Description of Sample and Data Collection

I. Country: Switzerland
II. Type of Election (e.g. presidential; parliamentary; legislative): National Parliament (Lower and Upper House)
III. Date of Election: October 24, 1999
IV. Organization that Conducted the Survey Field Work: LINK Institute, Lucerne and Lausanne
V. Investigators Responsible for Data Collection

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VI. Study Design (check one)
   ___x_ Post-Election Study
   ___ Pre-/Post-Election Panel Study

VII. Dates of Interviewing
    Date Post-Election Interviewing Began: October 25, 1999
    Date Post-Election Interviewing Ended: November 17, 1999
    (If Panel Study)
    Date Pre-Election Interviewing Began: 
    Date Pre-Election Interviewing Ended:
VIII. Mode of interview (check one)
___ In person, face-to-face  
_x_ Telephone  
___ Mail or self-completion supplement

IX. Sample Design and Sampling Procedures

1. Eligibility Requirements
   a) age: _18_
   b) citizenship: Yes _x_ No ___
   c) other: phone line, language (if not german, french or italian)

2. Persons Excluded From the Sample Frame
   a) Were any regions of the country excluded from the sample frame? 
      Yes ___ No _x__ If yes, explain:
   b) Were institutionalized persons excluded from the sample? 
      Yes ___ No _x__
   c) Were military personnel excluded from the sample? 
      Yes ___ No _x__
   d) (If telephone interview) Estimated percentage of households without a phone: 2% (rough estimation, no figures available)
   e) (If telephone interview) Were unlisted telephone numbers included in the population sampled? Yes x___ No .
   f) Other persons excluded from the sample frame: none
   g) Estimated total (a+b+c+d+e+f) percentage of the eligible population excluded from the sample frame: 2-3. %

3.1 Sampling Method (if Face-to-Face)
   a) Describe how the primary sampling units were selected:
      Were the primary sampling units randomly selected? 
      Yes x___ No___
   b) Was there a second stage selection? Yes x___ No ___
   c) Describe the method by which the second stage sampling units were selected:
      Transformation household sample to sample of persons:
      - Screening: Age of contacted person, structure of household (number of persons, number of persons with right to vote), structure of household (name, age, sex and nationality of each person), random sampling of person to be interviewed.

3.2 Sampling Method (if telephone)
   a) Describe how the sample was drawn
      Selection from the Swisscom directory (private lines: number and addresses), two stages, disproportional random sampling
   b) Was the sample a random digit dial sample? Yes ___ No ___
      listed sample? Yes _x_ No ___
      dual frame? Yes No ___
      (if dual frame) % list frame: ___; % random-digit dial: ___
   c) Was a selection table used to select the respondent within the household? Yes x No ___ If no, describe:
   d) Criteria for designating a sample line non-sample. (Check all that apply)
      Not eligible (neutral unit non-response):
      _x_ All members of household ineligibles
      _x_ Non-residential phone
      _ _ No answer (if so), after how many calls to number? see below: response rate
      _x_ Non-working number
e) Were non-sample replacement methods used? Yes ___ No x___
   If yes describe:

4. Compliance
   a) Pre-Study Strategies: Prior to the study was
      a letter sent to respondent? Yes x__ No ___
      payment sent to respondent? Yes ___ No x__
      a token gift sent to respondent? Yes ___ No x__
      any other incentives used? Yes ___ No x__
      If yes, describe:
   b) During the Field Period
      Maximum number of contacts with the household before declaring
      it non-sample: no hard criteria of number of contacts due to
      the short field period, actual contacts: 30-50
      Maximum number of contacts with the household before declaring
      it non-interview: see above.
      Maximum number of days over which a household was contacted:
      Did interviewers vary the time of day at which they
      recontacted
      the household? Yes x__ No ___
   c) Refusal Conversion
      Was an effort made to persuade respondents who were reluctant
      to be interviewed? Yes x__ No ___ If No (go to Section
      X)
      Were respondents who were reluctant to be interviewed sent a
      letter persuading them to take part? Yes ___ No x__
      Was payment offered to respondents who were reluctant to take
      part? Yes ___ No x__
      Were respondents who were reluctant to take part turned over
      to a more experienced interviewer? Yes x__ No ___
      Maximum number of recontacts used to persuade respondent to be
      interviewed: 1 (after contact)
      Other methods used to persuade respondents reluctant to be
      interviewed to take part:

X. Response Rate (to first wave if a panel study)

   a) Total number of sample lines issued: 8870
   b) Total number of completed interviews: 3257
   c) Number of refusals: 1758
   d) Number never contacted (no-contact): 898
   e) Other non-response: 399
   f) Number of lines of non-sample: 2558
   g) Response Rate: (b/(a-f))*100: 51.6 %

The sample has been drawn disproportionally. For in depth comparative
purposes, 3 cantons (ZH, GE, TI) are over represented. Cantonal
proportionality in the national data requires this backlog to be deleted.
Thus, the data set includes 2048, instead of 3257 cases.

XII. Sample Weight

   a) Are the data weighted? Yes x__ No ___ If yes:
   b) Are the data weighted to compensate for disproportionate
      probability of selection at the person or household level?
      Yes x__ No ___
   c) Are the data weighted to match known demographic characteristics
of the population? Yes ___ No x___

d) Are the data weighted to correct for non-response? Yes ___ No x___

XIII. Description of interviewers (age, level of education, and years of experience):

Ca. 400 CATI-interviewers; occupational status: housewives (with occupational training), university and high school students. Average experience at LINK: 2 1/4 years (with at least seven hours per week). For this study more than 50% of the interviewers have experience in highly demanding studies (i.e. federal bureau of statistics)

Description of interviewer training:

Interviewer training at the beginning of the study (head of project and research team), face to face training and written documentation, permanent supervision

XIV. Comparison of Sample to Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Population Estimates</th>
<th>Sample Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Unweighted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>n = 2048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-44</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>____%</td>
<td>____%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary completed</td>
<td>____%</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary completed</td>
<td>____%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-secondary trade /</td>
<td>____%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>vocational school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University degree</td>
<td>____%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>46.8%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XV. Languages used in the interviews. List: German, French, Italian

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