II. This meant that there were 16% more of Group II citizens engaged in this activity than Group I citizens. The study indicated that 28% of the subjects of Group I were engaged in sewing and 32% cooked as a hobby as

TABLE V

A Comparison of the Recreation and
Hobbies of Nacogdoches
By Race

Activities	Race			
	Group I N=25		Group II N=25	
	No.	%	No.	%
Listening to records	5	20	7	28
Listening to the radio	19	76	13	52
Watching T. V.	12	48	7	28
Going to the movies	6	24	4	16
Gardening	9	36	17	68
Painting and drawing	6	24	10	40
Sewing	7	28	11	44
Cooking	8	32	10	40
Writing stories	0	0	9	36
Playing a musical instrument	3	12	7	28
Collecting hobbies	3	12	12	48
Giving social parties	11	44	12	48
Fishing	10	40	19	76
Hunting	5	20	11	44
Picking berries, plums and etc.	3	12	0	0
Canning fruits and vegetables	6	24	7	28
Quilting	2	8	0	0
Hiking or walking	10	40	17	68
Traveling	10	40	15	60
Dancing	8	32	4	16
Attending lectures	5	20	8	32
Attending community singing	12	48	3	12
Visiting the art galleries	2	8	5	20
Photography	8	32	10	40
Playing cards	9	36	10	40
Playing checkers	5	20	5	20
Playing dominoes	5	20	6	24
Writing letters	7	28	13	52

compared with 44% of the subjects of Group II who sewed and 40% who cooked. Of the two mentioned above there were a combined total of 24% more of Group II engaged in sewing and cooking than Group I subjects. It was learned by the investigator that more of Group I were engaged in cooking and sewing than Group II citizens, but when it came to performing such activities as a recreation or hobby, Group II citizens had a larger percentage than did the subjects of Group I.

Thirty-six percent of Group II citizens interviewed of Nacogdoches engaged in writing stories, but none of Group I subjects engaged in this activity. A small percentage of Group I subjects played a musical instrument, but the percentage was slightly higher in Group II. The study revealed that Group II subjects also had a higher percentage in such activities as collecting hobbies, giving social parties, hunting and fishing. Group II subjects also had a higher rating on walking and hiking, writing letters and traveling. On the other hand Group I subjects ranked slightly higher than Group II on such activities as picking berries, plums, etc., dancing, attending community singing and quilting. Such activities as playing cards, checkers and dominoes, seem to have been enjoyed by approximately the same percentage of both groups. Group II had a twenty per cent rating on visiting

art galleries as a hobby, but Group I subjects had an even lower percentage which was only 8%. The only art gallery in the county is located at Stephen F. Austin State College which was the place of attendance of the subjects of Group II, while Group I subjects engaged in this hobby while traveling out of the county.

As a whole, from evidence presented in this study, Group II aged citizens of Nacogdoches were shown to be engaged in more recreational hobbies than Group I aged citizens. Of the 28 activities on the checklist concerning recreation or hobbies, Group II had a higher percentage on 20 of them. Group I had a slightly higher percentage on the social service activities.

GARRISON

The town of Garrison is the second largest town in the county of Nacogdoches. The data which were secured from the 25 of Group I and the 25 of Group II aged citizens concerning their age, education, reason for retirement, (if retired) social services, and recreational hobbies will be discussed.

Table VI shows that, of the selected number of persons used in this study, females of Group I outnumbered the males, and the same was found to be true of Group II. There were 10 males of Group I and 7 males of Group II; 15 females of Group I

and 18 females of Group II. It was also found that the largest percentage of both male and female of both groups fell in age level one. There were more of Group I in level three than of Group II. The highest number of Group I to fall in age level one was 10, which were women, and lowest number three, which were men in age level one. Group II citizens had their highest percentage in level one which was 12 women and the lowest percentage was one male in level three. When the women of both Groups are numbered together, the women will out number the men.

TABLE VI
Age Distribution of Garrison
By Race and Sex

Age Level	Race and Sex			
	Group I		Group II	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
65-69	5	10	5	12
70-74	2	5	2	5
75 and above	3	0	0	1

TABLE VII
A Comparison of the Education of Garrison
By Race

Education	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Grade school	25	0	22	3
College-one year	0	25	2	23
College-two years	0	25	1	24
College-three years	0	25	0	25
College-four years	0	25	0	25
College-five years and above	0	25	0	25

The educational status of those interviewed of Garrison, which is shown in Table VII, is mostly that of a grade school education. The study reveals that all 25 of Group I interviewed attended grade school. Twenty-two of Group II interviewed attended or finished grade school, but never attended college. The remaining 3 is divided between one and two years of college. There were two who attended college for one year and the remaining one attended college for two years. From this group of aged citizens of Garrison none followed a profession.

All of those interviewed said yes to the question when asked if they were retired. Table VIII showed that most of Group I subjects retired, however, because they wanted more time to themselves. Ten of the 25 of Group I retired because the company they had worked for retired all employees at a certain age as compared with 6 of the 25 of Group II who retired for this same reason. Six of Group I and one of Group II retired because of poor health, whereas, none of the subjects of neither Group retired because of an accident.

Table IX gives a comparison of the social services of Group I and Group II aged citizens of Garrison. The largest number of all participants of both groups participated in Church work as a social service. The only social services which were engaged in by the citizens of both groups were Church work and club work. Twelve out of 25 of Group I were

TABLE VIII

A Comparison of the Reason for Retirement
of Garrison by Race

Reason	Race			
	Group I Yes	Group I No	Group II Yes	Group II No
Wanted more time to myself	1	24	13	12
Was in poor health	6	14	1	24
Had an accident	0	25	0	25
The company worked for retired all employees at a certain age	10	15	6	19
The job was too hard for my age	8	17	5	20

TABLE IX

Activity	Race			
	Group I Yes	Group I No	Group II Yes	Group II No
Church work	12	13	8	17
Club work	3	22	7	18
P. T. A. work	0	25	0	25
Youth club leader work	0	25	0	25

engaged in Church work and eight out of 25 of Group II subjects performed the same social service. Four more of Group I than Group II citizens were performing Church work as a social service. Group II citizens outnumbered Group I citizens in

club work. There were 7 out of 25 of Group II and three out of 25 of Group I who were engaged in club work.

Table X shows that a relatively small number of the aged citizens of Garrison were engaged in any type of recreation or hobbies. The activities which were engaged in by both groups were such activities as listening to radio, watching T. V., playing checkers, cards and dominoes and gardening. Sixty per cent of Group I citizens listened to the radio and watched T. V. It was found that Group I did not engage at all in such activities as painting, writing stories, giving social parties, dancing, visiting the art galleries, attending lectures or photography. Group I rated 8% on attending the movies, and there were none Group II who attended the movies. The data showed that there were more of Group I than Group II who listened to records, watched T. V., cooked, attended the movies, attended community singing and played checkers. Group II citizens had a higher percentage over Group I in such activities as listening to the radio, gardening, painting, sewing, writing letters, playing a musical instrument, and giving social parties. Also hunting, canning, traveling, dancing, photography and playing cards and dominoes.

CUSHING

The third largest city in the county is Cushing. As was done in the two previous towns, 25 subjects of Group I

TABLE X

A Comparison of the Recreation and Hobbies
of Garrison by Race

Activities	Race			
	Group I No.	N=25 %	Group II No.	N=25 %
Listening to records	4	16	2	8
Listening to the radio	15	60	18	72
Watching T. V.	15	60	10	40
Going to the movies	2	8	0	0
Gardening	11	44	18	72
Painting and drawing	0	0	2	8
Sewing	3	12	9	48
Cooking	6	24	5	20
Writing stories	0	0	2	8
Playing a musical Instrument	2	8	7	28
Collecting hobbies	3	12	3	12
Giving social parties	0	0	5	20
Fishing	6	24	3	12
Hunting	3	12	7	28
Picking berries, plums and etc.	3	12	3	12
Canning fruits and vegetables	10	40	15	60
Quilting	7	28	0	0
Hiking or walking	8	32	7	28
Traveling	3	12	5	20
Dancing	0	0	1	4
Attending community singing	5	20	3	12
Visiting the art galleries	0	0	0	0
Attending lectures	0	0	1	4
Photography	0	0	5	20
Playing cards	3	12	12	48
Playing checkers	3	12	2	8
Playing dominoes	5	20	10	40
Writing letters	1	4	2	8

and 25 subjects of Group II were interviewed. The findings of Cushing will be discussed in the following paragraphs.

Table XI gives an indication of the age level of those interviewed. There were more women of Group I interviewed than men of Group I and the men of Group II outnumbered the females of this group. The data showed that there were an equal number of men and women when both groups were added together by sex. Therefore, there were a total of 25 women and 25 men interviewed of both groups of Cushing. There were five males of Group I and nine females of Group I, five males of Group II and seven females of Group II in age level one; four males and 3 females of Group I and eight males and four females of Group II in age level two; three males and one female of Group I, and only one female of Group II in age level three.

Data concerning the education of the citizens of Cushing is illustrated in Table XII. Twenty-three of the 25 subjects of Group I attended grade school, but never attended college. Twenty-one of the 25 of Group II attended grade school, but never attended college. The remaining two of Group I attended college for one year, and there was one of Group II who attended college for one year, one for two years, and one for five years and above. There were none of Group I nor Group II who followed a profession.

TABLE XI

Age Distribution of Cushing
By Race and Sex

Age Level	Race and Sex			
	Group I		Group II	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
65-69	5	9	5	7
70-75	4	3	8	4
75 and above	3	1	0	1

TABLE XII

A Comparison of Education of Cushing
By Race

Education	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Grade school	23	2	21	4
College-one year	2	23	1	24
College-two years	0	25	1	24
College-three years	0	25	0	25
College-four years	0	25	1	24
College-five years and above	0	25	1	24

It is indicated in this study of Cushing that most of group I citizens retired because of the policy of the company to retire all employees at a certain age. This was also found to be true of Group II. Table XIII showed that 12 out of the 25 of Group I retired because the company they had worked for retired all employees at a certain age and 13 out of the 25 citizens of Group II answered yes to the same question. The second highest reason Group II retired was because of health, which were 7 out of 25 of those interviewed of group II. This study indicated that Group I rarely ever retired because they wanted more time to themselves and the number for Group II in this category was also low.

TABLE XIII
A Comparison of the Reason for Retirement
of Cushing By Race

Reason	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Wanted more time to myself	0	25	3	22
Was in poor health	3	22	7	18
Had an accident	1	24	0	25
The company worked for retired all employees at a certain age	12	13	13	12
The job was too hard for my age	9	16	12	23

Table XIV presents an analysis of how the 25 of Group I and 25 of Group II, which were interviewed, engaged in social services. The statistics showed that 12 out of 25 of Group I interviewed performed some type of Church work and 15 out of 25 of Group II were engaged in the same activity as a social service. There was a 12% difference in the Church work done by Group II citizens than Group I citizens. Two out of the 25 of Group I, who were interviewed in this study, participated in some type of club as compared with 14 out of 25 of Group II. Church work and club work were the only two types of social services rendered by the subjects of both groups.

The statistics, which are shown on Table XV, indicates the comparison of Group I and Group II's recreational hobbies. Group I rated higher than Group II on only eight of the 28 activities which were listed on the checklist. This means that the citizens of Group II were engaged in more recreational hobbies than Group I citizens. The recreation or hobbies which Group I citizens out rated Group II citizens on were such activities as listening to records, and radio, watching T. V., fishing, canning, attending community singing, quilting and playing checkers. Group II citizens out ranked Group I citizens in such activities as gardening, sewing, cooking, playing musical instruments, collecting hobbies, and giving social parties. Also hunting, hiking or walking, photography and playing dominoes. None of the subjects engaged in such activities as going to movies, writing stories and letters, dancing, visiting art galleries and attending lectures.

TABLE XIV
A Comparison of Social Services of Cushing
By Race

Activity	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Church work	12	13	15	10
Club work	2	23	14	11
P. T. A. work	0	25	0	25
Youth club leader work	0	25	0	25

TABLE XV
A Comparison of the Recreation and Hobbies
of Cushing by Race

Activities	Race			
	Group I-N=25		Group II-N=25	
	No.	%	No.	%
Listening to records	3	12	2	8
Listening to the radio	11	44	10	40
Watching T. V.	13	52	8	32
Going to the movies	0	0	0	0
Gardening	10	40	11	44
Painting and drawing	0	0	2	8
Sewing	7	28	10	40
Cooking	3	12	5	20
Writing stories	0	0	0	0
Playing a musical instrument	0	0	7	28
Collecting hobbies	4	16	5	20
Giving social parties	0	0	2	8
Fishing	5	20	4	16
Hunting	4	16	7	28
Picking berries, plums, etc.	5	20	5	20
Canning fruits and vegetables	10	40	5	20
Quilting	5	20	0	0
Hiking or walking	5	20	10	40
Traveling	0	0	3	12
Dancing	0	0	0	0
Attending community singing	6	24	4	16
Visiting art galleries	0	0	0	0
Attending lectures	0	0	0	0
Photography	0	0	0	0
Playing cards	2	8	7	28
Playing checkers	5	20	2	8
Playing dominoes	6	24	8	32
Writing letters	0	0	0	0

DOUGLASS

Of the four towns used in this study of Nacogdoches County, Douglass is the smallest in population.

Table XVI gives the breakdown on the age levels of the 50 citizens interviewed of Douglass. There were five males and eleven females of Group I and seven males and 10 females of Group II in age level one; there were three males and four females of Group I as compared with one male and seven females of Group II in age level two; one male and one female of Group I and none of Group II in age level three. The data showed that the combined number of females of both groups were 33 as compared with a combined total of the males of both groups of 17. This showed that the women outnumbered the men by 16.

A comparison of the education of the citizens of Douglass by race is shown in table XVII. Twenty-four of the 25 of Group I attended or finished grade school, but never attended college. There were 23 out of 25 of Group II citizens who had attended or finished grade school. Only one of Group I received a college degree and none for Group II. There was one of Group I to follow the teaching profession and none of Group II citizens who followed a profession.

The area which dealt with the retirement of the subjects is seen in Table XVIII, which showed that most of Group I and

TABLE XVI
Age Distribution of Douglass
By Race and Sex

Age Level	Race and Sex			
	Group I		Group II	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
65-69	1	11	7	10
70-74	3	4	1	7
75 and above	1	1	0	0

TABLE XVII
A Comparison of Education of Douglass
By Race

Education	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Grade school	24	1	23	2
College-one year	0	25	1	24
College-two years	0	25	0	25
College-three years	0	25	1	24
College-four years	1	24	0	25
College-five years and above	0	25	0	25

Group II citizens remained on the job as long as the company would allow them to do so. There were 11 out of the 25 of Group I and 10 out of the 25 of Group II who retired because the company retired them. None of the subjects of either group retired to have more time to themselves or because of an accident. Four of Group I and six of Group II retired because of an accident. Four of Group I and six of Group II retired because the work they had done was too hard for their age as compared with 9 out of 25 of Group II. There were two of Group I who retired to draw old age assistance.

The data ascertained on the social service of the selected 25 of Group I and 25 of Group II of Douglass is shown in Table XIX. The entire 25 of Group I were engaged in Church work as a social service. Eleven of the 25 of Group II citizens performed church work as a social service. Eleven of the 25 of Group I and 20 of the 25 of Group II were active in some type of club work, while there were none of either groups who performed any type of P.T.A. work or club work.

An examination of Table XX will show the comparison of the recreation and hobbies of the 25 of Group I and 25 of Group II citizens who were interviewed of Douglass. There were six of the 28 activities on the checklist in which group I nor Group II engage in. Sixty per cent of Group II citizens

TABLE XVIII

A Comparison of the Reason for Retirement
of Douglass by Race

Reason	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Wanted more time to myself	0	25	0	25
Was in poor health	4	21	6	19
Had an accident	0	25	0	25
The company worked for retired all employees at a certain age	11	14	10	15
The job was too hard for my age	8	17	9	16
To draw old aged assistance	2	23	0	25

TABLE XIX

A Comparison of Social Services of Douglass
By Race

Activity	Race			
	Group I		Group II	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Church work	25	0	11	14
Club work	11	14	20	5
P. T. A. work	0	25	0	25
Youth club leader work	0	25	0	25

TABLE XX

A Comparison of the Recreation and Hobbies
Douglass by Race

Activities	Race			
	Group I No.	N=25 %	Group II No.	N=25 %
Listening to records	10	40	15	60
Listening to the radio	15	60	12	48
Watching T. V.	12	48	15	60
Going to the movies	1	4	0	0
Gardening	15	60	11	44
Painting and drawing	0	0	3	12
Sewing	5	20	7	48
Cooking	0	0	6	24
Writing stories	0	0	0	0
Playing a musical instrument	11	44	5	20
Collecting hobbies	2	8	5	20
Giving social parties	0	0	1	4
Fishing	2	8	4	16
Hunting	0	0	0	0
Picking berries, plums, etc.	5	20	3	12
Canning fruits, and vegetables	11	44	5	20
Quilting	4	16	5	20
Hiking or walking	3	12	11	44
Traveling	2	8	1	4
Dancing	0	0	0	0
Attending community singing	2	8	0	0
Visiting art galleries	0	0	0	0
Attending lectures	0	0	0	0
Photography	0	0	0	0
Playing cards	6	24	5	20
Playing checkers	1	4	0	0
Playing dominoes	6	24	11	44
Writing letters	1	4	0	0

interviewed listened to records as compared with 40% of Group I subjects. Group I listened to the radio as a recreation or hobby more than Group II subjects. Sixty per cent of Group II watched T. V. as compared with 48% of Group I.

Group I subjects had a higher percentage than Group II subjects on such activities as picking berries, canning, traveling, attending community singing, and playing checkers. The activities which Group II citizens ranked higher than Group I citizens on, were such activities as listening to records, watching T. V., sewing, cooking, collecting hobbies, fishing, hiking and walking and playing cards and dominoes.

A comparison of the four towns of Nacogdoches, Garrison, Cushing, and Douglass showed that the women outnumbered the men. Of the 100 subjects of Group I and 100 subjects of Group II aged citizens interviewed of all four towns mentioned above, there were 77 men and 123 women. "In 1956 there were 6,670,000 aged males and 7,734,000 aged females in the United States. Thus the females exceeded the males by more than one million."¹ Women at almost all ages have a lower mortality rate than men; consequently, their life expectancy is greater than that of men. The above

¹United States Census Current Population Reports, Series, p. 20, No. 73, p. 11.

mentioned facts could be the determining factors as to why there were more women in this study than men.

From the standpoint of education, the evidence presented in this study showed that the largest number, of all the subjects interviewed, never attended college. Most of the subjects who had attended college came from the town of Nacogdoches. There is a relationship between education and certain phases of the recreational program for the aged and in many cases will determine the type of activities that a person will engage in after retirement.

This study has shown that a majority of both Group I and Group II, of the combined number of subjects studied, remained on the job as long as the company would allow them to do so. Retirement is usually thought of as occurring at the age of about 65 years. It should be remembered that the age of 65 with most companies is the normal retirement age, but is not a universal one. The Social Security Act does not make it compulsory that retirement take place at this age. If one elects to and is allowed to do so, he is at liberty to continue working beyond the age of 65.

It was interesting to see that the lowest number of persons interviewed retired because of an accident. The accident rate for younger workers has been proven to be higher than it is for older workers. "The average number of disabling injuries for those under 21 years of age

is said to be about one-third higher than for workers between the age of 40 and 54. For workers 60 and over the rate is lower than for those under 21 years of age."¹

The data concerning the social services showed that 60% of the combined number of all those in Group I interviewed and 67% of the total number in Group II were engaged in some type of Church work. Group II subjects out rated Group I subjects by 7%. Church work was the activity that was engaged in more than any of the other activities. There were none of Group I nor of Group II subjects of any of the towns interviewed, other than Nacogdoches, who engaged in P.T.A. work or served as a youth club leader.

There were a larger number of participants of Nacogdoches who were engaged in recreational activities than of the other towns. As a whole there were more of Group II subjects involved in recreational activities that there was in Group I. Most of the combined Group I subjects listened to records and radio, watched T.V., and gardened as a recreation and hobby. There were such activities as collecting hobbies, playing musical instruments, writing stories and letters, and walking and hiking, which Group II subjects rated higher than Group I subjects.

¹Mary E. Switzer and Howard A. Rusk, Keeping Older People Fit For Participation, (New York: Ronald Press Company, 1952), p. 15.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY

This study was undertaken to determine the recreational and leisure time pursuits of 100 citizens of Group I and 100 citizens of Group II and make a comparison of the two groups. The study was limited to those persons 65 years and beyond who appeared on the 1960 United States Census of which the first 25 of Group I and the first 25 of Group II were secured of the towns of Nacogdoches, Garrison, Cushing, and Douglass, Texas.

Data were obtained by means of a checklist consisting of information concerning the subject's age, education, reason for retirement, social services, and recreation and hobbies, while making personal interviews.

Data were tabulated so that a comparison of Group I and Group II could be made of each of the towns used in this study.

The findings revealed that there were more females interviewed of Nacogdoches than men. The responses of Group I as they were compared with Group II revealed that Group I of Nacogdoches has a higher rating so far as educational status was concerned. The largest majority of both groups had a grade school education. The professional status of Group I was higher than that of Group II. There were slight differences noticed in the responses related to social services, and the

data showed that Group II rated higher than Group I on recreational hobbies.

The findings of the town of Garrison revealed that there were more women interviewed than men, and most of the subjects of both Groups had a grade school education. The reason given most often as to the reason for retirement for both groups was because the company retired the. The subjects of Group II had a slightly higher rating on this category. There were only two types of social services performed by both groups; they were church work and club work. Group II rated higher on both activities. Most of the citizens who were interviewed of Garrison were engaged in sedentary activities as a recreation or hobby. Group II was found to be engaged in slightly more of a variety of activities than Group I.

Data gathered on the subjects of Cushing showed that there were an equal number of males and females of both Groups interviewed. The educational status of both Groups was mostly that of a grade school education. Most of the subjects of both groups remained on the job as long as they were allowed to do so by their employer, with the next highest reason being because the job was too hard for their age. The social services performed by both groups were church work and club work with Group II rating higher than Group I on both. Data obtained on the recreation and hobbies revealed that Group II rated higher on a majority of the activities.

Findings of the town of Douglass revealed that there were more women interviewed than men, and their education consisted mostly of a grade school education. The reason given most often for retiring for both groups was because the company retired them. The only social services performed by both groups were club work and church work, with Group I rating higher on church work and Group II rating higher on club work. Group II rated higher than Group I on recreation and hobbies.

In conclusion, the investigator feels that a carefully planned program of recreation with facilities and equipment provided to meet the needs of Group I and Group II citizens of Nacogdoches county will enhance the wise use of leisure time pursuits.

The following recommendations are made by the investigator:

1. The county provided more recreational facilities for the aged citizens.
2. In cases where the aged citizens are able to remain on the job after 65 successfully, they be allowed to do so.
3. More rest and nursing homes be provided for the aged which would include a variety of recreational activities.
4. More counseling be provided for the aged citizens before they reach the age of 65, so as to enable them to make better use of their recreational and leisure time pursuits after 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

- Carson, John and McCornell, John. Economic Needs of Older People, New York: The Twentieth Century Fund, 1956.
- Drake, Joseph. The Aged in American Society, New York: The Ronald Press Company, 1958.
- Giles, Ray. Live Better After Fifty, New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1957.
- Harris, Raymond. Aging In Todays Society, Englewood Cliff, N. J.: Prentice-Hall, 1960
- Moore, Elon. The Nature of Retirement, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1959.
- Warren, Roland. Studying Your Community, New York: Russel Sage Foundation, 1955.

Reports

- Brewster, Agnes. Health Insurance and Related Proposals for Financing Personal Health Services, U. S. Department of Health Education and Welfare, 1957.
- Committee on National Voluntary Services and Service Organization, Background Paper on National Voluntary Services and Service Organization, Prepared under the Direction of the Committee on National Voluntary Services and Service Organizations, March 1960.
- Director of the Planning Committee for Role and Training of Professional Personnel. Background Paper on Role and Training of Professional Personnel, Prepared by the Director of the Planning Committee for Role and Training of Professional Personnel, May 1960.
- Federal Council on Aging. Programs for Older People, Report to President, Washington: Federal Council on Aging, 1960.

Governor's Advisory Committee on Aging. Research and Training In Texas Colleges and Universities, Governor's Advisory Committee, 1960.

Martin, Robert. The Aging American Veteran and the National Economy, Washington: Veterans Administration, 1960.

Subcommittee on Problems of the Aged and Aging. Action for the Aged and Aging, A Report Made by the Subcommittee on Problems of the Aged and Aging, Washington: U. S. Printing Office, 1960.

U. S. Civil Service Commission. The Older Workers in the Federal Service, Prepared by the United States Civil Service Commission for the White House Conference on Aging, Washington: 1960.

United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Aging, Washington: U. S. Department of Health Education, and Welfare, 1960

, The Nation and Its Older People, Report of the White House Conference on Aging, January 9, to January 12, 1961, Washington: U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1961.

White House Conference on Aging. Aging in the States, A Report of Progress, Concerns, and Goals, January 1961, Prepared by the White House Conference on Aging, Washington: 1961.

2724