



Memorandum

Date July 22, 1983

From John E. Anderson, Ph.D., Chief, Demographic Analysis Section, Program Evaluation Branch, Division of Reproductive Health, Center for Health Promotion and Education (CHPE)

Subject Foreign Trip Report (AID/RSSA): Jamaica--Contraceptive Prevalence Survey, June 27-July 2, 1983

To William H. Foege, M.D., Director
Centers for Disease Control
Through: Dennis D. Tolsma
Acting Director, CHPE DDT

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SUMMARY

A final draft questionnaire was prepared during my visit, in collaboration with the Jamaicans. In my opinion, this draft reflects the interests of all parties concerned--the Jamaica National Family Planning Board, Professor Powell of the University of the West Indies, USAID, Westinghouse Health Systems, and CDC. It is important that Westinghouse, the funding agency, approve the questionnaire quickly if the survey is to be completed successfully. The final questionnaire has been delayed for several weeks, not because of any major differences among those involved, but because of a lack of communication between Westinghouse and the Jamaicans. It would be very unfortunate if this survey did not proceed, because the potential is there for a high quality survey which will be of great value to the Jamaican program and also have wider interests beyond Jamaica.

CDC will be involved in the data analysis and report preparation. We will also provide assistance in data processing and preparation of the final corrected data tape, if the Jamaicans desire it.

I. PLACES, DATES, AND PURPOSE OF TRAVEL

Kingston, Jamaica, June 27-July 2, 1983, to consult with members of the Jamaica National Family Planning Board, University of the West Indies, USAID/ Kingston, and Westinghouse Health Systems regarding the final questionnaire for the 1983 Jamaica Contraceptive Prevalence Survey. This travel was performed under the Resource Support Services Agreement between AID and CDC/DRH.

II. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS

A. USAID/Kingston

1. Ms. Francesca Nelson, Acting Director, Division of Health, Nutrition and Population
2. Ms. Marlene Thomlinson, Health and Family Planning Specialist
3. Ms. Grace-Ann Grey, Division of Health, Nutrition, and Population

B. Jamaica National Family Planning Board

1. Ms. June Rattray, Director
2. Ms. Pansy Hamilton, Director of Research, Acting Board Secretary
3. Ms. Ellen Radlein, Chief Statistician

C. University of the West Indies, Department of Sociology

1. Professor Dorian Powell, Director, Contraceptive Prevalence Survey.
2. Ms. Jean Jackson, Assistant Director, Contraceptive Prevalence Survey

D. Jamaica Department of Statistics

1. Mr. Vernon James, Deputy Director

E. Westinghouse Health Systems, Columbia, Maryland, USA

1. Mr. N. K. Nair, Contraceptive Prevalence Survey Project, on TDY

III. 1983 CONTRACEPTIVE PREVALENCE SURVEY (CPS)

A. Background

My previous consultation in Jamaica for this survey was during the week of October 25, 1982 at which time the general organization of a proposed 1983 CPS was discussed with USAID, Westinghouse and the Jamaicans. (See trip report of November 15, 1982). Following my return I drafted a proposed questionnaire which was reviewed by Professor Dorian Powell, the survey director, when she visited CDC in November 1982. The questionnaire was revised based on her suggestions, and the revised draft sent to all parties concerned.

In April 1983 a Westinghouse representative visited Jamaica to discuss questionnaire design. On return to the U.S. this representative drafted a questionnaire, apparently not taking into account the earlier survey instrument drafted together with the survey director. This questionnaire, which differed radically from the earlier version, and in my opinion was of much poorer quality, was critiqued in my memo of the record of May 24, 1983. Also, although drafted in April, the Jamaicans did not see this questionnaire until our June 27-July 2, 1983 visit.

Meanwhile, the Jamaicans had drafted their own questionnaire following the April Westinghouse visit. This version was not seen by Westinghouse until much later, and not by me until a few days before my trip. The Jamaicans did 200 pretest interviews, and based on this experience, substantially revised and improved the pretest questionnaire. This revised pretest questionnaire was not seen by the Westinghouse representative or myself until our arrival on the June/July visit.

Because Westinghouse felt there were many problems in the (non-revised) pretest questionnaire, they produced their own revision in the U.S. prior to this trip. This version was not seen by the Jamaicans until our arrival.

B. Development of Final Questionnaire

With as many as 200 questionnaires being circulated at one time or another, finalization of the CPS questionnaire was the purpose of this trip. This trip to prepare a final questionnaire had been delayed several weeks due to Westinghouse not receiving a copy of the pretest questionnaire. The lack of agreement on the final questionnaire between Westinghouse and the Jamaicans, it seems to me, was due to lack of communication and to the delays in sending questionnaires from Kingston to Columbia, Maryland.

I feel that the questionnaire pretested by the Jamaicans had some problems and, that to some extent the feelings of Westinghouse were justified. However, I feel that the Jamaicans benefited from the pretest, and their revised questionnaire was much improved and could have formed the basis of a final version. Also, the 200 completed pretest questionnaires were a valuable resource to use in preparing the final version.

During the first days of this visit the Jamaicans felt that they were being asked to ratify the revised questionnaire prepared by Westinghouse in the U.S. with only minimal input from them. These feelings were not helped by the fact that the Westinghouse representative on this trip was not empowered to approve any changes from the Westinghouse questionnaire, and was apparently expected to clear each deviation from that questionnaire with the Westinghouse Central Office by telephone.

Professor Powell, the survey director, her assistant, Ms. Jackson, and I endeavored to draft a questionnaire that would be acceptable to all parties. The questionnaire we produced combines elements of the Jamaican revised pretest questionnaire with the Westinghouse questionnaire. In my opinion, the Jamaicans were more than willing to use the Westinghouse questionnaire as a model. In terms of the content, I believe we covered all core areas contained in the Westinghouse questionnaire. Further, I was able to get some guidance from Gary Lewis of Westinghouse, who was supervising the Westinghouse representative in Jamaica, by telephone while in Jamaica. The questionnaire differs from the Westinghouse draft in the following respects:

1. A small number of items deleted by Westinghouse were added back in because they were deemed important. These include some attitudinal questions, such as reason for having children and type of family planning information desired. A number of deletions, such as income, were accepted by the Jamaicans. Information on the penultimate birth, which is important for demographic measurement and had been deleted, was restored at my urging.
2. Section 2 of the questionnaire covering fertility, breast-feeding, and family size preferences was reordered following the Jamaica revised questionnaire. This change was determined by the Jamaicans following their experience in the pretest, and now follows the CDC practice of first screening for ever-pregnant women and skipping the entire section for never-pregnant women.

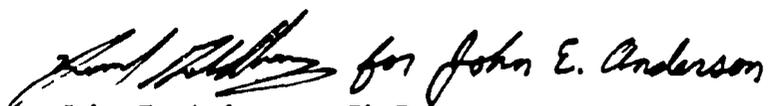
3. The remainder of the questionnaire follows the Westinghouse revision. Although I feel there are problems in the contraceptive use section and the complicated skips that follow, I did not recommend major changes here because this section was comparable to the Westinghouse approach in other countries.
4. The sterilization demand module was added at the request of the National Family Planning Board, because of their interest in starting a sterilization initiative.
5. A separate form for household screening was designed. Since all women 15-49 are to be interviewed, each sample household will have one household form and 0,1,2,3... individual forms associated with it.
6. Codes were developed for open-ended questions by reviewing pretest questionnaires. I recommended that as many of these as possible be incorporated into the final questionnaire.

IV. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

It is very important that the questionnaire be finalized without delay, if the survey is to be completed successfully. If a completed version is available and approved 1 week after my departure (by July 8, 1983), the Jamaicans will be able to meet their schedule; otherwise, success of the survey will be problematic. The schedule calls for completion of fieldwork by the end of September, at which time Mrs. Powell will begin a sabbatical and when the Department of Statistics has other commitments. With 3 weeks required for printing, 1 week off for holidays at the first of August, 2 weeks training, and 6 weeks of fieldwork, this requires that the questionnaire be finalized by July 8, 1983. During the week following my departure, Gary Lewis of Westinghouse visited Jamaica and a final version of the questionnaire was prepared.

Fieldwork, office editing, and data entry for the CPS will be the responsibility of the Department of Statistics, while data processing and production of the data tape will take place at the University of the West Indies. I hope that Westinghouse will monitor these phases of the project closely and provide whatever assistance the Jamaicans require. My impression of those involved in the survey is that they are dedicated, hardworking, and have a great deal of experience in survey work in Jamaica.

CDC's role in the survey will be to assist in data analysis and report-writing. Some data analysis and report writing will take place in Atlanta, with travel to CDC by Mrs. Powell. In view of the importance placed by CDC on data editing and cleaning, I have offered CDC assistance in programming and developing procedures for this phase, if the Jamaicans feel they need it. A data tape should be ready by November 1983, at the earliest, for analysis.


John E. Anderson, Ph.D.