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A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF SPORT PARACHUTING

by

GERTRUDE BOX

**A dissertation submitted to the Graduate Faculty in Sociology
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy, The City University of New York**

1998

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APPROVAL

This manuscript has been read and accepted for the Graduate Faculty in Sociology in satisfaction of the dissertation requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

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Abstract

A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF SPORT PARACHUTING

by

GERTRUDE BOX

Adviser: Professor Charles Winick

There are approximately 535,000 skydivers in 85 nations who make approximately 10 million jumps a year. Psychologists, psychiatrists and sociologists have found parachutists to be of superior intelligence, free from anxiety, lacking in defensiveness, socially deviant, self-confident, impulsive, hedonistic, thrill-seeking, free from health worries, rebellious, resourceful, willing to take consequences for their own behavior, stimulus addicts, with a trend toward disorganization, an essential desire for varied and different experiences, and a high level of abstract ability and creativity.

Popular and scientific literature was studied. Six parachutists were interviewed in depth. A questionnaire consisting of 50 questions was developed by the researcher, and distributed. 462 were returned.

A composite description of both genders was compiled, with gender differences in response to only 13 of the questions. Males were older, heavier and taller, had higher annual salaries, were younger at time of first jump, more likely to have additional competition training and to jump nude and barefoot. Females were more likely to be administrators, males to be engineers, males never and females rarely attended religious services, females generally live less

than 10 miles and males 30 miles from the jumpsite, females tend to live in southern and males in plains areas, females prefer automatic and males prefer stick shifts on automobiles.

Our data confirm findings of other researchers on mental and physical well-being. Parachutists named 117 different hobbies, the majority of which involved social and physical activities; 296 respondents added comments to their surveys.

The rate of change in the sky-diving field is occurring with the same rapidity as in the computer field. When the study was begun in 1993, round chutes were still used, para-surfing and wind-tunnel parachuting were novelties, and Cessna 152s were the main airborne vehicle for jumping. In 1997, a person can only jump with a round chute if he or she owns one, para-surfing and wind tunnel surfing are common, and "jump the jet" is a common slogan. Currently, a person is not considered an experienced jumper until and unless he or she jumps from twin engine planes, turbo planes, inverted planes, helicopters, blimps, and gliders.

Insurance for parachutists was unobtainable until April 11, 1996. Now companies compete for the business.

Acknowledgments

It is with appreciation that I acknowledge the following individuals for their support:

To my committee, Professors Charles Winick, David Lavin and William Kornblum for their encouragement, professionalism, and time. To Professor Charles Winick for his assistance and erudition, and to Professors David Lavin and William Kornblum for their contributions.

To all those too numerous to mention, who provided information individually and responded to the questionnaires, without whose assistance this project could not have been completed.

To my father, Reverend Harry Thomas Morrell, B.A., B.D., B.Ph., M.A., Ph.D. and to my eight children - Trudy, Terry, Ted, Twinkle Star, Tom, Tim, Tiara and Todd, who have been the inspiration for whatever I may have accomplished, but especially to Twinkle Star who has been my patient associate throughout this endeavor, doing all the typing from the very first of my handwritten drafts through the finished product. Her encouragement and skills have been irreplaceable.

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I. Introduction

This is the report of a sociological examination of sport parachutists in the United States.

Much has happened since the first parachute jump was made from an airplane on March 12, 1912. From this comparatively recent beginning, modern parachuting has attracted hundreds of thousands of Americans who have made millions of jumps and have spent hundreds of millions of dollars on this activity (Holmes, 1976).¹ Parachuting has evolved from a daredevil demonstration into a world popular sport, strategic weapon of war, fire-fighting device, and modern research tool.

However, many a person who has told others that (s)he is a parachutist, has often received a response such as "You're crazy", or words to that effect. The first thing a potential parachutist must do before beginning training is to sign a release, absolving the parachute drop-site owner, airplane pilot, jump-master/mistress, parachute packer, producer, and all others involved with producing, selling, maintaining accessories to parachuting, and others unnamed, from responsibilities for any and all injuries, accidents, and mishaps that may occur in connection with the activity. During the training course, there are other releases that must be signed, stating that the potential parachutist understands all the ramifications, and takes responsibility for all future claims from relatives, friends, legal, and/or medical representatives. The parachutist literally signs his/her life away. (See Appendix A)

As is the case when one pilots a small plane, life and medical insurance policies are null and void should an injury occur. It is not the norm in our society to sign away all assurances and insurances for what may be seen as a whim. The average person has no desire to leap out from

any airplane, from a distance of 2,500 to 17,000 feet or more, for any reason, let alone for fun.

Can it logically be said that parachutists are deviants?

There are many differences between parachuting and other dangerous sports. An airborne sport is the only one where the human body has no support. While it is true that a surfer may get hit on the head by the surfboard and drown, the motorcyclist may 'go down' because of a blow-out or collide with another vehicle, and a water skier may be run over by the tow boat, generally the sport participant has some time in which to act/react on his/her own. This is not the case with the parachutist. (S)he must depend on the airplane pilot, and, until certified to jump on his / her own, the jumpmaster/mistress who instructs the novice jumper in the skills necessary for safe jumping, parachute packing, static line, suspension lines (which tend to tangle), and rubber bands (Para Gear Catalog, 1989).² Should any problem arise, there are only a few seconds in which to assess the situation, and remedy it, before one hits the ground.

While sports such as surfing, motorcycling, and water skiing have inherent dangers, the participant can see the water, land, and snow. The parachutist is falling free in the wind, which one cannot see, nor depend on for support. It is an entirely unique activity to think, act, react, manipulate mechanical devices, and solve problems while falling at the rate of 120 miles an hour, knowing that one cannot support oneself as a bird in flight, nor a swimmer in water, nor a person on terra firma.

Two psychological studies found parachutists to be of superior intelligence, free from anxiety / phobias / depression, lacking in defensiveness, socially deviant, anti-conventional, self-confident, positive, impulsive, oriented toward action, hedonistic, thrill-seeking, sociable, extroverted, free from health worries, rebellious, highly selective with respect to social customs they choose to honor, adaptable, resourceful, energetic, willing to take consequences for their

own behavior, stimulus addicts, rejecters of traditional beliefs, and with a trend toward disorganization, needs for non-conformity, an essential desire for varied and different experiences, and a high level of abstract ability, creativity, independence and leadership. (Delk, 1973; Ogilvie, 1974)³

Such studies tell us about characteristics that parachutists possess. There are two characteristics that parachutists in general do not possess. They cannot be very poor because of the initial cost of training and the cost of each subsequent jump, and they cannot be illiterate because they would be unable to take the training course. Some of the topics that parachutists must be knowledgeable about are: glide ratio, angles, degree turns, flaring, angle of oscillation, trapezoidal ripcords, compass calculations, altimeter, and wind / ground / and chute speed calculations.

The term "Edgework" has become increasingly popular since the 1970s. Motorcyclists may have a logo on their clothing, stating, "If you are not living on the edge you are taking up too much room." Tom Sander's film about skydiving, 'Over the Edge', won the 15th Annual Tally Award for Sports, Music, Entertainment, the International and Video Festival and the Gold Camera Award for sports.⁴ David Marrett's Twentieth-Century Fox 1997 movie 'The Edge' is about the survival of four men in the wilds of our last frontier, Alaska.

Jon Krakaur enlarges on the "edge" theme, "a climber has to keep upping the ante. The next climb has to be harder and more spectacular than the last. It becomes an ever-tightening spiral ... performing at the cutting edge, or they'd have an unlikely accident and get killed ... challenge ... pit yourself against the physical forces of the world ... joy ... thrill ... satisfaction ... makes life worthwhile ... all or nothing ... burning ambition... rather die than quit trying."⁵ Krakaur describes, "Mr. Fisher, an ice-climber on Utah's Bridal Veil Falls in Provo Canyon who slipped

and fell 100 feet. His tubular pick of an ice tool impaled his calf and came out the other side. He pulled the hollow pick out, along with a core sample of tissue, leaving a hole in his leg big enough to stick a pencil through ... saw no reason to waste his limited supply of cash on medical treatment for such a minor injury, so he climbed for the next six months with an open, suppurating wound."

Catherine Dodd states "they are born that way."⁶ She reaffirms Toffler's (1971), Ryn's (1971), Aronowitz's (1973), Ogilvie's (1974) and Delk's (1974) findings about people, "genetically endowed with a special need to seek out novel experiences - and the "high" they produce." C. Robert Clininger, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry at Washington University Medical School in St. Louis states, "... inherited ... impulsive, extravagant, self-indulgent, disorderly, quick-tempered, need internal exhilaration ... fearless, outgoing, energetic, 3% of the population has this high novelty seeking with low harm avoidance ... the brain releases dopamine during excitement - a feeling of euphoria, well-being - novelty seekers have a low level of dopamine - need to be stimulated to feel good - brain chemical high-dancing on water - dances with death, bliss ... Adrenaline and endorphins overcome pain ... may have low brain chemicals serotonin and norepinephrine , which act as inhibitors which makes risk takers wired differently."⁷

Jodie Summers describes thrill seekers as having the qualities of "edge" and "flow", being "addicted to the hormone they themselves produce - endorphins - natural opiates which kick in and produce a state of euphoria in which you can stay high for as long as 48 hours after the experience of pushing things to the limit, the rush, thrill of victory, danger, moment of truth, challenge, zen - when it is over the mind is refreshed, relaxed and totally rejuvenated."⁸

Brendan I. Koerner uses the now popular term "extreme" to describe those who indulge in "dangerous" sports such as skydiving, surfing, and scuba diving.⁹ Such persons are described as

"hard core addicts hooked on adrenaline, who chose peril, thrill, rebellion, the chance of a catastrophic adding spice vs. boring (actions)... crave novelty and excitement ... feel vibrantly alive when you reach the outer limit ... good sex or cocaine ... drug abuse / heroin addiction / speed / variety / change.. High sensation seekers have unusually low levels of the enzyme monamine oxidase B. (MAO B deficiency) ... plays a role in regulating arousal / inhibition / pleasure... it produces sensation craving by 'dormering' the impact of stimuli on the brain. This low arousability spurs people to engage in highly stimulating activities just to reach the level of satisfaction the ordinary person might obtain from dinner and a movie ... Not death wishes - a myth made up by non-high sensation seekers who can't understand the rewards."

Beth Wald reaffirms the findings of the above in "On The Edge - Been There - Done That".¹⁰

Parachutists represent an ideal group for the study of risk taking. The taking of risks has been implicated in a number of kinds of deviant behavior as well as in major achievement. When Frank Wells, the 50 year old president of the Walt Disney Corporation, died in a helicopter crash while on a ski trip in Nevada's remote Ruby Mountains in April 1994, the People obituary attributed his brilliant business success to systematic taking of high risks: he had, for example, climbed the highest mountains on each of seven continents.¹¹

This study examines the extent to which parachuting fosters risk taking, explores why people engage in sport parachuting, and examines whether the parachutists see themselves as deviant. The relation of gender to sport parachuting is studied and the subculture is examined via participant observation and questionnaires. The scrutiny of sport parachuting could shed light on important problems of the larger culture and identify the nature of a potentially important subculture.

Definitions

Parachutist

A person who exits any airborne vehicle from any altitude, by any of several accepted methods - climbing, kneeling, rolling, running, sitting, - and descends to the earth by means of a parachute. Therefore, technically, all "jumpers" could be properly called parachutists. However, skilled, dedicated "jumpers" invented new ways by which to descend to the earth. Those who kneel, sit and "fall" out of an airborne vehicle, as well as those who roll out, could be denied the label "jumpers". They are not actually jumping, but falling. The term "jumping" could be technically applied only to those who jump feet first.

However, falling - by any means - out of an airborne vehicle hurts the pride of most parachutists. No matter what kind of airborne vehicle one exits from, nor how one exits, "falling" denotes a mistake - perhaps deadly. Sociable, extroverted, resourceful, intelligent persons do not like to be described as "fallers". So we all jump.

Sky-Diver

A person who exits from an airborne vehicle and executes various body maneuvers before pulling the ripcord of the parachute. This term was coined by a Frenchman named Raymond Young in the early 1950's, who observed the similarities between swan diving and sky diving - where the diver spreads both hands wide, arches the back, points the toes, and maintains this position as he dives through the air.¹²

As the sport of parachuting progressed, those who exited the airborne vehicle no longer parachuted to earth directly. When one makes a parachute jump, the person exits the plane by any chosen method, opens the parachute immediately and floats down to the earth, with minimum

steering by means of toggles, to land in a safe spot, hopefully terra firma, without hitting boulders, buildings, cars, cows, high wires, pedestrians and such other hazards.

The new breed of parachute jumpers delay pulling the ripcord for a predetermined (by the jumper(s)) length of time, executing various body maneuvers, singly, or in formation with as many as 200 other jumpers, with or without additional props such as flags and surfboards. The length of time before a sky diver pulls the ripcord to open the chute depends on the height at which the jump took place; exiting an airborne vehicle at 12,000 feet provides the sky diver more time to execute maneuvers before pulling the ripcord than an exit at 2,000 feet. When the term "free" falling is used, the stigma of the word "falling" is eliminated because the diver is in control of the time s/he decides to "drop" (a synonym for descending in the air.) The diver is free from the plane, from the chute, and the ground.

Significance of the Subject

As Holmes reported, sociological studies of sport parachutists are few (1976).¹³ An influential book of pop sociology described parachutists as belonging to a "play-based sub-cult...along with glider enthusiasts, scuba divers, hot-rodders, drag racers, motorcyclists and surfers, fun specialists" (Toffler, 1971).¹⁴

Many characteristics that parachutists have been found to possess are considered to be valuable assets in modern society. Society needs persons who are of superior intelligence, free from anxiety / phobias / depression, self-confident, positive, sociable, extroverted, free from health worries, adaptable, resourceful, energetic, willing to take consequences of their own behavior, and who have a high level of abstract ability, creativity, independence and leadership.

What is the background of these individuals that led to these characteristics? What caused them to choose this activity as opposed to some more acceptable activity such as needlework or bowling? Because some of the values of this subgroup may distinguish admirable and productive members of the larger society, can these characteristics be made attractive enough for certain undesirable, deviant, non-conforming members of society to emulate? Would such knowledge help the non-deviant members of society cope with and adapt to changes which Toffler claims are inevitable in our society?

II. Review of Literature

Scientific Literature

Holmes (1976) reviewed 48 books and articles in his dissertation "A Comparison of Leisure Attitudes and Characteristics of Group and Individual Sport Parachutists".¹⁵ Of these, 24 were psychological studies, 16 were concerned solely with the dynamics and art of parachuting and sky-diving, four were medical and scientific articles concerning sky-diving and sky-divers, and four could be classified as sociological studies. These four are: Arnold's (1974) "A sociologist looks at sport parachuting", Delk's (1973) "Some personality characteristics of sky-divers", Goffman's (1967) "Interaction Ritual" and Neulinger's (1971) "Leisure and Mental Health: A Study in a Program of Leisure Research."^{16,17,18,19}

The first recorded parachute jump was made in 1667 by the Italian Fauste Varanzio, who jumped from the Leaning Tower of Pisa with a square, textile covered frame parachute, and landed haphazardly but safely.²⁰ Little else is known about this first recorded jump made 130 years before the second recorded jump. Horan's (1977) bibliography contains an introduction which provides an excellent history of parachuting from its true beginning in 1797 through 1972.²¹ Descriptions are given of the early days of carnival jumpers throughout the nineteenth century, of the part women took throughout the history of parachuting, and of unusual personalities, including twins, married couples, father and son teams, the handicapped, and a parachuting priest.

The sport of parachuting / sky-diving has progressed so rapidly in the past two decades that what was considered unusual then is common now. There are three generation family groups, parachuting doctors, lawyers, great grandparents, principals, the blind with dogs, an eight-person team consisting only of amputees, and literally hundreds of sky-divers who, after jumping from a plane, join together, form aerial patterns, and then separate before landing.

Horan's *Parachuting Folklore* (1980) provides a much more detailed history of parachuting.²² Holmes (1976) describes class differences among early parachutists.²³ There were two distinct classes of people who contributed to the art of parachuting from the late 1700's through the 1800's. As there were no airplanes, all jumps were made from balloons. The upper classes, who could afford the time and money to design and build balloons, were not inclined to jump except under extreme duress, but contributed much to the science of aeronautics. It was the lower, working class persons, both men and women, who practiced the skill of jumping. They did so as a means of earning a living for themselves and their families at then popular carnivals. As the arts of ballooning and jumping were improved, the parachutist no longer needed the balloonist for a partner, so for a period of time the parachutist was also his/her own flight master/mistress. The skills of balloon making, balloon operating, and parachuting were crafts passed down through the family from parents to offspring.

The first modern parachutist jumper, Andre-Jacques Garnerin, jumped from a hydrogen balloon with a 32 gore canvas parachute over London on October 22, 1797. He was inspired to accomplish this feat from sketches made by Leonardo Da Vinci before Columbus set sail for America! The first women parachutist, Jeanne-Genevieve Labroste, jumped for the first time in 1802. Patt Valley became the first woman to complete 3,000 free-fall parachute jumps and great-grandmother Ardath Evitt, at age 74, made her first jump on August 6, 1978. At that time, she was the oldest person ever to make a parachute jump. This record has been broken many times since.

One of the earliest studies concerning participation in dangerous sports was done by Nisbett (1968) who surveyed undergraduates enrolled at Columbia University, University of Pennsylvania freshmen, Yale University freshmen, the New York Giants, and the New York Mets, concerning first and later born individuals who participate in dangerous sports: football, soccer

and rugby.²⁴ Nisbett reported that in all but the very largest families, first borns are less likely to participate in a dangerous sport than later borns. The reversal of this relationship in families of six or more was not considered significant. In high school, college, and professional athletics, first borns are less likely to play high risk sports.

Donnelly (1981) in analyzing data on birth order, body type, and stimulus-seeking behavior of athletes and juvenile delinquents, found them to be markedly similar on these three variables.²⁵ While Donnelly's emphasis was not specifically and solely on birth order, as was Nisbett's, Donnelly discovered that theories of delinquency suggest that athletes and delinquents differ primarily in their degrees of conformity. Therefore, it is believed, sports involving physical risks would be appropriate for juvenile delinquents. There appears to be a possible connection between birth order, stimulus-seeking behavior, and degree of conformity in athletes and juvenile delinquents.

Goffman (1967) stated: "Finally, there are the recreational non-spectator sports that are full of risk: mountain climbing, big game hunting, skin diving, parachuting, surfing, bob-sledding, spelunking. Instead of awaiting fate, you meet it at the door.... willfully taking a practical gamble."²⁶

Toffler noted: "Sky divers talk about the feat of Rod Pack, who not long ago, jumped from an airplane without a parachute, was handed one in mid-air by a companion, put it on, opened it, and landed safely. Sky divers have their own little world, as do glider enthusiasts, scuba divers, hot rodders, drag racers, motorcyclists. Each of these represents a leisure-based subcult organized around a technological device."²⁷

Ryn (1971) focused on mountaineering, a different type of dangerous sport.²⁸ He found that mountaineers are hyperactive, independent, unconventional, eccentric, emotionally labile,

oversensitive, obstinate, excitable, aggressive, and submit to authority with difficulty. These findings are similar to Holmes (1976)²⁹ findings on parachutists.

Aronowitz's (1973) study on leisure activities emphasized the central place of skills in such sports as sky diving, motorcycling, and rock climbing.³⁰ Sky diving requires planning, purposive and flexible action, and concentration, all of which Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels (1932) linked to skillful effort.³¹

Ogilvie (1974) tested sports car drivers, "all-pro" football players, and skydivers.³² He found results similar to studies by Ryn (1971)³³ and Holmes' (1976).³⁴ The findings of his study parallel Ryn and Holmes, "that these competitors have a dedicated trend toward disorganization, increased needs for non-conformity, rebellion against routine, and an essential desire for varied and different experiences. Social rebellion and a rather broad rejection of traditional standards suggest that these athletes were highly selective with respect to the social customs they chose to honor."

Delk (1974) found "... that the average skydivers were of superior intelligence, free from anxiety, phobia and depression; open and lacking in defensiveness, somewhat socially deviant and anti-conventional, inclined to reject traditional religious beliefs, self-confident and positive, impulsive and oriented toward action, hedonistic and thrill seeking, sociable and extroverted, and free from health worries."³⁵

Bourdieu (1978) emphasized the sociological findings of Horan (1980) concerning the two distinct socioeconomic classes of people who contributed to parachuting, from the late 1700's through the 1800's.^{36,37} These were the upper classes - who in those days did not usually jump, but contributed to the science of aeronautics, and the lower classes, who practiced the skill of jumping to earn a living. Bourdieu found "... a political tradition based on amateurism as a

reflection of the value of the aristocratic elitism ... A contrast is apparent between popular sports, which center on the expenditure of physical energy in activities involving risk and competition, and bourgeois sports, practiced primarily to promote health, and secondarily for involvement in elite activities".

This appears as relevant today as two to three centuries ago. There are those so called elite, who sky-dive, play polo, scuba dive, golf and the like, and there are the others who play sports like baseball, football, basketball, hockey and soccer.

Psychologist Gough (1983), divided his subjects into different classifications using three categories - the Challengers, the Dreamers, and the Practicalizers.³⁸ Using the Creatix Inventory for "risk-taking" and "creativity" he found Challengers are very high on Risk Taking, but low on Creativity, Dreamers are very high on Creativity but low on Risk Taking, while Practicalizers are average on Creativity and above average on Risk Taking. Gough also found women scored higher than men on Risk Taking, but no differences between the scores were found on Creativity.

Mitchell (1983) in one of the few sociological studies of risk-taking sports, studied mountain climbers, both novice and veteran, as did Ryn (1971).^{39,40} Mitchell studied mountaineering to generate new insights about human behavior that are applicable in broader spheres of sociological experiences. One of Mitchell's main concepts is that of "flow", classified more than two decades earlier by Caillois (1961) as having four types: chance, competition, mimicry, and vertigo.⁴¹ Examples of the latter, involving the alteration of consciousness in purposely courted uncertainty, are sky diving (the only mention of this activity in Mitchell's book) and mountaineering.

Glaser (1972) had previously identified flow as consisting of "compulsive, addictive activities such as avid religious practices, the pursuit of sexual orgasms, and drug intoxication".⁴²

Kerr (1989, 1991) in studies of male Australian surfers and Dutch parachutists and motorcycle racers, concluded that arousal seeking is the motivation for such participation.⁴³

Flow, a holistic experience, an escape from others back to yourself, as opposed to the alienating experiences of work as expounded by Marx and Engels (1932), is achieved by freedom of choice, the creation of a task within the limits of his or her perceived abilities, achieving a level of involvement so that action and awareness become indistinguishable, and it must be its own intrinsic reward.⁴⁴ Another social psychological condition of flow is that it is fun. Mitchell (1983) also emphasizes that stress is not harmful, but necessary for the full enjoyment of life.⁴⁵

Lyng (1990) completed a project on sky diving.⁴⁶ He found there had been no research on voluntary risk taking behavior by sociologists, but only by psychologists who emphasized anticipated rewards as the motivating factor of risk taking behavior. However, there are many people who prefer the risk taking activity itself as the reason for such activity, while others find such activities necessary for their well-being. Lyng found no empirical research on voluntary risk taking. His conception of "edgework", first used by the journalist Hunter S. Thompson (1971) is exemplified in the skills necessary to drive a car, ride a motorcycle, fly an airplane or control one's body in free-fall.⁴⁷ This skill is the ability to maintain control over a situation that, for most people, is uncontrollable.

Gal-Or's (1986) investigation of 44 eleventh grade "parachutists" under simulated jump conditions found that those with a positive body image and high self control did better than those with a negative body image and low self control.⁴⁸ Perhaps those with a positive body image and high self control have an innate automatic ability to survive. The accent on this survival capacity

accounts for many risk takers in one field progressing to other risk-taking activities, so that a sky diver may also enjoy flying, scuba diving, surfing and motorcycling, for example.

The "edge" is that point between life and death. An interesting characteristic of those who "live on the edge" emerged in Doka's (1990) study of four high risk sports: scuba diving, sky diving, auto racing and spelunking, all of which involve partners or groups.⁴⁹ Doka found the effect of a death on partners and groups resulted in each case in the blame being placed on the victim of the accident, the dead man himself.

Edgeworkers are, while engaged in risk taking activities, prone to be oblivious to external environmental factors, such as the passage of time, identifying with the object or environment, "becoming one with the surfboard," or "belonging to the sea," and state the experience itself is indescribable through language. Two characteristics are common to many edgeworkers: 1) they experience fear while engaging in voluntary risk taking activities, and 2) they are not thrill seekers or gamblers because they would then place themselves in threatening situations over which they have no control.

Lyng (1990) contrasts the concept of "flow", which produces a loss of self-consciousness, with edgework, which produces a feeling of omnipotence and self-actualization (Mitchell, 1983).^{50,51} From the concept of flow, Lyng progresses to Turner's study of the social structural concept of spontaneity and constraint polarity as one of the primary dynamics of social life, with edgework at one end and constraint at the other end of polarity. This opposition is believed by Turner (1976) to be at the root of many of the problems of post-industrial society.⁵²

Lyng's informal observations led him to believe edgework is more common among the young than among the old because of youths' belief in their own immortality, and more common among males than among females because of the socialization pressures on males to develop a

skill orientation toward their environment which may provide them with an illusory sense of control over fateful endeavors.

Popular Publications

The popular literature dealing with parachuting / skydiving is vast. The best known publication for parachuting / skydiving is Parachutist, the official publication of the United States Parachute Association.⁵³ It has been published monthly since 1947 and currently has a printing of 33,000. In the December 1992 issue, the April 10, 1991 North Pole jump is described. The January 1993 issue states, "If we fail to promote our sport, it will remain a fringe activity." The March 1993 issue describes the newest thrill, sky-surfing, whereby you jump from the plane with a sky-surfing board strapped to your boots. Each sky-surf board is custom made, to meet the requirements of each individual, from beginner to expert sky-surfer. In the June 1993 issue a paraplegic writes that he "will not sky dive as frequently as before this incident (Notice "incident" - NOT "accident") but I will jump whenever the weather conditions and jump center accommodations allow".

The August 1993 issue has a two page article describing in detail the symptoms of Lyme Disease, how it is transmitted and treated, because so many jumpers jump barefooted. These barefooted jumpers are more likely to get Lyme Disease than those who wear clothing to protect arms, legs and feet. "Different strokes for different folks", or "We all march (or perhaps jump) to a different drummer". The majority of persons who contemplate jumping fear a much worse fate than that of developing Lyme Disease!

The July 1994 issue describes in detail the "Pieces of Eight" amputee team, the newest name for such a team. The original name was Captain Hook and the Sky Pirates. They call themselves "dismembers" of the team. One lost his right leg in a motorcycle accident, the other his left leg. A third lost his left arm in Viet Nam, a fourth lost his left leg in an automobile accident, a fifth had his left arm amputated in a school yard tug-of-war (and people are afraid to sky-dive!),

a sixth had his left leg amputated by the prop of a Cessna 182. The seventh lost a left leg to a booby trap in Southeast Asia, and the eighth lost a right leg to a Viet Cong rocket. The group is looking for more members, especially of the female gender, "for more fun and larger formations."

One man I knew who parachuted at Albany Sky Diving Center was totally blind since birth. He had visited several other Sky Diving Centers that would not accept him as a student. He was an accomplished sky-diver, who used radio signals for guidance. Another man won the right to jump even though he had epilepsy. He also had been denied the right to jump at several jumpsites, but the New Jersey Civil Rights Commission ordered a site to make facilities available to him.

Another popular monthly publication is Skydiving⁵⁴. On the cover of a representative issue, in September 1992, is a photograph of a group of 100 women building a 100-way world record formation in Le Luc, France. In the August 1994 Issue, there is an advertisement for Wind Tunnel Skydiving and or Tunnel Sky Surfing where you "may safely, without regard to weather conditions, indoors, practice for your AFF (Accelerated Free Fall) tests, position training, and have fun."

A third skydiving magazine, Truth News Trends, now defunct, was concerned with the gas shortage of 1973 and 1974 as it affected skydiving.⁵⁵ The March 1, 1974 issue had an article, "Drug Addicts Rehabilitate with Skydiving". This article states that "skydiving is useful in developing self confidence, giving the addict a chance to do things he never thought possible....Skydiving and rappelling also help an addict recuperate." The August 5, 1976 issue dedicates the first page to Kathy Fox, who made her first jump at age 16, and became, at age 20, the first (and youngest) female ever elected President of the Canadian Parachute Association, with 640 jumps to her credit. She was at that time employed as an air traffic controller in

Quebec, and had her Air Traffic Controller license, a Canadian D-180 license, an Instructor's Class "C" license and a Rigger "A" license. She has many other credits, including Chief Instructor in University Sky Diving Clubs. Kathy describes herself as a "fun" jumper, with primary interests in safety and training.

Motorcycling organizations and publications include skydiving news. The January-February 1994 issue of Hog Tales, the official publication of the Harley Owners Group H.O.G., has pictures of Dr. Michael Stapp, a life member of H.O.G., who, with his son, in two weeks logged 3,206 miles on their Harleys.⁵⁶ "Doc Harley" is also a scuba diver, sky diver, para plane pilot, and a black belt in two styles of martial arts. The November-December 1994 Issue of Hog Tales has a picture and article about U. S. Master Sergeant West C. Jacobs, a veteran of Vietnam, Desert Shield and Storm, a crew chief on KC-135s, C-130s and KC-10s, who is currently a parachute instructor at the USAF Academy in Colorado.

Parachuting and motorcycling organizations are not the only organizations interested in skydiving. Popular Mechanics Magazine more than three decades ago, had a four page article "Rugged Prep School for Smoke Jumpers."⁵⁷ The description of parachuting includes the following, "It is rugged, rigorous... leaves no room for error or frailty..." The description of jumpers states, "Most smoke jumpers are above average in education and physical condition... college students, school teachers, ministers, school principals."

Another organization interested in parachuting, Science Research Associates, Inc., distributed nine educational articles for elementary schools between 1958 and 1966 describing parachutists.⁵⁸ "Ski-Hi Irvin Hits the Silk" tells of the life of Leslie Irvin who was an automobile stunt driver and high diver in the circus before becoming a parachutist. "Uncle Sam's Smoke Jumpers" tells of two men who like parachuting because it is adventurous and outdoors. Midnight

Sky Divers describes "Master Sergeant Edge, 33 years old, 1/2 inch shorter than he used to be before he broke his back jumping with the formal U.S. Army Parachuting Team, who had lived through three plane crashes and Korean war wounds, but who is still an Air Force Sky Diving Instructor."⁵⁹ The job is described as "playing a deadly game... free-falling dare devils...pitting himself against death...birdmen." A sense of humor is necessary, as explained in "Flying Surveyors", when one jumping surveyor in Alaska "landed almost in the lap of a grizzly bear. 'I guess the bear was as scared as I was' he explained afterward."⁶⁰ In "Paratrooper" this description is provided. "The question parachuters are most often asked is "Aren't you afraid?" And the honest parachuter always replies, "Of course I am", for he knows there is no reason to be ashamed of his fear. Everybody who stands in that open doorway is afraid."⁶¹

The National Rifle Association's bi-monthly magazine American Rifleman has pictures of W.W.II Airborne Glider Troops both in their plane and on the ground.⁶² The need for a good sniper rifle for the airborne troops was of utmost importance, one that would not add unduly to the already greatly cumbersome equipment these men already had to cope with as the parachutes of W.W.II were not the light weight, easily maneuverable 'chutes of today.

Even the music industry has an interest in sky diving. Presumably, young piano students, who may be bored by traditional key board studies, will become excited by a piano solo "Sky Diving", with a vivid picture of a skydiver who has just exited from a Cessna 150.⁶³

The health industry is not immune to the benefits of sky diving. In the *Energy Times* *Enhancing Your Life through Proper Nutrition*, is an article on "Thrill Seekers."⁶⁴ It gives an excellent description of the type of person who skydives. The following are descriptions of how one feels skydiving: "totally at one...pushing things to the limit... the thrill of victory... the rush... the moment of truth... totally... exhilarating... those who get the greatest pleasure out of physical

activity "Zen" into their sport...totally engulfed as if meditating... refreshed, relaxed, rejuvenated for 24 hours afterward... danger yields higher payoff... like the risk... the rush is not a psychological perception. It is biology. Endorphins kick in, secreted by the endocrine glands, are natural opiates. These give people a sense of euphoria... an athlete can feel a high for close to 48 hours... addicted... go through a mental down stage because they are withdrawing from a hormone that they produce themselves... Sports are a passion... Parachuting has a high degree of perceived risk... The person involved in the... activity doesn't see it that way... Other people may, but the athlete does not. They do not believe they are risk takers. Danger is definitely part of the attraction; surfers cresting 25 foot waves. What was considered daring 20 years ago is considered pretty tame today. We want fun!" Two doctors, Douglas Graham, a specialist in the human health sciences, and Don Greene, a sports psychologist, and Karin Jacoby contributed to the information in "Thrill Seekers!" Their 1994 findings support Toffler's and Ryn's 1974 findings.

Golden State, the magazine of California, has an article "The Summer of Living Dangerously".⁶⁵ In this article, the question is asked, "Why take it easy when you can go sky diving, rock climbing, spelunking, white water rafting, hang gliding, scuba diving, hot air ballooning, kayaking, bicycling, horseback riding, mule packing and llama trekking? Challenging feats... the thrills don't come cheap... dangerous... exciting... a hunger for some release from ordinary, predictable living... a chilling thrilling... the bottom falling out of the world."

There is great interest in geriatrics today. The Southampton Press had an article describing a 92 year old man who completed a jump, and also on 71 year old Gertrude Box, mother of eight, who purchased a package deal for 10 jumps.⁶⁶ The same lady was described in a full page article in the Sunday Star Ledger⁶⁷. At this time she was 73. In a Newsday article an 81 year old great-grandfather made his first jump with his grandson while his great grandson watched them.⁶⁸ An article in Parade had a full cover page in color of a lady in full skydiving outfit

who had just made her first parachute jump, three days before her 90th birthday.⁶⁹ With a big smile from ear to ear, she asked, "Who's afraid of growing old?" In the April 1993 Parachutist, one competition team mentioned consisted of a lady and her 78 year old father.⁷⁰ Another team consisted of a grandfather and his 16 year young grand-daughter. Many drop sites will not permit a person to jump until s/he is 18.

III. Research Design and Methodology

The purpose of the study is to examine the social factors of parachuting and therefore further the understanding of risk-taking and non-conformism in society through the analysis and interpretation of information and data collected through questionnaires and participant observation. Jumping is examined as a socially approved form of institutionalized risk taking behavior.

Research Design

The research utilizes three methods:

1. Participant observation concerning the life styles, activities, subcultural groups, interactions and relationships in sky diving groups located at various geographical sites.
2. The development of six extended representative case histories based on in-depth interviews.
3. A questionnaire on attitudes, sport and other social behaviors, developed by the researcher, completed by 462 parachutists.

Holmes' study compared characteristics of two different styles of sport parachutists, Individual and Relative Jumpers; I am studying only individual jumpers. Holmes limited the distribution of his survey questionnaire to group and individual sport parachutists eligible for the 1976 United States Parachute Association National Championships. I am studying ordinary parachutists at several locations. My study, unlike Holmes', is sociological in focus and involves personal interviews and participant observation in addition to questionnaires.

Participation in the activities of five different jump centers had provided me with the opportunity to interact with a range of club members. This opportunity is used in order to build a

picture of the community subculture of sport parachuting - its content, behaviors, rituals and beliefs, group dynamics, impression management, language and special communication procedures, male-female and age group interaction, forms of address, subjects discussed, and how it has impact on other aspects of personal, social, family, occupational and institutional living.

How central is jumping to the various participants and their way of life? Is salience a function of age, socioeconomic status, geography, family status, other life-style characteristics? Questions on the relationship between jumping and personal / social identity are addressed in this study.

The five case studies of representative parachutists have been developed in order to set forth a range of parachutist characteristics in terms of age, years of experience in the sport, ethnicity, other recreational activities, socioeconomic status, occupation, family status and gender. The relationship between social factors and the life cycle of parachuting is a central concern. The federal government's "war on drugs" has recommended parachute jumping as an accepted substitute for some people who can act out their need to take risks by taking illegal drugs. Cohen (1971)⁷¹.

The survey method involved questionnaires that were sent to at least one parachute dropsite in each of 49 states, a total of 216 sites. At the time the surveys were sent, there was no drop site in New Hampshire. There are now drop sites in this state, another example of the growing popularity of sky diving.

A description of the preparation of the questionnaire used to collect data for this study can be found in Appendix B. The questionnaire and accompanying cover letter and the letter requesting permission for distribution of the questionnaire from the dropsite owners are

reproduced in Appendix C. A description of the method for collecting the questionnaire data follows.

The names and addresses of the persons to whom the questionnaires were sent were obtained from several sources. Questionnaires (Appendix B) were sent to parachute sites listed in each monthly issue of The Parachutist, the magazine of the United States Parachuting Association (U.S.P.A.), the largest parachute organization in the world⁷². The issue used was chosen at random, as were the dropsites. Appendix D contains the list of dropsites.

It was decided, because of cost considerations, to send only five questionnaires with accompanying cover letter to each dropsite listed except for those in Arizona, California, Massachusetts, Texas and Washington. The questionnaires in these five states were delivered personally. All dropsites visited in person received, as an introductory packet, ten questionnaires and cover letters.

Those with incorrect / insufficient addresses were contacted by phone, and the original five questionnaire packet was replaced by a ten questionnaire packet.

In addition to questionnaires sent or hand delivered to dropsites in the United States, 28 were sent to foreign countries. The names and addresses of these parachutists were obtained at the Chambersburg Municipal Airport in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, at the annual Parachutists over Phorty (POPS) and Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS) Nationals, November 15th through 18th, 1994. Because of the large number of members, it was decided to send questionnaires to those members living in foreign countries who were not present at the nationals. Thus there would be no possible duplication of members receiving questionnaires at U.S. dropsites. Attached to the questionnaire and cover letter packet for the individual parachutist was a self-addressed stamped envelope for the respondent's convenience. All mailings were first class.

I visited three local dropsites: Alexandria Field, Pittstown, New Jersey; Chambersburg Municipal Airport, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; and Long Island Sky Dive, East Moriches, Long Island, New York, several times, distributing a total of 33, 35 and 28 questionnaires respectively.

Through chance encounters, another five questionnaires were distributed. One was given to an ex-military parachutist whom I was able to approach in a post office because of the emblem on his jacket. Another was also given to an ex-military jumper in a Harley-Davidson dealership who also was recognizable by his jacket emblem.

A third ex-military jumper was given a questionnaire at the Pentecostal Church where I am a musician. He was identified by the bumper stickers on his car. A fourth jumper approached me because of the bumper stickers on my car. He is a mechanic who works at a cycle shop and keeps my 1978 400cc Yamaha motorcycle in condition. A fifth parachutist became known to me by a chance remark made at a senior dance concerning my jumping activities. He is a native Hungarian pilot, who survived the Hungarian uprising against the Russians several decades ago. In Hungary, fighter pilots were trained not only to fly fighter planes, but to fly all types of planes, to repair them, and to be skydivers. He now has his own business, making airplane parts on Long Island.

Not one parachutist I spoke with throughout the entire research period refused to cooperate. This may be attributed to my being a full participant in the sport. As a result, interaction was facilitated and cooperation was enhanced. The inducement to help a fellow parachutist, a member of this subculture, received a positive response.

In addition to the questionnaires, participant observation was used to learn more about sky-diving. Five drop-sites were visited throughout the two years the study was conducted, during the months from March through November. As an indication of serious rather than superficial

interest in sky-diving in order to obtain data for my research, a ten-jump packet was purchased at Long Island Sky Dive and an eight session Accelerated Free Fall (AFF) course was begun at Alexandria Field, New Jersey. In this way I became a member of the group. I met, and became acquainted with, friends of the dropsite owner, their spouses, partners, and the employees of the centers. Because of the nature of the business, the staff is a very close knit group.

I not only talked with other jumpers, but spent the entire day, as is customary when jumping, eating, exercising, walking, riding in vehicles to the actual jump sites and jump plane from the training site, and from the jump landing site back to the training site. The time spent in this manner provided additional opportunities to closely observe the other jumpers. Much time is spent in waiting at parachute sites and such time was especially useful for this study. Long waiting periods may result because the wind is usually either too strong in the morning if one arrives early, so that one must wait and hope the wind dies down in the afternoon - which it usually doesn't - or one must take a new or review course, or wait for the airplane to be checked out and fueled, by which time the wind, which had been non-existent all morning, has suddenly reached healthy, gusty proportions. No jumps are permitted with the wind more than 15 miles per hour.

If the wind behaves, there will surely be a shower, which turns to a steady downpour, or a sandstorm or fog will arise. There is, therefore, ample time to talk with other parachutists and to become familiar with the community subculture of sport parachuting - its content, behaviors, impression management, group dynamics, rituals and beliefs, language and special male - female and age group interaction, communication procedures, form of address, subjects discussed, and how it has impact on other aspects of personal, social, family, occupational and institutional living.

Six parachutists were interviewed in depth. Two are jump site owners, a third is the motorcycle mechanic, the fourth is a man I met at the Chambersburg POPS / SOS Nationals Championship. The fifth is a Sky Diving Instructor whom I have known for more than a decade. The sixth was added because he is from Canada, where there is a shorter jump training period - not because the sky-divers won't jump into a snow bank, but because the jump plane has trouble landing into a snow bank, or on slick ice.

IV. FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION OF PARACHUTISTS

Having jumped at several drop-zones during the past 25 years, I have had the opportunity to observe the parachuting community sub-culture.

The behavior of the average sky-diver appears unremarkable. That is, were you to visit the jumpsite for a full day, you would observe that the students in the classroom part of the training are just like other students in other classrooms. Some are quiet, some restless, others joke, some ask questions, some don't, others can always answer questions the instructor asks, some seem to always give the wrong answers to instructors' questions.

The physical part of the training prior to jumping is like an average gym class. Some excel, it makes no difference whether male or female. Some need repeated instruction and much practice, some need little. Age seems to make no difference.

During lunch break, most people mingle and mix. The usual questions asked are: "Is this your first jump?", if not, "How many jumps?" Most people are willing to talk, but just the usual small talk, "Where are you from? Are you coming back?" If the jumpers are husband / wife, boyfriend / girlfriend, mother / father / son / daughter / brother / sister / cousins, this is usually proudly proclaimed. Many times a group of college students come together. However, there is no set pattern. A female stripper may come alone, a grandfather, teacher, all types of first-timers usually say, "It's something I always wanted to do".

There is much more communication among first-time jumpers and those still in training because they are physically kept together. The more advanced are on their own; they come to the jumpsite, don their paraphernalia, go to the plane, up into the sky, jump and repeat the process till they leave. There are few exceptions to this pattern.

The only Afro-American male I ever saw at a jumpsite jumped barefooted. He casually remarked to me as he gathered up his chute and walked away, "I learned to jump in Africa. I've made over 600 jumps, all barefooted."

There are no unique subjects discussed. The topic of the day, whether it's O.J. Simpson or the election of President Clinton, is discussed. There are no special rituals; I've never seen anyone cross him /herself, knock on wood, or step on or over cracks. The only beliefs are in a mechanically sound plane, sober pilot, perfect chute, and one's own physical ability. There is no special language. Male and female interaction is just as it is any place else. Women are accepted with no special considerations. They must pass all the requirements that males do. There are no special forms of address. Everyone is called by his / her first name / nickname. However, nicknames are not given by the group, such as "slowpoke", "klutz" and the like.

In all the years I have been jumping, I have never heard anyone say that the hobby of jumping has interfered with his / her social life, family life, or occupation. I have, however, heard complaints about the lack of enough money to jump as often as one wished.

It has been my experience for more than one quarter century that there is very little or no "hanging out" on a Saturday night. The 'camaraderie' among sky divers is a loose one, generally, whereby one sky diver is glad to meet another by chance, such as noticing the sky diving credit card use on a cashier line at Home Depot.

Experienced sky divers jump to improve their skills and break existing records - their own and others. Partying and drinking in the evening would impair their ability to make / break records. The only exceptions to this are "Boogies" - weekend affairs at drop zones where the goals are to make the most jumps possible and have the most fun possible on a weekend - preferably a three-day weekend.

Non-experienced sky divers usually do not have the energy to party after jumping. It is a very strenuous activity. Also, most are family connected in some way, with daughters / sons, wives / husbands, mothers / fathers, who are expected to be home for the night. Most jumpers are still working full time and need Sunday to recover / rest. Also, as this past weekend when I jumped with eight males, we all lived at least a two hours drive distance from the dropsite. At many dropsites there are no facilities after the last jump of the day for food, sanitary needs, or sleeping. Because of encroaching civilization, there are not as many campsites with facilities as there were a quarter century ago. If one has to drive a long distance for a hotel / restaurant, one might as well go home to one's family / friends / residence.

The only interest most skydivers have in common is just that, skydiving. They do not need to drink to get their courage up after diving, and one is not permitted to drink before jumping. The pre-jump briefings have covered all needed discussions. For example, on a Saturday night a female music teacher of 60 has little in common to discuss with four teenage boys in baggy pants, all five of whom are exhausted. The experienced jumpers have gone through various jumps and the staff can't wait to go home and relax.

SIX BIOGRAPHIES

The first interview included two people, one male, one female, co-owners of a dropsite in New Jersey. This site was chosen for several reasons:

- 1) It is the second closest to my home, 104 miles each way.
- 2) It is affiliated with an airport so that I could fly there in a rented plane, if I so chose. I could also take balloon flights, helicopter lessons and airplane lessons to further my flight skills.
- 3) Accelerated Free Fall (AFF) classes are given.
- 4) There are indoor bathrooms.
- 5) There is a fast food restaurant on the premises, owned and operated by the staff.
- 6) Camping is permitted so that jumpers may stay overnight or for as long as they desired.
- 7) There is a full-time staff consisting of several persons of both sexes, and the co-owners live on the site.

The entire operation is well organized, efficient, neat, clean and orderly. While I have never met a disorganized jumper, some of the jump sites have been chaotic, primitive, and downright dirty. The setting in New Jersey is rustic, as if one has traveled back in time almost a century. The entire jumpsite operation is set on 150 acres of beautiful, rolling farmland country.

The airport is a separate business. However, Tiffany and Danny* lease one plane, own one plane, and own all the jumpsite equipment, including boots, helmets, jumpsuits, and office equipment.

Tiffany, 42, and Danny, 56 live in a lovely, old, but remodeled and updated farmhouse. There is no hustle, bustle, noise, except for the drone of the small single engine planes, helicopters, and birds, crickets and frogs.

I was invited into the farm house as a friend - the camaraderie of sub-groups - served coffee, tea, and Danish, shown the entire home, trophies, movies of their accomplishments. Neither Tiffany nor Danny ever married. She is childless, he has a son by a former partner.

Tiffany is tiny, 5'2", 105 pounds, has one sister and two brothers, none of whom have ever jumped, or ever intend to. Her mother never jumped, but her father jumped in the 101st Airborne Division, although not after he left the service. However, both her parents think it is great that she jumps. She has a male cousin, aged 32, who also jumps. Tiffany says she has always been different from the other members of her family: "I was just born that way." She was always a tomboy, and would jump out of the second story of her bedroom to enjoy forbidden pleasures.

She describes her life as a young adult as "free-style". She just came and went where, and as, she pleased. Some of her jobs as a young woman were a construction scheduler in Israel, an expeditor for an engineering firm in New York City, and a counselor in Camp David. She does not remember where or when she first heard about parachuting. She "always wanted to jump." During the summer of 1993 she completed her 500th jump, carrying a large American flag.

* Not their real names

This was no slight accomplishment because Tiffany has multiple sclerosis, which keeps her bedridden for as long as six months at a time, and sometimes she is completely blind in her left eye, sometimes in her right.

Tiffany describes sky-diving as the motivating force that keeps her going. She was one of three persons to receive awards personally from President Bush for her work with multiple sclerosis sufferers. At the present time, her disease is in remission, so she is "climbing high". From mid-March through Thanksgiving, Tiffany is kept busy at the dropsite in New Jersey and land skis when she has the opportunity. During the winter months she works on computers as an illustrator (she has a Master of Fine Arts), and enjoys her hobbies of bicycling and gardening.

Her final remark for the interview was "I get bored very easily and need constant excitement to keep going."

Danny, very handsome, approximately 5'11", 185 pounds, has two sisters and one brother, so both partners come from a family of two sons and two daughters. While Tiffany's parents are both alive, Danny's father died while he was in high school, leaving his mother to raise the children alone. While Tiffany was the youngest of the four, Danny was the oldest. Tiffany's Dad was a military jumper, her mother a non-jumper, while both of Danny's parents were non-jumpers, and neither of his parents approved of jumping. Danny was a bombardier on aircraft carriers during the Viet Nam war, and has been a parachutist since 1960. He was the person who set up the Lakewood jumpsite in 1966, and now has almost 5,000 jumps.

Danny never was a thrill seeker, has never ridden a motorcycle. His hobbies while in Florida during the winter months are fishing, photography in general and photographing Free Fall films, some of which have been featured on the NBC "Today" Show.

The second interview was with the only full-time male jumpmaster employed by the dropsite owner. This dropsite in New York is a much smaller enterprise than the one in New Jersey. The one man owner, operator, pilot and jumpmaster has only two full-time employees, a female secretary/receptionist and the jumpmaster I interviewed. The owner's son helps out part-time when he is home from college.

Compared to the seven reasons for which I chose the first jumpsite, this one was chosen for only one reason - its proximity to my home, 108 miles round trip. There are six reasons why this dropsite is less than ideal. They are:

- 1) The nearby airport is unsafe, usually has no rental airplane, no balloons, and no helicopter.
- 2) The AFF course is not given.
- 3) There are only outdoor toilets, incredibly dirty and fly infested.
- 4) No food is provided on the premises.
- 5) Camping is prohibited and there are no motels/hotels in the immediate vicinity.
- 6) The site itself is between two main highways, high tension wires, and close to large bodies of water.

Jim* was born within a few miles of the jumpsite. He is 6', 165 pounds with black hair. He first jumped at 23, is now 30, single, but hopes to be married someday, and is the only jumper in his family and among his circle of friends. As the youngest member of the family, Jim tried to get

* Not his real name

his parents and siblings, two sisters and one brother, to jump, but succeeded in getting only one sister to make two jumps. As with the first two interviewed, he is one of four children, also two boys and two girls. He is the youngest.

His family has become accustomed to his occupation but is not enthusiastic about it. During the winter months, Jim is a jumpmaster in the southern states. He has a B.A. in accounting, and could make more money as an accountant, but he says, "Sky-diving is addictive. I have a love affair with it". His logo is "E.F.S. Blue Skies Forever".

He has made more than 600 jumps including jumps from DC-3 and 727 planes and helicopters, progressing from round to square chutes, and was injured once. Although not a pilot yet, that is his goal. His other sports activities are land skiing, motorcycling and surfing.

The third interview was with a motorcycle operator and mechanic. His mother has been a gym teacher for 40 years and has played professional hockey and basketball. He is also a native New Yorker. He is the youngest child, as is the man in the second interview. He has two older brothers and an older sister. This parachutist is also one of four children, as are the other three interviewed.

Ray* first jumped at age 17. His high school friend owned a plane and the friend and his entire family jumped. Through the years, he has lost track of his friend. Ray is now 35, 5'11", with black hair, has been married and divorced twice, but he does not relate this turnover to his hobby of skydiving. He emphatically states his jumping is not relevant to his marital situation. He has no children. Before becoming a motorcycle mechanic, Ray was a union carpenter for 13

* Not his real name

years, all over the United States, the island of Jamaica, Alaska and Hawaii, where one of his brothers lives.

Ray has jumped from bi-planes, Cessnas, from a helicopter on skis on both mountains and plains. He has jumped into water, and at night, illegally. At night, he would have one friend fly a Cessna over Jones Beach, and drop him from the plane, onto the beach, where another friend would be watching for him in an all terrain vehicle.

Perhaps his other hobbies explain his need for thrills, "living on the edge." He is a motorcyclist, surfer, has been a scuba diver for 15 years, and was in competition in martial arts until he broke his wrist and could no longer compete. So he is now a martial arts teacher. Ray has also been a professional drummer for the past ten years.

Ray attended the Culinary Institute of America for 3 years. He has two goals:

- 1) to own his own restaurant
- 2) to fly helicopters.

The fourth interview was conducted with Joe, who is 68 years old. He has eight children, all of whom have jumped, but none do it consistently, as a main hobby. He has 27 grandchildren, several of whom have already jumped. He is a living legend in jumping. He was in the Canadian Merchant Marine in 1945 in Australia. He first jumped in the United States in 1949, and has jumped in all states but New York. He has progressed from the round to square chute, and likes the latter best, "because they are faster!" He has more than 2,000 jumps, 500 in the past four years, and owns a real estate business.

His wife, a few years younger, has more than 500 jumps. She had a very difficult time training for her AFF certification. The first thing they did upon her receiving her AFF was team work during which he kissed her. She says, "This was the biggest thrill of my life." And this is a mother of eight!

Joe has been in AA for 32 years, in California. After jumping, he and his wife would go to the bar with more than 30 other jumpers. All of them discovered they were alcoholics. They realized this would stop their jumping, one way or another, because 1) No alcohol is allowed at jumpsites and 2) An alcoholic usually is not alert enough to jump repeatedly and not make mistakes, and mistakes while jumping are usually fatal.

Joe has done formation work with as many as 200 participants. Last year, Joe broke his back jumping and was hospitalized for six weeks. He was doing canopy work (aerial maneuvers) when someone swooped under him. He had no time to recover, which resulted in four successive malfunctions. He jumped in Australia two years ago and is very disappointed he can't jump this year. But he is going to jump in Australia next year, with his wife's whole-hearted approval.

Joe* believes the image of skydiving is changing as participants change. "There is not so much partying as before, skydivers are more serious, into performance." He really doesn't care what you call him - parachutist or skydiver - "since you jump out of a plane, you are a sky-diver." His other sports activity is down hill skiing. "I got more hurt doing that more than I ever did sky-diving, until this one time."

* Not his real name

The fifth interview was another 'living legend'. Jack did not divulge his age, but he has been jumping for 49 years. He is approximately 5'7", perhaps 140 pounds, wiry, with a full flowing beard and mustache, and sparkling, twinkling, incredibly blue eyes. He can tell non-stop stories all day and all night, keeping his audience enthralled. He is known by many serious jumpers throughout the country, having made his living training jumpers. However, his students were not run-of-the-mill.

He taught Johnny Carson 26 years ago, John Wayne for his Green Beret film, Judy Newman, the Cat Woman on "Batman", a couple of members of the Minnesota Vikings, and both military and police jumpers, to list but a few. He speaks as fast as he free-falls.

Jack lives in a mobile home with all modern conveniences. He continually travels. He has no permanent address - a free spirit! His mail catches up with him eventually, because he attends all important sky-diving events, celebrations, competitions and anniversaries. That's where you find him, at the current biggest skydiving affair.

Every inch of the inside of his mobile home is covered with clippings and pictures. It is a veritable museum, a living history of sky-diving since 1900. Jack's close friend for more than three decades was Tiny Bradwick, (1893 - 1979), who made more than 600 jumps from 1908 - 1922. Her most famous jump was made in 1913 from a hydro-aeroplane flown by Glenn Martin. She jumped into Lake Michigan, where the Mayor of Chicago and the Governor of Michigan were waiting in a police boat to fish her out of the lake.

Jack was in the 11th Airborne in Alaska as a press correspondent. He remained in Pruedo Bay, Alaska, for 20 years, jumping and training jumpers. Jack has jumped in the

* Not his real name

Philippines and Hawaii, and made a movie about sky-diving in the Bahamas. Some of the planes he has jumped from are: Cessna 210, Cessna 336, Lockheed C-130, Bell 206, Boeing PT17, Ryan PT-22, Beech AT-11, CH-C6, and Dehavilland. He has jumped from helicopters, made delayed jumps from bridges, jumped from a Piper Cub before 102,000 people 40 years ago into the Rose Bowl in California, and before a half million people in Guam. The only problem he ever had was when he had jumped from a plane and another plane's propeller cut his chute. He managed to grab the lines and maneuver the chute safely to the ground.

Jack adroitly fends off and discourages questions about his personal life. While he is courteous, generous, friendly, has every good quality anyone can think of, his personal life is his own. There are no pictures in his mobile home of family - no parents, spouse(s), children, and he never mentions any relatives. His friends are legion, his personal life his alone.

V. SURVEY DATA

Age

The average age of the females was 35, that of the males 40. This response suggests that the majority of jumpers are not dare-devil youths. (See Table 1)

Gender

Almost two fifths of the females, but less than one fourth the male jumpers were in the 19 through 30 age category. Approximately half of both genders were in the 31 - 45 age category. Less than one tenth of the females, but more than one-fourth the males were in the 46 - 79 age category, as reported in Table 1.

It can be surmised that the reason for such a large percentage of females under 30 is because they are eager and able to prove their ability to compete successfully in a traditionally male sport. It can also be surmised that the reason for such a small percentage of female jumpers 46 and older is because females in that age category were not yet liberated when young and find it difficult to begin participation in the traditional male sport of sky-diving.

Inasmuch as the first female parachutist jumped in 1802, only five years after the first male parachutist, it is obvious that gender equality has yet to be achieved.

Table 1 Age and Gender (%)			
Males	80%		
Females	20%		
Age		Females	Males
		%	%
19 to 30		38	24
31 to 45		54	50
46 to 79		8	26
		100 %	100%
N = 462			

Race

More than nineteen twentieths of those surveyed identified themselves as white. Less than one-twentieth did not reply, and one can only speculate as to the race of the three individuals who replied "American", "Australian", and "British". 88 of the 89 females who replied were white; one was black.

More than nine tenths of the males were white, 1% was black, 1% Hispanic / Spanish, and less than 1% were American Indian. Even if out of the less than the 10% who did not answer the question, or did not positively identify their race, all are considered other than white, whites are dominant.

Weight

Weight is important because of limits imposed at jump sites and by parachute construction. More than nine tenths of the respondents were within the weight limit, 85% of the females and more than 95% of the males. Females ranged in weight from 94 to 189 pounds, with an average of 130 pounds; males ranged in weight from 130 to 275 pounds with an average of 190 pounds.

The question concerning weight was asked because many dropsites have a rule that will not permit males heavier than 220 pounds to jump. There are three reasons for this. First, many dropsites are small operations, with 1,200 pound planes, such as the Cessna 172, which cannot fly with a heavy load. The second reason is that the parachutes themselves have limitations as to weight-bearing and maneuverability. While it may be possible to produce chutes that can support unusual loads, maneuverability is sacrificed. If the parachutist is too heavy, it is impossible to

make a "soft", safe landing; if the chute is non-manageable while in flight, the parachutist will land wherever the chute takes her / him - perhaps into lakes / rivers / oceans / city streets / or high wires. A 34 year old male from Kapousin, Wa, who added "(Yes, I'm FAT!)", weighed 'only' 190 pounds, but was under the weight limit and was permitted to jump.

Women are limited to 140 pounds because it is believed that females above that weight are (generally) too heavy and not physically fit for the performance of feats necessary for safe jumping. A lack of sufficient weight for proper descent can cause a jumper to float off into dangerous areas.

The third reason for weight limitation is that all jumpers must pass a physical course during which they must jump from a platform approximately four feet high and roll to the left, to the right backwards, and recover to their feet in order to collapse the chute before it fills with wind and possibly drags them across the ground. They must also hang from a simulated wing, slide face down a six foot ramp, and arch their backs in a mock plane exit. Those who are overweight would be more likely to break an ankle or leg by landing too hard, and would be less likely to partially somersault to either the right or left side should the need occur. Overweight persons are usually not athletic enough to rise quickly to their feet.

The shortest female parachutist was 4'11", the tallest 5'11", the average height 5'4" The shortest male was 5'4", the tallest 6'7" the average height 5'7".

One reason for asking about height was that very tall persons have a problem fitting into small jump planes. It is not practical for a beginner to jump from a speeding jet! A second reason is that the limitations on height and weight create a problem for a tall female. A female who is 5'9" to 6'2" may be rather slender at 140 pounds, but if she is thin there may not be enough padding in the body to prevent injury in an unexpectedly hard landing.

Marital Status

Two fifths of both females and males were married. Less than two fifths of the females but almost half the males were single. One fifth of the females were divorced, and one tenth of the males were divorced (Table 2).

The ratio of both single and married to divorced females was roughly 2:1. The ratio of both single and married to divorced males was approximately 5:1 and 4:1 respectively. It appears that males who don't jump have less reason to blame "the little woman", than women have to blame their males. The reason(s) for single females not being represented proportionately with single males can only be conjectured: perhaps the females prefer to be accompanied by males.

There was one widowed parachutist, a male army officer, 65, and one widow, a retired nurse, 63. There were two added comments by males, both humorous. One wrote, "DIVORCED SINGLE FOREVER", another, 23, from Indianapolis wrote, "Killed her".

TABLE 2 Gender and Marital Status (%)			
Males	80%		
Females	20%		
		Females	Males
		%	%
Single		36	48
Married		41	40
Divorced		20	11
Widowed		1	0
Poly		0	0
F		1	0
		100%	100%
N = 354			
0 = < 1%			

Number of Children

Almost three fifths of the female and almost half of the male jumpers had no children. This suggests that the less children one has, the more likely one is to jump. Both female and male jumpers with one or two children comprised 37% of the jumpers.

We expected that the more offspring, the less likely one would be to sky dive, for various reasons, ranging from the lack of money, to "I might get killed and who would care for my spouse?" This expectation proved correct.

Age of Children

One fourth of the female jumpers had children in the 10 - 14 year age group, traditionally a "difficult" age group and in need of parents' time. Almost one fourth of the female jumpers had children in the 15 - 19 age group, also very crucial in childrens' lives. Financial burdens of parents with children in this age group can be horrendous.

However, in the 20 - 24 children's age group, female jumpers were practically non-existent. The reasons for this can only be surmised. These children presumably need less care than those 19 and under whose mothers comprise more than three fourths of the jumpers. The reason may not be age related because those with children 25+ (presumably the mothers were older) are represented by almost the same proportion as those in all but the 1 - 4 child age group.

Possibly those with children in the 20 - 24 age group are exhausted from the task of child-rearing or may be reentering the job market.

The male jumpers, as opposed to the females, have a more evenly distributed age range, with children in the 5 - 9, 10 - 14, and 20 - 24 categories each having one tenth or more of the total jumpers represented. Almost one fifth with very youngest children in the 1 - 4 age group jumped, perhaps because jumping is another expression of their virility. More than three tenths of male jumpers had children who were adults themselves, and presumably, on their own financially and physically.

Occupation

Almost one eighth of the females and approximately one twelfth of the males were employed in the sky-diving industry (Table 3).

There appears to be no correlation between educational level, occupation and number of jumps. The complete list of occupations is provided in the Appendix. The female occupations range from nanny, housewife, clerk, to school psychologist, with the fewest number of jumps - one each - for self employed and waitress, to those with the greatest number of jumps (excluding one professional skydiver), an administrator and hygienist with 6,407 and 4,800 jumps respectively.

The males followed the same lack of pattern. The fewest number of jumps were achieved by a construction worker (1) and a can collector (5) while the greatest number of jumps (again eliminating professional sky-divers) was made by municipal and computer employees. Those with higher degrees, including architects, artists, engineers, and a ship's captain are as well represented among parachutists as those with less possible financial losses from injuries, including clerks, drivers, a pizza twirler, a secretary, and the unemployed.

It must be remembered that when one jumps there is NO LIFE OR ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

Females listed 46 and males 109 different occupations. The largest single category for females was administrators, 10; for males, engineers represented 28. Only one female was retired, but more than one twentieth of the males were retired.

Retired women may be older, and may follow the stereotypes of never having done much on their own - from balancing a check-book to driving a car. They may not enjoy, if living alone, driving many miles to the jumpsite, jumping, and then driving the long distance home afterward, or, perhaps, camping at the jumpsite, which, to many older women alone, is not conducive to comfort of mind or body. Also, retired women generally have much lower incomes than men, and therefore may not have the income to spend on a 'luxury' which could include the cost of a hotel for an overnight stay.

Table 3 Gender and Occupation (%)							
Females				Males			
%	Occupation	# Jumps	Aver. Jumps	%	Occupation	# Jumps	Aver. Jumps
16	Professional	10200	16	5	Professional	18814	5
55	White Collar	41237	63	35	White Collar	144632	35
10	Blue Collar	3753	6	33	Blue Collar	115744	28
5	Manager / Owner	7112	11	9	Manager / Owner	46512	11
1	Military	215	0	5	Military	31587	8
1	Disabled	2	0	0	Unemployed	5386	1
1	N/A	460	1	0	None	180	0
10	Student	2212	3	4	Student	8997	2
1	Retired	5	0	7	Retired	43728	10
0	Blank	0		1	Blank	2049	0
100%		65196	100%	99%		417629	100%
	N = 468						
	0 = < 1%						

Annual Income

The average female earned less than three fourths of the annual income of males. In the \$0 - 11,999 and \$25,000 - 49,999 categories, females and males were represented almost equally. In the second lowest income category, \$12,000 - 24,999, females outnumbered males almost two to one (Table 4).

In the \$50,000 - 99,999 income group, approximately one eighth of the females, but more than one fifth of the males were represented. This disparity between female and male annual earnings was even greater in the \$100,000 - 499,999 category, with one percent of the females and five percent of the males represented. One male replied, "Although I won't answer this directly I have enough disposable income to support my hobbies." Males were the only respondents who could seemingly be humorous where finances were concerned, with four replying, "Enough", "Not Enough," "What income?", and "Guess".

Table 4: Annual Income (%)			
Males	80%		
Females	20%		
		Females	Males
Average Income:		\$27,976	\$38,538
		%	%
\$500,000+		0	0
Varies		2	0
Retired		0	1
Not enough		0	0
Enough		0	1
Guess		0	0
0 to \$11,999		5	6
\$12,000 to \$24,999		39	20
\$25,000 to \$49,999		43	48
\$50,000 to \$99,999		12	21
\$100,000 - \$499,999		1	5
Totals:		100%	100%
N = 414			
0 = < 1%			

Education

Common sense might suggest that persons with a good education, a good job, who were normal citizens, obeying the mores of society, would not gamble their lives to defy the laws of physics for a brief thrill.

At the post-graduate level, females were far ahead of the males with master's and doctoral degrees. More than one tenth of the females, but approximately one twentieth of the males had a Master's degree. More than one twentieth of the females but only one fiftieth of the males had doctoral degrees (Table 5). The females' greater education did not enable them to equal the males' earning powers!

Only one percent of respondents, both female and male, had less than an eighth grade education. Both females and males with some college education comprised approximately three tenths of the respondents. Both females and males with a four year college degree also represented approximately three tenths of the respondents.

TABLE 5 Education (%)			
Males	80%		
Females	20%		
		Females	
		Males	
		N = 86	%
		N = 356	%
0 to 8		1	1
9 to 12		24	32
Some College		31	32
4 years college		28	26
Master's		11	6
Doctorates		6	2
"A" levels		1	1
Totals:		100%	100%
N = 442			

Religious Preference

The researcher is a minister's daughter, has been a church organist for 59 years, a college instructor of religion, and has spent an average of ten hours a week in religious establishments of all persuasions for her entire life. Because of this exposure to religious customs and life styles, she had assumed most sky-divers would be either 1) agnostics / atheists / devil-may-care individuals, or 2) devout souls who put their entire faith - and lives - in a God of love who would protect them from all harm.

Only 2% of the respondents were Jewish, including one Orthodox Jew. Just under one half of respondents were Christians, with three twentieths Catholic, and almost one quarter of the respondents were Protestants (Table 6).

Some non-mainstream religions were surprising: "Alcoholics Anonymous" was given by two respondents. One man cited "All". The man who replied "God" is hard to classify. "Batista", "LDS" and "LOB" were each given by one respondent. There was one mystic, one pantheist, and one each who profess Yoga, Voodoo, Zen and poly as their religious preference. Two have their "own". One young man answered "poly", with "Voodoo" religion, but perhaps he was joking.

The number of agnostics and atheists was so small as to be statistically insignificant.

In addition to the Orthodox Jewish sky-diver, Mennonites, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses and Presbyterians also jumped. These four religions are relatively traditional, and do not look favorably upon wild flights of fancy. Three respondents could not spell the religion of their choice. A man who did not state his educational level wrote "Prod", by which it is presumed he meant Protestant. A high school graduate wrote "Christain", and an engineer with a college degree wrote "athiest".

TABLE 6 Religious Preference		
Males	80%	
Females	20%	
		Respondents %
		Total Jumps %
A) Christian		
1) Catholic		17
2) Non-Specified		1
3) Protestant		
a) Denominational		
i) Baptist		
Southern Baptist		5
		1
ii) Episcopalian		
a) Anglican		
		0
b) Church of England		
		1
c) Episcopal		
		2
d) Protestant		
		8
iii) Free Evangelist		
		0
iv) Lutheran		
		0
v) Methodist		
		4
vi) Pentecostal		
		0
vii) Presbyterian		
		2
b) Protestant Non-denomination		
i) Jehovah's Witness		
		0
ii) Mennonite		
		0
ii) Mormon		
		1
iii) Unitarian		
		1
Totals:		43%
B) Jewish		
i) Jewish		
		2
ii) Hebrew		
		0
iii) Orthodox		
		0
Totals:		2%
C) Other		
i) Agnostic		
		1
ii) Alcoholics Anonymous		
		0
iii) All		
		0
iv) Atheist		
		2
v) Blank		
		6
vi) Batista		
		0
vii) God		
		1
viii) Jesus		
		0
ix) Jumping		
		0
x) LDS		
		0
xi) LOB		
		0

Table 6 (Continued) Religious Preference		
	Respondents %	Total Jumps %
xii) Mystic	0	0
xiii) N/A	31	28
xiv) Own	0	1
xv) Pantheism	0	0
xvi) Progressive	0	0
xvii) Yoga	0	0
xvii) Voodoo	0	0
xix) Zen	1	1
Totals:	42%	42%
Grand Totals: N = 462	97%	93%
0 = < 1%		

Religious Services Attended

Certain religions are generally acknowledged to be more conservative than others, with the belief that "If men were supposed to fly, they would have wings as angels!" Also, in certain religious groups such as Pentecostal, members are required to attend church services every Sunday, such attendance taking precedence over all other activities, including one's work.

We found that religious services may lessen jump opportunities, inasmuch as the majority of parachutists are in the age group that generally work full time and has only weekends to jump. Those who attend services seldom or never far outnumber those who attend services often, or even occasionally (Tables 7 and 8).

Table 7 Frequency of Religious Services Attended (%)		
Males	80%	
Females	20%	
	Females	Males
	%	%
Attend Services Often	12	8
Attend Services Occasionally	13	15
Attend Services Seldom	37	38
Attend Services Never	32	38
Blank	5	1
	99%	100%
N =459		

Table 8 Types of Religious Services Attended (%)			
Males	80%		
Females	20%		
Unknown	0		
		Females	Males
Christian:		%	
Catholic:		17	17
Non-Catholic		40	36
Total Christian:		57	52
Jewish:		1	2
Unclassifiable:		40	45
Blank		2	1
		100%	100%
N = 459			

Siblings and Birth Order

All females, and more than 98 percent of males answered this question. First and second born of both genders comprised almost three tenths of the replies. Whereas third born females also represented almost three tenths of the replies, third born males accounted for little more than one tenth of the replies. Fourth and fifth born were represented infrequently. Female only children comprised one percent of the respondents but males accounted for almost ten percent (Table 9).

The results of this survey do not confirm Nisbett's (1963) findings that in all but the largest families, first borns were less likely to play a dangerous sport than later borns.

Table 9 Siblings and Birth Order (%)					
Males	80%				
Females	20%				
Birth Order	% Resp.	% Brothers	% Sisters	% Military Jumps	% Civilian Jumps
FEMALES		N = 147	N = 113	N = 0	N = 65196
Only	3	0	0	0	1
First	29	29	26	0	27
2nd	33	31	24	0	28
3rd	20	17	22	0	28
4th	4	7	5	0	10
5th	3	3	8	0	1
6th	0	0	0	0	0
7th	3	7	10	0	2
Blank	5	5	5	0	3
	100%	99%	100%	0%	100%
Birth Order	% Resp.	% Brothers	% Sisters	% Military Jumps	% Civilian Jumps
MALES:		N = 509	N = 482	N = 573	N = 419809
Only	7			6	8
First	26	23	26	19	29
2nd	26	20	24	45	26
3rd	12	11	14	1	12
4th	8	12	10	1	6
5th	3	6	7	1	1
6th	2	5	6	3	2
7th	0	0	0	0	0
8th	1	2	1	5	2
9th	1	3	1	0	1
13th	0	2	1	0	0
Blank	14	16	10	19	13
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
N = 453					
0 = < 1%					

Parents

Over four fifths of the jumpers were raised in a traditional family with two parents (Table 10). Almost three twentieths of the females and one tenth of the males were raised in a home by a female single parent. The number of respondents raised in a home by a male parent was statistically insignificant.

Thirteen respondents included explanations for their answers. The three females appear to have come from confusing home situations. One female wrote, "Both - mother married 3 times by (my) age 13". A second female replied, "Two families - divorced and both remarried". A third checked "female" and inserted after "Two Parents of Opposite Sex", "Yes, part-time". The fourth replied, "Foster care" (not specifying what type family situation), and then "mother". The fifth responded "In a complete home after" and a large arrow drawn to the 'Female' choice.

The eight males who added explanations also came from confusing home situations. One replied, "stepfather with mother for 10 years, father with stepmother for 1 year, father until I moved out". Another added, "1/3 WITH BOTH, 1/3 WITH FATHER, 1/3 WITH MOTHER". A third explained, "two parents of opposite sex until age 4, female age 4-8". A fourth checked and added "No" to "Two Parents of Opposite Sex", but provided no further explanation. A fifth said, "Stepfather left at 10", so we can assume he was raised by a female. The sixth replied, "Both worked". Should that imply he was raised by two parents of opposite sex, or "just grew" like Topsy in Uncle Tom's Cabin? The seventh seemingly wanted to be sure the researcher understood he was raised in a "normal" family by parents of both sexes because he checked all three, "Two parents of Opposite Sex", "Male", and "Female".

Some males replied with a sense of humor. Three males replied respectively, if not respectfully, "One dog", "last time I checked," and "Dad and Mom. Is that weird?" (the same male who replied "guy" as to gender.)

TABLE 10 Parents				
Males	80%			
Females	20%			
Females	Respondents	Military Jumps	Civilian Jumps	Total Jumps
	%	%	%	%
Two parents	84	0	93	93
Single Male	2	0	1	1
Single Female	13	0	4	4
Other	1	0	2	2
	100%	0	100%	100%
Males	Respondents	Military Jumps	Civilian Jumps	Total Jumps
	%	%	%	%
Two parents	88%	84	91	92
Single Male	2%	10	1	1
Single Female	8%	4	7	6
Other	2%	2	1	1
	100%	100%	100%	100%
N = 459				

Sexual Preference

Over nine tenths of the females and males are heterosexual. There were only three lesbians and eight gay males, one bisexual female and six bisexual males, and one asexual male - no asexual female(s) (Table 11).

Heterosexual females have each made slightly more than half the total number of jumps than their male counterparts. Lesbians have made only approximately one twelfth the total number of jumps of heterosexual males. Gay males, while having made one third less than the total number of jumps of heterosexual males, still have made a substantial greater number of jumps each than heterosexual females. Bisexual males made approximately one fourth the total number of jumps of heterosexual males. The only asexual respondent (male) made approximately one twentieth of the total number of jumps of the average heterosexual male, in the same category as the female bisexual.

The returns show homosexuals, bisexuals and asexual(s), as with other minority groups, are under-represented in the sky-diving population. Sky-divers are considered deviants by nature and personality, but in this study their sexual preferences are, perhaps less "deviant" than the general population. The more "deviant" the person, the fewer the number of jumps.

The one homosexual female asked, "What is this for?". Of the four males who added remarks, one homosexual added, "I feel like I'm the only one". Male sky-divers seem to have a sense of humor: "I like women. Hi Gertrude!!", "Don't mind bisexual women. Not interested in bisexual men", "I like women, especially if they sky dive."

TABLE 11 Sexual Preference (%)				
Males	80%			
Females	20%			
Females				
		Military Jumps	Civilian Jumps	Average Jumps Made
	%		%	%
Heterosexual	95	0	97	735
Homosexual	3	0	1	104
Bisexual	1	0	0	80
Asexual	0	0	0	0
	100%	0	98%	
Males				
		Military Jumps	Civilian Jumps	Average Jumps Made
	%	%	%	%
Heterosexual	96	99	98	1169
Homosexual	2	1	2	803
Bisexual	2	0	0	340
Asexual	0	0	0	66
	100%	100%	100%	
Average Number of Jumps				
Heterosexual	950			
Homosexual	613			
Bisexual	303			
Asexual	66			
N = 453				
0 = < 1%				

Introduction to Parachuting

More than half the females and almost two fifths of the males were introduced to parachuting by friends (Table 12). Almost one fourth of both females and males were introduced by people in the "other" category. Relatives introduced females to parachuting almost twice as often as did male relatives, whereas the media introduced males to parachuting almost twice as

often as to females. Females listed "husbands" as distinct from relatives, while males did not list "wives" as a separate category.

The "friends" were listed as pals, same sex friends, opposite sex friends, and a male who jumped only once because he could not "chicken out" in front of his girlfriend. Three females and six males appeared to be self-motivated, one of each sex stating "desire", one female and three males stating "self", one female "wanted to", and one male replied "curious" after "other".

One female was introduced to parachuting through work. Two males were introduced to parachuting through an educational institution, "school", and "college", respectively. Two males were introduced to parachuting through "Film" and "Demonstration".

Three females replied they were introduced to parachuting by their husbands, while two males replied respectively, "Married into it", and "Wife is an instructor". Two young males, both age 18, stated, "Mom and Dad" and "Family". Others replied, "Yellow pages", "Live at end of runway", "Grandpa", "DZ (drop zone) by grandparents at age 2-19", "Military - lapse of 39 years after first jump in 1944. Age 70 Australia", "Civil Air Patrol age 17 (skydiving Club had representative at meeting)", and a final male who inserted the word "Skydiving" above parachuting, indicating his annoyance at being classed as a parachutist.

TABLE 12 Introduction to Parachuting (%)				
Males	80%			
Females	20%			
		Females	%	
			Males	
			%	
Friends		55	Friends	37
Relatives		13	Relatives	8
Military		0	Military	17
Media		8	Media	13
Other		23	Other	23
Blank		1	Blank	1
		100%		100%
N = 456				

Age at First Jump

The majority of first time jumpers are adults over 21. (Table 13). Less than one fifth of females and less than three tenths of males were under 21 when they made their first jump. Almost four fifths of first time female jumpers and almost seven tenths of male jumpers were between the ages of 21 and 45 when they made their first jump.

TABLE 13 Age at First Jump (%)			
Males	80%		
Females	20%		
Females Average Age: 28			
Males Average Age: 26			
Age	Females	%	Males
			%
13 to 20		19	30
21 to 35		65	56
36 to 50		13	13
51 to 73		2	2
		100%	100%
N = 459			

Type of Jump

The survey findings confirmed my speculations that many females did choose to jump tandem, in a jumpmaster's arms, although the majority still chose the traditional static line jump style. More than three tenths of the females chose to jump tandem the first time, whereas only one tenth of the males chose this option (Table 14). Not quite three fifths of the females chose static line for their first jump, whereas more than four fifths of the males chose static line.

Static line jumps, whereby one is hooked to the plane by a line which automatically opens the chute for the jumper after exiting the plane, are traditional and were the only student jumps permitted until a few years ago. With the newer option of tandem jumping, we might speculate

many females would choose this method rather than go it alone. We can also speculate most males who had the courage to jump, might not prefer to jump in the arms of another male. The tandem jump is also twice the price of the static line.

Less than one tenth of both sexes chose Accelerated Free Fall, which is a seven level jump training progression, through which the student progresses at his / her own learning pace, consisting of ground school and actual jump sessions, always with two instructors and a camera person videoing the entire jump jumping with the student. It is also five times as expensive as the tandem jump, with much more intensive instruction, complicated procedures, and difficult maneuvers.

Table 14 Type of Jump (%)							
Males	80%						
Females	20%						
Age	Females			Males			
	Tandem	Static Line	Acc. Free Fall	Tandem	Static Line	Acc. Free Fall	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
13 to 20	20	20	13	8	33	19	30
21 to 35	66	63	63	69	54	52	56
36 to 50	7	17	25	17	11	30	13
51 to 73	7	0	0	6	2	0	2
	100%	101%	101%	100%	100%	101%	101%
N = 459							
0 = < 1%							

Amount of Training Before First Jump

This question led to some confusing answers. One respondent had only 15 minutes instruction, while another had 80 hours. Does this reply mean 10 days at 8 hours a day, two full weeks or a full course? The replies for the question as to the number of days instruction ranged from one to 28 days. Does this reply imply four weeks instruction, seven days a week (most unlikely), or eight hours a day for over five weeks, assuming a week to be five days, or a full course?

Three fourths of the females responded to the "hours received" category, two thirds of the males. Approximately three fourths of both sexes in this category reported receiving eight hours (one day) or less instruction before their first jump.

The response to the "Day" category showed a significant difference between instruction received by females and males. Nine tenths of the females received one day's instruction, but three fourths of the males received three days or less instruction while one fourth received from five to 28 days' instruction. It is surprising that males received more instruction than females.

All the females and almost all the males who replied to the "Course" category received a full course. However, whereas no female had more than one course before her first jump, one male had two courses, and six males had three courses, as set forth in Table 15.

Table 15 Amount of Training Before First Jump (%)										
Females 20%										
Males 80%										
Responding: See individual category										
HOURS					DAYS					
Hours	Females		Males							
		%			Days	Females	%	Males	%	
0.25	3	4	1	0	1	9	90	35	51	
0.4	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	13	19	
0.5	10	15	6	2	3	1	10	2	3	
1	10	15	25	10	5	0	0	8	12	
1.5	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	1	1	
2	4	6	8	3	10	0	0	5	7	
3	4	6	15	6	14	0	0	2	3	
3.5	0	0	1	0	21	0	0	1	1	
4	7	10	41	17	28	0	0	1	1	
4.5	0	0	2	1		10	100%	68	100%	
5	6	9	22	9						
6	11	17	58	26	Total receiving one day training (8 hrs or less)					
7	9	15	14	6	Female			Males		
8	1	1	36	15	74	81%		266	60%	
9	0	0	0	0						
10	1	1	1	0	COURSES					
12	1	1	4	2	Course	Females		Male		
14	0	0	1	0			%		%	
15	0	0	1	0	1	22	100	125	95	
16	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	
17	0	0	3	1	3	0	0	6	4	
18	0	0	0	0		22	100%	132	100%	
70	0	0	1	0						
80	0	0	1	0						
	67	100%	244	97%						
0 = < 1%										

Type Plane Jumped From

Skydivers jumped from 58 different airborne vehicles, including W.W.I bi-planes, multi-engine planes, jet planes, helicopters and balloons (Table 16) . Rules and regulations are changing as rapidly in the field of skydiving as they are in medicine and computer technology, although the majority of all jumps are still made from Cessna 172s.

The weight limitation for females is 140 pounds, males 220 pounds when jumping from Cessna 172s because these planes, weighing 1,200 pounds, cannot take off with more than 400 passenger pounds.

Approximately one tenth of both males and females were over the weight limit for jumping. The eight females were an average of 19 pounds overweight, with an average height of 5'5", the nine males were an average of 26 pounds overweight, with an average height of 6'1". Therefore neither gender was heavily overweight.

Three respondents, from widely divergent areas of the country, all replied, "You name it". A fourth, a parachute instructor and rigger, replied, "If you mean my first jump, it was a Cessna 172, but I've jumped from all types during my career."

It would have been more accurate to use the words "airborne vehicle(s) jumped from" rather than "plane" because of the replies stating sky-divers had exited in some instances from 1) more than one airborne vehicle, and 2) the airborne vehicle(s) s/he jumped from was not always a plane.

If the drop site owners are concerned about the planes not lifting off the ground because of the overweight jumpers, all males over the weight of 140 pounds should be grounded. If the

airplane lift is not a factor, each parachutist should be considered individually, for example: 1) a 5'8", 158 pound female should not be denied the right to jump, while all males, whatever height and weight up to 220 pounds are permitted to jump and 2) each parachutist should be required to pass a physical before being permitted to jump because it is impossible to judge one's physical fitness by weight and height.

NOTE: Appendix F contains a description of the planes and other airborne vehicle(s) jumped from.

Table 16A Type Plane Jumped From (%)			
	%		
Beaver	1	Miscellaneous:	One each:
Apache	0	Boeing 747	1
Balloon, Hot Air	2	Antono	1
Barns	1	Avioca	1
Beech	3	Black Hawk	1
Bi-Plane	1	Cargo Door	1
Carabou	1	Champ B18	1
Caravan	2	Chinook	1
Casa	5	Constellation	1
Cessna (all)	39	DC3	1
D18	1	Donhier	1
Dehaviland	0	Ford Tri-Plane	1
DH Rapid	0	Gullwing	1
Helicopter	3	Hercules	1
Islander	1	Huey	1
King Air	7	L23	1
Miscellaneous	4	Loadstar	1
Norseman	0	Moran	1
Porter	4	Piper Lance	1
Queen Air	3	Rapides	1
Schuland	0	Rhiem Rock	1
Skyvan	0	Russian Jets	1
Stallion	0	Seneca	1
Stearman	0	Super Connie	1
Tiger Moth	0	Tri-Motor	1
Tri-Pacer	0	Ultra Lights	1
Turbo Lance	2	Warrior	1
Twin Beech	8		4%
Twin Otter	7		
Twin Bonanza	0		
UH1, UH60	1		
West Wind	0		
Whitely/Wilga	0		
Total:	96%		
Total Planes:	662		
0 = < 1%			

Table 16B Type Plane Jumped From (%)				
FEMALES:				
Weight		Height	Pounds over permissible jumping weight of 140	Plane Jumped from:
1	143	5'2"	3	Otter
2	145	5'6"	5	Cessna 180
1	150	5'6'	10	Cessna 180 & DC3
1	158	5'4"	18	Cessna 180
1	165	5'8"	25	Cessna, all
1	180	5'7"	40	Otter
1	189	5'7"	49	Other
Total: 8 Females	155 lb.	5'5"	19 pounds overweight	5 Categories
MALES:				
			Pounds over permissible jumping weight of 220	
1	224	6'	4	Cessna 180, all
1	230	6'7"	10	Casa, Cessna all
1	240	6'1"	20	Cessna 180
1	240	6'1"	20	Cessna 180
1	240	6'1"	20	DC3, Other
1	250	6'2"	30	Piper lance
1	254	6'	34	Cessna 180
1	265	6'1"	45	Cessna, all
1	275	5'10"	55	Cessna 182
Total: 9 Males				7 Categories
Averages:	246	6'1"	26 pounds overweight	1
Types Planes Jumped From		Females	Males	
Cessna 180		5	7	
Otter		3	0	
DC3		2	1	
Other		2	1	
All		1	1	
DC18		0	1	
Piper Lance		0	1	
Casa		0	1	
Categories:		5	7	
0 = < 1%				

Additional Training

Many females and males progressed to more advanced achievements in sky-diving. More males than females achieved the more prestigious levels of competition and jumpmistress/master.⁷³

Approximately three quarters of those replying of both sexes had additional free fall training. Almost three tenths of the females and almost two fifths of the males had entered competition. Approximately three fifths of the females and more than half of the males with additional training became jump mistresses and jumpmasters (Table 17).

Throughout the year there are hundreds of national and international competitions in many countries throughout the world, under the auspices of the International Parachuting Commission. There is a Skydivers Information Manual of official rules defining Canopy Relative Work (CRW), where any number from two to 200 jumpers participate in formations, block, random, sequential and stack canopy formations, and stairstep configurations, tagging, docking, no-contact, wrap and grips freestyle,.

There are strict rules regarding freestyle, judged on compulsory and artistic merit. The routines are timed, as in CRW. Some of the sequences are straddle headstand, side full twist, and helix spin, with flat, inverted, side warp, and / or upright orientation.

There are very strict rules and regulations concerning certification of jumpmasters / mistresses in the Skydiver's Information Manual, also under the auspices of the International Parachuting Commission. These vary according to levels of proficiency, land / water / day / night / tandem jumps.

A female bookkeeper holds the female world record Relative Work 200 Way and also the world's record Relative Work 79 Way⁷⁴. It is perhaps not surprising to learn that she has no children but it is surprising that she lives in New England, where sky-diving is generally unavailable from Thanksgiving through Easter. It is also noteworthy that she describes herself as a full time bookkeeper and not a professional sky-diver.

Eight males gave replies from as brief as "Exhibition", "Relative work (formation) sky-diving", "School of hard knocks," to one man who circled "additional training", "teach free fall, competition, Jump master". Another man age 62, a retired Fire Battalion Chief, does "professional show jumping." One man responded "Yes" to free fall competitions, jumpmaster and added "i.e. for both SL, AFF and FAA Master Rigger."

It is interesting to note that, although "Free Fall", "Competition" and "Jump Master" were options to be checked, those who achieved these prestigious levels / awards / categories elaborated further in 172 instances in the "other" space provided. More than one fifth of the females and almost two fifths of the males specified their accomplishments / achievements.

Females listed 15 categories of advanced training, males listed 46 categories, with eight of these categories being named by both sexes. There were four categories in which only females received additional training.

There were 24 categories in which no female received advanced training. While it is true that a few women are more advanced than some men, the overall picture presented is that women are represented here in a ratio of one female jumper for every six male respondents.

A fairly new device, Automatic Activation Device (AAD) could, and has, saved many lives. When the parachutist descends to 1,000 feet above the ground, if the parachute has not already

been opened by the jumper, this device will automatically open the chute itself, thereby saving the life of a careless, incompetent or unconscious jumper. However, they are costly, must be correctly installed by an expert and are not legally required, so many jumpers and drop zones do not use them, unfortunately.

Table 17A Type of Additional Training (%)			
Females	20%		
Males	80%		
	Free Fall	Competition	Total Training
Females	76%	29%	103
Males	78%	38%	548
	Females	%	Males %
Camera / Video		5	1
Canopy Relative Work (CRW)		10	12
Exhibit		0	3
Jumpmaster / Mistress		50	44
Military		0	3
Rigger		10	5
Tandem		25	23
Water		0	1
Other		8	8
0 = < 1%		100	100

Table 17B Additional Training by Gender (%)		
Categories Listed by Both Sexes		
	Females	Males
	%	%
AFF Instructor/Jumpmaster	13	17
AFF Static Line	6	13
Instructor	13	17
Rigger / Master / SR	13	7
Static Line Trainer / Instructor	18	7
Tandem Instructor / Master	25	26
Tandem / Static Line / AFF / AGR	6	7
Video / Photo Free Fall	6	7
	100	101
0 = < 1%		

Airplane Pilot

Less than three twentieths of female respondents were pilots and almost three tenths of the male respondents were pilots.

One female stated, "(FATHER IS - PRACTICALLY GREW UP IN A PLANE – FATHER STILL PRESENTLY OWNS SMALL AIRPORT). Of the males replying, an aircraft engineer replied, "Wanna be," one other obviously still working on his license replied, "No, about 50 hours", a third replied, "BUT I CAN FLY AN AIRPLANE", and the fourth, an American Indian, occupation paratrooper, with 15 years as a military jumper, replied, "Maybe".

Field observations for more than one quarter century have not provided similar responses. I have never met one parachutist who was a pilot or a pilot who was a parachutist. Several parachutists did express a desire to become pilots "sometime", but no pilots expressed the desire to become skydivers. Two representative replies given by a pilot and a sky diver to the researcher were, respectively, "Me jump? Are you crazy?", and "I'll jump out of a plane. That's a cinch! But fly a plane? Never."

I conducted follow-up questioning of many jump plane pilots. Without hesitation or exception they replied that no one in her / his right mind would jump out of a perfectly good airplane, depending on a few pieces of string and fabric to bring the jumper safely to terra firma.

Future research is important to clarify why there is a discrepancy between the surveys and field observation responses. It would also be important to know the level of skill attained by sky-divers and pilots in their respective fields, and how many sky-diving pilots were certified to pilot jump planes. This is a special certification, requiring specialized training, different from, and in addition to, visual, instrument, single engine, twin engine, multi-engine, jet, helicopter and

balloon piloting. A person may be certified to pilot all the aforementioned flight vehicles, but not qualified to pilot a plane from which sky-divers jump.

Effect of Change from Old Round to New Square Style

There are round and square parachutes. More than one third of the females and more than half the males, with an average age of 40, stated the new square chutes were easier to operate. Two females, ages 43 and 72, found the new square chute more difficult to operate. The 19 males who found the square chute more difficult to operate had an average age of 41.

Less than one twentieth of sky-divers, with an average age of 44, stated there was no difference in the handling of the old round chutes as opposed to the new square chutes. More than half the females and less than three tenths of the males, with an average age of 33, have never jumped with round chutes, indicating that more males have been jumping for a longer period of time than females.

Approximately one tenth of both sexes, with an average age of 39, stated they needed more instruction. It is a life-or-death matter to differentiate between the operations of the two chute types, because, after landing, opposite actions are required. The old type round chutes float like balloons, are difficult to steer, and are very likely to oscillate violently and uncontrollably. When landing with a round chute, the parachutist looks at the horizon until approximately 40' above the ground, then looks at a 45° angle approximately 15' above the supposed landing spot. At the same time s/he raises both arms over the head while holding onto the toggles, and remains in that position until both feet touch the ground, hopefully at the same time, whereupon the

parachutist must be prepared to roll to either side or forward, should the landing be hard.⁷⁵ At no time during the landing does the parachutist look at the ground.

The modern ram-air square chutes fly using the same dynamic principles as airplanes.⁷⁶ The jumper employs a rectangular pattern approach to the drop zone, downwind, base and upwind final, using the toggles in place of airplane flaps. The landing may be accomplished with half braking - lowering the arms to chest level, full braking - lowering the arms full body length, or by flaring - slowly lowering both arms downward at about 10 feet above the ground,. This is comparable to using 0°, 10°, 20°, 30° of flaps and flaring while landing a plane. The jumper looks at the ground much of the time, to direct his / her flight path and to land on a pre-determined place (spot), made possible by aerodynamic qualities of the square chute. The jumper usually does not need to roll, but should land as gently as a feather. There can be no hesitation, doubt, nor reverting to earlier practice habits, such as those who have jumped the round chute for half a century might encounter. The use of the new square chutes, because of their added safety features, is mandatory at all drop zones today, the only exceptions allowed being made, for those who own their own chutes. Should a parachutist who has jumped both chutes become momentarily distracted or confused as to which motions to employ, serious injury at the very least, but more likely death, would result.

Numbers of Years Parachuting

There were no female and 55 male military jumpers. Clearly, there is still no hint of equality of the sexes in military parachuting.

Both genders are represented mainly in the one to five year jumping category with the greatest amount having only two years of jumping experience (Table 18). From my personal experience at jumpsites, the average person jumped once. Hundreds of persons of both sexes would come to the Drop Zone for one jump for two reasons: 1) to be able to say "I have parachuted" and 2) to discover what it feels like.

Table 18 Number of Years Parachuting (%)		
Females	20%	
Males	80%	
	Females	Males
Years	%	%
< 1 year	9	4
1 to 5 years	51	42
6 to 19 years	30	35
20 to 47 years	10	19
N = 446	100	100
0 = <1%		

Total Number of Jumps

The total number of jumps made the greater the proportion of females represented until the 500 to 999 categories, where the reverse phenomenon occurred, the greater the number of jumps made, the smaller the proportion of females represented. This phenomenon also held true generally for males. In these two categories, females and males are almost equally represented. No females surveyed had made more than 6,000 jumps, but nine males had done so. Inequalities occurred where the percentage of male jumpers making less than 99 jumps was far

lower than the percentage of females in that category, and the percentage of male jumpers making more than 1,000 jumps was far more greater than females in that category. (Table 19)

TABLE 19 Total Number of Jumps (%)		
Females	20%	
Males	80%	
	Females	Males
Number	%	%
1 to 4	4	1
5 to 29	8	7
30 to 99	19	7
100 to 499	24	25
500 - 999	22	23
1,000 to 2,999	18	24
3,000 to 5,999	5	8
6,000 +	0	2
	100%	100%
N = 362		

A comparison of the total number of jumps with age disclosed that through age 50, females were represented equally with males. From age 51 on, males outnumbered the females more than 3:1.

A comparison of the total number of jumps by gender disclosed that, through age 45, females made the greatest number of jumps. From the age of 46 on, male jumpers comprised more than three times the percentage of female jumpers (Table 20).

One male with 64 jumps added a remark, "FIRST 4 WAY TODAY! WOO HOOOO!!!"

TABLE 20 Total Number of Jumps by Age				
Females		20%		
Males		80%		
Age	Females	%	Males	%
<= 20	5	1	2	0%
21 to 25	12	3	10	4
26 to 30	19	8	11	8
31 to 35	23	36	20	12
36 to 40	14	16	14	15
41 to 45	15	23	13	18
46 to 50	5	11	11	18
51 to 55	1	1	4	6
56 to 70	1	1	11	18
71 to 80	3	0	1	0
	100%	100%	100%	100%
0 = < 1%				

Distance from Home to Nearest Jumpsite

The further the females live from the jumpsite, the fewer the number of female sky-divers. Almost half live less than 10 miles from the jumpsite and less than one twentieth live more than 100 miles from the jumpsite.

The males are willing to travel further distances, with almost half replying they live from 11 - 50 miles from the jumpsite. As with the females, only one twentieth live more than 100 miles from the jumpsite.

Three males replied, "I live there", "I own the airport", "I live at the zone", the first two having less than 200 jumps each, and the third having more than 2000 jumps. The fourth male replied "8 (when I'm working out of town!)". Distance from the jumpsite appears to have little influence on how often the sky-diver jumps.

Time of Week and Season

More than two fifths of the females jump on weekends, more than two fifths jump all year.

Almost half the males jump weekends, and almost seven tenths jump year round. An almost equal number, more than one fifth of both sexes, jump during the summer (Table 21).

TABLE 21 Time of Week and Season (%)			
Females	20%		
Males	80%		
		Responding %	N/A %
Females		99	1
Males		96	1
Unknown			
	Females	Males	
	%	%	
Weekend	42	46	
Summer	22	21	
Vacation	12	13	
Year Round	42	65	
	120%	149%	
N = 362			

*Note: The totals add up to more than 100% because some respondents checked more than one category.

Geographical Area For Jumping

Exactly the same proportion - almost three twentieths - of both sexes jumped in the metropolitan area. Half the females and two fifths of the males jumped in southern areas. Less than three tenths of the females but more than two fifths of the males chose the plains states as their jumpsites. In northern climes, both sexes jumped at least three tenths of the time. The greatest difference between the sexes in the choice of geographical area was the mountain areas, chosen by less than one fifth of the females and less than three tenths of the males, and the

desert areas, which the females chose more than one twentieth of the time, but the males avoided almost completely!

Many sky-divers followed the pattern of the surfers in the film "Endless Summer", and followed the seasons / contests / 'boogies' (parties) around the world. Invitations were given, and it was common to have a jumper from another country say, "See you at the Internationals next June in Spain,", or "I missed you last year in Sydney (Australia) at the World Sky-Diving meet. Where were you?" There is a movement for making sky-diving an Olympic event, and many jumpers are preparing for this.

Approximately one ninth of the foreign returns were from females, whereas almost one fourth were from males. The non-American replies from females were all from traditional Canadian and European countries, whereas male returns were received from all parts of the earth, from Australia to Zimbabwe, from Bali to the North Pole, with less than half from Canada and Europe (Table 22).

TABLE 22 Foreign Areas in Which Jumped (%)		
Females	20%	
Males	80%	
	Females:	Males:
	%	%
Africa	0	4
Asia	0	14
Australia	0	10
Central America	0	2
Europe	73	46
North America	27	23
South America	0	1
N = 94	100%	100%
0 = < 1%		

NOTE: Appendix G shows foreign areas jumped.

Opposition to Skydiving

Approximately seven tenths of both sexes have experienced opposition or ridicule for their choice of hobby.

Almost one fifth of the females were angry because of opposition whereas approximately one tenth of the males were angry (Table 23). More than one twentieth of the females, but less than one twentieth of the males were sad because of opposition. Almost three twentieths of the females, but less than one tenth of the males were uncomfortable because of opposition. A total of almost two fifths of the females, but less than one fourth of the males were affected adversely by opposition. The majority of both sexes were not affected adversely by opposition..

Comments to this question are as follows: Two females replied respectively, 'none of these', "sorry for the poor souls who have not experienced it" and 'yes' "but in good fun (plus respect)". Two mature men ages 70 and 71 respectively, "Ignored such comments", and "Good for a laugh".

The younger males were not so polite in their replies. In the comfortable category, "somewhat.", "privileged", "They don't know what they're missing", after 'none of these' three large Xs added under this option, and "Proud I'm not a Wuffo, BECAUSE WUFFOS DO NOT UNDERSTAND". It appears that "Wuffo" is a relatively new slang term that describes "A person who observes skydiving activities from the ground with a dazed look on her / his face asking, "Whuffo they do that for?"⁷⁷

Two "angry" men replied, respectively, "at times, I was usually irked with people's ignorance", and "I knew they were ignorant about skydiving." Another male wrote "THE PEOPLE WHO RIDICULE HAVE NO IDEA AS TO HOW SAFE OR WHAT GOES ON WITH THE

SPORT. NEVER MENTION IT TO THOSE WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT". The first male has almost 5,000 jumps and the second has more than 5,500 jumps, although they are both in their early forties. It appears that age may be correlated with a certain degree of mellowness. The most insouciant male responded, "Who gives a shit".

	Females	Males
Nature of Opposition	%	
Ridicule	64	70
Angry	18	11
Sad	7	4
Uncomfortable	13	9
None of These	63	72
	100%	100%
N = 358		

Other Sports and Hobbies

There was an average of two hobbies per respondent (Table 24). Over 100 individual hobbies were listed, with five most cited in order of frequency: 1) skiing, both land and water; 2) boating, including sailing, and personal water craft; 3) walking and related activities of hiking, jogging, and running; 4) biking (including mountain); and 5) ball games, from base ball to volley ball.

Of the hobbies, less than three twentieths are sedentary. Some non-traditional sports and hobbies were listed.

Two females and two males responded "sex", and two males replied "Girls" and "Women". Individual males showed an interest in special skills, auto restoring, bus conversion, and flying, although the latter is not a pilot, which makes for some interesting speculation. It is more serious to fly than to drive without a license.

Nine males and one female liked sports which are oriented toward action, including base jumping, barefoot water-skiing, martial arts, sky diving photography, trampolining, and bungee jumping.

Four males listed unusual hobbies: rodeo clown, bull rider, nude volley ball and fire-walking.

Table 24A Other Sports and Hobbies (%)	
Females	20%
Males	80%
Type	%
Outdoor	68
Indoor	24
Mass Media	1
Crafts	6
Miscellaneous	1
	100%
N = 410	

Table 24B Sedentary Hobbies (%)	
SEDENTARY HOBBIES	%
Art	11
Computers	14
Crosswords	5
Drinking	6
Electronics	3
Needlecraft	21
Painting	10
Reading	21
Cinema	2
Coin Collecting	2
History	2
Origami	2
Sports Card Collecting	2
Video Editing	2
	103%
Note: Total is > 100% due to averaging	

Alcoholic Beverages

Three tenths of the females and over two fifths of the males drink alcoholic beverages "fairly regularly." Over half the females and over two fifths of the males drink occasionally.

Several males indicated that they were recovering alcoholics, e.g., "recovering alcoholic, have 5 years sobriety, October 3, 1994."

Drinking at a jump site is uniformly prohibited, because of the necessity that jumpers be physically and mentally alert. During the field observation phase of the research, no drinking was observed.

Drug Use

Almost three fifths (58%) of both genders had taken recreational drugs, such as marihuana, cocaine, crack or heroin. No one specifically cited heroin use.

Of those who responded affirmatively, eight named marijuana as follows: five "only marijuana", one of the five adding "not for 10 years", another "took a few drags many years ago". Three more clarified their response as to their use of marijuana: 1) "NEVER DURING PARACHUTING YEARS" 2) marijuana circled, cocaine, crack and heroin all crossed out with very large letters N/A written across each word, and "LSD" written in very large letters, and also written in, "LSD - 25 - ACID ECSTASY" and a long arrow leading from these three drugs to the bottom of the page where, "LOSER DRUGS FOR DIPSHITS AND SOCIAL REJECTS", was written. 3) one person added after 'Yes' "YES OCCASIONAL POT DURING THE 1970'S, NOTHING HEAVY DUTY, AND NOTHING AT ALL FOR THE LAST 12 OR 15 YEARS."

Four replied "But I didn't inhale", the third clarifying this response, "but I only inhaled a little," and the fourth admitting to still smoking pot, "BUT I DON'T INHALE - JUST LIKE CLINTON". Five indicated that their drug taking days (not specifying which drugs) were over, stating, "Not in 5 years", "Not in 10 years", "Not since college", and "20 years ago".

Four respondents made certain that the reader would know they do not take drugs. One wrote "NEVER EVER", "NOPE. I DON'T WANT TO BE A DOPE ON A ROPE," and one person stated emphatically, "I would gladly line the world's top 100 drug dealers up against a brick wall, machine gun them all down, check to see if they were good and dead, then go home and get a nice night's sleep".

One female replied, "[I HAD EMT, USED LIQUID COKE YEARS AGO TO REMOVE SALIVARY GLAND STONE ... I'M VERY ANTI-DRUGS] and another indicated she did "not use across the counter drugs (i.e. aspirin, etc.)"

Two responses with a sense of humor are, "I do not do drugs anymore. I drink my beer," and, "You forgot LSD!". One man drew a question mark which covered the entire question and the bottom of the page. One replied, "2-3 times a year", but didn't specify what he used. One wrote, "I SMOKED A COUPLE OF DRUGS IN A VAN WITH PEOPLE AND THATS IT MY TONGUE FELT VERY THICK. THAT'S IT. NO MORE - AROUND - 81 - "

Type of Personal Transportation Preferred

Thirteen additional types of vehicles were named by respondents in addition to the options provided (sports car, compact car, sedan, four-wheel drive, motorcycle) (Table 25). Most respondents checked more than one category of personal transportation. More than two fifths of the males had no preferences for type of personal transportation.

Only one tenth of both sexes preferred a luxury sedan, such as Lincoln or Cadillac, confirming a Delk and Ogilvie (1974) finding.

Seven comments were provided in the "other" category. It is perhaps significant that this is the first question in which females almost equaled males in the number of added comments.

Three females replied respectively, "Anything w/4 wheels," "SPORTS CAR - HAD BUT LOST IN DIVORCE", "OWN PICK-UP TRUCK WITH CAMPER SHELL - RAM CONVERSION, KIT IN BED." and one 41 year old woman: "Jeep (4 W/D W/NO TOP) Want Motorcycle".

The four men replied, "Anything that runs", " Whatever gets me from A to B", "DODGE MINIVAN - 2ND REASON FOR VAN CAMP AT D.Z. & SLEEP OVER NIGHT" and a truck driver, "Lincoln Town Car & Pick-up 2x4".

TABLE 25 Type of Personal Transportation Preferred (%)			
Females		20%	
Males		80%	
Type			%
Sports Car	19	Other*	1
Compact	11	Bike	1
Convertible	8	Bus	2
Sedan	11	Camper	1
4-Wheel Drive	20	Don't Care	1
Motorcycle	15	Feet	1
Other*	17	Jeep	1
N = 737	100%	Motor Home	1
		Van	42
		Pick-up	25
		Plane	2
		Boat	1
		Station Wagon	2
		Truck	19
			100%
N = 126			

Automatic Transmission Versus Stick Shift

Slightly less than half the females and slightly more than half the males chose stick shift vehicles. (Table 26). Less than one twentieth of the females but three fifths of the males drive both type vehicles.

One male replied, "3 on the tree 1970 Ford F-100, Foot shift." indicating that, although he was only 24, he had driven older cars, some of which had the handle on the steering wheel or shift push buttons on the dashboard.

TABLE 26 Automatic Transmission Versus Stick Shift (%)				
Females	20%			
Males	80%			
	Females		Males	
Foot	0%		1%	
	%	Average Age	%	Average Age
Automatic	54%	35	47%	43
Stick shift	46%	36	53%	39
	100%		100%	
Both	3%		60%	
N = 454				

Nude Jumping

One question noted that one jumpsite provides a free jump for each paid nude jump and asked if the respondent would take advantage of such an offer. Three tenths of the females and more than one half of the males would jump nude (Table 27). Approximately one fourth of the females and three tenths of the males between the ages of 20 - 40 would jump nude. Some 5% of females but almost 20% of males over age 40 would jump nude. More than half of both

females and males who would jump nude were childless. The remainder of the females who would jump nude had one to three children (with one exception who had eight), but approximately one tenth of the males who would jump nude had from four to seven children.

The three occupations represented most by would-be female nude jumpers are: clerical, service and medical. The three occupations represented most by would-be nude male jumpers are: service, skydiving and engineering. Persons with no religious affiliation would be more likely to jump nude than those who are religious. (Most religions frown on public displays of nudity, but approximately three tenths of both genders who professed a religious preference would jump nude.)

One female said, "Under certain conditions", and the second, "Not that I wouldn't make a naked sky dive w/friends, but this is a sexist policy."

A 62 year old male FAA Rigger wrote: "Yes, I don't need a free jump. I would make a nude jump for my own pleasure, not for their free jump, BUT NOT AS MATTER OF WEEKLY SCHEDULE I'D PAY MY OWN WAY - BUT NOT SO CONSERVATIVE AS TO NOT OCCASIONALLY ACCEPT OFFER, at least once." Two with a sense of humor replied, "As long as I can't get arrested. Hell, I would stay nude if proper," and "only in a bed", which solution presents a very interesting mental picture of parachuting.

Four responded negatively, ranging from the mildest, "Why? Most likely not!" A 71 year old male, "Definitely not" , " ever been that drunk)", to the angriest (female), "Get real! Is this your perception of us?" However, A. J. Hackett Bungee Company had to rescind a standing offer to let people jump free in the nude because of the overwhelming response.

TABLE 27A Nude Jumping (%)		
Females 20%		
Males 80%		
	FEMALES	MALES
MARITAL STATUS	%	%
Single	30	54
Married	48	32
Divorced	19	12
Widowed	4	0
Poly	0	1
N/A	0	2
Totals:	100%	101%
N = 226		
0 = <1%		

TABLE 27B Nude Jumping and Occupation (%)		
Females 20%		
Males 80%		
	Females	Males
	%	%
Army	0	2
Artist	0	0
Blank	0	1
Clerical	27	2
Education	4	1
Engineering	0	10
Management / Supervision	4	8
Medical	15	5
Pilot	0	6
Retired	4	6
Self-employed	4	6
Service	20	35
Sky Dive	11	12
Student	11	6
Unemployed	0	2
N = 226	100%	102%
0 = <1%		

TABLE 27C Nude Jumping and Religious Preference (%)		
Females	20%	
Males	80%	
	Females	Males
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE		
Blank	0	0
Christian	22	16
Catholic	15	18
Protestant	30	28
Jewish	4	2
N/A, None	30	36
Voodoo	0	1
Yoga	0	1
Zen	0	1
Totals:	101%	103%
N = 226		
0 = <1%		

Note: See Appendix H for list.

Injuries While Jumping

Approximately half the females and three fifths of the males suffered injuries which, in many instances, were quite severe. The only female who described her injury, "drifted into the woods, hit a tree, received a lump on her right thigh the size of a grapefruit, with the outer side of the remaining leg black from ankle to upper thigh for 6 months." Because there was no first aid kit available at the jump center, the injury was untreated until the jumper reached home several hours later, adding to the severity of the injury. Such lack of medical care is common at many jump centers. Eleven males commented on their injuries. One jumper received a broken femur doing a hook turn. This is a very advanced, complicated, and potentially dangerous maneuver, similar to the aerobatics performed by air show pilots, possible only with the new square chutes which operate on the same dynamic principle as airplanes. Hook turns involve complicated

maneuvers which should be done only by trained jumpers, at a minimum height of approximately one thousand feet above the ground. However, in many instances, untrained show-offs attempt these hook turns closer to the ground, with results that are usually disastrous.

Another respondent broke his back, was hospitalized for six months, and spent another six months recuperating. Yet his wife, eight children and he still continue to jump, as does the only jumper who earns more than one half million dollars annually who was in the hospital for a full year, most of that time in a coma after a jumping mishap.

Another explained, "For instance, a broken arm that struck the hub of the wheel because the pilot forgot to put the brake on and I was the supposed dangler on the exhibition jump." One jumper was "kicked in the face". Four reported, "minor scratches", "nothing major, bumps & bruises", "Not serious", "minor broken wrist and sprained ankle," and another "broken ankle".

It would appear that being injured while jumping does not cause most parachutists to quit the sport because of two considerations: 1) (S)he made a mistake and learned from it, and 2) Some one else caused the injury and (s)he will be more alert for possible problems caused by other jumpers.

Fear

Fear does not seem to be a significant element in sky-diving. Approximately one third of the females and three tenths of the males admitted to being afraid of jumping. However, when asked to explain where / when they were afraid, more than half the females, and almost half the males responded affirmatively to being afraid. This discrepancy may be accounted for because off the top of one's head it is easy to say, "Who! Me afraid? Never!", but thinking the question over could enable the respondent to realize, especially with the prompting of the five situations

listed, and with anonymity assured, that (healthy) fear can be a life saver. There were insignificant sex differences.

Jumpers indicated that fear occurs more than twice as often in the plane than at any other time or place. Perhaps this can be accounted for by the fact that one generally has at least 20 minutes of enforced inactivity and silence before reaching jump altitude in which to wonder why one is doing this, and what the outcome will be. In small planes one must curl up in extremely cramped quarters with the noise of the engine making conversation difficult, if not impossible. Even in large planes, the jumper must pay close attention to the jump master / mistress, equipment, and other jumpers, which precludes comforting conversation, but not deep introspection.

Both sexes responded almost equally concerning fear before reaching the jumpsite, on ground at the jumpsite, when exiting the plane and just before landing. Several tandem instructors expressed fear concerning the actions and / or reactions of their students, including one who succinctly added, "EEE-GAD!". A few jumpers were more afraid of "screwing" up and making fools of themselves than of suffering personal injury.

Several respondents actually crossed out the word "afraid", and inserted adjectives including apprehensive, respectful, excited, nervous, cautious and "hibby jibbies" - a modified spelling of "heebie-jeebies".

The replies did not fully concur with our field observations. At jump sites, fear was experienced by most novices who said they slept very little the week before the scheduled jump and were terrified when exiting the plane. Those with more experience stated their greatest concern was just before landing because they are fully aware that the majority of injuries occur at landing. A safe exit does not insure a safe landing.

No one in my presence has ever mentioned the possibility of death during jumping as a deterrent. The staff instructs all potential jumpers there is a possibility, but I have never heard death discussed by parachutists themselves. The topic is avoided completely. It appears that jumpers have the same philosophy as car drivers, motorcyclists, and scuba divers. I have never heard anyone before getting into a car say, "Well, here I go, but I might get killed and never return, so, goodbye all!" The same is true of motorcyclists and scuba divers, and, in my experience, participants in all dangerous sports. One can break one's neck and die on a step out the front door of one's home. The skydiver does not think that way.

The five main causes of death while skydiving provided by the International Parachutists Commission (IPC) are:

- 1) low / no pulls 15%
- 2) malfunctions (mechanical failures such as lines over the top of the chute causing the chute to collapse, or twisted lines causing uncontrollable turning) 18%
- 3) reserve problems (such as reserve not opening, or parachutist opening reserve with a good main chute, causing both to deflate) 15%,
- 4) collisions 5%
- 5) landing problems (including losing track of altitude and opening chute too late too close to the ground, hook turns too low to the ground and landing with the wind instead of into it) 47%.⁷⁸

This is the only year in which there were separate statistics for female jumpers. "Females comprised 13% of USPA membership, but 7 of the 27 who died were women, or 26% of the total number of fatalities, twice their representative membership in the USPA. During the last ten years the annual female fatalities averaged 20%."⁷⁹

It is impossible to compare injury statistics amongst the various 'risk' sports because there are no valid injury statistics. Injuries are not reported at jumpsites. I had a severe injury,

the effects of which lasted for six months. To whom would one report such an injury? Jumpers have no insurance. You suffer in silence, or say you broke your ankle falling down the stairs! The same situation occurs with roller blading, skate boarding, skiing (both land and water). Skydivers killed in plane crashes while in the process of climbing to jump altitude are not included in 'skydiving fatality statistics.' This fact holds true even in automobile accidents, with many victims refusing medical aid. It is only when one is so badly injured s/he cannot evade the issue that statistics are kept, and this is the case where there is insurance to cover the injury, which is not so with scuba and sky diving, surfing and roller blading.

There are death statistics for some high-risk sports, but how do you equate them? The world-wide sky diving statistics for 1992 - 1994 are that one in every 92,500 jumps ended in death.⁸⁰ In 1993, 5,270,000 jumps were made by 371,000 skydivers, and one jump out of every 52,000 proved fatal; 3,700 jumpers died during the year.⁸¹ In 1994, the International Parachutists Commission's Global Safety Survey showed 5 million plus jumps by approximately 300,000 skydivers, resulting in one jump out of every 72,345 proving fatal; 4,000 jumpers died. There were no comparable statistics available for scuba, surfing, land or water skiing.

In the 1996 edition of the National Safety Council "Accident Facts" section, statistics for the United States were given that motorcycles accounted for only 2% of the total of 204,146,000 vehicles registered in 1995. They were over-represented in the distribution of fatalities by type of vehicle. Of the 36,000 occupant deaths in motor vehicles accidents in 1995, about 2,400 (7%) were motorcycle riders.⁸²

There was no breakdown as to gender, types of motorcycles, ages of motorcyclists, how long they had ridden, and whether they were being used for pleasure, work, or as a means of transportation in place of a car or truck, nor the cause of death, or even as to how many were

motorcycle operators or passengers. The total miles traveled on motorcycles during 1995 was estimated at 10.6 billion miles, the death rate estimated at about 24 occupant deaths per 100,000,000 miles traveled, approximately 17 times the mileage death rate for occupants of other types of vehicles (passenger autos, trucks, buses, etc.) The only positive fact to be learned from the statistics is that riding a motorcycle is more dangerous than riding a four wheeled vehicle. But it is a known fact that riding in a plane is safer than jumping out of a plane.

The annual death nation wide for traditional down hill skiing for the years 1984 through 1996 show an increase "presumably because there are more skiers".⁸³

Year	Number of deaths per year
1984-1985	28
1985-1986	38
1986-1987	24
1987-1988	31
1988-1989	26
1990-91	24
1991-1992	28
1992-1993	35
1993-1994	42
1994-1995	41
1995-1996 *	49

As in motorcycle and skiing statistics, there is no breakdown in skiing statistics as to gender, ages, how often they skied, nor cause of death, nor even how many skiers participate in the sport.

Greg Trinker was also able to report that there have been 211 fatalities during a period of 30 years at one ski location in the United States by "extreme" skiers, those who jump off cliffs and perform aerobatics in the air similar to skydivers, before landing on the ski slope and continuing to ski down the slope, or those who jump out of helicopters and continue to ski down the slope. However, he was unable to provide the name of the ski resort, nor the gender, age, years skiing, and similar data on those who died.

There are no statistics available for surfers. Not only are there no figures kept as to nation or world wide scuba fatalities, there is no consensus as to how many surfers there are, nor their gender, ages and type of board used. "They (fatalities) are so few the accidental deaths are only mentioned in local papers and / or surfing Magazines". The woman who provided this information asked, "Who would we report the fatalities to?"⁸⁴

Friends join together, contribute to a fund to place an obituary in the Surfing Magazine. Depending on the amount of money raised, there may be a full page statement, "John (Jane) Doe. We miss you," or a small paragraph such as this:

"Josh Hall, 16, from Huntington Beach, trained all summer in hopes of earning a spot on the Huntington Beach High School Surf Team... Tragedy struck, however, on the first day of school, when Josh drowned after slamming head first into one of the pier pilings during morning surfing practice. Josh's death reminds us all to live each day as if it were our last. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him."⁸⁵

This article describes one of the newest, "extreme" styles of surfing, in which you catch a wave close to shore, and surf in between the pier pilings, rather than surf in the (relatively) safe open ocean.

As a pilot and member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilot's Association, a sky diver and member of the United States Parachuting Association, a surfer and member of the Eastern Surfing Association, and a motorcyclist and lifetime / charter member of Harley Owner's Group

(HOG) and the American Motorcyclist Association, scuba diver, canoeist, kayaker, and wet-biker, to name but a few sports, I am well aware of the philosophy of those who indulge in extreme sports. "It (fatality) will not happen to me. Ever! Never! And if it does, so what, you've gotta go sometime. Better doing what means life to us, than a living death in a nursing home!" Life is not worth living without this excitement.

Two examples pertain to boating. The first: whereas many 75 year old women are willing to cruise on a yacht, and many young men operate personal watercraft such as jet skis and wave runners, this is too tame for a female "extreme sport addict" even at age 75. She must ride an aqua cycle (wetbike), almost identical to a regular motorcycle, only ridden on the water on two skegs rather than four wheels. The result is similar to trying to ride a bicycle on a continuous waterbed.

The second: whereas many older women choose an inland cruise to Alaska with husband, an "extreme" sport addict prefers to go on a 28' yacht in the following manner, "... ripping seas whipped 20 foot swells up in every direction and gale winds loomed. Some of the deadliest waters in the Gulf of Alaska ... slammed hard ... spaced over the crested waves and screamed into the trough depths. Waves crested and capped on all sizes above the pilot house roof. Her crew were thrown from side to side ... There was no time to be scared ... Every wave was a threat. There was no turning back ... dangerously close to reefs and rocks ... a buoy on port side should have been on starboard ... The depth sounder blared full screen red, the bottom ... came within feet of disaster."⁸⁶

The above description gives an "extreme" addict an indescribable thrill / rush just reading about it and an almost uncontrollable desire to experience the activity itself. The statement, "No turning back" is an irresistible lure, a magnet. There is no turning back once you leap from a

plane, or 'catch a wave.' You are committed to going through with the activity. Indescribable! Given a choice of certain death doing it, or not doing it, there is no choice to the extreme addict. "Just do it." We don't believe we are going to die. We can and will beat the odds. And if we don't, we "did it our way." We actually feel pity for those who lead safe, dull lives. We would rather die than be trapped in a dull, boring, mundane existence. We cannot help our feelings, don't want to, but cannot understand why others do not understand us, nor feel as we do! We are forever high!

Equipment

More than nine tenths of all parachutists own their jumpsuits, more than four fifths own their helmets and 27 percent own their boots. The probable reason for the relatively small number owning boots is that boots are no longer mandatory equipment for jumping.

One quarter century ago, sky-divers generally did not own their jumpsuits. Jumpsuits were made of cotton, in military green color, all the same (unflattering to both sexes) style, and big. Today, jump suits are made in white, black and in all colors, in all materials (except perhaps chiffon) including denim, lace, leather, stretch nylon, stretch satin, and velvet. Any color and / or material can be obtained easily or made to order, from ballet outfit to formal wedding attire, including the priest's / rabbi's outfit! Vanity rather than practicality rules, due to the safer, softer landings made possible by the new square chutes.

Once all helmets were identical for female and male, similar to motorcycle helmets, usually too big for the former, either black or white. Today sizes are available, as in street attire, in any color, and even in materials such as leather or plastic. Since wearing helmets is voluntary, they can be chosen for vanity, rather than practicality.

Paratrooper boots used to be mandatory. They had no heel and a flat sole. Today, jumping barefoot is popular and safe, unless the landing occurs in a construction site or a cactus! Gold lame' sneakers are now a favorite.

A quarter century ago, the only place to purchase the suit / helmet / boots was in an Army surplus store. They were scattered, were generally uninviting, often dirty, smelled unpleasantly, and it was difficult to find anything in them. The staff were usually not helpful. Females were not generally welcomed joyfully. They did not carry petite size jumpsuits, extra small helmets, and women's size two shoes.

Twenty sky-divers added comments, more than half describing footwear. One male each uses regular shoes, tennis shoes, "QUALITY HIGH-TOP BASKETBALL SHOES, boots only for winter jumps, used to wear boots but no longer does". The male who earns \$500,000+ annually stated he never uses helmet or boots, and another said, "You've got to be kidding." One proudly states he owns his own:

- 1) Altimeter: an instrument for measuring altitude in thousands of feet above the ground, which all parachutists must wear for the purpose of being informed as to their distance from the ground.
- 2) Container: the harness that holds the parachute on the jumper's back.
- 3) Main: the primary parachute deployed for descending to the ground.
- 4) Reserve: The secondary parachute required for today's jumping which is deployed should the main parachute not open.

The females were a bit more fashion oriented. One uses "Rebock purple High tops", one owns eight jumpsuits, and another owns "special goggles that are comfy over glasses".

Jumping Barefoot

More than three tenths of the females and two fifths of the males replied they would jump barefoot (Table 28). Sixteen respondents added remarks. One replied he didn't own shoes, while another would only jump barefoot on the beach, a lot of soft grass, and with more experience. Of the nine who would not jump barefoot, four were concerned with cactus. One put three large check marks in the 'no' space, another added "too fat", another "ugly feet", and a 71 year old male, "I'm not that crazy." One female added, "This question is somewhat dated. The advent and advances of square parachuting have made boots unnecessary - everyone could safely jump barefoot. The reason most people don't is the same reason most people don't go barefoot usually - it's less uncomfortable - a very large number of sky-divers jump in sandals during warm weather."

The changes in sky-diving during the past quarter century are phenomenal. From round to square chutes, military paratrooper boots to purple Reeboks and barefoot, hard landings to sky-surfing, change is constant.

Table 28 Jumping Barefoot				
Females	20%			
Males	80%			
	Females	%	Males	%
Yes		32%		41%
No		68%		59%
Totals		100%		100%
N = 453				

Motorcycle Helmet Use

Almost three fifths of both sexes are opposed to mandatory helmet laws. Approximately seven tenths believe motorcyclists should have the right to make their own decisions concerning helmet use. There were 15 comments to this question, nine in favor of mandatory helmet laws,

including four of the five females. One philosophical response was, "The law decides its action based on whether a person is injured or dies in an accident. This could generally effect the lives of others, not just the individual motorcyclist."

Another replied, "(sounds contradictory but have worked ER head injuries so it's a very sound practice though I believe in choice to be stupid [I am strongly against special drivers' license endorsement for motorcycle drivers]". One female stated, "I don't want to see his brains when he crashes!" Another noted, "Not as long as "we" have to pay for their injuries."

The only female opposed to mandatory helmet laws who added a comment amended her pro-choice helmet use / non-use by adding, "BUT IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO WEAR ONE".

Of the ten males who added comments, five were in favor of mandatory helmet laws. Three replied, "YES, IF THEY ARE TOO DUMB TO WEAR THEM ON THERE OWN," "Because I have to help pay medical bills in taxes", and "stupid question."

Of the four males who were opposed to mandatory helmet laws, one replied, " I don't favor mandatory helmet laws, but would generally wear a helmet." Two more replied, "I THINK THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE REDUCED AND PEOPLE SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN LIVES", and "Pro choice all the way." The fourth added a qualification, "WITH THE CAVEAT THAT HE / SHE SHOULD BE BARRED FROM COLLECTING DAMAGES DUE TO NOT USING THE HELMET."

While this study was under way, President Clinton signed the Federal Mandatory Helmet Law out of existence. Each of the 50 individual states must now vote on the helmet issue.

Seat Belt Use

Almost four fifths of the females but only a little more than three fifths of the males always buckle up in cars (Table 29). A similar pattern held true concerning planes.

Two men added comments. The male who earns \$500,000+ annually added, "Always, Always, Always", and the 71 year old added, "I would jump from a plane any day of the week that the opportunity was given: drive without a seat belt fastened? NO WAY!"

Although most people are concerned about buckling up in cars and planes, few seem to worry about buckling up in buses, despite disturbing statistics regarding the outcome of bus crashes.

TABLE 29 Seat Belt Use (%)			
Females 20%			
Males 80%			
	Cars	Buses	Planes
Females:	%	%	%
Always	79	20	87
Never	2	70	1
Sometimes	5	7	4
Usually	14	3	8
	100%	100	100%
	N = 91	N = 78	N = 90
Males:	Cars	Buses	Planes
	%	%	%
Always	64	25	73
Never	5	62	3
Sometimes	14	7	7
Usually	17	6	17
	100%	100	100%
	N = 361	N = 255	N = 358
N = 452			

Wearing a Life Preserver in Water Craft

Almost two fifths of the females and more than one third of the males always wear life preservers: while a passenger or operator on and in water craft and almost two fifths of both sexes usually use life preservers. Less than one tenth of both sexes never wear life preservers.

Twelve respondents added comments. Three females, one in each category 'never', 'usually' and 'always', the latter adding, "All those I've seen DOA in ER from water related drownings were excellent swimmers - they just didn't plan on being unconscious when they hit H2O or being knocked unconscious by boat, car, or their equipment."

Some males added comments. Two wear life preservers because of laws requiring them to do so, including one who was on a swim team for six years and stated that Alabama laws require wearing a life jacket when operating jet skis, wave runners, and wet bikes, but he never wears one on a pleasure boat. Another male responded that he never wears a life preserver while on jet skis, wave runners or wet bikes, but always on "ALL ELSE". One male stated their use depends on whether he encounters white water or float water, and whether there are laws in the area requiring their use. Another male specified the use of Class C life preservers, but only in white water. Results suggest that the majority of sky-divers while on the water are safety conscious.

Leisure Activities

More than half of the female respondents and two fifths of the males belong to parachuting organizations (Tables 30, 31). One fifth of the male respondents but only one percent of the females belong to scientific organizations. Four females belong to traditionally all male organizations: Elks, YMCA, Knights of Columbus and Masonic Lodge. Eleven females

belong to organizations generally associated with men: rifle / gun clubs, Hong Kong Police, and one to the Korean Veterans Association. Five males belong to traditionally all female organizations: Daughters of the American Revolution, Girl Scouts of America, Lesbians in Business, United Methodist Women and Bluebonnet Pioneers. One male is a member of MENSA, an organization of very intelligent people, all members having an IQ of 142+.

Table 30 Leisure Activities (%)				
Females		20%		
Males		80%		
77 Females listed 173 Organizations, 16 different categories		329 Males listed 759 Organizations, 18 different categories		
	Females		Males	
	# Clubs	% Respond	# Clubs	% Respond
Aeronautic	9	6	19	6
Assoc, Clubs, Guilds, Unions	4	2	12	0
Educators	3	2	3	0
Fireman / Police	3	2	20	3
Fish / Fowl / Beast	0	0	3	0
Guns	3	5	4	1
Health	3	2	3	3
Lodges	3	2	10	3
Motorcycle	2	1	8	1
Parachuting	28	54	6	41
Political	5	5	13	3
Religious	0	0	4	0
Scientific	1	1	9	20
Sports / Hobbies	5	3	21	3
Veterans Assoc.	9	6	10	1
Water Sports	2	1	6	1
Miscellaneous	10	8	69	8
N/A	1	1	2	2
	92*	101%	222	96%
N = 406		N = 173		N = 759
* Some respondents replied more than once				
0 = <1%				

Table 31 Organizations to Which People Belong (%)				
Females	20%			
Males	80%			
77 Females listed 94 organizations				
329 Males listed 293 organizations				
	Females	N = 94	Males	N = 329
AA	1	1	4	1
AARP	1	1	4	1
Amer. Dental Assoc.	1	1	1	1
AOPA	2	2	20	6
Bowling	1	1	1	1
Chamber of Commerce	2	2	1	1
Elks	1	1	4	1
Knights of Columbus	1	1	1	1
Masonic Lodge	1	1	2	1
National Aeronautic Assoc.	1	1	1	1
National Rifle Assoc.	7	8	20	6
Padi - SCUBA	1	1	3	1
PIA	1	1	3	1
POPS	5	5	10	3
Ranch Skydiving Club	1	1	1	1
Screen Actor's Guild	1	1	1	1
Sierra Club	1	1	1	1
SOS	7	8	6	2
SSA	1	1	1	1
USPA	56	60	232	72
VFW	1	1	3	1
	94	100%	320	105%

* NOTE: See Appendix I for list.

Favorite Magazine

Almost half the females and more than two fifths of the male respondents listed parachuting magazines as their favorites. More than one tenth of both genders preferred educational magazines as their favorites. Less than one twentieth of the females but one tenth of the males read sex magazines (Tables 32A, 32B). Combining the genders, the 15 magazines listed as favorites by both genders were:

Cosmopolitan	People
Discover	Playboy
Hustler	Scientific American
National Geographic	Ski
Newsweek	Skydiving
Outsider	Time
Parachutist	US News & World Report
Penthouse	

Table 32A Favorite Magazine Type (%)				
Females 20%				
Males 80%				
77 Females listed 33 magazines, 9 different categories			298 Males listed 99 magazines, 11 different categories	
	Females		Males	
	# Magazines	%	# Magazines	%
Educational	7	12	15	11
Flying	0	0	8	3
General / News	9	13	11	9
Men's	1	4	2	1
Miscellaneous	5	8	13	4
Parachuting	2	49	4	41
Religious	0	0	1	1
Sex	2	4	7	10
Sports / Hobbies	5	8	30	16
Women's	1	1	7	3
None	1	1	1	1
N = 462	33	100%	99	100%
0 = <1%				

Table 32B Favorite Magazine by Name Read by Both Genders		
	Female	Male
	%	%
Many	2	1
Cosmopolitan	2	1
Discover	2	1
Hustler	2	1
National Geographic	4	3
Newsweek	6	4
Outsider	4	2
Parachutist	36	37
Penthouse	2	4
People	2	3
Playboy	4	8
Scientific American	2	2
Ski	2	1
Skydiving	26	27
Time	2	5
US News & World Report	2	1
N = 230	100%	101%

* NOTE: See Appendix J for list.

Print Media

There was greater diversity among newspapers read than in organizations belonged to, magazines read, and television programs watched (Table 33). One tenth of the females but only one male read financial magazines. Three twentieths of the females read humorous newspapers as compared to one male. Almost one fourth of the females and one half of the males read newspapers of their cities. In terms of national newspapers, USA Today was read by one fourth of the females and more than three tenths of the males, and the Wall Street Journal was read by three twentieths of both genders.

The eight newspapers listed as favorites by combining both genders were:

Denver Post
Globe
LA Times
Local

San Francisco Chronicle
Sky Diving
USA Today
Wall Street Journal

Table 33A Favorite Newspaper Type (%)				
Females		20%		
Males		80%		
64 Females listed 19 newspapers, 7 different categories			298 Males listed 79 newspapers, 11 different categories	
	Females		Males	
	# Newspapers	%	# Newspapers	%
Children	0	0	1	0
Financial	1	10	1	0
Foreign Country	3	5	2	1
General	2	18	27	34
Humor	9	15	1	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	3	1
Parachuting	1	23	2	15
Political	2	6	0	0
Sex	0	0	1	0
Specific Cities	9	24	36	45
Sports	0	0	2	1
Tabloids	0	0	2	1
N = 265	27	101%	78	98%
0 = < 1%				

Table 33B Favorite Newspaper by Name Read by Both Genders		
Females		20%
Males		80%
	Females	Male
Denver Post	3	1
Globe	3	1
LA Times	10	1
Local	5	18
San Francisco Chronicle	3	2
Sky Diving	36	28
USA Today	25	33
Wall Street Journal	15	16
Totals:	100%	100%
N = 130		

Note: See Appendix K for list.

Favorite Television Shows

Although almost nine tenths of the respondents' hobbies involved physical activity such as skiing, boating, walking, biking and ball games, only one percent of the females and two percent of the males watch sports on television. (Table 34) Is there a dearth of relevant sport shows, or do sky divers prefer to change to other diversions when relaxing?

Twenty three percent of females watch both drama and sitcom shows, whereas 18% of the males view dramas and three tenths watch situation comedies. Some 11% of both genders watch educational shows. Games, humor, movies, talk shows and music are not of interest to sky divers.

TABLE 34A Favorite Television Type				
Females	20%			
Males	80%			
	Females		Males	
	# TV Shows	%	# TV Shows	%
Blank	1	17	1	13
Drama	8	23	22	18
Education	5	11	16	11
Games	1	1	2	0
Humor	1	5	5	4
Movies	1	1	1	0
Music	0	0	1	0
News	7	9	10	6
N/A, No	3	7	11	10
Sitcom	14	23	21	30
Sport	1	1	3	2
Talk	1	1	4	2
Other	0	0	3	0
N = 444	26	99%	100	96%
0 = <1%				

Note: See Appendix L (i) for list.

Table 34B Favorite Television Show by Name Watched by Both Genders		
Females	20%	
Males	80%	
75 Females listed 34 shows, 11 Categories		
304 Males listed 92 shows, 13 categories		
	Females	Males
	%	%
CNN	5	4
Discovery	10	16
Frasier	5	1
Highlander	3	1
Home Improvement	5	17
Jeopardy	3	1
Mash	3	5
Movies	3	1
National Geographic (Documentaries)	3	3
Nature Things (Programs)	3	1
News	5	4
Northern Exposure	8	3
Nova	5	1
NYPD Blues	8	4
PBS	3	1
Seinfeld	12	23
Simpsons	10	10
I hate TV	0	1
Never Watch	3	1
Rarely Watch TV	0	1
Seldom Watch TV	3	1
Totals:	100%	100%
N = 379	N = 38	N = 111
0 = <1%		

* NOTE: See Appendix L for list.

A comparison of the questions on organizations belonged to, favorite magazines read, and favorite television shows viewed elicited a similar number of responses by both genders, approximately 18 percent of the survey respondents (Table 35). There were 21 members of both genders who belonged to the same organizations and viewed the same favorite television shows,

but only 15 who read the same magazines. Only 15 percent of both genders responded to the question concerning the favorite newspapers read and eight percent read the same newspapers.

Table 35 Comparison of Organizations belonged to, Magazines and Newspapers read, and Television viewed.			
		%	
Question 46: Organizations belonged to	Females: 85 Males: 89	16 18	Common members: 1
Question 47: Favorite Magazines	Females: 85 Males: 80	9 11	Common magazines: 15
Question 48: Favorite Newspapers	Females: 70 Males: 71	7 11	Common newspapers: 8
Question 49: Favorite Television show	Females: 83 Males: 83	11 13	Common TV shows: 21

Comments

Approximately 65% of the respondents added comments, which were divided into four subject areas: advice, fun, information and sex. (Tables 26A, 36B).

The smallest number of replies, one twentieth, were in the "sex" category, with generally short statements. One fifth of the replies gave advice. More than two fifths of these were one liners, approximately one tenth to three twentieths two through five liners, and the remaining (less than three twentieth of replies) were almost equally divided among six through eleven liners.

Approximately seven twentieths of the replies were informative. One fourth of these replies were two liners and one fifth were one liners.

The remainder of replies in this category were from four to fifteen lines. This is the only category in which ten, 12, 13 and 15 line replies were received.

The largest percentage, almost 40 percent, were in the "fun" category. Three fourths of these replies were one liners, one tenth two liners, one twentieth three liners, the remaining one tenth four through seven liners. Those who added comments in both the "fun" and "sex" categories wrote short to-the-point replies, as opposed to those who provided advice and information.

All comments are included in Appendix M because they provide insight into sky divers' philosophy, psychology, life style, vocabulary, education (or lack of same), hobbies, desires, geographical residences, hopes, fears, future plans, financial status and religious outlooks, to list but a few of the dimensions of the comments.

Table 36A Comment Length According to Subject Category				
Females		20%		
Males		80%		
	Advice	Information	Fun	Sex
# Lines	%	%	%	%
1	42	20	75	72
2	13	24	10	14
3	10	14	5	0
4	8	8	4	14
5	14	6	3	0
6	3	7	1	0
7	2	6	2	0
8	3	4	0	0
9	2	5	0	0
10	0	1	0	0
11	3	2	0	0
12	0	1	0	0
13	0	1	0	0
15	0	1	0	0
	100%	100%	100%	100%
	N = 60	N = 107	N = 115	N = 14
0 = <1%				

Table 36B Comments: Percent of Replies in Each Subject Category	
Females	20%
Males	80%
Total Number of Respondents to Questionnaire (%)	
Advice	20
Information	36
Fun	39
Sex	5
N = 296	100%

* NOTE: See Appendix M for list.

VI. SUMMARY

On the basis of participant observation over a period of more than one quarter century, the typical parachutist does not differ outwardly from the average American adult. A parachutist engaged in normal regular daily activities can not be recognized, outwardly, as a "jumper". Their clothing is no different except for specialist jumpers, but this is true of many sports activities. Parachutists do not eat different type foods, in fact, less so than participants in other sports such as swimming and running. Parachutists are 'normal', except for their penchant for being transported two or more miles up in the sky by some airborne vehicle, and then leaping out with nothing but a few scraps of material, pieces of wire, rubber bands, string and the like to bring them safely to the ground.

But is this any more peculiar than those humans who don rubber suits, fins, gloves, masks and jump off of boats into lakes, rivers and oceans with metal tanks and rubber hoses and go down amongst sharks, squids, moray eels, ship wrecks, and play fish instead of bird?

Although large scale observations cannot be made from such a small sample, the six biographies confirm the conclusion that parachutists are unlikely to be super humans or crazy. Both sexes are represented, choices of careers are varied but normal. Some are married, others divorced, some single, others young, some not so young, just as one will find in any community. Perhaps the only difference between jumpers and non-jumpers is the determination to indulge in a sport which needs more courage, teamwork and ability to cope with others in society who cannot comprehend the jumper's philosophy of life. It is the unseen, inner characteristics which separate the jumpers from the non-jumpers.

However, the participant observations of one person, and her interviews with only six persons do not provide a statistically reliable picture of parachutists. The 462 replies to the survey questionnaire provide a much more comprehensive picture of a typical parachutist. Although most persons are cooperative and honest, deeply rooted beliefs and actions are perhaps not divulged to an interviewer as readily as in an anonymous questionnaire.

The results of the surveys returned provide the following description of the average female and male jumpers.

Composite Description of Parachutists

The average female is 35, Caucasian, 130 pounds, 5'4", married, childless, an administrator, earning \$28,000 annually, some college education, Christian but never attends services, first born, raised by two parents, heterosexual, introduced to parachuting by friends, average age at first jump 28, first jump by static line, less than one day's training before the first jump from a Cessna 172, has taken additional training in sky diving, is not a pilot, has never jumped a round chute, has been jumping two years, jumped up to 250 times, lives less than ten miles from the jumpsite, jumps year round, lives in a southern state, has been ridiculed but is not upset by ridicule, favorite other hobbies are boating and snow skiing, drinks alcoholic beverages fairly regularly, has taken drugs, prefers four wheel drive vehicles with automatic transmission, would not jump nude, has been injured as the result of a jump, is not afraid of jumping except while in the plane, owns her own equipment, will not jump barefoot, does not believe in mandatory helmet laws, always wears a seatbelt, usually wears a life preserver while in a boat, belongs to a parachuting organization, reads a parachuting magazine and a specific city newspaper, watches no special television programs and added a one-line Fun comment to the survey.

The average male is 40, Caucasian, 190 pounds, 5'8", married, childless, an engineer, earning \$39,000 annually, some college education, Christian but rarely attends services, first born, raised by two parents of different sexes, heterosexual, introduced to parachuting by friends, average age at first jump 26, first jump by static line, less than one day's training before the first jump from a Cessna 172, has taken additional training in sky diving, is not a pilot, has never jumped a round parachute, has been jumping for two years, has jumped approximately 250 times, lives between 11 and 50 miles from the jumpsite, jumps year round, lives in a plains area, has been ridiculed but is not upset by ridicule, favorite hobbies are boating and snow skiing, drinks alcoholic beverages fairly regularly, has taken drugs, prefers four wheel drive vehicles with a stick shift, would jump nude, has been injured as the result of a jump, is not afraid of jumping except while in the plane, owns his own equipment, jumps barefoot, does not believe in mandatory helmet laws but always wears seat belts, usually wears a life preserver while in a boat, belongs to a parachuting organization, reads a parachuting magazine and a specific city newspaper, watches no special TV program, and added a one-line Fun comment to the survey.

In describing parachuting, 30 respondents used 'addiction', 13 used 'rush', as did Glaser (1972)⁸⁷. Two respondents used the term 'edgework' and 'living on the edge', as did Thompson (1971)⁸⁸. One each used the term 'flow' and 'orgasmic' as did Glaser (1972)⁸⁹. Ice, mountain and rock climbing were compared to sky diving by one respondent as did Goffman (1967)⁹⁰, Abronowitz (1973)⁹¹ and Mitchell (1983)⁹². Ten respondents used the term 'risk-taking' as did Gough (1983)⁹³. However, the new pop term of the past two years is "extreme". It has been used repeatedly since then⁹⁴. Two respondents compared sky diving to scuba diving and skiing, as did Holmes (1976), and two stated sky diving was a self-governing sport, as did Delk (1973) and Ogilvie (1974)^{95,96,97}.

Suggestions were made by two respondents encouraging the elimination of bad movies about sky diving, such as "Drop Zone" and "Terminal Velocity", that present sky divers in an unsavory manner similar to motorcyclists in "Hell's Angels" and "Wild Angels". Seven respondents suggested use of more positive information about sky-diving by movies and television.

One respondent stated he had found one out of four sky divers to be left-handed and suggested this phenomenon be studied in future research. Another suggested future research be conducted concerning the characteristics of smokers as opposed to non-smokers. A third suggested a comparison study of younger and older sky divers.

There were very few important differences between the genders, other than the expected greater weight, height and income of the males. The average male respondent was older than the female, but the average female was older than the male at the time of the first jump, but the differences were so small as to be statistically insignificant. The most likely occupation for females was administration, for males was engineer. The average male's annual income is more than one third that of the average female's annual income. The average female jumpers never attend services, males rarely. The average male has competition training in addition to freefall, the female has not. Males generally lived in the plains area, three times the distance from the dropsite than females, who lived generally in the southern area. The average female prefers an automatic shift car and will not jump nude or barefoot; the average male prefers a stick shift and will jump nude and barefoot. The responses by gender are summarized in Table 37.

TABLE 37 Comparison by Gender of Respondents to Survey Questions

#	Question	Female Average	Male Average
1*	Age	35	40
3	Race	Caucasian	Caucasian
4*	Weight	130 pounds	190 pounds
5*	Height	5'4"	5'8"
6	Marital Status	Married	Married
7	Number of Children	Childless	Childless
9*	Occupation	Administrator	Engineer
10*	Income	\$28,000	\$39,000
11	Highest education level	Some college	Some college
12	Religion	Christian	Christian
13*	Religious service attendance	Never	Rarely
14	Birth order	First born	First born
15	Raised in a home with:	2 parents of opposite sex	2 parents of opposite sex
16	Sexual preference	Heterosexual	Heterosexual
17	Introduction to parachuting by:	Friends	Friends
18*	Age at first jump	28	26
19	Type of first jump	Static line	Static line
20	Amount of training by first jump	less than one day	less than one day
21	Type plane jumped from	Cessna 172	Cessna 172
22*	Additional training	Free fall	Free fall and competition
23	Pilot	No	No
24	Type chute jumped from	Square: never jumped round	Square: never jumped round
25	Number years jumping	2 years	2 years
26	Number jumps	250	250
27*	Miles from home to jumpsite	Less than 10	30
28	Frequency of jumps	Year round	Year round
29*	Geographical area jumped at	Southern area	Plains area
30	Have you ever been ridiculed for your choice of hobby?	Yes	Yes
31	Does ridicule make you angry, sad, uncomfortable?	Doesn't bother	Doesn't bother
32	Other Sports / hobbies	Boating, snow skiing	Boating, snow skiing
33	Do you drink alcoholic beverages?	Fairly regularly	Fairly regularly
34	Drugs - have taken	Yes	Yes
35	Type personal transportation preferred	4 wheel drive	4 wheel drive
36*	Does your vehicle have automatic transmission?	Automatic	Stick shift
37	Would you jump nude?	Will not jump nude	Will jump nude
38	Were you ever injured while jumping?	Yes	Yes

39	Are you afraid of jumping?	No, except while in plane	No, except while in plane
40	Where are you afraid?	No, except while in plane	No, except while in plane
41	Do you own your own equipment?	Yes	Yes
42*	Would you jump barefooted?	No	Yes
43	Do you believe in mandatory helmet use?	No	No
44	Do you use seat belts?	Yes	Yes
45	Use of life preserver	Usually	Usually
46	Associations/Clubs/Organizations	Parachuting / Skydiving	Parachuting / Skydiving
47	Favorite Magazines	Parachuting / Skydiving	Parachuting / Skydiving
48	Favorite Newspapers	Local City	Local City
49	Favorite TV programs	No special program	No special program
50	Comments: Category	Fun, one liner	Fun, one-liner

* 13 responses whereby females and males differed.

The results of this study seem to indicate that the participants are "ordinary folks, who do some rather extraordinary things" Krull (1994) like swingers, as described by Karlen (1988).^{98,99} "They worked at such jobs as accountant, actor, artist, bartender, biologist, bouncer, carpenter, computer programmer, dancer, editor, geologist, housewife, lawyer, librarian, physician, retail sales clerk, student, teacher, typist, and waitress." There is one difference between skydivers and swingers described by Karlen. Skydivers generally are proud of their activity, expanding and expounding on the various aspects of their sport, to relatives, friends and strangers, answering questions openly, and even providing unasked for information. I parachuted Columbus Day 1997 with eight young men ranging in age from 16 (son) through 37 (father). Four of the men were in their late teens, two in their late twenties. These males were ecstatic for the four and one half hours pre-jump instruction, and even more so during the post-jump briefing. They constantly talked about how they would tell all their family and all their friends how great it was, and believed the thrill / rush would last for at least six months, and all swore they would return. They want their peers to jump for joy also. I am positive not one of these eight males would ever introduce their

parents, siblings, and probably not their peers into a sex club. Two were planning to go dancing with their wives that evening. The other six were planning barbecues with their families.

Swingers generally do not divulge their activity to relatives, friends or strangers. It is most unlikely swingers would, after a sex group / spouse swap session, have a lovely evening barbecue to discuss the joyous orgy details and foster future attendance by family, friends and peers at such an event. One's mother might not approve of lesbianism or marriage partner swapping. One's boss might not approve of group sex, especially in this era of AIDS. Elaborating on the methods of, precautions taken, and joy abiding in group sex to strangers could be dangerous, even more so than jumping out of a plane. Walter Mitty's secret life is a much tamer example of the opposite type personality from skydivers, a parallel to Mr. Milquetoast.¹⁰⁰

Whereas skydivers openly defy gravity, society, mores and norms, swingers secretly defy them. Walter Mitty did neither but escaped from a humdrum existence into his own mind, becoming vicariously a World War II airplane captain rather than a poor automobile driver; a surgeon supreme rather than a husband forced by his wife to wear gloves; a miraculous marksman rather than a male who hit the target by remembering to buy a box of puppy biscuits, aptly named, "Puppies Bark for It". At the close of Thurber's story, the 'hero' dreams, "We only live once ... faced the firing squad ... undefeated, inscrutable to the last." Presumably the last two phrases described his wife, and his ability to escape through his fantasies from monotony, boredom and a living death of dullness.

In general, the information provided suggests that the lives of parachutists are relatively conventional. The survey results do not provide a clear positive or negative correlation to other variables on why skydivers choose this activity.

There appears to be a mixture of the following characteristics involved: recognizing and accepting a challenge, and an activity that can be controlled and improved. There also appears to be a sense of closure in some instances, such as that of President Bush, who had not jumped since World War II, but had always wanted to jump again, and did so March 25, 1997 on the fiftieth anniversary of his first jump¹⁰¹. Some 300 American military males, now in their 70's and 80's also jumped successfully on the fiftieth anniversary of their jump over Normandy, with minimal additional training.

An analysis of the interviews indicate that self-concept appears to include eminently mainstream attitudes toward values, goals and means in general and did not appear to be atypical. The only exception was the proportion of respondents who would be willing to jump nude. It is consistent with the traditional image of women as more protected and cathected and symbolically implicated as well as the traditional modesty of and the sexual vulnerability of nude women that they would not expose themselves in such an activity.

A significant number of the parachutists overcame the considerable hurdle of expense, distance, time and other obstacles. Parachuting is not a popular activity, every jump is a challenge. It is not surprising that Cohen and federal drug abuse control officials have cited sky-diving as an acceptable behavior that could take the place of drug use among some people as another dimension of social utility, although not for the majority of drug users.¹⁰² President Bush's parachute jump will have a tremendous positive impact on popularizing the sport. In view of his dignity as a high official, the fact that he jumped, at age 72, in a somewhat garish costume, is likely to help promote sky-diving even more.

Although parachuting is not related to a traditional subculture, it is itself a kind of subculture, although less salient than, for example, the subculture of violence found in Rome,

Italy, and San Juan, Puerto Rico. Perhaps one seemingly close analogy is provided by Wolfgang to surfing, motorcycling and swinging.¹⁰³ The subcultural aspects of surfing appear to be diminishing slightly also, as evidenced by the Eastern Surfing Association's (which I have belonged to for more than one quarter century) recent publications. Whereas surfing was considered solely a male sport until recently, there are now world wide competitions for females described in Surfing Girl, a special mini-magazine edition included in the May 1997 mailing of Surfing.¹⁰⁴ One female who has spent four decades promoting female competition surfing world wide and in films including "Beach Blanket Bingo" and "Gidget Goes Hawaiian" has also been a flight attendant for United Airlines for three decades. It remains to be seen, perhaps through future research, if, and, or when the subcultural aspects of swinging will appear to be diminishing slightly. Because of police pressure and the recently revised popularity of Harley Davidson the subcultural aspects of motorcycling appear to be diminishing slightly. The similarity among the sports of motorcycling, flying, ballooning and skydiving was stated in a Harley Davidson Catalog.¹⁰⁵

Survey results show the activity of sky diving is not related to occupation, gender, income, social status, or region of country. It is hoped that gender discrimination will lessen so statements will no longer be made such as, "We don't need information input from a little old lady in the back room."¹⁰⁶ There is no subculture group defined by religion or ethnic background. There are few blacks, which may be a reflection of the expense involved and the concentration of blacks in large urban areas. One can speculate that the need for a semi-rural setting required for a drop zone, and the effort required to get to the drop zone may be a deterrent to black jumping. There are pockets of blacks like Sag Harbor, New York, with wealthy upper class blacks in a semi-rural area, but it is not clear why the sport of parachuting has not become a valued activity among such groups.

Although our interviewees trained some movie stars and other celebrities in jumping, in general the trainees did not continue the activity after their immediate goal was achieved. An example of this is the young lady co-host of the Art Baker Show "You Asked for It" in the mid 50's, which featured the unusual acrobatic acts performed upon requests sent to the television station by viewers.¹⁰⁷ She jumped once, but never again.

However, after the experiences of President Bush, some prominent Americans may be curious enough to try jumping, discover they enjoy it and continue with the sport, giving it media and other attention.

VII. Conclusions and Recommendations

The purpose of this study was to obtain information and data pertaining to parachutists through participant observation, personal interviews and questionnaires. These data could contribute to better understanding of parachuting as a form of risk-taking and non-conformism in our society. The study explored the relationships between parachuting and risk-taking, and examined parachutists' self concept. The scrutiny of sport parachuting shed light on important problems of the larger culture, and identified the nature of a potentially important subculture.

Conclusions

Delk's (1973) and Ogilvie's (1974) psychological studies found parachutists to possess certain characteristics.^{108,109} The findings in this study confirming or contradicting their findings follow.

To be a sky diver involves some degree of adaptability, a high level of abstract ability, creativity and independence. The majority of our respondents are employed in traditional fields, earn an average annual income, are a bit better educated than the general public and participate in traditional sports. The majority of respondents appear positive, as demonstrated succinctly by two responses, "Nothing I can't do," and "I have a Life Wish not a Death Wish." Self-confidence and a lack of defensiveness were also displayed by many respondents. The majority of jumpers were not one-timers, but have been jumping for an average of two years; almost half of both genders had made between 100 and 1,000 jumps. Although the majority of both sexes experienced opposition to and ridicule of their hobby, they continue to jump. By far the greatest

majority of those who had experienced such opposition / ridicule didn't let it upset them in any way. Only approximately three tenths of both genders are afraid to jump, but they still jump.

The majority of respondents appear to be free from undue anxiety / phobias / depression / health worries. This is not unexpected because it is difficult to jump when one has phobias, or is unwell. Survey results indicate parachutists' supposed 'defiance' cannot be attributed to parental misguidance, as the majority of parachutists were products of an average, heterosexual, married couple and became (if not average) heterosexual, married persons themselves. The lack of training received by most respondents would cause problems in anyone who suffered from serious health problems. One receives far more instruction learning to knit and operate a computer than to jump from a plane.

Although I have been a sky-diver for more than one quarter century, I was unaware of more than three types of planes used in jumping. The proliferation during the past few years to an amazing list of 58 different types of airborne vehicles used in jumping shows a freedom from anxiety on the part of jumpers. The fact that more than a third of the jumpers would jump barefoot suggests that a substantial proportion of sky-divers are free from anxieties.

The usual sociability variables don't seem to differentiate the jumpers from the non-jumpers generally. Respondents seem willing to take responsibility for their own actions and one respondent even used these exact words. The greater majority of both genders drink alcoholic beverages at times, and more than half have taken illegal drugs in the past, but they are not an alcohol / drug abusing crowd.

A representative remark was made by a respondent who stated, "Skydivers are persons who are not afraid to die, but are afraid not to have lived."

One must be energetic to jump. Donning the parachutes and paraphernalia weighing close to 60 pounds requires energy, as does climbing into the airborne vehicle. More energy is required to exit the plane as the wind resists the human body totally! Driving a stick shift vehicle requires more energy than operating an automatic vehicle.

The comments enclosed indicate the majority of respondents are oriented toward action, thrill seeking, extroverted and sociable. The Long Island Skydive brochure has an eagle on the front, with the slogan "Life Is Not a Spectator Sport."¹¹⁰ When you must depend on others to aid you in donning sky-diving gear, which can be quite unnerving to a novice as the jump master / mistress adjusts the straps in your crotch between your legs, and across your chest, to be scrunched together, on the floor in a tiny space in a small plane, and to be helped after landing to prevent you from being dragged across the field like a yo-yo, you become sociable very quickly.

The majority of hobbies named by respondents indicate jumpers are sociable, extroverted and non-sedentary. It is difficult to be unsociable and an introvert while skiing (both land and water) and playing all types of ball games, from basketball to volleyball.

Jumpers have a desire for varied and different experiences, as shown by their 117 different hobbies. An average of 17 different categories of hobbies were listed by respondents. The manager of a drop-site and professional sky-diver, summed it up in her statement, "I get bored easily and need constant excitement to keep me going."

The average distance almost half the jumpers travel round trip to the jumpsite is between 22 and 100 miles. This is not very far as driving goes, but considering the large amount of energy used during jumping, such driving requires more than just a casual interest.

It is particularly noteworthy in a few instances that the skydivers are not mainstream, but, enjoy "pushing back the envelope". Although married, and well into their thirties, they are generally childless. Many males and some females will jump nude. The majority of both genders are against mandatory helmet use, and many males and some females prefer stick shifts to automatic. The majority of both sexes never attend religious services which is anathema to many humans. These "free spirits" contradict Nisbetts¹¹¹ findings because approximately one third of jumpers of both genders are first-borns.

The comments are an excellent indication that many of the respondents are also unconventional; for example, "Most fun you can have with your clothes on." The sexual dimension of jumping emerges in comments such as "Pure unadulterated sex!!", "It's fucking great", "Better than sex (at least with my ex-wife)", "Where is the nude DZ? Terminal velocity could be interesting", and, "Next to Disease free sex (there isn't any such animal) the best adrenaline rush, high, orgasmic feeling this human has ever experienced." Also cited by a respondent was the widely used sky-divers' international logo, "E. F. S." (Eat, Fuck, Skydive).

Could an analysis of the results of this study enable educators, sociologists and psychologists to help other types of risk-takers become a more positive influence in today's society? The sport of sky-diving and its benefits are not confined to juveniles, youths and "middle-aged crazies." One respondent stated the sky-diver's philosophy, "You don't quit because you get old. You get old because you quit."

Recommendations

Are first time sky-divers aging? Are more sky-divers becoming pilots and / or more pilots becoming sky-divers? Overlooked in this survey, but of possible interest to future researchers, could be to learn the level of flight skills attained by pilots who ferry sky-divers. Are they certified VFR (Visual Flight Regulations) or IFR (Instrumental Flight Regulations), single, multiple or whatever level of ability?

Only one percent of the female and two percent of the male respondents watch sports on television, perhaps because of the dearth of sports shown on television in which sky-divers are interested. This is consistent with the survey results indicating that less than one fourth of sky-divers were introduced to the sport through the media.

Right and left handedness of jumpers is an important subject for future research. Handedness has been a known life and death factor in several fatal accidents, and could have been in others where the cause of death was never ascertained. All parachute equipment has, from the very beginning, been made for right-handed persons. No matter how much training a person has, in a stressful situation such as sky-diving, especially when a malfunction occurs, training departs and instinct takes over. Sky-divers have plummeted to their deaths still frantically clawing - on the wrong side of the body - for the release handle. One left-handed male actually ripped his leather jacket from shoulder to waist in a frantic attempt to find the handle.

Is it possible to manufacture left handed equipment, considering that approximately ten percent of the general world population is left-handed, and more than ten million jumps are made annually in 85 nations world wide by almost 535,000 sky-divers?¹¹² This means a potential left-handed sky-diving population of 30,000, a not insignificant number. One respondent noted that

one of every four jumpers he knew was left-handed, and wondered if this percentage were generally true.

Further research on persons who stated they were introduced to parachuting by friends could be productive: were the friends female, male, older, younger? Were the relations who introduced respondents to sky-divers brothers, sisters, cousins (presumably peers), aunts, uncles, mothers, fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers, etc?

Information was inconclusive concerning the amount of training before the first jump. Specific information concerning the number of hours, number of days, hour length of the day(s), hours in full weeks could be obtained. The relationships between world recognized and officially accepted courses such as the AFF (Accelerated Free Fall), and training required only by the manager of individual jumpsites should be studied. It is possible that a much larger sample could provide findings that might clarify some relationship between sociological variables and jumping that could not be identified in the current study.

The relationship between how often the respondents jumped and how many jumps they made should be clarified, along with issues of seasonality, vacation, and geographical area and size of community in which jumping occurred because of the safety factor involved. Fatality statistics seem to indicate a relationship between the number of jumps and the length of times between jumps.

When I began this study of skydiving less than a decade ago, the traditional airborne vehicle jumped from was the Cessna 172, and the only parachute was the round type, similar to those used almost two hundred years ago, with a vent added for a slight steering ability. It took almost a century for the airplane to progress from the Wright Brothers' "paper airplane" to the military "Stealth". It has taken less than a decade for parachuting to progress from jumping from

Cessna 172s which carry four people - the pilot, jumpmaster and two jumpers, to jumping from helicopters carrying 224 jumpers in one load, inverted biplanes, triplanes, helicopters and 727 jets.^{113,114} One reason for the ability to jump so often and from so many different type airborne vehicles is that skydivers have adopted the surfers' slogan "Endless Summer" whereby skydivers as well as surfers follow the fair weather seasons around the world.¹¹⁵ Skydivers have also taken from surfers boogie boards¹¹⁶ for novices, smaller, styrofoam boards similar to those used by novice surfers, rather than the regular size surf boards. There is the hope that skydiving will be an Olympic event by the year 2000, now that skydiving has been classified into six categories: accuracy, canopy relative work, free flying, sit flying, sky surfing and tandem. It is of importance to realize, also, that the old parachute law of physics no longer holds true. Free flyers fall between 130 - 150 mph. Both solo and head down free flyers fall at speeds in excess of 180 mph.¹¹⁷ There are ascending parachutes (as opposed to descending) used in para sailing. The youngest known para sailer to date is a four month young infant, the oldest a 91 year young male. There is sky dancing, sky surfing, New Age Skydiving, and corporate sky-diving using a computer while you float gently down.^{118,119,120} Clothing has changed from wearing ripped, dirty, old, used military jumpsuits, boots and helmets to the very latest fashions in suits, helmets, chutes, packs, goggles and footwear for those who do not jump barefoot, custom made for the individual jumper, if so desired. There are body suits, booties, camera wings, competition, flexwing, high lift, repeat jumpsuits from computer generated patterns and sitsuits, to name but a few styles. There was even a lingerie jump special.¹²¹

It is difficult to keep abreast of sky-dive innovations since the study was begun. New terms to describe new jumping activities proliferate: airlift, airfly, base jumping, introduced in 1980, which includes jumping off bridges and towers, often illegally, blade running, Holiday (Holidaze), jumping when you jump dressed in the appropriate costume from Uncle Sam carrying

a gigantic flag, to the Easter Bunny with his basket of eggs, para-skiing, sky dancing, sky flite (flying), free style and sky-surfing, which originated in 1991, using graphite boards.^{122,123,124}

Sky-diving has progressed from one sky surfer on one surf board to two on a board.¹²⁵ Now there is sky rafting, where four jumpers exit a plane carrying a rubber raft, which they inflate and ride to the ground.¹²⁶

With the proliferation of parachuting activities, it was only a matter of time before a few enterprising nefarious individuals awoke to the benefits to be derived from taking what was not rightfully theirs. Now every month there is a column in Parachuting magazine headed, "Stolen Gear", just as there is in motorcycling magazines. Paraphernalia used in jumping are expensive, portable, difficult to trace, and provide a source of lucrative funds for the dishonest entrepreneur.

One of the greatest boosters for the parachuting world is big business. In addition to the actual parachuting equipment and clothing manufacturing companies, cars / buses / trains are needed to get parachutists to the drop zone, planes are needed to get parachutists to jump altitude, therefore providing added business gasoline and oil corporations, including those in such far off countries as Arabia, there are now endless corporations coming in from the fringes of the "far-out" innovations. From boating to videos, it seems there is really nothing that cannot attach itself to the parachute community as a parasite! The para-sail operation needs powerful cigarette speed boats, operators, watchers, ropes, advertising media. The videos need producers, directors, actors for such thrill productions as "Over the Edge"¹²⁷. The computer industry is now hep to the game - surfing the net is commonplace¹²⁸. Insurance companies who refused to insure any jumper, now vie with each other for your business.

Originally there were parachute clubs, then large organizations for the general sky-diving population. Then Parachutists Over Phorty (POPS) was formed in 1966. Next came Parachutists

over Sixty (S.O.S.). This year, Sky-divers Over Eighty (SOE) came along. Perhaps ultimately, at the rate things are happening in the sky-diving community, I may just form Sky-divers over 100, (SOOH) or Century Old Parachutists (C.O.P) in the not too far distant future.

All the above brings into the fold the travel industry and travel agents to the type planes which do not take parachutists up, but to the farthest corners of the earth. Perhaps soon we will see a parachutist on the moon! Just think of that ramification.

Because of the constant encroachment of civilization on rain forests, wetlands, dry lands, and all surfaces where condominiums, shopping malls and skyscrapers can be built, there is less and less space available for airports, balloon launchings, and parachuting. In addition to the above problems, the fatal statistics concerning airborne vehicles is rising dramatically and skydivers are the smallest, most insignificant fliers.

To cope with all this excitement and commotion, an alliance has been formed among the Airports Council of U.S.P.A., the Balloon Foundation of America, the Soaring Society of America, the U.S. Recreational Aviation Association and the U.S. Ultralight Association. Hopefully, these five organizations together will have more clout when it comes to asserting their rights to airspace than they would if they were acting individually.

As an airplane pilot and sky-diver I realize this cooperation is imperative. The greatest fright I have ever had occurred in July 1997 when I was flying a Cessna 152 over a dropsite I have jumped at for decades. There had been no notice on radio of jumping activities, the visibility was limited due to haze, and there, directly in front of me less than 300 yards at 2,700 feet, was a parachutist! (S)he was descending slowly. There was no time for the parachutist to maneuver, if, indeed (s)he was an expert who would not "freeze" or panic in a dangerous situation. I made a steep bank to the left hoping the jumper was not more terrified than I was. A plane does not act

like a car does when it hits a pedestrian. A parachutist (or even a bird) touching any part of a small plane will cause immediate disaster to both.

It is obvious more research must be done to make the skies safer for both pilots and jumpers, because of the thousands of airborne vehicles, from balloons to Concorde, and hundreds of thousands of "dancers", para-sailers, skiers, surfers, etc., ascending, descending, and just plain (or plane) flying the sky, all trying to maneuver in the same manner, at times in the same place and space. This will lead to numerous tragedies, unless greater research takes place in the future.

There is now a sky-diving university for those who take their aerodynamics seriously. Upon completion of this study, it would seem appropriate a similar study of sport parachuting should be conducted in the future and compared to this study. The round chute took you; the square (actually oblong) chute is at your command. You fly it as you do an airplane.

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- ¹⁰³ Marvin Wolfgang and Frano Ferracutti, *The Subculture of Violence*, (Publishers Tabistock, London, 1967).
- ¹⁰⁴ "Surfing Girl", *Surfing*, Vol 32, No. 10, (May 1997).
- ¹⁰⁵ *Motorcycle Accessory Catalog*, Harley Davidson (1997).
- ¹⁰⁶ *Parachutist*, (June 93), 95.
- ¹⁰⁷ "You Asked For It" show, WABC 12/29/50 - 12/27/59. Art Baker and co-host not named in any reference book; The complete Directory to Prime Time Network and Cable TV Shows 1946 - Present, p. 1153. Sixth Edition. Tim Brooks and Earle Marsh Ballantine Books, N.Y. Random House 1985.
- ¹⁰⁸ Delk, "Some Personality Disorders of Sky Divers".
- ¹⁰⁹ Ogilvie, "Stimulus Addiction - the Sweet Psychic Jolt of Danger".
- ¹¹⁰ *Long Island Skydive*, Montauk Highway, East Moriches, New York.
- ¹¹¹Richard E. Nisbett, "Birth Order and Participatio in Dangerous Sports" *Yale University Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, Vol. 8, No. 4, (1968), 351-353.
- ¹¹² *Parachutist*, (August 1994).
- ¹¹³*Parachutist*, Ibid

¹¹⁴*Parachutist*, Vol. 37 No. 12 (December 1966), 37.

¹¹⁵ 1997 Winter/Spring clothing Catalog. Square One Parachute Safety Service, 425 West Rider Street, Suite B-7, Perris, CA 92571, 7.

¹¹⁶ *Parachutist*, (May 1996), 31.

¹¹⁷*Parachutist*, (June 1997), 18.

¹¹⁸*Parachutist*, *Ibid*, 9

¹¹⁹*Parachutist*, *Ibid*, 12.

¹²⁰*Parachutist*, *Ibid*. 18.

¹²¹ *Parachutist*, (September 1993), 50.

¹²² *Parachutist*, (October 1995), 63.

¹²³ *Parachutist*, (June 1997), 53.

¹²⁴ *Parachutist*, (March 1996), 31.

¹²⁵ *Parachutist*, (July 1997), 61.

¹²⁶ *Parachutist*, (June 1997), 53.

¹²⁷ *Parachutist*, (October 1995), 40.

¹²⁸ *Parachutist*, (October 1995), 47.

VIII. Appendices

Appendix A The Questionnaire

Although a much longer, more detailed questionnaire might have been developed, the decision was made that a two-page questionnaire, with questions on both sides of a single sheet of paper, could provide the essential information needed.

The questionnaire was constructed using the review of the literature and the researcher's own experiences as a basis for formulating the questions.

It was believed that a higher percentage of returns would be achieved with a fairly short, concise form rather than with a longer, more detailed questionnaire; 462 of the 1531 sent out were returned.

Cover Letter

The cover letter explained the need for the research, the use to which the questionnaire would be put, and the fact that the information was essential for the satisfactory completion of the study. Anonymity for each individual replying was assured.

The wording of the letter for the Parachute Dropsites did not duplicate the contents of the cover letter accompanying the questionnaire because it was believed that the dropsite owners would read the questionnaire for their own information, especially since most dropsite owners are parachutists themselves. The letter did request permission to distribute the questionnaire because the distribution of the questionnaire by the researcher would be an interruption of normal dropsite activities, necessitating taking time for explanations, and in many instances, the dropsite staff would be required to distribute the questionnaire.

The need to ask the dropsite owners / staff to distribute the questionnaire arose when the decision was made to distribute the questionnaire in all 50 states. When the project was described to family and friends, interest snowballs so much that people were requesting to be included in the research from such diverse persons as a motorcycle mechanic to an airline pilot, who has nine different pilots' licenses and nine pilot instructors licenses in these same categories. The researcher could not personally distribute questionnaires to all the dropsites, so it was necessary for many dropsite owners / staff to distribute the questionnaire themselves.

The guarantees of anonymity was not a necessity for the dropsite owners as several dropsite owners questioned prior to the sending of all survey packets believed the publicity would be good for business. Because of the rising costs of insurance, and the encroachment of civilization, many dropsites have closed, and others are feeling the pressure of financial insecurity. However, anonymity was guaranteed if so desired.

APPENDIX A

Gertrude E. Box
2473 Jackson Avenue
Seaford, NY 11783
(516) 785-2582

Dear Sky Dive Center Owner:

I am undertaking a study of Sport Parachutists, as a follow-up to a study conducted by David Leo Holmes in 1976. No other study of parachuting for a Ph. D. Dissertation has ever been attempted. I am a Doctoral Student in Sociology at the C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center, 33 West 42nd Street, New York City.

I would greatly appreciate your permission to distribute a simple anonymous questionnaire to the parachutists at your center - to be filled out and returned, postpaid - at their leisure.

If you wish me to acknowledge you and your "Sky Dive" Center in my report, I will gladly do so. If you prefer not to be specifically identified, such a preference will also be honored.

If you need extra copies of this questionnaire, please call collect (516) 785-2582 and I will send them to you immediately.

Sincerely,

Gertrude E. Box

APPENDIX A

Gertrude E. Box
2473 Jackson Avenue
Seaford, NY 11783
(516) 785-2582

Dear Parachutist:

The enclosed questionnaire is a study being conducted as part of my doctoral dissertation concerning the characteristics of parachutists. I have been a parachutist since 1970. This study is being conducted under the auspices of the Department of Sociology at CUNY Graduate School, New York City.

Your cooperation in filling out the questionnaire is essential, so that a representative picture of parachutists and the state of the art of parachuting in our society may be obtained.

The completed return of this questionnaire will play a very important role in the success of this study. So that you will feel free to answer openly and honestly, this questionnaire is completely anonymous. DO NOT sign your name to any part of this questionnaire. It is easy to answer and should take no more than a few minutes of your time. If any questions are not relevant to your situation, please fill in N/A (not applicable). Please fill this out in the next couple of days, and return in the self-addressed, postage-paid envelope. NO POSTAGE is required.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and help.

Sincerely,

Gertrude E. Box

PARACHUTE SURVEY APPENDIX A

- 1) Age _____ 2) Gender _____ 3) Race _____ 4) Weight _____ 5) Height _____
- 6) Marital Status _____ 7) Number of children _____ 8) Age of children _____
- 9) Occupation _____ 10) Annual Income _____
- 11) Highest Educational Level Achieved / Years _____ Degrees _____
- 12) Religious Preference _____
- 13) Religious services attended (check one) :
 Often _____ Occasionally _____ Seldom _____ Never _____
- 14) Number of : Brothers _____ Sisters _____ Birth Order _____ Only Child _____
- 15) Were you raised in a home with:
 Two parents of opposite sex: _____
 Single parent home: Male: _____ Female: _____
 Other: Write in: _____
- 16) Sexual Preference:
 Heterosexual _____ Homosexual _____ Bisexual _____ Asexual _____
- 17) Introduction to parachuting through:
 Friends _____ Relatives _____ Military _____ Media _____ Other _____
- 18) Age at first jump: _____
- 19) Type jump: Tandem _____ Static line _____ Accelerated Free Fall _____
- 20) Amount of training before first jump: Hours _____ Day (s) _____ Full Course _____
- 21) Type planes jumped from: Cessna 180 _____ DC3 _____ Other _____
- 22) Additional training: Free fall _____ Competition _____ Jump Master _____
 Other: (please specify) _____
- 23) Are you an airplane pilot? Yes _____ No _____

PARACHUTE SURVEY Page 2 APPENDIX A

24) Effect of change of chute from old round to new square style: Is the new square type:

Easier _____ More difficult _____ No difference _____

Never jumped round chute _____ Need for additional instruction _____

25) Number of years parachuting: Sport _____ Military _____

26) Total number of jumps: _____

27) Distance from home to nearest jumpsite _____ (miles)

28) Frequency of jumps during last year:

Weekend _____ Summer _____ Vacation _____ Year round _____

29) Geographical area jumped at:

Mountain _____ Plains _____ Southern _____ Northern _____ Metropolitan _____

Foreign countries (please specify) _____

30) Have you ever experienced opposition / ridicule concerning your choice of hobby?

Yes _____ No _____

31) If yes, did such opposition make you feel:

Angry _____ Sad _____ Uncomfortable _____ None of these _____

32) Other sports / hobbies: Please list all participated in regularly during last few years:

(Please use space below if there are more.)

33) Do you drink alcoholic beverages? Never _____ Occasionally _____ Fairly regularly _____

34) Have you ever taken drugs such as marihuana, cocaine, crack, heroin?

Yes _____ No _____

PARACHUTE SURVEY Page 3 APPENDIX A

35) Type personal transportation preferred: (Check all that apply)

Sports car _____ Compact car _____ Convertible _____ Sedan _____

Four wheel drive _____ Motorcycle _____ Other (please specify) _____

36) Does your vehicle have: Automatic transmission: _____ Stick shift: _____

37) One jumpsite provides a free jump for each paid jump made nude.

Would you take advantage of such an offer? Yes _____ No _____

38) Have you ever suffered an injury while jumping? Yes _____ No _____

39) Are you afraid of jumping? Yes _____ No _____

40) If Yes, please check all that apply:

i Before reaching jumpsite: _____
 ii On ground at jumpsite: _____
 iii While in plane: _____
 iv When exiting plane: _____
 v Just before landing: _____
 vi Not afraid: _____

41) Concerning equipment, do you: Rent Own Do not use

i Jumpsuit _____
 ii Helmet _____
 iii Boots* _____

42)* Jumping barefoot has been the "in" style for several years - ever since mandatory paratrooper boots have been eliminated. Would you jump barefoot? Yes _____ No _____

43) If you are a motorcyclist: Do you believe in mandatory helmet laws? Yes _____ No _____

Or do you believe the motorcyclist should have the right to make his / her own decision concerning helmet use? Yes _____ No _____

44) Do you "buckle up" while in: Always Usually Sometimes Never

i Cars _____
 ii Buses _____
 iii Planes _____

45) When a passenger / operator in any of the following: private pleasure boats, jet skis, wave runners, wet bikes, canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, dinghies, etc., do you wear a life preserver? (check one) Always _____ Usually _____ Sometimes _____ Never _____

PARACHUTE SURVEY Page 4 APPENDIX A

46) Organizations / Associations / Clubs to which you belong:

Please list:

Please list others, if any, below.

47) Favorite Magazine: _____

48) Favorite Newspaper: _____

49) Favorite Television program: _____

50) Any general comments on parachuting?

**APPENDIX B
AGREEMENT, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK**

IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to utilize the facilities and equipment of SKYDIVE East and SKYSPORT, INC., (and its associated entities), to engage in parachute activities, ground instruction, flying and related activities, hereinafter collectively referred to as "parachuting activities", HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **PARTIES INCLUDED:** I understand that this Agreement, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk includes SKYDIVE East and SKYSPORT, INC., its agents, associated entities, officers, shareholders, partners, employees, pilots, instructors, jumpmasters, the owner of the land utilized for "parachuting activities," Joseph and Matthew Gordeuk, Leah E. Fritsche and Alexandria Field, The United States Parachute Association and its members, anyone working with or for SKYDIVE East and SKYSPORT, INC., and anyone involved in my "parachute activities," hereinafter collectively referred to in this Agreement, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk as "SKYDIVE".....()

2. I acknowledge that Alexandria Field and Leah E. Fritsche does not own nor operate and is not affiliated in any way with the parachuting activities nor the school conducted by SKYDIVE which is located at Alexandria Field.....()

3. **RISKS CONTEMPLATED.** This agreement is made in contemplation of all "parachuting activities," included but not limited to parachute jumping, ground instruction, flying and related activities, the exit, freefall, time under the canopy, the landing, any rescue operations or attempts by "SKYDIVE" whether on, above or off the area known as the Alexandria Field, Pittstown, New Jersey, or any facilities used by "SKYDIVE".....()

4. **RELEASE FROM LIABILITY.** I hereby release and discharge "SKYDIVE" from any and all liability, claims, demands or causes or action that I may hereafter have for injuries or damages, arising out of my participation in "parachuting activities" even if caused by negligence or other fault of "SKYDIVE".....()

5. **COVENANT NOT TO SUE.** I further agree that I WILL NOT SUE OR MAKE CLAIM against "SKYDIVE" for damages or other losses sustained as a result of my participation in "parachuting activities" even if caused by negligence or other fault of "SKYDIVE".....()

6. **INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS.** I also agree to INDEMNIFY AND HOLD "SKYDIVE" HARMLESS from all claims, judgments and costs, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, and to reimburse them for any expenses whatsoever incurred in connection with any action brought as a result of my participation in "parachuting activities".....()

7. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK.** I understand and acknowledge that "parachuting activities" are inherently dangerous and I EXPRESSLY AND VOLUNTARILY ASSUME ALL RISK OF DEATH OR PERSONAL INJURY SUSTAINED WHILE PARTICIPATING IN "PARACHUTING ACTIVITIES" WHETHER OR NOT CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OR OTHER FAULT OF "SKYDIVE" including but not limited to equipment malfunction from whatever cause, inadequate training, any deficiencies in the landing area, rescue attempts, bad landing, or any other injury I may sustain even if caused by negligence or any other fault of "SKYDIVE".....()

8. **PARTIES BOUND BY THIS AGREEMENT.** It is my understanding and intention that this Agreement, release of Liability and Assumption of Risk be binding not only on myself, but on anyone or any entity, including my estate and my heirs, that or who may be able to or does sue because of my injury or death. It is further my understanding and agreement that this Release is intended to and does in fact release "SKYDIVE" from any and all claims or obligations whatsoever arising in any way from my participating in "parachuting activities," even if caused by their negligence or other fault.....()

9. **LIMITATION OF WARRANTY.** "SKYDIVE" hereby warrants that the equipment provided by "SKYDIVE" has been previously used for "parachuting activities." This warranty is the only warranty made and is made in lieu of any other warranties, expressed or implied, including but not limited to warranty of merchantability or illness for a particular purpose.
I have read the above paragraph, acknowledge that I understand it and accept the limitation of warranty.....()

10. **DURATION OF RELEASE.** It is my understanding and intention that this release and agreement be effective not only for my first jump but for any subsequent jumps or activities in any way associated with "SKYDIVE".....()

11. **ENFORCEABILITY.** I agree that if any portions of this Agreement, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk are found to be unenforceable or against public policy, that only that portion shall fail, but I specifically waive any unenforceability or any public policy argument that I may make or that may be made on behalf of my estate or by anyone who would sue because of my injury or death.....()

12. **LEGAL RIGHTS.** It has been explained to me, and I understand, that by signing this document I am giving up important legal rights, and it is my intention to do so.....()

13. **UNDERSTANDING / BINDING OR AGREEMENT.** I hereby certify that I have read and understand the contents of this document and I wish to be bound by its terms.....()

(Signature)

(Print your name)

APPENDIX B

SPORT PARACHUTE MEDICAL STATEMENT FOR PARACHUTE JUMPS

Date of Birth: _____ Weight _____, Height _____, Sex _____, Age _____

I hereby certify that I have no physical infirmity, am not under treatment for any physical infirmity or chronic ailment, or injury of any nature, that I am not under the influence of any intoxicants or drugs and that I have never been treated for any of the following:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Cardiac or pulmonary condition or disease | 5. Kidney or related disease |
| 2. Diabetes | 6. High or low blood pressure |
| 3. Fainting spell or convulsions | 7. Eye conditions |
| 4. Nervous disorder | |

Date _____ Signature _____ (seal) _____

PLEASE PRINT

LIC #
USPA #

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Phone: () _____ OCCUPATION _____

How did you hear of us? Yellow Pages ___ Friend ___ Other _____

 Mall Sports Show ___ Exhibition Jump ___ At _____

IMPORTANT READ BEFORE SIGNING:

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE RELEASE and I do further intend to be legally bound hereby for myself, my heirs, administrators, executors and assign.

Appendix C Surveys Sent					
	SKYDIVE CENTER	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE	ST	SENT
1	20th Sf SPC Sky Diving Center	2499 Johnson Road, S.W.	Huntsville, AL 35206	AL	5
2	Alabama Skydiving, Inc.	7818 Sixth Avenue South	Birmingham, AL 35206	AL	5
3	Bama Skydivers	Eutaw Municipal Airport	Eutaw, AL 35462	AL	5
4	Emerald Coast Skydiving, Horak Airport	16446 County Road	Elberta, AL 36530-3112	AL	5
5	Ft. Rucker S.P.A.	Hatch Stagefield	Ft. Rucker, AL	AL	5
6	Gulf Coast Airports	St. Elmo Airport, Box 448	St. Elmo, AL 36568	AL	5
7	Opelika Skydiving Association	Moton Field	Tuskegee, AL 36083	AL	5
8	Skydive Mobile, Roy E. Ray Airport	RR#1, Box 937-4	Irvington, AL 36544	AL	5
9	Skydive North Alabama	342 Opposite Reynolds Road	Hazel Green, AL 35750	AL	5
10	Skydive South, Inc, St. Clair Airport	U.S. 1-20, Box 23	Pell City, AL 35125	AL	5
11	Alaska Skydivers	P.O. Box 185	Girdwood, AK 99587	AK	5
12	Arizona Aero-Sports, Inc Estrella Airport	4021 E. Harmony Ave	Mesa, AZ 85206	AZ	5
13	Desert Skydiving Center	Buckeye Airport	Buckeye, AZ 85029	AZ	5
14	Marana Skydiving Center	AVRA Valley Airport	Tucson, AZ 85022	AZ	5
15	Pair-A-Chute, Inc.	Coolidge & Globe Airports	Phoenix, AZ 85016	AZ	5
16	Skydive Arizona, Eloy Airport	4900 Taylor Road	Eloy, AZ 83231	AZ	5
17	Superstition Foothills, Inc.	AAAA Superior Airport	Superior, AZ 85273	AZ	5
18	Territorial Skydivers	1338 S. 22nd Avenue	Yuma, AZ 83564	AZ	5
19	YPG Sport Parachute Club	Yuma Proving Ground	Yuma, AZ 85365	AZ	5
20	Bay Area Skydiving, Byron Airport	3000 Armstrong Road #26	Byron, CA 94514	CA	10
21	California Skydive Center	CA City Airport	California City, CA 92537	CA	10
22	California PC	Box 1065	Livermore, CA 94550	CA	10
23	Cy Perkins Parachute Club, Skyline Airport	2071 Cereal St.	Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	CA	10
24	Madera Parachute Center, Madera Airport	4130-D Aviation Drive	Madera CA 93636	CA	10
25	Front Range Skydivers, Calhan Airport	P.O. Box 26290	CO Springs, CO 80918	CO	5
26	Skydive Colorado, Inc	Ft. Collins-Loveland Airport	Loveland, CO 80538	CO	5
27	Connecticut Parachutists, Ellington Airport	Route 83	Ellington, CT 06029	CT	5
28	Woodstock PC	Route 169	S. Woodstock, CT 06281	CT	5
29	Deleware Skydivers, Inc.	Sussex County Airport	Georgetown, DE 19947	DE	5
30	Parachutes Are Fun, Inc.	Laurel Airport, Route 24	Laurel, DE 19956	DE	5
31	Air Adventures Florida, Airglades Airport	Highway 27	Clewiston, FL 33440	FL	5
32	Central Florida Parachute Center, Inc.	480 Skyline Drive	Umatilla, FL 32784	FL	5
33	Florida Skydiving Center	Okeechobee County Airport	Okeechobee, FL 34972	FL	5
34	Palatka Paracenter	Kay Larkin Airport	Jacksonville, FL 32203	FL	5

35	Air Ventures Skydiving, Inc.	Russell Field, Hwy 27	South Rome, GA 30165	GA	10
36	Atlanta Air Sports	Stockmar Airport	Villa Rica, GA 30167	GA	5
37	Atlanta Skydiving Center, Inc.	I-75	Jenkinsburg, GA 30234	GA	5
38	FreeFall Ranch, Inc.	Roosevelt Memorial Airport	Warm Springs, GA 31830	GA	5
39	Skydive Jacksonville	St. Mary's Airport	St. Mary's, GA 31558	GA	5
40	Skydive North Georgia, Inc.	P.O. Box 1028	Ellijay, GA 30540	GA	5
41	Skydive Waycross	Waycross-Ware County Airport	Waycross, GA 31502	GA	5
42	Aloha Skydivers	Dillingham Airfield	Moluleia, HI 96725	HI	5
43	Skydive Idaho	4005 Canada Road	Star, Id 83669	ID	5
44	Archway Skydiving Centre	City Airport	Vandalia, IL 62471	IL	5
45	Greater St. Louis PC	Greenville Municipal Airport	Greenville, IL 62246	IL	5
46	Hinckley Parachute Center	Route 30	Hinckley, IL 60520	IL	5
47	Illinois Valley Parachute Club, Tillman Field	Box 284	Minier, IL 61759	IL	5
48	Mid America SPC	Taylorville Airport	Taylorville, IL 62568	IL	5
49	Rock River Valley Skydivers	P.O. Box 1038	Sterling, IL 61081	IL	5
50	Western Illinois Skydivers	Route 96 South, Box 167	Niota, IL 62358	IL	5
51	Skydive Carmi	Route 1	Carmi, IL 62821	IL	5
52	Illiana Skydivers	Songers Field	Veedersburg, IN 47987	IN	5
53	New Horizons Parachute Club	12000 County Rd. N.	Eaton, IN 47338	IN	5
54	Parachutes and Associates	Frankfort Airport	Frankfort, IN 46041	IN	5
55	Skydive Anderson	Ace Airport, SR 109 SO	Anderson, IN 46013	IN	5
56	Skydive Mentone	Goshen Airport	Goshen, IN 46526	IN	5
57	Accelerated Freefall Iowa	Boone Municipal Airport	Boone, IA 50036	IA	5
58	Algona Skydivers	Algona Airport, Hwy 18 W.	Algona, IA 50511	IA	5
59	Central Iowa Skydivers	Perry Muncipal Airport	Perry, IA 50220	IA	5
60	Des Moines Skydivers, Inc.		Winterset, IA 50273	IA	5
61	Paradise Skydivers, Inc.	McBride Field	Cedar Rapids, IA 52240	IA	5
62	Skydive Iowa	Ottumwa Indust. Airport	Ottumwa, IA 52501	IA	5
63	Skydive Northwood		Northwood, IA 50459	IA	5
64	Kansas Sky Ranch	Oxford Airport	Oxford, KS 67114	KS	5
65	Kansas State University Parachute Club	Wamego Airport	Wamego, KS 66547	KS	5
66	Mid American Sky Sports	Garnett Airport	Garnett, KS 66032	KS	5
67	Oz Sport Parachute Club	Hwy 56	Lyons, KS 67554	KS	5
68	Pegasus Skydiving, Jetmore Airport	Hwy 283	Jetmore, KS 67854	KS	5
69	Skydive El Dorado, Inc., El Dorado Airport	Highway 77	Ft. Campbell, KY 42223	KY	5

Appendix C Surveys Sent					
70	Ft. Campbell Sport Parachute Activity	P.O. Box 36	Ft.Campbell, Ky 42223	KY	5
71	Greene County SPC/Kentucky	215 Airport Road	Bardstown, KY 40004	KY	5
72	Thunderbird SPC	Berea-Richmond Airport	Berea, KY 40403	KY	5
73	Acadiana Skydivers, Lemaire Airport	Rt 1, Box 347	Jeanerette, LA 70544	LA	5
74	Hammond Skysports, Inc.	401 Airways Blvd.	Hammond, LA 70401	LA	5
75	Sky's The Limit, Inc.	St. Landry Airport	Opelousas, LA 70470	LA	10
76	Jump Maine Skydivers	Maine Flight Center	Pittsfield, ME 04967	ME	5
77	Skydive Lebanon	Upper Guinea Rd, Box 1255	Lebanon, ME 04027	ME	5
78	Aquafoil, Inc.	P.O. Box 3312	Crofton, MD 21114	MD	5
79	Skydiving Center of Greater DC	St. Mary's County Airport	California, MD 20619	MD	5
80	Massachusetts Sports Parachute Club	Box 122	TurnersFalls,MA 01376	MA	5
81	New England Skydivers	Northampton Airport	Northampton, MA 01060	MA	5
82	Pepperell Skydiving Center	Sports Center Airport	Pepperell, MA 01463	MA	5
83	Great Lakes Skydivers	38042 28th Avenue	Gobles, MI 49055	MI	5
84	Napolean Skydiving Center	Napolean Airport P.O. Box 708	Napolean, MI 49261	MI	5
85	Parahawks PC	Marine City Airport	Marien City, Mi 48029	MI	5
86	Skydive Michigan	P.O. Box 976	Fowlerville, MI 48836	MI	5
87	Wild Wind Skydivers	Alma Airport	Alma, MI 48801	MI	5
88	Accelerated Freefall Minnesota	Owatonna Airport	Owatonna, MN 55060	MN	5
89	Iron Range Skydivers, Inc.	Eveleth-Virginia Airport	Eveleth, MN 55734	MN	5
90	Minnesota Skydivers, Inc.		Stanton, MN 55018	MN	5
91	Skydiving Sauk Centre, Inc.	Sauk Centre Airport	Sauk, MN 56378	MN	5
92	Circle M. Skydivers	Magee Airport	Magee, MS 39111	MS	5
93	Horizon Skydiving School	8608 E. 32nd Street	Kansas City,MO 64129	MO	5
94	Sky Dive St. Louis, Bowling Green Airport	Box 262A	Bowling Green,MO 63334	MO	5
95	Southeast Missouri Air Sports	Sikeston Airport	Sikeston, MO 63801	MO	5
96	Big Sky Para Sports	Silvertip Skydivers	Stevensville, MT 59807	MT	5
97	Skydive Lost Prairie, Inc.		Kalispell, MT 59903	MT	5
98	Crete Skydiving Center, Inc.	Crete Municipal Airport	Crete, NB	NB	5
99	Lincoln SPC	Browns Airport	Weeping Water, NB 68463	NB	5
100	Imitari Skydiving Adventure Vegas Airport	N. Rancho Rd	Las Vegas,NV 89130	NV	5
101	Las Vegas Parachute Center	616 Pioneer Street	Las Vegas, NV 89130	NV	5
102	Las Vagas Parachute Club	N. Las Vegas Air Terminal	Las Vegas, NV 89107	NV	5
103	New Cal Aviation, Inc.	14 Riser Road	Little Ferry, NJ 07643	NJ	25
104	Coronado Skydiving Center	240 Airport Road	Belen, NM 87002	NM	5

Appendix C Surveys Sent					
105	Duanesburg Skydiving Club	Knox Airport	Albany, NY 12201	NY	10
106	Erie Skydiving Center	5830 Seneca Street	Elma, NY 14059	NY	10
107	Finger Lakes Skydivers	9798 Contress St., Ext.	Trumansburg, NY 14886	NY	10
108	Frontier Skydivers, Inc.	Beebe Road	Wilson, NY 14172	NY	10
109	Long Island Skydivers, Inc.	Montauk Highway	E. Moriches, NY 11940	NY	5
110	Malone Parachute Club	Malone Dufort Airport	Malone, NY 12593	NY	10
111	Rochester Skydivers	3400 County Line Road	Brockport, NY 14470	NY	10
112	Sky-I Skydiving Center	Curtis Airfield	Verona, NY 13478	NY	10
113	Sky Dive Long Island, Inc.	91 Montauk Highway	E. Moriches, NY 11946	NY	5
114	Sky Dive	220 Pleasure Drive	Flanders, NY 11901	NY	25
115	Ranch Parachute Club	Sand Hill Road	Gardiner, NY 12525	NY	10
116	Wood Air Sports	Stormville Airport	Stormville, NY 12582	NY	10
117	82nd ABN Freefall Committee		Fort Bragg, NC 28307	NC	5
118	Adrenalin Adventures Skydiving	Laurinburg-Maxton Airport	Lauringurg, NC 28853	NC	5
119	Carolina Skydiving Institute, Greensboro	Liberty Road	Climax, NC 27233	NC	5
120	Carolina Sky Sports	North Raleigh Airport	North Raleigh, NC 27619	NC	5
121	Green Beret Sport Parachute Activity	9th and Baker St.	Fort Bragg, NC 28307	NC	5
122	Raeford Parachute Center		Raeford, NC 28376	NC	5
123	Skydive Parachute Center	P.O. 20534	Charlotte, NC 29292	NC	5
124	Valley Skydivers, Inc.	630 7th St West	West Fargo, ND 58078	ND	5
125	Akron Skydivers, Inc., Skypark Airport	3017 Greenwich Rd	Wadsworth, OH 44281	OH	5
126	Alliance Sport Parachute Club	2 Hoffmeister Road	Petersburg, OH 44454	OH	5
127	Canton Air Sports, Martin Airport	5367 E. Center Drive	Canton, OH 44721	OH	5
128	Cleveland Sport Parachute Center	Route 422, Gesuga County	Parkman, Ohio	OH	5
129	Grand Lake Skydiving, Lakefield Airport	6177 State Route 219	Celina, OH 45822	OH	5
130	Skydive B.B. Inc.	P.O. Box 311	Bowling Green OH 43402	OH	5
131	Skydive Greene County, Inc.	177 S. Monroe Road	Xenia, OH 45385	OH	5
132	TopFun Skydiving	Miller Airport	North Benton, OH 44449	OH	5
133	Waynesville Skydiving, Inc.	4925 State Rt. #42	Waynesville, OH 45068	OH	5
134	Green Country Skydivers,	Sallisaw Airport	Sallisaw, OK 74955	OK	5
135	Oklahoma Parachute Center,	Cushing Airport	Cushing, OK 74023	OK	5
136	Skydive Tahlequash	Tahlequah Airport	Tahlequash, OK 74465	OK	5
137	Tulsa Area Parachute Center	Hominy Municipal Airport	Tulsa, OK 74103	OK	5
138	Eugene Skydivers, Creswell Hobby Field	83501 Melton Road	Creswell, OR 97401	OR	5
139	Sheridan Sky Sports		Sheridan, OR 83378	OR	5

Appendix C Surveys Sent					
140	Skydive Oregon, Skydive Oregon Airport	12150 S. Hyw 211	Molalla, OR 97038	OR	5
141	Western SPC	29388 S.E. Heiple Rd	Eagle Creek, OR 97022	OR	5
142	Willamette Valley Parachute, Inc.	345 Scrael Hill Road, SE	Willamette, OR 47396	OR	5
143	AFF East/Skydive, Chambersburg Airport	3506 Airport Road	Chambersburg, PA 17201	PA	31
144	AFF East/Skydive, Chambersburg Airport(SOS)	3506 Airport Road	Chambersburg, PA 17201	PA	37
145	Endless Mountain Skydivers, Inc.	Kellachow Airport	S Canaan, PA 18472	PA	5
146	Erie Skydivers	4070 W. 30th	Erie, PA 16506	PA	5
147	Freefall Adventures, Inc.	New Hanover Airport	Gilbertsville, PA 16510	PA	5
148	Marytown SPC	Donegal Airport, Rd 1	Marietta, PA 17547	PA	5
149	Mifflin County Skydivers, Mifflin Airport	Three Cent Lane	Reedsville, PA 17084	PA	5
150	Mon-Yough Skydivers, Inc.	J.T. Willie Airport	Worthington, PA 16562	PA	5
151	Morgantown Parachute Center	Box 253, Morgantown Airport	Morgantown, PA 19543	PA	5
152	Northeast Pennsylvania Ripcords, Inc.	Cold Springs Farm	Sugarloaf, PA 18249	PA	5
153	The Freefall Farm, Grimes Airport	371 Airport Raod	Bethel, PA 19507	PA	5
154	United Parachute Club, Inc	New Hanover Airport	Gilbertsville, PA 19525	PA	5
155	Air-Born Skydiving Center	1811 Airport Rd	Orangeburg, SC 29115	SC	5
156	Flying Tigers SPC, Oconee County Airport	Airport Road	Seneca, SC 29678	SC	5
157	Parachute Myrtle Beach, Inc.	Green Sea Airport	Myrtle Beach, SC 29577	SC	5
158	Skydive Carolina, Chester County Airport	Darby Road	Chester, SC 29706	SC	5
159	Skydive Walterboro, Walterboro Airport	Hwy 17A	Walterboro, SC 29448	SC	5
160	Vikings of Denmark, Inc.	Barnwell Airport, HWY 278	West Barnwell, SC 29812	SC	5
161	Black Hills Air Sports	Spearfish Airport	Spearfish, SD 57783	SD	5
162	South Dakota Skydivers, Skie Airport	RR 4, Box 58	Lennox, SD 57039	SD	5
163	Skydive Paris	Paris-Henry County Airport	Paris, TN 37058	TN	5
164	Golden Eagle SPC	Sparta-White Airport	Sparta, TN 38505	TN	5
165	Skydive Tennessee	Sparta White Airport	Sparta, TN 38505	TN	5
166	Tennessee Skydiving Center	Tullahoma Regional Airport	Tullahoma, TN 37388	TN	5
167	Aerodome Skydiving, Tri-County Airport	Route 2, Box 15	Whiterwright, TX 75491	TX	10
168	Aggies Over Texas, Inc.		Bryan, TX 75532	TX	10
169	Amarillo Skydivers	Gartell Aiport	Amarillo, TX 76113	TX	10
170	American Parachuting Inc.	P.O. Box 905	Wichita Falls, TX 76307	TX	10
171	Dallas Skydiving Center, Seagovlle Airport	Combine Road	Combine, TX 76310	TX	10
172	Fort Hood SPC, Sportsman's Center	Building 1937	Fort Hood, TX 76544	TX	10
173	Magic Valley Skydivers	Route 3, Box 338	Los Fresnos, TX 76240	TX	10
174	North Texas Parachute Center	Gainesville Airport	Gainesville, TX 76240	TX	10

Appendix C Surveys Sent					
175	Sky's the Limit Parachute Center	P.O. Box 1539	Beeville, TX 78104	TX	10
176	Skydive Amarillo, Buffalo Airport	McCormick Road	Amarillo, TX 79118	TX	10
177	Skydive America South, Beaumont Airport	465 Keith Road	Beaumont, TX 77713	TX	10
178	Skydive San Marcos, Inc.	Fentress Airpark	San Marcos, TX 77726	TX	10
179	Skydive Spaceland, Houston Gulf Airport	2750 FM 1266	League City, TX 77573	TX	10
180	Skydive Temple, Temple Airport	Route 5, Box 158A	Temple, TX 76501	TX	10
181	Slovak Air Skydiving Center	Ennis Municipal Airport	Ennis, TX 76761	TX	10
182	Starlite Skysports	Dumas Municipal Airport	Dumas, TX 77493	TX	10
183	Westex Sky Sports	Stanton Airport	Stanton, TX 77301	TX	10
184	Heber Halley DZ	Heber County Airport	Heber, UT 84601	UT	5
185	Utah Sky Ranch	Airport #2	W. Jordan, UT 84084	UT	5
186	Vermont Skydiving Adventures	Franklin Airport, Airport Rd	Swanton, VT 05488	VT	5
187	Air-Works Skydiving Center	Front Royal Airport RR#3	Front Royal, VA 22630	VA	5
188	Hartwood ParaCenter, Inc.	194 Cropp Road	Hartwood, VA 22406	VA	5
189	Peninsula Skydivers, West Point Airport	P.O. Box 904	West Point, VA 23181	VA	5
190	Skydive Orange, Inc.	Orange Airport, Rt. 20	Orange, VA 22960	VA	5
191	Skydive Suffolk	902 Hare Road	Suffolk, VA 23434	VA	5
192	Skydive Westpoint, Inc.	West Point Airport	West Point, VA 23181	VA	5
193	Blue Skies Skydiving Adventures	Sanderson Field	Shelton, WA 98584	WA	5
194	Boeing Employees Skydiving Club	Harvey Airfield	Snohomish, WA 98290	WA	5
195	Fort Lewis Sport Parachute Club	P.O. Box 331067	Fort Lewis, WA 98433	WA	5
196	Kapowsin Air Sports Ltd.	Kapowshin Airport	Kapowsin, WA 98344	WA	5
197	Richland Sky Sports, Inc.	Richland Airport	Richland, WA 99352	WA	5
198	Seattle Sky Divers	9912 Airport Way	Snohomish, WA 98290	WA	5
199	Snohomish Parachute Center	Harvey Airfield	Snohomish, WA 98290	WA	5
200	South Sound Skydiving	27806 144th Ave.E.	Graham, WA 98338	WA	5
201	Spokane Parachute Club	Mead Airport	Mead, WA 99021	WA	5
202	Toledo Parachute Center	Toledo-Winlock Airport	Toledo, WA 98591	WA	5
203	Skydive Yakima	Branch Road and Ruppel	Brownstown, WA 98901	WA	5
204	Green Beret Free Fall Club	Tri-State Airport	Ceredo, WV 25507	WV	5
205	Sky High Adventures, Inc.	Summersville Airport, US 19	Summersville, WV	WV	5
206	Tri-State Skydivers	Ona Airport, Rrichard Rd	Ona, WV 25545	WV	5
207	West Virginia Skydivers	I-18, Jackson County Airport	Millwood, WV	WV	5
208	Wisconsin SPC, Inc.	County Rd J	Baldwin, WI 54720	WI	5
209	Green Bay Skydivers, Inc.	Pulaski Airport	Pulaski, WI 54713	WI	5

Appendix C Surveys Sent					
210	Indianhead Skydive, Lake Wissota Airport	6482 Cty TK K	Chippewa Falls, WI 54729	WI	5
211	Northeast Wisconsin Skydivers	Route #1 Hwy 54	Shiocton, WI 54170	WI	5
212	Para-Naut, Inc.	Highway 21	Oshkosh, WI 54339	WI	5
213	Seven Hills Skydivers, Inc.	Hwy 73	York Center, WI 54326	WI	5
214	Sky Knights	East Troy Airport	East Troy, WI 53120	WI	5
215	St. Croix Valley Skydiving Club	St. Croix Valley Airport	Osceola, WI 54347	WI	5
216	Superior Skydivers	Bong Municipal Airport	Superior, WI 54340	WI	5
217	Wisconsin Skydivers, Inc	5022 Lannon Road	Menomonee, WI 53051	WI	5
218	Black Hills Skydivers	Campbell County Airport	Gillette, WY 82716	WY	5
219	POPS Army				1
220	POPS AK				1
221	POPS AZ				1
222	POPS CA				29
223	POPS CO				5
224	POPS CT				4
225	POPS FL				17
226	POPS GA				1
227	POPS IL				7
228	POPS IN				6
229	POPS KS				1
230	POPS LA				2
231	POPS MA				2
232	POPS MD				2
233	POPS ME				1
234	POPS MI				10
235	POPS MO				1
236	POPS MN				1
237	POPS MT				1
238	POPS NC				10
239	POPS NJ				5
240	POPS NY				9
241	POPS OH				5
242	POPS OK				3
243	POPS PA				7
244	POPS SC				2

Appendix C Surveys Sent				
245	POPS TN			6
246	POPS TX			3
247	POPS VA			1
248	POPS WA			2
249	POPS WI			4
250	POPS AUSTRALIA			3
251	POPS CANADA			11
252	POPS FRANCE			1
253	POPS INDONESIA			1
255	POPS NETHERLANDS			1
255	POPS NEW ZEALAND			3
256	POPS S. AFRICA			1
257	POPS UNITED KINGDOM			6
258	POPS W. GERMANY			1
				1531

APPENDIX D: QUESTION 9, OCCUPATIONS		
Females		Males
Accountant	2 (Military) Air Force	4
Administrative Assistant	1 (Military) Army	6
Administrator	1 (Military) Full-Time National Guard	1
Air National Guard	1 (Military) Officer, NOAA Corps	1
Analyst	3 (Military) Parachute Rigger	1
Architect	1 (Military) Paratrooper	1
Attorney	1 (Military) Skip Tracer	1
Auditor	1 (Military) Soldier	1
Bank Teller	1 (Military) Us Marine	1
Bookkeeper	1 (Military) Us Navy	1
Business Owner	1 (Sky-diving) Drop Zone Manager/Pilot	1
Chemist	1 (Sky-diving) Drop Zone Operator	4
Clerk	1 (Sky-diving) Drop Zone Owner	3
Coach Operator	1 (Sky-diving) Drop Zone Staff	1
Computers	5 (Sky-diving) Packer/Freefall Photographer	1
Counselor	1 (Sky-diving) Parachute Instructor & Rigger	1
Director	1 (Sky-diving) Parachute Rigger	3
Disabled	1 (Sky-diving) Professional Skydiver	4
Drafter	1 (Sky-diving) Skydive Instructor	6
Driver	1 (Sky-diving) Skydive Instructor/Photographer	1
Driver, Truck	1 (Sky-diving) Skydive Jumpmaster	2
Drop Zone Manager	4 (Sky-diving) Skydive Photographer	1
Engineer	3 (Sky-diving) Skydiver	4
Field Monitor	1 Accountant	1
Gofer	1 Administrator	1
Housewife	2 Advertising	1
Hygienist	1 Analyst	2
Inspector, Communications	1 Artist	1
Insurance	1 Attorney	1
Interpreter, Deaf	1 Auto Accessorizer	1
Manager	5 Backhoe Operator	1
Manifestor	1 Banking	1
Marine Canvas Fabricator	1 Bartender	2
NA	1 Blank	4
Nanny	1 Blue Collar	1
Nurse	3 Box Maker / Crater	1
Pharmacist	1 Bum	1
Professional Skydiving Instructor	1 Business Owner	2
Professional Static Line Jumpmaster	1 Buyer	1
Psychologist, School	1 Can Collector	1
Public Relations	1 Carpenter	4
Receptionist	1 Casino Employee	1

APPENDIX D: QUESTION 9, OCCUPATIONS			
Females		Males	
Retired	1	Chemist	1
Sales	2	City Worker	1
Secretary	1	Civil Service	2
Self Employed	1	Clerk	1
Skydiver	2	Communication	1
Skydiving Instructor	1	Computers	10
Skydiving Jumpmaster	1	Construction	1
Student	9	Contractor	1
Supervisor	1	Courier	1
Teacher	6	Custodian	1
Technician	1	Dealer	1
Veterinarian Assistant	1	Delivery	1
Waitress	1	Dentist	2
	89	Director	
		Disc Jockey	1
		Dispatcher	2
		Driver	9
		Electrician	4
		Electronics	1
		Engineer	28
		Environmental	1
		Equipment	1
		Executive	1
		Financial Planning	1
		Firefighter	3
		Firefighter/Paramedic	2
		Geologist	2
		Goldsmith	1
		Hairdresser	2
		Health Care	1
		Histologist	1
		Illustrator	1
		Inspector	1
		Instructor, Ski	1
		Insurance Consultant	1
		Ironworker	1
		Journalist	1
		Landlord	1
		Landscaper	1
		Lawn Service	1
		Lawyer	1
		Lineman	2
		Locksmith	1
		Machinist	3

APPENDIX D: QUESTION 9, OCCUPATIONS		
Females	Males	
	Mailman	1
	Maintenance	1
	Manager	19
	Manufacture	1
	Marine Canvas Fabricator	1
	Marketing Representative	1
	Meat Packer	1
	Mechanic	12
	Microbiologist	1
	Millwright	1
	None	1
	Office Worker	1
	Oil field	1
	Operator	1
	Painter	4
	Paramedic	1
	Parts Car Dealership	1
	Pharmacist	1
	Physician	1
	Pilot	14
	Pizza Twirler	1
	Plumber	1
	Printing	1
	Production Worker	3
	Professor - Geology	1
	Purchasing Agent	1
	Real Estate	2
	Refinery Operator	1
	Retail	1
	Retired	25
	Sales	9
	Scientist	1
	Security, Global Operations	1
	See Q	1
	Self Employed	7
	Ships Captain	1
	Small Business Owner	1
	Social Worker	2
	Steam Plant Operator	1
	Student	16
	Sub Contractor	1
	Supervisor	6
	Teacher	4
	Technician	20

APPENDIX D: QUESTION 9, OCCUPATIONS		
Females	Males	
	Technologist	1
	Tin Bender	1
	Truck Loader	1
	TV Installer	1
	Unemployed	2
	University Lecturer	1
	Upholstery	1
	Waiter	1
	Warehouse	2
	Welder	1
	Writer	1
	X-Ray Technician	1
		264

APPENDIX E: Question 21, Description of Airborne Vehicles Jumped From			
<i>Canadian Planes</i>			
Beaver Canadian Bush Plane	Fabric	Single	High wing
Chinook Canadian Bush Plane	Fabric 1965 on	Single	High wing
Twin Otter Canadian Bush Plane	Fabric	Twin	High wing
Dehaviland Canadian Bush Plane	W.W.I to today Fabric	Single	Low/High wing
Dehaviland:a hundred different models	Metal	Twin	Low wing
Tiger Moth, very small Dehaviland - Small sport	Wood	Single	High wing
H Norseman 6-8 people	Early models fabric	Single	High wing
Beechcraft 18 + D18 (I have jumped out of this)	Later models metal	Twin	Low Wing
Carabou Canadian Cargo W.W.II	Metal	Twin	Shoulder wing
<i>American Planes</i>			
Beech: In production longer than any other aircraft	Metal. First Bonanza Victor 35 with double rudders, 1946 on	Single	Low wing
Beech D-18		Twin	Low wing
Beech 99	Metal. Feeder line, takes passengers from small to major airports	Twin	Low wing
Beech King Air	Metal. Corporate	Twin	Low wing
Beech Queen Air: smaller than King	Metal	Twin	Low wing
Twin Beech: 20 different lines today are called King and Queen Air. Also Bonanza (Twin)	Low passenger or cargo - W.W. II - entire line of industrial and corporate planes	Twin	Low wing
Boeing 747	Metal	4 jet engines	Low wing
Caravan - Cessna - work plane	Metal	Single	High wing
Cessna all: 150, 152, 172	Metal. I have jumped out of this	Single	High wing
Cessna 310	Metal	Twin	Low wing
Champ B-18	Metal. Old bomber, 1934	Twin	Low wing
DC-3:	Metal. One of earlier airline twin	Twin	Low wing
DC-3: Ford triplane tri motor is the same thing	One of the first airplanes (made by Henry Ford Co.) of all metal - corrugated metal 1933-1935	3 engine	High wing
Hercules Troop, cargo carrier	Metal. Current till late 80's	Turbo jet	High wing
Islander	Metal. Light Cargo, Current	Twin	High wing
Lockheed Constellation	Metal. Earlier airlines Lockheed, 4 reciprocating engines, 100 passenger	Four	Low wing
Lockheed Loadstar	Metal. Early airline Lockheed	Twin	Low wing
Lockheed Super Connie (Constellation)	Metal. Late model - bigger	Four	Low wing
Pilagus Porter	Metal. Current cargo	Single	High wing
Piper Lance T-tail	Metal	Single	Low wing
Piper Apache	Metal	Twin	Low wing
Piper Seneca, 70's on	Metal	Twin	Low wing
Piper Warrior, 4 passenger, 70's on	Metal	Twin	Low wing

APPENDIX E: Question 21, Description of Airborne Vehicles Jumped From			
Piper Turbo Lance	Metal	SingleTurbine	Low wing
Piper Tri Pacer	Fabric One of first tricycle gear (as opposed to tail draggers)	Single	High Wing
Stearman: early - single biplanes	Fabric	Single	Biplane
Stearman: - they are now re-manufacturing them again today as collectors after 1/2 century hiatus	Metal tubing covered with fabric. Army and Navy W.W. I trainer - big rotary engine	Single	Biplane
Sky Van	Cargo, mid 30's	Single	High wing
Stinson	Fabric, mid 30's	Single	High wing
Stinson L-23, Early WW2	Metal tubing fabric covered	Twin	Low wing
Twin Bonanza - same as Beech Bonanza	Metal	Twin	Low wing
Ultra Lights: In the U.S. you do not jump from this. By U.S. Law they carry only one person	Home assembled. Factory kit with instructions, single seater	Single	May be either
West Wind	Metal. Corporate Jet	Twin	Shoulder wing
<i>Miscellaneous</i>			
Balloon, Hot Air	Fabric		
Helicopter	Metal		
Helicopter UH I Small, UH60 is larger	Metal		
Huey	Metal		
Cargo Door			
<i>Unfamiliar</i>			
Aritono			
Avioca			
Barns (British)			
Black Hawk			
Casa			
D H Rapid			
Friem Rock			
Moran			
Rapides			
Russian Jets	Metal		
Schuland			
Stallion			
Turbo Lance	Metal	Single	Low wing
Whiteley / Wilga			
<i>German</i>			
Dornier: pioneered first flying boats with 8 engines	Fabric, framework wood. Lindberg's time - 1930's	4 - 8 engines	High wing
Biplanes: Not specified	There were hundreds of models. Some early pioneered biplanes (1904 - 1910) were multi-engined.	Today is single	

Appendix F: Question 29, Geographical Areas in Which Jumped			
Question 2: Gender			
Question 29: Geographical Area Jumped At (Countries)			
Females:	N = 91		
Males:	N = 368		
Unknown:	N = 3		
	Females:		Males:
Australia	0		7
Bali	0		1
Barbados	0		1
Belgium	0		1
Bratislava	0		1
Canada	3		8
Denmark	0		1
El Salvador	0		1
England	0		4
Europe	2		2
France	1		5
Germany	2		10
Guam	0		1
Holland	0		2
Hong Kong	0		1
Hungary	1		0
Indonesia	0		2
Israel	0		1
Italy	0		2
Japan	0		2
Korea	0		2
Malaysia	0		1
Mexico	0		2
Morocco	0		1
New Zealand	0		1
North Pole	0		1
Norway	0		1
Puerto Rico	0		1
Philippines	0		1
Russia	0		1
Slovakia	0		1
S. Africa	0		1
Spain	0		5
Sweden	1		0
Switzerland	0		1
United Kingdom	1		2
USA (as foreign)	0		7
Zimbabwe	0		1
	11		83

Appendix G: Question 32, Other Sports and Hobbies			
Aerobics	5		Miscellaneous
Airplanes	2		
Art	7		
Ball, Basket	8		4-Wheeling
Ball, Base	10		Aerobatics
Ball, Foot	2		Antique Cars
Ball, Racquet	12		Archery
Ball, Soccer	5		Astronomy
Ball, Soft	4		Auto Restoring
Ball, Volley	6		Base jumping
Biking	44		Bee-keeping
Boating	12		Bird Watching
Bowling	14		Bull Riding
Bungee Jumping	2		Cave Exploring
Camping	19		Ceramics
Canoeing	4		Cinema
Camera Sky-diving	2		Coach
Climbing	4		Coin Collecting
Computers	9		Darts
Cooking	7		Debating
Crosswords	3		Drugs
Dancing	7		Fashion Design
Drinking	4		Fireworks
Electronics	2		Fitness
Exercise	2		Go Cart Races
Fishing	26		Gymnastics
Frisbee	2		History
Gardening	19		Home Entertainment
Golf	36		Horseshoes
Guns	14		Ice Skating
Hang Gliding	6		Kick-boxing
Hiking	33		Kite Flying
Horse Back Riding	3		Model Aircrafts
Hunting	35		Motor-cross
Jogging	7		Origami
Karate	13		Piano Player
Kayaking	8		Plane Restoring
Miscellaneous			Poker
Modeling	3		Purebred dogs
Model Railroading	2		Rockets
Mountain Biking	4		Rodeo Clown
Music	10		Roller Skating
Needle Crafts	13		Screwing
Painting	6		Shopping

Appendix G: Question 32, Other Sports and Hobbies				
Photography	18			Singing
Pool	6			Snake Hunting
Reading	13			Snooker
Rail Road Models	18			Soaring
Rock Climbing	17			Sports Card Collecting
Running	33			Squash
Sex	4			Table Tennis
Sailing	8			Trampolining
Skate Boarding	2			Triathlon
Snow Boarding	6			Video editing
Snow Skiing	99			Wet bike
Stained Glass	7			Wine Maker
Swimming/Snorkeling	28			
Tennis	5			
Track	2			
Travel	22			
Walking	2			
Water Ski	40			
Weights	15			
White Water Rafting	4			
Wood Work	5			

Appendix H i: Question 37, Nude Jumping				
QUESTION 37: Nude Jumping				
QUESTION 12: Religious Preference				
			Responding	Blank
Females:	N = 91		89 = 98%	2 = 2%
Males:	N = 368		363 = 99%	5 = 1%
Unknown:	N = 3			
	FEMALES		MALES	
Religious Preference	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
	N = 27		N = 199	
AA	0	0	1	0%
Agnostic	0	0	4	3%
Atheist	0	0	5	4%
Blank	2	7%	12	6%
Baptist	1	4%	8	4%
Catholic	4	15%	31	16%
Christian	5	19%	18	9%
Church Of England	0	0	4	2%
Episcopal	0	0	4	2%
God	1	4%	3	2%
Hebrew	0	0	1	0%
Jesus	1	4%	0	0%
Jumping	0	0	1	0%
Jewish	1	4%	2	1%
Lob	0	0	1	0%
Lutheran	0	0	4	2%
Mennonite	0	0	1	0%
Methodist	3	11%	8	4%
Mormon	0	0	1	0%
NA / None	6	22%	62	31%
Own	0	0	2	1%
Pentecostal	1	4%	0	0%
Presbyterian	1	4%	2	1%
Protestant	1	4%	16	8%
S. Baptist	0	0	2	1%
Unitarian	0	0	2	1%
Unity	0	0	1	0%
Voodoo	0	0	1	0%
Yoga	0	0	1	0%
Zen	0	0	1	0%
	27	102%	199	98%

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Appendix H ii, Question 37: Nude Jumping, Females				
FEMALES:				
AGE	# CHILDREN	OCCUPATION	RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE	NUDE
21	0	Student	Jewish	1
74	0	Self Employed	Presbyterian	1
73	3	Retired	Methodist	1
34	0	Bookkeeper	No	1
30	2	Manifestor	Protestant	1
24	0	Bank Teller	N/A	1
30	2	Driver	Christian	1
37	0	Auditor	N/A	1
28	1	Supervisor	Catholic	1
36	2	Director	Methodist	1
39	0	Computers	N/A	1
30	2	Gofer	God	1
39	0	Chemist	N/A	1
27	0	Professional Skydiving Instructor	Catholic	1
34	0	Clerk	Blank	1
25	0	Nurse, Registered	Methodist	1
33	2	Student	Catholic	1
25	0	Professional Static Line Jumpmaster	None	1
35	0	Nurse	Baptist	1
47	1	Drafter	Christian	1
43	2	Nurse	Blank	1
24	0	Student	Christian	1
33	0	Sales	Christian	1
73	8	Teacher	Pentecostal	1
35	1	Computers	Christian	1
20	0	Skydiver	Jesus	1
42	26	Computers	Catholic	1
				27

Appendix H iii: Question 37, Nude Jumping, Males				
		MALES:		
			RELIGIOUS	
AGE	# CHILDREN	OCCUPATION	PREFERENCE	NUDE
69	1	Director	Christian	1
66	2	Retired	Church Of England	1
52	2	Supervisor, Maintenance	N/A	1
49	1	Driver	Protestant	1
74	4	Retired	None	1
39	0	Microbiologist	N/A	1
36	2	Technician	N/A	1
74	3	Retired	Church Of England	1
63	4	Retired	Church Of England	1
64	2	Self Employed	Blank	1
29	0	Sales	Episcopalian	1
34	2	Pilot	Lob?	1
24	0	Waiter	Catholic	1
24	0	Engineer	N/A	1
22	0	Mechanic	Christian	1
39	0	Engineer	Catholic	1
24	0	Student	No	1
39	0	Pilot	N/A	1
29	0	Pilot	N/A	1
23	0	Technician	0	1
26	0	Technician	None	1
21	0	Air Force	Catholic	1
35	1	Engineer	Catholic	1
28	1	Small Business Owner	Methodist	1
24	1	Skydiver	N/A	1
34	1	Self-Employed	Catholic	1
34	0	Tin Bender	Christian	1
62	1	Retired	Blank	1
20	0	Student	N/A	1
30	1	Driver	Presbyterian	1
29	0	Engineer	None	1
26	0	Jumpmaster, Full Time	No	1
25	0	Student	None	1
23	0	Goldsmith	God	1
35	1	Technician	None	1
27	0	Geologist	Catholic	1
62	3	Retired	Protestant	1
32	0	Computer	Atheist	1
25	0	Skydive Instructor	None	1
60		Retired	None	1

Appendix H iii: Question 37, Nude Jumping, Males				
MALES:				
AGE	# CHILDREN	OCCUPATION	RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE	NUDE
34	1	Parachute Rigger	God	1
40	0	Engineer	Agnostic	1
31	0	Air Force	Protestant	1
46	2	Inspector	None	1
35	3	Computers	Protestant	1
30	0	Chemist	Catholic	1
31	0	City Worker	Protestant	1
31	0	Accountant	Protestant	1
28	0	Computers	Atheist	1
32	0	Ups Driver	Jewish	1
31	1	Paratrooper	No	1
22	1	Paramedic	Catholic	1
47	0	Skip Tracer	Unitarian	1
21	0	Student	Catholic	1
31	2	Driver	Baptist	1
37	0	Sky Dive Instructor	B	1
27	0	Student	None	1
28	0	Skydive Instruct/Photographer	Lutheran	1
27	0	Blank	N/A	1
34	0	Dispatcher	Catholic	1
36	0	Disc Jockey	Episcopalian	1
39	1	Maintenance	B	1
23	0	Drop Zone Manager/Pilot	No	1
45	2	Electrician	N/A	1
50	0	Pharmacist	No	1
35	5	Sub Contractor	Christian	1
44	1	Unemployed	Methodist	1
38	0	Teacher	Blank	1
31	0	Computers	Protestant	1
31	2	Meat Packer	Mennonite	1
28	0	Printing	N/A	1
46	1	Welder	Christian	1
40	4	Manager, Postal	Protestant	1
36	0	Mechanic	Non-Denomination	1
23	0	Student	Catholic	1
23	1	Student	Atheist	1
40	0	Artist	Catholic	1
34	0	Air Force	N/A	1
44	0	Engineer	None	1
24	0	Professional Skydiver	N/A	1
25	0	Engineer	None	1
35	0	Technician	Yoga	1

Appendix H iii: Question 37, Nude Jumping, Males

MALES:				
AGE	# CHILDREN	OCCUPATION	RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE	NUDE
20	0	Student	None	1
34	0	Computers	N/A	1
25	0	Machinist	N/A	1
42	1	Histologist	Protestant	1
31	0	X-Ray Tech	Atheist	1
25	0	Firefighter/Paramedic	None	1
25	0	Technician	B	1
48	3	Landlord	None	1
48	0	Manager	S. Baptist	1
53	0	Engineer	N/A	1
25	0	Engineer	Christian	1
30	0	B	Catholic	1
36	1	Engineer	Jew	1
32	2	Technician	Catholic	1
34	0	Administrator	Non Denomination	1
46	2	Bartender	AAA L.A.	1
40	0	Ironworker	Atheist	1
48	0	Professional Skydiver	Agnostic	1
32	0	Driver, Truck	Catholic	1
46	2	Manager	Catholic	1
35	0	Engineer	Blank	1
24	0	Delivery	Catholic	1
30	0	Army	Christian	1
52	4	Varied	Protestant	1
47	1	Retired	Baptist	1
20	0	Mil Para Rigger	S. Baptist	1
42	0	Technician	Lutheran	1
40	0	Plumber	Lutheran	1
31	0	Communication	Catholic	1
31	0	Painter	Blank	1
48	2	Mechanic	Christian	1
38	0	Supervisor	Blank	1
62	4	Retired	None	1
31	0	Sales	None	1
34	0	Engineer	None	1
49	1	Parachute Instruct & Rig	Methodist	1
44	0	Unemployed	Mormon	1
28	3	Executive	No Preference	1
33	0	Pilot	N/A	1
63	7	Driver	Catholic	1
57	2	Self Employed	Catholic	1
30	0	Pilot	Protestant	1

Appendix H iii: Question 37, Nude Jumping, Males

MALES:				
AGE	# CHILDREN	OCCUPATION	RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE	NUDE
40	0	Parachute Rigger	None	1
50	1	Dropzone Owner	Catholic	1
43	2	Technician	None	1
39	0	Engineer	Christian	1
28	0	Dentist	N/A	1
38	1	Salesman	Christian	1
54	4	Sales	Baptist	1
30	0	Electrician	Catholic	1
36	1	Drop Zone Operator	Episcopalian	1
45	4	Environmental	None	1
35	0	Engineer	Non-Denomination	1
50	0	Pilot	Lutheran	1
34	0	Technician	N/A	1
28	0	Engineer	N N/A a	1
34	1	Student	N/A	1
38	1	Manager	Methodist	1
35	1	Writer	Agnostic	1
31	0	Student	Christian	1
24	0	Pilot	Catholic	1
39	0	Analyst	Methodist	1
22	0	Firefighter	Catholic	1
22	0	Skydive Photographer	No	1
44	0	Hair-stylist	Unity	1
22	0	Lawn Service	Non-Denomination	1
40	0	Driver	Baptist	1
40	2	Oilfield	Baptist	1
30	0	Student	Agnostic	1
39	0	Refinery Operator	Christian	1
25	0	Officer, NOAA Corps	Unitary	1
44	2	Sales	Baptist	1
56	5	Civil Service	Protestant	1
28	0	Soldier	None	1
50	2	Technician	Catholic	1
38	6	Production Worker	Baptist	1
32	2	Sales	None	1
25	0	Packer/Freefall Photographer	N/A	1
28	0	Marketing Representative	Presbyterian	1
41	1	Pilot	Methodist	1
46	2	Painter	Methodist	1
21	0	Bum	Blank	1
32	0	Manager	Blank	1
31	0	Drop Zone Owner	Own	1

Appendix H iii: Question 37, Nude Jumping, Males

MALES:				
AGE	# CHILDREN	OCCUPATION	RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE	NUDE
23	0	Pizza Twirler	N/A	1
36	0	Sales	Catholic	1
42	1	Mechanic	Methodist	1
18	0	None	God	1
35	0	Machinist	None	1
41	1	Technician	N/A	1
42	1	Technician	Protestant	1
36	0	Mechanic	Own	1
55	3	Technician	Protestant	1
41	1	Machinist	Christian	1
35	1	Skydiving Instruct	Hebrew	1
31	0	Warehouse	Christian	1
30	0	Purchasing Agent	N/A	1
64	2	Retired	Christian	1
19	0	Can Collector	Voodoo	1
32	0	Army Officer	Protestant	1
40	0	Engineer	Christian	1
37	0	Operator	Catholic	1
41	0	Millwright	None	1
27	0	Self Employed	Protestant	1
33	1	Technician	None	1
29	0	Analyst	Catholic	1
30	0	Parts Car Dealership	Catholic	1
20	0	Supervisor	Catholic	1
53	3	Insurance Consultant	Catholic	1
39	1	Teacher, Math	Zen	1
44	0	Hairdresser	Episcopalian	1
26	0	Engineer	Christian	1
36	0	Engineer	Church Of England	1
46	1	Construction	None	1
38	2	TV Installer	None	1
38	0	Engineer	Christian	1
67	0	Retired	Jumping (Has Nude)	1
	118			199

Appendix I: Question 46. Organizations, Clubs, Associations

	Females		Males
1	AA	1	AAUI
1	ARP	2	2nd Amendment Foundation
2	ABA	3	82nd Airborne Association
1	Air Force Association	1	82nd Sport Parachutists
1	Airborne Engineers	1	A.F.A.
1	American Dental Association	4	AA
2	AOPA	1	AA of Equine Practice
1	AOPH	1	AA of Individual Investors
1	Association School Psychologists	4	AAA
1	Astronomical Society / Pacific	4	AARP
1	Australia Parachutists Federation	1	ABC
1	Australia POPS	1	ACM
1	Automobile Association	1	AFLCIO
1	Auxiliary Parachutist Federation	1	AGC
1	Biology Club	1	AGLDW
2	British Airborne	1	AHSA
2	California City Skydive	1	AIAA
1	California Parachuting Association	1	Air Force ROTC
1	California Sport Parachuting	1	Aircraft Owners
1	California State Firemen	2	Airline Pilots Association
1	Campus Ministry	1	Airplane Owners
1	Canadian POPS	2	AMA
2	Canadian Legion	1	Amalgamated Transit Union
1	Chamber of Commerce	1	American Birding Association
1	Chute	1	American Chemists Society
5	Commando Skydivers	1	American Dental Association
2	CSPA	2	American Marketing Association
1	Connecticut Parachutist Inc.	3	American Motorcycle Association
1	Disabled American Veterans	4	American Psychologists Association
1	DOPS	1	American Radio Relay
1	EEAA	1	American Veterans Medical Association
1	Eastside Project	1	American Water Ski Association
1	Elks	20	AOPA
1	Ember Skydive	1	Appalachian Mountain Club
1	Emerald Coasts Skydive	1	Army Reserve
1	Eastern Mountain Sports	1	ASA
1	Enlisted Association	1	ASCP
1	Glendale YMCA	1	ASPA
1	Golf	1	Association of Multicultural Scientists
1	GOP	1	Astronomy
1	Gun Club	1	Athletic
1	Hawaii Club	1	Audubon
1	Health Club	1	Auckland Skydivers
1	Hong Kong Police	1	Aviation Sports Club, New Zealand
1	Hunt Club	1	Bean Skydivers
1	ICAA	1	Biology Honor Society

Appendix I: Question 46, Organizations, Clubs, Associations			
	Females		Males
1	Knights of Columbus	1	Bitz Clothing
1	Kiwi POPS	1	Black Hills Skydive
1	Korean Veterans Association	1	Blue Sky Ranch
1	Masonic Lodge	1	Bluebonnet Pioneers
1	Military Club and Institute	1	BMW
1	Moe Jazz Club	1	Boeing Employees Skydiving
1	Morwell Club	1	Bonanza Society
1	MSPA	1	Bowling
1	N/A	1	Boy Scouts of America
1	National Aeronautics Association	3	British Parachuting Association
1	National Assoc. 10th Mountain Divis	1	CA
7	National Rifle Association	1	Campaign for Human Rights
1	NSHLA	1	Campfire Boys & Girls
1	Padi Scuba	1	Carpenter's Union
2	Parachute Club	1	Cessna Owners
1	PCA	1	Cessna Pilot Association
1	PIA	1	Chamber of Commerce
1	Police Retirees	1	Christian Motorcycle
3	POPS	1	CNUMA
1	POPS Australia	1	College Literacy
1	POPS Canada	1	Combined UK Services Association
1	Porsche Club of America	1	Coronado Skydive
1	PRO1-DM	1	Cowtown Macintosh User's Club
1	Radio / TV Artists	1	CPI
1	Ranch Parachuting Club	1	Curling Association
1	Return Serviceman's Lodge	1	CWNBA
1	Royal Canadian Legion	1	Dale Carnegie Foundation
1	SBCA	1	Dallas Gay Alliance
1	Screen Actor's Guild	1	Daughters of the American Revolution
1	Selborne Community Center	1	DAV
1	Senior Center	1	Delta Kappa Sigma
1	Sierra	1	Die Hard Cubs
6	SOS	1	DM Skydiver
1	SOS Canada	2	Ducks Unlimited
1	Sport Parachutist	1	Eagles
1	SSA	4	Elks
2	Territorial Skydive	1	Environmental Defense
1	The Bowler's Club	1	Eta Sigma Phi
1	US Air Force	1	ETR
1	US Hang Glider's Association	3	Experimental Aircraft Association
1	US Karate	1	FAA
1	USMC Parachute Riggers	1	Fire Fighter's Association
1	USMC Reserves	1	Fleet Reserve
56	USPA	1	Florida Trail
1	Vertigo Ski	1	Fort Hood Parachutists
1	Veterans of Foreign Wars	1	Fraser Valley Skydivers

Appendix I: Question 46, Organizations, Clubs, Associations			
	Females		Males
1	Young Republican	1	Friends of BW Skydivers
173		1	FSI
		1	Ft. Hood Parachuting
		1	Ft. Worth German Shepherd Dog Club
		1	Girl Scouts of America
		1	Good Samaritan Club
		1	GPCA
		1	Grange
		1	Greater St. Louis Parachute Club
		5	Green Beret Parachuting
		2	Green Peace
		1	Gun Owners America
		1	Habitat Humanity
		1	Hairdresser's Association
		1	Ham Radio Club
		4	Harley Owners
		1	Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
		1	Hazardous Material Managers
		1	Hemlock
		1	Historical Society
		1	Holy Name Society
		1	Homebuilder's Association
		2	IAFF
		2	ICAS
		1	IEEE
		2	Illiana Skydivers
		1	Indiana Hospital Pharmacy
		1	Indiana Teachers
		1	Indianapolis Aeroclub
		1	INS
		1	International Association Ironworkers
		1	International Operator's Officers
		1	International Wildlife Rehab Council
		1	Iowa Wrestling Coach
		1	IPA
		1	Kansas State University Parachuting
		1	Kapowsin Air Sports
		1	Kappa Delta
		1	Kentucky Psychologists Association
		1	Kiwanis
		1	Knights of Columbus
		1	Lesbians in Business
		1	Life Underwriters
		1	Local Museum
		1	Local Skydive
		1	Local Zoo
		1	Lone Star Corvair

Appendix I: Question 46. Organizations, Clubs, Associations		
	Females	Males
		1 Manitoba, CA Sport
		2 Masons
		1 Mathematics Association of America
		1 Maytown Parachutists
		1 Mensa
		1 Mental Health Institute
		1 Minnesota Skydiving Club
		1 Mississippi Wildlife Federation
		1 Moore County Kennel
		1 Moose Lodge
		1 Mother Earth News
		1 MSPC
		1 N.E. MG "T" Register
		1 N.A. EMT
		1 N.W. Whitewater
		6 N/A
		1 NAA
		1 NAAR
		1 NASAR
		1 National Academy of Scientists
		1 National Aeronautical Association
		1 National Association EMT's
		1 National Association Firefighters
		1 National Council Teachers of Math
		1 National Educators Association
		1 National Fraternity
		20 National Rifle Association
		1 National Scrabble
		1 National Wildlife Rehabitators
		1 National Wrestling Coach
		1 Nature Conservatory
		1 NAUI
		1 NCOA
		1 NCTM
		1 NEA
		3 New Horizon Parachutists
		1 New Mexico Painted Horse Association
		1 Newspaper Collector's Society
		1 Non Profit Organization
		1 None
		1 NORBA
		1 NOW
		1 NREMT
		1 NRS
		1 NSPA
		1 OAPA
		1 Old Time Gas Steam Engine Club

Appendix I: Question 46, Organizations, Clubs, Associations

	Females		Males
		1	Operators Rules Association
		1	PA Dental Association
		1	PA Society of Skydivers
		3	PADI Scuba
		2	Parachutist
		1	PC Users
		1	Peninsula Skydive
		1	PFAI
		1	PGI
		1	Phi Theta Kappa
		1	Photography
		3	PIA
		1	Pickering Pistol
		1	Pilot Organization
		1	Pioneers
		1	Planetary Association
		9	POPS
		1	POPS UK
		1	POW/MIA Association
		1	Power Brake Association
		1	Powton Parachute Association
		1	PR Network
		1	Primetimes
		1	Private Club
		1	Professional Association
		1	Professional Lawyer's Organization
		1	Professional Organization
		1	Professorial
		1	Promise Keepers
		1	PSI Chi
		1	PSIA
		2	PTA
		1	Quota Club
		2	Rainbow Skydive
		2	Ranch Skydiving Club
		1	Rifle Club
		1	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
		1	S. Dakota Medical Group
		1	S. Dakota Skydive
		1	Sailing Academy
		1	School Alumni
		1	Screen Actors Guild
		2	Seattle Skydivers
		1	SFA Chapter 18
		2	Shrine Masons
		1	Sierra Club
		1	Sigma Nu Fraternity
		3	Silvertips in Montana

Appendix I: Question 46, Organizations, Clubs, Associations		
Females		Males
	1	Sky Dive Amarillo
	1	Sky Nights SPC
	3	Sky Limit Skydivers
	1	Skydive Temple
	1	Skydive Tennessee
	9	Skydiving Oregon
	1	Skyskum
	1	Smithsonian
	1	Society of Auto Engineers
	1	Society of CIC
	1	Society of CPCU
	6	SOS
	1	SPCA
	1	Special Forces
	1	Special Forces Chapter XU111
	3	Spokane Parachuting
	1	Squash Club
	1	SSA
	1	St. Louis Family Church
	1	Student Nurse Association
	1	Surgical Technicians
	1	Tae Kwon Do
	2	Teamsters
	1	Texas Bicycle
	1	Texas Skydive
	1	Toastmaster
	1	Triangles Skydiving Team
	1	Tristate Astronomy Association
	1	UMSPC
	1	Union, Firefighters
	1	United Methodist Women
	1	US Coast Guard Auxiliary
	1	US Institute of Theater
	1	US Judo Federation
	1	US Masters Swim
	1	USA Gymnast
	1	USARFLY
	1	USITA
	23	USPA
	2	
	1	VA Parachutist's Association
	1	VA Parachutist's Council
	1	VA Quilter's Guild
	1	Valley Skydiver
	1	Vestry / Church
	1	Veterans Association
	3	VFW
	1	VTSP

Appendix I: Question 46, Organizations, Clubs, Associations			
	Females		Males
		1	Washington Education Association
		1	WA. Families/Non-Custodial Rights
		1	WBA
		1	Wildlife Rehabilitation Nature Center
		1	Woodlake Athletic
		1	World Wildlife
		1	WSPC
		1	YMCA
		1	Zoning Commissioner
		1	Zonta
		647	

Appendix J: Question 47, Favorite Magazines			
Females		Males	
Blank	17	Agriculture Pilot	1
Canada Parachutist	1	Air & Space	2
Cosmopolitan	1	Airplane Magazines	1
Crochet	1	Amateur Wrestling News	1
Discover	1	American History Illustrated	1
Gallery	1	American Rifleman	1
Harvard Business Review	1	AOPA Pilot	1
High Times	1	Aviation Week	1
Hustler	1	Blank	45
Maclean's	1	Back Packer	1
Macworld	1	Bottom Line	1
Many	1	Bus Conversion	1
Mother Earth	1	CD Review	1
N/A	1	Christian Parenting	1
National Geographic	2	Columbia	1
News Magazines	1	Compo	1
Newsweek	3	Cooking Light	1
None	4	Corvette Fever	1
Outside	1	Cosmopolitan	3
Outsider	1	CQ	1
Parachutist	19	Cruising World	1
Pc Magazine	1	Cycle World	1
Penthouse	1	Discover	3
People	1	Easy Riders	3
Playboy	2	Essence	1
Prima	1	Field & Stream	3
Rambling On	1	Fixed Object Journal	1
Road & Track	1	Flying	1
Scientific American	1	Food & Water	1
Skiing	1	Forbes	1
Skydiving	14	Games	1
Success	1	Heavy Metal	2
Time	1	Hustler	2
Us News & World Report	1	Ladies Home Journal	1
Woodsmith	1	Life	1
Writer's Digest	1	Locksmith Ledger	1
	90	Mad	2
		Many	1
		Martha Stewart	1
		Men's Health	3
		Men's Journal	1
		Mens Fitness	1

Appendix J: Question 47, Favorite Magazines		
Females	Males	
	Money	2
	Motor Trend	1
	Motorcycling	2
	Muscle Fitness	1
	N/A	17
	National Geographic	6
	National History	1
	New Woman	1
	New Yorker	1
	Newsweek	7
	None	4
	NY Magazine	1
	OMNI	3
	Outdoor	2
	Outside	4
	Parachutist	63
	Penthouse	8
	People	6
	Photographic	2
	Pilot	1
	Play Girl	1
	Playboy	12
	Ponder	1
	Popular Mechanics	1
	Popular Science	4
	Powder	1
	Practical Horseman	1
	Private Pilot	1
	Reader's Digest	2
	Rolling Stone	1
	Runners World	2
	Science	1
	Science News	1
	Scientific American	4
	Ski	1
	Sky Telescope	1
	Skydiving	49
	Smithsonian	4
	Snowboarder	1
	Southern Living	3
	Southwest Art	1
	Sports	1
	Sports Afield	1

Appendix J: Question 47, Favorite Magazines		
Females	Males	
	Sports Illustrated	3
	The Economist	1
	Time	9
	Top Cops	1
	UN News	1
	Us News & World Report	1
	Vanity Fair	2
	Variable	1
	Vegetarian Times	1
	Vogue	1
	Widescreen Review	1
	Wild Birds Unlimited	2
	Woman's Day	1
	Womens World	1
		354

Appendix K: Question 48, Favorite Newspapers	
Females	Males
1 Age (Conservative)	1 Any
3 Arizona Republic	1 Asbury Park Press
1 Australian	1 Atlanta Journal
21 Blank	2 Austin America
1 Brandon Sun	66 Blank
2 Denver Post	1 Backstage
1 Globe	1 Batallion
1 Hartford Current	1 Beaumont Enterprise
2 Local	2 Boston Globe
4 Los Angelos Times	1 Burlington Free Press
1 Many	1 Canton Repository
6 N/A	1 Children
1 Never Read	1 Chronicle Houston
6 None	1 Clarion Ledger
3 NY Times	1 Comics
1 Oakland Tribune	1 Connections
1 San Francisco Chronicle	1 Courier Journal
14 Skydiving	1 Daily Express
1 Tucson Stan/Citizen	1 Daily Sport
10 USA Today	1 Daily Time Herald
1 Vancouver	1 Dallas
1 Victorian Herald	5 Dallas Morning News
6 Wall Street Journal	1 Denver Post
89	2 Des Moine Register
	1 Do Not Read
	1 Duluth News
	1 Fayetteville News
	1 Florida Times Union
	1 Fort Worth Star Telegram
	1 Globe
	1 Grand Forks Herald
	1 Herald Mail
	1 Hockey News
	1 Home News
	1 Hometown Newspaper
	5 Houston Post
	1 Indianapolis Star
	1 Inquirer
	1 Investors Business
	1 La Times
	1 Lake County Leader
	18 Local
	1 Morris County
	2 Muncie Star

Appendix K: Question 48, Favorite Newspapers	
Females	Males
	1 N.E. Breeze
	40 N/A
	1 National Inquirer
	1 New York Post
	1 Newark Star
	4 Newsday
	1 Newsweek
	28 No
	1 New York Daily News
	10 New York Times
	1 Olympian
	5 Oregon, The
	5 Parachutist
	2 Philadelphia Inquirer
	2 Providence Journal Bulletin
	1 Review Journal
	2 San Francisco Chronicle
	2 Seattle Times
	25 Skydiving
	1 Spokane Chronicle
	1 Spokesman
	5 St. Louis Post Dispatch
	1 Star League
	1 Star Ledger
	1 Sundays
	1 Sydney Gazette
	1 Temple Telegram
	1 The Wanderer
	1 Time
	1 Times Picayune
	1 Tridance
	1 Tulsa World
	30 USA Today
	1 Variable
	2 Village Voice
	15 Wall Street Journal
	3 Washington Post
	1 Washington Times
	340

APPENDIX L I: Question 49, Favorite Television Shows		
	FEMALES	MALES
	1 90210	1 1 Hr/Wk
	1 60 minutes	5 60 Minutes
	1 ABC news	1 "A" Team
	1 Black sheep	1 Al Bundy
	15 Blank	2 All My Children
	2 CNN	1 Animaniacs
	4 Discovery	1 Archie Bunker
	1 Don't watch	1 Aviation History
	1 Dream on	1 Baywatch
	1 Firepower	2 Bevis & Butthead
	2 Frasier	2 Beyond 2000
	1 Friends	1 Black Adder
	1 Fresh Prince of Belair	48 Blank
	1 Highlander	1 CAT
	2 Home Improvement	1 Channel 13
	1 In Living Color	1 Channel Surfer
	1 Jeopardy	5 Cheers
	1 Kung Fu	1 Christian Science Monitor
	1 Law & Order	1 CMT
	1 Limbergh	4 CNN
	1 Mash	4 Coach
	1 Monday Night Football	1 Columbo
	1 Movies	3 Cops
	2 N/A	1 Dallas Cowboy Football
	1 National Geographic Documentaries	4 David Letterman
	1 Nature things	1 Day Of Our Lives
	1 News	2 Deep Space 9
	1 Nighttime Drama	18 Discovery
	1 Nightly news	3 Do Not Have a Television
	3 None	1 Documentaries
	3 Northern Exposure	5 Don't Watch TV
	2 Nova	2 Emergency 911
	3 NYPD Blue	4 Emergency Room
	2 Public Broadcasting Service	1 EQPN
	1 Rockford Files	1 ESPN Motor World
	5 Seinfeld	1 Evening News
	4 Simpsons	1 Flintstones
	1 Sitcoms	2 Frasier
	9 Star trek	1 Grace Under Fire
	1 TDC	2 Highlander
	1 TNN	2 Hill Street Blues
	1 Wings	1 Hockey Games
	1 Young and Restless	19 Home Improvement
	87	1 I Hate TV

APPENDIX L I: Question 49, Favorite Television Shows	
FEMALES	MALES
	2 Jeopardy
	1 Jetsons
	1 Joan Varquette
	1 John Larragett
	1 Kids In The Hall
	1 LA Law
	1 Learning Channel
	1 Love Connection
	0 Macneil/Lehrer
	2 Mad About You
	10 Married With Children
	6 Mash
	1 Matlock
	3 Melrose Place
	1 Most Tv Is Trash
	1 Movies
	1 MTS
	2 Murder She Wrote
	1 Murphy Brown
	16 N/A
	3 National Geographic Documentaries
	1 National News
	2 Nature Programs
	1 Never Watch
	5 News - CNN
	1 Night Line
	1 No Special
	8 None
	3 Northern Exposure
	1 Nova
	4 NYPD Blue
	1 Officer & Gentlemen
	3 Public Broadcasting Service
	1 Picket Fences
	1 Prefer Radio
	1 Quality
	1 Rarely Watch TV
	2 Roseanne
	2 Rush Limbaugh
	2 Saturday Night Live
	27 Seinfeld
	1 Seldom Watch TV
	1 Silk Stalkings
	11 Simpsons

APPENDIX L I: Question 49, Favorite Television Shows	
FEMALES	MALES
	5 Sports Programs
	28 Star Trek
	1 Sunday
	1 Twin Peaks
	1 Variable
	1 Western
	1 Wheel Of Fortune
	1 Wildlife
	13 Wings
	1 World News
	4 X-Files
	1 Young & Restless
	357

APPENDIX L ii: Question 49, Favorite Television Shows						
Question 49: Favorite Television Shows According to Subject						
	Females			Males		
	# Respond	Type	% N = 87	# Respond	Type	% N =357
B = Blank, D = Drama, E = Education, M = Movies, Mu = Music, N = News, No = None, S = Sitcom, Sport = Sport, T = Talk Shows, X = Miscellaneous						
	Females			Males		
	# Respond	Type of Show	% of Respond.	# Respond	Type of Show	% of Respond.
90210	1	S	1%			
911				1	D	0%
1 hr/wk				1	X	0%
60 minutes	1	N	1%	5	N	1%
A" team				1	D	0%
ABC News	1	N	1%			
AI Bundy				1	S	0%
All My Children				2	S	1%
Animaniacs				1	S	0%
Archie bunker				1	S	0%
Aviation history				1	E	0%
Baywatch				1	D	0%
Bevis & Butthead				2	H	1%
Beyond 2000				2	E	1%
Black Adder				1	D	0%
Black Sheep	1	S	1%			
Blank	15		17%	48	B	13%
CAT				1	N	0%
Channel 13				1	E	0%
Channel surfer				1	X	0%
Cheers				5	S	1%
Christian Science Monitor				1	E	0%
CMT				1	N	0%
CNN	2	N	2%	4	N	1%
Coach				4	S	1%
Columbo				1	D	0%
Cops				3	D	1%
Dallas cowboy football				1	Sprt	0%
David letterman				4	T	1%
Day of our lives				1	D	0%
Deep space 9				2	D	1%
Discovery	4	E	5%	18	E	5%
Do not have				3	No	1%
Documentation				1	E	0%
Don't watch TV	1	No	1%	5	No	1%

APPENDIX L ii: Question 49, Favorite Television Shows						
Question 49: Favorite Television Shows According to Subject						
	Females			Males		
	# Respond	Type	% N = 87	# Respond	Type	% N =357
Dream On	1	S	1%			
Emergency 911				1	D	0%
Emergency room				4	D	1%
EQPN				1	E	0%
ESPN motor world				1	E	0%
Evening news				1	N	0%
Flintstones				1	S	0%
Firepower	1	D	1%			
Fresh Prince Belair	1	S	1%			
Frasier	2	S	2%	2	S	1%
Friends	1	S	1%			
Grace under fire				1	S	0%
Highlander	1	S	1%	2	S	1%
Hill Street Blues				2	D	1%
Hockey Games				1	Sprt	0%
Home Improvement	2	S	2%	19	S	5%
I hate TV				1	No	0%
In Living Color	1	S	1%			
Jeopardy	1	S	1%	2	G	1%
Jetsons				1	H	0%
Joan Varquette				1	T	0%
John Larragett				1	T	0%
Kids In The Hall				1	S	0%
Kung Fu						
La Law				1	D	0%
Law and Order	1	D	1%			
Learning Channel				1	E	0%
Love Connection				1	S	0%
Macneil/Lehrer				2	N	1%
Mad About You				2	S	1%
Married with children				10	S	3%
Mash	1	S	1%	6	S	2%
Matlock				1	D	0%
Melrose Place				3	S	1%
Monday Night Football	1	Sprt	1%			
Most TV is trash				1	No	0%
Movies	1	M	1%	1	M	0%
MTS				1	Mu	0%
Murder she wrote				2	D	1%
Murphy brown				1	S	0%
N/A	2	No	2%	16	No	4%
National Geographic	1	E	1%	3	E	1%

APPENDIX L ii: Question 49, Favorite Television Shows						
Question 49: Favorite Television Shows According to Subject						
	Females			Males		
	# Respond	Type	% N = 87	# Respond	Type	% N =357
National News				1	N	0%
Nature Programs	1	E	1%	2	E	1%
Never watch				1	No	0%
News - CNN	1	N	1%	5	N	1%
Night line	1	N	1%	1	N	0%
Night Time Drama	1	D	1%			
No special				1	No	0%
None	3	No	3%	8	No	2%
Northern exposure	3	D	3%	3	D	1%
Nova	2	E	2%	1	E	0%
NYPD Blue	3	D	3%	4	D	1%
Officer & Gentlemen				1	S	0%
PBS	2	E	2%	3	E	1%
Picket Fences				1	D	0%
Prefer radio				1	No	0%
Quality				1	E	0%
Rarely watch TV				1	No	0%
Rockford Files	1	D	1%			
Roseanne				2	S	1%
Rush Limbaugh	1	T	1%	2	T	1%
Sat night live				2	H	1%
Seinfeld	5	S	6%	27	S	8%
Seldom watch TV				1	No	0%
Silk stalkings				1	D	0%
Simpsons	4	H	5%	11	H	3%
Sitcoms	1	S	1%			
Sports programs				5	Sprt	2%
Star trek	9	D	10%	28	D	8%
Sunday				1	E	0%
TDC	1	N	1%			
TNN	1	N	1%			
Twin peaks				1	D	0%
Variable				1	X	0%
Western				1	D	0%
Wheel of fortune				1	G	0%
Wildlife				1	E	0%
Wings	1	S	1%	13	S	4%
World news				1	N	0%
X-files				4	D	1%
Young & Restless	1	S	1%	1	D	0%
	87		100%	357		90%*
*Note: 1 / 357 = .28%						

APPENDIX M: Question 50, Comments

Question 50: Comments: 4 Categories: 1) ADVICE 2) FUN 3) INFORMATION 4) SEX

1) ADVICE

Once was enough. I liked it, but other sports are less dangerous.

I'm no bird. One jump was enough!

As kids, most parachutists were "Show-offs" and few have yet to reach full maturity.

Don't do hook turns!

Do CRW

Everyone should try it once.

It's worth the cost of apprehension. Nice accomplishment.

Highly overrated! Too many "macho" guys in sport parachuting.

It's fairly safe, but it's not for everyone.

A fine way of life.

It's not for everybody, but everyone should try it just once, to see!

P.S. Please do not sell any of this info.

Builds self esteem.

AFF is great! Safety instruction at the drop zone is of the utmost importance.

Best of luck with your dissertation!!

Most exciting sport ever experience. I believe everyone should try it at least once.

More altitude.

Not enough free fall.

Awesome sport. Hope that the "bad few" don't ruin it for the "many good" skydivers, like fireworks.

You should try it before you judge someone who does.

If you think you want too, do!! [Researcher's Note: Inch high letters.]

Good luck with your dissertation.

Should.

I LIKE IT. YOU SHOULD TRY IT TO! [Researcher's Note: 12 years ed; the man is weird.]

Why are so many against our sport... (and use laws etc).

Blue Skies. If you're not living on the edge, you're taking up too much room.

DO CRW. IF YOU'RE NOT LIVING ON THE EDGE - YOU'RE TAKING UP TOO MUCH SPACE!

Returned letter from study with "I have been...since 1970" circled, with a line drawn to the top of the letter and "NO WAY" written next to line.

It is a wonderful and safe sport as long as everyone stays on their toes and don't get cocky!
[Researcher's Note: Female, middle school teacher with Masters, unusual in that it was filled in with red ink.]

Parachuting has been a great source of pride. Good for conversation. When people criticize I just joke w/them for I realize they have no way of know that it does for me.

It's an activity that continues to change; sometimes too fast or slow, but like life you must keep up or there lies the danger.

Psychologist James said, "The only mental pain is confusion of mind". This is one of the few activities that has "no confusion of mind."

I have been around sky-diving for just over 1 year. I believe that this sport is safe if done in proper manner.

I've gotten more conservative over the years! I've seen more injuries due to the advent of higher performance parachutes, w/low experience flying them, pushing weight limits.

Everyone should try a tandem jump once in their life just to cut lose & live a little. Sport jumping is a lot more organized & professional & therefore a whole lot safer than in the past.

Equipment is once again in a transitional stage. Manufacturers must responsibly research their products and Skydivers must be responsible in learning how to use these products. If it ain't safe it ain't fun. I have a Life wish not a Death wish.

The equipment is much safer today but there was more 'skydiving' fun in the pre 'yuppy' square days. People want instant 'fun' thrills but few will work hard to get to a proficiency level that makes all skydiving fun.

- Most jumpers prefer being called skydivers, as opposed to parachutists.
- I doubt that you will find many common traits among skydivers with respect to socio-economic characteristics. [Researcher's Note: B. S. Chemical engineer]

Just carry on skydiving. You don't quit because you grow old. You grow old because you quit. It saved my sanity! [Researcher's Note: Female, 65, Auckland, New Zealand, occupation Skydiver.]

I find that parachuting is a very contagious sport, once you become seriously involved. I enjoy every skydive I make and enjoy helping others get started in it. I personally find making a skydive releases stress caused by job, or any other daily things that can cause stress at times.

Discovered accidentally (or rather coincidentally) that when oppressed by anxiety developing situations, when one gets out on the step of the aircraft at altitude, the problems don't exist. After landing and de-briefing, the problems return - but don't matter for a couple of weeks - wonderful relief in stressful times.

The greatest pleasure I have now is the excitement of the passengers I take on tandem skydives. I also enjoy canopy relative work, and young skydivers just off student status. Skydivers are persons who are not afraid to die, but afraid not to have lived.

I think Parachuting is incorrect terminology for today's sport, Skydiving needs more media coverage it has progressed at an incredible rate over the past few years its an exciting high Speed Sport. Parachutes are Just a Quick convenient way to get down to the ground to dirt dive for the Skydive again.

I think the General Public does not understand the sport of skydiving. This is where I get comments like are you just plain stupid or you must have big balls. This irritates me somewhat. But these people don't have a problem driving their car to work which I think is more dangerous than skydiving.

The general public sometimes has a bad outlook on skydiving, mostly due to bad media when ever a problem occurs. Skydiving is a very safe sport when done safely and under the correct supervision, however there are a few too many skygods out there the create problems for the people who really enjoy the sport by there disregard for safety. "Preserve the sport, skydive safely". Thank you.

Great release. Makes you feel special & individual. The best tranquilizer ever, but it is addictive. I do it not because I have a death wish, but rather a wish to live life to the fullest. When my time comes, I can look back & say "I have flown" When people I know think of me - they think of skydiving. When people ask "What do you do?" I say "Skydive" - nothing else can even come close.

Parachuting is an exciting sport that can be done alone or with groups; its an ego trip, good for self esteem and confident.

There are many people that should not make a sky dive nor should they be talked into making one.

Safety should be a constant concern.

Very frustrating sport. So little time (in freefall) to learn as much as you need to learn.

Even on a jump that goes awry, though, you can still have that good feeling (accomplishment / satisfaction) afterward. Single / childless sport - I participate so very little now that I have young children. Nice to see specialty groups, like POPS.

People in general tend to let their fears control their lives. Seems as though only a very few are willing to take risks and fully experience life. A quote from the poem "Risks", "He who is chained by his certitudes in life risks the greatest risk of all, not living".

Blue Skies! (unreadable signature)

I love this sport - & have for 25 years. I have paced myself over the years to prevent burnout. I work hard at my career as a secondary school teacher & have deliberately tried not to turn skydiving into a job. I love the people I jump with & the comraderie that we share. I have many interests outside of skydiving too so I jump only 1 day per week year-round. Right now, my family comes first.

Had malfunction after only 18 jumps and almost gave it up.

Decided to "get back on the horse". Really beginning to enjoy sport now that I can fly and do relative work.

Very little challenges me in life but sky diving is a challenge which allows me to choose to live and progress in the sport.

I enjoy working with students, 4 way R.W. & C.R.W. I find this sport to be most exhilarating & often most serene. I enjoy it's freedom and being responsible for my own actions. No phones or people bothering me, just the simple joy of skydiving.

P.S. I hope this helps and good luck with your sociology pursuits.

Your Brother of Blue Skys

Great way of life. It's hard on a relationship with a non jumper if your hard core. I've done 300 jumps so far this year mostly with a 4 way team. It's really not that much fun (but the rewards are the best!) You can gain a great deal of respect for yourself, but the key is to be sure you don't take yourself too seriously (ego). I've got around 1500 total jumps (no fear really). I've seen a lot of things that put life in perspective. Its the moments that count.

My 1st jump & getting into the sport has changed my life, giving me confidence + the feeling of "There's nothing I can't do." I feel safer in the air than in my car or walking to the local convenient store where I am constantly vigilant against assaults.

Gertrude, Good luck w/ your diss. It wasn't that long ago that I finished my thesis. I hope that your getting in some jumps while you work on this project! Blue Skies, Dance. I know I wasn't supposed to sign (whoops!)

Worlds most exciting sport. A "heads up" sport. In 17 years of skydiving I have no regrets.

Skydivers are "a great group" of people, intelligent, etc. Hope to continue skydiving for many more years. Member of S.O.S.

Generally, the public has a "poor image" of skydivers and parachutists due to lack of information, and negative reports by the news media. However, this image has improved during the past 2-3 years.

Blue Skies Gertrude. Happy landings.

This is a great sport with tremendous risk. Incredibly rewarding, challenging, and enjoyable. Its destiny lies solely within its participants.

As a civil libertarian, I don't favor mandatory AAD or RSL use for non-students. Even though I'm religious about wearing mine, the same holds true for seat belt laws.

Safety, common sense, and non-arrogance are key. Ban the skygods. They're worthless.

Good luck with your research and thank you for including Marana Sydiving Center. I love it here. It's kinda like Cheers - small, friendly, and everyone knows your name!

Ever since I was a small child I've been fascinated with Flying. I used to dream I was on a tall mountain looking down and, realizing I was dreaming, I would jump off hoping to fly. Sometimes I could fly like a bird and others I would fall to the ground. It never hurt me to hit the ground and I would always want to jump off again. Skydiving made this dream a reality (except the part about hitting the ground!).

Student Training and equipment has improved greatly over the years. Before a person believes skydiving is sain he must have that enate desire to fly. (I believe).

I hope this helps, good luck on your Doctoral, Blue Skys!

Most of the skydivers I know are people of extreme presence of heart who are fun-loving and genuinely concerned for their fellow skydivers and other people in general. I have often made the comment that skydiving with a group of other people is an extremely intimate thing because, in essence, what you are saying to them when you ask them to jump with you is: "I trust you, and

think enough of you, not to fuck-up and get us all killed". That, to me, is a pretty serious amount of faith to have in your friends when we all know that mistakes in this sport are always potentially deadly. I extend this trust to God, not to let me get seriously injured, and to myself, that I have the presence of mind to sort things out quickly when a jump goes awry.

Skydiving is a great tension releaver & adrenalin booster.

Skydiving is not a dangerous sport as most non jumpers try to make it out to be. I feel that the skydiver is in a greater risk on the highway then they are in the air. All the non jumpers & media puts out is the negative about skydiving. When one person dies skydiving its on every news cast & in every paper because our society likes to hear & read about the most morbid things. All the positives are not published about our sport. Sports are as safe as one makes them. Follow the rules! Don't be a show off or try to push the edge of the envelope! Get the proper training! I've been jumping since 1969 & have over 4600 jumps & have had one accident (due to my inexperience when I transitioned to the square canopy). I could talk all day about this sport.
Gary Morgan, 516-358-9330

FOR #40 I ANSWERED 'NOT AFRAID'. I WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY THIS. I KNOW & UNDERSTAND THE RISKS INVOLVED AND DO NOT JUMP UNLESS I FEEL COMFORTABLE. I AM DEFINITELY NOT A FEARLESS "IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN TO ME" TYPE. I WILL NOT JUMP IN A SITUATION THAT TO ME HAS ANY ELEMENT OF RISK E.G. HIGH WINDS, MARGINAL WEATHER. THIS IS MY FAVORITE SKIN I'M WEARING.

FOR #24, A SQUARE PARACHUTE IS MORE DIFFICULT - TO PACK, TO FLY SAFELY, TO MAINTAIN + REPAIR. BUT IT IS ALSO MUCH MORE REWARDING. YOU GET OUT WHAT YOU PUT IN - IF YOU INVEST THE TIME & MONEY IN THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING YOU WILL REAP THE REWARDS.

2) FUN

It's a great sport. I never turn anyone off doing it. Blue Skies.

It's been part of my life since starting.

Blue Skies Gertrude. Happy landings.

I would sooner be dead than stop jumping. Prefer air over sex.

It's fun.

It's fantastic!!

It's lots of fun, and we have a lot of great people.

There's nothing in the world that compares with it. Nothing!

Loved it. Sky diving is the most incredible thing I've ever done.

GREATEST SPORT I'VE EVER FOUND!!

Love it.

Too bad it's so damn expensive! It makes it very hard on the college student!

LOVE IT!

It's the best fun sport I have ever done, and I love it!

Keep parachuting. It's awesome.

JOY & FREEDOM.

If I had to give up sex or skydiving, I'd become a monk.

My life.

Great fun - have been jumping since 1951.

Beats golf.

Love it, everyone should try it at least once!

IT'S FUN, CONFIDENCE BUILDER, SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT, RELAXING.

Great.

I like it a lot.

It's cool.

What a rush.

I am loveing it!! [Researcher's Note: 12 years ed q. 11; colledge]

It's a hell of a sport!!

Fun.

There is no deep psychology to it. We do it to have fun. That's all.

Nothing else even comes close!

A great sport. Exhilerating. Satisfying.

Greatest thing, next to birth of my son that has ever happened to me.

Love affair for 29 of my 31 years. Never been a disappointment.

It is the most worthwhile, elitist activity I've ever experienced.

Live eat and breathe it!

It's a blast!

The greatest least understood sport I can imagine.

It's a sickness! [Researcher's Note: has 1,000 jumps.]

It's the best thing I've ever done, and will continue to do it until I am unable to.

Exilerating!! [Researcher's Note: 12 years schooling.]

SKY DIVE THE ULTIMATE HIGH. [Researcher's Note: Written in 2" high letters.]

JUST DO IT, BABE!

JUST DO IT, BABE! [Researcher's Note: Male, age 56.]

Low Stress fun! Blue Skies!

It is fun.

It has become my favorite activity. I eat, sleep, and drink skydiving.

TRY IT!! YOU WILL LIKE IT....

Come see us we love it.

LOVE IT!

LOVE IT.

I WAITED TOO LONG TO START! [Researcher's note: age 53 - 8 years parachuting]

Great sport! Nothing else even comes close.

IT'S GREAT!

Wonderful thing to do! [Researcher's note: Completed in red ink.]

Love it. Good luck.

Pray every time you go up and God will take care of you - have fun. [Researcher's Note: Baptist]

It's fun and safe.

Blue Skies.

IT IS A LOT OF FUN.

Could not live without it!

Love it, couldn't live without jumping. Good luck on your dissertation! **BLUE SKIES**

SKY DIVING. OH YES, OH, YES, OH, YES. [Researcher's Note: Inch high letters.]

Love it, can't get enough.

BETTER THAN SHIT. [Researcher's note: Inch high capital letters.]

Exhilarating, confidence building, liberating.

I love it and I think the sport is safe as long as we make it safe.

GREAT.

Can't believe I waited till I was 40 to do the best thing there is to do.

Totally addicted!!

Great sport. 100% pure adrenaline!

I love it.

Still a good sport, always something new on the horizon.

I can't wait until my next free fall. I love it!!

YEE HA!

Shut up and jump!

Exciting & safe.

You should buy a beer for filling out this survey. Blue Skys! [Researcher's Note: 14 years.]

What took you so long to get started. [Researcher's Note: Age 35.]

Great Sport!

Great Fun

Hi marks for fraternity, fellowship.

Keeps you young!

I LOVE THIS SPORT.

SKYDIVE TODAY! GOTTA DO IT!

Best sport in the world! [Researcher's Note: Ripped Survey]

It's fun to play BIRD! SERRIA MIKE [Researcher's Note: Enclosed an origami paper folded bird; letter had "Stork in Flight" at top and bottom. Requested "Please send me a copy of your dissertation".]

It's the best!

SOME PEOPLE SNORT FOR IT, JAB A VEIN FOR IT. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS "JUMP FOR IT".

Parachuting has literally changed my life. It is the most exciting and exhilarating thing I've ever done.

[Researcher's Note: 18 years ed, M. Ed social worker]

I'm happy to have a sport that I enjoy so much that lets me be outside for long periods of time.

It's a celebration of living it helps fulfill a need of some people - those who need adventure-type risks.

WIND SHEAR SUCKS ON LANDING! P.S. SHANNON YOU LEFT THIS SURVEY AT MY HOUSE. [Researcher's Note: Inch high capital letters; exclamation point drawn in; circles instead of periods for P.S.]

Own 2 parachute centers, 3 aircraft and numerous parachutes...Obviously, I am enjoying the pursuit of this sport.

The people in skydiving are almost as much a draw for me as the sport itself. I would mention comraderie, but I can't spell it.

It generally is a fucking rush beyond anything else. I've learned more skydiving than I did through college. Answer to #40 is acutally vi and I like your name Ms. Box.

I have 48 jumps and still get nervous before each one. I am addicted to the feeling and the awesom experience of sky diving.

Don't let your girlfriend take lessons!! Because when you break up (which you probably will) you will have to run into her all the time unless she or you quit.

The fun of the 1960's in sky diving has become the politics of the 90's. What a shame, to take recreation so seriously!!

It's an addiction: I've pretty much gave up everything to follow the sport. I'd rather do this than have sex!?! Good luck on your paper.

MOST FUN YOU CAN HAVE WITH YOUR CLOTHES ON. GENERALLY GREAT PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THE SPORT MORE THAN 15 YEARS, THE KIDS TODAY ARE SPOILED.

Skydiving is not a hobby. It is not just a sport. It is a lifestyle. I work to be able to afford to sky dive. I plan my social life around skydiving. I plan my vacations to be able to attend skydiving events.

Most sports become mundane and loose interest in. Skydiving never loses its appeal or thrill. Enjoy not only the jumping but also people and friends associated with sport.

Love it! One of the funest things I've ever done! Great people! I hate to pack (bummer) love to share the sport with others. Thank you God!! Come jump with us. Thanks for asking me to fill out survey. God Bless.

Even after 20 years, this sport is absolutely fascinating to me - no other activity can even begin to compare to what I get out of participating in this most addictive fun! And, I've never met a more interesting group of people than "jumpers."

I love skydiving, I like the camaraderie, and the whole atmosphere of D.Z's. I wish I had started a long time ago, like you Gertrude. I'm sure it helps to keep you young, maybe we will meet at the next POPS world meet in Spain. Yours faithfully, R. Gardner.

Jumping has given me the confidence to accomplish many things in my life. The friends I have met are priceless & I feel my life is 100% better having started this sport. I may be crazy - but I've never enjoyed life like I do now!

I love it! I am borderline "obsessive". I love to teach and have S/L, AFF, and Vector Tandem ratings. I'm at the DZ 45 weekends a year, and I drive 3 hours one way to get there. Blue Skies! Hope this helps. Please publish the results in Parachutist. Thanks.

Bones deal
Everyone digs scars
Panic is temporary
Glory is forever

I could speak volumes on my enthusiasm for this sport. It changed my life entirely. Every jump is more fun than the last, if that's possible. It's the perfect stress buster for me. I almost equate it (for myself) to being like a "junkie" or a "Jesus freak". Can't get enough of it. I plan to skydive for the rest of my life!
Blue Skies!

I find it thrilling and challenging. I think I got hooked because it's been coming pretty naturally. I feel like I'm good at it & that makes me want to keep going with it. Also, I love the people at the jumpsite. Finally, I guess I like impressing people when I tell them I skydive (that's as honest as I can get).

YA HOO! [Researcher's Note: Exclamation point drawn in.]

1. The skydiving community is made up of many types of personalities that come together and share a beautiful way of living life.
2. Skydiving is a fantasy that is a escape from the real world.

3. Skydiving makes life feel exciting.

It is more safe than people give it credit for. More people should experience it before they judge it. Movies like "Drop Zone" and "Terminal Velocity" are bull shit and give the public a false sense of the sport! Skydiving is the first sport I have ever encountered, which changes peoples outlook on life. It has taught me not to sweat the small stuff life throws at you, but instead, to enjoy the day!

Blue Skies!!!

It is a very fun and difficult sport. Frustrating, but like heaven if it goes good (I imagine). I made my 64th jump today, and they keep getting funner. The people are great. Very funny and laid back. They like to have fun, and they all seem to have more personality than most people you meet. Life is precious to them. But they need to live, to have a life. And age seems to be no problem. 18 to 80. Sky Divers are not lazy people. There energetic, and enthusiastic. It's just fun!!

Thanks. D H

Referring to # 24:

The square type is more difficult because of added maneauverability whereas with the round there wasn't much to it except a hard landing.

The squares are much more fun and landings much gentler with experience.

With experience in free falling I now usually refer to the parachute ride as simply the mode of transportation from the fun part to the ground although the parachute ride can be a lot of fun too.

3) INFORMATION

All kinds of people skydive. All you need is a desire to live & have fun. Please don't try to generalize us. [Researcher's note: Ph. D. in process, 2 1/2 years.]

Happy are those who dream dreams + are willing to pay the price to see them come true.

Skydiving does not only give you the feeling of freedom in the sky it also gives you self confidence!

Very safe, very unforgiving for the careless! Very few skydivers. I know jump barefoot.

Great sport. Would like to see sport parachuting entered as an Olympic sport someday.

Great Sport! Shame about the medical!

It would be interesting to know birthday distribution over the year with regard to astrology.

Feel free to call me for any clarification or further questioning.

It takes the stress out of life.

Keep educating (ect.) the public at large about all parachuting aspects.

USPA has too much control and all political.

It is as safe as you want it to be.

At this point in my life it enables me to forget work and gives me peace!

It's becoming too political like everything else.

Good Luck!!

If your going to do it, be safe and smart. It's for some and not for others. Blue Skies!

Becoming more generally known among public. Has changed a lot but the thrill is still there.

The general public needs to accept this sport, and quit trying to stop us from jumping.

Too many people in sport.

Great sport! Nothing else even comes close!

Where are the questions about malfunctions?

A fantastic challenging sport. Every jump reaffirms that we must live each day to the fullest.

You didn't ask how many malfunctions 8 with 5 as tandem instructor. Be safe!

I AM OPPOSED DZ'S REQUIRING AAD'S.

Jumpers transitioning to smaller faster canopies need training. "Safety".

Modern reliable equipment makes sport relatively low risk.

Grew up in family of skydivers. Mother father brother

Great sport for individual sense of accomplishment.

It's the only thing which has kept my interest for 25 years.

Parachuting was not bad, but I prefer more traditional sports.

If treated with respect for how dangerous the sport could be I feel that it is relatively safe.

Total awesome sport! and to be a part of it. But being female seems to be a detourant!
[Researcher's Note: H.S. graduate]

This sport is an excellent confidence builder. There is no other sport that even compares.

Hi Gert - sorry for the delay in getting this to you. It got into my glove compartment (in Chambersberg) and I just noticed it. [Researcher's Note: age 74]

All military jumps were static line with round chutes. All sky dives with ram air canopies. AFF course and soon.

Mrs. Box, I am the general manager / operator of New Horizons Parachute Club, Easton, In. Feel free to use the name of our club in your study / survey. Thank you.

My therapy for the weekend. Puts life in perspective: eases tensions and worries, + cares about every day life. It's so nice to let go!!

Sky diving has grown leaps and bounds in the past few years, and only has one direction to go from here... Up. Blue Skies.

I think that most people don't really respect the sport after they make 100 to 200 jumps. They start to think they got it all together.

ONE OF THE SAFEST SPORTS AVAILABLE TODAY. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS STEADILY INCREASING.

I enjoy the sport very much. I find it a good way to relieve stress and to take my mind off a very stressful job. Also enjoy the camaraderie with fellow skydivers. [Researcher's note: 'Comaraderie' crossed out several times. Obviously people love the word, even though they can't spell it. 18 years education, two Master's degrees.]

Having started jumping at an older age I have great respect for the sport. I've noticed the younger, 18 - 25, still seem to think they're immortal.

I believe that skydiving has saved my life. I wish everyone could experience the euphoric magical sensation of free fall. [Researcher's Note: Zen/Christian]

Skydiving isn't for every one, just like any other sport. I enjoy jumping as often as I can, it relieves the stress and thoughts of the routine 9 - 5 job.

It is a good sport - that's come a long way since sport jumping started and I'm glad it's done so well.

It's skydiving, and it's a very rewarding sport with lots of good camaraderie among the participants.

It's a great sport. Skydiving is now being exposed more on T.V. & in the movies. I'm very glad for this. We are not crazy or suicidal, as you know.

More time should be spent on students by the people that have learned the results of the old ways and the new ways, as you can tell by the injury list. Published and non-published.

I wish I lived closer to jumpsite, in a warmer climate, where I could jump all year, and was not so addicted to so many other hobbies, that I never have enough time for any.

NEED MORE TRAINING ON FLIGHT CHARACTERISTICS AND CAPABILITIES, AND LIMITATIONS ON THE NEW HIGH PERFORMANCE CANOPIES.

Since I've started jumping, I've regretted not using it as the topic of my dissertation. It's a great sport! Good luck! [Researcher's Note: \$10,000 a year, Psych Dr. Student, B.A., M.A., Psy. D, age 29]

The USPA could be better organized to support the DZ in legal as well as social & safety issues. I have found minimal support in these three areas. [Researcher's Note: Female, B.A. Sociology]

You can be as safe as you choose to be. There are a lot of variable or optional risk to choose from - IE: Knowledge of plane maint. equipment decisions made, weather calls, ect...

T. Schaefer - Yes, I'm disappointed it's no longer available to young soldiers. However, I'm pleased with our organization leadership, and the responsibility by the manufacturing industry!

It doesn't have to be an "ego" sport for "daredevils". I enjoy skydiving for the simple pleasure of it. I am frustrated with the public perception of skydivers in general. Bonnie Handy, 3 1/2 Edward Avenue, Turner Falls, MA 01376

As a person who skydives on a regular basis I take this sport serious and would like to see the public embrace this sport with a positive respect and serious attitude that would help us expand into the Olympics and other sport networks.

Parachuting/Skydiving is a unique sport that carries much pride and notoriety. Sparks much interest during conversations with co-workers / friends. Sometimes are made to feel like celebrity status. I think no other sport carries such a highly regarded outlook.

I have not jumped since 1976, at that time I was invited to jump with the Israeli Paratroopers while on vacation. Before that I only jumped 8 times during jump school (101 Airborne Division). After I received my wings, I didn't jump again in the army.

Skydiving is a great sport where a person can experience a great deal beyond just the excitement and thrill of falling. Skydivers definitely have unique personality traits which creates a Brother and Sister hood and gives me much more than just a sport.

IT IS A WONDERFUL SPORT, BUT THE MEDIA NEEDS TO BE EDUCATED ABOUT IT SO THAT THEY PORTRAY US IN A MORE POSITIVE LIGHT. THERE EDUCATION STARTS WITH SEEING US PERFORM. BLUE SKIES.

[Researcher's Note: 14 years education; A.A.]

IN THE YEARS SINCE I'VE BEEN IN THE SPORT IT HAS GOTTEN SAFER AS LONG AS JUMPERS USE GOOD JUDGEMENT. WHAT BOTHERS ME IS THE NUMBER OF JUMPERS THAT HAVE BEEN KILLED DOING HOOK TURNS.

Having a mechanical background, I am impressed with the elegant simplicity of the modern sports parachutes construction and operation. Seeing how the system functions gives me complete confidence every jump.

I PLAY IT SAFE. IF SOMEONE IS BEING STUPID AND HURTS THEMSELF, I HAVE NO SYMPATHY FOR THEM, BUT I WILL HELP THEM IN THEIR TIME OF NEED (FIRST AID, CPR, ETC).

Although I love the sport, many of the people I jump with are too blue collar for me. Their backgrounds are very different so sometimes I feel like I'm an outsider. Most are very homophobic too which pisses me off! [Researcher's Note: a homosexual.]

PARACHUTING HAS CHANGED A LOT SINCE 1966 WHEN I FIRST JUMPED. THE SKY REMAINS THE SAME. I THINK THE ONLY REAL REASON FOR AN ONGOING CAREER IN SKY DIVING MUST BE AN ESSENTIAL LOVE FOR THE SKY.

SKYDIVING/PARACHUTING

- has generally been misrepresented by media, by over-sensationalising. This has generally given the public the wrong "image" of the sport & kept many people away from learning.

Skydiving is as safe as you make it.

The worst injuries that I have seen come from people who are "hot dogs". Skydiving brings out confidence in people about themselves and any other nonskydiving related activities.

Although always advertised as an inherently dangerous sport I have found skydiving to be an safe and extremely fun sport. I find that the people involved, good no nonsense people that are trustworthy. They hold qualities often lost to most self-centered individuals and I am proud to be associated with them.

Parachuting is only 60 seconds of a sport where people socialize, enjoy flight time and find many rare experiences and / or sights. Sharing rainbows, hail, clouds, autumn from 10,000 ft with people from all walks of life is satisfying and a very positive experience. Blue Sky.

- Sport parachuting can be relatively safe when the risks are understood and dealt with.
- Drugs / Alcohol and skydiving don't mix. I would never jump with anyone, or at a drop-zone that allows anyone, to drink / take drugs (be under the influence) while skydiving.

An exhilarating activity, an often misunderstood activity, (by non-participants). The way I like to spend Sunny Days, a sport which is non gender oriented or size and shape oriented - or age oriented. Young, old, big, small, tall, short, male, female, all can participate equally.... Provided the jumper has at least a little of "brain power"!

Skydiving is a challenge, a freedom, and a responsibility.

A challenge physically and mentally.

A freedom from mundane daily life, gravity and societal restraints.

A responsibility to myself for my life.

Everyone should make a skydive before professing how stupid / crazy it is.

It's funny how many people have told me they know people who have died while skydiving, but only a small handful of fatalities have occurred in this state. Were they all at the Drop Zone that day? or just lying!

After almost 30 years it just gets better all the time. The equipment is state of the art and getting better - new ways of doing things are being discovered in freestyle and crew. Safety standards are higher. The people who get hurt are the people who try to exceed their own limitations. As always, jumpers are their own worst enemies.

Everyone should have an AAD. I've had a friend die because of not having one - and have had an acquaintance die - also watched and heard a thump. So AADs should be used. I've had one fire at 2800' but don't know why. I've had one fire at 100' turn's, and it meant canopy transfer. I use on most of the time. Does not bother me without one!

- 1) The sport deserves greater recognition at Olympic level but this is unlikely to happen until the public is more involved in the spectacle during free fall maneuver.
- 2) Awareness in canopy design (eg zero porosity) are increasing the hazards of landing. Great discipline is required which may be achieved with additional training of new canopy owners.

Skydiving is a way for me to push myself. It helps as a release for pent up emotions. I started skydiving to get over my fear of heights and although I still have that fear, it does not bother me to jump. I assume it is because I trust my rigger, my gear, and my ability to handle emergency procedures. I have had two mal- functions during my career, both low speed partials.

Parachuting is a sport that demands a lot of self discipline and trains one to exercise self discipline. It's also a lot of fun, and the people met within the sport are a pleasure to be with. Thank you for including me in your questionnaire. H. G. 'Sandy' Sandercock, POP # 2921, S.O.S. # 79.

P.S. Good luck with your dissertation + Blue Skies + good feelings.

Skydiving is the most exciting & fun thing I've ever done!
I encourage all of my friends & relatives to try skydiving at least once.
It's easier than I thought it would be to get people to jump for the first time. They generally don't need much arm-twisting at all. (I am a case in point).
Good luck w / your dissertation!

I love skydiving. I have learned things in skydiving that I would not have learned elsewhere in life: self confidence / priorities / freedom / values / etc. Its not the only thing I do but its something that I don't think I will quit... especially if someone else thinks I should!
Added note on Parachutist letter - G.E.B. I HOPE I DIDN'T PROCRASTINATE WITH THIS TOO LONG. GOOD LUCK & ALWAYS: BLUE SKIES.

I Love Skydiving! I have not been injured nor even pulled my reserve and I both dread and look forward to that day when my main malfunctions because it will then be behind me and I'll know if I can do it. I jump a high performance parachute and I enjoy my canopy ride. I make conservative approach and easily turf surf. You can draw your own conclusions from this statement but I'm saying that its the people and not the gear that causes injuries.

I truly love skydiving and will never give it up.
I may not jump as often as I like though.
Skydiving has taught me I can accomplish anything I want to do with my life
I also like my hobbies that depend on me to accomplish such as scuba & skydiving.
I don't particularly have an interest in team sports watching and / or participating.
Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinions.

A love, passion, obsession, an addiction which I have tried to cut down on but can't. I do love this sport more than anything I have ever done, but it has made my life extremely difficult, financially + personal. My past 3 year girl friend has now left because of this. I don't have a life because of this. All I do is work + jump. Even my own business is suffering because of this. Everything else in my life seems unexciting, not necessarily boring, but a definite lack of excitement.

I was a rock, mountain, ice - climber for 15 years. I had wanted to parachute for 20 years before I actually tried it. There was always something which prevented me (parents, \$, wife, \$, climbing). Finally I reached a plateau in climbing and a friend suggested jumping. As you can see I've been very busy the past 3 1/2 years, and I certainly wouldn't be spending this much time, money and effort at it if it didn't provide me with tremendous personal rewards. I love it!

People usually look at skydivers like their crazy, or their suicidal, what they fail to realize is that this is a very safe sport. People just can't understand why someone would risk their life for such pleasure, the only problem is that people risk their life everyday in such examples as driving, riding a bike, and even walking! Skydivers have 2 parachutes and receive traing(sp) before they are allowed to jump. With proper traing(sp) and a safty (sp) concencous (sp) mind and respect for the sport it can be as safe as any!

Equipment has come a long way even though I'm not familiar with the early years. I think the sport is still portrayed as insane & dangerous instead of fun and professional. Until a film or a tv show or something comes around that focuses strictly on the joy of skydiving and the general precautions involved (gear checks, reserve pack, job deadlines and other safety rituals), I think that those of us in the sport will always be treated as being on the outer fringe of society and sanity. Unfortunately.

Parachuting develops self confidence in those who only try it once or twice and it develops self discipline in those who pursue it further.

Like the other adventure sports, it provides an outlet for the people who in the past went down to the sea to conquer distant lands.

Sorry to take so long to answer. I will include a copy of the ego page from my book which will give you an idea how busy I am. Claude Gillard

[Researcher's Note: see page enclosed]

It is an incredible feat or experience to be able to fly your body in excess of 100 miles an hour and still control that flight or actually fly relative to other humans.

Jerry Bird says age makes no difference and I fully concur - and it keeps me fit and mentally alert - I plan on doing a hundred on my 100th birthday.

Please send back the results as it would be interesting to know where most of us are at in our heads.

Regards, Bill Marley, Bald Eagle Home (905) 887-2895 Office (416) 798-7588

I feel skydiving in general gets a bum rap because in general people don't know much about it or understand it. I feel we need to use media more (T.V., movies) to show programs about what we do & why we do it. Also, we need to try to get people to realize the important of safety, especially when it comes to landing & high performance canopies. The attitude of "it won't happen to me" is becoming more common and I feel that this naivity is potentially very dangerous. This is part of the reason for the general publics negative view toward skydiving in my view.

Love Skydiving. Have made quite a few friends because of this sport.

Enjoy meeting people from all over the country (USA) & world while participating in the sport.

Enjoy the adventure of going to a new (to me) drop zone for the 1st time.

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Note: At the "Herd" Labor day Boogie while getting log books signed, I noticed that 4 out of 5 people in our group (3 people I had only met Labor day weekend) were left handed, myself included. Of the 4, 3 were men.

I feel that the sport has gotten safer in most aspects except for landing of the high speed canopies. I agreed with the editorial in "Skydiving" magazine concerning the implementation of ratings as to who and when they can jump the high speed canopies. This seems to be needed as more and more people are getting hurt from radical turns near the ground.

Also our up and coming students seem to be losing out in 2 areas in training, canopy control and diving to formations.

My husband was my instructor, we've been married for 26 years. We enter 2 to 3 competition meets a year. We prefer a small drop zone where we can do accuracy. We usually make 3-5 jumps on the weekend. We also participate in RW & Crew. We made our 3000 + 4000 jump together from 3500' - Did a 2 man, Bi-plane, & shot the pit with a Dead Center & a 2 cm at the last POP's World Meet at Florida '93. We've been most fortunate to be on a demo team together that sent us all over the U.S. jumping into stadiums, etc. This sport has been very good to us - we've met some great people. [Researcher's Note: for "&" respondent used an "s" with a dot over and under]

I think skydiving is a very interesting, challenging, & fun sport to participate in.

Regarding question # 31 on this survey, "they don't understand", means exactly that. People that do not skydive think it is an uncontrolled, radical thing to do, thinking that on every jump we hope that the equipment will somehow function as it should.

Equipment now is very, very reliable, making the sport better & more enjoyable for everyone involved.

Follow the rules & procedures & as most would agree - it is a great sport!

P.S. We are skydivers, not parachuters.

Parachuting is a way for me to get out of the house; associate with individuals of all levels and / or backgrounds, and relax. It pulls me in a totally different direction from my daily routine. At the same time giving me the opportunity to apply what I've learned as the mother of five and wife of over 22 years.

I'd also like to add that parachuting has made me a better mother and wife. Children get themselves in less than desirable situations and husbands have immediate demands. I am able to evaluate, act and pay attention to detail without over-reacting. Once their "crisis" has past and we can talk, it's better for all of us.

Technology has improved the sport to a very high level of safety. More awareness because of boundaries being pushed and made acceptable. Canopy control is responsible (or lack of it) for most injuries and deaths. Directly responsible should be more training by the USPA. Today's canopies are high speed gliders not just a means to break your freefall and reach ground. Although I believe in freedom of choice, I wonder at the blase way young jumpers can purchase these dangerous toys. Equate it to new driver buying a race car. As time goes by I am more and more nervous under canopy.

Second letter: I was pleased and surprised to receive your questionnaire and hope my answers will be of some help to you.

I am sending you the card of the fellow who took my video, it's possible you may want to send him a questionnaire also. I don't know how many jumps he has had, many, many I am sure, as he belongs to a club that jumps every Sunday.

If you are ever in our territory, please feel free to stop in for a visit. I would like very much to meet you, and lots of luck on your dissertation.

- 1) Better than any drug I've tried, though I've not experimented with any "hard" drugs.
- 2) Very life affirming - not a death wish.
- 3) My 1st instructor said, "If you have a plan and follow it, you won't get hurt". It does no good to have a plan if you don't follow it. Not following the plan has been the source of most injuries I've seen.
- 4) As a self-governing sport, we must either provide better education re: Low hook turns, or we must disallow them entirely. Otherwise, we are endangering our freedom as a self-governing sport. I wonder why free-fall is not thrilling enough.

Thanks for referring to us as parachutists rather than "skydivers"! I don't work at it, but I have been an active jumper for longer than anyone in the country. I safety trained students for over 40 years. I have been a member of NPJR / PCA / USPA for 38 years, I often do not agree with the actions (or lack thereof) of the paper shufflers at USPA Headquarters but we need national organization to counter airline pilots when they try to restrict us from using "their" airspace. As I am not a true "Sport Jumper" most of your questions do not quite fit my parachuting experiences / life style. It seems to me that I filled out a form like this for someone in California a few years ago.

I almost consider the social aspect of skydiving to be as important as the act of skydiving itself. Maybe even more so. I have made some very good friends from all walks of life on several DZ's across the country. Skydivers tend to treat each other on equal terms, whether they are \$5.00 per hour laborers or high priced professionals. On the DZ, everyone is the same. Racism is virtually nonexistent and men and women are on an equal par, unlike so many other areas of everyday life. A skydive is just a skydive. When you're on the ground, it's over. But the friendships that are built around skydiving will last forever. Blue Skies!! May we meet again, someday, somewhere.

You're looking for tendencies of skydivers etc. therefore I'd say most are "and or few" "burners" of various types certainly not in this order. Runner / Exercise - current or past abusers of Alcohol or drugs or overactive in areas of one type or another in LIFE.

On a separate paper let me make a "socio-guess"! Throw it away if you like.

You might need to jump more and write on BS Less.

Many times I've observed people hanging around skydiving (or other adventurous sport) but really not actively pursuing the sport. Now you might want to throw this separate paper away. Blue Skies. I don't live in S. Dakota where I'm mailing this but I am midwestern jumper.

The sport has made radical changes since the early 1970s. It's generally referred to as skydiving, not parachuting. The primary emphasis in the sport today is on free fall relative work (formation skydiving). By the time most skydivers have 100 jumps they are able to fly their bodies in free fall well enough to do some basic formation work. Other areas in skydiving include free style (which is like aerial gymnastics - very difficult but also very graceful if done well), air bonding, CRW (canopy relative work - making designs under open parachutes), and there are a few old die hards doing style & accuracy. If you haven't made a jump in a while, I encourage you to go out and make a Tandem - I promise you'll love it.

After I turned 50, I began to realize there were so many things in this world that I hadn't seen or done, and as life was getting shorter, I thought I'd better get a move on. We have flown over 350,000 miles in the past 12 years, with 20 trips across the Atlantic and 4 across the Pacific. My husband asked me what I wanted for Christmas, and I said I wanted to sky-dive. It was the most exhilarating experience of my life. I would like to do it solo, but I wouldn't put my husband through that again. He is 83 and they tell me he was terrified while I was up, but I suppose I would have been too, if it was him up there instead of me.

I had a fellow go with me with a cam-corder and I have an excellent video of the whole thing from beginning to the end when my husband gave me my wings and a bottle of champagne. I highly recommend this to anyone at any time or any age.

Skydivers are people, just like yourself, seeking the exhilaration of freefall. At times, the unknowing, consider us suicidal, drunken or drugged even slight of mind. However we are a professional organization conglomerated of a vast variety of occupations ranging from doctors to dishwashers.

In our own way we are a family.

If you have never jumped yourself, then you could not ever truly or honestly conduct a psychoanalysis of a "skydiver".

If you have made a skydive I would imagine that your study would be relatively simple to conduct without going into detail such as shoe sizes. Should you find it a desire to make a jump please contact me, better yet I probably call you.

(Letter) Your questionnaire has been completed and sent off. However I thought I would just drop a line to say how delighted I was to be so approached. I only hope I have not made a mess of the answers!

When your study is complete perhaps you would be kind enough to send me a copy? I will be only too pleased to pay postage etc.

From your PS I see that you took up parachuting at a more mature age, as I did, and I wonder what made you take to the skies?

Should you ever travel to this part of the world you will have this address and telephone number and I would be delighted and honoured if you would call me and let me know you are coming. Perhaps you would join me at our club?

I have had a different life during my parachuting career. It has taken me from a mundane existence to top pop who has visited the U.S.A. on 3 separate occasions. I was also given the job as Top Pop of organising the very 1st World Pops Meet at the Ettamoeah Pub. I will never get over those 8 days. There we saw the whole spectrum of parachuting, that is parachutists doing their thing be it good or bad. I would never have been part of this memorable scene if it were not for the Australian Parachute Federation which has made the game for what is in Australia. All this has made me a respected individual not only in my home town & Australia, but all over the world as well. What more could a man want.

Why didn't you ask about cigarette smoking? (I don't) Also, I'd like you to see if you notice a difference in attitude between the people who started jumping in the 60s and 70s and the people who started in the last 6 - 8 years. (God, I hope so!)

I'd also like to point out that it is much more difficult to become 'adept' at this sport than it used to be. The flying skills have advanced that much. (It used to be impressive just to land on a target). So, a person who jumps to get attention has a hard time being 'special' these days. Such individuals usually don't have the discipline or commitment to reach that level of ability, and usually get frustrated and start base jumping or something - anything to distinguish themselves without putting in the work.

There is truly a need for judgement, discipline, and commitment in this sport. People who jump barefoot in front of students are assholes.

P.S. There is a lot of inferior training going on out there! Thank you.

My first jump was made in Feb. 1992, at NAS Lakehurst, NJ. The rig was an NT-7a (28" flat unmodified round" no steering. This canopy was packed into a three pin container with no sleeve or other deployment retarding device, ouch! I know how ET got his neck. We given roughly two hours instruction following 4 weeks of PT & PLFs. Our cagewells were taped closed with nylon filament tape lest we cutaway. We had no pilot chutes on our 24' reserve chutes.

We were herded into a Navy C-1170 (DC-3) taken to 4000', lined up "butt to nut", our right hands placed on our cross-pull main ripcords left arm laid across our reserves told to jump, count to three and pull. I was scared shitless.

There were people pulling in the plane, pulling late, canopy collisions, etc. No injuries.

Would you believe we had no ADDs. *

What an experience!

Thank God for modern gear and good ADDs. *

* Researcher's Note: ADD is Automatic Deployment Device.

4) SEX

BUT DO IT! IT'S A REAL RUSH. PURE UNADULTERATED SEX!!

The most fun you can have with your cloths on. [Researcher's Note: male student, 3rd yr college.]

IT IS THE MOST FUN I'VE EVER HAD WITH MY PANTS UP!! [Researcher's Note: Male 56, kids 22 - 38; large capital letters.]

It's fucking great!

Best thing you can do with your pants on. [Researcher's Note: Written in 1" high letters.]

Eat, fuck, skydive. Blue Skies.

E.F.S. [Researcher's note: female]

E F S [Researcher's Note: Inch high letters.]

I'll use an old skydiving saying to sum up about how I feel: **EAT FUCK SKYDIVE!** [Researcher's Note: Inch high letters.]

Great stress reliever! Almost better than sex!!

Blue Skys! What do you like to do? E.F.S. Who do you like to do it with? YO MAMA!

Better than sex (at least with my Ex-wife) and lots of other guys have told me the exact same thing.

- 1) GOOD TIME AND I WANT TO JUMP WITH SOME WOMEN AT LEAST ONCE.
 - 2) WHERE IS THE NUDE DZ? TERMINAL VELOCITY COULD BE INTERESTING.
- [RESEARCHER'S NOTE: ARMY OFFICER, B.S., B.A.]

Next to Disease free sex (there isn't such an animal) the best adrenaline rush, high, orgasmic feeling this human being has ever experienced.

Everyone should face their fears just once and try it. You will be reborn, reinvigorated, and you'll realize what a thrill life really is.

APPENDIX N i: Percentage of all Questions Answered by Number of Replies Received							
Quest #	Title	Females Respond	Respond %	Females Blank	Blank %	Females N/A	N/A %
1	Age	91	100	0	0	0	0
2	Gender	90	99	1	1	0	0
3	Race	89	98	2	2	0	0
4	Weight	91	100	0	0	0	0
5	Height	91	100	0	0	0	0
6	Marital Status	90	99	0	0	1	1
7	Number of Children	87	96	0	0	4	4
8	Age of Children	55	60	3	5	33	36
9	Occupation	91	100	0	0	1	1
10	Annual Income	75	82	14	7	2	2
11	Highest Education Level	86	95	5	5	0	0
12	Religious Preference	91	100	0	0	0	0
13	Religious Services Attended	87	96	3	3	0	0
14	Brothers/Sisters	91	100	0	0	0	0
15	Parents	91	100	0	0	0	0
16	Sexual Preference	88	97	3	3	0	0
17	Introduction to Parachuting	90	99	1	1	0	0
18	Age first jump	91	100	0	0	0	0
19	Type first jump	91	100	0	0	0	0
20	Amount of training	69	76	24	26	0	0
21	Planes jumped from	90	99	1	1	0	0
22	Additional Training	68	75	23	25	0	0
23	Pilot	91	100	0	0	0	0
24	Compare chutes	91	100	0	0	0	0
25	# years jumping	90	99	1	1	0	0
26	Total jumps	91	100	0	0	0	0
27	Distance to DZ	87	96	2	2	2	2
28	Frequency of jumps	89	97	1	1	1	1
29	Geographical areas jumped	91	100	0	0	0	0
30	Ridicule	91	100	0	0	0	0
31	Ridicule - yes	72	79	19	21	0	0
32	Sports	81	89	11	12	0	0
33	Drink	90	99	1	1	0	0
34	Drugs	90	99	1	1	0	0
35	Car	91	100	0	0	0	0
36	Transmission	89	98	2	2	0	0
37	Nude	89	98	2	2	0	0
38	Injury	89	98	2	2	0	0
39	Afraid	88	97	3	3	0	0
40	When afraid	88	97	3	3	0	0
41	Equipment	89	98	2	2	0	0
42	Barefoot	90	99	1	1	0	0
43	Motorcyclist - mandatory	65	71	15	16	11	12

APPENDIX N i: Percentage of all Questions Answered by Number of Replies Received							
Quest #	Title	Females Respond	Respond %	Females Blank	Blank %	Females N/A	N/A %
	helmet						
44	Buckle up	91	100	0	0	0	0
45	Personal flotation device	88	97	1	1	2	2
46	Associations	77	85	13	4	1	1
47	Magazines	72	79	18	20	1	1
48	Newspapers	64	70	21	23	6	7
49	TV	75	82	14	15	2	2
50	Comments	58	64	33	36	0	0

APPENDIX N ii: Percentage of All Questions Answered By Number of Replies Received							
#	Title	Males	%	Male Blank	Blank %	Male N/A	N/A %
		N = 368			N = 368		N = 368
1	Age	368	100	0	0	0	0
2	Gender	368	100	0	0	0	0
3	Race	356	97	12	3	0	0
4	Weight	367	99	1	0	0	0
5	Height	367	99	1	0	0	0
6	Marital Status	364	99	1	0	3	1
7	Number of Children	333	90	12	3	23	6
8	Age of Children	221	60	35	10	112	30
9	Occupation	364	99	4	1	0	0
10	Annual Income	327	89	31	8	10	3
11	Highest Education Level	353	96	12	3	3	1
12	Religious Preference	368	100	0	0	0	0
13	Religious Services Attended	362	98	6	3	0	0
14	Brothers/Sisters	362	98	0	0	6	0
15	Parents	367	99	0	0	0	0
16	Sexual Preference	367	99	1	0	0	0
17	Introduction to Parachuting	366	99	2	1	0	0
18	Age first jump	368	100	0	0	0	0
19	Type first jump	368	100	0	0	0	0
20	Amount of training	244	66	124	34	0	0
21	Planes jumped from	360	98	6	3	0	0
22	Additional Training	237	64	131	36	0	0
23	Pilot	366	99	2	1	0	0
24	Compare chutes	366	66	2	1	0	0
25	# years jumping	362	98	5	1	1	0
26	Total jumps	359	98	9	2	0	0
27	Distance to DZ	355	96	12	3	1	0
28	Frequency of jumps	349	95	15	4	4	1
29	Geographical areas jumped	360	98	8	2	0	0
30	Ridicule	91	25	0	0	0	0
31	Ridicule - yes	285	77	82	23	1	0
32	Sports	305	83	52	14	11	35
33	Drink	361	98	7	2	0	0
34	Drugs	359	98	9	2	0	0
35	Car	368	100	0	0	0	0
36	Transmission	360	98	3	1	5	0
37	Nude	361	87	7	2	0	0
38	Injury	361	98	7	2	0	0
39	Afraid	353	96	15	4	0	0
40	When afraid	353	96	15	4	0	0
41	Equipment	365	99	3	1	0	0
42	Barefoot	363	99	5	1	0	0
43	Motorcyclist - mandatory helmet	264	72	57	15	47	13

APPENDIX N ii: Percentage of All Questions Answered By Number of Replies Received							
#	Title	Males	%	Male Blank	Blank %	Male N/A	N/A %
44	Buckle up	361	98	7	2	0	0
45	Personal flotation device	349	95	7	2	12	3
46	Associations	329	89	33	9	6	2
47	Magazines	298	81	54	15	16	4
48	Newspapers	262	66	66	18	40	11
49	TV	304	83	48	13	16	4
50	Comments	250	68	118	32	0	0

APPENDIX N iii: Percentage of all Questions Answered by Gender	
Number answered by Females	Number answered by Males
100% of Questions Answered	100% of Questions Answered
1	1
4	2
5	12
6	18
7	19
9	35
12	95% to 99% Answered
14	3
15	4
18	5
19	6
23	9
24	11
26	13
29	14
30	15
35	16
44	17
95% to 99% Answered	21
2	23
3	24
11	25
13	26
16	27
17	28
21	29
25	33
27	34
28	36
33	37
34	38
36	39
37	40
38	41
39	42
40	44
41	45
42	90% to 94% Answered
45	7
90% to 94% Answered	80% to 89% Answered
80% to 89% Answered	10
10	32
32	46
46	47
49	49

APPENDIX N iii: Percentage of all Questions Answered by Gender	
Number answered by Females	Number answered by Males
70% to 79% Answered	70% to 79% Answered
20	31
22	43
31	60% to 65% Answered
43	8
47	20
48	22
60% to 65% Answered	48
8	50
50	Less than 59%
Less than 59%	30

APPENDIX N iv: Summary of percentages of all questions answered by gender				
% Answered	Questions answered by Females	% of Respondents N = 50	Questions answered by Males	% of Respondents N = 50
100 of Questions	18	44	6	12
95 to 99 Answered	20	32	30	60
90 to 94 Answered	0	0	1	2
80 to 89 Answered	4	8	5	10
70 to 79 Answered	6	12	2	4
60 to 65 Answered	2	4	5	10
Less than 59	0		1	2
	50	100%	50	100%

APPENDIX O: Adjectives used by Respondents			
Times Used	Positive Adjectives: One each unless noted	Times Used	Negative Adjectives
5	(an) accomplishment	5	apprehensive
30	addiction	2	ass holes
	adventurous		
13	adrenaline (pure rush) (100%)		
	alertness (mental)		
	awareness		
7	awesome		
	beautiful		bad
	(the) best	3	bad media
	better than shit		big balls
	blast		burners
	brother and sisterhood		
	buzz		
9	cautious		cocky
	celebration		
	celebrity status	3	crazy
	challenge		
7	challenging		
	comfortable		
11	camaraderie		
13	(self) confidence (builder)		
5	contagious		
	different	15	dangerous
	difficulty		daredevil
	dreamers	5	difficult
	dreaming		drugged
	dreams		drunken
	easy		
2	edgework		
	ego trip		
	elegant simplicity		
	elitist		
	encouraging		
	endorphers		
5	energetic		
17	enjoyment		
3	enthusiasm		
	enthusiastic		
3	escape		
7	(self) esteem builder		
	euphoric		
4	excitement		

APPENDIX O: Adjectives used by Respondents			
Times Used	Positive Adjectives: One each unless noted	Times Used	Negative Adjectives
2	excited		
11	exciting		
7	exhilarating		
	fantastic	6	frustrating
	fantasy		
	favorite		
	fear remover		
	fellowship		
	fine		
	flow		
	fraternity		
	freedom		
	friendly		
	fucking great		
17	fun		
	funner		
	funny		
	gladness		
	glorious		
	good		
	great		
	greatest		
	happy		homophobic
	heads up		
	heaven		
13	high		
	impressive		(most) immature
	incredible	3	insane
	intelligent	2	insanity
	interesting		
	intimate		
	joy		
	laid-back		
8	liberating		
	life affirming		
	life-saving		
2	(a) life-style		
2	life-wish		
	love (it)		
	love affair		

APPENDIX O: Adjectives used by Respondents			
Times Used	Positive Adjectives: One each unless noted	Times Used	Negative Adjectives
	magical (sensation)		
	motivating		
	no nonsense		
13	obsession		outer fringe of society
	orgasmic		overactive
	outgoing		over-rated
	passion		political
	peace		
3	peaceful		
	personality (more than non-jumpers)		
17	pleasure		
	popularity		
9	positive		
	priceless		
5	pride		
	priority		
	professional		
	promoter		
	radical		
	reborn		
	recreation		
	reinvigorated		
5	relaxing		
2	respect		
4	respectful		
8	rewarding		
10	risk-taking		
	routine (relieves / eliminates)		
13	rush		
34	safe		scared shitless
	sanity saver		scary
5	satisfying		sickness
2	self-esteem		slight-of-mind
8	self-respect	3	(most) show offs
	sensational	3	spoiled youth
	serene	9	stupid
	serious release	5	suicidal
3	sharing		
5	socializing		
11	stress (reliever)		
3	tension (eases / relieves)		

APPENDIX O: Adjectives used by Respondents			
Times Used	Positive Adjectives: One each unless noted	Times Used	Negative Adjectives
3	therapeutic		
9	thrilling		
	(non) traditional		
	trust		
	trustworthy		
	ultimate		uncontrolled
2	unique		
	values		
7	way-of-life		
5	wonderful		
	worry easer		
9	worthwhile		
	ya-hoo		
	yee-ha		
	young (keeps you)		

APPENDIX P Typed Return by only respondent earning \$500,000 annually

1. 47
2. Male
3. White
4. 165
5. 5'10"
6. Single
7. 0
8. NA
9. Real Estate, Public Speaking, Stunts
10. \$500,000+
11. 12+
12. BA/BS
13. Often
14. 1 Brother 43
15. 2 parents, opposite sex
16. Heterosexual
17. Other, Film, Pack Your Own chute.
18. 26
19. Static Line
20. 5 days/15 hours
21. All
22. Freefall, Jump Master, Instructor, Tandem Master
23. Yes
24. Easier
25. Sport 10
26. 3000+
27. 12 miles
28. Five, I was in a coma and hospital most of the year.
29. Desert
30. No
31. NA
33. Golf, Tennis, Fishing, Flying, Weight Lifting
34. Rarely
35. No
36. Sports Car, 4 Wheel Drive
37. Automatic
38. No
39. Yes
40. While in plane
41. Own Jumpsuit Don't use Helmet or Boots
42. yes
43. No
44. Always, Always, Always
45. Always
46. USPA, OAPA, Screen Actors Guild
47. People, National Geographic
48. USA Today
49. Seinfeld, Wings
- 50.

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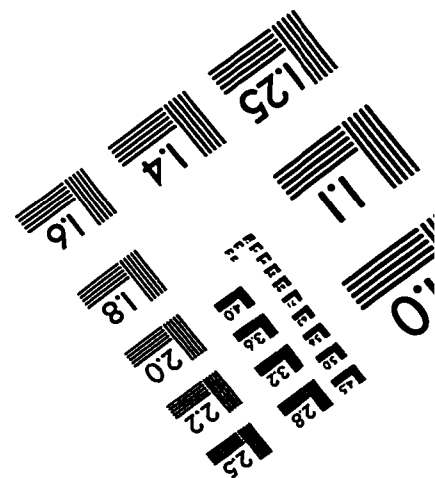
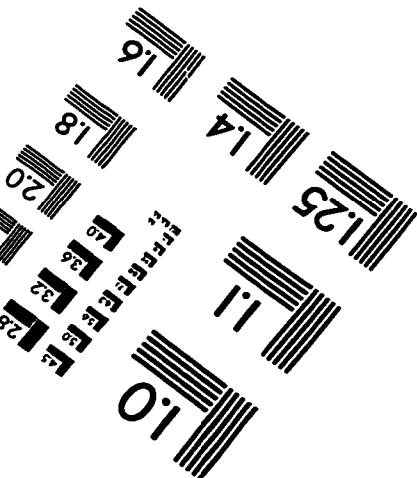
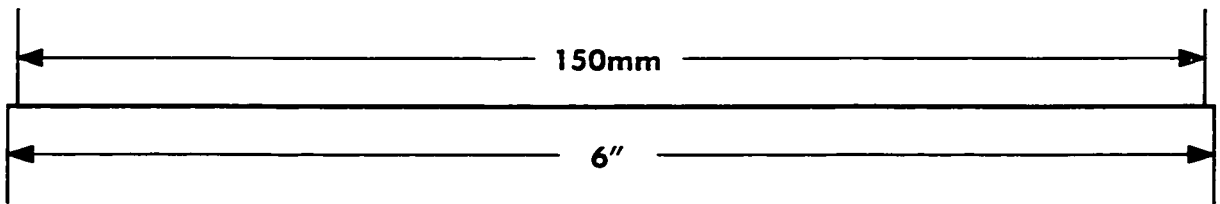
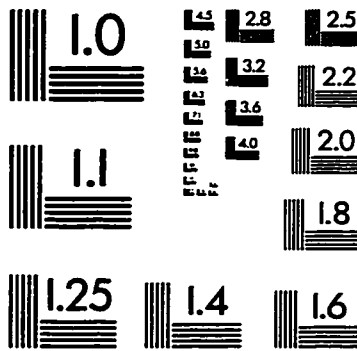
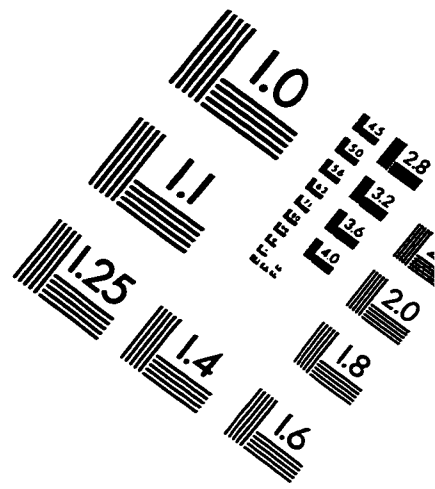
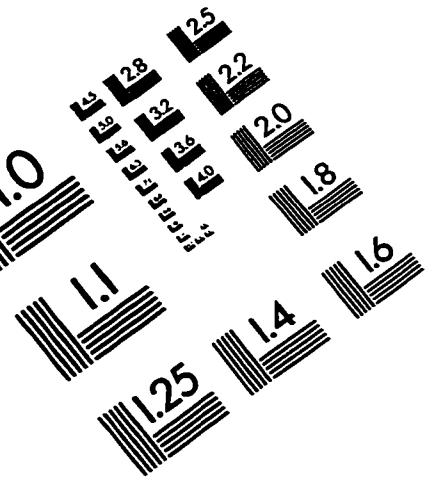
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IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (QA-3)



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