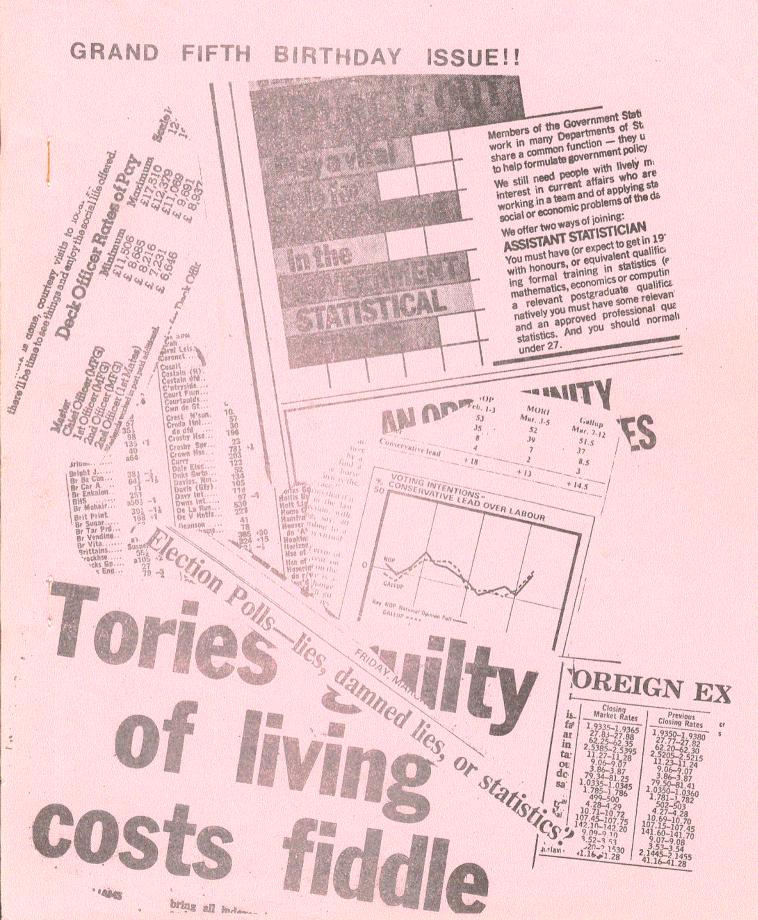
RSG ARCHIVE NO. 1.16

# radical statistics 16



# RADICAL STATISTICS 16

Please address all correspondence to: The Editor, Radical Statistics, 9 Poland Street, London.

# CONTENTS

Review of "Demystifying Social Statistics" - Dougal Hutchison	4
Criminal Statistics and female crime: a critique - Monica Walker	7
Book Section	8
Points from your letters	10
"What did you do during the cuts, Dad"- Dave Haran	11
SUPERSTAT!	ì 2
Short items and small ad	13
Firebrigade news - Ian Miles	15
Jury Vetting; Housing - Dave Webster	16
Projections - Stephen Shenfield	17
Applied numeracy and introductory statistics courses - Ludi Simpson	19
Radstats in the context of the Radical Science movement - Colin Thunhurst	21
Student radical statistician to professional radical statistician? - Heather Booth	27
The rise, decline and future of the amazing health group - Alison Macfarlane	29
Experiences with a science and society course for mathematics students - Tom Snijders	31

This issue was edited by John Bibby. The editor of RSN 17 will be Stephen Shenfield. As he says "It's just a matter of getting the papers in order and sending them off for copying, isn't it?" Oh yes, Mr. Government Statistician, but first you have to get the papers (as Mrs. Beeton might have said about the hare!). So please send him your contribution at least by the end of the year.

His address: Stephen Shenfield,
Block 2, Unit 12,
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Pritchatts Road,
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### FORTHCOMING SEMINARS

Radical statistics holds regular meetings of interest to workers in statistics and in social and medical research. These are held on the same day as RSS Social Statistics Section Meetings. At the next meeting, on Tuesday 20th November, 1979, the topic will be Perinatal Statistics. (The session will include a preview of the tape produced with the Local Radio Workshop). The starting time will be 6.30 p.m. at the BSSRS, 9 Poland Street, London. W.1. (Ring the bell).

### MISCELLANEOUS

### Postscript to RSN 15

The reference to Nicos Mouzelis in footnote 13 of Martin Hammersley's article should have included "New Left Review 112, Nov-Dec, 1978" - 'just in case anyone wishes to follow it up', as Martin rather optimistically told me.

### Varna Conference, Bulgaria

A soft sell for Radstats at this conference netted three Hollanders and a Greek. Eastern Europeans remain singularly uninterested as usual. I wonder why? Maybe we are not disorganised enough.

### SMALL-AD FROM HEATHER

"Do we have ads in the newsletter?", asks Heather Booth. Well we do now, so here it is:

"Would anyone like to make better use than I of a set of journals of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A, B and C (Applied Statistics), 1973-1978. Excellent condition! Donations (to me, of cash) accepted. Tel: 01-828-4242 ext 28, or write H. Booth, 4 Rokeby House, Lamb's Conduit Street. WC1."

### Jury Vetting

Is anyone interested in helping NCCL to undertake a statistical analysis of the effects of jury vetting on the probability of obtaining a convicting by a 10:2 majority? It may be that vetting actually has very little effect, and therefore civil liberties are being sacrificed to no purpose. Anyone interested in this, please contact David Webster at 33 Leverton Street, NW5 (01-485-1044).

The whole question of selection of jurors may also be worth looking at from a statistical point of view.

## Tenants and paradigms

An article of interest to Radstats members appears in the Autumn 1979 issue of Housing and Planning Review.

"Obsolescence in council housing: are our ideas obsolete too?" David Webster argues that statistical measures of housing obsolescence are still modelled on conceptions derived from the problems now largely solved of pre-first World War private rented housing. As a result, the appalling housing and environmental conditions of much council housing have gone largely unnoticed by politicians and administrators - but not by tenants!

As DW says "The simple fact is that statisticians obtain the answers only to the questions they ask". Or as Thomas Kuhn would say, it is the paradigm that counts!

Copies of The Housing and Planning Review can be obtained from 45-55 Commercial Street, London, El 6BA (01-247-5732).