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Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
STEM - Center of Empirical Research
Jilská 1, 110 00 Praha 1*

ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENT

AND LOCAL POLITICS

1993

November - December 1993

Interviewer

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Coder

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Denter

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Respondent

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1. Which of these would you say is more important in preparing children for life?

To be obedient	1
To think for themselves	2
Can't choose	8

How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?

Instructions: Show CARD A to the respondent!

CARD A

1	Strongly agree
2	Agree
3	Neither agree nor disagree
4	Disagree
5	Strongly disagree
8	Can't choose

2a. Private enterprise is the best way to solve economic problems of the Czech Republic.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

2b. It is the responsibility of the government to reduce the difference of income between people with high incomes and those with low incomes.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

3a. Looking at the list below, please choose a number next to the one thing you think should be the highest priority of the Czech Republic, the most important thing it should do.

Instructions: Show CARD B!

CARD B

1	Maintain order in the nation
2	Give people more say in government decisions
3	Fight rising prices
4	Protect freedom of speech
8	Can't choose

The most important:

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

 8

3b. And which one do you think should be the next highest priority, the second most important thing it should do?

Instructions: Show CARD B!

The second most important:

How much do you agree of disagree with each of the following?

Instructions: Show CARD A again!

4a. We believe too often in science, and not enough in feelings and faith.

4b. Overall, modern science does more harm than good.

4c. Any change humans cause in the nature - no matter how scientific - is likely to make things worse.

4d. Modern science will solve our environmental problems with little change to our way of life.

How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?

5a. We worry too much about the future or the environment and not enough about prices and jobs today.

5b. Almost everything we do in modern life harms the environment.

5c. Animals should have the same moral rights as human beings do.

5d. Human beings should respect nature because it was created by God.

<p>How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?</p>
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Instructions: Show CARD A!

6a. People worry too much about human progress harming the environment.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

6b. Nature would be at peace and in harmony if only human beings would leave it alone.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

6c. In order to protect the environment, the Czech Republic needs economic growth.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

6d. It is right to use animals for medical testing if it might save human lives.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

6e. Nature is really a fierce struggle for survival of the fittest.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

6f. Economic growth always harms the environment.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

7. Which of the following three statements is closest to your views?

Nature is sacred because it is created by God	1
Nature is spiritual or sacred in itself	2
Nature is important, but not spiritual or sacred	3
Can't choose	8

8. In order to protect the environment, how willing would you be to do the following:

Instructions: Show CARD C!

CARD C

1	Very willing
2	Fairly willing
3	Neither willing nor unwilling
4	Fairly unwilling
5	Very unwilling
8	Can't choose

a. Pay much higher prices	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. Pay much higher taxes	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Accept cuts in your standard of living	1	2	3	4	5	8

How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?

Instructions: Show CARD A!

9a. It is just too difficult for someone like me to do much about the environment.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

9b. I do what is right for the environment, even when it costs more money or takes more time.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

For each of the statements bellow, choose a number of the one that comes closest to your opinion of how true it is.

Instructions: Show CARD D!

CARD D

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Definitely true |
| 2 | Probably true |
| 3 | Probably not true |
| 4 | Definitely not true |
| 8 | Can't choose |

10a. All radioactivity is made by humans.

1	2	3	4	8
---	---	---	---	---

10b. Antibiotics can kill bacteria but not viruses.

1	2	3	4	8
---	---	---	---	---

10c. Astrology - the study of star signs - has some scientific truth.

1	2	3	4	8
---	---	---	---	---

10d. Human beings developed from earlier species of animals.

1	2	3	4	8
---	---	---	---	---

10e. All man-made chemicals can cause cancer if you eat enough of them.

1	2	3	4	8
---	---	---	---	---

To what extent are the following statements true or not true.

11a. If someone is exposed to any amount of radioactivity, they are certain to die as a result.

1 2 3 4 8

11b. Some radioactive waste from nuclear power stations will be dangerous for thousands of years.

1 2 3 4 8

11c. The greenhouse effect is caused by a hole in the earth's atmosphere.

1 2 3 4 8

11d. Every time we use coal, oil or gas, we contribute to the greenhouse effect.

1 2 3 4 8

11e. All pesticides and chemical used on food crops cause cancer in humans.

1 2 3 4 8

11f. Human beings are the main cause of plant and animal species dying out.

1 2 3 4 8

11g. Cars are not really an important cause of air pollution in the Czech Republic.

1 2 3 4 8

12. To what extent, in your opinion, is air pollution caused by cars dangerous for:

Instructions: Show CARD E!

CARD E

1	Extremely dangerous
2	Very dangerous
3	Somewhat dangerous
4	Not very dangerous
5	Not dangerous at all
8	Can't choose

a. The environment?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

b. You and your family?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

12c. Within the next ten years, how likely do you think it is that there will be a large increase in ill-health in the Czech Republic cities as a result of air pollution caused by cars?

Instructions: Read all possible answers!

Certain to happen	1
Very likely to happen	2
Fairly likely to happen	3
Not very likely to happen	4
Certain not to happen	5
Can't choose	8

13. To what extent, in your opinion, are nuclear power stations dangerous for:

Instructions: Show CARD E!

a. The environment?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

b. For you and your family?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

14. To what extent, in your opinion, is air pollution caused by industry dangerous for:

a. The environment?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

b. You and your family?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

15. To what extent, in your opinion, are pesticides and chemicals dangerous for:

a. The environment?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

b. You and your family?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

16. To what extent, in your opinion, is pollution of rivers, lakes and streams in the Czech Republic dangerous for:

a. The environment?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

b. For you and your family?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

17. To what extent, in your opinion, is a rise in the world's temperature caused by the 'greenhouse effect' dangerous for:

a. The environment?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

b. For you and your family?

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

18a. If you had to choose, which one of the following would be closest to your views?

Instructions: Read both statements and circle one answer only; 8 means 'Can't choose'!

(1) Government should let ordinary people decide for themselves how to protect the environment, even if it means they don't always do the right things.

or

(2) Government should pass laws to make ordinary people protect the environment, even if it interferes with people's rights to make their own decisions.

1	2	8
---	---	---

18b. And which one of the following comes closest to your views?

(1) Government should let businesses decide for themselves how to protect the environment, even if it means they don't always do the right things.

or

(2) Government should pass laws to make businesses protect the environment, even if it interferes with business' rights to make their own decisions.

1	2	8
---	---	---

19a. How often do you make a special effort to sort glass, metal, plastic or paper and so on for recycling?

Always	1
Often	2
Sometimes	3
Never	4
Recycling not available where I live	5

19b. How often do you make a special effort to buy fruits and vegetables grown without pesticides or chemicals?

Always	1
Often	2
Sometimes	3
Never	4
Not available where I live	5

19c. How often do you refuse to eat meat for moral or environmental reasons?

Always	1
Often	2
Sometimes	3
Never	4

19d. How often do you cut back on driving a car for environmental reasons?

Always	1
Often	2
Sometimes	3
Never	4
I don't have or cannot drive a car	5

20. Are you a member of any group whose main aim is to preserve or protect the environment?

Yes	1
No	2

20a. If yes, which one?

.....



21. In the last five years, have you:

	Yes	No
a. Signed a petition about an environmental issue?	1	2
b. Given money to an environmental group?	1	2
c. Taken part in a protest or demonstration about an issue concerning the environment?	1	2

22. Please choose a statement which comes the closest to expressing what you believe about God.

Instructions: Show CARD F!

I don't believe in God.	1
I don't know whether there is a God and I don't believe there is any way to find out.	2
I don't believe in a personal God, but I do believe in a Higher Power of some kind.	3
I find myself believing in God sometimes, but not always.	4
While I have doubts, I feel that I do believe in God.	5
I know God really exists and I have no doubts about it.	6
Can't choose.	8

23. Would you describe the place where you live as:

Instructions: Read all possible answers!

A big city	1
The suburbs or outskirts of a big city	2
Small city or town	3
A country village	4
Home outside a village	5

The following questions are connected with work of trade unions.

24. Do you think that trade unions in the Czech Republic have too much power or too little power?

Far too much power	1
Too much power	2
About the right amount of power	3
Too little power	4
Almost no power	5
Can't choose	8

25. In general, how good would you say trade unions are for the Czech Republic as a whole?

Excellent	1
Very good	2
Fairly good	3
Not very good	4
Very bad	5
Can't choose	8

26. Are you a member of a trade union?

Yes	1
No	2

26a. If yes, which one?

.....

27. Irrespective of trade union affiliation, try to evaluate its work using the following statements.

Instructions: Show CARD G!

CARD G

1	Entirely agree
2	Probably agree
3	Probably disagree
4	Entirely disagree

a. Trade unions speak for their members in the event of dismissal.	1	2	3	4
b. Trade unions ensure salary growth in conjunction with the growth of living expences.	1	2	3	4
c. Trade unions ensure good salaries, especially for their officials.	1	2	3	4
d. Trade unions protect their members against possible injustice wrought by the employer.	1	2	3	4
e. Trade unions make every effort to improve working conditions.	1	2	3	4
f. Trade unions provide their members with a number of benefits, e.g. holidays.	1	2	3	4
g. Trade unions could impose some pressure on the government and thus influence the political situation in the society.	1	2	3	4
h. Trade unions are a remnant of the Communist regime and should be abandoned.	1	2	3	4

The following questions will be focused on the local self-government.

28. It has been almost three years since the last municipal elections. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the activities of your local representation that was elected in your city/town or village?

Very satisfied	1
Fairly satisfied	2
Fairly dissatisfied	3
Very dissatisfied	4
Not interested	5

29. Do you think that you are sufficiently informed about what happens in your city/town or village?

Don't know	1
No, but it doesn't overly matter to me	2
No and it matters to me a lot	3
Informed, but not sufficiently	4
Yes, informed sufficiently	5

30. Do you trust the members of your city/town or village local representation? Do you believe that they work for the general welfare of your city/town or village?

Don't trust any member	1
Trust only a few members	2
Trust some of the members	3
Trust most of the members	4
Don't know	5

31. In your opinion, what influence do the following groups and institutions have on decision making concerning the important questions of your city/town or village?

Instructions: Show CARD H!

CARD H

1	No influence
2	Little influence
3	Moderate influence
4	Considerable influence
5	Decisive influence
6	Not applicable/Doesn't come into consideration

a. Ordinary citizens	1	2	3	4	5	6
b. Various mafias, cliques, lobby	1	2	3	4	5	6
c. Local press	1	2	3	4	5	6
d. Former officials (nomenklatura)	1	2	3	4	5	6
e. District Office	1	2	3	4	5	6
f. Chief Administrative Officer	1	2	3	4	5	6
g. Mayor	1	2	3	4	5	6
h. Local (Municipal) Board of Councilors	1	2	3	4	5	6
i. Local (Municipal) representation	1	2	3	4	5	6
j. Ministries and other national authorities	1	2	3	4	5	6
k. Political parties	1	2	3	4	5	6
l. Various associations, organisations, initiatives	1	2	3	4	5	6
m. The Church	1	2	3	4	5	6
n. Private entrepreneurs	1	2	3	4	5	6
o. State enterprises in operation here	1	2	3	4	5	6

People can have different opinions on local politics. I will read some of such opinions and you tell me how much you agree with them.

Instructions: Show CARD A!

CARD A

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 Disagree
- 5 Strongly disagree

- 8 Can't choose

32a. The decision making of town, municipal representation does not affect me for most of the time.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

32b. There is nothing complicated about the municipal matters, even people like me can see through them.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

32c. It is true that people like me can vote in the municipal elections, but otherwise they cannot overly influence the decision making on local matters.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

32d. It is clear to everyone how the stances of political parties in this city/town, or village differ from one another.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

32e. It is better to take care of personal matters and not to interfere in public affairs.

1	2	3	4	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---

33. Is the way how the question concerning territorial organisation of the state administration and self-government will finally be solved important or unimportant to you?

Definitely important	1
Fairly important	2
Fairly unimportant	3
Definitely unimportant	4

34. Did you take part in the town, municipal representation elections in November 1990?

Yes	1
No	2

34a. If yes, do you remember for whom you voted?

.....

35. Do you intend to vote in the next communal elections?

Yes	1
No	2
Haven't decided yet	3

35a. If yes, for whom will you vote?

.....

36. Would you be willing to run for a seat in the next town, municipal representation elections?

Definitely yes	1
Probably yes	2
Probably not	3
Definitely not	4
Don't know	5

And finally, there are some questions for statistical processing.

37. What is your age?

Years:
 No answer 99

38. What is your marital status?

Married	1
Widowed	2
Divorced	3
Married but separated	4
Single, never married	5
No answer	9

39. What is your highest level of education?

Primary incomplete	1
Primary complete	2
Vocational training, without school diploma	3
Secondary, without secondary school diploma	4
Secondary technical with a secondary school diploma	5
Secondary general with a secondary school diploma	6
University incomplete	7
University degree complete	8
No answer	9

40. For how long did you go to school? Include also incomplete, part-time, external and evening studies.

Instructions: If the respondent is a student of secondary school write 95, if he or she is a student of university write 96.

Years:
 No answer 99

41. What is your partner's highest level of education?*Instructions: Only for married respondents!*

Primary incomplete	1
Primary complete	2
Vocational training, without school diploma	3
Secondary, without secondary school diploma	4
Secondary technical with a secondary school diploma	5
Secondary general with a secondary school diploma	6
University incomplete	7
University degree complete	8
No answer	9

42. What is your father's highest level of education?

Primary incomplete	1
Primary complete	2
Vocational training, without school diploma	3
Secondary, without secondary school diploma	4
Secondary technical with a secondary school diploma	5
Secondary general with a secondary school diploma	6
University incomplete	7
University degree complete	8
No answer	9

43. What is your current economic position, main source of living?

Employed - full time	1
Employed - part time (half and more)	2
Employed - part time (less than half)	3
Self-employed, entrepreneur	4
Freelance	5
Helping family member	6
Unemployed	7
Student at school or in vocational training	8
Permanently disabled	9
Retired	10
Housewife/home duties	11
On maternity leave, maternity benefit	12
Others	13
No answer	99

44a. If you are an employee, do you work in the private or state sector?

State enterprise	1
Public institution (schools, health-care facilities, television, etc.)	2
State administration (offices, ministry, police, army, etc.)	3
Enterprise which belongs to a city or municipality	4
Cooperative	5
Private firm - domestic owner	6
Private firm - foreign owner	7
No answer	9

44b. If you are self-employed, how many employees do you have?

Instructions: More than 97 mark as 97, no answer or refused:99, no employee:00!

Number of employees:

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No answer 99

45. Do you have any additional source of living, e.g. second job, other entrepreneurial activity, or work beside your pension?

Yes	1
No	2
No answer	9

45a. If you have an additional source of living, which one of the following is it?

Employment in state enterprise, company	1
Employment in private enterprise	2
Own enterprise	3
One-off work contract	4
Other	5

46. How many hours a week do you usually work? Include also your second jobs, other entrepreneurial activities, etc.

Instructions: More than 96 mark as 96, refused: 97, does not know: 98, no answer: 99, does not work: 00.

Number of hours:

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47. What is your occupation in your main job?

Instructions: Write down a detailed description. For example, the specification "worker" is not sufficient. If the respondent does not work, ask him/her about his/her last occupation. If the respondent is a pensioner, ask him/her about his/her occupation before he/she has retired. Refused to answer: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99!

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48. Do (did) you have subordinates in your principal employment?

Yes	1
No	2
No answer	9

48a. If yes, how many?

1 - 2	1
3 - 5	2
6 - 10	3
More than 10	4
Manager of more departments	5
No answer	9

Instructions: The following two questions apply for married respondents only!

49. What is your partner's current economic position, a main source of living?

Employed - full time	1
Employed - part time (half and more)	2
Employed - part time (less than half)	3
Self-employed, entrepreneur	4
Freelance	5
Helping family member	6
Unemployed	7
Student at school or in vocational training	8
Permanently disabled	9
Retired	10
Housewife/home duties	11
On maternity leave, maternity benefit	12
Others	13
No answer	99

50. What is your partner's occupation?

Instructions: (The same instruction as Q47.) Write down a detailed description. For example, the specification "worker" is not sufficient. If the respondent's spouse does not work, ask about his/her last occupation. If the respondent's spouse is a pensioner, ask him/her about his/her occupation before he/she has retired. Refused to answer: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99!

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51. What was your father's occupation when you were 16 years old?

Instructions: (The same instructions as Q47.) Refused to answer: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99.

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52. How many people are there in your household?

Instructions: More than 8 mark as 8, no answer or refused: 9.

Number:

53. How old are they?

Instructions: Order all members of the household (except of the respondent) by age (the oldest member goes first), fill in their age and mark their sex!

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Age (in years)								
Sex: Male	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Female	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

54. What is the average monthly income of your family or of your household that manages finances together?

Instructions: Refused to answer: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99.

Income:

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55. Imagine that you were insured and as a result of a natural disaster you lost you entire property, i.e. house, cottage, holiday home, garden, all furniture and home appliances, all savings and other belongings.

How high should be the amount that would compensate the loss? Estimate the value of all items named above and add them up. Choose one of the following fugures.

Instructions: Show CARD X! Refused to answer: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99.

Less than 50 thousand	01
50 - 99 thousand	02
100 - 199 thousand	03
200 - 299 thousand	04
300 - 399 thousand	05
400 - 499 thousand	06
500 - 999 thousand	07
1 - 2 millions	08
More than 2 millions	09

56. In politics there are often used notions of the "Left" and the "Right". Where do you place yourself?

Far left	1
Left	2
Center	3
Right	4
Far right	5
No answer	9

57. Can you tell us which political party you voted for in last year's June elections to the Czech National Council?

Instructions: Refused: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99.

Write the name of the party:

.....

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58. If the parliamentary elections were to take place next week, would you vote?

Yes	1
No	2
Undecided	9

59. If you voted (nevertheless), which party would you vote for to the Chamber of Deputies?

Instructions: Refused: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99.

Name:.....

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60. Do you believe in God?

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3
No answer	9

61. Can you tell us of what religion you are?

Instructions: Refused: 97, Doesn't know: 98, No answer: 99.

Name:.....

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62. How often do you attend religious services, ceremonies?

At least once a week	1
2 or 3 times a month	2
Once a month	3
Several times a year	4
Less frequently	5
Never	6
No answer	9

63. Into what social class would you place yourself?

Instructions: Read all possible answers!

Lower class	1
Working class	2
Lower middle class	3
Middle class	4
Upper middle class	5
Upper class	6
Does not know	8
No answer	9

Thank you very much for your help.

TO BE FILLED BY THE INTERVIEWER:**64. Sex of the respondent.**

Male	1
Female	2

65. Type of housing:

Family house	1
Farm, agricultural estate	2
Block of flats (up to 6 flats)	3
Sizeable block of flats	4

66. Impression of the household:

Very poor	1
Fairly poor	2
Average	3
Fairly wealthy	4
Very wealthy	5

67. Did the respondent understand all questions?

Clearly all of them	1
Most of them	2
Had difficulties with most of them	3
Understood only a small number of them	4

68. In the course of the interview, the respondent's cooperation was:

Good	1
Average	2
Bad	3

69. Region:

.....

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70. Size of the community:

.....

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71. Length of the interview in minutes:

Number of minutes:

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72. Date of the interview:

Day of the month:

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DECLARATION OF THE INTERVIEWER:

I declare that the respondent has been chosen from the list of addresses and that the questionnaire represents an exact record of the respondent's answers.

Signature:

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