

Survey of Communal Elections 1966

Questionnaire

1. Have you always lived in ... (Name of commune)?
2. When did you move to ... (Name of commune)?
Approximate year ...
3. Have you previously lived / been registered for census purpose / in a rural area, a small town, or in a city?
(If "city")
Did you at that time live in Stockholm, Göteborg or Malmö, or in some other city?
(Multiple entries should be made if R (the respondent) has lived in several places, provided they were not of the same category. See instructions.)
4. What would your attitude be towards moving to another commune if you were there provided with the same kind of housing and the same chances of making a living as you now have? Would you prefer to stay here, would you rather live in another commune, or doesn't it make any difference?
5. A (If 4 "I would prefer to stay here".)
Is it very important to you that you stay here, or is it not particularly important?
5. B (If 4 "I would rather live in another commune".)
Would you very much like to move to another commune, or is it not particularly important?
6. If you had to move, would you prefer to move to a place nearby or would you prefer to move to another part of the country, or doesn't it make any difference to you?
7. If you were to move would you prefer to move to a rural area, to a small town or to a city?
(If "city")
Do you mean Stockholm, Göteborg or Malmö, or some other city?

8. A There are, of course, different reasons why one likes or dislikes a place. What do you think is particularly good about (Name of commune)?
(If R gives an indefinite answer such as, "It's pleasant here", try to ascertain by additional questions what it is he finds pleasant.)
8. B What do you not like about (Name of commune)?
10. As you probably know, ... (Name of commune) has been combined with some other communes to form a so-called block of communes, which will eventually become one large commune. Will you please name the communes which together make up this block?
11. Do you know which one will be the administrative center, that is to say, the central commune in this block of communes?
12. A What do you think such a combining of communes will mean to the inhabitants of ... (Name of Commune)? Generally speaking, will things get better or worse, or do you think there will be no difference?
12. B Do you have a definite opinion about this, or are you somewhat doubtful?
13. A What do you think such a combining of communes will mean to the inhabitants of the other communes? Generally speaking, will things get better or worse, or do you think there will be no difference?
13. B Do you have a definite opinion about this or are you somewhat doubtful?
14. A What do you think such a combining of communes will mean to the inhabitants of the central commune? Generally speaking, will things get better or worse, or do you think there will be no difference?
14. B Do you have a definite opinion about this or are you somewhat doubtful?
15. A combining of communes will mean that fewer persons from your commune as well as from the other communes will get communal offices. Do you think this would be a serious drawback, or only to a degree, or not a drawback at all?
16. What do you think the combining of communes will mean as regards communal taxes? Do you think they will increase, decrease, or remain unchanged?
17. A In the communal council of the combined communes there will be representatives from the various parts of the present block of communes. Do you think that one or more of the political parties will become stronger in the new communal council than they are in the present council here in ...
(Name of commune)
(If "yes" which?)

17. B Do you think that one or more of the parties will be weaker in the new communal council?

18. Are you familiar with the attitude which the members of the communal council here in ... (Name of commune) had towards the block of communes? Were they for or against it, or were they of different opinions?

20. Certain things are decided by the State, others by the commune. I should like to ask you if your commune has the legal right to decide on the following issues, or if a State authority must make the decision?

(Show question card 1)

State Commune Don't know Authority

- a. Decision to raise the rent subsidies for pensioners.
- b. Decision to employ more policemen
- c. Decision to introduce free school books for the pupils use
- d. Decision to open a new post office
- e. Decision to build a new home for the aged
- f. Decision to raise the communal taxes.

Other answers ...

21. Do you recall what the communal taxes are here in ... (Name of commune)

22. (Show question card 2)

On this card are shown certain things for which the communes are responsible. Please indicate for each and every one of them whether you feel that it is urgent that your commune does more than it is doing at present; that, generally speaking, things are satisfactory at present; that the communes efforts should be diminished, or that you have no opinion about it.

Urgent that they do more Satisfactory at present Can be diminished No opinion

- a. Land purchase and planning
- b. Availability of housing
- c. Employment opportunities
- d. Roads, streets and traffic
- e. Water and sewage
- f. Schools
- g. Nurseries and kindergartens
- h. Help in the home for families with children, and pensioners
- i. Homes for the aged, housing for pensioners and rent subsidies

22. k. Social assistance
1. Support to sports and other recreations
- m. Libraries and other cultural activities
23. The contributions made by the communes to various areas within the community do, as a rule, affect the communal taxes. Which of the following standpoints do you think applies best to ... (Name of commune)?
(Show question card 3)
1. There is so much to be done in this commune that the commune ought to increase its contributions, even though it would mean higher communal taxes.
 2. The communal taxes are on the whole, satisfactory in relation to the needs of the commune.
 3. It ought to be possible to decrease the contributions so as to lower the communal taxes.
 0. Don't know/will not answer
- Other answer ...
24. A In the face of this autumn's communal elections, have the political parties brought forth anything which concerns this commune?
(If "yes")
Which issue(s) has/have been taken up?
(Follow-up question)
Has/have any additional issue(s) been taken up?
(Repeat follow-up question until R runs out of answers)
24. B (For each item R mentions:)
Which party or parties took up the issue?
25. Is there anything in ... (Name of commune) which you feel that the parties ought to have paid more attention to?
26. A In your opinion, has one or more of the parties here in ... (Name of commune) made a particularly good contribution to the work of the commune?
26. B (If "yes")
Can you name some issue here in the commune to which ... (Name of party) has made a good contribution?
27. A Are there one or more parties here in ... (Name of commune) which you feel have pursued a wrong policy.

27. B (If "yes". For each party R mentions:)

Can you name one or more issues here in the commune in which (Name of Party) has pursued a wrong policy.

28. We have here discussed different communal problems. I should now like to know how you feel about the way the commune/city has been run; generally which of the answers on this card do you think corresponds best with your opinion?

(Show question card 4)

1. Very well
2. Rather well
3. Neither particularly well nor badly
4. Rather badly
5. Very badly
0. No opinion

Other answer ...

29. A Can you name some people active in communal affairs whom you feel are the real readers here in ... (Name of Commune)

(If "yes", ask the following question for each name he/she gives)

Can you name the party he/she represents?

(For each name mentioned, the following questions apply:)

How do you feel that ... (Name of person) attends to his/her duties here in the commune? Do you feel he/she performs them very well, rather well, or not well; or have you no opinion about it?

29. B How great do you think the opportunities are for the citizens of ... (Name of commune) to present their wishes about communal matters to those active in communal affairs, and have them considered? Which of the answers on this card corresponds best with your opinion?

(Show question card 5)

1. Very great opportunities
2. Rather great opportunities
3. Not particularly great opportunities
4. Hardly any opportunities at all
0. Don't know/don't want to answer

Other answer ...

30. I should now like to ask some questions about newspaper reading. How interested are you in reading news which concerns communal activities in your commune? Are you very interested, rather interested or not interested at all.

31. Which newspaper do you usually read?

(For each paper named by R the following question is put:)

Do you or someone in your family subscribe to ... (Name of paper)?

(Follow-up question)

Can you state the party which ... (Name of paper) usually supports?

Note: Put down the newspapers in the same order as R mentions them.

32. A Do you think that ... (Name of paper) gives enough coverage to communal activities here in ... (Name of commune)
32. B Do you have confidence in what ... (Name of paper) writes about communal activities here in ... (Name of commune)?
33. How often do you usually read political editorials? Which of the following answers do you feel applies to you?
(Show answer card 6)
1. Never
 2. Seldom
 3. Often
 4. Every day
- Other answer
38. A How often does discussion about communal questions occur among those fellow workers/colleagues with whom you associate most at your place of work? Does it happen often, only once in awhile, or not at all?
38. B Can you recall any communal questions which have been discussed at your place at work?
39. A How often do you discuss communal questions with your family? Does it happen often, only once in awhile, or not at all?
39. B Can you mention any communal question which you have discussed with your family?

40. A How often do you discuss communal questions among your friends and acquaintances? Does it happen often, only once in awhile, or not at all?
40. B Can you recall any communal questions / which have been discussed by your friends and acquaintances?
50. How interested are you in politics? Are you very interested, rather interested, or not particularly interested, or not at all interested?
51. If you were to compare communal politics with national politics - that which concerns the Government and Parliament - which do you find most interesting? Which of the answers on this card corresponds best with your opinion?
1. Communal politics are much more interesting than national politics
 2. Communal politics are somewhat more interesting than " - " -
 3. Communal politics are as interesting as "
 4. National politics are somewhat more interesting than communal politics
 5. National politics are much more interesting than communal politics
 6. R is not interested in either communal or national politics
 0. Don't know
52. Can you name the party which got the most votes in the election to the communal council here in ... (Name of commune)?
53. Sometimes the "Bourgeois" parties are mentioned together: The Conservatives, the Center Party and the Liberals. In some communes, certain communal parties are also called "Bourgeois". Can you state which party(ies) got the most votes in the communal election here in ... (Name of commune)? Was it the "Bourgeois" parties together or was it the Social Democrats, perhaps together with the Communists?
54. The various communal activities are usually distributed among a number of different councils and boards. Can you name a few of these councils and boards in your commune?
55. Do you know who elects representatives to the First Chamber of the Parliament?
56. Do you know an important duty which the county councils perform?
57. Do you know which county (Name of commune) belongs to?
58. Can you name one or more of those who were candidates in the election to your county council and which party he/she represented?

59. A Can you name one or more of those who were candidates in the election to the communal councils here in ... (Name of commune) this year? I shall start by asking about the candidates of the Conservative Party, the Center Party, the Liberal Party, the Social Democratic Party and the Communist Party.
59. B Did any other party have candidates in this commune?
(If "yes")
Can you name any of the candidates of ... (Name of party)?
60. (If R named one candidate.)
Do you have a great deal of confidence in ... (Name of person mentioned by R;) or don't you have any confidence in him/her at all; or are you unable to give such a definite opinion?
61. A (If R named more than one candidate)
Do you have a great deal of confidence in any of the persons you named?
(If "yes") Which of them?
61. B Among the persons you named, are there any for whom you feel you have no confidence at all?
(If "yes") Which of them?
62. Are the members of the communal council always in agreement on communal issues, or does it happen that they disagree?
1. Agree
2. Sometimes disagree
0. Don't know/don't wish to answer
63. (If 62 "Sometimes disagree")
Are they often in disagreement, or does it happen infrequently?
64. (If 62 "Agree")
Do you feel that they are altogether too concerned about reaching agreement, or do you feel that it is satisfactory as it is?
65. Do you feel that they are altogether too concerned about reaching agreement, or are they not desirous enough, or do you feel that it is satisfactory as it is?
66. (If 63 "Often disagree".)
Do you feel that they ought to be more concerned about reaching agreement, or do you feel it is satisfactory as it is?
67. A Assuming that the communal council was planning to build a street/road where you would be severely disturbed by traffic noise, to whom or where would you turn to get a change made?

67. B Do you think you would have any possibilities of affecting the decision? Which of the answers on the card corresponds best with your opinion?
1. Very large possibilities
 2. Rather large possibilities
 3. Not particularly large possibilities
 4. Hardly any possibilities at all
68. A Development within the communes has led to more and more tasks being performed by employed civil servants rather than elected officers as before. Do you think this development is a disadvantage or an advantage, or don't you think it is of great importance?
68. B Do you have a decided opinion on this or are you somewhat doubtful?
68. C Certain communes have given full-time employment to elected officers to perform communal duties. Do you think this is a suitable or unsuitable state of affairs, or don't you have an opinion about it?
69. A Are you now holding or have you held an office of trust here in ... (Name of commune)?
69. B If you were asked to accept such a communal assignment, would you consider taking it?
70. Are you personally acquainted with any of the council and board members here in ... (Name of commune), or don't you know any of them?
71. I should now like to ask a more general question. Assume that the State would take over and perform some of the duties which your commune now performs: do you think it would be to the disadvantage of the inhabitants of ... (Name of commune) or do you think it would be to their advantage, or wouldn't it make any difference?
71. B Do you have a decided opinion on this or are you somewhat doubtful?
71. C What advantages do you think would follow if the State were to take over some of the tasks of the commune?
71. D What disadvantages do you think would follow if the State were to take over some of the tasks of the commune.
72. Now I would like to ask a few questions about the recent election. In this year's campaign land questions have been discussed, among other things. Some feel that the communes ought to have options on land purchase, while others feel that this cannot be permitted. What do you feel about this?
72. B Do you know which party(ies) has/have clearly opposed communal land options?

73. A Some feel that communal and national elections ought to be completely separated. Others want a combining of the two, and feel that representatives to Parliament, or at least some of them, ought to be elected at the same time as members of communal councils. What do you feel about this?
73. B Do you know which party(ies) has/have clearly spoken for combining communal and national elections?
74. A In this year's election, various forms of co-operation between the Non Socialist parties appeared. What, in general, is your attitude towards Non-socialist co-operation? Do you think co-operation is desirable or not, or doesn't it matter as far as you are concerned?
74. B Do you prefer co-operation between the Center Party and the Liberal Party to co-operation between all three Non-socialist parties?
75. A Now I should like to ask a few questions about election programs on radio and T.V. On September 16, the party leaders met in a debate called "Upp till val". Did you listen to this debate?
75. B The political parties presented their standpoints on various issues in a series of radio programs called "Fritt Fram". The programs were sent in the mornings. Did you listen to any of these programs?
75. C A series of programs called "Duellen" was sent on the radio in the afternoons and evenings. On these programs, the different parties met in pairs to debate. Did you listen to any of them?
75. D T.V. also had a series of programs called "Fritt Fram" in which the parties were allowed to put forth their viewpoints. These programs were sent in connection with the news program "Aktuellt". Did you listen to any of these programs?
75. E In a series of programs called "Utfrågningen" the different party leaders were interviewed on T.V. Did you listen to any of "Utfrågningarna"?
75. F Besides the debate between the party leaders, T.V. sent two additional debates: one on August 22 and the other on September 5. Did you listen to any of these?
75. G In many places in Sweden, people have been able to follow debates on Program 2, in which politicians from their own commune or county have participated. Did you listen to any of these local election debates?
76. Before the election, the parties distributed pamphlets and other printed matter to the voters. Did you read any of them before the election this year?
(if "yes"). From which party(ies) were the pamphlets you read?

77. Did you attend any of the meetings arranged by the parties before the election this year?
(If "yes"). Which party(ies) had arranged the meetings you attended?
80. A How interested are you in the outcome of the recent election here in (Name of commune)? Are you very interested, rather interested, not particularly interested or not at all interested?
80. B Are you more interested in the outcome of the election in the whole nation or are you less interested in it?
81. Now I'd like to ask about your personal attitude towards the political parties in this country. Do you think of yourself as a Liberal, a Social Democrat, a Conservative or as a supporter of some other party, or have you no such attitude towards a political party?
1. Conservative Party
 2. Center "
 3. Liberal "
 4. Social Democratic Party
 5. Communist "
 6. Christian " "
 7. Supporter of another party (Name which).
 8. " " " " , but not willing to name which.
 9. No R has no such attitude towards any party.
 0. Don't wish to answer.
Other answer.
82. Are you a firmly convinced supporter of (Name of party R. gave in question 81), or are you not so firmly convinced?
83. (If 81 "Supporter of other party, but not willing to name which")
Are you a firmly convinced supporter of the party you are thinking about or are you not so firmly convinced?
84. (If 81 "No, R has no such attitude towards any party".)
Do you think of yourself as closer to one party than to the others?
(If "yes") Which party?
1. Conservative Party
 2. Center "
 3. Liberal "
 4. Social Democratic Party
 5. Communist "
 6. Christian Democratic Party
 7. Another party (Name which)
 8. Yes, but R refuses to name which party.
 9. No, R does not feel closer to any one party.
 0. Don't wish to answer.
Other answer
85. Which of the parties do you like the second best?
1. Conservative Party
 2. Center "
 3. Liberal "
 4. Social Democratic Party

85. 5. Communist Party
6. Christian Democratic Party
7. Another party (Name which)
8. R has no preference.
9. Doesn't know / Don't wish to answer.
Other answer,
86. A Are you a member of a political party or some other political association?
(If appropriate give examples of youth or womens organizations.)
(If "yes")
Yes. Member of the following party/association ..
86. B Have you at any time during the last year attended a party meeting where they discussed communal issues?
(If "yes") The following issues were discussed:
87. Have you attended any party meetings or participated in any party election this year, of which the purpose was to decide which names were to appear on the ballot here in (Name of commune).
88. A I would also like to have your name, other associations and organizations, including trade unions, which you belong to.
(Follow-up question)
Are you a member of any other organizations?
88. B Has it ever occurred that issues of communal politics have been discussed in any of these associations?
(If "yes") Can you name the subject of the discussion?
(For each answer R gives put the following follow-up question:)
In which association did this discussion occur?
91. Did you vote in this year's election?
92. (If 91 "yes")
When did you decide which party you would vote for? Was it during the week before the election, was it earlier in the fall or summer, or have you known for a longer period of time how you were going to vote?
93. (If 91 "yes")
Which party did you vote for in the communal election this year?
1. Conservotive Party
2. Center "
3. Liberal "
4. Social Democratic Party
5. Communist "
6. Christian Democratic Party
7. Another Party (Name which)
8. Don't remember
9. Don't wish to answer.

94. (If 91 "yes")

Which party did you vote for in the county election which was held at the same time?

1. Conservative Party
2. Center "
3. Liberal "
4. Social Democratic Party
5. Communist "
6. Christian Democratic Party
7. Another Party (name which)
8. Didn't vote
- X. Don't remember
0. Don't wish to answer

95. I would now like to put a few questions about earlier elections. Which party did you vote for in the 1964 national election?

1. Conservative Party
2. Center "
3. Liberal "
4. Social Democratic Party
5. Communist "
6. Christian Democratic Party
7. Another Party (name which)
8. Didn't vote
- X. Don't remember
0. Don't wish to answer

96. Which party did you vote for in the 1962 communal election?

1. Conservative Party
2. Center "
3. Liberal "
4. Social Democratic Party
5. Communist "
6. Another Party (name which)
7. Didn't vote.
8. Don't remember
9. Don't wish to answer
- Other answer

97. At the same time county elections were held save for Stockholm, Göteborg, Malmö and Norrköping. For which party did you vote then?

1. Conservative Party
2. Center "
3. Liberal "
4. Social Democratic Party
5. Communist "
6. Another Party (name which)
7. Lived 1962 in Stockholm, Göteborg, Malmö or Norrköping.
8. Didn't vote
9. Don't remember
0. Don't wish to answer
- Other answer

(If R has refused to answer questions 93, 94, 95, 96 and 97 hand him a voter registration card. Note below if you gave R such a card and also if he filled it out and whether you or he were to post it)

98. Have you always voted for the same party?

99. Have you ever considered voting for another party in the communal election than that which you referred, at the same time, for its national policy?
100. Have you any training apart from elementary school?
(If "yes")
What is your education?
101. A What is your occupation?
101. B (If "No occupation".)
Have you previously had an occupation?
101. C Do you work here in (Name of commune or in another commune?
(If R works in another commune, ask following follow-up question:)
Where do you work?
103. A What is/was your husband's occupation?
103. B Does/did he work in (Name of commune) or in some other commune.
(If husband of R works/worked in another commune ask the following follow-up question:)
Where does/did he work?

(If living in a city turn to 105.)
104. When you do a great deal of shopping do you do it here or in another place? If so, where do you go?
105. Have you any children living at home under the age of 21?
(If "yes") How old are they?