



J  
U  
L  
Y  
8  
4

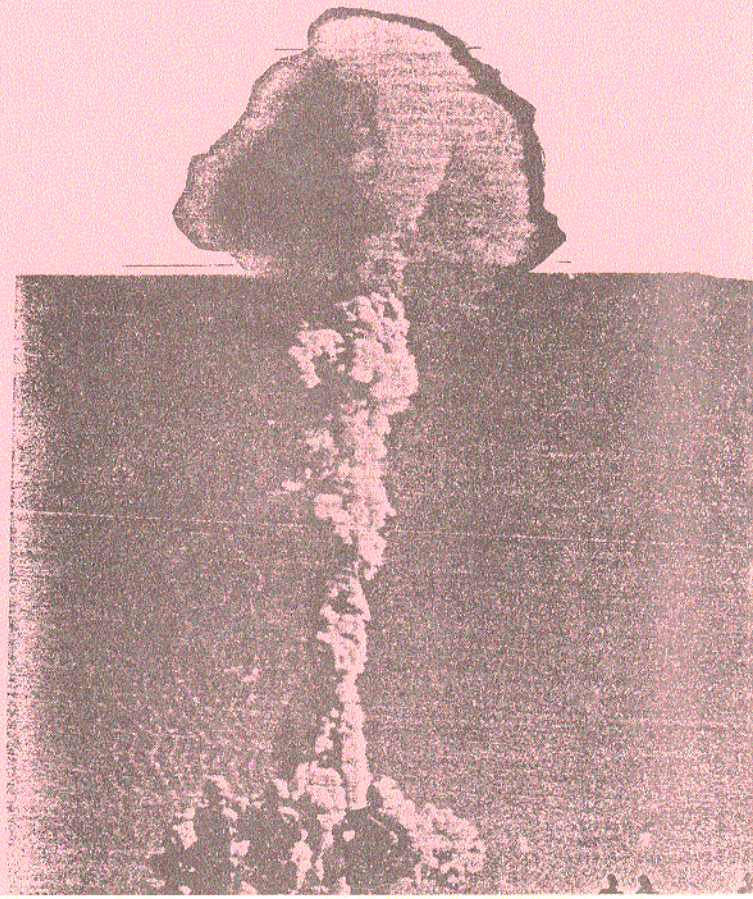
# RADICAL STATISTICS 30

new

slimmer and

fitter (?)

version



Most of the work of the Radical Statistics Group is done by its subgroups. All members are welcome to join in all subgroup activities, or to invite other members (via the newsletter) to start a new subgroup on any topic that interests them.

The subgroups currently active, and the persons to contact, are:

Education:	Ian Plewis University of London Institute of Education Thomas Coram Research Unit 41 Brunswick Square London WC1N 1AZ tel: 01-278 2424 x264(wk) 01-340 1047 (home)
Health:	Alison Macfarlane 40 Warwick Rd St Albans Herts tel: St Albans 52111
Nuclear Disarmament:	John Lintott 280 Dalston Lane London E8
Race:	Heather Booth 15 Castle Rd Hartshill Nuneaton Warks tel: Nuneaton 394501
Women in Statistics:	Jean Ullman 22 Kipling St Salford M7 9FF tel: 061-792 7413



The Radical Statistics Newsletter is available by subscription. Current rates are £3 per year for individuals and £5 for institutions and £1.50 for the unwaged. The newsletter is available from the Radical Statistics Group, c/o BSSRS, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG

**NEXT EDITOR:** John Bibby  
33 Haughshaw Road  
HALIFAX HX1 1AH

**COPY DATE:** 15th October 1984

#### Guidelines for Editors and Contributors

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

**Editors:** send the typed newsletter to Bob Peacock, one month before they want the newsletter to reach readers. Copy to be typed on A4 paper.

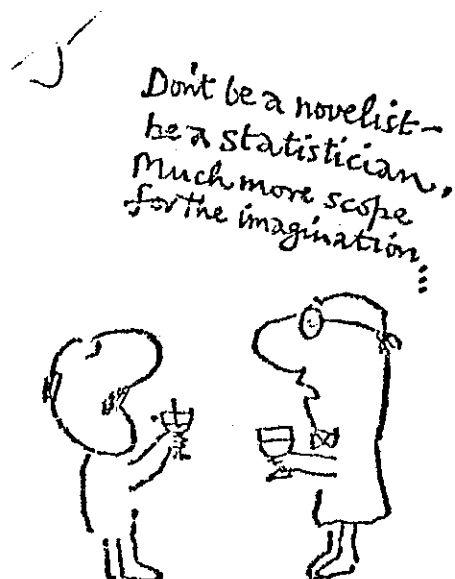
**Contributors:** send articles to the Editor by the copydate on A4 paper, typed single-spaced with 1½ inch margins all round. All members of RSG are invited to contribute to the newsletter - articles may vary from very short to quite long. Letters and reviews are also welcome.

**Addresses:** The Editor's address usually appears in the last newsletter, but articles can also be sent to The Editor, RSG, c/o BSSRS, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG.

Bob Peacock's address (for newsletter reproduction) is The Open University, 60 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7HF (031 226 3851).

## CONTENTS

EDITORIAL		2
<u>AGM</u>		
Business Meeting		4
Civil Servants and Rad Stats		5
Race and Crime Statistics	Dave Drew	6
<u>GROUP REPORTS</u>		
Race		8
Health		9
Education		10
<u>FEATURES</u>		
A Decision-Theoretic Analysis of the Nuclear Pre-emption Decision	Stephen Shenfield	12
Third World Health Statistics	Health Group	18
Do Statistics Influence Policy?		
Should Statistics Influence Policy?	Ray Thomas	24
Population in Paradise	Heather Booth	26
REVIEW	Heather Booth	28
LETTER		5



4

A.G.M. BUSINESS MEETING, MARCH 24, 1984

1. FINANCE: We have a balance of £620. Income from subscriptions last year amounted to £520.
2. BSSRS: We agreed to give a £40 donation as well as paying our annual subscription of £10. If BSSRS approaches us for more money it was agreed we could give a further £100. Any more than this will need further discussion by the Troika.
3. AFFILIATIONS: There was a proposal to affiliate to the Freedom of Information Campaign 1984 Group. Troika will check details and decide whether or not to join.
4. NEWSLETTER: Discussed having a 'Forthcoming Events' page where future meetings, AGM etc. could be listed.  
Have a standard page in each newsletter detailing sub-groups and saying they welcome new members.  
Decided to always decide on AGM date in time to publicise it in the autumn newsletter.
5. NEXT AGM: Date set for weekend of 23/24 February. Troika to discuss possibility of a 2 day AGM; Saturday- RS 10th birthday celebration, and public meeting; Sunday- business.  
Roy Carr-Hill volunteered to undertake a special mailing about the next AGM nearer the date.
6. DISTRIBUTION OF RS PUBLICATIONS: PDC owes RS £316, of which we are unlikely to get more than 20% back. We have put in a claim with the liquidators. We are pursuing the possibility of using XYZ distribution. Alison MacFarlane is going to let them know that we are interested in them distributing our publications.
7. NCCL: At the public meeting on the day before the AGM (at which a speaker from NCCL spoke) it was suggested that we had someone to liase with NCCL over various legal issues like the Data Protection Bill, Police Bill, Prevention of Terrorism Bill etc. Roy Carr-Hill volunteered to do this.
8. RECRUITMENT: We have a new RS leaflet, giving details of the group and what it does, publications etc. Troika is going to ask Science for People if they would include the leaflet in their next mailing.  
Various ideas were discussed for attracting new members and activists. Open meeting in the summer?
9. TROIKA: Many thanks to Heather Booth for her years of service on the Troika. Three new Troika members were appointed:

Bianca de Stavola (for the first 4 months) 01-388 4742 (h)  
John Bibby (for the second 4 months) 0422 43121 (h)  
Roy Carr-Hill (for the third 4 months) 0904 59861 x5751 (w)

Dave Drew volunteered to help out from Jan. 1985 if necessary. His nos. are 0742 57891 (h) and 0742 20911 x2397 (w).

Kath Moser will be available to answer queries and provide some continuity from last years Troika. 01-254 3150 (h) 01-253 4399 x4128 (w)

Civil Servants and Rad Stats

At the Rad Stats A.G.M. we discussed if we should have some sort of special membership for civil servants who don't want it to be known that they are members of R.S. . We would like to hear views of people who are currently civil servants, whether they experience any p̄ressure, and whether they would like any changes in R.S. membership procedures.

Please write to RSG, c/o 9 Poland Street London W1V 3DG

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*  
 \* EDITORS WANTED \*  
 \* For the Newsletter \*  
 \*  
 \* Contact the Troika \*  
 \*Addresses under AGM Business \*  
 \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

# Transcultural Psychiatry

# Racism & Mental Illness

EDITOR: Dr. AGGREY W. BURKE

---

30TH ANNIVERSARY DOUBLE ISSUE OF  
**The International Journal of Social Psychiatry**

EDITOR I/C: JOSHUA BIERER  
*M.D., F.R.C.Psych., Dip. Ind. Psych., D.R.F.R. Polit.*

---

*Published by: The Avenue Publishing Company, 140 Harley Street, London W1, U.K.*

**Proceedings of a Conference of the Transcultural Psychiatry Society** : available from Dr. A. Burke, Psychiatric Research Hut, Atkinson Morley's Hospital, Copse Hill, Wimbledon.  
Price £3.50

# THINKING OF GOING PRIVATE?

Going private is not as attractive as the ads would have us believe.

74 per cent of private hospitals don't have a resident doctor.

In nearly one case in ten, BUPA subscribers find the costs of their treatment are not fully covered by their insurance.

When Mrs Thatcher had her eye operation in a private hospital, vital equipment was borrowed from an NHS hospital.

Kenneth Clarke, the Health Minister, says he cannot see the point in going private.



COVER OF A FOUR PAGE COLOUR LEAFLET



NHS CONSULTANTS' ASSOCIATIONNHS UNLIMITEDTHINKING OF GOING PRIVATE?

A factual but readable and amusing leaflet which puts the arguments against private practice and joining one of the sickness insurance organisations has just been published by the NHS Consultants' Association and NHS Unlimited.

It is hoped that every trade union will circulate it to its members and that organisations such as the BBC and Councils, which have distributed BUPA and similar leaflets, will give staff an early opportunity to examine an authoritative statement of the opposing case.

ORDER FORMTHINKING OF GOING PRIVATE?

I/We wish to buy \_\_\_\_\_ copies of Thinking of Going Private? and enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment. (Cheques should be made payable to NHS Consultants' Association).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime 'phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

PRICES - which include postage

<u>No. of Copies</u>	<u>£.00</u>
10	1.00
100	6.00
1,000	50.00
10,000	450.00
100,000	3,000

Please complete and return to:

Dr. Paul Noone,  
39 Wykeham Hill,  
WEMBLEY, Middlesex

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

### Operations Research/Mathematical Statistician

Excellent opportunity for professional growth with a small, high quality internal consulting group in the CIA. Position involves the development of advanced operations research/statistical techniques and their application to a wide variety of intelligence problems--military, economic, political, scientific/technical. Applicants should be knowledgeable in sampling theory, econometric techniques, non-linear and integer optimization techniques and "impressionistic" multivariate techniques. Projects involve research at the state-of-the-art. Candidates should be US citizens, have a Ph.D in

operations research, statistics or related field (undergraduate degree in engineering a plus), zero to ten years experience, a working knowledge of at least one high level computer language and the ability to present ideas well in oral and written form for both technical and non-technical clients. Washington based post with some travel required. Salary range \$29,000-40,000 commensurate with training and experience. Forward resume, graduate transcript and samples of writing to: Personnel Representative, Department A, Room 821 (LR), P.O. Box 1925, Washington, D.C. 20013.

*Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.*