

## British Social Attitudes 1983-2014

### 4.4: Sequence of operations

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(Draft only: 25 April 2016)

Checking measurement levels and Identifying variables with values ending in **8** or **9**, which should be treated as missing, has been extremely complex and thrown up some problems with SPSS even after careful programming. When the file is sorted so that value labels with high positive values are displayed in the **Values** column of the **Data Editor**, there are some variables which do not appear to have been picked up. There are many variables with values **8, 98, 9, 99** etc which are missing, but are not so declared.

As an intermediate stage I copied the file and used:

**SORT VARIABLES** by values (d).

.. to produce a new **Data Editor** in which value labels beginning with **8, 98, 9, 99** etc., which should be treated missing, but which are not, are displayed in the **Values** column:

	Name	Measure	Label	Values	Missing
15	intcompt	Ordinal	Time interview ...	{9999, Not Answ...	None
16	strtttime	Ordinal	Time interview ...	{9999, Not Answ...	None
17	ScenF09	Nominal	Child M follow-...	{9998, Don't know}...	-9 - -1
18	ScenF08	Nominal	Child M follow-...	{9998, Don't know}...	-9 - -1
19	ScenF07	Nominal	Child M follow-...	{9998, Don't know}...	-9 - -1
48	HhCh511	Nominal	Number of chil...	{99, Refusal}...	LO - -1
49	HhCh04	Nominal	Number of chil...	{99, Refusal}...	LO - -1
50	NumCh2	Nominal	Number of Re...	{99, Not answered}...	-1, -2
51	NumAd	Nominal	Number of adu...	{99, Not answered}...	-1, -2
52	norooms	Ordinal	How many roo...	{99, Not answer...	None
53	dwelling	Ordinal	Number of dw...	{98, Dont know}...	None
54	tnc	Ordinal	Total number ...	{98, Dont know}...	None

My plan is to identify these positive values and recode them to negative values -8, -9, -98, -99 etc

#### RECODE

```
<varlist1> (8 = -8) (9 = -9)
/<varlist2> (88 = -88) (99 = -99)
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ .
```

These negative values will then be picked up by:

**MISSING VALUES** <varlis> (Lo thru -1).

However there are some variables in the intermediate file which, although they contain values **98, 99** etc, do not display **98** or **99** in the Values column. For example:

**VoteEU** Scale Party Respondent voted for in european election? Q1028 {1, Yes: voted}

I expected

**Sort Variables** by values (d).

to display:

**VoteEU** Scale Party Respondent voted for in european election? Q1028 {98 Don't know }

... but the frequency table shows:

**VotedEU Did Respondent vote in european election 2004? Q1027**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	-2	2083	2.2	19.6	19.6
	1 Yes: voted	3358	3.5	31.6	51.3
	2 No	4992	5.2	47.0	98.3
	97 (Refused to say)	26	.0	.2	98.6
	98 Don't know	151	.2	1.4	100.0
	Total	10610	11.1	100.0	
Missing	System	85020	88.9		
Total		95630	100.0		

Note that **VoteEU** is declared as **Scale**, but is actually **Nominal**.

Because of the complexity and size of file **bsalatest3.sav** I made the changes in stages using a series of SPSS \*.sps and \*.sav files.

Stage 1:

**bsa\_setlevels1.sps**

```
SAVE OUTFILE='C:\Users\John\Desktop\British Social Attitudes\BSA 1983-2014\bsa combined '+  
'files\bsa_setlevels1.sav' /COMPRESSED.
```

Stage 2:

**bsa\_set levels2.sps**

```
SAVE OUTFILE='C:\Users\John\Desktop\British Social Attitudes\BSA 1983-2014\bsa combined '+  
'files\bsa_setlevels2.sav' /COMPRESSED.
```

Stage 3:

**bsa\_setmissing1.sps**

```
SAVE OUTFILE='C:\Users\John\Desktop\British Social Attitudes\BSA 1983-2014\bsa combined '+  
'files\bsa_setmissing1.sav' /COMPRESSED.
```

Got a problem here as SPSS won't open another file: could be stuck in a sort. Close and start over.

Latest file is **bsa\_setmissing1.sav**

Close for the night: tomorrow do

**findmissing1.sps**

**findmissing2.sps**

## 23 April (St George's Day)

### Variables which still have 99

HhCh04 HhCh511 HhCh1215 HhCh1617 RCh04 RCh511 RCh1215 RCh1617

### Levels not set

Taxspend idstrng

### Separate \*.sps files:

These \*.sps files set levels for ordinal and nominal, change positive missing values to negative and add value labels to negative missing values.

```
bsa_setordinal1.sps
bsa_setnominal1.sps
bsa_resetmissing_addvaluelabels1.sps
```

. . after which the first \*.sav file was:

**bsa\_recodevallab1.sav** (06:50)

### Still to change:

The following list was built up copying variable names from the **Names** column of the **Data Editor** under separate **/\*** headings to enable copying into a **Syntax Editor** and run with SPSS. The blocks of variable names cannot be entered using **<var1> to var2>** because they are not necessarily in same order in each wave. The names are therefore copied individually. The blocks can then be copied into SPSS commands **VARIABLE LEVEL**, **RECODE**, **MISSING VALUES** and **ADD VALUE LABELS**.

**/\* positive values not yet recoded to negative.**

**/\*8 Unable to get.**

DwellTyp

**/\*8 Unable to get 9 Ref.**

CondArea CondAdd

**/\*8 DK 9 Ref.**

**/\* Ordinal.**

ImmPov IMMMON IMM CLOSE IMM DISC IMM NUMB2 IMM CONT IMM CRIM IMM IDEA IMM JOB  
CONFIMM CONFJOB DisFull DNegBoss DNegColl WageNow PayGap WageXpct

**/\*8 DK 9 Ref.**

**/\* Nominal.**

MarStat5 LegStat2

AbWSPar AbWSCld AbWPolic AbWSocs AbWDoc AbWRelig AbWTeach AbWChrty AbWOth

AbWNone AbWAdvce AbWOthKn AbRPol AbRSServ AbRDoc AbRChur AbRSch AbRChar

AbRGov AbRExFam AbRNei AbROther AbRNoone AbRAil

PrvHspCh PrvHspPr DentWhn DentSee DW hNNeed DW hNScrd DW hNTime DW hNRnd

DW hNExp DW hNOpen DW hNFind DW hNPriv DW hNChos DW hNOth DentReg DentWait DentInfo

DenCstW DenCstH DenHOft

GChCare ParCare InterPap HIncDiff LoPWkUn LoPWkSc CoupWk UBjCyc PayHols PaySofa

PayOven CPRAil QualDP22 QualDP23 QualDP24 QualDP25 QualDP27 QualDP28 QualDP9

QualDP10 QualDP11 QualDP12 QualD22 QualD23 QualD24 QualD25 QualD27 QualD28 QualD9

QualD10 QualD11 QualD12 stsCHFpt

AbConfDo AbWSPar AbWSChld AbWPolic AbWSocs AbWDoc AbWRelig AbWTeach AbWChrty  
AbWOth AbWNone AbWAdvce AbWOthKn AbRPol AbRSServ AbRDoc AbRChur AbRSch  
AbRChar AbRGov AbRExFam AbRNei AbROther AbRNoone AbRAI  
PrvHspCh PrvHspPr DentWhn DentSee DWhNNeed DWhNScrd DWhNTime DWhNRnd  
DWhNExp DWhNOpen DWhNFind DWhNPriv DWhNChos DWhNOth DentReg PhoneX  
DentWait DentInfo DenCstW DenHOft SelfFrst WhyRich IGapProb  
IGapWBen IGapWRTx IGapWITx IGapWLim IGapWJob IGapWMin IGapWTrn IGapWOth  
IGapWNot IncGap2 IncPrior TaxRaise TaxPayD2 HhBetOff WhatInch IncHPd WhInchYr  
WhatIncl InclLPd DisFull DisFWhy REmpee WageNow PayGap WageXpct WageDrop Retforce  
WorkOld3 AREAWALK Barrier1 Barrier2 Barrier3 Barrier4 DisFWhy REmpee WageDrop Retforce  
WorkOld3

**/\*8 Can't chose 9 = Not answered.**

**/\* ordinal.**

Ahead1 Ahead2 Ahead3 Ahead4 Ahead6 Ahead7 Ahead8 Ahead14 Ahead9 Ahead10  
Earndesv HILOWTAX TaxHiSC2 CONFLIC1 CONFLIC2 CONFLIC4 CONFLIC7  
RJOBJOB DPAYRESP DPAYEDUC DPAYFAM DPAYCHLD DPAYWELL DPAYHARD  
EARNFAIR SUBCLASS

**/\*8 Can't chose 9 = Not answered.**

**/\* Nominal.**

SOCDIAG1 SOCDIAG2

**/\* 98 DK 99 Ref.**

GCareHrs PCareHrs WhIntPap sts chag lvs chag GOVRELAD DenCstH Tenure1 RaceOri2  
TrainJob ReIRFW ReIFFW RaceOri2

**/\* 98 DK 99 Not answered.**

**/\* Ordinal.**

SOCSCALE SOCSCL10 NUMBOOK WLTHHSE WLTHSAV

**/\* 98 DK 99 Not answered.**

**/\* Nominal.**

FTYPEJO2 MTYPEJO2 R1TYPEJ2 RTYPEJO2

**/\* 98 DK .**

TrainJob

**/\*998 DK 999 Ref.**

IMMAREA IMMBRIT Dis100

**/\*99999999 DKNA.**

WhInclYr

**/\*none = No missing declared.**

MarStat5 NCh015 GChCare GCareHrs ParCare PCareHrs InterPap WhIntPap LoPWkUn  
LoPWkSc CoupWk UBjCyc PayHols PaySofa PayOven REmpee Tenure1  
ReIRFW ReIFFW RaceOri2 PhoneX EndTIM Barrier1 Barrier2 Barrier3 Barrier4 DwellTyp  
CondArea CondAdd ITNC NOFHH

**/\*99999997 99999999.**

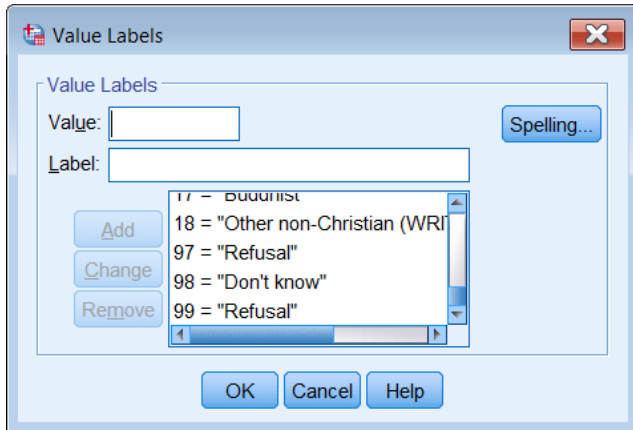
**/\* Scale.**

JOBPAY2 JOBPAY5 JOBPY12B JOBPAY10 JOBPAY11 SHDPAY2 SHDPAY5 SHDPY12B  
SHDPAY10 SHDPAY11

[Strange variables which need to be checked carefully]

/\* Rogue  
ScenInt

/\*missing taxspend 4?.



ReIRFW ReIFFW

/\*Demographics.

/\*8, 9, 0 Nom.

p2sex p3sex p4sex p5sex p6sex p7sex p8sex p9sex  
p10sex p11sex p12sex p13sex p14sex p15sex  
p2rel p3rel p4rel p5rel p6rel p7rel p8rel p9rel  
p10rel p11rel p12rel p13rel p14rel p15rel

/\*98, 99.

/\*Nom.

p2rel3 p3rel3 p4rel3 p5rel3 p6rel3 p7rel3 p8rel3 p9rel3  
p10rel3 p11rel3 p12rel3 p13rel3 p14rel3 p15rel3  
p2rel2 p3rel2 p4rel2 p5rel2 p6rel2 p7rel2 p8rel2 p9rel2  
p10rel2 p11rel2 p12rel2 p13rel2 p14rel2 p15rel2

/\*98, 99 scale.

p2age p3age p4age p5age p6age p7age p8age p9age  
p10age p11age p12age p13age p14age p15age

/\*8 DK ref.

/\*Nom.

RAgeCat

/\*9 DK ref.

RAgeCat2

/8,16.

RSexAge

/7, 14.

RSexAge2

/\*8, 9 Nom.

SmSexPar MarStat6 MarStat Married LegStat3 LegMarSt  
SupParty ClosePty PartyIDN Partyid1 PartyId2 PartyID3 PtyAlleg  
Coalitin Spend1 Spend2 SocBen1 SocBen2 Dole BenHH  
BenPay Sochous CPvWhyM WHNREL WHOREL

/\*bin.

RelFath RelMoth relbroth relsist RelSon RelDaug RelGrChD RelGrChS RelNone3  
GovRedu1 GovRedU2 GovRedu3 GovRedu4 GovRedu5 GovRedu6 GovRedu7 GovRedu8  
GovRedu9 GovRed10

/\*partially ordered.

BenRel1

/\*8, 9 Ord.

Idstrng YPelig MigBAc1 MigBAc2 livcost1 CPovMuch CPovRed Availcre Payday BenRel2  
SChPar