European Social Survey

ADAPTING THE AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF CULTURAL AND ETHNIC GROUPS (ASCCEG) FOR THE ESS

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Outline

- New ESS question on ancestry

- Challenges of operationalising ancestry across Europe

- Lessons for developing cross-national questionnaires and classifications

Adding ancestry to ESS

- Key issue in both popular and scholarly debate

- Socio-cultural origins related to range of core variables e.g. party id, political orientations, attitudes to immigration, wellbeing

- Origins more than country of birth

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- Socio-cultural origins related to range of core variables e.g. party id, political orientations, attitudes to immigration, wellbeing

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BUT:

- Complex variation across 25+ countries

- Small N

F61 **CARD 77** How would you describe your ancestry? Please use this card to choose <u>up to two</u> ancestries that best apply to you.

INTERVIEWER: code maximum of two ancestries in total.

If more than two are mentioned, ask respondent to select two.

If respondent is unable to do this, code first two ancestries mentioned.

INTERVIEWER PROBE ONCE: Which other?

2. The showcard

- Country specific showcards

- Consultation between ESS CST, ancestry experts and country experts (National Coordinators)

- Clear guidelines on categories and order

  - national majority

  - recognized subnational/ indigenous groups

  - minorities from immigration

  - other

F61[89] CARD 77 How would you describe your ancestry[90]? Please use this card to choose up to two ancestries that best apply to you.
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INTERVIEWER PROBE ONCE: Which other?

	First ancestry mentioned (CODE ONE ONLY)	Second ancestry mentioned (CODE ONE ONLY)
British	01	01
English	02	02
Northern Irish	03	03
Scottish	04	04
Welsh	05	05
Bangladeshi	06	06
Chinese	07	07
Gypsy/Roma	08	08
Indian	09	09
Irish	10	10
Jamaican	11	11
Nigerian	12	12
Pakistani	13	13
Polish	14	14
Somali	15	15
Other (WRITE IN MAXIMUM OF TWO ANCESTRIES IN TOTAL)		
(Refused)	777777	777777
(Don't know)	888888	888888
(No second ancestry)	-	555555

NOTE ON ADMINISTRATION OF F61: Country specific question (UK example shown above for illustrative purposes). Translation of the source question wording should be carried out as normal in all countries. Country specific answer categories and showcards will be developed in consultation with ESS ERIC HQ (ess@city.ac.uk). Responses to be recoded into the 'European Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups' available on the ESS7 Intranet.

3. The classification

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- European Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups (ESCEG)

- 5 digit hierarchical classification based on socio-cultural similarity

  - 1st digit – Broad regional groupings e.g. **European**

  - 2nd digit – Narrow regional groupings e.g. **West European**

  - 4th digit – Cultural or ethnic unit groups which are national (e.g. **Belgian**) or extend across national boundaries (e.g. Silesian)

  - 5th digit – Sub-national unit groups e.g. **Wallonian**, Flemish

Item fielded as part of ESS Round 7

- Data from 22 ESS countries (Fieldwork 2014/15)

- Questionnaire documentation, pre-test results, cognitive interviewing, consultation with National Coordinators pre and post-fieldwork

- Evaluate:

  - Is item fit for purpose i.e. are we measuring what we want to measure?
  - Can it be operationalized cross-nationally?
  - Does it add value to existing ESS core items?

Ancestry item generally worked well…

- Pre-test evidence suggests respondents understand and can answer question

- Item well received by NCs. No problems reported by interviewers or respondents

- Low item nonresponse (<1%)

- Low use of "OTHER" – showcard categories about right

- 2nd ancestry option used to varying degrees across countries
  - 59% BE, 49% ES, 39% FR, 33% UK

- Lots of scope for analysis

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Ancestry permanent addition to ESS core questionnaire from Round 8 ….

… but some issues with operationalization

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    (xxxx8 code for City/Region nec)

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- Need for improved guidance e.g. treatment of 2nd ancestry, showcard order, data processing

Lessons learned

- Importance of pre-testing (dress rehearsal in each country)

- Consultation (with topic and country experts) is vital

- Clear guidelines required for each stage of process

- Need to be flexible …

> …during development process

> … across countries

- Classification just as important as source question

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