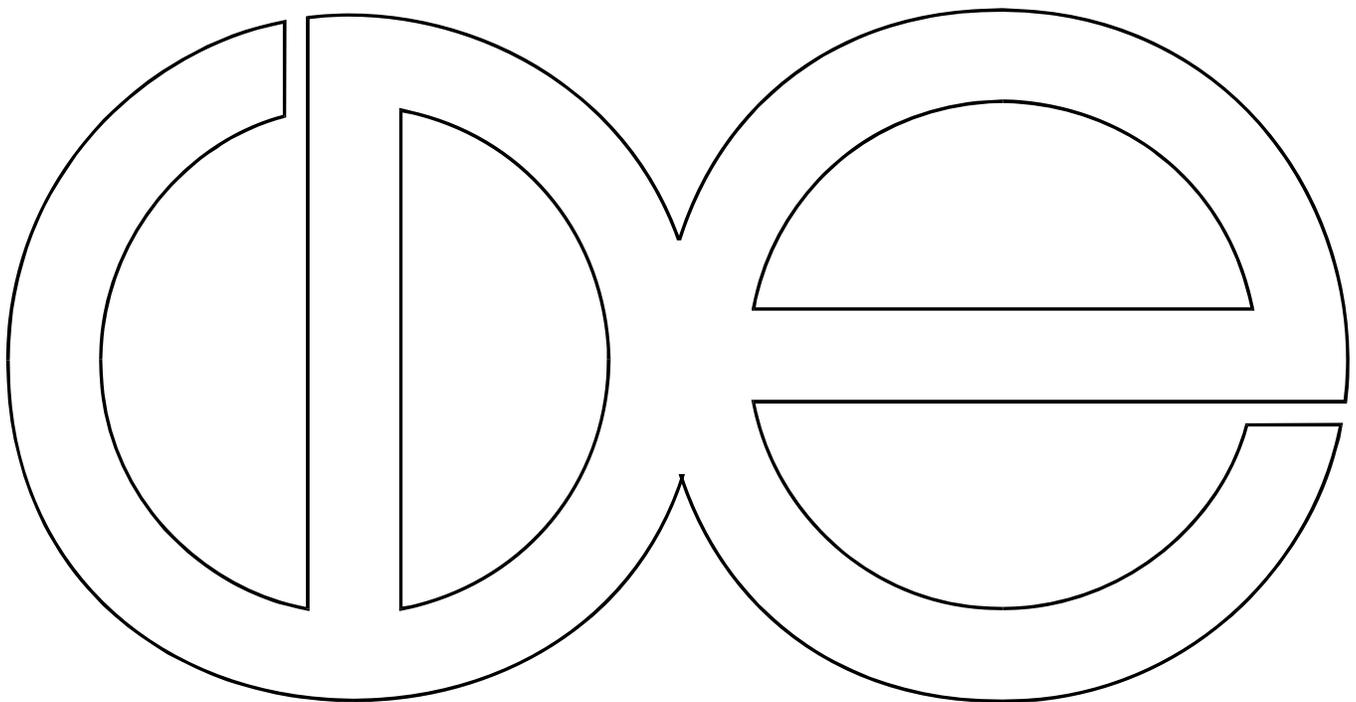


**Center for Demography and Ecology  
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**Response Errors in Child Support and Paternity Questions:  
Procedures and Codes for Studying  
Interaction between the Interviewer and Respondent**

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Procedures and Codes for Studying Interaction between the Interviewer and Respondent**

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## **Brief Overview of Coding Interviewer-Respondent Interaction**

In this paper we report on the methods, procedures, and coding scheme used to evaluate the interaction between interviewers and respondents during the administration of the Parent Survey 3 (PS3). This methodology, known as interaction coding or behavior coding, relies on direct systematic observation of interviewers and respondents during the question and answer process and involves assigning codes to the various behaviors interviewers and respondents display during question-and-answer exchanges (see, for example, Cannell, Fowler, and Marquis 1968; Cannell, Lawson, and Hausser 1975). One of the first uses of behavior coding was to monitor interviewers' performance and included codes designed to capture deviations from standardized interviewing such as "asks question incorrectly" and "probes or clarifies directly" (Cannell et al. 1975, p. 16-17). More recent studies have used interaction coding to evaluate respondents' behaviors, the performance of questions, and interviewer-respondent interaction more generally (Cannell and Oksenberg 1988; Ongena 2002).

There are a number of dimensions along which interaction coding schemes differ, particularly with regard to the unit of analysis, the types of codes used, and the procedures implemented (see overview by Ongena 2002, parts of which are summarized here). With regard to the unit of analysis, interaction can be assessed at the level of the utterance, the question-answer sequence, or the interview as a whole, with coders coding all behaviors evidenced or only a subset (e.g., only those that deviate from standardization or indicate comprehension problems) (see Oksenberg et al. 1991). Decisions about the appropriate units to code have important implications for the complexity of the coding scheme and possibly the reliability of the codes, and can influence statements that can be made about the impact of interviewer-respondent interaction on data quality. For example, in developing a coding scheme to evaluate questions from a pretest, Oksenberg et al. (1991, p. 352) note: "From the beginning it was apparent that coding all interviewer and respondent behavior was too time-consuming and was also unnecessary. Since after the initial asking of the question interviewer behavior tends to be reactive to respondent behavior (e.g., if the respondent gives an inadequate answer, the interviewer probes), it was found that coding interviewers' subsequent behaviors was superfluous." However, if researchers do not code subsequent behaviors by the interviewers, they cannot assess the association among these behaviors, the respondent's answer, and ultimately data quality.

Interaction coding schemes also vary in how many codes are used and how detailed the coding schemes are. For example, with regard to interviewers' question-asking behavior a coding scheme could assess an exact reading versus any changes. The types of changes can also be differentiated by the degree of the change – slight change, major change, or substantive change. The level at which behaviors are measured is potentially important. Although it is unlikely that slight changes in the wording of the questions that do not change the meaning of the question will impact data quality (van der Zouwen 2002, p. 56), this is an empirical question that can only be assessed if minor changes in question wording are measured. With regard to procedures, coding schemes vary based on whether coding is done from the audio-recordings or transcripts of the recordings, what types of coders are used (e.g., those with or without training in standardization such as those with interviewing experience), and how the coders are trained. Given all of the dimensions along which coding schemes can vary (Ongena 2002), probably the most important is the focus of the researcher (see van der Zouwen 2002), which

determines to a large extent the units chosen for the level of analysis, the content of the coding scheme, and the procedures used. Researchers vary in whether their primary focus is on monitoring interviewers' performance (Cannell et al. 1975) versus studying the interaction itself (Schaeffer and Maynard 1996) versus primarily coding behaviors to identify problematic questions (Fowler and Cannell 1996) versus coding all utterances for each participant to look at interactional patterns and draw conclusions about both interaction and questionnaire design (Dijkstra and Ongena 2002).

### **Description of the Parent Survey 3**

The Parent Survey 3 (PS3) is a telephone survey of mothers and fathers from divorce and paternity cases in Wisconsin. The PS3 applied ideas and principles drawn from research in survey methodology to attempt to improve the accuracy with which respondents reported about a wide range of concepts including child support transfers, legal custody, and other variables related to living in a separated family.<sup>1</sup> In developing the survey, we used an array of techniques to identify problems in the conceptualization and operationalization of concepts and to provide resources for solving those problems. First, focus groups were used to explore native constructs and the common terminology mothers and fathers use to talk about living in a separated family. Second, several rounds of cognitive interviews were used to evaluate survey questions about child support orders, support transfers, parents' contacts with outside agencies, legal and physical custody, and visitation and other contacts between children and noncustodial parents. Many of the initial questions used in the cognitive interviews were modeled after the Child Support Supplement to the Current Population Survey, and we also tested our revisions of those items. Third, split ballot experiments that varied the wording of particular questions and the position of various concepts were included in the telephone survey. For example, one experiment sought to create a contrast between two similar concepts -- physical and legal custody -- by varying which concepts was asked about first. Fourth, several series of questions, such as those about support transfers and custody, also asked respondents to rate how sure they were of their answers. Fifth, the interaction between the interviewer and respondent was coded using a detailed system of interaction coding.

Using the Court Record Database (CRD), which contains information about the PS3 respondents from public court records, we evaluated the quality of responses in the PS3. To assess accuracy, the PS3 used a reverse record-check study design and sampled court records from the 1989 to 1992 cohorts of the CRD within two counties in Wisconsin. The CRD includes abstracts of initial court actions and subsequent updates to create ongoing histories for court cases with minor children that petitioned for divorce or paternity. Two counties were included to increase the diversity of the sample. Computer-assisted telephone interviews were conducted from May to December 1997 (using 1996 as reference period, when appropriate). Parents from 797 court cases were sampled and interviews were conducted with 344 mothers and 222 fathers by the Letters and Sciences Survey Center at the University of Wisconsin. The response rate was 47 percent for mothers and 31 percent for fathers. Because it had been some time since

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<sup>1</sup> See Schaeffer and Dykema (2004) for a more detailed description of the study design, parts of which are included here.

many of the cases had been to court, the predominant reason for nonresponse was parents who could not be located or contacted (approximately 49 percent of the sampled parents); approximately 12 percent of the sampled parents refused.

### **Interviewer-Respondent Interaction Coding Data**

Of the 566 PS3 interviews, 529 were recorded on audiotape. Twenty interviews were not taped because the respondent denied permission to be recorded; 17 were lost due to recording errors. For this study we selected behaviors that had been examined in a number of investigations (Cannell and Robison 1971; Mathiowetz and Cannell 1980; Morton-Williams 1979; Oksenberg et al. 1991). In addition, we included codes for behaviors used in an interaction coding analysis of child support questions for the Current Population Survey (Miller and Schaeffer 1994) and some novel codes designed exclusively for this study. We coded behaviors exhibited by both interviewers and respondents.

In developing an interactional coding scheme the researcher must decide at what level -- the utterance or turn, the question-answer sequence, or the interview as whole -- to code behaviors (Ongena 2002). In studies that employ interaction coding schemes to diagnose poorly worded or otherwise problematic questions, interest may be limited to interaction that occurs during the initial question and answer exchange, that is during the interviewer's administration of the question and the respondent's initial response but ignoring any additional behaviors by the interviewer or respondent such as probing behavior by the interviewer. Oksenberg, Cannell, and Kalton (1991, p. 352) note that coding multiple exchanges between the interviewer and the respondent for a single survey question is time consuming and redundant: Interviewer behavior after the initial exchange, such as probing or administering feedback, is executed in response to the respondent's behavior, such as requesting clarification, which is already captured by coding the respondent's behavior. In this study, however, interest extended beyond merely identifying problematic questions, and we attempted to examine interactional patterns in more depth. In particular we were interested in observing whether there was an association between response accuracy and interviewers' followup behaviors and whether the associations varied as a function of the standardization of the followup behaviors. Consequently, we coded multiple exchanges between the interviewer and respondent that occurred during the course of producing an answer to a given survey question.

A question-answer sequence is formally defined as beginning with the interviewer's reading of the survey question and ending with the last utterance spoken by the interviewer or respondent before the interviewer reads the next question (see too Dijkstra and Ongena 2002). In most cases the sequence ends as a result of the respondent providing an answer that meets the objectives of the question. A given question-answer sequence is comprised of one or more exchange levels. The first exchange level occurs with the interviewer's administration of the question and ends with a response (of some sort) by the respondent. Within a question-answer sequence, a new exchange level is defined as beginning each time the interviewer speaks.

Coders were instructed to code up to three exchange levels and were given detailed instructions for applying the codes. Many of the exchanges for a particular question continued over more than three exchange levels and while the additional behaviors were not coded, coders noted if the interaction between the respondent and the interviewer continued on to a fourth exchange level.

Many of the interviewer and respondent interaction codes required coders to include a Coder Note in which they supplied additional information about the nature of the code they assigned. These notes provide detailed information about the interaction between the interviewer and the respondent. **These notes have been useful in other analyses in diagnosing the source and seriousness of various problems.** Notes were recorded separately for interviewers' and respondents' behaviors. For example, if the coder classified the interviewer's reading of the survey question as including a "Slight Change," she was required to create an Interviewer Coder Note for the interviewer's behavior in which she recorded exactly how the interviewer altered the reading of the question. Coders were required to record Coder Notes in a consistent manner so that we could search the output for strings or patterns of information. Every note included the following pieces of information: a code indicating which exchange level (indicated by the letter "e") the note was for (e.g. e1, e2, or e3); an abbreviation for the interaction code (e.g. the coder note abbreviation for the interviewer interaction code "Exact with Repairs" is "er"); and the note or description of the interviewer or respondent's behavior. Coders separated notes for multiple interviewer interaction codes (or respondent interaction codes) using a semi-colon.

We used two programs -- FoxPro and CASES -- to evaluate and input the interactional codes. Data entry was completed by having a data entry screen open in FoxPro (see Appendix C for a graphic depicting how the data entry screen appeared to coders). The FoxPro data entry program was designed and programmed specifically for this study. The PS3 CATI instrument was programmed using CASES. In order to evaluate the accuracy with which the survey questions were read, coders were instructed to have a copy of the survey question, as it appeared in the CASES CATI instrument, open for viewing. Thus, by having the data entry screen (from FoxPro) and the CATI question screen (from CASES) simultaneously open, coders were able to listen to the audio-taped recordings of the PS3 interview, evaluate the interviewer and respondent's behaviors while viewing the survey question, and enter codes to summarize their behaviors into FoxPro.

**Reliability Analysis.** Ten persons, most of whom had previous standardized interviewing experience, were trained to do the coding. All coders attended an initial training session in which they were introduced to the interaction codes and the procedures for coding. Following this session, coders independently coded the same three interviews, which had been randomly selected for training purposes. After coding each of the three interviews in their entirety, coders' coding assignments were evaluated against a gold standard. Coders then met with a member of the project staff to discuss and resolve differences between their coding assignments and the gold standard. For some of the coders, a member of the project staff randomly selected and independently coded one of the coder's interviews and discussed and resolved differences with the coder.

In order to assess intercoder reliability, a sample of cases was independently coded by two coders and measures of interrater agreement were produced. Cases were selected from a randomly generated list of interview identification numbers. Cases were eliminated from the list if they met any of the following conditions: (1) were partially completed; (2) were used to train coders how to code; or (3) were forwarded to the project staff because of changes in skip-pattern

sequences.<sup>2</sup> Coders were instructed to code only those cases for which they were not the interviewer and had not coded as part of production coding. Coders were told to code these interviews in exactly the same manner in which they coded interviews during production coding. Each of the original ten coders was assigned five interviews to code for reliability purposes. However, one of the coders resigned from the project and her cases were redistributed among the remaining coders. In addition, nine cases were inadvertently double-coded during the production phase of coding and included in the analysis, resulting in each coder coding between five and eight interviews.<sup>3</sup>

Two methods of data cleaning were conducted on the cases included in the reliability analysis. First, invalid codes were located and corrected. Second, invalid item numbers were located and corrected. Inconsistencies between cases coded as part of production coding and cases coded for reliability purposes were not resolved as this would have been too large of an undertaking.

In total 57 cases, approximately 10 percent of the interviews, were independently coded by two coders. These cases include a total of 6,791 administrations of the questions, which serve as the unit of analysis for the reliability analysis.<sup>4</sup>

To measure interrater agreement, kappa statistics are computed. The kappa statistic provides the ratio of the difference between the observed and expected levels of agreement to the proportion of agreement that is unexplained (see Fleiss 1981):

$$\kappa = (P_{\text{obs}} - P_{\text{exp}}) / (1 - P_{\text{exp}})$$

Table 1 shows values for the kappa statistic for each of the interviewer and respondent behaviors by exchange level.<sup>5</sup> We show the results separately for all of the cases that were double-coded

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<sup>2</sup>Approximately six-percent of the interviews -- eleven partially completed interviews, three cases used for training purposes, and eighteen cases forwarded to project staff -- were excluded for these reasons.

<sup>3</sup>These cases are included in the analysis because there is no reason to believe that these cases differed from the randomly selected cases in a systematic manner. In adding these cases to the reliability analysis, we randomly designated one case in each set as either a reliability case or a production case.

<sup>4</sup>Thirty-seven questions were dropped from the analysis because they were not coded by both coders. Of these twenty-two questions appeared in the reliability dataset but not in the production dataset; fifteen questions appeared in the production dataset but not the reliability dataset.

<sup>5</sup>To conduct the reliability analysis, we compute a series of dummy variables indicating whether or not the particular codes were assigned on Exchange Levels 1, 2, or 3 or on any exchange level. Note that these dummy variables do not contain missing values. For example, if the interviewer did not code any variables on Exchange Level 2, the respondent is assigned a value of "0" for all of the codes that are applicable on the second exchange level. This is

(under the column labeled “All Cases”) versus only those cases that were randomly selected (under the column labeled “Randomly Selected Cases Only”). However, there are only minor differences in the results when the cases that were inadvertently double-coded are excluded.

According to Fleiss (1981, p. 218, citing Landis and Koch 1977), values of kappa greater than .75 indicate excellent agreement beyond chance; values between .40 and .75 indicate fair to good agreement; and values below .40 indicate poor agreement. While there are exceptions (e.g., *Responds with Feeling* for the Interviewer), most of our codes fall within the fair to excellent range. Although there are important differences between others’ coding schemes and the one used in this analysis, the general types of codes assigned are similar and our results compare favorably with other reliability analyses of interviewer-respondent interaction coding. Panel A in Table 2 presents values for the kappa statistic as reported in the reliability analysis from Oksenberg, Cannell, and Kalton (1991). Panel B in Table 2 presents the values for the kappa statistic as reported in the reliability analysis from Dykema et al. (1997). In order to compare our results with Oksenberg et al. and Dykema et al. for the respondents’ behaviors, the reader should examine the values that summarize scores across the three exchange levels (e.g., “E1 + E2 + E3”) in the PS3. In coding respondents’ behaviors, Oksenberg et al. and Dykema et al. used the approach of assigning a value for a problem indicator if it occurred at any time during the interaction between the participants (see Oksenberg et al. 1991, p. 453).

A notable difference between our coding scheme and Oksenberg et al. and Dykema et al. is with regard to what behaviors indicate a major or substantive change. Oksenberg et al. (p. 453) described a major change such that “the meaning is altered” or the “interviewer does not complete reading the question.” This definition is more strict than the one used in the PS3. Dykema et al. describe a “substantive change” as “one that appears to change the meaning of the question, results in the omission of consecutive words that are not prepositions or articles, or involves paraphrasing.” This code appears to be a combination of the “slight change” and “major change” question-asking codes included here.

### **Detailed Description of Interviewers’ and Respondents’ Behaviors**

Appendix A presents all of the codes used to code the various interviewers’ behaviors; the codes used to code respondents’ behaviors appear in Appendix B. The appendixes are organized in the following manner. First, for each new behavior, a label appears at the top of the page describing the nature of the behavior. Second, we list the code assigned to the behavior in the data entry

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opposed to the alternative method of assigning the respondent a value of “missing” because Exchange Level 2 does not exist. In computing the variables in this manner, we use the question as the unit of analysis and ask: For Question A, did Coder 1 assign Code X (yes/no) and did Coder 2 assign Code X (yes/no)? When the question is used as the unit of analysis, the sample size for each code (from the 2-by-2 table) is the same and equals 6,791 questions. Calculated in this manner, the reliability statistic takes into account the joint distribution of whether or not a second or third exchange was assigned and whether or not a particular code appeared on the exchange level. Otherwise, questions are dropped from the analysis because both the production and reliability coder did not code a second exchange level (i.e., they agreed that a second exchange level did not exist for the question).

program and the code assigned to the behavior for the Coder Notes. Third, each of the behaviors includes sections that explain the rules for categorizing the behaviors. These appear under the headings "Definition" and "Notes." Following the "Definition" and "Notes" sections, we have examples of the various behaviors. Finally, each behavior includes a section labeled "Coder Note" that indicates whether the behavior required a Coder Note and how the coder was supposed to record the Coder Note.

A total of fifteen interviewer and fourteen respondent codes are described. Most of these codes require Coder Notes. In this document, all of the codes that require Coder Notes have an asterisk next to them. Many of the codes could only be assigned at specific exchange levels. For each behavior, the first point in the "Notes" section indicates which exchange levels the code could be assigned.

Throughout these document we used: "Q" to refer to the exact wording of the question as it appeared in survey questionnaire; "I" to refer to the interviewer's reading of the question; "R" to refer to the answers and questions supplied by the respondent; and "N" to refer to the way interaction within the survey interview should be represented in the Coder Notes.

Appendix C, "Coding Question-Answer Sequences and Exchange Levels," is an excerpt from the manual used to train the coders. This appendix provides a more detailed example of how the coding scheme and procedures were implemented.

## Appendix A: Interviewer Interaction Codes

The following section presents all of the fifteen codes coders used to code various interviewer behaviors. For a description of the format and abbreviations, consult the section titled “Detailed Description of Interviewers’ and Respondents’ Behaviors.”

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### EXACT Exact Question Reading (Foxpro Program Code = 0; Coder Note Abbreviation = ex)

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- Definition**
- Interviewer reads the question exactly as written without making repairs or including elaborations.
  - A "repair" is a reading mistake that the interviewer catches and corrects. Code "Exact w/Repairs" if the interviewer corrects a reading in a way that presents all the words in the original question in the order in which they appear in the original question and does not add or delete any of the original words.
  - An "elaboration" is an additional phrase the interviewer tacks on to the question, usually to clarify part or all of the question for the respondent.

- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
  - Interviewers often begin questions with "And," "OK," "I see," or a similar word or phrase. For the purposes of our coding, do not consider these transitional words as changes to the question wording or examples of elaborations. However, if the interviewer inserts "and" in the body of the question, code that addition to the question as a Slight Change.
  - Interviewers often insert "ah" or "um" in the middle of questions. For the purposes of our coding, do not consider the insertion of one of these words as a change to the question wording.
  - Do not consider the use of contractions as changes to the wording of the question (e.g., interviewer substitutes "don't" for "do not" or "here's" for "here is").
  - Reading "96" for "1996" and "June of 1996" for "June, 1996" is reading the question exactly. This is because there is individual variation in how interviewers normally read these portions of dates.
  - If the interviewer's reading of the question does not match the CATI screen because the interviewer went back (at a later point) and changed the respondent's answer to the current question, do not code the inconsistency between the fill statement on the CATI screen and the interviewer's reading as a change. You should be able to tell if the interviewer is filling in the correct information based on the interaction.

**Examples**    **Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*

Code ex    **I:** Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?

Code ex    **I:** And is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?

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**EXACT Continued on the following page.**

**EXACT Continued.**

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**Q:** *For each of these children, please tell me their current age and birthdate.*

Code ex **I:** For each of these children ah please tell me their current age and birthdate.

**Q:** *For each of these children, please tell me their current age and birthdate.*

Code ex **I:** For each of these children ah please tell me their current age and birthdate.

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**EXACT WITH REPAIRS**  
**Exact Question Reading with Repairs**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 1; Coder Note Abbreviation = er)**

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- Definition**
- Interviewer makes a reading mistake while reading the question but catches and corrects the mistake.
  - A "repair" is a reading mistake that the interviewer catches and corrects. Use this code if the interviewer corrects a reading in a way that presents all the words in the original question in the order in which they appear in the original question and the interviewer does not add or delete any of the original words in the corrected reading.
- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
  - The code can be used in conjunction with other Interviewer Codes such as Elaboration, Verification, or Stress Problem, but it cannot be used with Slight Change or Major Change. If the interviewer makes a repair but s/he also reads the question with a Slight or Major Change, ignore the repair and only code the nature of the change.
- Examples**
- Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*
- Code er **I:** Is Jason from..oh, I see...from the most recent divorce or separation?
- Code er **I:** Is Jason from the most recent separation I mean divorce or separation?
- Q:** *Between January 1 and December 31, 1992, did you receive any child support as a bonus from AFDC for Jason?*
- Code er **I:** Between December 1, uhm excuse me, between January 1 and December 31, 1992, did you receive any child support as a bonus from AFDC for Jason?
- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code does not require an Interviewer Coder Note. However, you may encounter situations in which you think a note is necessary.
  - To record this interviewer behavior in a Note field, record the repair in [] and as much of the surrounding question as necessary. Record the wording of the repair as close to verbatim as possible.
  - If multiple repairs are encountered, code the overall interaction as "er" and make a Coder Note for each problem. Separate the notes using a semi-colon (see example below).
  - If you need to make notes for multiple Interviewer Interaction Codes (e.g., you have to make notes for Exact with Repairs and a Verification), separate the notes using a semi-colon as shown below.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for Exact with Repairs as "e1,er--."

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**EXACT WITH REPAIRS Continued on the following page.**

**EXACT WITH REPAIRS Continued.**

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● **Examples:**

- Q:** *Was the amount of child support in the legal agreement set as a percentage of your income?*
- Code er **I:** Okay. What was the amount ... ah ... was the amount of child support in the court I mean legal agreement set as a percentage of your income?
- N:** e1,er--[What was the amount ah] was the amount of child support; in the [court I mean] legal agreement
- 
- Q:** *Would you call it a court order or a legal agreement?*
- Code er,ve **I:** *Would you call it a court order or a legal arrangement I mean legal agreement and you said it was a court order?*
- N:** e1,er--legal [arrangement I mean legal] agreement; e1,ve--and you said it was a court order?
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**\*ELABORATION**

**Interviewer Elaborates On All Or Part Of The Survey Question  
(Foxpro Program Code = 2; Coder Note Abbreviation = el)**

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- Definition**
- Interviewer precedes or follows the initial reading of the question with an elaboration or pre-probe before the respondent can answer.
  - An elaboration or pre-probe is an additional phrase the interviewer tacks on to the question, usually to clarify part or all of the question for the respondent.
- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
  - An Elaboration differs from a Verification in the following way: In administering a Verification, the interviewer alters the presentation of the survey question to take into account information the respondent provided at an earlier question that could be the answer to the current question. In contrast, an Elaboration is a phrase the interviewer includes in order to make the current question more understandable; this may include information the respondent provided earlier but the information is used to clarify the current question.
  - Use this code in conjunction with other codes such as Exact, Exact with Repairs, Slight Change, and Major Change.
  - If the interviewer includes a segue between the end of the statement about recording the interview and the first question in the interview (e.g., "And the first question is"), code the segue as an Elaboration.
  - If the interviewer includes a segway between the end of the statement about recording the interview and the first question in the interview (e.g., "And the first question is"), code the segway as an Elaboration.
  - Interviewers often begin questions with "And," "OK," "I see," or a similar word or phrase. These transitional words are not Elaborations.
- Examples**
- Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*
- Code ex,el **I:** Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation and I mean the divorce you just told me about.
- Code ex,el **I:** In this next question they want to know about the divorce you just told me about. Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?
- Q:** *The next questions are about the relationship between Fred and his father. Does Fred's father have visitation privileges?*
- Code mc,el **I:** The next questions are about the relationship Fred has with his father. Does Fred's father have visitation privileges? That means, does Fred's father have the right to see Fred?
- 

**ELABORATION Continued on the following page.**

**ELABORATION Continued.**

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- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Coder Note.
  - The interviewer can add an elaboration either at the beginning or end of the question. Use the following abbreviations to indicate the placement of the elaboration and then record the elaboration:

- b** Beginning; indicates elaboration was added to the beginning of the question.
- e** End; indicates elaboration was added to the end of the question.

Then show the elaboration in the Interviewer Coder Note field.

- If you need to make notes for multiple Interviewer Interaction Codes (e.g., you have to make notes for a Slight Change to the survey question and an Elaboration), separate the notes using a semi-colon as shown below.
- Record the Interviewer Coder Note for an Exact with Elaboration as "e1,el,b--" or "e1,el,e--" depending on the interviewer's placement of the elaboration.
- If the interviewer elaborates at the beginning and the end of the question during the initial reading of the question, code the overall interaction as "el" and make a Coder Note for each elaboration. Separate the notes using a comma (see example below).
- **Examples:**

- Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*
  - Code ex,el **I:** Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation and I mean the divorce you just told me about.
  - N:** e1,el,e--and I mean the divorce you just told me about
  
  - Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*
  - Code sc,el **I:** This next question is a little confusing but is Jason from your most recent divorce or separation?
  - N:** e1,sc,so--from [your] most recent; e1,el,b--This next question is a little confusing but
  
  - Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*
  - Code mc,el **I:** This next question is a little confusing but is Jason from the most recent divorce and I mean the one you just told me about?
  - N:** e1,mc,md--[or separation]; e1,el,b--This next question is a little confusing but, e--and I mean the one you just told me about
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**\*SLIGHT CHANGE**  
**Slight Change in Question Wording**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 3; Coder Note Abbreviation = sc)**

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- Definition**
- Interviewer adds or deletes one to three words within the (entire) question in a way that does not alter the meaning of the question or response categories.
  - Interviewer substitutes pronouns or "this child" or "the children" for the name of the child or the names of the children OR interviewer substitutes children's names for pronouns.
- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
  - Interviewers often begin questions with "And," "OK," "Alright," "I see," or a similar word or phrase. While these transitional words are not Slight Changes, code the addition of "now," "then," "next," and "so" at the beginning of the question as a Slight Change. If the interviewer inserts "and" in the body of the question, code that addition as a Slight Change.
  - If the interviewer's reading of the question does not match the CATI screen because the interviewer went back (at a later point) and changed the respondent's answer to the current question, do not code the inconsistency between the fill statement on the CATI screen and the interviewer's reading as a "Slight Change." Use the Slight Change code to refer to slight changes in question wording not affected by the interviewer jumping back from a later question to change the respondent's answer to the current question.
  - If there is a programming problem that affects a fill, use the "CATI Problem" interviewer code to indicate the problem with the fill. Use the Slight Change code to refer to slight changes in question wording not affected by programming problems.
- Examples**
- Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*
- Code sc **I:** Is Jason from that most recent divorce or separation?
- Q:** *In 1996 did you have Medicaid coverage? Receive food stamps?*
- Code sc **I:** In 1996 did you have Medicaid coverage? Did you receive food stamps?
- Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*
- I:** Is he from the most recent divorce or separation?
- Code sc **I:** Is this child from the most recent divorce or separation?
- Q:** *Is this child from the most recent divorce or separation?*
- Code sc **I:** Is Fred Rodgers from the most recent divorce or separation?
- 

**SLIGHT CHANGE Continued on the following page.**

**SLIGHT CHANGE Continued.**

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- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Coder Note.
  - In making a slight change to the reading of a survey question, the interviewer can make a "Slight Addition," "Slight Deletion," or an other slight change, "Slight Other." Use the following abbreviations to indicate the nature of the Slight Change:
    - sa** Slight Addition.
    - sd** Slight Deletion.
    - so** Slight Other.
- Then show the addition, deletion, or other change in the Interviewer Coder Note field. Show the word or words that were added or deleted in []. If the interviewer changes the wording, show the wording she used in []. Include enough of the question so that we can tell where the change was made.
- If the interviewer makes two Slight Changes in the initial presentation of the question, make a code for each change and separate them using a semi-colon.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for a Slight Change as "e1,sc,sa--," "e1,sc,sd--" or "e1,sc,so" depending on the nature of the change (e.g., addition, deletion, or other).
  - **Examples:**
    - Q:** *In what year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?*
    - Code sc **I:** In what year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about your child support payments for Ricky?
    - N:** e1,sc,sa--about [your] child support payments
    - Q:** *In what year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?*
    - Code sc **I:** In what year did you first have any court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?
    - N:** e1,sc,sd--any [kind of] court order
    - Q:** *In what year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?*
    - Code sc **I:** In which year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?
    - N:** e1,sc,so--In [which] year
    - Q:** *In what year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?*
    - Code sc **I:** In which year did you first have any sort of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?
    - N:** e1,sc,so--In [which] year; e1,sc,so--any [sort] of court order

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**SLIGHT CHANGE Continued on the following page.**

**SLIGHT CHANGE Continued.**

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- Q:** *Is he from the most recent divorce or separation?*
- Code sc **I:** Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?
- N:** e1,sc,so--Is [Jason] from
- Q:** *Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the children's mother spent the money you gave her in 1996, are you in-between?*
- Code cp **I:** Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the children's mother spent the money you gave her in 1996, or are you in-between?

(**Note to Coders:** You would not code this as a small change because there was an error in the presentation of the question that the interviewer's reading of the question fixed. You would code this as a CATI problem.)

- N:** e1,cp--Q is missing "or", int adds "or" to question.
-

---

**\*MAJOR CHANGE**  
**Major Change in Question Wording**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 4; Coder Note Abbreviation = mc)**

---

- Definition**
- Interviewer adds or deletes more than three words from the question or response categories.
  - Interviewer adds or deletes one or more words that alter the meaning of the question from the question or response categories.
- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
  - Consider the context in deciding whether the interviewer has made a major change. For example, omitting "in 1996" is a minor change if the reference period is well-established by previous questions, but a major change if it is not.
  - If the interviewer's reading of the question does not match the CATI screen because the interviewer went back (at a later point) and changed the respondent's answer to the current question, do not code the inconsistency between the fill statement on the CATI screen and the interviewer's reading as a "Major Change." Use the Major Change code to refer to major changes in question wording not affected by the interviewer jumping back from a later question to change the respondent's answer to the current question.
  - If there is a programming problem that affects a fill, use the CATI Problem interviewer code to indicate the problem with the fill. Use the mc (major changes) code to refer to major changes in question wording not affected by the programming problem.
  - Code the deletion of any words that appear in capital letters on the CATI screen as Major Changes. Code these deletions as Major Changes even if the interviewer only deletes a single word that appears in capital letters.
  - If, in the course of reading of a scale, the interviewer omits any of the labels in the scale (e.g., "slightly" in "slightly accurate"), code the deletion as a Major Change. For example, if the interviewer deleted the phrase "extremely accurate" in the scale "not at all accurate, slightly accurate, pretty accurate, very accurate, or extremely accurate," her/his reading should be classified as a Major Change. (Note: if the interviewer only omits the last word in the scale (e.g., "accurate") her/his reading should be coded as a Slight Change.)
  - If the interviewer substitutes "agreement" for "arrangement" (or "arrangement" for "agreement"), code this substitution as a Major Change.
  - Omitting "on" in "on how many days" is always a major change. In the custodial version of the questionnaire this phrase appears at items 605 (question 605) and 605a (question 605a). In the noncustodial questionnaire the phrase appears at the parallel items, n605 (question 605) and 65na (question 605a).

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**MAJOR CHANGE Continued on the following page.**

## **MAJOR CHANGE Continued.**

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**Examples**    **Q:** *Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation?*

Code mc    **I:** Is Jason from the most recent divorce or separation or haven't you been married?

Code mc    **I:** Is Jason from the divorce or separation?

Code mc,ve    **I:** Is Jason from the separation? And you told me earlier Jason was from the separation?

**Q:** *Between January 1 and December 31, 1996 did Jason's father do any of the following on a regular basis for Jason?*

*Pay for medical expenses, such as medicine or visits to the doctor or dentist, other than health insurance?*

Code mc    **I:** Between January 1 and December 31, 1996 did Jason's father do any of the following on a regular basis for Jason?

Pay for medical expenses, such as medicine or visits to the doctor or dentist, and other health insurance. [NOTE: This is a case where only two words were changed but it is a Major Change.]

**Coder Note**    ● This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Coder Note.

- In making a Major Change to the reading of a survey question, the interviewer can make a "Major Addition," "Major Deletion," or an other major change, "Major Other." Use the following abbreviations to indicate the nature of the Major Change:

**ma**    Major Addition.

**md**    Major Deletion.

**mo**    Major Other.

Then show the addition, deletion, or other change in the Interviewer Coder Note field. Show the word or words that were added or deleted in []. If the interviewer changes the wording, show the wording she used in []. Include enough of the question so that we can tell where the change was made.

- There are two acceptable options for recording multiple Major Changes to the wording of the survey question. The first option is to code the reading of the question as a Major Other and include a verbatim transcription of the interviewer's question reading. Alternatively, you can make a code for each change and separate the notes using a semi-colon. (See example below.)
  - Interviewers sometimes delete major portions of a question. For example, they may skip the introduction to a question or they may chose not to finish reading a question after an interruption. To limit the number of words you have to type in your Coder Note for these types of deletions, use an ellipse to represent the deleted words. In the Coder Note, record the first word deleted by the interviewer followed by an ellipse and then the last word deleted by the interviewer. (See example below.)
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for a Major Change as: "e1,mc,ma--," "e1,mc,md--," or "e1,mc,mo" depending on the nature of the change (e.g., addition, deletion, or other).
- 

**MAJOR CHANGE Continued on the following page.**

## MAJOR CHANGE Continued.

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- **Examples:**

- Q:** *We also have learned in our interviews that some of the information we ask for is hard for people to remember accurately, so I will be asking you some questions about this during the interview.*  
*Here's the first question like this: You just told me that you FIRST had a court order, judgment or legal arrangement in 1981. How accurate do you think your answer is: not at all accurate, slightly accurate, pretty accurate, very accurate, or extremely accurate?*
- Code mc **I:** We've also learned in our interviews that some of the information we ask for is hard for people to remember accurately, so I will be asking you some questions about this during the interview and here's the first question like this: You told me you FIRST had a court order, judgment or legal arrangement in 1981. How accurate do you think your answer is: not at all accurate, slightly accurate, pretty accurate, very accurate, or extremely accurate?
- N:** e1,mc,mo--[We've also]; e1,mc,md--You [just] told me [that] you; e1,mc,ma-[and] here's
- Q:** *At any time during 1996, did any children of your own under 21 live somewhere else, for example, with a relative or in a foster home?*
- Code mc **I:** And during 96 did any other children of your own under 21 that lived elsewhere for example with another relative.
- N:** e1,mc,mo--Int reads Q as: And during 96 did any other children of your own under 21 that lived elsewhere for example with another relative.
- N:** e1,mc,mo--[And during 96 did any other children of your own under 21 that lived elsewhere for example with another relative.]
- N:** e1,mc,mo--[And] during [96]; e1,mc,ma--any [other] children; e1,mc,mo--under 21 [that lived elsewhere] for example with [another] relative; e1,mc,md--[or in a foster home]
- Q:** *A LEGAL arrangement about financial support for a child could be called many things, for example, a court order, a divorce or separation agreement, or a legal agreement. Has there EVER been ANY kind of LEGAL AGREEMENT for Billy's father to provide ANY KIND of financial support for him?*
- Code mc,md **I:** A LEGAL arrangement about financial support for a child could be called many things, for example, a court order
- Code in,ia **R:** [R interrupts] We have a court order for child support.
- Code if **I:** You have a court order?
- Code ca **R:** Yes.
- N:** e1,mc,md--a court order [a divorce ... for him]
-

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**\*VERIFICATION**  
**Provides Verification**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 5; Coder Note Abbreviation = ve)**

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**Definition**

- Instead of reading the survey question, interviewer changes the initial reading of the question to take into account information previously provided by the respondent.
- Interviewer immediately follows the initial reading of the question with a verification of information previously provided by the respondent.

**Notes**

- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
- If the interviewer does not read the survey question, code the initial reading of the survey question as "Not Asked" ("na") and the Verification.
- If the interviewer follows a reading of the survey question with a verification in the same exchange level, code the nature of the question reading (e.g., Exact, Exact with Repairs, Slight Change, Major Change) and the Verification.
- The interviewer can supply either an adequate or inadequate verification. In an adequate verification the interviewer does not change the meaning of the question or distort the information already provided by the respondent. In an inadequate verification the interviewer changes the meaning of the question or distorts information already provided by the respondent. You do not have to distinguish between these types of verifications.

**Examples**

**I:** In what year did your divorce take place?  
Code ca,el **R:** We were married in 1985 and divorced in 1989.  
**Q:** *What was the year of that marriage?*

Code na,ve **I:** And you said the year of that marriage was 1985?  
Code ca **R:** That's right.

**I:** In what year did your divorce take place?  
Code ca,el **R:** We were married in 1985 and divorced in 1989.  
**Q:** *What was the year of that marriage?*

Code ex,ve **I:** What was the year of that marriage? You said that was 1985?  
Code ca **R:** That's right.

**I:** In what year did your divorce take place?  
Code ca,el **R:** We were married in 1985 and divorced in 1989.  
**Q:** *What was the year of that marriage?*

Code sc,ve **I:** What was the year of this marriage? You said that was 1985?

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**VERIFICATION Continued on the following page.**

**VERIFICATION Continued.**

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**Q:** *ABOUT how much child support did you ACTUALLY pay ALTOGETHER in 1996 for Lucas, Max, Billy, and Neville?*

Code ex,st,ve **I:** ABOUT how much child support did you actually pay ALTOGETHER in 1996 for Lucas, Max, Billy, and Neville? You said you're supposed to send 50 a month so would that be \$600?

- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Coder Note.
  - To record this interviewer behavior in a Note field, enter the wording of the verification as read by the interviewer. Record the wording the interviewer used as close to verbatim as possible.
  - If you need to make notes for multiple Interviewer Interaction Codes (e.g., you have to make notes for a Slight Change and a Verification), separate the notes using a semi-colon as shown below.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for a Verification as "e1,ve--."
  - **Examples:**

Code na,ve **Q:** *Receive food stamps?*  
**I:** And you didn't receive food stamps?  
**N:** e1,ve--and you didn't receive food stamps

Code sc,ve **Q:** *For each of these children, please tell me their current age and birthdate.*  
**I:** For each of the children, please tell me their current age and birthdate. And you said Stephanie is, you said 11?  
**N:** e1,sc,so--For each of [the] children; e1,ve--And S is, you said 11?

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**NOT ASKED**  
**Interviewer Doesn't Read Question**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 6; Coder Note Abbreviation = na)**

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- Definition** ● Interviewer does not ask the question. This usually happens if the respondent has already supplied information, the interviewer may enter information without verifying it; this is sometimes called a "silent verification."
- Notes** ● This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
- Coder Note** ● This Interviewer Interaction Code does not require an Interviewer Coder Note.
-

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**STRESS PROBLEM**  
**Uses Incorrect Stress in Question Reading**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 7; Coder Note Abbreviation = st)**

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- Definition** ● The interviewer does not stress capitalized words when s/he reads the question.
- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
  - Only use the Stress code for situations in which the interviewer does not emphasize words or phrases that appear in capital letters. Do not code situations in which the interviewer emphasizes a word or phrase that does not appear in capital letters.
  - If an entire phrase appears in capital letters (e.g., "were you EVER SUPPOSED TO pay child support") and the interviewer stresses at least one word in the phrase, do not code the interviewer's reading as containing a Stress Problem.
  - This code should be used in conjunction with other codes, for example, Exact, Exact with Repairs, Slight Change, and Major Change.
- Examples**
- Q:** *Has there EVER been any OTHER kind of agreement or understanding that says that Fred's father should help support him?*
- Code ex,st **I:** Has there ever been any other kind of agreement or understanding that says that Fred's father should help support him?
- Q:** *Would you call it a court order or legal agreement?*
- Code ex **I:** Would you call it a court order or LEGAL agreement? [Note: This does not count as a Stress problem.]
- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code does not require an Interviewer Coder Note. However, you may encounter situations in which you think a note is necessary.
  - Type the word or words that were not stressed correctly in lower-case type in []. If it is unclear which part of the question you are referring to in your note, include as much of the surrounding question as is necessary.
  - If multiple Stress Problems are encountered, code the overall interaction as "st" and make a Coder Note for each problem. Separate the notes using a comma (see example below).
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for a Stress Problem as "e1,st--."
  - **Examples:**
    - Q:** *In what year did you FIRST have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?*
    - Code sc,st **I:** In what year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal agreement about child support payments for Ricky?
    - N:** e1,sc,so--legal [agreement]; e1,st--[first]
- 

**STRESS PROBLEM Continued on the following page.**

**STRESS PROBLEM Continued.**

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- Q:** *In what year did you FIRST have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky?*
- Code ex,st,ve **I:** In what year did you first have any kind of court order, judgment or legal arrangement about child support payments for Ricky? Any you said that was '81?
- N:** e1,st--[first]; e1,ve--Any you said that was '81?
- Q:** *Has there EVER been any OTHER kind of agreement or understanding for you to help support Max?*
- Code ex,st **I:** Has there ever been any other kind of agreement or understanding for you to HELP support Max?
- N:** e1,st--[ever],[other]
-

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**LAUGHS**  
**Interviewer Laughs During Interaction**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 1; Coder Note Abbreviation = lg)**

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- Definition** ● The interviewer laughs during the interaction.
- Notes** ● This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
- Coder Note** ● This Interviewer Interaction Code does not require an Interviewer Coder Note.
- If you encounter a situations for which you want to make a note, record the Interviewer Coder Note for Laughs as "e#,lg--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).
-

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**\*RESPONDS WITH FEELING**

**Interviewer Expresses Positive/Negative Feeling During Interaction  
(Foxpro Program Code = f; Coder Note Abbreviation = rf)**

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- Definition**
- "Responds with Feeling" describes any interviewer behavior that conveys the interviewer's feelings about the survey or survey instrument, excluding laughter. Demonstrations of feeling include distancing oneself from a difficult question, expressing empathy with the respondent's situation, making an appeal to the computer or computer program, and so on.
  - Interviewer agrees with respondent that wording of the survey question is stupid/bad/dumb/silly/funny/strange.
  - Respondent talks disparagingly about the other parent or her/his situation and interviewer empathizes OR respondent talks contentedly/happily about the other parent or her/his situation and the interviewer empathizes.
- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence, including exchanges that occur after the third exchange level.
  - The Interviewer Interaction Code for Responds with Feeling can never stand alone. Because the interviewer always interacts in the role of "interviewer," anything s/he says after the initial presentation of the question must be considered followup behavior. If you encounter a situation in which the interviewer empathizes with the respondent but does not display additional followup behavior, you should code the behavior as both an Inadequate Followup and Responds with Feeling (e.g., the interviewer says "that's great, you seem like a great father"). (Note: The Respondent Interaction Code for Responds with Feeling is coded in a slightly different way.)
  - Note that not every appeal to the survey process will be counted as an example of Responds with Feeling (e.g., "gimme a second," "just one second," or "hold on while I type this in"). Only code these expressions as Responds with Feeling if you believe that the interviewer is using them to distance her/himself from the survey or the interviewer is using them because there is a problem with the survey question or instrument. Consider the context in determining whether to assign the code for Responds with Feeling. Make sure you include a note (set off with parenthesis) if it is unclear why you are assigning the Responds with Feeling code.
  - Listen to the entire interaction to determine whether or not the interviewer Responds with Feeling as described above. If, after the third exchange level, the interviewer Responds with Feeling, code an "F" on the third exchange level in FoxPro. In the Coder Note record the exchange level as "e3+."
- Examples**
- Q:** *Did the amount you were SUPPOSED TO pay EVER change because you or the children's mother went back to court AND changed the understanding in order to include support that was owed for previous years?*
- Code ex **I:** Did the amount you were SUPPOSED TO pay EVER change because you or the children's mother went back to court AND changed the understanding in order to include support that was owed for previous years?
- Code ua,sc **R:** Well it was just changed. Let me explain. It was 90 a month 'till November and then it changed to 45 a month. So you tell me how to answer that?
- 

**RESPONDS WITH FEELING Continued on the following page.**

## **RESPONDS WITH FEELING Continued.**

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Code if,rf **I:** I can't tell you how to answer that. I'm really sorry. We can just pass on this question.

- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Coder Note.
  - To record this interviewer behavior in a Note field, enter a description of the interaction. Record the nature of the situation as completely as possible.
  - If the interviewer Responds with Feeling at exchange level 3 and exchange level 3+, record two "F" codes on exchange level 3 in the FoxPro data entry program.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for Responds with Feeling as "e#,rf--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, e3, or e3+). Record the behavior as occurring at "e3+" if the interviewer Responds with Feeling after the third exchange level. If the interviewer displays multiple examples of responding with feeling after the third exchange level, record all of the examples in one Coder Note and separate the examples using an ellipse (e.g., "...").

● **Examples:**

**Q:** *During 1996, how much was the weekly payment for Max SUPPOSED TO be?*

Code ex **I:** During 1996, how much was the weekly payment for Max SUPPOSED TO be?

Code ua **R:** It was 66 and a percentage of the doctor's bills which was 60 percent.

Code if **I:** And that was weekly?

Code ua,sc **R:** What do you mean weekly? It was 66 dollars and a percentage of the doctor's bills.

Code af **I:** Um the question says during 1996, how much was the weekly payment for Max supposed to be?

Code ua **R:** Well I told you what it was.

Code if,rf **I:** Boy, I just don't know how to enter that.

**N:** e2,if--And that was weekly?; e3+,rf--I just don't know how to enter that.

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**ADEQUATE FOLLOWUP**  
**Provide Adequate Followup**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 8; Coder Note Abbreviation = af)**

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- Definition**
- "Followup" describes most interviewer behavior that occurs after the initial reading of the question or an initial verification. Followups include probes, answers to respondents' questions, and so on. In order to qualify as an "Adequate" followup the interviewer's behavior must conform to standardized interviewing conventions as described below.
  - Interviewer rereads the question or response categories without introducing a major change.
  - Interviewer repeats the question or response categories without introducing a major change when the respondent asks her to. E.g., after hearing the question, the respondent asks the interviewer to repeat the question. The initial reading of the question and the respondent's request for a repeat of the question occur on the first exchange level. The interviewer's rereading of the question and the respondent's subsequent reply occur on the second exchange level.
  - Interviewer provides a neutral or balanced probe. A neutral probe does not lead the respondent. It may repeat the question wording. The probe may repeat information the respondent has already provided without distortion.
  - Interviewer provides a correct answer to a respondent's question.
  - Interviewer repeats all or part of the respondent's answer.
  - Interviewer asks respondent to repeat answer.
  - Interviewer says "OK" in response to the respondent's answer. In some cases it will be difficult to determine if the interviewer is saying "OK" in response to the answer the respondent just provided OR if the interviewer is using "OK" as a transition to the next question. If there is an audible pause between the "OK" and the beginning of the next question, code "OK" as an Adequate Followup.
  - Code "that's fine" as an Adequate Followup.

- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned after the initial reading of the question, at the second and third exchange levels.
  - A followup that is usually adequate -- e.g., repeating the respondent's words or saying OK -- may be inadequate at the last exchange level. If the interviewer's last followup does not probe something that needs to be probed, code Inadequate Followup. For example, if the respondent says the marriage took place in 89 or 90 and the interviewer's last followup is "89 or 90," code Inadequate Followup.
  - If the respondent provides an Uncodeable Answer to a closed question and the interviewer only rereads the response categories that are most similar to the respondent's answer, code the followup as adequate. For example, the respondent might say his payments were "rarely on time" in response to a question with the response categories "all of them were on time, most of them, some of them, or none of them." If the interviewer probes and says "would that be some of them or none of them," code the interviewer's behavior as an Adequate Followup.

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**ADEQUATE FOLLOWUP Continued on the following page.**

**ADEQUATE FOLLOWUP Continued.**

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**Examples R:** Fred saw his dad every other week.

Code af **I:** Every other week?

Code af **I:** Anything else?

**I:** On how many days did Fred spend time with his father between January 1 and December 31, 1992?

Code ua,qu **R:** About half a year.

Code af **I:** How often did he go there?

Code ua **R:** Every other weekend.

Code af **I:** And on how many days was he there each time?

Code ua,qu **R:** From Friday afternoon to Sunday morning, a total of about 2 days.

**I:** On how many days did Fred spend time with his father between January 1 and December 31, 1992?

Code ua **R:** He went there every other weekend.

Code af **I:** If he was there on 3 different days each weekend, we count that as 3 days. Was he there on 3 different days?

**I:** At any time during 1996, did any children of your own under 21 years of age live with you?

Code ca **R:** Yep.

Code af **I:** OK.

(**Note for Coders:** The interviewer's use of "OK" is occurring at e2 -- the second exchange level.)

Code ex **I:** Please tell me the first names of your children under 21 who lived with you in 1996, beginning with the youngest.

(**Note for Coders:** This question begins a new exchange sequence.)

Code ex **I:** At any time during 1996, did any children of your own under 21 years of age live with their mother outside your home?

Code ua **R:** My son K hasn't really lived um I guess he was pretty much on his own. He's 20.

Code af **I:** OK

Code ua **R:** So

Code if **I:** In 1996, ah

Code ca,qu,el **R:** He'd of been 19 but he's been on his own since 16 so I guess the answer to your question is no.

---

**ADEQUATE FOLLOWUP Continued on the following page.**

## ADEQUATE FOLLOWUP Continued.

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- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code does not require an Interviewer Coder Note. However, you may encounter situations in which you think a note is necessary.
  - To record this interviewer behavior in a Note field, enter the wording of the followup as read by the interviewer. Record the wording the interviewer's Adequate Followup as close to verbatim as possible.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for an Adequate Followup as "e#,af--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e2 or e3).
  - **Examples:**
    - Q:** *Please tell me the first names of your children under 21 who lived with you in 1996, beginning with the youngest.*
    - Code ex **I:** Please tell me the first names of your children under 21 who lived with you in 1996, beginning with the youngest.
    - Code ca **R:** Well there's Max.
    - Code af **I:** And Max is a boy?
    - Code ca **R:** Yep.
    - Code af **I:** Any others?  
**N:** e2,af--And Max is a boy; e3,af--Any others?
    - Q:** *At any time during 1996, did the mother of any of these children live outside your home?*
    - Code ex **I:** At any time during 1996, did the mother of any of these children live outside your home?
    - Code ua **R:** She doesn't live in my home.
    - Code af **I:** OK.
    - Code ua **R:** She's got her own apartment.
    - Code if **I:** OK. [Note: This is coded as "Inadequate Followup" because this is the last exchange level and the interviewer did not probe the respondent's answer, which needed to be probe because it is Uncodeable.]  
**N:** e3,if--OK. Int did not probe R's uncodeable answer.
-

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**\*INADEQUATE FOLLOWUP**  
**Provides Inadequate Followup**  
**(Foxpro Program Code = 9; Coder Note Abbreviation = if)**

---

- Definition**
- "Followup" describes most interviewer behavior that occurs after the initial reading of the question or an initial verification. Followups include probes, answers to respondents' questions, and so on. In an "Inadequate" followup the interviewer's behavior deviates from standardized interviewing conventions as described below.
  - Interviewer rereads the question or response categories in a way that produces a major change in the question wording or response categories.
  - Interviewer provides an inadequate, unbalanced, or leading probe.
  - Interviewer's probe distorts information the respondent previously provided.
  - Interviewer's probe changes the meaning of the question or response categories.
  - Interviewer provides an incorrect answer to a respondent's question.
  - The interviewer says "okay" or its equivalent (and nothing else) as a followup to the respondent providing a "don't know" or "refusal" response.
  - Respondent interrupts the interviewer's initial reading of the question and instead of attempting to complete the question, interviewer follows up with "okay" or its equivalent.

- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned after the initial reading of the question, at the second and third exchange levels.
  - Respondents may ignore the **time frame** of the question when they answer. Listen carefully to tell whether the interviewer's followup uses the time frame that corresponds to the question. E.g., the respondent may talk about how much child support the other parent "pays," but it may not be clear whether he "paid" it in 1996. A probe using the respondent's vague time frame is an Inadequate Followup.
  - Respondents may confuse how much the other parent **owes** and how much s/he **pays**. Listen carefully to whether the interviewer's followup distinguishes between how much the other parent was supposed to pay and how much the other parent did pay. If the interviewer uses a probe about how much the other parent was supposed to pay for a question about how much he did pay, this is an Inadequate Followup.
  - A followup that is usually adequate -- (e.g., repeating the respondent's words or saying OK) -- may be inadequate at the last exchange level. If the interviewer's last followup does not probe something that needs to be probed, code Inadequate Followup. For example, if the respondent says the marriage took place in 89 or 90 and the interviewer's last followup is "89 or 90," code Inadequate Followup.

- Examples**
- Q:** *Would you call it a court order or a legal agreement?*
- Code ex **I:** Would you call it a court order or a legal agreement?
- Code ua **R:** Yes.
- Code if **I:** A court order?
- Code ia **R:** Yes.

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**INADEQUATE FOLLOWUP Continued on the following page.**

**INADEQUATE FOLLOWUP Continued.**

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**Q:** *Not counting the 30 dollars in child support payments you received in disregard or pass-through checks, how much REGULAR child support did you ACTUALLY receive ALTOGETHER in 1996 for Billy and Neville?*

Code mc **I:** Not counting the AFDC, how much child support did you get?

Code ua **R:** Well I usually get \$50 a month.

Code if **I:** So that would be \$600 for the year?

**Q:** *Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, on how many days did Max spend any time with his father?*

Code mc **I:** Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, how many days did Max spend any time with his father?

Code ua **R:** He went there every other weekend.

Code if **I:** So that's 4 days a month?

- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Coder Note.
  - To record this interviewer behavior in a Note field, enter the wording of the followup as read by the interviewer. Record the wording of the interviewer's Inadequate Followup as close to verbatim as possible.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for an Inadequate Followup as "e#,if--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e2 or e3).
  - **Examples:**

**Q:** *Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, on how many days did Lucas spend any time with his father?*

Code ex **I:** Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, on how many days did Lucas spend any time with his father?

Code ua **R:** He saw him on 2 days each month.

Code if **I:** So that would be 12 days a year?

**N:** e2,if--So that would be 12 days a year

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**\*CATI PROBLEM**

**(Foxpro Program Code = c; Coder Note Abbreviation = cp)**

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- Definition**
- Interviewer has trouble reading the question because an incorrect fill or wording of the question appears on the screen.
  - Interviewer has trouble reading the question because there is a skip or other programming problem.
  - Interviewer changes the reading of the question in order to compensate for a CATI problem.
- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Coder Note.
  - Record the nature of the situation as completely as possible.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for a CATI Problem as "e#,cp--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).
  - **Examples:**
    - N:** e1,cp--Fill says Brian. Should be Robert. Int says Robert.
    - Q:** *Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the children's mother spent the money you gave her in 1996, are you in-between?*
- Code cp
- I:** Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the children's mother spent the money you gave her in 1996, or are you in-between?
  - N:** e1,cp--Q is missing "or", int adds "or" to question.
-

---

**\*OTHER**

**(Foxpro Program Code = o; Coder Note Abbreviation = ot)**

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<b>Definition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The interviewer and respondent have difficulty interacting with each other because of a language problem.</li><li>● Interviewer performs some uncodeable behavior such as saying s/he will consult her supervisor.</li></ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● This code can be assigned <u>at any</u> exchange sequence.</li></ul>
<b>Coder Note</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● This Interviewer Interaction Code <u>requires</u> an Interviewer Coder Note.</li><li>● To record this interviewer behavior in a Note field, enter a description of the interaction. Record the nature of the situation as completely as possible.</li><li>● Record the Interviewer Coder Note for Other as "e#,ot--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).</li><li>● <b>Examples:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>N:</b> e2,ot--Int consults supervisor</li><li><b>Q:</b> <i>Please tell me the first names of your children under 21 who lived with you in 1996, beginning with the youngest.</i></li></ul></li></ul>
Code na,ot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>I:</b> OK. Let me enter that in real quickly because it's going to ask me again the names. Stephanie, OK. And Johanna.</li><li><b>N:</b> e1,ot--Int skips Q and instead of reading Q says the following: OK. Let me enter that in real quickly because it's going to ask me again the names. Stephanie, OK. And Johanna.</li></ul>

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## UNKNOWN

(Foxpro Program Code = u; Coder Note Abbreviation = uk)

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- Definition**
- It is not possible to tell what the interviewer is doing.
  - You cannot hear well enough to make a judgement about what code to use.
- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code does not require an Interviewer Coder Note. However, you may encounter situations in which you think a note is necessary.
  - In making a note for this behavior, record whatever information is necessary to describe the nature of the situation.
  - Record the Interviewer Coder Note for Unknown as "e1,uk--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).
-

## Appendix B: Respondent Interaction Codes

The following section presents all of the fourteen codes coders used to code various respondent behaviors. This section is organized in a parallel manner to the Interviewer Interaction Codes. For a description of the format and abbreviations, consult the section titled “Detailed Description of Interviewers’ and Respondents’ Behaviors.”

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### CODEABLE ANSWER

#### Respondent Provides An Answer That Is Codeable (FoxPro Program Code = c; Coder Note Abbreviation = ca)

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- Definition**
- The respondent provides an answer to a survey question that answers the question and can be coded into the response categories or response format.
  - Respondent responds to a verification in a way that matches the format of the verification (e.g., “yes or no” to a verification formatted for a yes/no answer) and thereby provides (some or all of the) information the interviewer needs to enter a codeable response to the survey question.
  - Respondent answers an adequate or inadequate followup in a way that matches format of the followup (e.g., “yes or no” to a followup formatted for a yes/no answer) and thereby provides (some or all of the) information the interviewer needs to enter a codeable response to the survey question.
- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - This code is very similar to another code you will be using, Implicitly Codeable. The difference between the codes is that a Codeable Answer is one that is UNAMBIGUOUSLY codeable. For example, if the question requires a yes-no response and the respondent does not explicitly say yes or no in answering the question, then their behavior should be categorized as either Implicitly Codeable or Uncodeable, depending on the situation.
  - A Codeable Answer for a closed question, probe, or verification selects one of the offered categories. The respondent's answer must be an exact match with one of the answer categories. For example, if the answer categories are "not at all accurate, slightly accurate, pretty accurate, very accurate, or extremely accurate" and the respondent says "accurate," code her/his response as "Uncodeable." If the respondent says "extremely" code her/his response as "Implicitly Codeable." Only if the respondent says "extremely accurate" should her/his response be coded as a Codeable Answer.
  - An Codeable Answer to an open question (such as "Anything Else?") provides material that meets the objectives of the question.
  - Respondent may give a Codeable Answer to an Inadequate Followup (IF).
- 

**CODEABLE ANSWER Continued on the following page.**

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**CODEABLE ANSWER Continued.**

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- The following are Codeable Answers for yes-no questions, verifications, or probes: "Yeah," "Yep," "Right," "Correct," "Sure," "Certainly," "Nope," "Uh-huh," and "Uh-uh." The following are not Codeable Answers for yes-no questions, verification, or probes: "none."
- If the respondent says nothing in response to a question, verification, or followup leave the Respondent Interaction Code field blank.
- The Respondent Interaction codes Codeable Answer, Uncodeable Answer, and Implicitly Codeable Answer are mutually exclusive -- you only can assign ONE of these codes at an exchange sequence.
- In general, for open-ended questions (e.g., those with a response format that reads "record verbatim"), almost all of what the respondent says is a Codeable Answer.
- A number of questions in the instrument contains scales (e.g., somewhat satisfied, quite satisfied, very satisfied, or extremely satisfied). In the course of reading or repeating the response categories interviewers may read the intensifiers (e.g., somewhat, quite, very, extremely) but omit the word the intensifiers modify (e.g., satisfied). If the interviewer administers a scale that only includes the intensifiers and the respondent provides one of the intensifiers as a response, code the respondent's answer a Codeable Answer. For example, item q68a reads: *How accurate do you think your answer is: not at all accurate, slightly accurate, pretty accurate, very accurate, or extremely accurate?* If the interviewer reads the categories as "not at all, slightly, pretty, very, or extremely" and the respondent answers "extremely," code the response as Codeable not Implicitly Codeable.
- If in providing a date the respondent says "95" for "1995," code the answer as a Codeable Answer.

**Examples**    **Q:** *Has there EVER been ANY kind of LEGAL ARRANGEMENT for you to provide ANY KIND of financial support for Max?*

Code ex    **I:** Has there EVER been ANY kind of LEGAL ARRANGEMENT for you to provide ANY KIND of financial support for Max?

Code ca    **R:** Yes.

Code ex    **I:** Has there EVER been ANY kind of LEGAL ARRANGEMENT for you to provide ANY KIND of financial support for Max?

Code ca,el    **R:** Yes. We have a court order.

Code ex    **I:** Has there EVER been ANY kind of LEGAL ARRANGEMENT for you to provide ANY KIND of financial support for Max?

Code ia    **R:** We have a court order.

- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code does not require a Respondent Coder Note. However, you may encounter situations in which you think a note is necessary.
  - To record this respondent behavior in a Note field, enter the respondent's answer to the survey question or probe.

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**CODEABLE ANSWER Continued on the following page.**

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**CODEABLE ANSWER Continued.**

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- Record the Respondent Coder Note for a Codeable Answer as "e#,ca--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).

- **Examples:**

	<b>Q:</b>	<i>Would you call it a court order or a legal agreement?</i>
Code mc	<b>I:</b>	Was it a court order or a legal agreement?
Code ca	<b>R:</b>	It was a court order.
	<b>N:</b>	e1,ca-court order
	<b>Q:</b>	<i>Would you call it a court order or a legal agreement?</i>
Code ex	<b>I:</b>	Would you call it a court order or a legal agreement?
Code ca	<b>R:</b>	Agreement. [Note: At first glance R's answer might seem like an uncodeable response because the question asked about a "legal" agreement. However, the response category for this question appears as "[Legal] agreement." Because "Legal" appears in [], interviewers were not required to probe "agreement" when it was volunteered as a response. If the word "Legal" had not appeared in [], the respondent's answer would have been coded as "Implicitly Codeable."]
	<b>N:</b>	e1,ca-agreement
	<b>Q:</b>	<i>During 1996, how often were you SUPPOSED TO make child support payments?</i>
Code ex	<b>I:</b>	During '96, how often were you SUPPOSED TO make child support payments?
Code ca,qu	<b>R:</b>	Probably once a month.
	<b>N:</b>	e1,ca-probably once a month; e1,qu--probably

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**\*UNCODEABLE ANSWER**

**Respondent Provides An Answer That Is Uncodeable  
(FoxPro Program Code = 0; Coder Note Abbreviation = ua)**

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- Definition**
- The respondent provides an answer to a survey question that does not answer the question or cannot be coded into the response categories or response format:
    - e.g., a range when a question asks for a single number, or
    - is ambiguous.
  - The respondent responds to a verification in a way that satisfies either of the following conditions:
    - The response does not match the response format offered by the verification;
    - The response matches the response format offered by the verification, but does not provide any information the interviewer needs to enter a codeable response to the survey question.
  - The respondent responds to a adequate or inadequate followup in a way that satisfies either of the following conditions:
    - The response does not match the response format offered by the followup;
    - The response matches the response format offered by the followup, but does not provide any information the interviewer needs to enter a codeable response to the survey question.

- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - Includes any instance where the final answer cannot be coded into any of the answer categories provided, and any case where the final answer is not in the form required by the question.
  - This code is similar to the code Implicitly Codeable Answer. Use the following example as a guide to help you distinguish between the two codes. If in answering a survey question or probe, the respondent does not provide a complete answer but you are able to distinguish the respondent's answer from the other options, do not code the response as an Uncodeable Answer. However, if the respondent does not completely verbalize a response option and you are unable to determine the correct response, code the answer as Uncodeable. For example, if the response options are "not at all accurate, slightly accurate, pretty accurate, very accurate, or extremely accurate" and the respondent says "accurate," code her/his response as an Uncodeable Answer. In contrast, if the respondent said "extremely," you would not code this as an Uncodeable Answer because "extremely" is distinguishable from the other codes. You would code "extremely" as an Implicitly Codeable Answer because the respondent did not provide her/his answer as specified by the response options (i.e., the respondent did not say "extremely accurate").
  - Many questions in the survey instrument have an "other" category available as a response option. In most cases, if the respondent's answer can only be coded into an "other" category, then her/his answer should be treated as an Uncodeable Answer.
  - A range is always an Uncodeable Answer.

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**UNCODEABLE ANSWER Continued on the following page.**

## **UNCODEABLE ANSWER Continued.**

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- If, by the last exchange level, respondent has not given an Codeable Answer (ca) or an Uncodeable answer, code Uncodeable at the last exchange level.
- If the question is not asked (NA) and respondent gives an "answer," the answer is always Uncodeable.
- Respondents may ignore the **time frame** of the question when they answer. Listen carefully to tell whether the respondent's answer uses the time frame that corresponds to the question. For example, the respondent may talk about how much child support the other parent "pays," but it may not be clear whether he "paid" that amount in 1996. If the time frame is not clear, this is an Uncodeable Answer.
- Respondents may confuse how much the other parent **owes** and how much he **pays**. Listen carefully to whether the respondent's answer distinguishes between how much the other parent was supposed to pay and how much the other parent did pay. If the respondent is not answering about the right amount, this is an Uncodeable Answer.
- If you have listened to an interaction two or more times and you are debating between coding the respondent's answer as an Uncodeable Answer versus an Implicitly Codeable Answer, code the respondent's behavior as an Uncodeable Answer.
- The Respondent Interaction codes Codeable Answer, Uncodeable Answer, and Implicitly Codeable Answer are mutually exclusive -- you only can assign ONE of these codes at an exchange sequence.

**Examples**    **Q:** *Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, on how many days did Lucas spend any time with you?*

Code ex    **I:** Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, on how many days did Lucas spend any time with you?

Code ua    **R:** He sees me every other weekend.

**Q:** *Are you currently married, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married?*

Code ex    **I:** Are you currently married, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married?

Code ua    **R:** I'm living with someone.

- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code requires a Respondent Coder Note.
  - To record this respondent behavior in a Note field, enter the respondent's answer to the survey question or probe.
  - Record the Respondent Coder Note for an Uncodeable Answer as "e#,ua--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).

---

**UNCODEABLE ANSWER Continued on the following page.**

## UNCODEABLE ANSWER Continued.

---

- **Examples:**

- Q:** *During 1996, how much was the weekly payment for Lucas and Max SUPPOSED TO be?*
- Code ex,st **I:** During 1996, how much was the weekly payment for Lucas and Max supposed to be?
- Code ua **R:** Well, each is \$35 and I get a check for \$116.  
**N:** e1,ua--Each is \$35. Get a check for \$116.
- Q:** *In what year did you get married that time?*
- Code sc **I:** Which year did you get married that time?
- Code ua **R:** '85 or '86, somewhere in that range.  
**N:** e1,ua--'85 or '86
- Q:** *A parent's right to see a child is sometimes called visitation privileges. Do you have the right to see Lucas, whether or not you actually do?*
- Code ex **I:** A parent's right to see a child is sometimes called visitation privileges. Do you have the right to see Lucas, whether or not you actually do?
- Code ua,pa **R:** ... she's a primary custodian of the kids.
- Code af **I:** OK.
- Code ua **R:** therefore visitation was setup as, give me a minute to think @ it.
- Code af **I:** Would it help if I read the question again?
- Code ua **R:** No.  
**N:** e1,ua--she's a primary custodian of the kids.; e2,ua--therefore visitation was setup as, give me a minute to think @ it.; e3,ua--No.
-

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**\*IMPLICITLY CODEABLE ANSWER**  
**Respondent Provides An Answer That Is Implicitly Codeable**  
**(FoxPro Program Code = 1; Coder Note Abbreviation = ia)**

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- Definition**
- The respondent provides an answer to a survey question that does not explicitly match the answer categories, but appears to answer the question.
  - Respondent responds to a verification in a way that does not match the format of the verification (e.g., “yes or no” to a verification formatted for a yes/no answer), but which directly implies (some or all of the) information the interviewer needs to enter a codeable response to the survey question.
  - Respondent answers an adequate or inadequate followup in a way that does not match the format of the followup (e.g., “yes or no” to a followup formatted for a yes/no answer), but which directly implies (some or all of the) information the interviewer needs to enter a codeable response to the survey question.
- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - This type of respondent behavior occurs most commonly in response to yes-no questions.
  - The following are examples of Implicitly Codeable Answers.
    - "None" in response to a yes-no question;
    - "In-between" in response to a question with the response category "IF VOLUNTEERED: Neither;"
    - "Not that I know of" in response to a yes-no question. (This should also be coded as a Qualification. Record answer in the Coder Note as: e#,ia--Not that I know of; e#,qu--not that I know of.)
  - If you have listened to an interaction two or more times and you are debating between coding the respondent's answer as an Uncodeable Answer versus an Implicitly Codeable Answer, code the respondent's behavior as an Uncodeable Answer.
  - A number of questions in the instrument contains scales (e.g., somewhat satisfied, quite satisfied, very satisfied, or extremely satisfied). In the course of reading or repeating the response categories interviewers may read the intensifiers (e.g., somewhat, quite, very, extremely) but omit the word the intensifiers modify (e.g., satisfied). If the interviewer administers a scale that only includes the intensifiers and the respondent provides one of the intensifiers as a response, code the respondent's answer a Codeable Answer. For example, item q68a reads: *How accurate do you think your answer is: not at all accurate, slightly accurate, pretty accurate, very accurate, or extremely accurate?* If the interviewer reads the categories as "not at all, slightly, pretty, very, or extremely" and the respondent answers "extremely," code the response as Codeable not Implicitly Codeable.
  - The Respondent Interaction codes Codeable Answer, Uncodeable Answer, and Implicitly Codeable Answer are mutually exclusive -- you only can assign ONE of these codes at an exchange sequence.

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**IMPLICITLY CODEABLE ANSWER Continued on the following page.**

### **IMPLICITLY CODEABLE ANSWER Continued.**

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**Examples**    **Q:** *Did you receive any A.F.D.C. or A.D.C. payments?*

Code ex    **I:** Did you receive any A.F.D.C. or A.D.C. payments?

Code ia    **R:** I've never been on A.F.D.C.

**Coder Note**    ● This Respondent Interaction Code requires a Respondent Coder Note.

● To record this respondent behavior in a Note field, enter the respondent's answer to the survey question or probe.

● Record the Respondent Coder Note for an Implicitly Codeable Answer as "e#,sc--;" substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).

● **Examples:**

**Q:** *At any time during 1996, did any children of your own under 21 years of age live with you?*

Code ex    **I:** At any time during 1996, did any children of your own under 21 years of age live with you?

Code ia    **R:** I've lived alone since the divorce.

**N:** e1,ia--lived alone since divorce

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---

**\*INTERRUPTION**

**Respondent Interrupts Initial Reading Of The Question With An Answer  
(FoxPro Program Code = 2; Coder Note Abbreviation = in)**

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- Definition**
- The respondent interrupts the initial reading of the survey question with an answer. The answer may be codeable or not codeable; the question-reading may break-off or not break-off; the answer supplied may be the final answer, or it may not be.
  - The respondent interrupts the initial reading of a verification with an answer. The answer may be codeable or not codeable; the reading of the verification may break-off or not break-off; the answer supplied may be the final answer, or it may not be.
- Notes**
- This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question/verification (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
  - If the respondent interrupts with a question or interrupts and asks for clarification of some part of a question/verification, code the respondent's behavior as Interruption and Seeks Clarification.
  - If the initial reading of the survey question or verification is interrupted, but the interviewer completes her/his reading of the question/verification, code the interruption and initial reading of the question/verification on the first exchange level.
  - Only code interruptions on the interviewer's first reading of a question. If the interviewer does not read the response options during the first reading, but is interrupted while reading the response options during a repeat of the question, **DO NOT CODE** the respondent's behavior as an interruption.
  - Often it is difficult to hear an interruption, especially if it comes while the interviewer is reading the last two or three phrases of a question. Do not code interruptions if you have to rewind the tape and listen to the question reading more than two times.
  - If the respondent interrupts multiple times, only code the first two interruptions.
  - If the respondent interrupts the interviewer's initial reading of the question with a request to jump back to a previously administered question or the respondent interrupts and continues discussing a previously administered question, do not code the respondent's behavior as an interruption. Code the respondent's behavior as "Other" described under the code for Other. Only code interruptions that apply to the question being asked. We want the code for an Interruption to tell us about structural problems with the current question, not about problems with previously administered questions.
  - Use this with other codes, such as Codeable Answer, Uncodeable Answer, and Implicitly Codeable Answer.

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**INTERRUPTION Continued on the following page.**



## **INTERRUPTION Continued.**

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- If you need to make notes for multiple Respondent Interaction Codes (e.g., you have to make notes for an Interruption and an Uncodeable Answer), separate the notes using a semi-colon as shown below.
- Record the Respondent Coder Note for an Interruption as "e1,in--."

- **Examples:**

**Q:** *How close do you think this amount is to the total you ACTUALLY received ALTOGETHER in 1996: not at all close, slightly close, pretty close, very close, or extremely close?*

Code ex **I:** How close do you think this amount is to the total you ACTUALLY received ALTOGETHER in 1996

Code ca,in **R:** Extremely close

**I:** not at all close, slightly close, pretty close, very close, or extremely close

**N:** e1,in--altogether in 1996 IN

**Note to Coders:** This entire exchange sequence should be recorded on the first exchange level (e1).

**Q:** *How close do you think this amount is to the total you ACTUALLY received ALTOGETHER in 1996: not at all close, slightly close, pretty close, very close, or extremely close?*

Code mc **I:** How close do you think this amount is to the total you ACTUALLY received ALTOGETHER in 1996

Code ua,in **R:** close

**I:** Um-hum, and would you say that's not at all close, slightly close, pretty close, very close, or extremely close?

**R:** very close

**N:** e1,in--altogether in 1996 IN; e1,ua--close; e1,ca--very close

**Note to Coders:** This entire exchange sequence should be recorded on the first exchange level (e1).

**Q:** *Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, did you receive ANY disregard or pass-through checks, EVEN ONE, for child support for months when you were on A.F.D.C.?*

Code ex **I:** Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, did you receive ANY disregard or pass-through checks, EVEN ONE

Code ca,in **R:** No

**I:** for child support for months when you were on A.F.D.C.?

**N:** e1,in--even one IN

**Note to Coders:** This entire sequence should be recorded on the first exchange level (e1). Code both the respondent's Uncodeable Answer and Codeable Answer on Exchange Level 1.

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**INTERRUPTION Continued on the following page.**

**INTERRUPTION Continued.**

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- Q:** *I'm going to ask about physical custody and legal custody. It is easy to confuse them, so I'm going to read some definitions.*  
*Sometimes children live with one parent for most of the time. This is called primary physical custody or primary placement.*  
*Did a court, judge, or divorce decree EVER give you or Max's mother primary physical custody or primary placement of Max?*
- Code sc,ve **I:** I'm going to ask about physical custody and legal custody and it's easy to confuse them, so I'm going to read some definitions.  
Sometimes children live with one parent for most of the time. This is called primary physical custody or primary placement.  
Did a court, judge, or divorce decree EVER give you or Max's mother primary physical custody or primary placement of Max? And earlier you told me that, that
- Code ca,in **R:** Yes  
**I:** they gave it to Max's mother?
- Code ca **R:** Right.  
**N:** e1,in--And earlier you told me that IN. (R interrupted int's reading of a verification).
- Note to Coders:** This entire exchange sequence should be recorded on the first exchange level (e1). Code Codeable Answer twice on Exchange Level 1.
-

---

**\*QUALIFICATION**  
**Respondent Provides A Qualified Answer**  
**(FoxPro Program Code = 3; Coder Note Abbreviation = qu)**

---

**Definition** ● The respondent qualifies her or his answer, for example, by saying "probably," "I think," "I guess," "maybe," "about," "maybe about," "depends," "around," "to the best of my knowledge" "technically speaking," "approximately," "kind of," "pretty" as in "pretty fair", "may" as in "it may have been 1996"; "I believe," "like" as in "like \$50," "pretty rough," "my best guess" as in "my best guess is \$50," "basically," "Not that I know of," "Not that I can think of," "or something like that," "I can't be exact," and "be close" as in "it would be close to that."

**Notes** ● This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.  
● Do not code "I would say" as a qualification; it is simply a colloquial phrase.  
● Use this with other codes, such as Codeable Answer, Uncodeable Answer, or Implicitly Codeable Answer.

**Examples** **I:** On how many days did Brian spend time with his father between January 1 and December 31, 1996?

ca,qu **R:** I'd say about 30 days.

**I:** In what state does Brian's father live?

ca,qu **R:** To the best of my knowledge, he's in Florida.

**Coder Note** ● This Respondent Interaction Code requires a Respondent Coder Note.  
● To record this respondent behavior, enter the qualification in the note field.  
● If the respondent uses more than one qualifier in a single exchange sequence, record all the qualifiers and separate them using a comma.  
● If you need to make notes for multiple Respondent Interaction Codes, separate the codes using a semi-colon.  
● Record the Respondent Coder Note for a Qualification as "e#,sc--;" substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).

● **Examples:**

**I:** In order to ask you the right questions, I need to know how many times in 1996 you and the children's father changed the amount of child support he was supposed to pay. How many changes were there in 1996?

Code ua,qu **R:** 3 or 4 I guess

**N:** e1,ua--3 or 4; e1,qu--I guess

**I:** During 1996, how much was the weekly payment for Billy and Neville SUPPOSED TO be?

Code ca,qu **R:** I think it was around 50 dollars.

**N:** e1,qu--I think, around

---

**QUALIFICATION Continued on the following page.**

**QUALIFICATION Continued.**

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**I:** Did you pay any child support as a tax intercept from your income tax refund?

Code ca,qu **R:** Technically no.

**N:** e1,qu--technically

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---

**\*SEEKS CLARIFICATION**  
**Respondent Seeks Clarification**  
**(FoxPro Program Code = 4; Coder Note Abbreviation = sc)**

---

- Definition**
- The respondent asks for clarification of all or part of a survey question, verification, or probe.
  - The respondent asks that all or part of a question or response categories be repeated.
  - The respondent repeats part of the question in a way that sounds like a question.
  - In addition to providing an answer, the respondents asks for clarification of all or part of a survey question, verification, probe, or response categories. The answer provided by the respondent can be Codeable, Uncodeable, or Implicitly Codeable.
  - In addition to providing an answer the respondent asks the interviewer to repeat part or all of a survey question, verification, probe, or response categories. The answer provided by the respondent can be Codeable, Uncodeable, or Implicitly Codeable.

- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - If the respondent provides an answer in addition to Seeking Clarification, code the nature of the respondent's answer (e.g., Codeable, Uncodeable, Implicitly Codeable). If the respondent Seeks Clarification and does not provide an answer, code her/his response as Seeks Clarification only.

**Examples**    **I:** Between January 1st and December 31st, 1996, on how many days did Lucas spend any time with you?

Code sc    **R:** In total?

- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code requires a Respondent Coder Note.
  - To record this respondent behavior in a Note field, enter the respondent's request for clarification to the survey question or probe.
  - Record the Respondent Coder Note for Seeking Clarification as "e#,sc--;" substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).

● **Examples:**

**I:** In what year did you get married that time?

Code sc    **R:** Which time?

**N:** e1,sc--which time

**I:** Did a court, judge, or divorce decree EVER give you or Billy's father primary physical custody or primary placement of billy?

Code sc    **R:** What is primary placement?

**N:** e1,sc--what is primary placement

**I:** In what year did you get married that time?

Code ca,sc    **R:** '81. You mean my first marriage, right?

**N:** e1,sc--You mean my first marriage, right?

---

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**\*ELABORATION**

**Respondent Provides A Codeable Answer And Additional Information  
(FoxPro Program Code = 5; Coder Note Abbreviation = el)**

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- Definition**
- The respondent provides information in addition to what the question asks for. This information does not contradict the Codeable Answer. If the additional information contradicts the Codeable Answer, code the response as an Uncodeable Answer.
  - A question asks for a "yes/no" answer or a choice from among a set of offered categories and the respondent provides information in addition to the requested yes/no or category choice.
  - The respondent changes his or her answer within the same exchange level.
  - This code can only be assigned if the respondent provides a Codeable Answer. In addition to coding the Elaboration, include the code for a Codeable Answer.
- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - This code can only be assigned if the respondent provides a Codeable Answer. In addition to coding the Elaboration, include the code for a Codeable Answer. This rule may be difficult to follow if the respondent continues her/his Elaboration at a subsequent exchange level. If the respondent continues an Elaboration on the second or third exchange levels, you will have to code her/his behavior as an Uncodeable Answer because s/he is not supplying another Codeable Answer. For example, the respondent may provide a Codeable Answer and an Elaboration at the first exchange level. During the course of responding, the interviewer may provide feedback such as "okay." Once the interviewer says something like "okay," you should begin coding the interaction on the next exchange level. If the respondent continues her/his elaboration after the interviewer says "okay," then you should code the continued Elaboration as an Uncodeable Answer. Coding the respondent's behavior in this manner might feel uncomfortable but this is the correct way to handle this situation with our codes.
  - If the respondent elaborates on her/his answer by adding "hope" or "hopefully" (e.g., "I hope he's satisfied") code these additions as elaborations, not qualifications.
  - If the additional information supplied by the respondent simply restates part or all of the survey question, do not code the behavior as an Elaboration. For example, the following survey question reads "Did the children's mother receive A.F.D.C. or welfare at any time during 1996, or is that something you don't know." If the respondent says "Yes, she got some extra money from the government," code the phrase "she got some extra money from the government" as an elaboration. If, however, the respondent said "Yes, she did receive welfare," do not code this as an Elaboration.
- Examples**
- Q:** *Has there EVER been ANY kind of LEGAL ARRANGEMENT for you to provide ANY KIND of financial support for Max?*
- Code ex **I:** Has there EVER been ANY kind of LEGAL ARRANGEMENT for you to provide ANY KIND of financial support for Max?
- Code ca,el **R:** Yes, a court order as part of our divorce agreement.
- 

**ELABORATION Continued on the following page.**

## **ELABORATION Continued.**

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- Coder Note**
- This Interviewer Interaction Code requires an Interviewer Note.
  - To record this respondent behavior in a Note field, enter the respondent's elaboration. Summarize as necessary.
  - Record the Respondent Coder Note for an Elaboration as "e#,el--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).

### **Examples:**

- Code ca,el
- I:** What was the amount of each of these child support payments?
- R:** Let's see that was when I was getting alimony so it would have to be 50 dollars.
- N:** e1,el--that was when I was getting alimony so 50 dollars.
- Code mc
- Q:** *What was the year of the most recent change in the amount of child support you were SUPPOSED TO pay?*
- I:** What was the year of the change in the amount of child support you were SUPPOSED TO pay?
- Code ca,el
- R:** Uh, November of '95.
- N:** e1,el--November
- Q:** *During 1996, were child support payments automatically deducted from your paycheck?*
- Code mc
- I:** During 1996, were child support payments automatically deducted from your paycheck?
- Code ua
- R:** Yeah, but I wasn't working.
- N:** e1,ua--Yeah but I wasn't working.
-

---

## PAUSES

### Respondent Pauses Or Hesitates Noticeably Before Answering Survey Question (FoxPro Program Code = 6; Coder Note Abbreviation = pa)

---

- Definition** ● The respondent pauses or hesitates 2 seconds or more before answering.
- Notes** ● This code can only be assigned at the initial reading of the question (i.e., during the first exchange sequence).
- Coder Note** ● This Respondent Interaction Code does not require a Respondent Coder Note.
-

---

**DON'T KNOW**  
**Respondent Provides A Don't Know Response**  
**(FoxPro Program Code = 8; Coder Note Abbreviation = dk)**

---

- Definition**
- Respondent says "don't know" at any time in responding to the interviewer.
  - The respondent states that s/he does not have knowledge or information to answer the question.
  - The respondent states that s/he does not remember the information needed to answer the question.

- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - A respondent can say a number of things to express that s/he does not have the knowledge or information to answer the question. Examples include the following: "I can't answer that question," "That's hard to say," "I'm not really sure," and "I have no idea."
  - If the respondent provides an answer in addition to providing a "don't know" response, code the nature of the respondent's answer (e.g., Codeable, Uncodeable, Implicitly Codeable). If the respondent provides a "don't know" response and does not provide an answer to the question, verification, or probe, code her/his response as Don't Know only.

- Examples**
- I:** In what state does Brian's father live?  
Code dk **R:** I just really don't know where he is.
- I:** In what state does Brian's father live?  
Code ca,qu,dk **R:** I just really don't know where he is -- maybe Florida.
- I:** In what year did you last contact such an agency?  
Code dk **R:** I just really can't remember.

- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code does not require a Respondent Coder Note. However, you may encounter situations in which you think a note is necessary.
  - To record this respondent behavior type the words the respondent uses to express her/his uncertainty. Record her/his response as close to verbatim as possible.
  - Record the Respondent Coder Note for Don't Know as "e#,dk--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, e3).
  - **Examples:**
    - I:** In what year did you FIRST have an agreement about child support payments for Lucas and Max?  
Code ua,dk **R:** I don't know -- either '94 or '95.
    - I:** Which answer is closer?  
Code ca,qu **R:** To the best of my knowledge '94.
    - N:** e1,ua--'94 or '95; e1,dk--I don't know; e2,qu--To the best of my knowledge
-

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## REFUSAL

### Respondent Refuses To Answer A Question, Verification, Or Followup (FoxPro Program Code = 9; Coder Note Abbreviation = rl)

---

- Definition**
- The respondent refuses to answer the survey question, verification, or followup.
  - The respondent does not answer the question but indicates that the information asked for is too personal.
  - The respondent asks the interviewer to skip to the next question.

- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.

- Examples**
- I:** In what year did your divorce take place?  
Code rl **R:** I'd rather not answer that. Let's go to the next question.

- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code does not require a Respondent Coder Note. However, you may encounter situations in which you think a note is necessary.
  - To record this respondent behavior, enter the words the respondent uses in refusing to answer the question. Record her/his response as close to verbatim as possible.
  - Record the Respondent Coder Note for a Refusal as "e#,rl--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, e3).

- **Examples:**

**Q:** *Did the children's mother receive A.F.D.C. or welfare at any time during 1996, or is that something you don't know?*

Code ex **I:** Did the children's mother receive A.F.D.C. or welfare at any time during 1996, or is that something you don't know?

Code rl **R:** This is getting too personal.

Code af **I:** I realize some of these questions are sensitive but your answers are completely confidential.

Code rl **R:** I don't care. I'm not going to answer that.

**N:** e1,rl--This is getting too personal.; e2,rl--I'm not going to answer that.

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**REFUSAL Continued on the following page.**

**REFUSAL Continued.**

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- Q:** *And, during 1996, just roughly, what was your own income, from all sources, BEFORE TAXES?*
- Code ex **I:** And, during 1996, just roughly, what was your own income, from all sources, BEFORE TAXES?
- Code ot,rl **R:** [R talks to someone in household.] I don't want to answer that question because I'm not sure how it might be used even though it's confidential.
- Code af,rf **I:** OK. I can understand that. I do just want to tell you that we aren't calling from a child support office and your name will never be connected to the data.
- Code rl **R:** I'd still like to hold off on that.
- Code af,rf **I:** OK. I understand that. That's fine.
- N:** e1,ot--R talks to someone else in HH; e1,rl--R says he doesn't want to answer the question; e2,rl--I'd still like to hold off on that.
-

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**LAUGHS**  
**Respondent Laughs During Interaction**  
**(FoxPro Program Code = 1; Coder Note Abbreviation = lg)**

---

- Definition** ● Respondent laughs during the interaction.
- Notes** ● This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
- Coder Note** ● This Respondent Interaction Code does not require a Respondent Coder Note.
-

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**\*RESPONDS WITH FEELING**

**Respondent Expresses Positive/Negative Feeling During Interaction  
(FoxPro Program Code = f; Coder Note Abbreviation = rf)**

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- Definition**
- "Responds with Feeling" describes any respondent behavior that conveys the respondent's feelings about the survey or survey instrument, excluding laughter.
  - Respondent makes an evaluative comment about or is critical of the survey question; expresses negative affect; suggests change(s) to the survey question for self or others.
  - Respondent makes an evaluative comment about or is critical of the response options; expresses negative affect; suggests change(s) to the survey question for self or others.

- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - This code is designed to capture how the respondent reacts to and thinks about the survey questions and response options. General examples of things respondents say include the following:
    - that is a stupid/bad/dumb/silly/funny/strange question/word/phrase/term/concept
    - I don't like that question/word/phrase/term/concept
    - I think the question/word/phrase/term/concept is hard to use
    - I wouldn't use/ask that question/word/phrase/term/concept
    - I don't think other people would use/ask that word/phrase/term/concept
    - I don't think other people will understand that question/word/phrase/term/concept
    - that word/phrase/term/concept can mean different things to different people
    - I would use/prefer the following word/phrase/concept/term
  - Unlike the Interviewer Interaction Code for Responds with Feeling, the Respondent Interaction Code for Responds with Feeling can stand alone because the role of "respondent" is not as well-defined as that of "interviewer." If you encounter a situation in which the respondent says something that qualifies as a Responds with Feeling but does not provide an answer/response, code the respondent's behavior as Responds with Feeling and nothing else (e.g., the respondent says something like "that question is really ambiguous").

- Examples**
- Q:** *During 1996, did you buy any clothes or shoes for Lucas and Max?*  
Code ex **I:** During 1996, did you buy any clothes or shoes for Lucas and Max?  
Code sc,rf **R:** What do you mean by clothes? That's kind of vague.

- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code requires a Respondent Coder Note.
  - If you need to make notes for multiple Respondent Interaction Codes (e.g., you have to make notes for Responds with Feeling and an Uncodeable Answer), separate the notes using a semi-colon.
  - To record this respondent behavior in a Note field, enter a description of the interaction. Record the nature of the situation as completely as possible.

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**RESPONDS WITH FEELING Continued on the following page.**

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**RESPONDS WITH FEELING Continued.**

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- Record the Respondent Coder Note for Responds with Feeling as "e#,rf--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).

- **Examples:**

**Q:** *Did the amount you were SUPPOSED TO pay EVER change because you or the children's mother went back to court AND changed the court order in order to include support that was owed for previous years?*

Code ex **I:** Did the amount you were SUPPOSED TO pay EVER change because you or the children's mother went back to court AND changed the court order in order to include support that was owed for previous years?

Code ua **R:** It was changed but it was a lump sum payment instead of added on monthly.

Code af **I:** Did the amount you were SUPPOSED TO pay EVER change because you or the children's mother went back to court AND changed the court order in order to include support that was owed for previous years?

Code ua,rf **R:** Well see you're talking from the woman's standpoint and I'm telling you from the man's.

**N:** e1,ua--It was changed but it was a lump sum payment instead of added on monthly.; e2,ua--you're talking from the woman's standpoint and I'm telling you from the man's.; e2,rf--you're talking from the woman's standpoint and I'm telling you from the man's.

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**\*OTHER**

**(FoxPro Program Code = o; Coder Note Abbreviation = ot)**

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- Definition**
- Respondent checks external documents/records to obtain or verify information asked for in the survey question, verification, or probe.
  - The respondent and interviewer have difficulty interacting with each other because of a language problem.
  - Respondent comments about something not in the interview, for example, about the weather or making dinner.
  - Respondent talks to someone in her or his household.
  - Respondent asks interviewer to hold on while he or she checks call waiting.
  - Respondent digresses about information unrelated to the survey question. Code as "DIG." See example below.
  - The respondent asks the interviewer to jump back to a previously administered item because the respondent wants to change her/his answer OR after reading part or all of a new survey question, the respondent continues to talk about her/his answer to a previously administered item.

Use the following rule to determine whether or not the interviewer has begun a new survey question: The interviewer must read four or more words of the new survey question to qualify as having begun the question; if interviewer reads less than four words of the survey question before the respondent asks her to jump back to previous question, ignore the interviewer's partial reading and continue to code the respondent's behavior at the current question.

- The respondent engages in some other behavior.

- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
  - If the respondent says "okay" in response to the interviewer saying "Give me a second," "I have to type this in," or something similar to these statements, code the respondent's "okay" as Other.
  - If, in the course of formulating an response, the respondent uses phrases like "let me see," "let me think a minute," or something similar, code these phrases as Other.
  - If, in jumping back to a previous question, the interviewer changes the respondent's previously recorded answer and this results in a change in the skip patterns, stop coding and turn the tape over to the project staff. Project staff are to code these situations in the following manner. In the Thumbnail include a statement that reads "Jump Back affects skips patterns--." Then record which item the need to jump arose and which item the interviewer jumped back to. For example, "Request/need to jump back occurs at item # and int jumps back to item #." Record as much of the interaction as possible for the purposes of documentation.

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**OTHER Continued on the following page.**

**OTHER Continued.**

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- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code requires a Respondent Coder Note.
  - If the respondent asks the interviewer to jump back to a previous question, we would like you to record the nature of this request and the item the interviewer jumps backs to. Do not record information about any of the intervening interaction. Once the interviewer returns to the current question, resume coding. If the interviewer rereads the current question, code this on the second exchange level as either Adequate or Inadequate Followup depending the interviewer's reading.
  - If after reading part of all of a new survey question, the respondent continues to talk about her/his answer to a previously administered item, summarize the nature of the respondent's comments and record the item number of the question the respondent talks about. Do not record information about any of the intervening interaction. Once the interviewer returns to the current question, resume coding. If the interviewer rereads the current question, code this on the second exchange level as either Adequate or Inadequate Followup depending the interviewer's reading.
  - When respondents engage in "other" kinds of behaviors, they frequently have short conversations with the interviewer. A single code for "Other" should be used to capture these exchanges. Do not code these exchanges on multiple exchange levels as it they us nothing about the question or the nature of the interview process. (See examples below.)
  - To record this respondent behavior in a Note field, enter a description of the interaction. Record the nature of the situation as completely as possible.
  - Record the Respondent Coder Note for Other as "e#,ot--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).
  - **Examples:**
    - N:** e2,ot--R tells kids to be quiet.
    - Q:** *What are her current age and birthdate?*
    - I:** What are her current age and birthdate?
    - Code ca,ot **R:** It should be ... let me check I have it right here in my charts. Let's see. It's June 26, 1991.
    - N:** e1,ot--R checks records.
    - Q:** *What are his current age and birthdate?*
    - Code na,ve **I:** And you said Lucas was 16 and his birthdate was 6?
    - Code ca **R:** 26, '81.
    - Code af **I:** '81. Okay.
    - Code ot **R:** Now they probably would have been here in spring break too which would have been Christmas time.
    - N:** e2,ot--DIG @ other time spent with kids.
- 

**OTHER Continued on the following page.**

**OTHER Continued.**

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- Q:** *How satisfied are you with the amount of time Max spent with you in 1996, are you somewhat satisfied, quite satisfied, very satisfied, or extremely satisfied?*
- Code ex **I:** How satisfied are you with the amount of time Max spent with you in 1996, are you somewhat satisfied, quite satisfied, very satisfied, or extremely satisfied?
- Code ot **R:** I just remembered something. I didn't spend that many days with her. I want to go back and change that.
- Do Not Code **I:** Okay.
- Do Not Code **R:** So it would have been 35 days not 70.
- Do Not Code **I:** Okay. Let me go back and read that. On how many days did you spend with Max?
- Do Not Code **R:** 35.
- af **I:** And how satisfied are you with the amount of time Max spent with you in 1996, are you somewhat satisfied, quite satisfied, very satisfied, or extremely satisfied?
- ca **R:** Somewhat satisfied.  
**N:** e1,ot--R asks int to go back to a previous Q. Int goes back to item 65bn. R changes answer to 65bn.
- ex **I:** What is your date of birth?
- ot **R:** December 13th, 1968. Oh that's my call waiting, can you hold on for a second?
- (Note: Do not code.) **I:** Sure.
- (Note: Do not code.) **R:** Thanks, just a sec. (R checks call waiting.) Sorry about that. It was Max's soccer coach.
- (Note: Do not code.) **I:** No problem. Are you ready?
- (Note: Do not code.) **R:** Yep, I'm ready.
- mc **I:** What is your race?  
**N:** e1,ot--R answers call waiting.
-

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## UNKNOWN

(FoxPro Program Code = u; Coder Note Abbreviation = uk)

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- Definition**
- It is not possible to tell what the respondent is doing.
  - You cannot hear well enough to make a judgement about what code to use.
- Notes**
- This code can be assigned at any exchange sequence.
- Coder Note**
- This Respondent Interaction Code does not require a Respondent Coder Note.
  - In making a note for this behavior, record whatever information is necessary to describe the nature of the situation.
  - Record the Respondent Coder Note for Unknown as "e1,uk--"; substitute the appropriate exchange level for "e#" (e.g., e1, e2, or e3).
-

**Appendix C:  
Coding Question-Answer Sequences and Exchange Levels  
from the Coder's Training Manual**

You will be coding question-answer sequences. These are often referred to as "exchanges" or "turns" because you can think of each participant in the interaction -- the interviewer and the respondent -- as exchanging information or taking turns speaking. Each question-answer sequence begins with the interviewer reading a screen and ends either with the respondent giving an answer or the interviewer providing a followup probe, usually in the form of feedback (e.g., "OK").

A question-answer sequence frequently includes a single exchange between the interviewer and respondent, for example:

*I: In what year did you last contact such an agency?  
R: That would be 1996.*

However, often there are two or more interviewer-respondent exchange in a question-answer sequence. For example:

*Exchange 1: I: In what year did you last contact such an agency?  
R: Well, it was either 1995 or 1996.  
Exchange 2: I: Which year would be the better answer?  
R: I think it was really 1995.*

In this example there are two exchanges in one question-answer sequence. The first exchange begins with the interviewer reading the question from the CATI screen. The second exchange begins with the interviewer's probe "Which year would be the better answer."

**As a general rule, after the initial reading of the survey question, whenever the interviewer speaks s/he begins a new exchange level.** (An exception to this is the case of an interruption, which is described below.)

For example, a new exchange begins when the interviewer says "OK" or uses some similar "continuation device:"

*Exchange 1: I: In what year did you last contact such an agency?  
R: Let's see. It was either 1985 or 1986. Let me think.  
Exchange 2: I: OK  
R: I think it was really 1985.*

In this case there are also two exchange levels.

In most cases the **reading of the initial question occurs in the first exchange level** as illustrated by the first example in this section. However, you will occasionally run into cases in which it may not be clear how to code the initial question-answer sequence. This often occurs in situations in which the respondent interrupts the interviewer's reading of the survey question. Because these situations can be difficult to code, the following examples provide guidelines for dealing with them. (A number of other examples are provided under the Respondent Interaction Code "Interruption" in the supplementary notes for the Respondent Interaction Codes.)

Consider the following interaction in which the interviewer tries to ask the survey question: "Did you receive these payments regularly, occasionally, seldom or never?"

*(All Exchange 1:)*    **I:**    *Did you receive these payments regularly*  
                          **R:**    *Yes, regularly*  
                          **I:**    *occasionally, seldom or never?*  
                          **R:**    *Regularly.*

As you can see, the interviewer is interrupted during the reading of this question. In this case, the interviewer followed standardized interviewing procedures and continued reading the question even though she was interrupted. For coding purposes, we will treat these situations as encompassing one exchange only. To code this interaction the respondent's first answer, "Yes, regularly" is coded as an "*Interruption*" and a "*Codeable Answer*;" at the first exchange level. The interviewer receives the code "*Exact*" for the first exchange level because the interviewer completed reading the question and did not make any reading errors as she was reading the question. The respondent's second answer, "regularly," is also coded as a "*Codeable Answer*" on the first exchange level.

Now consider a different, more complicated interaction involving an interruption. Again, the interviewer is supposed to read the following question: "Did you receive these payments regularly, occasionally, seldom or never?"

*Exchange 1:*    **I:**    *Did you receive these payments*  
                          **R:**    *I received them once a week.*  
*Exchange 2:*    **I:**    *You received them regularly?*  
                          **R:**    *Yes.*

In this case the interviewer did not continue reading the question after she was interrupted. Therefore, Exchange 1 ended after the respondent provided the answer "I received them once a week." Exchange 2 begins with the interviewer's probe "You received them regularly?" This interaction would be coded in the following manner. For the first exchange code the interviewer's behavior as a "*Major Change*" because she did not read the question as written and

left off the phrase "regularly, occasionally, seldom or never." The respondent's behavior is coded as an *"Interruption"* because he provided an answer before the interviewer finished reading the question and an *"Uncodeable Answer"* because the answer provided, "I received them once a week," does not match the answer categories "regularly, occasionally, seldom or never." The interviewer's behavior at the second exchange is coded as an *"Inadequate Followup"* because instead of simply offering one of the answer categories as a choice, the interviewer should have read all of the categories to the respondent. You would code the respondent's behavior at the second exchange as a *"Codeable Answer."*

You will code detailed information about the exchange levels in a box that looks like the figure below. As you can see, the interaction coding program allows you to code information about a maximum of three question-answer sequences. If there are more than three exchanges at a particular question, toggle the "Exch 3+" option by pressing Ctrl-A. Record information about the first exchange on the line labeled "Exch 1." Record information about the second and third exchanges on the lines marked "Exch 2" and "Exch 3," respectively. For each exchange you can record up to three codes for the interviewer and up to four codes for the respondent.

Item#		Iwer	Respondent
A	Exch 1:	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Exch 2:	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Exch 3:	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Exch 3+ (Ctrl-A)		

**Table 1. Values for the Kappa Statistic from the Interviewer-Respondent Interaction Coding Reliability Analysis of the Parent Survey 3**

Interaction Code	Exchange Level	Kappa Statistic <sup>a</sup>	
		All Cases	Randomly Selected Cases Only
<b>Interviewer Question-Asking Behaviors</b>			
<i>Exact</i>	E1	.85	same
<i>Exact with Repair</i>	E1	.62	same
<i>Elaboration</i>	E1	.60	.58
<i>Slight Change</i>	E1	.74	same
<i>Major Change</i>	E1	.82	.83
<i>Verification</i>	E1	.56	same
<i>Not Asked</i>	E1	.88	.90
<i>Stress Problem</i>	E1	.69	.68
<b>Interviewer Followup Behaviors</b>			
<i>Adequate Followup</i>	E2	.79	same
	E3	.79	same
	E2+E3	.84	same
<i>Inadequate Followup</i>	E2	.53	.56
	E3	.36	same
	E2+E3	.53	.55
<b>Other Interviewer Behaviors</b>			
<i>Laughter</i>	E1	.43	.42
	E2	.62	same
	E3	.55	.54
	E1+E2+E3	.66	same
<i>Responds with Feeling</i>	E1	.34	.36
	E2	.34	.35
	E3	.30	.35

(Table 1 is continued on the following page.)

**Table 1 Continued.**

<b>Interaction Code</b>	<b>Exchange Level</b>	<b>Kappa Statistic<sup>a</sup></b>	
		<b>All Cases</b>	<b>Randomly Selected Cases Only</b>
<i>Responds with Feeling</i>	E3+	.40	.41
	E1+E2+E3	.47	.49
<i>CATI Problem</i>	E1	.76	.72
	E2	-.00	same
	E3	-.00	NC <sup>b</sup>
	E1+E2+E3	.68	.63
<i>Other</i>	E1	.83	.49
	E2	.30	.28
	E3	.17	.19
	E1+E2+E3	.69	.38
<i>Unknown</i>	E1	-.00	same
	E2	NC <sup>b</sup>	same
	E3	NC <sup>b</sup>	same
	E1+E2+E3	-.00	same
<b>Respondent Question-Answering Behaviors</b>			
<i>Codable Answer</i>	E1	.83	same
	E2	.75	.76
	E3	.70	same
	E1+E2+E3	.75	same
<i>Uncodable Answer</i>	E1	.63	.65
	E2	.66	.67
	E3	.65	.66
	E1+E2+E3	.70	.72
<i>Implicitly Answer</i>	E1	.65	.66
	E2	.30	.37
	E3	.15	.16
	E1+E2+E3	.60	.62

(Table 1 is continued on the following page.)

**Table 1 Continued.**

Interaction Code	Exchange Level	Kappa Statistic <sup>a</sup>	
		All Cases	Randomly Selected Cases Only
<b>Other Respondent Behaviors</b>			
<i>Interruption</i>	E1	.81	.82
<i>Qualification</i>	E1	.83	same
	E2	.68	.64
	E3	.59	.60
	E1+E2+E3	.81	.82
<i>Seeks Clarification</i>	E1	.89	.88
	E2	.73	same
	E3	.55	.48
	E1+E2+E3	.89	.88
<i>Elaboration</i>	E1	.67	.65
	E2	.43	.41
	E3	.32	.35
	E1+E2+E3	.64	.62
<i>Pause</i>	E1	.41	.42
<i>Don't Know</i>	E1	.82	same
	E2	.62	.63
	E3	.67	.65
	E1+E2+E3	.81	.81
<i>Refusal</i>	E1	.50	.58
	E2	.36	.40
	E3	.50	.67
	E1+E2+E3	.41	.48
<i>Laughter</i>	E1	.70	same
	E2	.60	.58
	E3	.51	.49
	E1+E2+E3	.75	same

(Table 1 is continued on the following page.)

**Table 1 Continued.**

Interaction Code	Exchange Level	Kappa Statistic <sup>a</sup>	
		All Cases	Randomly Selected Cases Only
<i>Responds with Feeling</i>	E1	.51	.52
	E2	.31	.32
	E3	.21	.23
	E1+E2+E3	.48	.50
<i>Other</i>	E1	.55	same
	E2	.35	.34
	E3	.34	.32
	E1+E2+E3	.51	same
<i>Unknown</i>	E1	-.00	same
	E2	NC <sup>b</sup>	same
	E3	-.00	same
	E1+E2+E3	-.00	same
<b>4 or More Exchange Levels</b>	---	.80	.79

<sup>a</sup> The kappa statistic for “All Cases” is based on 6,791 questions versus 5,697 questions for the “Randomly Select Cases Only.”

<sup>b</sup> NC = Not Calculable because the 2-by-2 table contains an empty row or column.

**Table 2. Values for the Kappa Statistic from Published Analyses of Interaction Coding**

<b>Interaction Code<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Kappa Statistic</b>
<b>Panel A: Oksenberg, Cannell, and Kalton 1991</b>	
<b>Interviewer Behaviors</b>	
<i>Slight Change</i>	.73
<i>Major Change</i>	.72
<b>Respondent Behaviors</b>	
<i>Interruption with Answer</i>	.90
<i>Clarification</i>	.93
<i>Qualified Answer</i>	.56
<i>Inadequate Answer</i>	.85
<i>Don't Know</i>	.86
<b>Panel B: Dykema, Lepkowski, and Blixt 1997</b>	
<b>Interviewer Behaviors</b>	
<i>Substantive change</i>	.79
<i>Skips Q</i>	.95
<i>Verifies Q</i>	.68
<i>Reads Wrong Q</i>	Perfect Agreement
<b>Respondent Behaviors</b>	
<i>Interrupts</i>	.80
<i>Uncertain</i>	.92
<i>Qualified</i>	.82
<i>Uncodable</i>	.90
<i>Don't Know</i>	.87
<i>Refusal</i>	.89

<sup>a</sup> Although the labels for many of the interaction codes are the same (or very similar), there may be differences in the manner in which the codes were applied across studies.