**2008 General Social Survey – selected variables**

Find a variable name here and then look up the question in the online codebook.

**Variable name Brief description**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| id |  Respondnt Id Number  |
| abany |  Abortion If Woman Wants For Any Reason |
| abdefctw |  Wrong For Woman To Get Abortion For Birth Defects |
| abdefect |  Strong Chance Of Serious Defect |
| abhlth |  Womans Health Seriously Endangered |
| abnomore |  Married--Wants No More Children |
| abpoor |  Low Income--Cant Afford More Children |
| abpoorw |  Wrong For Woman To Get Abortion If Low Income? |
| abrape |  Pregnant As Result Of Rape |
| absingle |  Not Married |
| advfront |  Sci Rsch Is Necessary And Should Be Supported By Federal Govt |
| affrmact |  Favor Preference In Hiring Blacks |
| afterlif |  Belief In Life After Death |
| aged |  Should Aged Live With Their Children |
| ancestrs |  Believe In Supernatural Power Of Deceased Ancestors |
| anheat |  Which Bodily Features Be Best Suited To A Small Animal Living In A Cold Climate |
| anscitst |  Scientists Shld Be Allowed To Do Research Animals' Pain & Injury |
| astrosci |  Astrology Is Scientific |
| attend |  How Often R Attends Religious Services |
| attend12 |  Freq Of R'S Relig Svc Attendance At Age 12 |
| ballot |  Ballot Used For Interview |
| balpos |  Sci Research Is Strongly In Favor Of Benefits |
| bible |  Feelings About The Bible |
| bigbang |  Sci Knowledge:The Universe Began With A Huge Explosion |
| blkwhite |  R Agrees Right & Wrong Not Black & White |
| born |  Was R Born In This Country |
| boyorgrl |  Sci Knowledge:Father Gene Decides Sex Of Baby |
| cantrust |  People Can Be Trusted Or Cant Be Too Careful  |
| cappun |  Favor Or Oppose Death Penalty For Murder |
| class |  Subjective Class Identification |
| clerggov |  Clergy Shouldn’t Try To Influence Govt Decisions |
| clergvte |  Clergy Shouldn’t Try To Influence Voters |
| clrgmode |  Was Saq Self Administered Or Interview Administered |
| colath |  Allow Anti-Religionist To Teach |
| colcom |  Should Communist Teacher Be Fired |
| colhomo |  Allow Homosexual To Teach |
| colmil |  Allow Militarist To Teach |
| colmslm |  Allow Anti-American Muslim Clergymen Teaching In College |
| colrac |  Allow Racist To Teach |
| colsci |  R Has Taken Any College-Level Sci Course  |
| comfort |  Religion Helps People To Gain Comfort In Times Of Trouble And Sorrow |
| comprend |  Rs Understanding Of Questions |
| conarmy |  Confidence In Military |
| conbiz |  Confidence In Business And Industry |
| conbus |  Confidence In Major Companies |
| conchurh |  Confidence In Churches And Religious Orgs |
| conclerg |  Confidence In Organized Religion |
| concong |  Confidence In Us Congress |
| concourt |  Confidence In Courts And Legal System |
| condom |  Used Condom Last Time  |
| condrift |  Sci Knowledge:The Continents Have Been Moving |
| coneduc |  Confidence In Education |
| confed |  Confid. In Exec Branch Of Fed Govt |
| confinan |  Confid In Banks & Financial Institutions |
| conjudge |  Confid. In United States Supreme Court |
| conlabor |  Confidence In Organized Labor |
| conlegis |  Confidence In Congress |
| conmedic |  Confidence In Medicine |
| conpress |  Confidence In Press |
| conschls |  Confidence In Schools And Educ System |
| consci |  Confidence In Scientific Community |
| contv |  Confidence In Television |
| coop |  Rs Attitude Toward Interview |
| courts |  Courts Dealing With Criminals |
| cshutype |  During March-May 2006, Was R Resident In Household Or Institution |
| daynight |  When Did Most Errors Occur |
| degree |  Rs Highest Degree |
| discaff |  Whites Hurt By Aff. Action |
| divlaw |  Divorce Laws |
| divorce |  Ever Been Divorced Or Separated |
| done911a |  Has R Developed Emergency Plans |
| done911b |  Has R Stockpiled Supplies |
| done911c |  Has R Purchased Things To Maked Them Safer |
| done911d |  Has R Learned Where To Get More Info About Terrorism |
| done911e |  Has R Duplicated Important Documents |
| done911f |  Has R Reduced Air Travel |
| done911g |  Has R Reduced Travel By Train |
| done911h |  Has R Reduced Use Of Public Transportation |
| done911i |  Has R Changed Mail Handling Procedures |
| done911j |  Has R Become Vigilant Of What Is Going On Around R |
| done911k |  Has R Avoided Travel To Certain Cities |
| done911l |  Has R Avoided Tall Buildings |
| done911m |  Has R Avoided National Landmarks |
| done911n |  Has R Done Anything Else To Deal With Terrorism |
| dwelown |  Does R Own Or Rent Home? |
| earthsun |  Sci Knowledge:The Earth Goes Around The Sun |
| eff911a |  How Effective R Thinks Developing Emergency Plans |
| eff911b |  How Effective R Thinks Stockpiling Supplies |
| eff911c |  How Effective R Thinks Purchasing Things To Make Them Safer |
| eff911d |  How Effective R Thinks Learning Where To Get Info About Terrorism |
| eff911e |  How Effective R Thinks Duplicating Important Documents |
| eff911f |  How Effective R Thinks Reducing Air Travel |
| eff911g |  How Effective R Thinks Reducing Travel By Train |
| eff911h |  How Effective R Thinks Reducing Use Of Public Transportation |
| eff911i |  How Effective R Thinks Changing Mail Handling Procedures |
| eff911j |  How Effective R Thinks Becoming Vigilant |
| eff911k |  How Effective R Thinks Avoiding Travel To Certain Cities |
| eff911l |  How Effective R Thinks Avoiding Tall Buildings |
| eff911m |  How Effective R Thinks Avoiding National Landmarks |
| egomeans |  Life Meaningful Only If You Provide Meaning |
| electron |  Sci Knowledge:Electrons Are Smaller Than Atoms |
| erosion |  Example Of Erosion |
| ethnum |  Type Of Response About Ethnicity -- R |
| evcrack |  R Ever Use Crack Cocaine |
| evidu |  R Ever Inject Drugs |
| evolved |  Sci Knowledge:Human Beings Developed From Animals |
| evpaidsx |  Ever Have Sex Paid For Or Being Paid Since 18 |
| evstray |  Have Sex Other Than Spouse While Married |
| expdesgn |  Better Way To Test Drug Btw Control And Non-Control |
| exptext |  Why Is It Better To Test Drug This Way |
| fair |  People Fair Or Try To Take Advantage |
| famgen |  Number Of Family Generations In Household |
| family16 |  Living With Parents When 16 Yrs Old |
| fatalism |  People Can’t Change The Course Of Their Lives |
| fear |  Afraid To Walk At Night In Neighborhood |
| fechld |  Mother Working Doesnt Hurt Children |
| feelrel |  How Religious Is R |
| fefam |  Better For Man To Work, Woman Tend Home |
| fepol |  Women Not Suited For Politics |
| fepres |  Vote For Woman President |
| fepresch |  Preschool Kids Suffer If Mother Works |
| finalter |  Change In Financial Situation |
| finrela |  Opinion Of Family Income |
| fishexp1 |  What Is Scientist Trying To Find Out From This Experiment |
| fishexp2 |  Why Did You Choose That Answer |
| form |  Form Of Split Questionnaire Asked |
| fund |  How Fundamentalist Is R Currently |
| fund16 |  How Fundamentalist Was R At Age 16 |
| genes |  Traits Are Transferred Over Generation |
| geomobil |  Has R Moved From One Kind Of Place To Another |
| getahead |  Opinion Of How People Get Ahead |
| gills |  How Fish Get Oxygen |
| god |  Rs Confidence In The Existence Of God |
| godchnge |  Describe Your Beliefs About God |
| godmeans |  Life Meaningful Because God Exists |
| goldfish |  Experiment About Goldfish And Temperature |
| goodlife |  Standard Of Living Of R Will Improve |
| goveqinc |  Govmnt Should Reduce Inc Differentials |
| granborn |  How Many Grandparents Born Outside U.S. |
| grass |  Should Marijuana Be Made Legal |
| gunlaw |  Favor Or Oppose Gun Permits |
| h2olife |  What Property Of Water Is Most Important |
| happy |  General Happiness |
| hapunhap |  Happy Or Unhappy With Life Today |
| harmgood |  Modern Science Does More Harm Than Good |
| harsexcl |  Since 18 R Has Ever Found Self The Object Of Sexual Advances From Religious Lead |
| harsexjb |  R Has Been The Object Of Sexual Advances/Propositions From Supervisors |
| health |  Condition Of Health |
| heaven |  Belief In Heaven |
| hefinfo |  Number Of People In Informant'S Household |
| hell |  Belief In Hell |
| helpful |  People Helpful Or Looking Out For Selves |
| helpoth |  To Help Others |
| hhrace |  Race Of Household |
| hivtest |  Have You Ever Been Tested For Hiv |
| homosex |  Homosexual Sex Relations |
| homosex1 |  Is Homosexual Sex Wrong? |
| hotcore |  Sci Knowledge: The Center Of Earth Is Very Hot |
| hsbio |  R Ever Took A High School Biology Course |
| hschem |  R Ever Took A High School Chemistry Course |
| hsphys |  R Ever Took A High School Physics Course |
| hubbywrk |  Husb Shld Work Wife Shld Look After Home |
| hunt |  Does R Or Spouse Hunt |
| incgap |  Income Differentials In Usa Too Big |
| incom16 |  Rs Family Income When 16 Yrs Old |
| inequal5 |  Pay Differences -> American Prosperity |
| intecon |  Interested In Economic Issues |
| inteduc |  Interested In Local School Issues |
| intenvir |  Interested In Environmental Issues |
| intfarm |  Interested In Farm Issues |
| intintl |  Interested In International Issues |
| intmed |  Interested In Medical Discoveries |
| intmil |  Interested In Military Policy |
| intrace1 |  Interviewer S Race1 |
| intrhome |  Internet Access In R'S Home |
| intsci |  Interested In New Scientific Discoveries |
| intspace |  Interested In Space Exploration |
| inttech |  Interested In Technologies |
| kidssol |  Rs Kids Living Standard Compared To R |
| knwclsex |  R Knows Other People Who Were Obj Of Sexual Advances |
| lasers |  Sci Knowledge:Lasers Work By Focusing Sound Waves |
| letin1 |  Number Of Immigrants To America Nowadays Should Be  |
| lftplane |  Key Factor That Enables Airplane To Lift |
| libath |  Allow Anti-Religious Book In Library |
| libcom |  Allow Communists Book In Library |
| libhomo |  Allow Homosexuals Book In Library |
| libmil |  Allow Militarists Book In Library |
| libmslm |  Allow Anti-American Muslim Clergymen'S Books In Library |
| librac |  Allow Racists Book In Library |
| life |  Is Life Exciting Or Dull |
| liveblks |  Neighborhood Half Black |
| livewhts |  R Favor Living In Half White Neighborhood |
| localnum |  Number Of Employees: Rs Work Site |
| madeg |  Mothers Highest Degree |
| makefrnd |  Religion Helps People To Make Friends |
| marasian |  Close Relative Marry Asian |
| marblk |  Close Relative Marry Black |
| marelkid |  Mothers Religion When R Was Child |
| marhisp |  Close Relative Marry Hispanic |
| marhomo |  Homosexuals Should Have Right To Marry |
| marital |  Marital Status |
| marwht |  R Favor Close Relative Marrying White Person |
| matesex |  Was 1 Of Rs Partners Spouse Or Regular |
| mawrkgrw |  Mothers Employment When R Was 16 |
| mawrkslf |  Mother Self-Emp. Or Worked For Somebody |
| meovrwrk |  Men Hurt Family When Focus On Work Too Much |
| miracles |  Belief In Religious Miracles |
| mobile16 |  Geographic Mobility Since Age 16 |
| mywaygod |  R Has Own Way Of Connecting With God Without Churches Or Religious Services |
| nanotech |  How Much R Heard About Nanotechnology |
| natchld |  Assistance For Childcare |
| natcrimy |  Law Enforcement -- Verison Y |
| nateducy |  Education -- Version Y |
| nathealy |  Health -- Version Y |
| natmass |  Mass Transportation |
| natpark |  Parks And Recreation |
| natroad |  Highways And Bridges |
| natsci |  Supporting Scientific Research  |
| natsoc |  Social Security |
| news |  How Often Does R Read Newspaper |
| nextgen |  Science & Tech. Give More Opportunities To Next Generation |
| nihilism |  Life Serves No Purpose |
| obey |  To Obey |
| odds1 |  Test Of Knowledge About Probablity1 |
| odds2 |  Test Of Knowledge About Probablity2 |
| othlang |  Can R Speak Language Other Than English |
| ownbiz |  R Owns Business |
| owngun |  Have Gun In Home |
| padeg |  Fathers Highest Degree |
| parborn |  Were Rs Parents Born In This Country |
| parelkid |  Father'S Religion When R Was Child |
| parsol |  Rs Living Standard Compared To Parents |
| partfull |  Was R'S Work Part-Time Or Full-Time? |
| partyid |  Political Party Affiliation |
| pawrkslf |  Father Self-Emp. Or Worked For Somebody |
| paxhappy |  Religion Helps People To Find Inner Peace And Happiness |
| permoral |  R Agrees That Morality A Personal Matter |
| perscrfc |  R Made Some Personal Sacrifice As An Expression Of Faith By Fasting, Giving Up A |
| phase |  Subsampling: Two-Phase Design. |
| phone |  Does R Have Telephone |
| pistol |  Pistol Or Revolver In Home |
| polabuse |  Citizen Said Vulgar Or Obscene Things |
| polattak |  Citizen Attacking Policeman With Fists |
| polescap |  Citizen Attempting To Escape Custody |
| polmurdr |  Citizen Questioned As Murder Suspect |
| polviews |  Think Of Self As Liberal Or Conservative |
| popular |  To Be Well Liked Or Popular |
| pornlaw |  Feelings About Pornography Laws |
| postlife |  Belief In Life After Death |
| pray |  How Often Does R Pray |
| prayer |  Bible Prayer In Public Schools |
| premars1 |  Is Premarital Sex Wrong? |
| premarsx |  Sex Before Marriage |
| pres04 |  Vote For Kerry, Bush, Nader |
| punsin |  R Agrees That Sinners Must Be Punished |
| racdif1 |  Differences Due To Discrimination |
| racdif2 |  Differences Due To Inborn Disability |
| racdif3 |  Differences Due To Lack Of Education |
| racdif4 |  Differences Due To Lack Of Will |
| race |  Race Of Respondent |
| raclive |  Any Opp. Race In Neighborhood |
| racopen |  Vote On Open Housing Law |
| racpres |  Would Vote For Black President |
| radioact |  Sci Knowledge:All Radioactivity Is Man-Made |
| reborn |  Has R Ever Had A 'Born Again' Experience |
| region |  Region Of Interview |
| reincar |  Believe In Reincarnation |
| relatsex |  Relation To Last Sex Partner |
| relcand |  R Accepts A Person From A Different Religion Or View From R'S Being Candidate Of |
| relexp |  Have Religious Experience Changed Life  |
| relexper |  Turning Point In Life For Religion |
| relext1 |  Religious Extremists Should Be Allowed To Hold Public Meeting To Express Views |
| relext2 |  People Should Be Allowed To Publish Books Expressing Their Views |
| relgrpeq |  All Religious Groups In Usa Should Have Equal Rights |
| religcon |  Religins Bring More Conflict  |
| religint |  Religious People Are Often Too Intolerant  |
| religkid |  Religion R Was Raised In |
| reliten |  Strength Of Affiliation |
| rellife |  Try To Carry Beliefs Into Other Dealings  |
| relmarry |  R Accepts A Person From A Different Religion Or View From R'S Marrying Relative |
| relneg |  Any Turning Point When Less Committed To Religion |
| relobjct |  For Religious Reasons R Has In Home Shrine, Altar, Or Religious Object On Displa |
| relpersn |  R Consider Self A Religious Person  |
| relsprt |  Is R Spiritual Person |
| reltruth |  How Much Truth In Religion  |
| res16 |  Type Of Place Lived In When 16 Yrs Old |
| res2006 |  Was R Living In Usa During March-May 2006 |
| respnum |  Number In Family Of R |
| rifle |  Rifle In Home |
| rightpeo |  Religion Helps People To Meet The Right Kind Of People |
| rotapple |  R Agrees Immoral Person Corrupts Society |
| rplace |  R'S Relationship To Household Head |
| rspctrel |  We Must Respect All Religions |
| rvisitor |  Is R A Visitor? |
| salth2o |  Ocean Water For Vegetables |
| satfin |  Satisfaction With Financial Situation |
| satjob |  Job Or Housework |
| savesoul |  Tried To Convince Others To Accept Jesus |
| scibnfts |  Benefits Of Sci Research Outweight Harmful Results |
| scifrom |  Main Source Of Information About Science And Technology |
| sciintro |  Which Version Of Science Introduction Was Used |
| scimath |  Quality Of Science & Math Educ In Us Is Inadequate |
| scimode |  Was Saq Self Administered Or Interview Administered |
| scistudy |  R Has Clear Understanding Of Scientific Study |
| scitext |  What It Means To R To Study Sth Scienfically |
| seesand |  Which Picture Shows What She Should Use For The 2Nd Pot |
| sex |  Respondents Sex |
| sexeduc |  Sex Education In Public Schools |
| sexfreq |  Frequency Of Sex During Last Year |
| sexornt |  Sexual Orientation |
| sexsex |  Sex Of Sex Partners In Last Year |
| sexsex5 |  Sex Of Sex Partners Last Five Years |
| sexsex18 |  Since Age 18, Have Your Sex Partners Been? |
| shotgun |  Shotgun In Home |
| socbar |  Spend Evening At Bar |
| socfrend |  Spend Evening With Friends |
| socommun |  Spend Evening With Neighbor |
| socrel |  Spend Evening With Relatives |
| spaneng |  Interviews Conducted In Spanish Or English |
| spanking |  Favor Spanking To Discipline Child |
| spkath |  Allow Anti-Religionist To Speak |
| spkcom |  Allow Communist To Speak |
| spkhomo |  Allow Homosexual To Speak |
| spkmil |  Allow Militarist To Speak |
| spkmslm |  Allow Muslim Clergymen Preaching Hatred Of The Us |
| spkrac |  Allow Racist To Speak |
| sprtprsn |  R Consider Self A Spiritual Person  |
| startbiz |  R Trying To Start Business |
| stormtxt |  Do You See Lightning Before Hearing Thunder |
| suicide1 |  Suicide If Incurable Disease |
| suicide2 |  Suicide If Bankrupt |
| suicide3 |  Suicide If Dishonored Family |
| suicide4 |  Suicide If Tired Of Living |
| tax |  Rs Federal Income Tax |
| taxshare |  Should Rich Pay Bigger Share Of Taxes? |
| teensex |  Sex Before Marriage -- Teens 14-16 |
| theism |  God Concerned With Human Beings Personally |
| thnkself |  To Think For Ones Self |
| toofast |  Science Makes Our Way Of Life Change To Fast |
| trust |  Can People Be Trusted |
| trustsci |  We Trust Too Much In Science  |
| unemp |  Ever Unemployed In Last Ten Yrs |
| union |  Does R Or Spouse Belong To Union |
| upbreath |  Why Short Breath At The Top Of A Mountain |
| uswary |  Expect U.S. In World War In 10 Years |
| viruses |  Sci Knowledge:Antiviotics Kill Viruses As Well As Bacteria |
| visitors |  Number Of Visitors In Household |
| vistholy |  How Often R Visits Holy Place For Religious Reasons |
| vote04 |  Did R Vote In 2004 Election |
| weighing |  Which Is The Best Method To Report Weight Of Leaf |
| widowed |  Ever Been Widowed |
| wksub |  Does R Or Spouse Have Supervisor |
| wksubs |  Does Supervisor Have Supervisor |
| wksup |  Does R Or Spouse Supervise Anyone |
| work3yrs |  How Many Full Time Jobs R Has In Past 3 Yrs Since 2005 |
| workhard |  To Work Hard |
| wrkgovt |  Govt Or Private Employee |
| wrkslf |  R Self-Emp Or Works For Somebody |
| wrkstat |  Labor Frce Status  |
| wrkwayup |  Blacks Overcome Prejudice Without Favors  |
| xmarsex |  Sex With Person Other Than Spouse |
| xmarsex1 |  Is Extramarital Sex Wrong? |
| xmovie |  Seen X-Rated Movie In Last Year |