

Statistical Central Bureau  
Investigation Institute  
Stockholm 5

Department of  
Political Science  
Göteborg University

**ELECTION STUDY 1956**

Area no..... Resp. no..... Date of Interview.....  
Year of birth..... Time of end of interview.....  
Time of star of interview..... Name of interviewer.....

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I would like to ask you some questions in connection to this year's election and begin by asking: Do you think that you will be more or less interested in the election this year than in 1954?

- 1
- 1. more interested
  - 2. less interested
  - 3. no difference
  - 4. DK

---

2 As you know, there have been several radio broadcasts before the election campaign. Did you listen to any of those programmes?

For interviewer: Show R. printed card with a list of the radio programmes.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION: Did you listen to the whole programme?

PROGRAMME	WHOLE PROG.	PART OF PROG.	NO
The parties and the democracy	2	1	0
Interview with Hedlund	2	1	0
Interview with Hjalmarson	2	1	0
Interview with Ohlin	2	1	0
Interview with Erlander	2	1	0

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3-4 TO THOSE WHO HAVE LISTENED TO AT LEAST 2 OF THE PARTY LEADER INTERVIEWS

Which of the party leaders that you listened to do you think defended himself most skilfully and who was the most reassuring during the radio interviews?

most skilful

most reassuring

- 1. Hjalmarson
- 2. Hedlund
- 3. Ohlin
- 4. Erlander
- 5. Hagberg
- 6. none most skilful
- 7. DK

- 1. Hjalmarson
- 2. Hedlund
- 3. Ohlin
- 4. Erlander
- 5. Hagberg
- 6. none most reassuring
- 7. DK

---

5 TO THOSE WHO LISTENED TO 'PARTIES AND DEMOCRACY' DEBATE

Do you remember the names of the participants in the ideological debate on August 13th?

names noted here:.....

- .....
- 2. remembers none

---

6 As you know, there has been a lot of discussion concerning government expenditures. Do you think there is any particular area where that government expenditures ought to be cut? (In which areas do you think government expenditures ought to be cut?)

Government ought to cut expenditures on:.....

- .....
- 2. no area where expenditures ought to be cut
- 3. no opinion

---

7 Do you think there is any area where the government ought spend more?

yes, note the answer:.....

- .....
- 2. no, no area
- 3. no opinion

---

8 Is there anything else in politics that you would like to change?

yes, note the answer:.....

- .....
  - 2. no, nothing
  - 3. no opinion
-

- 
- 9 Which newspaper or newspapers do you read daily?  
 FOLLOW-UP QUESTION A: Which of them do you subscribe to?  
 FOLLOW-UP QUESTION B: Do you know which party ... (names of all newspapers R. subscribes to) supports?

Answers noted below. Subscription marked with an X:

Newspaper:	Subscr. Party
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.....  
 .....

- 
- 10 Do you usually read the editorials of the newspapers?  
 For interviewer: read out alternatives below and let R. choose the one relevant.
1. every day
  2. often
  3. seldom
  4. never

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**And now some questions about organisations.**

- 11 Are you a member of any trade union for workers or salaried employees?  
 IF NO, FOLLOW-UP QUESTION: Are you a member of any organisation for self-employed or employers?
1. union for workers
  2. union for salaried employees
  3. organisation for self-employed
  4. organisation for employers
  5. not working and not member of any organisation

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TO FARMERS

- 12 Are you a member of the RLF (Riksförbundet Landsbygdens Folk)?
1. yes
  2. no

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IF 11:1-3 OR 12:1 (MEMBERS)

- 13 Do you consider yourself as one of the very active, fairly active or the not active members of the organisation?
1. very active
  2. fairly active
  3. not active
  - note other answer:.....
  5. DK
-

- 
- 14 IF 11:1-3 OR 12:1 (MEMBERS)  
How do you think that the organisation protects the interests of its members? Very well, fairly well, badly?
1. very well
  2. fairly well
  3. badly
  4. DK
- 
- 15 IF 11:1-3 OR 12:1 (MEMBERS)  
Do you usually read about organisational matters in the periodical you get from the organisation (union/self-employed organisation/RLF)?
1. yes
  2. no
- other answer noted:.....  
.....
- 
- 16 Are you a member of a temperance (teetotalist) organisation?
1. yes
  2. no
- 
- 17 Are you a member of a Free Church congregation?
1. yes
  2. no
- 
- 18 Do you listen to the Morning Service or the Evening Service on the radio, almost every Sunday, at least once a month, more seldom or never?
1. almost every Sunday
  2. at least once a month
  3. more seldom
  4. never
- 
- 19 Do you attend a service in some church, at least once a month, several times a year, more seldom or never?
1. at least once a month
  2. several times a year
  3. more seldom
  4. never
- 
- 20 Woud you describe yourself as very, moderately or not at all interested in politics?
1. very interested
  2. moderately
  3. not at all
  4. DK
-

21 Is there any party or parties that you think will gain votes in this year's election? (Which)? FOR INTERVIEWER: If R. mentions more than one party, mark them all.

- 1. Conservatives
- 2. Agrarian Party
- 3. People's Party
- 4. Social Democrats
- 5. Communists
- 6. DK or no party will gain votes

22 Is there any party or parties that you think will lose votes in this year's election? (Which)? FOR INTERVIEWER: If R. mentions more than one party, mark them all.

- 1. Conservatives
- 2. Agrarian Party
- 3. People's Party
- 4. Social Democrats
- 5. Communists
- 6. DK or no party will lose votes

23 As you know, some people consider themselves adherents of the party which they intend to vote for. But there are also many others who do have such an attachment to any of the parties. Do you yourself belong to the adherents of any party?

- 1. yes, considers him/herself as adherent
- 2. no, does not consider him/herself as adherent
- other answer noted here:.....
- 4. DK

24 I have here a plate which shows some of the posters used by the parties this summer. Which of them have you seen?  
FOR INTERVIEWER: After all posters seen by R. have been marked, ask ADDITIONAL QUESTION for each of them: Do you know which party used this poster?

Poster no.	seen	not seen	party	DK party	
1	1	0	.....	x	
2	1	0	.....	x	For INTERVIEWER: Note which party R. thinks has used the posters recognized by R. Use party abbreviations.
3	1	0	.....	x	
4	1	0	.....	x	
5	1	0	.....	x	
6	1	0	.....	x	
7	1	0	.....	x	
8	1	0	.....	x	
9	1	0	.....	x	
10	1	0	.....	x	
11	1	0	.....	x	
12	1	0	.....	x	
13	1	0	.....	x	
14	1	0	.....	x	
15	1	0	.....	x	
16	1	0	.....	x	

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25 FOR INTERVIEWER: SHOW R. PLATE WITH PORTRAITS OF PARTY LEADERS

I have here a plate with some pictures and questions.  
 First, I would like you to look at these photographs showing the five party leaders. Of whom can you remember the name?

	R. recognizes	R. does not recognize
1. Hagberg	1	0
2. Hjalmarson	1	0
3. Hedlund	1	0
4. Ohlin	1	0
5. Erlander	1	0

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26 And now I would like you to look at the questions at the bottom of the plate.

As you know, every second election is to local and regional assemblies and every second election is to the second chamber. Is this year's election to local and regional assemblies or to the second chamber of the Riksdag?

1. local and regional election
2. second chamber election
3. DK

---

27 Which party or parties are included in the current government?

1. Social Democrats
2. Agrarian Party
3. Other party or parties
4. DK

---

28 Could tell me who elect the members of the first chamber of the Riksdag?

1. Regional governments (*landsting*) plus city councils of certain cities.  
 For interviewer: Mark here even if R. only mentions *landsting*.

note other answer:.....

3. DK

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29 As you know, the Social Democrats and the Agrarian Party have formed a government together since 1951. Do you think that the coalition government has been disadvantageous to any of the parties? (Which party?)

1. Disadvantageous to Social Democrats
  2. Disadvantageous to Agrarian Party
  3. Disadvantageous both parties
  4. Not disadvantageous to any of the parties
  5. No opinion
-

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30 Do you believe that the current government will stay after this autumn's election?

1. yes, will stay
2. no, will not stay
- note other answer:.....
4. no opinion

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31 I would now like to ask you a few questions concerning the policies pursued in this country in recent years.

For interviewer: If needed, repeat for each of q. 31-34 the question: Is it mainly due to the policies of the government or mainly due to other reasons?

As you know, we have on the whole not had any unemployment since the end of the war. (Is it mainly due to the policies of the government or mainly due to other reasons?)

1. mainly due to government policies
2. mainly due to other reasons
- note other answer:.....
4. no opinion

---

32 As you know, we have shortage of housing in many areas of this country. (Is it mainly due to the policies of the government or mainly due to other reasons?)

1. mainly due to government policies
2. mainly due to other reasons
- note other answer:.....
4. no opinion

---

33 Most people can be said to have become better off financially since the war. (Is it mainly due to the policies of the government or mainly due to other reasons?)

1. mainly due to government policies
2. mainly due to other reasons
- note other answer:.....
4. no opinion

---

34 As you know, prices have been increasing since the end of the war and the value of the *krona* had decreased. (Is it mainly due to the policies of the government or mainly due to other reasons?)

1. mainly due to government policies
  2. mainly due to other reasons
  - note other answer:.....
  4. no opinion
-

---

35 How big a difference do you think it would be for people in general if a government consisting of only the non-socialist parties but not the Social Democrats were to take office?

1. big difference
2. some difference, but not that big
3. no difference
- other answer:.....
5. no opinion

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SPACE FOR INTERVIEWER'S MARKINGS OF ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

36	37	37A
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6

---

38 Are you personally acquainted to any of the persons on the parties lists? (To which party does he/she belong?)

For interviewer: If needed, mark more than one alternative.

1. no, not personally acquainted
2. yes, Conservative
3. yes, Agrarian Party
4. yes, People's Party
5. yes, Social Democrats
6. yes, Communists
7. yes, party not known
8. DK

---

39 Do you know anyone who in any other way takes part in this year's campaign for any of the parties? (To which party does he/she belong?)

For interviewer: If needed, mark more than one alternative.

1. no, not personally acquainted
  2. yes, Conservative
  3. yes, Agrarian Party
  4. yes, People's Party
  5. yes, Social Democrats
  6. yes, Communists
  7. yes, party not known
  8. DK
-



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40 In there anybody in your family that holds a political opinion different to yours?

1. yes, somebody has different opinion
2. no

other answer noted:.....

4. DK

---

41 And thinking of friends that you most often meet outside work, do you believe that most of the vote for the same party as you?

For interviewer: If R. is not employed, leave out the words "outside work".

1. yes
2. no

other answer noted:.....

4. DK

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42 And thinking of those that you most often meet at work, do you believe that most of the vote for the same party as you?

1. yes
2. no
3. alone at workplace (craftsmen, farmers etc.)
4. not working (housewives, pensioners etc.)

other answer noted:.....

6. DK

---

43 Have you discussed the election, or politics in general, during the last month (last four weeks)?

IF YES, ADDED QUESTION: Was it with someone in your family, someone at work or some other friend?

1. has not discussed GO TO Q. 45
2. has discussed with family member
3. has discussed with someone at work (not family member)
4. has discussed with other friend

other answer noted:.....

6. DK

GO TO Q. 45

For interviewer: If R. has discussed with more than one category, mark each.

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44 IF 43:2-5 (HAS DISCUSSED)

Did you have the same opinion about the parties as the one you discussed with?

For interviewer: If R. has spoken to more than one category, with different opinions, note if R. met his/her own opinion in family, at work or among friends.

1. yes
2. no
3. DK

other answer noted:.....

---

45 IF 43:1 OR 43:6 (HAS NOT DISCUSSED)

If you wish to talk about the parties and the election, who would you be most likely to turn to? To someone in the family, someone at the workplace or some other friend?

1. someone in family
2. someone at workplace
3. some other friend

other answer noted:.....

5. DK

---

46 Did you vote in the 1954 election?

1. yes
2. no
3. was not eligible to vote
4. DK
5. refuses to answer

GO TO Q. 48

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47 How have you usually acted in earlier elections? Have you voted always, almost always, only sometimes or never?

1. always voted
2. almost always voted
3. voted sometimes
4. never voted, but has been eligible to vote in earlier elections
5. refuses to answer

---

48 Do you intend to vote in this year's election?

1. yes
2. no
3. not yet decided, maybe
4. refuses to answer

GO TO Q. 61

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- 
- 49 IF 48:1 OR 48:3 (INTENDS TO VOTE OR MAYBE).  
Have you yet decided which party you will vote for this year?  
For interviewer: IF R. is not certain whether he/she will vote, add: "if you were to vote".
1. yes, decided
  2. no, not yet decided GO TO Q. 54. GO TO Q. 58 IF R. HAS NEVER VOTED BEFORE.
  3. refuses to answer
- 

- 50 IF 49:1 OR 49:3 (HAS DECIDED OR REFUSES TO ANSWER)  
Do you intend to vote for the same party as the last time you voted?
- |                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. yes, same party         | GO TO Q. 54       |
| 2. for other party         | GO TO Q. 54       |
| 3. not certain which party | GO TO Q. 58 OR 61 |
| 4. has never voted before  | GO TO Q. 58 OR 61 |
| 5. refuses to answer       |                   |
- 

- 51 IF 50:1 (SAME PARTY)  
Have you voted for that party every time you have voted?
- |        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| 1. yes |             |
| 2. no  | GO TO Q. 53 |
| 3. DK  |             |
- 

- 52 IF 51:1 (ALWAYS SAME PARTY)  
Have you ever seriously considered to change party?
1. yes
  2. no
  3. DK
  4. refuses to answer
- 

- 53 IF 51:2 (NOT ALWAYS SAME PARTY)  
When did you change to the party you now vote for?
- point of time:.....
2. DK
  3. refuses to answer
- 

Q. 54-57 ONLY TO PARTY SWITCHERS AND R:S IN DOUBT

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- 54 IF 50:2 OR 50:3 (PARTY SWITCHERS AND R:S IN DOUBT)  
Could you tell me when you seriously started to consider to change party? Was it now, before the election or was it earlier?
1. now, before the election
  2. earlier  
other answer noted:.....
  4. DK
  5. refuses to answer
-

---

55 IF 50:2 OR 50:3 (PARTY SWITCHERS OR R:S IN DOUBT)

Is there anyone that you know well, for example if your family or among your friends, who has changed opinion the same way as you since 1954?

IF YES, FOLLOW-UP QUESTION: Is it someone in your family or another friend that you are thinking of?

1. knows nobody who has changed opinion
2. someone in own family has changed opinion
3. some other friend has changed opinion
4. knows someone who has changed opinion, refuses to answer FOLLOW-UP QUESTION
5. DK or refuses to answer

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56 IF 55:1 OR 55:5 (KNOWS NOBODY WHO HAS CHANGED OPINION IN THE SAME WAY OR DK.)

Do you yourself feel that that it is someone in your family or among friends who has influenced you to start thinking about changing party?

IF YES, FOLLOW-UP QUESTION: Is it someone in your family or among other friends that you are thinking of?

1. nobody has influenced
2. someone in own family has influenced
3. someone among other friends has influenced
4. someone has influenced, refuses to answer FOLLOW-UP QUESTION
5. DK or refuses to answer

---

57 IF 50:2 OR 50:3 (PARTY SWITCHERS OR R:S IN DOUBT)

Which party have you voted for before?

1. Conservatives
2. Agrarian Party
3. People's Party
4. Social Democrats
5. Communists
6. refuses to answer

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Q. 58-60 ONLY TO VOTERS BORN 1933 OR LATER

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58 TO THE YOUNGEST VOTERS

Do you feel it has been difficult to decide which party to vote for?

1. yes, difficult to decide.
  2. no, not difficult
  - other answer noted:.....
  4. DK
-

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59 TO THE YOUNGEST VOTERS WHO HAVE DECIDED PARTY (49:1)

Did you decide recently, just before this election, which party you like best or did you have your political opinion ready before that?

1. decided before this election
  2. decided earlier  
other answer noted:.....
  4. DK
  5. refuses to answer
- 

60 TO THE YOUNGEST VOTERS

Do you yourself think that the opinions in your home or opinions among other friends have been most important for your own opinion about the parties?

1. home
  2. other friends
  3. both  
other answer noted:.....
  5. DK
- 

61 As you know, there has been a lot of discussion about the integrity of the individual in relation to public officers and public institutions in this country. Do you feel that the integrity of the individual are satisfactory, not quite satisfactory or not at all satisfactory?

1. satisfactory
  2. not quite satisfactory
  3. not at all satisfactory  
other answer noted:.....
  4. no opinion
- 

62 In an election campaign like this, the parties will of course want to win all voters. Do you yourself believe that most of the parties and their leaders to the best of their ability try to keep promises after the election is over?

FOLLOW-UP QUESTION: If R. says "Some of the parties do not keep their promises". Interviewer asks: Which party or parties do not keep their promises?

1. yes, the parties keep their promises

some parties do not keep their promises, note which parties:  
.....

3. no, the parties do not keep their promises  
other answer noted:.....
  5. no opinion
-

---

63 I would now like to ask a few questions about what you think of the parties. But I would first like to remind you that all answers are anonymous. Nobody may investigate the names of those who have answered in this survey.

Which of the parties do you like best?

- 1. Conservatives
- 2. Agrarian Party
- 3. People's Party
- 4. Social Democrats
- 5. Communists
- 6. hesitant among several parties GO TO Q. 67
- 7. does not sympathize with any party GO TO Q. 67
- 8. refuses to answer

---

64 IF 63:1-5 (R. HAS MENTIONED SOME PARTY)

Which of the parties do you like second best?

- 1. Conservatives
- 2. Agrarian Party
- 3. People's Party
- 4. Social Democrats
- 5. Communists
- 6. DK
- 7. refuses to answer

---

65 IF 63:1-5

What makes you like ... (interviewer says name of party R. likes best) best?

Answer noted:

.....

.....

.....

---

66

IF 63:1-5

What is it that you do not like about ... (Interviewer says name of party given by R. as second best)?

Answer noted:

.....  
.....

FOLLOW-UP QUESTION I: Could you mention something you dislike about...

Answer noted:

.....  
.....

IF NEEDED, FOLLOW-UP QUESTION II: Could you mention something you dislike about...

Answer noted:

.....  
.....

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS I-II asked so that R. gets the opportunity to criticize at least the following 2 parties: *Conservatives* the People's and Agrarian Parties, *People's Party supporters* the Conservatives and Social Democrats, *Agrarian Party supporters* the Conservatives and the People's Party, *Social Democrats* the People's Party and the Communists, *Communists* the Social Democrats and the People's Party.

67

IF 63:6 (HESITANT ABOUT WHICH PARTY IS BEST)

Between which parties are you hesitating, that is, which parties could you envisage voting for?

answer noted:.....

2. refuses to answer

68

IF 63:6 (HESITANT ABOUT WHICH PARTY IS BEST)

Could you mention something you dislike about the party you have voted for before?

yes, answer noted:.....

2. no

3. has never voted before

---

69 Has your father usually voted for the same party as you intend to vote for this year?

- 1. yes, same party
- 2. no, other party
- 3. DK

other answer noted:.....

---

70 IF 69:2 (FATHER VOTED FOR OTHER PARTY)

Which party has he usually voted for?

- 1. Conservatives
- 2. Agrarian Party
- 3. People's Party
- 4. Social Democrats
- 5. Communists
- 6. DK

other answer noted:.....

---

71 Are you a member of a political party or political youth organisation?

- 1. yes
- 2. no
- 3. refuses to answer

---

72 IF 71:1 (MEMBERS OF SOME PARTY)

Do you consider yourself as one of the active members of your organisation?

- 1. yes, active
- 2. no, not active

other answer noted:.....

- 4. DK
- 5. refuses to answer

---

73 Have you lived in this city (municipality) all the time since 1945?

- 1. yes, all the time since 1945

no, moved here in the year:.....

- 3. refuses to answer

---

74 Have you moved within the city (municipality) since 1954?

- 1. yes, has moved
  - 2. no, has not moved
  - 3. refuses to answer
-



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74A Have you any education other than basic school education (*Sw. 'folkskola'; 7 years*)  
(Which?)

yes, education above basic school:.....  
2. no

---

74B Are you

1. married
  2. single
  3. widowed
  4. divorced
- 

74C What is your occupation?

occupation:.....  
2. not working

---

75 TO MARRIED WOMEN

What is your husband's occupation?

occupation noted:.....

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76 TO ALL RESPONDENTS EXCEPT FARMERS

Are you (your husband) an enterpriser, a self-employed professional, a  
salaried employee or a worker?

For interviewer: Married women only asked about husband.

1. enterpriser or self-employed professional
  2. salaried employee
  3. worker
  - other answer noted:.....
  5. refuses to answer
- 

77 What is (was) the occupation of your father?

occupation noted:.....  
2. DK  
3. refuses to answer

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TO ALL RESPONDENTS EXCEPT FARMERS AND THEIR FAMILY  
MEMBERS

78 Do you rent your home or do you own the house where you live?  
For interviewer: Flat in cooperatively owned house to be regarded as rented.

1. rents home
  2. owns house
  3. refuses to answer
-

79

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And so to the the last question. It concerns the party leaders. Which of the opinions on this card do you thinks is most appropriate for the leader of the party that you intend to vote for?

For interviewer: Show R. card with opinions about the party leaders; if needed, read out all opinions to R.

1. It is due to the party leader being so remarkably comptetent and reassuring that the party gets many votes. Without him, the party would be weaker.
2. The party leader is no doubt competent, and he is the one in the party most suitable for the job. But votes are not attracted to the party by him as a person.
3. There are probably others in the party who could do the job as party leader just as well as the current one.
4. There are probably others in the party who would be a better party leader than the current one.

other answer noted:.....

.....

6. DK

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### INTERVIEW DATA

- 1.           Address change within community  
          Moved from community. New address.....
  
- 3.           Address unknown  
          Unreachable for other reasons. Which?.....

Sought without interview taking place

date / time..... date / time..... date / time.....  
 date / time..... date / time..... date / time.....

Did the complete interview take place alone with R.?

1. yes

IF no: describe interview situation

.....  
 .....

Interview was allowed:

- 1. without persuasion
- 2. after some persuasion
- 3. only after much persuasion
- not allowed. Why?.....

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Code						
Punch						
Check						

Area no;..... R. no:.....

Name of interviewer:.....