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Subject: Merging male and female datasets  
Posted by [ipike](#) on Mon, 08 Dec 2014 00:19:46 GMT  
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Hi,

I think this is quite a simple question but I would like to merge the male and female datasets for the most recent Kenyan DHS data. Is there a common variable to use that matches husbands and wives in the dataset?

Thank you very much in advance.

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Subject: Re: Merging male and female datasets  
Posted by [Reduced-For\(u\)m](#) on Mon, 08 Dec 2014 01:34:32 GMT  
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Can you use the Household Member Recode (PR)? That should have some information on both the men and women and you wouldn't need to merge them.

<http://dhsprogram.com/data/Dataset-Types.cfm>

Also, I believe that HHID is the variable you want (or it's version in the men/women's recode). From the recode manual for DHS VI:

Case identification uniquely identifies each household. In most surveys this is constructed by concatenating the cluster or sample point number and the household number, but in some surveys this may be the questionnaire number taken from the front page of the questionnaire.

[http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6\\_DHS\\_22March2013\\_DHSG4.pdf](http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6_DHS_22March2013_DHSG4.pdf)

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Subject: Re: Merging male and female datasets  
Posted by [ipike](#) on Mon, 08 Dec 2014 02:12:46 GMT  
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Thank you for your quick reply! My confusion is that the household ID variable is not in the female and male datasets and thus I am not sure what the unifying variable is for merging.

I am specifically trying to see if husbands' attitudes have an influence on the number of children their wives have so I think I definitely do need to merge. I'm not sure if that clarifies what I'm trying to do?

Thank you again for your reply!

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Subject: Re: Merging male and female datasets  
Posted by [Reduced-For\(u\)m](#) on Mon, 08 Dec 2014 04:50:45 GMT  
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I think you can concatenate the cluster with the household number to give you a unique HH ID, and that data should be in all recodes. If you have multiple years you could tack the year on as well to avoid repeats across years.

Do you have MV001 and MV002 (or V001 and V002)? If you generate a variable that is both of those put together, you should have a unique ID.

I haven't used these recodes and don't have one handy, but I think some version of 001 and 002 should be in all recodes. You can search for the "right" one or confirm that you are using the right variable by checking it against the recode manual (below):

[http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6\\_DHS\\_22March2013\\_DHSG4.pdf](http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6_DHS_22March2013_DHSG4.pdf)

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Subject: Re: Merging male and female datasets  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Sat, 13 Dec 2014 00:32:36 GMT  
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You don't have to go to this effort as we have already produced files that merge the husbands' and wives' data together. See the Couples Recode (CR) file.

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Subject: Re: Merging male and female datasets  
Posted by [ipike](#) on Sat, 13 Dec 2014 03:13:44 GMT  
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Thank you very much! Very useful.

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