

RADICALSTATISTICS

#117 2017

Cover Design: Melanie Schöllhammer

NEW NORMAL

NEW

NORMAL

STANDS OUT IN

THE EXPERIENCE OF

HUMANS: POLARIZATION,

IDENTITY THEFT, INEQUALITY,

MALWARE, FAKE NEWS, RISING SEA

LEVELS, FOOD INSECURITY, RACIAL PROFILING,

PREDATORY LENDING, DEFORESTATION, SUPERBUGS,

POLLUTION, HATE CRIMES, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, INNUMERACY, TERRORISM,

...HUMAN TRAFFICKING, HOMELESSNESS, MASS SHOOTINGS, UNSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, BIOWARFARE...

Lawrence M. Lesser

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Radical Statistics Group - Who we are

The RSG was formed in 1975 by researchers and statisticians with a common concern about the political implications of their work and an awareness of the actual and potential misuse of statistics. The RSG is independent of any other organisation. Members are 'radical' in being committed to helping build a more free, democratic and egalitarian society. Our particular concerns are:

- The mystifying use of technical language to disguise social problems as technical ones
- The lack of control by the community over the aims of statistical investigations, the way these are conducted and the use of the information produced
- The power structures within which statistical and research workers are employed and which control the work and how it is used
- The fragmentation of social problems into specialist fields, obscuring connectedness

Website and Social Media

Visit radstats.org.uk for more information about our activities, including back issues of *Radical Statistics*, reports and announcements, and membership instructions (managed by Robin Rice: rrice@ymail.com). Twitter is @radicalstats, Radical Statistics on Facebook.

Discussion list

A lively exchange of views can be found at the RadStats e-mail open list. This can be accessed from the website or at: www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/radstats.html (list owner is Alison Macfarlane: A.J.Macfarlane@city.ac.uk).

How to subscribe

Radical Statistics is usually produced three times a year and is available from Radical Statistics, 27/2 Hillside Crescent, Edinburgh EH7 5EF. admin@radstats.org.uk

Annual rates are £25 (waged and overseas), £10 (student/low income), and £25 for Institutions, which can be invoiced.

How we are organised

The 'Troika', which co-ordinates and promotes the work of RSG helped by an administrator, is elected at each AGM. The editorship of *Radical Statistics* rotates. Sub-groups are open to all members for RSG activity between AGMs. Let the troika know if you want to help set up a sub-group other than the one given below.

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Contributions to *Radical Statistics*

Suggestions and contributions are welcome. Articles or comments can be topical or cite the earlier work of RadStats, which has been active since 1975. Book reviews and short comment or news pieces are particularly welcome. We also welcome articles that adopt an international perspective on Radical Statistics.

Articles on whatever topic can be submitted to editors@radstats.org.uk.

If you have an interest in a specific topic area and would like to get involved in editing a special issue please get in touch and we can put out a call for papers on the subject to the RadStats list to get you started.

The format for submissions may be found at www.radstats.org.uk/editors.htm.

Note that articles accepted for publication may be subject to agreed editorial changes and will usually appear in the next issue. If you have any queries, please contact the editors.

Refereed articles

If you wish to have your article refereed before publication, please state this clearly and send it via e-mail attachment if possible (as a rich text format file). Your article will be read for clarity and relevance to the concerns of Radical Statistics; amendments to improve the article may be required by the editors before publication as a refereed article.

Disclaimer

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Schedule for future publications

The next issue will feature reviews and articles on a range of topical subjects as well as discussion and articles arising from the 2016 Radical Statistics conference, *Statistics of Crisis in UK and EU*.

Cover design by Melanie Schöllhammer, melanieschoellhammer.de

Data Protection Act

In accordance with the Data Protection Act, any member is entitled to:

- a) a printout of his/her personal details and name and address as kept on the Radical Statistics Group computer.
 - b) Instruct that personal details not be so stored. Anyone wishing to avail themselves of this, please contact the Troika.
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