

Department of Social Research  
Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute  
Withington  
Manchester 20

CAN WE MEET IN THE NORTH?

In the two years that I have been a member of Radical Statistics, I've found it impossible to attend more than one official meeting. The reason, of course, is that London is a long (and expensive) distance from Manchester. With around fifty other members (ex-members?) in the same situation, it seemed worthwhile to test the interest, if any, in a *Northern sub-group* of Radical Statistics amongst those who would find it more convenient and cheaper to get together in Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield or Leeds (or anywhere else north of the line between the Mersey and the Humber). Of fifty people contacted since the end of April, twenty have already replied, all more or less in favour of the idea. Some are even prepared to help in the organisation. Replies are still coming in, yet the response so far makes me enthusiastic enough to think of putting together one or two meetings. Alison Macfarlane has suggested a get-together in Leeds during the *Social Science and Medicine* conference (13-15 September) so northerners might like to keep these dates in mind.

My enquiries have elicited only one difference of opinion, and that concerns the rationale and format of such meetings. Do we fix a regular schedule, or call meetings for specific discussions as and when the interest arises? My own feeling is that a general get-together twice a year would be useful if only to reinforce contacts and to continue a discussion that, judging by the most recent Radical Statistics A.G.M., has a long way to go. I would appreciate many more opinions on this matter.

Best Wishes



Dave Haran

P.S. My apologies to all residents of the Newcastle/N.E. area that my enquiry did not cover them personally for financial reasons.

A copy of the questionnaire is printed overleaf.

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so. Thank you.

5. My areas of interest related to Rad. Stats. are

6. Comments, etc.(please continue on a separate sheet).