INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY TWO

QUESTIONING THE QUESTIONS

**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an additional list of common types of errors in survey questions. Study these errors and the provided examples carefully. On the second page, you will find seven poorly constructed items from a supposed set of questionnaires. Identify the type of error (may be one of those discussed in class but not on this list) in each item then suggest a way to revise the question. Print the document in an A4-sized paper. Write answers on spaces provided after each item.

1. **Double Barreled question:**

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements

about the childcare program.

*Incorrect:*

I feel welcomed by staff and other youth at the center

*Correction:*

I feel welcomed by staff at the center

I feel welcomed by other youth at the center

1. **Biased/leading question**

*Incorrect:*

Community organizing is hard. Do leadership trainings help you feel prepared for

community organizing?

Much more prepared Somewhat more prepared

Slightly more prepared Not more prepared

*Correct:*

The leadership trainings prepare me for community organizing.

Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree

1. **Double Negative**

*Incorrect*

Does it seem possible or does it seem impossible to you that the Nazi extermination of

the Jews never happened? (22%)

Very possible Possible

Impossible Very impossible

*Correct*

Do you doubt that the Holocaust actually happened or not? (9%)

Very possible Possible

Impossible Very impossible

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QUESTIONING THE QUESTIONS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade-Section: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. More people have attended the movie, *Gone with the Wind*, than any other motion

picture produced this century. Have you seen this movie?

* Yes
* No

2. In your opinion, how would you rate the speed and accuracy of your work?

* Excellent
* Good
* Fair
* Poor

3. Did you first hear about the bombing:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ from a friend or relative \_\_\_\_\_\_ from your spouse

\_\_\_\_\_\_ from a newspaper \_\_\_\_\_\_ at work

\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the television or radio or other electronic media

4. How do you feel about the following statement? *We should not reduce military spending*.

* Strongly agree
* Agree
* Disagree
* Strongly disagree

5. People grow up in all different types of families. What type of family did you grow up in?

\_\_\_\_\_\_Mom as single parent \_\_\_\_\_\_Dad as a single parent \_\_\_\_\_\_Both Mom and Dad

6. Where do you get most or all of your information about current events in the nation and the world? \_\_radio \_\_Newspapers \_\_Magazines \_\_internet

7. Huge family size is acceptable in order to make housing affordable.

Strongly Agree Agree Undecided Disagree Strongly Disagree

1 2 3 4 5