

Schweizer, Thomas, Michael Schnegg and Susanne Berzborn 2002, A Questionnaire to elicit personal networks in Southern California, In: Hartmut Lang and Michael Schnegg (Eds.) Ethnographic Methods, URL: <http://www.ethnographic-methods.org>.

-Interview schedule-

A. Social Relations

(READ OUT EACH QUESTION AND WRITE DOWN THE NAME AND QUESTION NUMBER OF EACH PERSON MENTIONED JUST ONCE IN ONE OF THE BOXES ON PAGE 4 - TAKE MULTIPLE COPIES, AND LIST ADDITIONAL NUMBERS THAT APPLY UNDER EACH NAME AS YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS. DON'T ASK AT THIS STAGE FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON EACH PERSON MENTIONED, BUT ONLY AT THE END.)

1. Suppose you need sugar or something like that and the shops are closed, or you need a piece of equipment. Whom would you ask to lend you these sort of things?
2. Suppose you need help with jobs in or around the house, for instance holding a ladder or moving furniture. Whom would you ask for this kind of help?
3. Suppose you have problems with filling in forms, for instance tax forms. Whom would you ask for help with such problems?
4. Most people from time to time discuss important matters with others. Looking back over the last six months, who are the people with whom you discussed matters important to you?
5. Suppose you need advice with a major change in your life, for instance changing jobs or moving to another area. Whom would you ask for advice if such a major change occurred in your life?
6. Suppose you have the flu and must stay in bed for a couple of days. Whom would you ask to take care of you or do some shopping?
7. Suppose you need to borrow a large sum of money. Whom would you ask?
8. Suppose you have serious problems with your partner which you cannot discuss with him or her. With whom would you talk about such problems?
9. Suppose you are feeling depressed and you want to talk to someone about it. With whom would you talk about such problems?

10. With whom do you go out once in a while, for instance shopping, going for a walk, going to a restaurant or to a movie?
11. With whom do you have contact at least once a month, by visiting each other for a chat, a cup of coffee, a drink or a game of cards?
12. Is there anybody else who is important to you, not mentioned so far? In-laws, relatives or coworkers who are important to you?

B. Background information on members of the core network and their relationships to the respondent

(READ OUT)

“We would like to know a bit more about the persons whom you have mentioned and ask some further questions on the kind of relationships you have with them. To trace cross-connections between the persons named in different interviews, we'll ask for addresses if you know them. This will give us a clue to the connectedness of different networks. Remember this information will be treated in strict confidence and used only for scientific purposes.”

(FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE CORE NETWORK ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND FILL IN ANSWERS IN THE BOXES ON THE NEXT PAGES. - MAKE SURE TO WRITE DOWN THE FULL NAME OF EACH PERSON)

1. Age: how old is ...?
2. Role: how do you know each other? (FOR INSTANCE: KIN, FRIEND, AQUAINTANCE, CO-WORKER, NEIGHBOR, ETC.)
IF KIN: How are you related?
3. Duration: how long have you known each other?
4. (IF NOT EVIDENT) What's ... 's sex?
5. Residence: where does ... live? (RECORD ADDRESS AND PHONE #)
6. Occupation: what's ... 's occupation?
7. Ethnicity: which ethnic group does ... belong to?
8. Freq. of contact: How often are you in touch with each other?

C. Background information

1. Mobility: how long have you lived in this general area? in this neighborhood? (PROBE INTO HISTORY OF MOVING)
2. Marital status: what is your current marital status?
3. never married /now domestic partner/now married/now separated/now divorced/now widowed
4. Children: how many children are living in your house, how old are they, and how are they related to you?
5. Who are the adult members of your household? (excluding you but incl. those who work outside for part of the week)
6. Age: how old are you?
7. Education: what's your education?
8. Occupation: what' your occupation?
9. Ethnicity: which ethnic group do you belong to?

D. Open-ended discussion

(DEPENDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN SO FAR, TRY TO GATHER FURTHER INFORMATION ON RESPONDENT'S OPINION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS.)

1. characteristics of the neighborhood
2. importance of kin in respondent's personal network and his/her view on the importance of kin in general
3. importance of ethnicity and/or social class

Alter# 1

Name:	Gender:	Martial status:	Ethnicity:
Question:	Age:	Freq (face):	Occupation:
Role/Relation:	Duration:	Freq (mail/email):	
Residence:			

Alter# 2

Name:	Gender:	Martial status:	Ethnicity:
Question:	Age:	Freq (face):	Occupation:
Role/Relation:	Duration:	Freq (mail/email):	
Residence:			

Alter# 3

Name:	Gender:	Martial status:	Ethnicity:
Question:	Age:	Freq (face):	Occupation:
Role/Relation:	Duration:	Freq (mail/email):	
Residence:			