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APPENDIX J:

DOT VARIABLES

(DOTDATA, DOTPEOP, DOTTHNG, DOTGED, DOTSV, DOTPRES, SPDOTDAT, SPDOTPEO, SPDOTTHN, SPDOTGED, SPDOTSV, SPDOTPRE, PADOTDAT, PADOTPEO, PADOTTHN, PADOTGED, PADOTSV, PADOTPRE)

The third edition of the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (1965) provides a six-digit (expanded to nine digits in 1967) occupational classification code which is more detailed and more clearly oriented to the task content of jobs than the Census occupational codes. The DOT (Dictionary of Occupational Titles) also includes six worker trait components, which are estimated abilities and individual characteristics required of workers for successful performance in general types of jobs.

The DOT variables for the General Social Survey were provided by Lloyd V. Temme. Using data from the April, 1971 Current Population Survey (CPS) which were coded with both the detailed Census and DOT occupation codes, Temme summed and averaged all respondents' DOT scores within each detailed Census category. By applying the CPS weights for each case, Temme was able to create weighted average DOT data scores for each Census occupation which are representative of the national population. Scores were created in this way for five DOT variables: Data, People, and Things (the fourth through the sixth digits of the detailed DOT occupation code), and the two parts of worker traits for training time (General Educational Development and Specific Vocational Preparation). These five variables are the only DOT variables available for the General Social Surveys.

Also provided is a prestige variable that Temme generated from Siegel gathered data (See Appendix G) using procedures developed by Otis D. Duncan for his Socioeconomic Index (SEI).

A detailed account of both the DOT variables and of the actual procedures followed in deriving the weighted average DOT scores is given in Lloyd Temme's Occupation: Meanings and Measures (Washington, D.C., Bureau of Social Science Research, 1975).

All of these variables are interval level. DOTDATA, DOTPEOP, DOTTHNG, DOTGED, DOTSV and PADOTDAT, PADOTPEO, PADOTTHN, PADOTGED, PADOTSV are four digits long. The first digit is a zero, and a decimal point should be read between the second and third digits. DOTPRES, SPDOTPRE, and PADOTPRE are three digits long and a decimal point belongs between the second and third digits. Since these variables are continuous, complete marginals are not given. Since these variables are assigned to 1970 Census Occupational codes, they are not created in years that the 1970 codes were not utilized.