Research Topics about Missing Statistics Philip Bertrand

One of my greatest concerns is about the statistics we do not have. Those that are not available. Those suppressed. Those dark corners of public and private organisations and people's lives where the truth is concealed. Those statistics that are missing.

So in this article I shall ask awkward questions. Perhaps radical statisticians have the answers. Perhaps one of us can provide or suggest the research and analysis to elucidate them. Perhaps some of us will be inspired apply for a grants to seek to solve one or more of these problems.

SERIAL KILLER STATISTICS

How many serial killers are there who have not been found out yet? How many people are murdered without their bodies being found?

THOSE POISONOUS STATISTICS

With so many deadly substances now being manufactured, how many undiagnosed poisonings are there? Of wives, of husbands, of colleagues at work? How many rise to success within organisations because their colleagues fall inexplicably and unfortunately ill from surreptitious poisoning?

EXCISED HEALTH STATISTICS

Statistics on medical mistakes? Where are they? Who conceals them?

The dead do not talk

The medically injured are not told.

The costs are concealed.

Who is paying for medical mistakes?

Private health is run for profit.

The health of the patient is a secondary concern.

Can private medicine be trusted?

If you are injured by the medical profession their closed shop raises a barrier against you getting information - especially if it is private.

Dead patients don't sue, do they?

Who pays the bill for medical mistakes made by private health schemes?

Should public health schemes exclude privately treated patients from treatment?

Should the national health service and the social services claim back their costs of rectifying medical mistakes from private health insurance schemes?

Why don't they?

Do you think they should?

What proportion of the population thinks they should?

What statistical cost model shows that private health care schemes are of benefit to the entire nation?

Is the National Health Service subsidising private health care? Should costs be reclaimed from private health care schemes?

Over the last fifteen years there have been many changes in he National Health service. Some of them may have been beneficial. Many changes would have taken place under any Government. Have any benefits occurred which would not have occurred anyway?

THE CRAZY STATISTICS

Is the cost of providing community care for the mentally ill greater than the cost of care in mental hospitals?

Has the Government's policy in this matter shifted the cost of mental care away from the socially advantaged and onto the socially disadvantaged?

THE CRAZY MURDER STATISTICS

Some very nasty murders have been committed by ex-mental hospital patients released upon society by Government's policies. Ninety nine point nine recurring percent of ex-mental hospital patients (from the information currently available on my desk) are not violent and do not steal. Why does the press make all ex-mental hospital patients guilty by association of the crimes committed as a result of stupid Government policies? What proportion of crimes are committed by ex-mental hospital patients compared with those by the rest of society?

DEVILISHLY AWKWARD STATISTICS ABOUT:

FOOTBALL

Are football spectators more peaceful than the public at large? Is the crime rate amongst football spectators per million per hour less than that amongst the public out shopping on a Saturday afternoon? Should the police really be out policing the shoppers instead of attending football matches? Would policemen rather police a football match than police shoppers? What about police women?

WAR

What proportion of British soldiers policing Northern Ireland come from Wales? From Scotland? And from the north of England? Is the proportion from the south of England relatively less than the demographic proportion?

What proportion of members of parliament make private profit from inside knowledge and from influence of government policies? How does this vary with political affiliation? Is it treason?

ECONOMIC STATISTICS

We hear much of the economic success of our country. Many are doing very well at the expense of the multiple deprivation piled upon fifteen percent of the population. Business is profitable. But where are the profits going?

How many billions of pounds of profit made out of the British people are disappearing abroad and not being spent to benefit the British?

What proportion of profit is it?

There is no value in having a profitable British economy if that profit does not benefit the British.

FRAUDULENT STATISTICS

International financial fraud? How much is there? What is the conviction rate for international fraudsters?

Has the government some reason to not seek international legislation to stop and track down international financial thieves?

CONCLUSION

Every year these above mentioned statistics are needed for the UK and for the world.

But they are all missing.

Some of these missing statistics conceal corruption, fraud and murder.

As a radical statistician I consider that a civilised society should provide estimates with confidence intervals for these missing numbers.

And that these missing statistics be brought into the light of public scrutiny.