

Appendix 44: Variables Used For Matching Mother/Daughter Pairs in the NLS

Background on mother/daughter pairs: In Round 1 there are 1,848 mother/daughter pairs within the Original Cohorts. A “pair” means that the mother was interviewed as a respondent in the Mature Women survey and the daughter was a respondent in the Young Women survey. This provides researchers an opportunity to make direct comparisons to two generations. Included in the MW is a series of “transfer” variables that look at monetary and time transfers between mothers and children, for example, mothers giving their children money or mothers helping children with childcare. What follows is a description of the different variables that can be used for matching or linking these mother/daughter pairs, both for general research purposes and for purposes specific to researching intergenerational transfers. In 1997 data was collected for 821 daughters and in 1999 data was collected for 668 daughters.

General Matching of Mother/Daughter Pairs: The simplest way to link mothers in the Mature Women survey with their daughters in the Young Women survey is to extract the variable in the YW 1968 (R00003.51) titled "IDENTIFICATION CODE OF MOTHER IN OLDER WOMEN COHORT IN 67" from the YW cohort. Then add 10000 to the valid values (1-5083) to get the ID number of the mother in the MW cohort and match on the variable in the MW cohort titled "Identification Code, 1997" (R34950.00).

Matching of Mother/Daughter Pairs for Purposes of Researching Intergenerational Transfers: The transfer section in the women cohorts includes questions about questions about loans, gifts, and other financial assistance, as well as time transferred for child care, personal care, chores, and errands. (See the Mature Women’s and Young Women’s Users Guides for a more complete overview of the structure and content of the transfer sections). The following text describes the process of matching mother/daughter pairs.

There is a series of variables in 1997 which give the identification code of daughters in the Young Women survey. While the transfer questions in 1997 ask each cohort about transfer from the respondents to their parents, there is a special section in the Mature Women survey for those Mature Women who had daughters in Young Women survey asking about the transfers from the daughter and or her family to the mother in the Mature Women. To link to the data in the Young Women cohort, use these variables: (R42239.00) TRANSFER - LINE 01 DAUGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODE, 1997 to (R42307.00) TRANSFER - LINE 05 DAUGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODE, 1997.

A series of created variables was added to the Mature Women’s 1999 survey that gives users the line number of the child that is the daughter in the Young Women survey. They are followed by a series of quality of match variables that shows how certain the staff is that the correct daughter is identified. (R51513.01) TRANSFER - LINE 01 DAUGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODE, 1999 to (R1513.35) TRANSFER - LINE 15 DAUGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODE, QUALITY OF MATCH, 2003.

Since it was impossible to keep the same child in the same position in the child’s roster in the 2003 survey Census created a series of variables which identify the line number of

the responses about that child in 1999 if the respondent was interviewed in both years. These variables are R76225.00 TRANSFER - LINE NUMBER OF CHILD ON 1999 CHILD ROSTER, 2003 C 01 to R76242.00 TRANSFER - LINE NUMBER OF CHILD ON 1999 CHILD ROSTER, 2003 C 18. Not all mothers were interviewed in both years however for the ones that were, the researcher can locate which line a particular daughter was on in 1999 and then use this set of variables to find out which line in 2003 contains the information for that specific daughter.

For mothers who were only interviewed in 2003 or 1999 and did not answer the transfer section there is another series of variables that identify their daughters also. These variables are R76242.01 TRANSFER – LINE 01 DAUGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODE, 2003 to R76242.28. TRANSFER - LINE 11 DAUGHTER IDENTIFICATION CODE, QUALITY OF MATCH, 2003.

For the quality of the match, the following decision rules were used:

Exact match means that everything matched (correct family name, correct first name, correct date of birth or correct first name and date of birth, but different last name which could be due to a marriage or a divorce).

Likely match means that one element was not exact, similar first name that may be a nickname, similar family name that may be a probable spelling error or spelling where the sound of the name would be similar, date of birth is close or likely keying error. Likely match is a reasonable match, but not a completely identical match.

Probable match means that woman is the best candidate among all those listed on the mother's roster after reviewing the entire list of children and several other demographics such as date of birth, education, marital status and number of children.

To broadly search for the variables to match mother/daughters pairs in Investigator, use the “Word in Title” criteria and search on the word “Identification.