

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 7

MICROCOMPUTER DATA ARCHIVE ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY AND PREGNANCY PREVENTION PHASE II

Developments in electronic technology were radically impacting both the manner in and degree to which social science data could be analyzed and utilized. Building on decreases in cost and increases in accessibility to data storage and analysis (SPSS) technology, this Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II project, a follow-on to Project No. 4, established for personal computers a data archive on family planning and teenage pregnancy and pregnancy prevention. A CD-ROM called NATASHA (National Archive on Sexuality, Health and Adolescence) with the following capabilities was developed:

Variable Search. Each of the 39,815 variables is uniquely identified and searchable by topic, type, study, variable descriptor label, or logical combination thereof. Search Results can be written to a file or printed; study summaries can be accessed directly for further information.

Study Summaries. Summaries include title; principal investigator; number of variables; number of cases, coverage of gender, race, and age; names of data and SPSS program files; identification of which variables most closely correspond to 20 important "key characteristics" in a Key Characteristics Menu; and abstract.

Crosstabulations. NATASHA can provide the user with a crosstabulation of frequencies for virtually any pair of variables within the microcomputer version of a study.

File Transfers. Software is included to transfer data and SPSS/PC files from the CD-ROM to disk for analysis. Mainframe versions of these files can be uploaded to a mainframe computer via the user's communication software.

Sophisticated Statistical Analysis. Statistical analyses are readily available to users of SPSS. Users of other statistical packages can modify SPSS program statements to suit their package. The modified program can read the ASCII data file from the CD-ROM.

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