QUESTIONNAIRE A (revised 8/99)

Please address the attached questions in numerical order, submitting **one original and fourteen copies with signature(s)** copies of your response to:

Glenn Davis, Secretary  
Institutional Review Panel for Human Subjects  
ORPA, 5 New South Building

**Questions** on IRP policy should be directed to your advisor; the Panel Chair, Dale Miller (8-4461); or the Panel Secretary, Glenn Davis (8-3092).

**Questions** on deadlines or Panel responses may be directed to Andrew Sylvester (8-3105).

**Notes:** Clearly indicate your status in your response

- GS  Graduate Student  
- '00  Undergraduate Student (your appropriate year)  
- AD  Advisor  
- PI  Principal Investigator

Make sure to include your signature and the signature of your advisor (if applicable). **ALL** applicants other than professors **MUST** list an advisor.

In order to ensure prompt review of your Questionnaire A, please respond fully to each of the attached questions. If further information must be requested by the Panel, the review process may be delayed.

**MEETING DATES/1999-2000**  
September 28  
October 18  
November 15  
December 13  
January 17  
February 14  
March 20  
April 17  
May 23

**SUBMISSION DEADLINES/12:00 noon**  
September 17  
October 8  
November 5  
December 3  
January 7  
February 4  
March 10  
April 7  
May 12

The attached questions reference the "Investigator's Statement of the Policies and Practices to be followed in the Conduct of Research Involving Human Subjects."
QUESTIONNAIRE A

1. State the title of the proposed research. If applicable, please list the agencies (University and/or other) that have been asked to fund this research.

   Title of proposed research: Survey of Controversial Political Issues

2. State approximate dates for starting and ending this research project after the Panel has approved it.

   The survey is scheduled to begin in late March/early April and will continue through the end of May (and perhaps into June).

3. State the name of the Investigator, departmental address, e-mail address, fax number, and campus phone number. All applicants other than professors must also list the name, departmental address, e-mail address of a faculty advisor. Use the abbreviations listed on the cover page to identify all names listed.

   The Principal Investigator for the study is:

   Prof. Adam J. Berinsky
   Assistant Professor
   Department of Politics
   Address: 041 Corwin Hall
   Email: berinsky@princeton.edu
   Fax: 609-258-4772
   Phone: 609-258-6601

4. State the purpose of the intended research, specifying the problems addressed, what is to be learned, and identify the specific objectives of the research.

   The research project proposed here is intended to study how the personality characteristics of individuals could affect the answers they give to questions on controversial political topics. The survey instrument is designed to measure:

   1. Attitudes on questions concerning principles of racial equality and policies designed to ensure such equality.
   2. Attitudes on government policies towards homosexuals.
   3. Attitudes toward fundamentalist Christians.
   4. Psychological scales designed to measure levels of socially desirable behavior.
   5. Background political and demographic variables.

   All of the items in the survey have been previously used in major data collection efforts by other researchers. The psychological scales are drawn directly from items commonly used in social-psychological studies of undergraduates in research universities. The principle and policy items are all drawn from major national surveys, namely the National Elections Study, at the University of Michigan, and the General Social Survey conducted by the National Opinion Research Center. This data collection effort is unique because it brings together the personality and political attitude measures on a single survey.
I will use the data collected from the survey to ascertain how the answers respondents give to the survey questions vary as a function of their demographic and political characteristics. I will be primarily interested how these variables are moderated by the social desirability measures.

5. Describe in detail the procedures that will be used to achieve the objectives of the research project; include copies of the consent form, letters, survey forms, questionnaires or other applicable documentation.

The survey (included as an attachment) will be the sole form of data collection. The exact wording of these questions may be altered after a pre-test, in order to better facilitate comprehension by the survey respondents.

6. Describe in detail the method of subject selection. Special attention should be paid to subject selection/affiliation when Princeton students will not be used for the subject pool. Also include information about any compensation schedule and rates to subjects.

The subjects will be selected randomly through a Random-Digit Design. There will be no compensation offered to subjects.

7. Will the standard "informed consent" form be used or modified, and if not, why not?

A separate “informed consent” form will not be used for the survey. Consent will be implied by the agreement to complete the survey.

8. Does the proposed research involve deception, e.g., through provision of misinformation, withholding information, etc.? Explain why it is necessary to involve deception(s) in the research.

The proposed research does not involve deception of any participants.

9. Provide a full account of the debriefing procedures to be followed.

Debriefing procedures will not be used in this survey.

10. Does participation by human subjects or informants place any group or class of individuals in physical, legal, social and/or psychological jeopardy? If so, how can the potential risk be assessed?

There is no potential risk for any participant in this survey.

11. Does the research place individual subjects at risk? If so, please describe fully the ways in which the risk will be controlled.

Survey respondents will complete the questionnaire over the phone in their own homes. There is no risk.

12. In your view, how are any possible risks that may be involved in the research justified by the potential benefits resulting from the investigation.

We anticipate that there are no potential risks associated with participation in this survey.

13. How will the confidentiality of the subjects' responses by guaranteed? What provisions are made for the storage of confidential material? Who has access to such material?
Several steps will be taken to ensure that the confidentiality of responses to the survey and the administrative records used for the survey are strictly maintained. Each respondent will be assigned an ID number. This ID number will not be of use to anyone other than myself or the Woodrow Wilson School Survey Director, Ed Freeland, in terms of identifying the respondent who completed the questionnaire. In addition, any persons assisting with data collection for the survey will be fully informed about our procedures for maintaining the confidentiality of all survey and administrative data. They will then be asked to sign a written pledge asserting that they will uphold those procedures.

The analysis of the survey data will proceed without use of or reference to any personal identifiers.

14 In the event that outside agencies are involved (in data gathering, processing, and storage), how will the rights of the subjects be guaranteed by that agency?

Not applicable.

15. Describe the process being undertaken to secure IRB and/or other appropriate institutional approval necessary to conduct research with subjects at another institution or organization. Attach copies of the approval.

Not applicable.

16. Include the signature of the Investigator and the date. Also include the advisor's signature, if applicable.

Signatures:

Principal Investigator
Status: ______________
Date: ______________

Faculty Advisor
Date: ______________

(rev. 9/01/99)