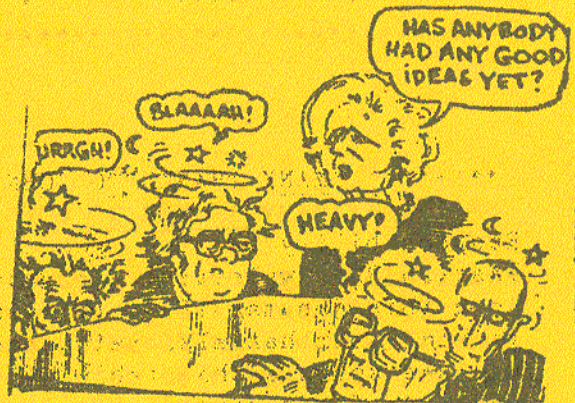


# RADICAL

# STATISTICS

N° 26 (How did it last that long)



Including Race Take Over Bid

Another A G M

..... and not much else



Guidelines for Editors and Contributors

The Radical Statistics Newsletter is produced three times a year in February, May and October.

Editors: consult with the Troika about publication one month before newsletter to appear. Copy to be typed on A4 paper.

Contributors: Articles to be sent to the Editor by the copy date on A4 paper, typed single-spaced with 1½ inch margins all round.

If you would like to edit the newsletter, please write to the Troika (Radical Statistics Group, c/o BSSRS, 9 Poland St, London W1V 3DG.)

\*\*\*\*\*  
MANY THANKS TO JOHN BIBBY\*\*\*\*\*

Responsibility for the production of most, if not all, of the last 25 RS newsletters has been taken by John Bibby. He has done this job magnificently and we are all extremely grateful to him. John has also maintained the computerised mailing list, and has shown a charitable leniency towards non-payers. This section of our readership will be especially sorry to see John hand over the task! Thanks for all you have done, John.

Troika

\*\*\*\*\*

APPEAL FOR HELP

We have not yet found a permanent replacement for the publication of the newsletter. Do you know of a place where we can get the newsletter reproduced and, if possible, mailed out? Any ideas gratefully received...send them to Heather Booth, RUER, St. Peter's College, Saltley, Birmingham B4 3TE.



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## Prolegomenon to an Editorial

Where have all the  
sub-groups gone  
Long time waiting  
When will we ever  
know

Of matters educational  
legal and nuclear

## SCIENCE FOR PEOPLE OFFERS

### NUKESPEAK-The Media and the Bomb

SFP the magazine which provides a socialist perspective on science, technology and medicine offers you a free copy of NUKESPEAK when you subscribe to SFP for one year (4 issues).

NUKESPEAK is the official language of nuclear war. It dehumanises and legitimises the arms race-and is often faithfully recorded in the Press, on Radio and Television. But have the media accepted this Cold War propaganda to the point where dissenting views are either excluded or trivialised?

NUKESPEAK, edited by Crispin Aubrey features articles by a number of authors who explain how the Press and the BBC tend to devalue the views of those who oppose nuclear weapons. Also included is an ABC of NUKESPEAK jargon.

Science for People will send you NUKESPEAK FREE with your first issue of SFP. Send only £4 to:

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AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM  
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After last year's successful venue in Sheffield we are returning to London for our AGM, with two central venues, the students' union of the University of London (ULU) and the National Children's Bureau. The Friday evening meeting is open to the general public and is on the subject of women in (or not in) statistics. Saturday's meetings are more concerned with statistics and the activities of the group. If you have never been to an AGM, why not come along to see for yourself and meet some fellow Rad-Statsters? See you there...details below.

**RSO Annual General Meeting: 18&19 March 1983**

**Friday 18 March 7.30pm**

ULU, Malst Street, London WC1 (room advertised)

**WOMEN - HIDDEN FROM STATISTICS**

Discussion introduced by Jean Ullman of the Equal Opportunities Commission (in a personal capacity)

**Saturday 19 March 10am-5pm**

National Children's Bureau, 8 Wakley Street, London EC1

**10.15 Cuts in Statistics and the Statistics of the Cuts**

**11.30 Third World Health Statistics**

**12.30 Lunch**

**1.30 Statistics and South Africa**

**2.15 Business Meeting**

**2.45 Group reports and discussion of activities:**

- Anti-Social Trends
- Education Group
- Health Group
- Labour Movement Epidemiology
- Race Group
- Nuclear Disarmament Group

**5.00 Close**

\*\*\*\*Anyone requiring a place to stay in London on Friday night should fill in the form on the back page. Anyone offering the same should fill in the form too.

\*\*\*\*An article 'Women in Government Statistics: Basic Concepts and Assumptions' by Muriel Nissell appeared in RS20. This and other articles appear in EOC Research Bulletin No 4, free from EOC.

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## RSG ADMINISTRATION: A PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE

At last year's AGM there seemed to be some reluctance on the part of those present to stand for membership of the Troika. Part of the problem seemed to be that people were unsure of what was involved, along with a reluctance to agree to do something which might take up too much of their time. The group's administrative system has now been explained (see RS24 p10); briefly, the Troika deals with membership and any other correspondence and generally coordinates activities. As from this issue of the newsletter, the Troika has also taken over responsibility for producing the newsletter and maintaining the mailing list.

Until now, each member of the Troika has done a four month stint covering all aspects of the group's administration. It is obvious to old-timers like me, however, that in changing hands so often our administration suffers from a lack of continuity. The administration of the group's activities is becoming more complex (but don't let me frighten you off) and no sooner has the new Troika member learned the ropes than it's time to pass the files on.

With a change in our newsletter production system (no, we haven't found a replacement system yet), it might also be a good idea to consider a change in our administrative system to allow for the work to be divided up into specific tasks managed for a year at a time or more by the same person. For example, the mailing list could more easily be maintained by the same person who collected the subscriptions (at present these tasks are split). With a new system of newsletter production we will need one person to deal with whoever we find to do this for us (as John Bibby dealt with the OU reprographics unit). It would be nice to have someone to coordinate publications (ISBN numbers, RS numbers, books in print, sales outlets). A longer term treasurer is becoming more necessary too.

The Steering Committee would still exist, and consist of those people who performed these various functions plus some 'ideas people', though the two could, of course, overlap.

This proposal, which does not cover all aspects of RSG administration, will be put forward for discussion at the Business Meeting of the AGM. Please give it some thought beforehand, and see RS20 (p38). Could you take on a part of the administration for a year or more? You don't have to live in London, nor do you necessarily have to go to the AGM to volunteer your help....just get in touch with the Troika. Do it NOW.

Heather Booth

RSG Spring Clean

As the current holder of the RSG files, I have an interest in keeping them tidy and compact. At present there are administrative and financial records - or rather, bits of paper - dating back to 1976. They have no value other than historical. I intend to throw out all pre-1980 records on March 17, 1983 unless I hear from anyone who has good reason to keep them.  
Heather Booth

The Demography of Radical Statisticians

It is a sad fact that the RSG membership is ageing at rather an alarming rate. The average age must now be well over thirty. Before anyone utters cries of ageism, let me declare that we welcome mature, middle-aged and elderly radical statisticians. What I am concerned about is the absence of younger radical statisticians, and the fact that we do nothing to make ourselves known to students. Anyone interested in helping with a publicity drive, road show, or whatever? Could you help in your area or workplace? Please get in touch with Heather Booth.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Please fill in this form and return by 9 March:

\_\_\_ I would like sleeping accommodation on Friday 18 March.

\_\_\_ I can offer sleeping accommodation on Friday 18 March for \_\_\_ people

\_\_\_ I would like a lift to London from \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I can offer a lift to London from \_\_\_\_\_

From: name.....

address.....

.....  
tel(home).....(work).....

Return to Heather Booth, RUER, St Peter's College, Birmingham B8 3TE.  
\*\*\*\*\*

WORKING GROUP ON STATISTICIANS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

At the 15th European Meeting of Statisticians in Palermo, Sicily, September 13-18, 1982, an independent working group on human rights was established. At an open meeting on September 18, attended by sixty-five conference participants, the aims were described and a resolution in support of Dr. Carlos Noriega, the missing Argentinian statistician, was passed by acclamation. The group will attempt to assist, by means specific to individual cases, statisticians suffering from oppression in any of its various forms. Support from the statistical community at large is requested not only to ensure quick recognition of new cases, but also to increase the pool of ideas for their solutions.

The group consists of:

J.M. BERNARDO (SPAIN)

H. CAUSSINUS (FRANCE)

A. GIOVAGNOLI (ITALY)

J. HIDALGO (SPAIN)

S. JOHANSEN (DENMARK)

A.F.S. MITCHELL (U.K.)

J.J.A. MOORE (THE NETHERLANDS)

I. POLI (ITALY)

A.E. RAPTERTY (IRE)

A.F.M. SMITH (U.K.)

R. VIERTL - (AUSTRIA)

B. VON DANH (SWEDEN)

H. ZEBLOUN (FRANCE)

Its secretary is Dr. ANN F.S. MITCHELL, DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, IMPERIAL COLLEGE, HUXLEY BUILDING, 180 QUEEN'S GATE, LONDON, SW7 2BZ, ENGLAND,

Telephone: 01-589-5111 ext. 3684;

Telex: 261503.