

# PREJUDICE AGAINST WOMEN

## An IDEA Lesson

### MODULE 6

Module 6 provides a list of suggestions for additional analyses that instructors can use in class or that students can use for independent projects. Before undertaking these additional analyses, please read the tutorial (at [www.du.edu/idea/tutorials](http://www.du.edu/idea/tutorials)) entitled “Conducting Independent Research.”

1. Module 2 of the present lesson examined trends over time in several GSS questions that concern prejudice against women. The appendix lists two additional GSS questions involving prejudice against women which have not been examined in the Lesson (FEHELP and FEPRES) but for which trends over time (YEAR) could be examined. (There are also a number of other variables in the GSS that are not listed in the appendix that address prejudice against women but most of these other questions are not asked across very many years so they would not be as useful for examining trends over time.)
  
2. Using cross-tabulations, Modules 3 and 4 in the present lesson examined the relationships between prejudice against women, on the one hand, and demographic and other variables (such as age, education, political views, beliefs about the bible, and gender) on the other hand. There are many additional relationships you could study with cross-tabulations. The Appendix lists a number of GSS questions that concern a variety of background variables that you could study. For example, you could consider the relationships between prejudice against women and political party (PARTYID), race (RACE), religious affiliation (RELIG), strength of religious affiliation (RELITEN), and frequency of praying (PRAY). Or you might want to examine cross-tabulations between demographic variables and the variables FEKIDS1, FEKIDS2, FEKIDS3, FEKIDS4, and FEKIDS5.
  
3. Module 5 examined four theories of the causes of prejudice using a variety of GSS variables. There are many other variables in the GSS data set that could be used to perform further tests of each theory of prejudice. Some of the GSS variables that tap into the constructs that are involved in the four theories are given below. An asterisk beside a variable name indicates that the variable was used in either the body of Module 5 or in the Assignment that accompanies Module 5.
  - A. Theory I: Some of the GSS variables that tap into the authoritarian personality:  
BIBLE, IFWRONG\*, OBMEWAR, OBEY\*, OBEYLAW, OBEYTHNK,  
OWNTHING, PUNSIN\*, SPANKING, TALKBACK, TWOCCLASS\*,  
YOUNGEN
  
  - B. Theory II: Some of the GSS variables that tap into feelings of inferiority,  
worthlessness, or lack of success  
BALWFAM, FAMLIFE, WORKLIFE\*, WORTHLESS\*
  
  - C. Theory III: Some of the GSS variables that tap into economic and political competition  
JOBLOSE\*, RINCOM98, WORRYJOB

D. Theory IV: Some of the GSS variables that tap into frustration and unhappiness  
ANGRY, HAPMAR, HAPPY\*, SATFAM, SATJOB\*

By creating cross-tabulations between the variables in the preceding lists and variables that measure attitudes about women (i.e., FEFAM, FEHELP, FEHOME, FEPOL, FEPRES, and FEWORK), you could perform further tests of the four theories of the causes of prejudice. Or perhaps you have your own theory of the causes of prejudice against women and you could find GSS questions to use to test your theory.

4. The present lesson examines prejudice against women using the GSS questions such as FEFAM, FEHOME, FEPOL, and FEWORK. The GSS also asks questions about racial prejudice, such as RACMAR, RACOPEN, RACPUSH, and RACSEG. The GSS also asks a question (HOMOSEX) concerning attitudes about homosexuality. You could compare prejudice against women with prejudice against blacks or homosexual relationships. You could examine trends over time (YEAR) in the different types of prejudice (Module 2). You could also see if demographic and other background variables (such as AGE, RACE, SEX, DEGREE, POLVIEWS, and PARTYID) are related in the same fashion to questions about the three different types of prejudice (Module 3). Or you could see if the four theories of prejudice apply to prejudice against blacks and homosexuals in the same way they apply to prejudice against women (Module 5).
5. The World Values Survey (WVS) is a data set, like the GSS, that can be analyzed on the web using the SDA interface. The WVS contains data from representative samples of almost 80 different nations. You can learn more about the WVS at [www.du.edu/idea/director/about-wvs.htm](http://www.du.edu/idea/director/about-wvs.htm). In the WVS, questions are denoted by numbers rather than names. Some of the question that concerns attitudes about women are the following:

V61 – MEN MORE RIGHT TO JOB

When jobs are scarce, men should have more right to a job than women.

V93 – WOMEN NEED CHILDREN

Do you think that a woman has to have children in order to be fulfilled or is this not necessary?

V98 – WORKING MOTHER

A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work.

V99 – HOUSEWIFE FULFILLED

Being a housewife is just as fulfilling as working for pay.

V100 – BOTH EARN

Both the husband and wife should contribute to household income.

V101 – MEN BETTER POLS

On the whole, men make better political leaders than women do.

V102 – WOMEN EARN MORE

If a woman earns more money than her husband, it's almost certain to cause problems.

#### V103 – BOYS EDUCATION

A university education is more important for a boy than for a girl.

The variable labeled V2 denotes the different countries in the WVS. A cross-tabulation created by entering one of the variables above (concerning attitudes about women) as the "Row" variable and V2 as the "Column" variable would give the responses to the "women's" variable for all 80 nations. You could make a smaller table by restricting the number of nations. For example, if you enter V2(1, 2, 4, 8, 11, 13, 14, 19, 28, 29, 32, 39, 44, 50), you will get a table for responses from the following nations:

1	Britain
2	West Germany
4	Italy
8	Spain
11	United States
13	Japan
14	Mexico
19	Sweden
28	Brazil
29	Nigeria
32	India
39	China
44	Turkey
50	Russia

In addition, the variable labeled V214 denotes sex and the variable AGEGROUP partitions ages into several categories.

You could compare prejudice against women across different nations. You could also compare prejudice against women to racial prejudice across different nations (or within select nations) because the WVS also asks questions concerning racial prejudice (e.g., V52). Or you could see if gender and age have the same relationship to prejudice in different nations.