
Subject: Re: Regression analysis based on 'Couples' Recode'
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 12 Apr 2021 12:56:09 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

If you want to merge household-level variables--the ones in the HR file that don't have subscripts--then it's the HR file that you would merge with the CR file. But if you want to attach characteristics of individuals, it's better to use the PR file than the HR file. Most of what you want is probably already in the CR file. I suggest that you look carefully and just add what's not there already.

I don't think there is complete symmetry between women and men in what's asked about the partner. I believe the woman is asked more about her partner than the man is asked about his partner.

If you want the best estimate of education, for example, I recommend using what is reported by the person about herself/himself. An estimate from the partner is only useful if (a) you don't have it directly from the person or (b) you specifically want to analyze differences between the two responses, e.g. to assess perceptions or communication.

To repeat, however, not every possible question is actually asked in every survey. If you can't find a variable that you think should be included, go to the questionnaires and see if you can find the relevant question. Also use "lookfor ..." in the data file because sometimes you can find what you are looking for as a survey-specific variable with prefix "s".