

APPENDIX B: SURVEY INSTRUMENT



THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME AND SAFETY SURVEY

Some questions about you

1

Please indicate which of the following best describes you?

(If aged under 18, ask if there is a person in the household who is over 18, if not, terminate the interview)

15 to 19 years	1	60 - 74 years	5
20 to 34 years	2	75 years or over	6
35 to 44 years	3	Prefer not to say	9
45 to 59 years	4		

2

With which gender do you identify?

Male	1	Other	4
Female	2	Prefer not to say	9

3

Do you speak a language other than English at home?

English only	1	Other (specify): _____	2
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4

Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Yes - Aboriginal	1	No	4
Yes - Torres Strait Islander	2	Prefer not to say	9
Yes - both Aboriginal and Torres St. Islander	3		

Your sources of information about safety and crime

5

What are your three most significant sources of information about safety and crime?

(please select a maximum of three sources)

Personal experience	1
Word of mouth / information from other people	2
Metro / national newspapers	(specify): _____ 3
Local newspapers	4
News programs on TV	(specify): _____ 5
News programs on radio	(specify): _____ 6
Talkback radio	(specify): _____ 7
Social media	(specify platform): _____ 8
Other internet news sources	(specify): _____ 9
The police or police operated website	10
Other	(specify): _____ 11
Prefer not to say	12

Perceptions of your local community

6

On a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Statement	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Can't say
1. This is a close-knit neighbourhood	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. People in this neighbourhood can be trusted	1	2	3	4	5	9
3. People around here are willing to help their neighbours	1	2	3	4	5	9

7

Using the same scale, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Statement	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Can't say
1. If I sensed trouble while in this area, I could 'raise' attention from people who live here for help	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. The people who live here can be relied upon to call the police if someone is acting suspiciously	1	2	3	4	5	9
3. If any of the children or young people around here are causing trouble, local people will tell them off	1	2	3	4	5	9

8

How many years have you lived in, or close by, this neighbourhood?

Less than 1 year	1	10 years or more	4
1 to less than 5 years	2	Prefer not to say	9
5 to less than 10 years	3		

9

I will now read out a list of issues that may or may not be a problem in your area. For each one, please tell me whether it is a major problem, a minor problem or no problem.

Statement	No problem	Minor Problem	Major problem	Can't say
1. Graffiti	1	2	3	9
2. Drug use or dealing	1	2	3	9
3. Noisy and / or nuisance neighbours	1	2	3	9
4. Vandalism, for instance of telephone booths or bus shelters	1	2	3	9
5. People being harassed because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion	1	2	3	9
6. Teenagers hanging around in the street and drinking	1	2	3	9
7. Noisy / rowdy / inconsiderate behaviour in the street	1	2	3	9
8. People in speeding cars	1	2	3	9

Need for cognitive closure

10 On a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Statement	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Can't say
1. I enjoy having a clear and structured mode of life.	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. I don't like to go into a situation without knowing what I can expect from it.	1	2	3	4	5	9
3. I don't like situations that are uncertain.	1	2	3	4	5	9
4. I dislike questions which could be answered in many different ways	1	2	3	4	5	9

Worry about having your home burgled

11 In the last year, have you ever felt worried about your home being burgled (i.e. broken into when you are home or not home)?

Yes	1	No (go to Q.21)	2
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12 How often have you felt like this in the last year?

Once	1	36 to 75 times (about once a week)	6
2 to 5 times (a few times)	2	76 to 200 times (a few times a week)	7
6 to 10 times (every few months)	3	201 to 365 times (almost / every day)	8
11 to 15 times (about once a month)	4	Prefer not to say	9
16 to 35 times (about once a fortnight)	5		

13 On the last occasion you worried about having your home broken into, how worried did you feel? If you can't remember, please say so.

Not very worried	1	Very worried	4
A little worried	2	Can't remember	5
Quite worried	3	Prefer not to say	9

14 How often, if at all, in the last year have you avoided the following because of worry about burglary?

Statement	Never	Some times	Mostly	Always	Can't say
1. Avoided leaving the house during the day	1	2	3	4	9
2. Avoided leaving the house at night	1	2	3	4	9
3. Other (specify): _____	1	2	3	4	9

Responses to worry about crime (target hardening)

15

Has your worry about burglary prompted you to take any precautionary actions?

Action	Yes	Was a factor	No
1. Installed bars, security doors, gates or fences	1	2	3
2. Installed an alarm system or CCTV	1	2	3
3. Trimmed hedges	1	2	3
4. Installed sensor lights	1	2	3
3. Other (specify): _____	1	2	3

Note: ask Q16 and Q17 only if the respondent took precautionary actions (Q.15).

16

Did you feel safer as a result of taking these precautions?

Not at all	1	A lot	3
A little	2	Not sure	9

17

How much, if at all, was your quality of life negatively affected by the precautions?

Not at all	1	A lot	3
A little	2	Not sure	9

Responses to worry about crime (pro-social responses)

18

Has your worry about burglary prompted you to do any of the following, and did you feel safer as a result?

Action	Precaution / action			Did you feel safer as a result			
	Yes	Was a factor	No	Not at all	A little	A Lot	Not sure
1. Discussed or problem solved with neighbours	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
2. Sought advice from the local council	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
3. Volunteered with a charity or a not-for-profit	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
4. Got involved with an online support group or campaign	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
5. Joined a local sporting or social group, or attended a local Place of Worship	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
6. Sought help or advice from police	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
7. Joined / attended a neighbourhood watch	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
8. Other (specify): _____	1	2	3	1	2	3	9

Note: ask Q19 only if the respondent took pro-social responses (Q.18).

19	How much, if at all, was your quality of life negatively affected by the precautions taken?			
	Not at all	1	A lot	3
	A little	2	Not sure	9

Reasons for not taking avoidance or other responses

Note: ask only if the respondent was worried about burglary (Q.11) but has taken no precautionary (Q.15) or pro-social responses (Q.18)

20	What are all the reasons why you took no action about your worry about burglary?			
	<i>(please select as many as appropriate)</i>			
	Would make no difference	1	Other (specify):	6
	Not confident enough	2	_____	
	Did not know who to contact	3	Other (specify):	7
	Don't know anybody in the area	4	_____	
	Language barriers	5		

Worry about being a victim of crime or being harmed in public

21	In the last year, have you ever felt worried about being robbed in your neighbourhood or suburb?			
	Yes	1	No (go to Q.31)	2

22	How often have you felt like this in the last year?			
	Once	1	36 to 75 times (about once a week)	6
	2 to 5 times (a few times)	2	76 to 200 times (a few times a week)	7
	6 to 10 times (every few months)	3	201 to 365 times (almost / every day)	8
	11 to 15 times (about once a month)	4	Prefer not to say	9
	16 to 35 times (about once a fortnight)	5		

23	On the last occasion you worried about being robbed, how worried did you feel? If you can't remember, please say so.			
	Not very worried	1	Very worried	4
	A little worried	2	Can't remember	5
	Quite worried	3	Prefer not to say	9

Responses to worry about crime (avoidance responses)

24

How often, if at all, in the last year have you avoided the following because of worry about being robbed in your local area?

Activity	Never	Some times	Mostly	Always	Can't say
1. Avoided using public transport during the day	1	2	3	4	9
2. Avoided using public transport at night	1	2	3	4	9
3. Avoided certain streets or areas during the day	1	2	3	4	9
4. Avoided certain streets or areas at night	1	2	3	4	9
5. Carried some means of self-defence	1	2	3	4	9
6. Walked with a companion	1	2	3	4	9
7. Other action / precautions (<i>specify</i>):	1	2	3	4	9

Note: ask Q25 and Q26 only if the respondent took precautionary actions (Q.24).

25

Did you feel safer as a result of taking these precautions?

Not at all	1	A lot	3
A little	2	Not sure	9

26

How much, if at all, is your quality of life negatively affected by the precautions?

Not at all	1	A lot	3
A little	2	Not sure	9

Responses to worry about crime (pro-social responses)

27

Has your worry about being robbed prompted you to do any of the following and did you feel safer as a result?

Action	Precaution / action			Did you feel safer as a result			
	Yes	Was a factor	No	Not at all	A little	A Lot	Not sure
1. Discussed or problem solved with neighbours	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
2. Sought advice from the local council	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
3. Volunteered with a charity or a not-for-profit	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
4. Got involved with an online support group or campaign	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
5. Joined a local sporting or social group	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
6. Attended a local Place of Worship	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
7. Sought help or advice from police	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
8. Joined / attended a neighbourhood watch	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
8. Other (<i>specify</i>):	1	2	3	1	2	3	9

Note: ask Q28 only if the respondent took any pro-social responses (Q.27).

28	How much, if at all, was your quality of life negatively affected by the precautions?			
	Not at all	1	A lot	4
	A little	2	Not sure	9

Reasons for not taking avoidance or other responses

Note: ask Q29 only if the respondent was worried about robbery (Q.21) but has taken no avoidances (Q.24) or pro-social responses (Q.27)

29	What are all the reasons why you took no action about your worry about robbery?			
	<i>(please select as many as appropriate)</i>			
	Would make no difference	1	Language barriers	5
	Not confident enough	2	Other (specify): _____	6
	Did not know who to contact	3	Other (specify): _____	7
Don't know anybody in the area	4	Other (specify): _____	8	

30	If you are worried about robbery in other suburbs / localities more than your own local area, in which suburbs / localities are you more worried?		
	1.	2.	3.

Worry about being a victim of crime or being harmed

31	In the last year, have you ever felt worried about being harassed in your neighbourhood or suburb?		
	Yes	1	No (go to Q.41)

32	How often have you felt like this in the last year?			
	Once	1	36 to 75 times (about once a week)	6
	2 to 5 times (a few times)	2	76 to 200 times (a few times a week)	7
	6 to 10 times (every few months)	3	201 to 365 times (almost / every day)	8
	11 to 15 times (about once a month)	4	Prefer not to say	9
	16 to 35 times (about once a fortnight)	5		

33	On the last occasion you worried about being harassed, how worried did you feel? If you can't remember, please say so.			
	Not very worried	1	Very worried	4
	A little worried	2	Can't remember	5
	Quite worried	3	Prefer not to say	9

Responses to worry about crime (avoidance responses)

34

How often, if at all, in the last year have you avoided the following because of worry about being harassed in your local area?

Activity	Never	Some times	Mostly	Always	Can't say
1. Avoided using public transport during the day	1	2	3	4	9
2. Avoided using public transport at night	1	2	3	4	9
3. Avoided certain streets or areas during the day	1	2	3	4	9
4. Avoided certain streets or areas at night	1	2	3	4	9
5. Carried some means of self-defence	1	2	3	4	9
6. Walked with a companion	1	2	3	4	9
7. Other action / precautions (specify):	1	2	3	4	9

Note: ask Q35 and Q36 only if the respondent took precautionary actions (Q.34).

35

Did you feel safer as a result of taking these precautions?

Not at all	1	A lot	4
A little	2	Not sure	9

36

How much, if at all, was your quality of life negatively affected by the precautions?

Not at all	1	A lot	4
A little	2	Not sure	9

Responses to worry about crime (pro-social responses)

37

Has your worry about being harassed prompted you to do any of the following?

Action	Precaution / action			Did you feel safer as a result			
	Yes	Was a factor	No	Not at all	A little	A Lot	Not sure
1. Discussed or problem solved with neighbours	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
2. Sought advice from the local council	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
3. Volunteered with a charity or a not-for-profit	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
4. Got involved with an online support group or campaign	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
5. Joined a local sporting or social group	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
6. Attended a local Place of Worship	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
7. Sought help or advice from police	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
8. Joined / attended a neighbourhood watch	1	2	3	1	2	3	9
8. Other (specify):	1	2	3	1	2	3	9

Note: ask Q38 only if the respondent took pro-social responses (Q.37).

38	How much, if at all, was your quality of life negatively affected by the precautions?			
	Not at all	1	A lot	4
	A little	2	Not sure	9

Reasons for not taking avoidance or other responses

Note: ask Q.39 only if the respondent was worried about being harassed (Q.31) but has taken no avoidances (Q.34) or pro-social responses (Q.37)

39	What are all the reasons why you took no action about your worry about being harassed?			
	<i>(please select as many as appropriate)</i>			
	Would make no difference	1	Other (specify):	6
	Not confident enough	2	_____	
	Did not know who to contact	3	Other (specify):	7
	Don't know anybody in the area	4	_____	
	Language barriers	5		

40	If you are worried about harassed in other suburbs / localities more than your own local area, in which suburbs / localities are you more worried?		
	1.	2.	3.

Online abuse and fraud

41	In the last year, have you ever felt worried about being the victim of online fraud, a scam, online abuse or harassment?			
	Yes	1	No (go to Q.44)	2

42	How frequently have you felt like this in the last year?			
	Once	1	36 to 75 times (about once a week)	6
	2 to 5 times (a few times)	2	76 to 200 times (a few times a week)	7
	6 to 10 times (every few months)	3	201 to 365 times (almost / every day)	8
	11 to 15 times (about once a month)	4	Prefer not to say	9
	16 to 35 times (about once a fortnight)	5		

43	On the last occasion you worried about being the victim of online fraud, a scam, online abuse or harassment, how worried did you feel? If you can't remember, please say so.			
	Not very worried	1	Very worried	4
	A little worried	2	Can't remember	5
	Quite worried	3	Prefer not to say	9

Personal risk or vulnerability

44

On a scale from 1 (very unlikely) to 5 (very likely), how likely or unlikely do you think it is that you will fall victim to each of the following crimes in the next twelve months?

<i>Statement</i>	<i>Very unlikely</i>	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Neither likely or unlikely</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Very likely</i>	<i>Can't say</i>
1. Having your home burgled	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. Being robbed	1	2	3	4	5	9
3. Being harassed	1	2	3	4	5	9
4. Being the victim of online fraud, a scam, online abuse or harassment	1	2	3	4	5	9

45

To what extent do you feel personally able to control whether or not you will fall victim to each of the following crimes during the next twelve months?

<i>Statement</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Some what able</i>	<i>Reason 'ably able</i>	<i>Very able</i>	<i>To a very great extent</i>	<i>Can't say</i>
1. Having your home burgled	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. Being robbed	1	2	3	4	5	9
3. Being harassed	1	2	3	4	5	9
4. Being the victim of online fraud, a scam, online abuse or harassment	1	2	3	4	5	9

46

To what extent do you think your life would be affected if you were to become a victim of each of the following crimes?

<i>Statement</i>	<i>Not affected at all</i>	<i>Some what affected</i>	<i>Reason 'ably affected</i>	<i>Very affected</i>	<i>Affected to a very great extent</i>	<i>Can't say</i>
1. Having your home burgled	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. Being robbed	1	2	3	4	5	9
3. Being harassed	1	2	3	4	5	9
4. Being the victim of online fraud, a scam, online abuse or harassment	1	2	3	4	5	9

Being a victim of crime and people you know experience of being a victim of crime

47

Please answer yes or no to each of the following statements.

Statement	Yes	No	Prefer not to say
1. I have been burgled (broken into) in the past year	1	2	3
2. I have been robbed, harassed, or physically assaulted by another person in public in the past year	1	2	3
3. I have been the victim of an online fraud, a scam, online abuse or harassment	1	2	3
4. Someone I know has been burgled (broken into) in the past year	1	2	3
5. Someone I know has been robbed, harassed, or physically assaulted by another person in public in the past year	1	2	3
6. Someone I know has been the victim of an online fraud, a scam, online abuse or harassment	1	2	3

Policing

48

On a scale of 1 (very ineffective) to 5 (very effective), how effective or ineffective do you believe are the police in your neighbourhood at?

Statement	Very ineffective	Somewhat ineffective	Neither effective or ineffective	Somewhat effective	Very effective	Can't say
1. Preventing crimes where violence is used or threatened	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. Catching people who commit house burglaries	1	2	3	4	5	9

49

On a scale of 1 (very slowly) to 5 (very quickly), how quickly or slowly do you believe?

Statement	Very slowly	Quite slowly	Neither slowly or quickly	Quite quickly	Very quickly	Can't Say
1. Police would arrive at the scene if a violent crime were to occur near your house	1	2	3	4	5	6

50

When victims report crimes, do you believe the police in your neighbourhood treat some people worse because of their race or ethnic group, or is everyone treated equally?

(please select one number only)

Compared to most people, those from a different race or ethnic group are treated worse	1
Compared to most people, those from a different race or ethnic group are treated better	2
Everyone treated equally regardless of their race or ethnic group	3
Don't know	4
Prefer not to say	5

51

On a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the police?

Statement	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Can't Say
1. I feel a moral obligation to obey the police in my neighbourhood	1	2	3	4	5	9
2. I feel a moral duty to support the decisions of police officers in my neighbourhood, even when I don't understand the reasons behind them	1	2	3	4	5	9
3. The police in my neighbourhood have the same sense of right and wrong as me	1	2	3	4	5	9
4. The police in my neighbourhood stand up for values that are important for people like me	1	2	3	4	5	9
5. I support the way the police in my neighbourhood usually act	1	2	3	4	5	9

Finally a few more questions about you

52

In what country were you born?

Australia 1 Other (specify): _____ 2

53

Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

Working full time 1 On another pension 6
 Working part time 2 Self-funded retiree / self-supporting 7
 Student 3 Unemployed and seeking work 8
 On a sick or disability pension 4 Home duties 9
 On an aged pension 5 Other (specify): _____ 10

54

What is your highest level of educational achievement?

Post graduate qualifications 1 Completed junior high school 5
 A university or college degree 2 Completed primary school 6
 A trade, certificate or diploma 3 No schooling 7
 Completed senior high school 4 Other (specify): _____ 9

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What is your current marital status?

Never married 1 Divorced 5
 Married 2 Widowed 6
 De facto "live-in" relationship 3 Prefer not to say 9
 Separated but not divorced 4

56

How many dependent children under the age of 18 live at your address?

No children	1	Prefer not to say	9
Number of children	<input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>		

57

What is your sexuality?

Heterosexual	1	Queer	6
Gay	2	Intersex	7
Lesbian	3	Other	8
Bisexual	4	Prefer not to say	9
Transgender	5		

58

Do you consider yourself religious?

Yes (<i>specify</i>): _____	1	Prefer not to say	9
No	2		

59

What was the approximate annual household income, including pensions, income from investments and family allowances for the last 12 months before any tax was taken out (gross income)?

Nil income	1	\$80,000 to \$119,999 per annum	4
Less than \$40,000 per annum	2	\$120,000 or more per annum	5
\$40,000 to \$79,999 per annum	3	Prefer not to say	9

**Thank you for your time in completing this survey
your response is very important to us**