

Longitudinal Study of American Youth

SPRING 1988

This questionnaire should be completed by:

Instructions:

This survey will ask you a series of questions about your experiences and thoughts in a number of areas concerning school and your plans for the future. Take your time and think about each question carefully.

This questionnaire will be scanned by a machine to record your answers. For each question, please use the pencil provided for you and darken the oval that best reflects your answer. For example:

Have you ever: (MARK ALL OVALS THAT APPLY)

- driven an automobile?
- played soccer?
- held a job for pay?

In this example, if you have not driven an automobile, you should leave the oval to the left of the question blank, as shown above. If you have played soccer and held a job for pay, you should darken the appropriate ovals. **It is important to use the #2 pencil provided for you and to darken all of the area inside the ovals.**

In a few places in the survey, you will be asked to write answers directly on the questionnaire. In these cases, please print clearly and try to stay within the boxes provided for each answer. Do not write in other areas of the questionnaire since the optical scanner may mistake stray marks for answers.

If you have any questions about the correct procedure for recording your answers, please ask your monitor for help. When you finish the questionnaire, please return it to your monitor.

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Your answers to all of the questions will be held in strict confidence. Your responses will be merged with those of other respondents from across the country, and the answers you give will never be identified as yours.

Please list each course in which you are CURRENTLY ENROLLED. Write in the teacher's name for your math, science and computer courses. The first six questions ask you to grade each course. You may use all five letter grades: A, B, C, D, or F. Do not grade lunch, study hall, or free hours.

HOUR	COURSE	TEACHER							
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									

SUBJECT MATTER: How much do you like the subject matter of each course? A means you really like the subject; F means you hate it.

TEACHER CLARITY: How clear is the teacher in explaining the material? A means very clear; F means not clear at all.

CHALLENGE: How much does each course challenge you to use your mind? A means that it challenges you a lot; F means that it never challenges you.

USEFULNESS: How useful do you think each course will be to you in your career? A means that it will be very useful; F means that it will be of no use.

TEXTBOOK CLARITY: How clear is the textbook for each course? A means very clear; F means hard to understand. Leave blank if you do not use a textbook.

DIFFICULTY: How difficult or easy is each course for you? A means that it is very easy; F means that it is very difficult.

COMPUTERS: For each course, write Y if you sometimes use a computer; N if you never use a computer in that course.

HOMEWORK: How many hours of homework do you have for this class in an average week? Write the number of hours in each box.

THIS SEMESTER, I:
(MARK ALL OVALS THAT APPLY)

- am on a varsity sports team
- am a member of an intramural sports team
- ran for an office in student government
- am having a lot of trouble keeping up with my classes
- am active in band or orchestra
- work on the school newspaper, yearbook magazine, or other publication
- am an active member of a vocational education club
- am active in debate, speech, or drama
- am active in chorus or dance
- am an active member of a church or religious group
- belong to a science club
- belong to a math club
- belong to a computer club
- have talked to a teacher about my career plans
- have talked to my mother about my career plans
- have talked to my father about my career plans
- have talked to a school counselor about my career plans
- am bored with school
- use the school library at least once a week
- use a public library at least once a week
- could not get into all the courses that I originally wanted
- am active in cheerleading, pep club, or majorettes

MY SCIENCE TEACHER THIS SEMESTER:
(MARK ONE OVAL FOR EACH STATEMENT)

	True	False	Not Sure
really enjoys teaching science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to do my best all the time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
encourages me to do extra work when I don't understand something	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to work hard on science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to complete my homework every night	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
is a very good teacher	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
has talked to me about the kind of job I might want to do	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to go to college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
often treats boys differently than girls in class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
often makes me feel dumb in class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
gives me extra help when I don't understand something in science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
really seems to like me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
has encouraged me to take all the science I can get in school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
has encouraged me to think about a career in math or science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
pays more attention to the boys than the girls in science class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
thinks that it is very important that I do well in science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

THIS SCHOOL YEAR I HAVE:
(MARK ALL OVALS THAT APPLY)

- written a computer program
- had an outstanding teacher who changed my mind about what I want to do in my life
- done volunteer work in a political campaign
- thought seriously about dropping out of school
- entered a project in a science fair
- cut classes now and then
- worked part-time for pay
- worked full-time for pay
- read six or more books (not for a class)
- visited a science museum, natural history museum or planetarium
- visited an art museum
- visited a zoo, aquarium, or botanical garden
- read a news magazine most weeks
- talked with my parents about some issues in the news
- talked with my friends about jobs and plans for the future at least once
- used a computer for 10 hours or more (other than in a class)
- read a newspaper at least 3 times a week
- had disciplinary problems in school

MY MATH TEACHER THIS SEMESTER:
(MARK ONE OVAL FOR EACH STATEMENT)

	True	False	Not Sure
really enjoys teaching mathematics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to do my best all the time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
encourages me to do extra work when I don't understand something	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to work hard on math	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to complete my homework every night	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
is a very good teacher	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
has talked to me about the kind of job I might want to do	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
expects me to go to college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
often treats boys differently than girls in class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
often makes me feel dumb in class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
gives me extra help when I don't understand something in math	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
really seems to like me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
has encouraged me to take all the mathematics I can get in school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
has encouraged me to think about a career in math or science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
pays more attention to the boys than the girls in math class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
thinks that it is very important that I do well in math	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

As things stand now, how far in school do you think you will get? (MARK ONE OVAL)

- Less than high school graduation
- High school graduation only
- Vocational, trade, or business school after high school
 - Less than two years
 - Two years or more
- College program
 - Less than two years of college
 - Two or more years of college
 - Finish college (four- or five-year degree)
 - Master's degree or equivalent
 - Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced degree

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING DO YOU HAVE IN YOUR HOME? (MARK ALL OVALS THAT APPLY)

- A daily newspaper
- A specific place to do homework
- Typewriter
- Computer
- Atlas or globe
- A room of your own
- A pocket calculator
- More than 50 books
- A weekly news magazine
- A microscope
- A telescope
- Your own telephone

What do the following people think you ought to do after high school? (MARK ONE OVAL FOR EACH LINE)

	Go to college	Get a full-time job	Enter a trade school	Begin an apprenticeship	Enter military service	They don't care	I don't know
Your father	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your mother	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your teachers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How do you feel about each of the following statements? (MARK ONE OVAL FOR EACH LINE)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
If I worked very hard, I could be among the best students in this school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am really proud when I get good grades in school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In this school, you aren't very popular if you get better grades than other students.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I worry that my success may make other students dislike me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I sometimes avoid discussing my accomplishments because other students might get jealous.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doing better in school than other students is very important to me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Learning what I am supposed to learn from school is very important to me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My parents would get very upset if I got a low grade on an important test.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I don't care very much what my parents think about how well I do in school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Write in here the names of the two jobs or occupations that you think you are most likely to have when you are 40 years old. Even if you are not at all sure write in your best guesses.

DO NOT WRITE OUTSIDE BOXES

First Choice:

Second Choice:

How sure are you of your FIRST CHOICE of job?

- Very sure
- Fairly sure
- Not sure

What is your mother's reaction to your FIRST CHOICE of job? (MARK ONE OVAL ONLY)

- Very pleased with this choice
- Doesn't care what job I choose
- Doesn't want me to do this kind of work
- Doesn't know about this choice
- I don't know what she thinks

What is your father's reaction to your FIRST CHOICE of job? (MARK ONE OVAL ONLY)

- Very pleased with this choice
- Doesn't care what job I choose
- Doesn't want me to do this kind of work
- Doesn't know about this choice
- I don't know what he thinks

How much encouragement have you received from the following on your FIRST CHOICE of job? (MARK ONE OVAL FOR EACH LINE)

	A LOT	SOME	NONE
My mother	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My father	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My brother or sister	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Another relative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A teacher	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A school counselor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What I have read	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Which one of the following has had the MOST influence on your FIRST CHOICE of job? (MARK ONE OVAL ONLY)

- My mother
- My father
- My brother or sister
- Another relative
- A teacher
- A school counselor
- My friends
- What I have read

What is the highest level of education you will need to qualify for your FIRST CHOICE of job? (MARK ONE OVAL ONLY).

- Less than high school graduation
- High school graduation only
- Vocational or trade school after high school
- College
 - some college, but no degree
 - 2-yr (Associate) degree
 - 4-yr college degree
 - Master's degree or equivalent
 - Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced degree
- I am not sure

Which of the following high school math courses will you need to take to qualify for your FIRST CHOICE of job? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- None, I don't any for this job
- Geometry
- Algebra
- Trigonometry
- Calculus
- I am not sure

Which of the following high school science courses will you need to take to qualify for your FIRST CHOICE of job? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- None, I don't need any for this job
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- I am not sure

What is your race? (MARK ONE)

- Black
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- White

What is your origin or descent? (If more than one, please mark below the one you consider the most important part of your background.) (MARK ONE)

HISPANIC OR SPANISH:

- Mexican, Mexican-American, Chicano
- Cuban, Cubano
- Puerto Rican, Puertorriqueno or Boricua
- Other Latin American, Latino, Hispanic or Spanish descent (WRITE IN) _____

NON-HISPANIC

You have completed the questionnaire.
Thank you for your help.
Please return the questionnaire to your monitor.

<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>