**UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**

**THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE AND BEYOND**

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR ALUMNI 1999**

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**WHY IS THE UNIVERSITY DOING THIS STUDY?**
The purpose of this study is to assess the quality of undergraduate education at U.Va. The information you provide is important because it will be used to make judgments about the strengths and weaknesses of the academic programs at the University and their effectiveness in preparing students for life after U.Va. Completing the questionnaire will require only about 20 minutes of your time.

**ARE MY RESPONSES CONFIDENTIAL?**
You may be assured of complete confidentiality. University policy prohibits the use of your name on any report or results published from this study. Your name will never be placed on the questionnaire or associated with any of your answers.

**WHAT DO I DO WHEN I’M FINISHED?**
Please return the completed questionnaire by U.S. mail in the enclosed postage-paid addressed envelope to Institutional Assessment and Studies. When we receive your questionnaire, we will use the study ID number, which appears on the back cover, to remove your name from our mailing list.

**WHERE SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?**
If you have questions, please feel free to call us at (804) 924-3417 or email jas5n@virginia.edu.

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Institutional Assessment and Studies
Office of the Vice President and Provost
1939 Ivy Road
Charlottesville, Virginia  22903
I. THE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

First, we would like to ask you some questions about your experience while you were an undergraduate at the University. For each type of activity listed, please estimate as best you can:

(1) The number of hours each week you spent on that activity as a student.  
(2) The number of years as a student you participated in the activity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours/week</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attending church or participating in other religious activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending class or lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Attending lectures, debates, or forums</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Attending plays, concerts, or theater performances</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercising or playing pick up or intramural sports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fraternity or sorority</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Intercollegiate sports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partying</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socializing with friends</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student organizations (government, newspaper, club)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying/doing homework</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talking with faculty outside of class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watching TV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working as a volunteer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Working for pay</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Was there any other activity in which you participated as a student that you would like to describe? (Please specify.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_____________________________________________ __________ __________
II. **Your Goals and Priorities**

This section asks about your goals and priorities, both as a student and in your current life. For each of the goals and priorities listed below, please indicate:

1. How important each was to you as a student at U.Va.
2. How important each is to you today.
3. The extent to which your major has helped you achieve the goal.
4. The extent to which your overall experience at U.Va. has helped you achieve the goal.

Please circle a number from 1 to 7, as on this scale. If you are not sure, or the question is not applicable, please skip the question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance while a U.Va. student?</th>
<th>Importance in your current life?</th>
<th>How helpful was your major?</th>
<th>How helpful was U.Va. overall?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Important (Helpful) at All</td>
<td>Very Important (Helpful)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Learning to use quantitative tools (like statistics)
- Improving your writing ability
- Developing an appreciation of art, literature, music, or drama
- Learning to communicate well verbally
- Learning a foreign language
- Improving leadership ability
- Developing computer skills
- Developing problem-solving skills
- Developing historical perspective
- Recognizing the rights and responsibilities of a citizen
- Staying informed about current issues
- Getting along with people of different races, cultures, countries, religions
- Clarifying your ethical and moral values
- Gaining in-depth knowledge of a particular academic field
- Becoming financially successful
- Becoming an active member of community
- Helping people less fortunate
- Raising a family
- Developing self-esteem and confidence
- Pursuing career advancement
- Improving your mathematical ability
III. YOUR SATISFACTION WITH ACADEMIC LIFE

Please indicate how satisfied you were with each item while a student. If you cannot remember, or do not feel the item is applicable, circle 6, “Not Sure/Not Applicable.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>Not Sure/Not Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic advising AFTER you chose a major</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic advising BEFORE you chose a major</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>How much you learned OUTSIDE your major</td>
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<tr>
<td>How much you learned WITHIN your major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal contact with faculty OUTSIDE your major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal contact with faculty WITHIN your major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of instruction by faculty OUTSIDE your major field</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of instruction by faculty WITHIN your major field</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advising on post-graduation opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career advising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class size OUTSIDE your major</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Class size WITHIN your major</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Obtaining required courses WITHIN your major</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you had it to do over again, would you choose the same major again?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not Sure

Why or why not?
IV. EDUCATION SINCE GRADUATION

Have you entered any degree programs since receiving your bachelor’s from the University?

1     Yes
2     No

Did you complete the degree?

1     Yes
2     No: Please go to the first box on the next page.
3     I am still working on the degree: Please go to the second box on the next page.

For those who completed a degree program only:

How many degrees have you earned since your bachelor’s at the University? ______

What degree(s) other than your bachelor’s from U.Va. have you earned?

1 Second bachelor’s
2 Master’s
3 Doctorate
4 Law (LLB or JD)
5 Business (MBA)
6 Medical (MD, DDS, or DVM)
7 Other (please specify):

How closely related is each degree to your major or academic concentration at U.Va.?

1 Very closely related
2 Closely related
3 Somewhat related
4 Not at all related
5 Not sure

Why did you pursue your degree(s) after U.Va.?

1 It was necessary for advancement in my field.
2 I decided to change careers.
3 I was undecided about a career, so I continued my education to explore options.
4 Other:

In general, how well do you think your U.Va. undergraduate major prepared you for your work towards your degree?

1 Very Well
2 Well
3 Some
4 Not well at all
5 Not sure/not applicable

Please go to Section V on page 8.
For those who began but did not finish a degree only:

What was the reason you did not complete the degree? You may choose as many as apply.
1. I could no longer afford to be in school.
2. I did not like the program.
3. I changed my mind about the program.
4. I did not have enough time for my family.
5. Other (please describe):

Please go to Section V on page 8.

For those who are still working on a degree only:

In what year do you expect to receive your post-baccalaureate (graduate) degree?

What type of degree are you seeking in your current program?
1. Second bachelor’s
2. Master’s
3. Doctorate
4. Law (LLB or JD)
5. Business (MBA)
6. Medical (MD, DDS, or DVM)
7. Other (please specify):

How closely related is the degree you are seeking to your major or academic concentration at U.Va.?

1. Very closely related
2. Closely related
3. Somewhat related
4. Not at all related
5. Not sure

Why are you pursuing your degree?
1. It was necessary for advancement in my field.
2. I decided to change careers.
3. I was undecided about a career, so I continued my education to explore options.
4. Other

In general, how well do you think your U.Va. undergraduate major prepared you for your work towards your degree?

1. Very Well
2. Well
3. Some
4. Not well at all
5. Not sure/not applicable

Please go to Section V on page 8.
V. EMPLOYMENT SINCE GRADUATION

This section asks about your employment situation since you graduated. If you are not currently employed, please answer the questions as they pertain to your most recent job.

How many full-time positions have you held since you graduated from U.Va.? ________

When you graduated from U.Va., how clear were you about your career direction?

1     Extremely Clear
2     Somewhat Clear
3     Neither Clear nor Unclear
4     Somewhat Unclear
5     Extremely Unclear
6     Not Sure

After graduating from U.Va., how long did you look for work before obtaining your first full-time position? (Consider only the time you were actually looking for work after graduation.)

1     I obtained my first job before graduation.
2     Less than three months after graduation
3     Four to six months after graduation
4     Seven months to a year after graduation
5     More than one year after graduation
6     Not Sure

Please review the list of occupations on the enclosed blue sheet. Fill in the number and description that most closely matches your FIRST job after graduation. If you cannot find a category that matches your FIRST job, select the last category in the list, (656) “Other,” then describe the job below.

Code: ___________ Description: ______________________________________________________

How closely related was your FIRST job to your undergraduate academic major at U.Va.? 

1     Very closely related
2     Closely related
3     Somewhat related
4     Not at all related
5     Not sure

How well did your undergraduate major prepare you for the work you did in your FIRST job after graduation?

1     Very well
2     Well
3     Some
4     Not well at all
5     Not sure
Please rate the following factors according to how important you think each was to your employer's decision to hire you for your first full-time job after graduating from U.Va. Please select a number from 1 to 5, with 1 being “not important at all” and 5 being “very important.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Not Important at All</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Not Sure/Not Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade point average</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic major</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or professional degree</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty contacts at U.Va.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal or family contacts</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall reputation of U.Va.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work experience</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your personal qualities</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular activities while at U.Va.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal interview</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please indicate your satisfaction with each of the following items as it pertains to your FIRST job after graduation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Very Satisfied</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Very Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Not Sure/Not Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall satisfaction</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your benefits</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for promotion</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations between you and your supervisors</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations between you and your co-workers</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for learning new skills and seeking new challenges</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your personal contribution to the success of your company or organization</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of hours you work each week</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your work's importance to society</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your salary</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This section contains questions about your CURRENT job. If your first job and current job are the same, check this box and go to section VI on page 11. **My first job and current job are the same.**

Please review the list of occupations on the enclosed blue sheet. Fill in the number and description that most closely matches your CURRENT (or most recent) job. If you cannot find a category that matches your CURRENT (or most recent) job, select the last category in the list, (656) “Other,” then describe the job below.

**Code:** ___________  **Description:** ________________________________________________________

How closely related is your CURRENT (or most recent) job to your undergraduate academic major at U.Va.?  
1. Very closely related  
2. Closely related  
3. Somewhat related  
4. Not at all related  
5. Not sure

How well did your undergraduate major prepare you for the work you do in your CURRENT (or most recent) job?  
1. Very well  
2. Well  
3. Some  
4. Not well at all  
5. Not sure

Please indicate your satisfaction with each of the following items as it pertains to your CURRENT (or most recent) job.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall satisfaction</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your benefits</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for promotion</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations between you and your supervisors</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations between you and your co-workers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for learning new skills and seeking new challenges</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your personal contribution to the success of your company or organization</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of hours you work each week</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your work’s importance to society</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your salary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VI. Community and Civic Life

What is the approximate population of the area in which you live?

1. Less than 5,000  
2. 5,000 to 25,000  
3. 25,000 to 100,000  
4. 100,000 to 250,000  
5. 250,000 to 500,000  
6. 500,000 to 1,000,000  
7. More than 1,000,000

How would you describe the area in which you now live?

1. Rural  
2. Small town  
3. Small city  
4. Medium-size city  
5. Large city  
6. Suburb  
7. Exurb (a region, generally semirural beyond the suburbs of a city)  
8. Other ________________________________

How long have you lived in your community? ________Years ________Months

How long have you lived at your current residence? ________Years ________Months

Do you own or rent your home?

1. Own  
2. Rent

The next several questions concern your involvement in political affairs. For each activity, indicate whether you have participated in the past year or so.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voted in an election</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attended an official government board or council meeting</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tried to convince your friends or neighbors to change their political views</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worked for a political party or candidate in an election campaign</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spoken or written to a government official about a public issue</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participated in an organized effort to solve a neighborhood or community problem</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attended a political meeting, rally, or speech</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Below is a list of different types of organizations to which people belong. Review the list and check off any organizations in which you consider yourself a member. Membership does not have to be official or formal. You may check as many as apply. If you are not a member of any of these organizations, check the first box.

☐ I do not belong to any of these organizations. (Please skip to the last question on this page.)

☐ School organization (e.g., PTO)
☐ Youth organization (e.g., Scouts or Little League)
☐ Church, synagogue, or other religious organization
☐ Ethnic organization (e.g., NAACP or Polish American Congress)
☐ Business, labor, or professional association in your field
☐ Non-partisan political issue group (e.g., NRA, NOW, Sierra Club)
☐ Service clubs or fraternal organizations (e.g., Lion's, Kiwanis)
☐ Neighborhood or community association
☐ Arts/Cultural organization (e.g., museum, symphony, public radio)
☐ Sports teams or clubs
☐ Other (please specify):_______________________________________

Of the organizations in which you consider yourself a member, for which have you been active in the past year or two? Active is defined as having been in charge of a committee, given time for a special project, or helped organize meetings.

☐ None
☐ School organization (e.g., PTO)
☐ Youth organization (e.g., Scouts or Little League)
☐ Church, synagogue, or other religious organization
☐ Ethnic organization (e.g., NAACP or Polish American Congress)
☐ Business, labor, or professional association in your field
☐ Non-partisan political issue group (e.g., NRA, NOW, Sierra Club)
☐ Service clubs or fraternal organizations (e.g., Lion's, Kiwanis)
☐ Neighborhood or community association
☐ Arts/Cultural organization (e.g., museum, symphony, public radio)
☐ Sports teams or clubs
☐ Other (please specify):_______________________________________

Over the past year or two, approximately how many hours per week, on average, have you spent working or attending meetings for the organizations you identified above? ________ Hours

In your opinion, does U.Va. have a responsibility to encourage its students to be involved in their local communities and civic life?

1    Yes
2    No
3    Not Sure
In your view, how much better prepared were you for your role in civic life as a result of your experiences at U.Va.?

1. Much better prepared
2. Somewhat better prepared
3. Not better prepared at all
4. Not sure

**VII. **General Evaluations

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 represents the lowest possible satisfaction, and 10 represents the highest possible satisfaction, how would you rate your satisfaction with the following:

Your overall experience at U.Va.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Very Satisfied</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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Your overall experience in your major

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<th>Very Dissatisfied</th>
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Your life in general

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Your community as a place to live

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Would you recommend attending U.Va. to someone who asked for advice?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

Why or why not? (If you need more space, please write your comments on a separate sheet of paper and return it with your questionnaire.)
VIII. **INDIVIDUAL AND HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS**

Finally, we have a few questions about your household. These questions are for statistical purposes only. These answers, like all your other answers, will be reported in aggregate form only and are strictly confidential.

What is your current marital status?

1. Married
2. Separated/divorced
3. Widowed
4. Never married
5. Other

How many children do you have? _________

Are any of your children currently living with you?

1. Yes
2. No

What is your current employment status? (Please check all that apply.)

1. Employed full-time (30 or more hours a week)
2. Employed part-time (less than 30 hours a week)
3. Self-employed
4. Full-time student
5. Full-time homemaker
6. Between jobs
7. Retired
8. Other (please describe): ______________________________

Please check the box that best describes your INDIVIDUAL employment income, before taxes and deductions, for 1998. Please include income related to your employment only.

1. Less than $5,000
2. $5,000 to $9,999
3. $10,000 to $19,999
4. $20,000 to $29,999
5. $30,000 to $39,999
6. $40,000 to $49,999
7. $50,000 to $74,999
8. $75,000 to $99,999
9. $100,000 to $249,999
10. $250,000 to $499,999
11. $500,000 and above

Please check the box that best describes your total HOUSEHOLD income, before taxes and deductions, for 1998. Please include income from all household members and from all sources.

1. Less than $5,000
2. $5,000 to $9,999
3. $10,000 to $19,999
4. $20,000 to $29,999
5. $30,000 to $39,999
6. $40,000 to $49,999
7. $50,000 to $74,999
8. $75,000 to $99,999
9. $100,000 to $249,999
10. $250,000 to $499,999
11. $500,000 and above
IX. Final Comments

If you have any additional comments about the topics covered in this survey, please make them here.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED.