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# A Follow-up Attitudinal Study of Selected Groups in the City of the Dalles Toward the Community Attention Home

Landon Gilstrap  
*Portland State University*

Joyce Larson  
*Portland State University*

Janice Page  
*Portland State University*

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A FOLLOW-UP ATTITUDINAL STUDY  
OF SELECTED GROUPS  
IN THE CITY OF THE DALLES TOWARD  
THE COMMUNITY ATTENTION HOME

by

LANDON GILSTRAP

JOYCE LARSON

JANICE PAGE

A report submitted in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of

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## CHAPTER I

### Introduction

Every year in this Country, according to estimates of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, about 100,000 children under 18 are locked up in jails.<sup>1</sup> John J. Downey states in his article, "Why Children Are In Jail : And How To Keep Them Out", that jail detention of children is harmful to them not only emotionally and morally, but also frequently unnecessary. He feels that children are unnecessarily confined for a variety of reasons, including "The use of jail for punishment or 'treatment', poor court policies in relation to the detention of children picked up for delinquent behavior, and the lack of open shelter care facilities for children who need temporary care, but not secure custody, while awaiting disposition of their cases".<sup>2</sup> Downey strongly recommends that communities develop group shelter homes for the temporary care of neglected and delinquent children who do not require secure custody, in order to eliminate the practice of putting children in jails.

One community which has attempted to find a solution for the adolescents coming to the attention of the Juvenile Court is the City of The Dalles, Oregon. They established a Community Attention Home in 1971 to provide temporary care and counseling services to adolescent boys and girls as an alternative to their placement in the County

jail or immediate return to an unfavorable home situation .

### PURPOSE of the STUDY

Prior to the opening of the Attention Home in August of 1971, a survey was conducted by David Clitheroe and Garrett Long<sup>3</sup> to determine what specific attitudes local groups in the community had about the Attention Home. Their study represented the first part of a two part study. It established the baseline data on the community attitudes toward the Attention Home prior to the opening of the home. These attitudes will be compared with the attitudes after one year's operation of the home in order to assess what attitudinal changes, if any, have taken place between the first and second surveys.

### DESCRIPTION OF PREVIOUS STUDY

Since this study is based upon the original study and the findings of the two studies will be compared, it is relevant at this time to present a brief review of their study. The purpose of their study as stated by the authors was to determine whether or not individuals (from various local groups in the community): 1) supported the basic concepts and philosophies of the Community Attention Home. 2) were aware of and knowledgeable about the Attention Home. 3) perceived the need for the Attention Home in The Dalles, and 4) were willing to become involved with the program. The authors decided on a ques-



tionnaire as the most appropriate method to tap the information desired and selected a population of six local groups of people from the community. The sample units were selected arbitrarily but thought to be of significance in the operation of the home. The population studied consisted of the following six groups: the Interagency Council; the Immediate Neighborhood around the home; the local Carpenter's Union; the Kiwanis Club; the Hotline Youth Group; and the local Police and Sheriff Departments. The researchers administered the questionnaire in person by reading the questions aloud to the respondents both in groups and individually and allowing them sufficient time to answer each question. This personal approach by the researchers, though time consuming, was done to minimize delayed responses or failure to respond. The following is a brief summary of their findings.

After analyzing the responses, the researchers found that the Interagency Council and Hotline Youth Group were most supportive of the basic concept and philosophy of the Attention Home with support quotients of .81 and .79 respectively.\* The rest of the groups indicated they were generally in favor of the basic philosophy and concept of the home.

There were three exceptions to the groups' general acceptance of the Attention Home's philosophy and concepts. First, "The majority of all the groups, except the Hotline Youth Group, felt that delinquent

youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth." Second, "the majority of the Hotline Group and the Interagency Council supported the idea of housing youth who had broken the law with youth who were neglected by their parents, whereas the other four groups did not." Third, "the majority of the Interagency Council and the Police did not support the concept of funding the program mainly from within the community."

In the area of Awareness and Knowledge of the home, the researchers found the Interagency Council the most aware of the program with a knowledge quotient of .92\* The Immediate Neighborhood had the lowest knowledge quotient of .29. The authors concluded after examining the responses that those groups who scored the lowest on knowledge quotients appeared to be less informed (i. e. they had not heard of the home) rather than misinformed by mass media or other sources of information.

On the issue of whether there was a real need for the Attention Home in The Dalles, the authors found that there was a strong conviction on the part of all of the groups surveyed that there was a definite

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\*A quotient is determined by adding the number of supportive or knowledgeable responses toward the home and dividing by the total number of responses possible in the area under consideration.

need for the home. However, only the Interagency Council and Police showed by a majority of their responses, that they were well informed as to the existing facilities available in The Dalles for temporary shelter care.

On the issue of community willingness to support the home, the majority of all groups indicated their willingness to support the home. Groups indicated that they favored supporting the home through donations of time, goods and special services or cash donations. In general, the idea of supporting the home by extra taxes was looked on with disfavor by all the groups except the Kiwanis Club which showed a slight majority in favor of this type of support. On the question dealing with how willing the respondent would be to have the Community Attention Home in his immediate neighborhood, the researchers found three of the groups showing a majority in favor of the idea. The three groups included the Interagency Council (60%), the Immediate Neighborhood (64%), and the Hotline Youth Group (64%). Of the three remaining groups, the majority of the members were undecided about having the home in their immediate neighborhood. Thus it may be concluded from the results of this study, that for the most part respondents recognized that local problems must be solved on the community level through broad community participation and support.

#### DESCRIPTION of the ATTENTION HOME

The original Attention Home began in Boulder, Colorado in

October of 1966. Their Program was used as a guide in the establishment of the Community Attention Home in The Dalles. The word "Attention" was borrowed from their Program and reflects a positive approach in providing attention to the adolescents' various needs and problems while in care away from home. Thus the concept of "Attention" was emphasized rather than "detention" which implied a more negative attitude toward the treatment of adolescents by the community.

The one feature of the Attention Home which makes it unique from other group foster homes presently caring for adolescent boys and girls, is broad community support. It is predominantly a citizen-supported and citizen-run organization. It relies on community volunteers contributing their time, services, funds, facilities and material to keep the home in operation.

As the original project proposal states, a non-profit corporation was established to manage and operate the Attention Home. The name of the corporation is "Community Attention, Inc." As previously mentioned, it is composed of interested citizens in the community who volunteer their services and support for the goals of the Attention Home Program. The corporation is run by a nine member board of directors chosen from the membership at large who have the responsibility for Administration and overall Management of the Attention Home.

The Community Attention Home in The Dalles officially began its

Program on August 1, 1971. The purpose of the project was to provide a temporary care facility for adolescents experiencing family conflict who come to the attention of the Juvenile Court. The Attention Home acts as a receiving center for the purpose of evaluating the problems of those youth referred and provides a cooling off period for both the child and the parents while attention is being given to the family problem. This temporary stay in the Attention Home provides the time necessary for a program to be worked out so that the child can be placed either more permanently in a foster situation or returned to his own home. The Wasco County Juvenile Court is the main referral source for the Home and any youth who should not be placed in secure detention or be returned to his own home will be considered for admission.

The Attention Home is designed to serve both adolescent boys and girls 12 through 17 years of age for a period generally not to exceed 30 days. The home houses a maximum of 8 adolescents in addition to house-parents. It is located in a middle-class residential neighborhood close to schools, library, stores, recreational facilities, city parks and public transportation.

The physical structure of the Attention Home provides an ideal setting for the housing of both boys and girls. The Attention Home is a large two-story residence consisting of five bedrooms, a living room, office, dining room, kitchen, three baths and a full basement. The

basement serves as a dormitory for the boys and also contains a workshop, laundry area and bathroom. The upstairs is the living area for the girls. There are two single rooms available and one large bedroom which two girls may share. In addition, there is a bathroom, kitchen, and sitting room area for the girls.

The Attention Home has received a great deal of support from the community in implementing their program. Local service clubs were instrumental in redecorating and refurnishing the home. Volunteers and service clubs have been involved in the ongoing programming of the home and are continuing to provide many much needed services. The Community Attention Home recently turned to the surrounding community in an effort to raise money for the down payment on the house. The response by local citizens to the fund raising effort was excellent, enabling the Attention Home to exercise its option of purchasing the home.

The Attention Home project relies on two main sources of funding in addition to federal funding received. The major source of support for the project comes from the community itself in the form of donations of money, material and services. The second source of support is provided by the local government in the form of cost of care payments per day per child. Since the Attention Home project is a community supported program, it is expected that reliance on outside federal funding will be reduced yearly and eventually will be terminated. Thus, the Attention Home project represents an innovative community treatment

program designed to help juveniles in trouble in the community, rather than removing them unnecessarily to institutions.

As earlier indicated, the purpose of this exploratory study is to evaluate and compare the attitudes of local groups in the community toward the Attention Home at the present time with the attitudes held prior to the opening of the home in August, 1971, in order to assess the extent of attitudinal change.

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#### Chapter Notes

<sup>1</sup>National Council on Crime and Delinquency, "Correction in the United States: A Survey for the Presidents Commission of Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice." Crime and Delinquency, Vol. XIII, No. 1, January, 1967.

<sup>2</sup>Downey, John J., "Why Children Are in Jail: And How To Keep Them Out," Children, Vol. 17, No. 1, p. 21.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

This chapter presents a review of literature on the development of community supported group foster homes for neglected and delinquent children. A review of the literature over the past ten years revealed only one other similar study. This study will be reported along with other significant research and literature relating to the general problem of a lack of temporary care resources for adolescents coming to the attention of the juvenile court.

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency estimates that yearly more than one hundred thousand children from 7 through 17 are held in county jails and police lockups most of which are substandard for adults. A total of 2,800 counties (93%) in the United States have only jails or jail-like facilities for holding youngsters in trouble with the law, according to N. C. C. D. data. The pity of this situation is that many neglected and delinquent children presently held in jails do not need to be locked up anywhere. These youth have been temporarily housed in jails because the county lacks adequate shelter care facilities for youngsters who are in need of care away from their own homes, but do not require detention while awaiting disposition of their cases.

It is generally agreed that while jail may be the setting neces-



sary for the clearly dangerous youth, the "tough guy", and the repeater, it is not the best place for many other youthful offenders.

As John E. Hagadine has observed, "While there are youngsters for whom detention is the appropriate procedure, and always will be, there are other youngsters for whom detention is neither appropriate nor fair."<sup>1</sup> An example is the child who is truant from school or who flees an intolerable home situation. In the past, Juvenile Courts had frequently to place these children in jail because the courts had no shelter care resources available for them in the community. In addition, many of these children would end up being committed to State training schools by the court often due simply to the lack of viable alternatives in their home communities.

What are communities doing about this? Actually, much experimentation has been initiated by juvenile courts, child-placing agencies, institutions, mental health organizations, and youth-serving organizations. Group homes have been developed for the shelter care of neglected and delinquent children and are beginning to be recognized as necessary court resources. Several states have successfully reduced their jailing of delinquent and dependent children by using shelter care in group foster homes.

The Juvenile Court of Boulder County, Colorado was instrumental in initiating an Attention Home program to provide temporary care for juveniles as an alternative to their placement in jail or return to an

unfavorable home situation. Boulder's first Attention Home opened in October of 1966 and it was the first home of this type in the United States.

The Attention Home program of Boulder, Colorado, is a distinctly different kind of group foster home program in concept, organization, and operation. The major difference is that the program is supported totally by local citizens, in funding, facilities, services, materials, and supplies. Additionally, the program is run almost entirely outside any formal agency setting. "The basic idea is broad community involvement and support in court-led programs to curtail and prevent juvenile delinquency without resort to institutionalization"<sup>2</sup>. While the Attention Home program does have close cooperative relations with the court, this is predominantly a citizen-run organization. Most of the children residing in the home are referred by police to the Juvenile Court, but some of them have been brought to the Court by parents who felt they could no longer control their children. Where living at home is considered to be detrimental to the treatment of difficult and delinquent children, residence in the Home is available as an alternative.

In an article entitled "Attention versus Detention," by John E. Hargardine, it is reported that local financing and broad policy participation by the community may have some disadvantages. Goals and purposes are less clearly defined, much time must be spent on fund-raising, and the program might be terminated if the community were to lose interest.

On the other hand, one of the major advantages of an Attention Home Program is in the area of broad community support. "There are not in Boulder County, and perhaps not in any County, professional services available in sufficient quantity to deal with the many problems which social disorganization produces. Properly selected, well trained, and professionally supervised volunteers can give valuable assistance not only in the area of juvenile delinquency and family disorganization, but toward the solution of total community problems."<sup>3</sup>

A second and major advantage is that the community involvement in the group home program tends to produce greater concern and understanding of the problems of the juvenile court and delinquency prevention and control. Also, because of extensive volunteer support in services and materials, the Attention Home costs considerably less than comparably - sized government supported group home programs.

A report published by the Office of Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Development, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, points out that "behind the volunteer-powered Attention Homes and individual foster home programs in Boulder, is a belief that much of juvenile 'acting out' behavior is, at least at first, a plea for help... The report adds that "the problems of children brought before the Court are the problems of the entire community and, sooner or later, must be solved by the community." This belief is reflected in a philosophy which insists upon public responsibility to create conditions under which troubled children can remain in the community with maximum benefit to themselves and minimum risk to others.<sup>4</sup>

Several other communities have established Attention Homes similar to the Boulder, Colorado program in Ferndale, Michigan; Nampa, Idaho, Hood River, Oregon, and The Dalles, Oregon. Up until one year ago in Oregon, there was a statutory provision for shelter care "for those children not needing secure custody," but no adequate shelter care facilities existed in any county in the state.<sup>5</sup> Recognizing the gravity of this situation, the city of The Dalles established an Attention Home to serve as an alternative to the county jail for youth who were experiencing a family crisis and needed temporary care and shelter. The Community Attention Home in The Dalles resembles Boulder's program and philosophy in all essential respects. It is a local, do-it-yourself operation, seeking the broadest possible voluntary support from the community in funding, facilities, and services. As in Boulder, the successful operation of the Attention Home in The Dalles depends upon the community's commitment to the solution of local problems that produce delinquency.

Although the Attention Home programs in Boulder and The Dalles, Oregon are too recent to have any empirical evidence to show their effectiveness, certain basic assumptions about the value of their programs can be made. These assumptions are based on the experience of operating these homes and the conviction by local citizens in communities "that certain youngsters who you have no other place to put, nevertheless, do not belong in jail."<sup>6</sup>

The first assumption is that for communities without adequate detention facilities, an Attention Home program can save countless jail days for those children for whom lockup would be detrimental. Several Federal studies have been made of Boulder's Attention Homes. One shows that they save a minimum of five hundred child-days in jail each year. "Thus, the Attention Homes not only provide a favorable physical alternative to the local Juvenile Jail, it also saves thousands of dollars for the taxpayer in jail maintenance costs."<sup>7</sup>

A second assumption is that the Attention Home Program can be an effective alternative to state institutionalization. As was the case in Boulder, and the city of The Dalles, commitment of youngsters to state training schools was often due to the lack of available alternatives in the local community for use by the Court. The courts were frequently forced to commit youngsters to state training schools when neither probation nor institutionalization seemed the appropriate answer to their needs. The use of a temporary care facility by the Court could have prevented the institutional detention of many youngsters. "Good group home programs can therefore reduce commitment rates and relieve the strains of overcrowding in state institutions, at the same time easing the burden of financial responsibility on the taxpayers."<sup>8</sup> Thus, the Attention Home Program represents one constructive alternative for meeting the specialized needs of adolescents for whom jail, detention, and institutional care are contraindicated.

In addition to the rapid growth of group home programs, there has been a nation-wide emphasis on the treatment of juvenile delinquents in their home communities. Local communities once again have begun to assume responsibility for the treatment of their own youthful offenders within the community rather than "banishing" them to State Correctional Institutions as in the past. This has occurred because of growing recognition by the community that the children involved in court procedures are almost exclusively local children and are, therefore, the responsibility of the community. "Even if they were to be institutionalized in state-supported facility, they would, upon release, be returned to the local community. Institutionalization, therefore, would not have solved the problem, but would simply have postponed its solution."<sup>9</sup> It is partly for these reasons that communities are trying to develop a range of treatment and placement alternatives within the community for children in trouble.

One state which has recently implemented the community treatment approach to deal with the problems of its troubled youth is Massachusetts. It is interesting to note that Massachusetts, one of the first to establish a state training school in 1826, is the first to abolish them as of January, 1972. Jerome Miller, Commissioner of Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, states their reasoning in closing the schools. "Careful analysis of the client population and the institutions themselves bore out the facts that, not only was institutionalization costly and inhumane, but it was ineffectual as a means

of reducing recidivism and treating the problems of the youths involved."<sup>10</sup> The Department, acting upon the belief that children can best be served within their home communities, has initiated a number of programs and contracted a number of services within local communities which promises treatment of each child according to his own personal needs. In place of institutions, the Department is offering children a wider range of community-based treatment options including private home placement, group homes, parole, intensive parole with private agency casework services, Homeward Bound Programs, Youth Advocate Programs and parole volunteer programs. Through community based treatment programs, the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services hopes to provide troubled youngsters with sufficient community resources and opportunities to be able to make a successful adjustment in their home community.

In California, The Department of The Youth Authority is carrying on some of the most significant research in the country related to the effectiveness of small probation caseloads in keeping delinquent youngsters out of institutions. The Community Treatment Project, as the experiment is called, was designed to compare the effectiveness of an intensive treatment-control program in the community with the Youth Authority's traditional programs of institutionalization and parole under the supervision of parole officers who carried an average of 70 to 80 active cases.

The first two phases, carried on from late 1961 to October, 1969, involved boys and girls 13 to 18 years of age committed for the first time to the Youth Authority by Juvenile Courts in metropolitan areas of Stockton, Sacramento, and San Francisco. The subjects were randomly assigned either to the Community Treatment Project for treatment in the community by a parole agent carrying an average caseload of 12, or to a state training school as a control.

In a two year follow-up study comparing youngsters treated in the community and released, with a control group treated in institutions and released, the youngsters who were treated while living in the community had significantly better parole records (23% fewer parole violations.)"

A number of important findings have already emerged from the research study of the Community Treatment Project. The project has demonstrated that intensive community treatment as a substitute for institutionalization is feasible and preferable. "The Community Treatment Program is more adequate than the traditional program, in terms of parole success rates and before-and-after results of psychological testing. In addition, capital outlay is kept to a minimum, and operating costs to the government are low in comparison with costs of institutionalization. Of special importance to the community is the knowledge that the parole agent, through intensive contact and surveillance, is relatively well able to protect the community."<sup>11</sup> "Evidence to sup-



port this belief is to be found in the comparatively lower degrees of severity that characterized the project wards' arrest offenses and the greater proportion of arrests made by the community agents when compared with those of law enforcement agents."<sup>12</sup>

In a study of state institutions for delinquents in Oregon during 1966, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency reported that 60% of all the youngsters in these institutions could be treated in the community without institutionalization.<sup>13</sup> However, these youngsters cannot be dumped into the community without supportive services. The development and use of community based treatment programs is proving to be one excellent way of providing care for these children who are in need of care away from their own homes but who do not require detention or commitment to a state institution. Other alleged advantages of community based programs is that they may help to divert youngsters from juvenile court processing and use other programs and social services within the community, at the same time forcing the community to accept responsibility for their problems.

The community can no longer allocate responsibility for its problem youth to the police and juvenile authorities because their "professional services" are no longer available in sufficient quantity to resolve the problem of delinquency. It will take the combined effort of community citizens, social agencies, business organizations, employers, churches, schools, police, courts and others to provide the

youth services and rehabilitation programs necessary for youth in trouble.

The successful operation of a community-based program depends a great deal on the support and active participation of citizen volunteers. Citizen volunteer groups can become a powerful force in promoting public interest in and support for, community-based treatment programs for young offenders. Volunteers who participate actively in volunteer programs are by far the most articulate and enthusiastic interpreters of the needs, the problems, and the importance of an agency's program.<sup>14</sup>

The use of local volunteers in court probation programs and youth rehabilitation programs has been an important asset to the court, as well as the community. Many courts have long utilized local volunteers to work with juvenile offenders in various capacities, providing tutoring assistance, foster homes, group discussion sessions, counseling, or a supportive relationships with an adult community resident or group.

The Juvenile Court of Boulder County, Colorado, already had an extensive volunteer program in court probation services prior to the establishment of the Attention Homes and this experience had led them to believe that volunteers "can provide a range and intensity of service no court ordinarily could buy."<sup>15</sup> They found that the use of court volunteers can help meet the manpower shortage in corrections and

reduce the high caseloads of court personnel. In addition, the use of citizen volunteers in court probation programs helps facilitate community involvement in dealing with the delinquent in the community and educates the community to local problems. "The more citizens understand the philosophy and the problems of the court by participating in them, the more they are likely to tolerate innovative and progressive programs in court and community. The more they understand the problems, the more they are likely to become involved in working with these problems in the community. The cause of the court then becomes their own, and they become loyal supporters of those programs and policies that are meaningful to the child and his family and have a total community impact as well."<sup>16</sup>

Thus citizen volunteers with proper training and guidance can establish a formidable partnership between the court and community in the solution of juvenile problems. The more people a community can involve in efforts to solve its problems, the more certain those efforts are to succeed.

As Howard James in Children in Trouble: A National Scandal has pointed out, no community in America is doing enough for children in trouble. Too many, in fact, damage children and raise the crime rate through apathy, ignorance and neglect.<sup>17</sup> It is apparent after reading Mr. James' book that few communities in the United States have the widespread community concern and volunteer involvement that is

necessary to solve the problems that produce delinquency. While none of the community programs in the United States is yet adequate to meet the needs of all children in trouble, the communities of Boulder and The Dalles surpass many cities in America, in providing services that state agencies have failed to give. The Attention Homes in both communities have filled a gap in general public agency services for neglected, disadvantaged, and problem children. It is clear that the effort of these two communities in behalf of their children are in the right direction.

We can conclude from a review of recent literature that the Attention Home in The Dalles is within the philosophy of treating non-delinquent children differentially from the more serious delinquents, to make the problems of children a community concern, to seek alternatives to institutionalization and stigmatization, to treat with sympathy and not hostility, to broaden the base of helping people beyond professionals and to enlist the understanding and support of significant community organizations.

The Attention Home cooperates with agencies dealing with more serious offenders but has not yet accepted responsibility for them within the same general approach.

The resurgence of this philosophy of treatment is in reaction to failures and abuses of the more established system, but success of the new ways has not been clearly demonstrated in general. Its par-

tial gains in some respects and circumstances, in the absence of negative findings, lend credence and hope to its continuance and spread.

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## Chapter Notes II

<sup>1</sup>J. E. Hargadine, H. B. Holmes, and I. H. Scheirer, "Attention Versus Detention," Juvenile Court Judges Journal, Summer, 1968, Vol. 19, No. 2, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>John E. Hargadine, "The Attention Homes of Boulder, Colorado," Volunteer Programs In Courts, Washington, D. C., 1969, p. 208.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., p. 187.

<sup>4</sup>L. P. Goter, R. B. Hamm, and Mary Osterberg, "A Home Away From Home: Community Volunteers Empty the Jail," Volunteer Programs in Courts, Washington, D. C., 1969, p. 208.

<sup>5</sup>Richard A. Carsel, "In re Gault: Juvenile Justice A Proposal For Reform," Oregon Law Review, Vol. 47, No. 2, February, 1968, p. 174.

<sup>6</sup>L. P. Goter, R. B. Hamm, and Mary Osterberg, p. 213.

<sup>7</sup>John E. Hargadine, p. 188.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid., p. 188.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., p. 179.

<sup>10</sup>Letter from Mr. Jerome Miller, Commissioner of Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, to Mr. Robert Harris, Director of the Child Care Study for Children's Services Division of Oregon, March 8, 1972.

<sup>11</sup>Warren, M. Q., "The Community Treatment Project After Five Years," State of California, 1966, p. 5.

<sup>12</sup>B. Devitto and T. Scullion, "An Experiment in Community Treatment for Delinquents," Social Casework, Vol. XLVIII, No. 1, Jan., 1967, p. 16.

<sup>13</sup>National Council on Crime and Delinquency, A Balanced Correctional System for Oregon, Oregon, 1966.

<sup>14</sup>Elizabeth Cantor, "The Challenge of Volunteer Services", Child Welfare, Vol. 47, No. 9, November, 1968.

<sup>15</sup>L. P. Goter, R. B. Hamm, and Mary Osterberg, p. 212.

<sup>16</sup>John E. Hargadine, p. 188.

<sup>17</sup>Howard James, "Children in Trouble: A National Scandal," New York, p. 298.

## CHAPTER III

### METHODOLOGY

This chapter will be concerned with a review of the methodology of research used in the previous study to include: 1) populations 2) construction of the questionnaire, and 3) the administration of the questionnaire. This chapter also discusses any variations encountered that differ from the previous Time I study, including a discussion of the addition of several new questions on this Time II survey.

#### The Sample

The sampling design was to replicate that of the previous study as nearly as possible. The Time I design, to be matched, was one of selected publics, with opportunity sampling within these publics with no specific numbers, plus a census of the neighborhood area. A random sample was thus inappropriate for the present sampling design; clusters or stratifications were random and not necessarily representative. How well matched the two time samples turned out to be will be discussed.

#### Populations

The sampling units in this survey were the same as those used in the Time I survey, but the populations differed in that some dif-

ferent members of the populations were present when the second questionnaire was administered. As stated in the prior study, the group populations are not the total memberships, but rather the number present at a particular time and place. An effort was made to interview at least an equal number of people from each group contacted by the prior study's interviewers. This objective was met in each group except the Carpenters and was surpassed in some groups. For the raw data obtained on each group surveyed, as well as the breakdown of the groups by age, sex, marital status and number of children, see Appendix B.

A brief review of the populations used in this study is presented below:

- 1) Interagency Council. The Wasco County Interagency Council is composed of professional representatives of agencies such as the Department of Public Welfare, the Mental Health Clinic, the Juvenile Court, and Cooperative Extension Service, and the Public Schools. Because this survey was conducted during the summer months when the Council does not meet formally, the questionnaires were distributed by a member of the Interagency Council. This procedure differed from the procedure used with all other groups in that the questionnaire was not read to the members of this group by an interviewer. It was felt that due to the greater familiarity of the Council members with the concept of the Attention Home and the study in general, there was



little or no chance of confusion regarding the content of the questionnaires.

2) Immediate Neighborhood. The previously defined boundaries of the Time I study were also used for this study. The neighborhood was interviewed on two different dates. Those households that were not surveyed on the first day because of the inconvenience of the person to be interviewed or because no one was home on that first day were interviewed on the second day. Unlike the previous study, brief demographic data was kept on the people who refused to answer the questionnaire. It was found that those who refused to answer fell into the following categories:

2 males, 61 and up age group  
 4 males, 51-60 age group  
 1 male, 41-50 age group  
 4 females, 61 and up age group  
 1 female, 51-60 age group  
 1 female, 31-40 age group  
 1 female, 21-30 age group

Thus of the fourteen people refusing to answer the questionnaire, there were 7 males and 7 females, with the greatest proportion (80%) coming from the two oldest groups.

3) Carpenters Union. As noted in the previous study, one should be aware that attendance at the union meetings is usually low. For ex-

ample, the total membership of the Union is approximately 400 men, thus our small sample size of 10 men is not a particularly accurate representation of the union in general. Also another point that may have been significant is that those who did attend this meeting were the men who were out of work at this time and attended the meeting in the hope of hearing about job opportunities. Therefore, perhaps their attention or interest was not directed toward answering our questionnaire, but rather toward proceeding with union business.

4) Kiwanis Club. Although there are two local service clubs in The Dalles, only the Downtown Chapter of the club was surveyed, as was the case in the previous study. The club was interviewed at a regularly scheduled luncheon. There were 23 members present and all answered the questionnaire. As mentioned above, there are two service clubs, one is composed primarily of a younger age group, whereas, the group surveyed is typically of an older age group. For instance, the majority of the gentlemen surveyed were in the 61 and up age group.

5) Hotline Youth Group. Although the composition of the group is basically the same, it was estimated that the turnover of those interviewed in this survey as compared to the previous study was approximately 50%. The group no longer operated out of the Methodist Church, but had moved to a different building that is being used as a drop-in center with plans to convert the front part of the building into a teen shop. The group was surveyed at a meeting especially called so that the survey

could be conducted. Some difficulties were encountered with this group. Many members of the group arrived late and came in groups of two or three, thus starting the survey at various questions depending upon where the interviewer was in the prepared presentation to the majority of the group. There was also a good deal of wandering in and out by various members of the group, much talking among members, and an air of general disorganization.

6) Police. All three shifts of The Dalles City Police were contacted while only parts of two shifts were reached in the Wasco County Sheriff's Department. The interviewer was asked to leave questionnaires with the promise that they would be completed by the remainder of the Sheriff staff. Upon the return to obtain these questionnaires however, none had been completed.

The Police Department was very cooperative and showed a great deal of interest. There did however seem to be some confusion, at least by some of the members of the force. They seemed to want more knowledge of the working of the home but some were under the impression that they should stay away from the Attention Home.

A total of 20 questionnaires were obtained from the combined law enforcement staffs. Unlike the previous study, the matrons of both departments were included in the survey. Also all three shifts had an opportunity to complete the questionnaire rather than only two as in the previous study.

## The Questionnaire

In discussing the questionnaire, it seems practical to divide the discussion into two sections: the basic questionnaire used by both surveys, and the revised questionnaire used only for this Time II study.

Basic Questionnaire. This basic questionnaire sought fixed alternative responses and open ended responses following each structured question to allow respondents the opportunity to explain their answers. The questions offer no category for a neutral response, with the exception of number 8, (see Appendix A).

Questions 1 through 2f, and question 5 deal with the general area of support or non-support of the basic concepts and philosophies of the Community Attention Home. Again a profile of total support was considered to include the following attitudes:

1. There should be alternative methods for handling youthful offenders, adolescents removed from their homes due to family conflict, and dependent and neglected youths other than placing them in jail or detention facilities. (Yes responses to questions 1a, b, and c.)
2. Community volunteers should be involved in the handling of adolescents in need of temporary shelter care, as opposed to only paid officials. (AGREE response to question 2a).
3. Generally speaking, delinquent youth should not be isolated from non-delinquent youth. (DISAGREE response to question 2b).
4. Jail or detention facilities should not be used for temporary shelter care facilities for dependent or neglected youth. (DISAGREE response to question 2c).

5. It is not a poor plan to house youth who have broken the law and youth who are neglected by their parents together in the same facility. (DISAGREE response to question 2d).
6. The majority of responsibility for providing facilities for youth in the community who need temporary shelter care lies with the community rather than the state or federal government. (AGREE response to question 2e).
7. Funding for programs such as the Community Attention Home should come mainly from within the community rather than from outside the community. (AGREE response to question 2f).

The above questions 1 through 2f ask about support or non-support of specific concepts underlying the program. Question 5 asks for a general conclusion to the question, "Are you in favor of the Community Attention Home type of program?" A comparison between these questions serves as a check on the internal consistency of the responses.

Knowledge of the Community Attention Home was dealt with in questions 3 and 4. Again a knowledgeable response would include:

1. Hearing of the Home.
2. Knowing it serves delinquent and non-delinquent youth (YES response).
3. Knowing it is not a profit making organization (NO response).
4. Knowing it allows the youth to remain in the community (YES response).
5. Knowing it relies partially on volunteer services from the community (YES response).
6. Knowing the age ranged served is not 18-21. (NO response).
7. Knowing there is a treatment emphasis as opposed to punishment emphasis (YES response).

8. Knowing it does not isolate the youth from his peers (NO response).
9. Knowing it is not controlled by a government agency.

These questions are used to measure the effectiveness of the Home's publicity program.

Questions 6 and 10 (this was number 9 on the previous questionnaire) deal with the need for the Attention Home in The Dalles. Question 6 asks whether there is a need for the Home in The Dalles. Number 10 determines whether the respondent knows what facilities are presently available in The Dalles for youth in need of temporary shelter care. Question 10 is a check to determine whether the response to question 6 was an informed response.

Community involvement is explored in question 7 and 8. Question 7 asks specifically about the respondents willingness to support the Home and to specify how. Question 8 deals with how willing the respondent would be to have the home located in their immediate neighborhood.

#### Revised Questionnaire

The first basic difference with the second questionnaire is that question 10, dealing with any suggestions for other programs that could be started in The Dalles, was omitted. It was left unanswered in many instances in the first survey and was not included in any statistical evaluation, thus it was felt that it was an expendable question.

Question 9 in the revised form dealt directly with the respondents' attitude toward the Home, now that it had been in operation a year. It is also a question that allowed for a neutral response.

Question 11, 12, and 13 (which are basically the same question - only the ages differ in each question) were included at the request of the project supervisor. The questions asked specifically to fill in the blanks to indicate the total number of nights the respondents would allow their own children to participate in: 1) Nights at supervised activities (i. e. library, school functions, etc.), 2) Free time, 3) Family nights, (evening spent at home with family) and 4) Other.

Question 14 then was used to see whether the respondent felt that the treatment of the teenagers in the Home should be any different than that received by their own children. And if they felt the treatment should be any different, the respondent was given the opportunity to say whether more lenient or more strict.

The choices in questions 11, 12, and 13 were used because they are basically the privileges used at the Home, and the three age groups were divided as they were because that is basically the breakdown used in the Home to determine the number of nights allotted for each teenager. This also leads into the final three questions of this survey; 15, 16, and 17. These deal with the hour that the respondent felt their teenager should be home on weekdays. The questions are the same except the three age breakdowns are again used. These questions were

included so that the board of directors and the house-parents would have some guidelines as to curfew restrictions for the teenager at the home, as public opinion is a force to be dealt with, when a home is set up to run on public support.

#### Administration of the Questionnaire

The questionnaire was again administered in 3 ways. These were: 1) The total group at once, 2) Part of the population in the group, part individually, and 3) The total population individually. The instructions and explanations concerning the questionnaire were basically the same in each method.

In this survey the Hotline Group, Kiwanis Club, and the Carpenters Union were all surveyed as a group. In this method the surveyors attended a meeting of these groups. The questionnaire then was read aloud while the respondents answered each question.

As stated previously, since the Interagency Council does not meet during the summer months, the questionnaire was given to each member, filled out at the individual's convenience, and returned.

The Neighborhood was interviewed in the same manner as in the previous study. The questionnaires were given individually. The householder was contacted, introductions made, and a brief explanation of the nature and purpose of the study was given. The surveyor then read the questions aloud while the respondent read the question and indicated his answer.



The survey of the police was again conducted on a group and individual basis.

## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS OF DATA

This section will discuss the various findings from the data collected in the survey. First it is appropriate to explain how the data was organized and then analyzed.

Each question on the questionnaire was first categorized into one of four possible subject areas of response which included: Support and Philosophy, Awareness and Knowledge, Need and Involvement. (See Appendix A for completed questionnaire.) The individual responses for each question included under the subject area were then tabulated according to whether or not they were a positive response toward the Home. These frequency distributions were converted into percentages and will be presented in Tables A, C, E, and F. Also the number of positively answered responses for all questions in both the Support and Philosophy and Awareness and Knowledge areas were totaled and divided by the total possible positive responses for each area in order to arrive at a response quotient as was computed in the previous study.

For example, a quotient of 1.00 on the Support and Philosophy area would indicate that every person in the group surveyed has a positive attitude, that is, was in agreement with the existing philosophy and concepts of the Community Attention Home. While a quotient of

0.00 would indicate that every person had a negative attitude or was in complete disagreement with the philosophy of the Home. These response quotients in both Support and Philosophy and Awareness and Knowledge areas are computed for each community group included in the survey. Again these groups are: the Interagency Council, Neighborhood, Kiwanis, Police, Hotline, and Carpenter's Union.

Questions concerning the subject areas of Need and Involvement will be analyzed individually in accordance with the previous study.

Following the analysis of the Time II survey findings is a section discussing the comparison and differences between Time I and Time II results. Improvement in attitudes between Time I and Time II is indicated by a higher percentage of positive response toward the Community Attention Home at Time II.

A number of additional data analyses were computed which provide the following data: Individual items on the questionnaire according to the six Community Groups, Individual Items on the Questionnaire according to Compiled Group Responses, Comparison of Positive Responses toward Subject Areas according to Different Age Groups, and Comparison of Positive Responses toward Subject Areas according to Sex of Respondent.

Finally, a number of additional questions are included at the end of the questionnaire ( questions 11-17) in this study which were not included in the previous study. These questions deal with the rules of

the Community Attention Home and were included in order to gain some guidelines from the community itself regarding restrictions and rules for adolescents around activities outside the Home. The analysis of the responses to each of these questions will not be discussed according to the six community groups, but rather all group responses were totaled together.

A Data Sheet is also included in this study which provides information about the adolescents who have been served by the Attention Home during its first year of operation. Included in this brief profile is an account of the total number of adolescents served by the Community Attention Home, percentages of males and females, percentages of different races and ages served, as well as reasons for referral, referral source, placement prior to the Attention Home, service goals, and placement after leaving the Attention Home.

## Time II Results

### Philosophy and Concept

The following items on the questionnaire are included in this subject area. (The response to each item which would indicate a positive attitude toward the Philosophy & Concept of the Attention Home follows each item).

1. Do you feel there should be alternative methods for handling the following youths other than placing them in jail or detention facilities?
  - a. Youthful offenders - - YES

- b. Adolescents removed from their home because of family conflict - - YES
  - c. Dependent or neglected youth -- YES
2. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements and why.
- a. Community volunteers should be involved in the handling of adolescents in need of temporary shelter care (as opposed to only paid officials.) -- AGREE
  - b. Generally speaking, delinquent youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth. -- DISAGREE
  - c. Jail or detention facilities should be used for temporary shelter care facilities for dependent or neglected youth. -- DISAGREE
  - d. It is a poor plan to house youth who have broken the law and youth who are neglected by their parents, together in the same facility. -- DISAGREE
  - e. The major responsibility for providing facilities for the youth in the community who need temporary shelter care lies with the community rather than the state or federal government. -- AGREE
  - f. Funding for programs such as the Community Attention Home should be mainly from within the community rather than from outside the community. -- AGREE
5. Are you in favor of the Community Attention Home type of program? -- YES

PHILOSOPHY & CONCEPT RESPONSES

TABLE A (In Percentages)

- A. Percentage of responses supporting the Philosophy & Concept of the Attention Home.
- B. Percentage of responses opposing the Philosophy & Concept of the Attention Home.

Question Number	Neighborhood		Carpenters		Kiwanis		Hotline		Police		Interagency	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
1a	90	7*	60	30*	70	17*	84	11*	60	35*	93	7
b	90	7*	70	20*	91	0*	100	0	100	0	100	0
c	93	3*	60	30*	87	0*	100	0	90	5*	100	0
2a	83	17	70	30	74	22*	100	0	65	35	93	7
b	67	27*	20	80	26	65*	58	37*	30	70	60	30
c	67	33	30	70	78	17*	74	21*	70	30	93	7
d	63	33*	30	70	35	65	74	21*	30	70	60	30
e	73	27	70	20*	83	17	74	21*	75	25	87	13
f	70	27*	60	40	78	22	63	37	65	35	80	20
5	93	0*	80	0*	83	4*	95	5	80	0*	100	0

\* combined figures A & B total less than 100% because some respondents did not answer the question.

Interagency Council

The Council was the most supportive group toward the basic Concept and Philosophy of the Home with a response quotient of .87 in this subject area. The only individual items which were relatively low for this group were: 2b) Generally speaking delinquent youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth (60%) and 2d) It is a poor plan to house youth who have broken the law and youth who are neglected by their parents, together in the same facility. (60%). However it is noteworthy that each individual item was supported by 60% or more of all Interagency Council respondents, and the range of support percentages was 60% to 100%.

This year's survey will also include some of the comments made by individual respondents toward the items. This gives a more elaborated conception of the different rationales for the particular attitudes indicated by the respondents. Some of the comments made by Interagency Council members include:

Question 1

--Volunteers are needed for their actual service input and to broaden community awareness and support.

--Volunteers will provide higher personal involvement and potential for follow-up.

Question 2a

--To educate the general public in problems of youth.

Question 2b

--Risk labeling that then becomes accepted by the youth as part of his identity and self-image.

--Peer influences are very strong and a fact of life. Too often they produce negatives rather than a positive effect.

--Non-delinquent youth could feel categorized as delinquents and could be influenced by the 'modeling' of delinquent youth.

--The classification is somewhat artificial, I doubt that youths themselves would see this as a problem.

Question 2c

--Tremendous damage could be done to a non-delinquent youth.

--Dependent or neglected youth need positive not negative influence at crises.

--The negative impact on the child who is nothing but a victim of circumstances.

#### Question 2d

- Careful planning and selectivity must be used to insure the protection and growth of all placed in the home.
- Depending on balanced ratio of types of individual personalities, such a combination can be good or bad.
- Youthful offenders should be separated because of influence upon non-delinquents.

#### Question 2e

- It is a state and federal problem as well as a community problem.
- Communities should be responsible for their own youth.
- They are products of the community.

#### Question 2f

- They belong to and in the community.
- Some funds from State or Federal would allow for better facilities and staff.
- To keep the community conscious of and actively at work on community problems.

#### Question 5

- Offers constructive alternative to detention.
- It has proven effective during the past months.
- Meets the needs of the youth.

#### Hotline

The Hotline Youth Group was the second most supportive group toward the Philosophy and Concept of the Home with a quotient of .83. Their lowest supported item was 2b) Generally speaking, delinquent



youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth (58%). The range of support percentages for individual items was from 58% to 100%, again, very high. Some of the comments made by Hotline members toward individual questionnaire items include:

Question 2a

--Volunteers have strong interest in what they're doing so are more likely to be concerned with individuals.

--Kids in trouble should be exposed to the community and the community to them -- the community should care.

--Because they're people who care.

--A more personalized atmosphere.

Question 2b

--Non-delinquent youth become delinquent.

--No, I don't feel that anyone is going to get contaminated; someone can only learn something.

--The non-delinquent might be able to help the delinquent.

--We are all delinquent in one sense or another, some just don't get caught.

--If the youth are really screwed up, they should be separated from others.

Question 2c

--They didn't break the law, so they shouldn't be put in jail.

--It's bad enough to send petty offenders to jail, they're not delinquent.

Question 2e

--The community should take an active interest in their youth.

--The community knows its own needs.

## Question 2f

--The community often doesn't have the funds; the government should give back some of those taxes and take more interest in youth.

## Question 5

--Persons I have known, needed it.

--I feel it is a good method of reaching kids with a problem.

--It's about time!

--It's a great alternative to detention.

--A way of providing help and treatment in an open, more relaxed atmosphere.

Immediate Neighborhood

The Neighborhood was the third most supportive group regarding the Philosophy and Concept of the Home with a quotient of .79. The ranges of percentages was from 63% to 93%. The individual items receiving the lowest percentages from the Neighborhood were 2b, 2c, and 2d with percentages of 67%, 67%, and 63% respectively. However this is not a low percentage relative to other groups and it does show fairly high agreement with these items. Comments by this group follow.

## Question 1

Police should stay out of family arguments.

Such homes like the Attention Home may influence kids to leave home because the Attention Home sounds appealing, that is, they have something to run to.

## Question 2a

--Volunteers only to a point, the adolescents themselves should take responsibility.

## Question 2 a Con't

- Because it helps some people (volunteers) feel needed.
- Trained only.
- Because any time you have members of a community actively taking part in a program you stand a better chance of having more community understanding and support.

## Question 2b

- Can't say who's good and who's not.
- I don't think it helps a delinquent to be separated from so-called 'normal' or non-delinquents.
- I agree for the same reason they ought to be in state prisons.
- In a true life situation, people can not be isolated and by isolating these youths, you would be creating a false situation.

## Question 2c

- Psychologically being put in jail is very traumatic to a youth who already feels unwanted.
- Detrimental influence on a neglected child.
- The stigmatism of 'punishment' for something they're not responsible for is present.
- Worst thing to do for a child.
- It's not their fault, they're neglected.
- What a horrible atmosphere for any kid, especially one already displaced.
- The way our jails and detention homes are set up, it would be a degrading experience.
- Many times will become 'anti' when placed in this type of situation whereas before they may have had a favorable or no opinion at all.

## Question 2d

--They should be together, they're still kids and being young, punishment doesn't get you too far with kids.

--They've all got problems. More than likely, these problems stem from similar backgrounds.

--Offenders aren't good company.

--This would be an unfeasible plan to separate them, money-wise.

--Delinquents would be a bad influence.

## Question 2 e

--State and Federal should kick in some.

--It's everybody's responsibility.

--There should be help provided from the outside because I don't think the community can do that much for the youth.

## Question 5

--It keeps the children off the streets and gives them a home.

--I was in a similar situation and found it very rewarding.

--It gives the children another chance to make a goal in life.

Kiwanis

The Kiwanis group displayed a quotient of .70 for support of the Philosophy & Concepts of the Attention Home. Low percentage agreement was found on items 2b, and 2d, where 26% and 35% respective support was indicated. All other items were supported by at least 70% of the respondents. The total range was from 26% - 91%. Comments made included:

### Question 2d

The offenders depending on their offense should be dealt with separately.

(This group made few comments on any items.)

### Police

The Police's quotient for support was .66. The items which received the lowest support were again items 2b and 2d, both receiving 30% support. All other items received 60% or more with a range of 30% - 100%.

Some of the comments made by Police respondents were:

#### Question 2a

--Costs less for the public.

--Unqualified.

--Individuals need training to know how to cope with some of the problems involved.

#### Question 2b

--Bad influence over non-delinquent

--Non-delinquents would have influence over delinquents.

--Non-delinquent youth may be healthful examples.

#### Question 2c

--They don't belong in jail.

--I can't think of an easier way to harden a youth who is not a criminal.

--I would rather see them in jail than on the streets.

## Question 2d

--Economically unfeasible.

--They learn from each other causing more trouble in the long run.

--One bad one can spoil a lot of others.

## Question 2e

--Should be hand and hand cooperation.

--This is a problem of society in general. All people need to be in the act.

## Question 2f

--Everyone has an interest in this matter, even people outside the community.

## Question 5

I might if I knew what they did.

--It keeps youth out of jail surroundings.

--Certainly gives an alternative to putting those offenders in jail.

--They are doing a good job.

--It's needed.

Carpenters

This group had the lowest support for the Philosophy & Concept of the Home with a quotient of .55. The individual items having the lowest support were 2b, 2c and 2d. Question 2b received only 20% support while item 2c received 30% support as well as did item 2d. The range of percentage support was from 20% - 80%.

However it must be kept in mind that the statistics computed on

this group are all open to question due to the small sampling of carpenters and the reasons for their attendance at the meeting in which this questionnaire was filled out. The results may be misleading or skewed on any or all items due to the small sample size and the circumstances of the meeting.

Some of the comments received include:

Question 1

Make parents take care of their children and have others keep their nose out of family business.

Question 2a

Cut down cost

Question 2b

--Because they have a tendency to make the other bad.

--To avoid contamination.

Question 2d

--They have to get along someday with them.

Question 5

These people definitely have to have some place to go.

This group also made few comments on any questions, which accounts for the sparsity of remarks included.

All Groups

The groups were quite supportive of the Philosophy & Concept of the Attention Home with the quotients ranging from .55 - 87. A com-

piled support quotient for the total of all six groups is .73, a highly positive attitude toward the Home. Major disagreement or poor support was found on the individual items 2b and 2d particularly, with the exception of the Hotline group on 2d. These two items seemed to generally be the lowest supported items relative to the range of each groups support percentages.

#### RESPONSES TOWARD QUESTION 9

Question 9: How do you feel about the Attention Home now that it has been in operation a year?

This question was not included in last year's survey for obvious reasons. Therefore it will be analyzed separately. It was meant to be a specifically directed question regarding the attitudes of favor or opposition toward the Community Attention Home of The Dalles after its first year of service.

The results were:

#### RESPONSES TOWARD QUESTION 9 TABLE B (Percents)

	<u>IN FAVOR</u>		<u>UNDECIDED</u>	<u>OPPOSED</u>	
	Strongly-Mildly			Mildly-Strongly	
IAC	93%	7%			
NEIGHBORHOOD	55%	17%	28%		
KIWANIS	45%	33%	22%		
HOTLINE	93%	7%			
POLICE	50%	30%	15%		5
CARPENTERS	33%	17%	44%	16	
TOTAL	62%	18%	17%	2	1

As one can see the strong majority indicate favor toward the Home and the majority of these are strongly in favor.



Some of the comments on this question include:

Interagency Council

--It has served the community well.

--On the whole, an excellent program.

Neighborhood

--Good idea, need more information.

--I know little about it.

--Need more knowledge about what they're doing and results they're having.

Hotline

--It's not getting enough funds or community support.

Police

--I don't know if it has been good or bad.

--It is a step in the right direction.

--Not enough contact with parents.

Carpenters

--Really never heard about it or who it is helping or if it is doing the right kind of job.

**AWARENESS & KNOWLEDGE**

The following items on the questionnaire are included in this subject area. (Also the response to each item which would indicate a correct answer regarding facts about the Attention Home follows each item.)

3. Have you heard of the Community Attention Home in The Dalles? -- YES
4. Which of the following items apply to the Community Attention Home?
  - a. Serves delinquent and non-delinquent youth. -- YES
  - b. Profit making organization. -- NO
  - c. Allows youth to remain in the community (public schools, etc.) -- YES
  - d. Relies partially on volunteer services from the community -- YES
  - e. Age range served 18 - 21. -- NO
  - f. Treatment as opposed to punishment emphasis. -- YES
  - g. Isolates youth from his peers. -- NO
  - h. Controlled by government agency. -- NO

AWARENESS & KNOWLEDGE RESPONSES -- TABLE C (in percentages)

- A. Percentage of responses that indicate Knowledge & Awareness of the Community Attention Home.
- B. Percentage of responses that indicate inaccurate Knowledge and lack of Awareness regarding the Attention Home.

Question Number	Neighborhood Carpenters		Kiwanis		Hotline		Police		Interagency			
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B		
3	87	13	90	10	100	0	95	5	100	0	100	0
4a	73	0*	70	10*	83	9*	89	0*	85	10*	93	7
b	77	3*	70	0*	96	0*	79	0*	90	0*	100	0
c	83	0*	80	10*	96	0*	84	0*	95	0*	100	0
d	77	3*	70	10*	91	4*	79	5*	90	0*	93	7
e	63	7*	50	20*	65	22*	58	5*	85	5*	93	0*
f	60	7*	70	0*	91	4*	89	5*	85	0*	100	0
g	73	7*	70	0*	70	22*	84	0*	65	25*	100	0
h	60	7*	70	20*	70	17*	47	11*	65	20*	100	0

\*Combined figure A & B total less than 100% because some respondents did not answer the question.

### Interagency Council

The Interagency Council achieved the highest Awareness & Knowledge quotient of .98. In fact, the range of their correct responses was from 93% to 100% for each item in this subject area. These high positive results show rather accurate factual information regarding the Home. This would be somewhat expected since many of the members of this group have jobs which involve participation, collaboration or utilization of the Community Attention Home.

### Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club was the second highest informed group regarding Awareness & Knowledge of the Attention Home with a quotient of .85. Their range on individual items was from 65% to 100%. Item 4e (Age ranged served 18-21) received the 65% mark which although indicating a good majority being correct was still the lowest item for the Kiwanis Club as a whole. The Kiwanis' high degree of accurate information is probably partially due to a presentation made to the club about the Community Attention Home at one of their luncheon meetings.

### Police

The Police followed close behind the Kiwanis with a .84 Knowledge & Awareness quotient. Their range was from 65% to 100%. Two items 4g (Isolates youth from his peers) and 4h (Controlled by government agency) each received the low 65% correct mark. This

group most likely achieved a highly accurate informational score due to the nature of their work which involves the handling of juvenile delinquents as well as neglected and sometimes dependent youth.

### Hotline

The Hotline Youth Group received a quotient of .78 on Awareness & Knowledge. The items indicating poorest knowledge were 4e (Age ranged served 18-21) and 4h (Controlled by government agency) with marks of 58% and 47% respectively. All other items were 79% correct or above, and the full range was 47% to 95%. This quite high accuracy regarding information about the Community Attention Home is probably influenced by the Hotline's high percentage of adolescent members who would most likely have a particular interest in a program like the Community Attention Home which serves youth. Also one of the adult supervisors of the Hotline group is an active participant in services provided at the Home and therefore has probably passed along his knowledge to the Hotline members.

### Neighborhood

This group achieved a quotient of .73 with a range of 60% to 87% correct Knowledge & Awareness of the Attention Home. The 60% marks were made by items 4f (Treatment as opposed to punishment) and 4h (Controlled by government agency). This quite high accuracy level of information about the Community Attention Home is most likely a result of living in the vicinity of the Home as well as general public information

received through communication networks.

### Carpenters

Again the carpenters exhibited the lowest quotient with a Knowledge & Awareness statistic of .71, which is still rather high. Their lowest knowledge item was 4e (Age ranged served 18-21) with a percentage of 50% correct. The total range for this group was 50% to 90%. It may be assumed that this relatively low score in comparison with the other groups may be due to the fact that most of their information about the Home would be through public communications rather than through personal contacts or utilization of the Home.

### All Groups

The knowledge quotient ranged from .71 to .98 which is a high range. The compiled quotient for all six groups is .82. Questions 4e (Age ranged served 18-21) and 4h (Controlled by government agency) seemed to indicate the most inaccurate knowledge regarding the Attention Home.

## COMMUNICATION REGARDING COMMUNITY ATTENTION HOME

In this section it is pertinent to analyze how the respondents heard of the Community Attention Home. The following table displays the information obtained.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT CAH - TABLE D (percents)

	TV RADIO NEWSPAPER			Residing in vicinity of Home	OTHER	
					Word of mouth, personal con- tacts * (below)	Formal pre- sentations regarding CAH Program
IAC	11	14	22	0	45	8
NEIGHBOR - HOOD	9	21	29	12	20	9
HOTLINE	5	11	21	0	63	0
POLICE	3	23	40	0	34	0
KIWANIS	0	16	45	0	14	25
CARPENTERS	0	20	50	0	30	0
TOTAL	4	17	35	2	34	8

\*or involvement with Home or personnel involved at Home.

The most common sources were the newspaper and word of mouth. However it is difficult to ascertain the different effectiveness of each mass media since the degree of actual exposure regarding the Community Attention Home through each medium is not known. The statistics do however indicate that the newspaper is an effective way of reaching all of the representative groups in The Dalles which were surveyed. Word of mouth and personal contacts or involvement with the Attention Home are especially effective in those groups whose jobs are in the social or community service line, such as the Interagency Council, Police and Hotline. This would be expected since knowledge of the Home and its program would be relevant to their job and therefore more emphasis would be placed upon providing them with the necessary information.

## NEED FOR HOME

The following items of the questionnaire are included in this subject area. (The response to each item which would indicate a need for the home follows each item.)

6. Do you feel there is a need for the Community Attention Home in The Dalles? -- YES

10. Do you know what facilities are presently available in The Dalles for youth who are in need of temporary shelter care? --YES

RESPONSES TOWARD NEED FOR HOME - TABLE E (In Percentages)

NEIGHBORHOOD		CARPENTER		KIWANIS		HOTLINE		POLICE		INTERAGENCY		
yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	
6	97	0*	90	10	87	9*	100	0	100	0	100	0
10	20	77*	10	80*	48	48*	53	47*	80	20	87	13

As was done at Time I, these two questions will be discussed separately since they deal with distinctly different ideas and any compilation of these items would only result in dilution of the individual item percentages which are most indicative and meaningful in their own right.

Interagency Council

The council was 100% in agreement with the need for the Attention Home and a large majority of the members of the council were aware of the existing facilities providing temporary shelter care for

youth in The Dalles.

### Police

The Police were also in 100% agreement regarding the need for the Home in The Dalles and also displayed a very high awareness of the facilities presently available for youth.

### Hotline

This group also displayed 100% agreement for the need for the Attention Home. However barely over 50% of the respondents had any knowledge of other facilities for youth in The Dalles.

### Neighborhood

The neighborhood was in strong agreement (97%) with the need for the Home, but a very low percentage of this group's members were aware of other facilities for youth in The Dalles.

### Carpenters

The carpenters were also in strong agreement (90%) with the need for the Home but they also had the lowest percentage of members aware of other facilities serving youth in their city.

### Kiwanis

The Kiwanis received the lowest percentage favoring the need for the Home. However, this percentage of 87% is still a very high mark indicating strong agreement. Slightly less than 50% of the groups'



members had knowledge of other facilities available for youth.

### All Groups

All groups strongly favored the need for the Community Attention Home. However, only those groups like the Interagency Council and the Police whose work involves contact with other social service agencies indicated good knowledge of the other facilities providing services to youth. The remainder of the groups achieved percentages between 10 to 53% regarding knowledge of other services for youth. This infers that the Attention Home had done a significantly better job of communicating its presence in the community than the other social agencies.

### POTENTIAL FOR INVOLVEMENT

The following items on the questionnaire are included in this subject area.

Question 7: Would you support the CAH in The Dalles?

Question 8: How would you feel if the CAH were to be placed in your immediate neighborhood?

### RESPONSES TOWARD INVOLVEMENT -- TABLE F (In Percentages)

	In favor		-----Oppose			
	Neighborhood	Carpenters	Kiwanis	Hotline	Police	Intra-Council
7	83 - 13*	70 - 10*	91 - 4*	95 - 0*	90 - 5*	100 - 0
8	77 - 3*	40 - 20*	48 - 30*	89 - 0*	50 - 5*	87 -
						(13 undecided)

For similar reasons as given under Need for Home, each of these

two items will be discussed individually.

An additional section of Question 7 asked the respondents to indicate how he would support the Community Attention Home. The choices included support through Cash Donations, Donations of Time (volunteer activities), Donations of Good and Special Services, or Extra Taxes.

The results are displayed in Table G.

SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY ATTENTION HOME - TABLE G (Percents)

	IAC	NEIGH.	KIWANIS	HOTLINE	POLICE	CARPENTER	TOTAL
Cash	67	27	30	11	45	50	38
Time	40	57	17	68	50	30	44
Goods/ Services	47	43	30	26	50	30	38
Taxes	47	7	22	21	15	20	22

#### Interagency Council

The Council indicated 100% willingness to support the Home. Many of the members checked more than one way of supporting the Home which again included the possibilities of support through Cash Donation, Time, Donations of Goods and Services or Extra Taxes. Cash donations were most popular within this group but all other possible ways of support were also checked by 40% or more of the members.

A strong majority of the Council's members also favored placing the Home in their immediate neighborhood while the remaining 13% were all undecided over the issue.

### Hotline

The Hotline group was the second highest group regarding willingness to support the Home. The majority of this group's members indicated support through Donations of Time. This type of support is probably due to the young ages of this group's members, many of them being of school age with little cash or resources to donate.

This group was the most favorable group for placing the Home in their immediate neighborhood.

### Kiwanis

The Kiwanis showed very strong willingness to support the Community Attention Home. The majority of its members checked only one possible means of support with the frequency distribution falling about evenly between each method of support.

Slightly less than 50% of the Kiwanis members were in favor of placing the Attention Home in their immediate neighborhood.

### Police

The Police were also strongly willing to support the Home. Several members of the force marked more than one possible method of support. 45% indicated a willingness to give cash donations and both donations of time and goods and services were checked by 50% of the group.

50% of the members were in favor of placing the Home in their neighborhood.

### Neighborhood

A fairly high percentage of neighborhood respondents indicated willingness to support the home. Time donation and Goods and Services were marked by 57% and 43% of the respondents respectively. This is probably due to the demography of the area which is characterized by older retired residents and quite young individuals who cannot afford to donate money but are willing to donate what they do have.

This group was also in quite high favor of placing the home in their immediate vicinity. This fairly positive attitude is probably also indicative of the way the Home has been run during the past year to show such high favor for its placement.

### Carpenters

The carpenters displayed the lowest willingness to support the Attention Home with a percentage of 70%, which however, is still well over a majority support. Any discussion of the method of support favored by this group would be misleading and meaningless since the sample size was small to begin with and about one third of all respondents did not check any of the four possible means of support.

The carpenters were also the lowest group in favor of placing the Home in their own neighborhood. But again these statistics are open to question.

### All groups

All the groups displayed very good potentials for involvement

with the Attention Home. The type of involvement varied with the different types of groups, usually depending upon what each individual was able to donate.

Regarding placement of the Home in one's own community, the more conservative middle-class groups such as the Carpenters, Kiwanis, and Police were less than enthusiastic about this possibility. However the groups dealing in social service, that is the Hotline and Interagency Council and the Neighborhood itself, exhibited quite high favor for placing the Home in the vicinity of their residence.

## CHAPTER V

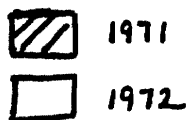
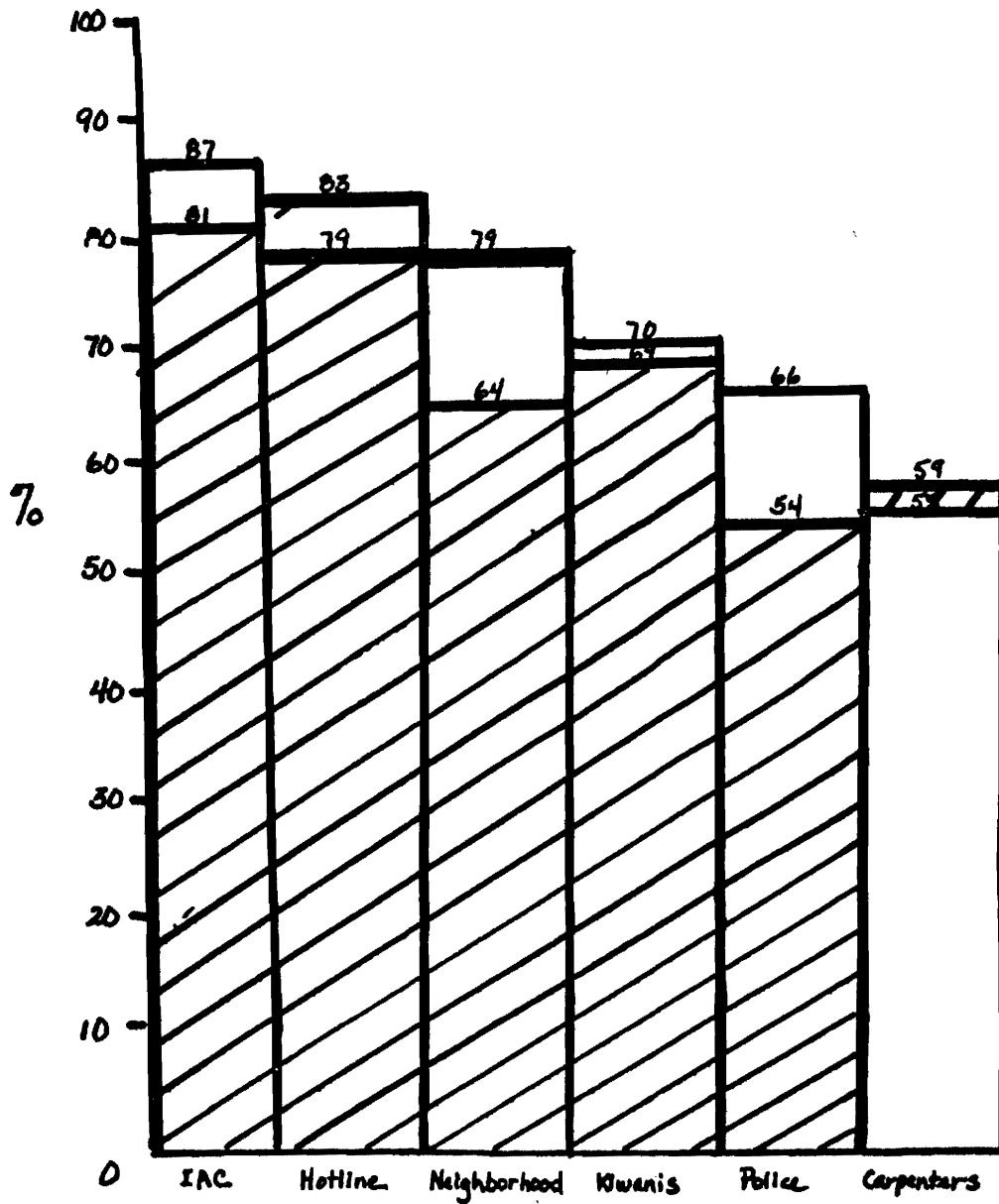
### COMPARISON OF TIME I AND TIME II RESULTS

#### Support and Philosophy

Graph 1 displays each community group's percentage of positive responses toward the Support and Philosophy of the Community Attention Home at Time I and Time II. Time I percentage results are indicated by cross hatching while Time II is blank. In most cases improvement in attitudes toward the Home, as defined by an increase in the percentage of positive responses toward the Home, is evident. The only exception was the Carpenter group which exhibits a less positive attitude at Time II than Time I. However it must be kept in mind that all statistics for this particular group are not necessarily representative of the group as a whole.

A test for differences between two proportions was computed for each group comparing Time I and Time II results statistically. (see Appendix G for statistics used.) The amount of improvement was not statistically significant. However what improvement did occur was positive among all six groups, so that the fact that there was some improvement well beyond chance is firmly established.

A rank correlation among groups for 1971 and 1972 on Support and Philosophy was also computed and the result was a correlation of

SUPPORT AND PHILOSOPHY - GRAPH 1

.8858. This indicates that improvement in attitudes toward the Community Attention Home was made about evenly among the various sectors of the total population. That is the groups who showed support in varying degrees in 1971 tended to be the one to show even greater support in 1972.

### Awareness and Knowledge

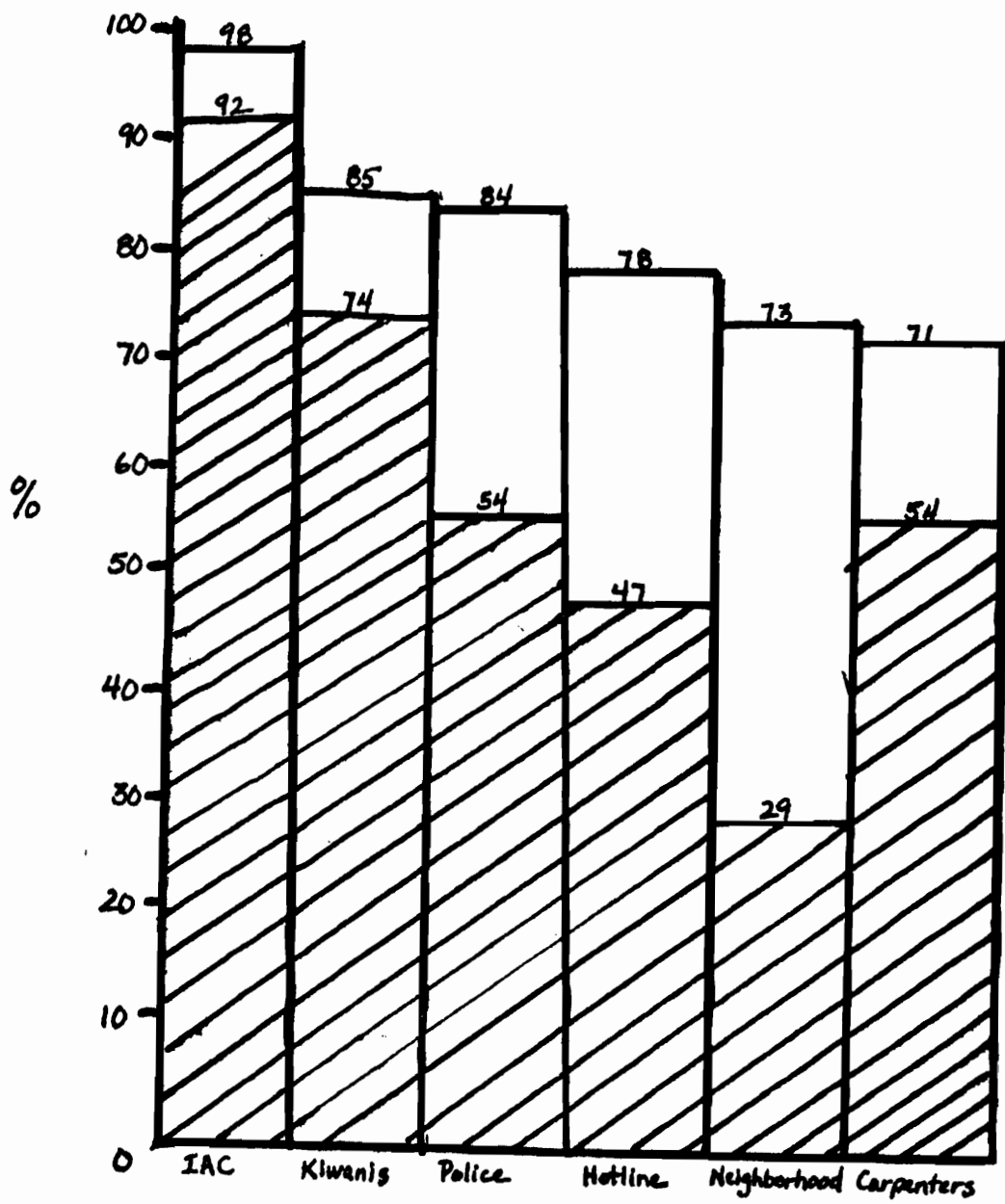
Graph 2 displays each community group's percentage of correct responses toward the Awareness and Knowledge of the Community Attention Home at Time I (cross-hatched), and Time II (blank). Improvement is indicated by all groups.



The test for determining statistically significance differences between 1971 and 1972 establish improvement for the Neighborhood, the Police and the Hotline groups. Statistically significant improvement is much more difficult to achieve in those groups who scored relatively high at Time I (Interagency Council and Kiwanis) because their possible room for improvement is less.

A correlation was also computed comparing Support and Philosophy with Knowledge and Awareness. The result was .4858. This indicates that Support and Philosophy attitudes are not strongly correlated with Knowledge and Awareness. The latter was generally higher. Therefore public relations regarding the Community Attention Home need to emphasize not only information but also discussions of the Philosophy and Concepts of the Home.



AWARENESS & KNOWLEDGE - GRAPH II



 1971  
 1972

It appears that in regard to Awareness and Knowledge, all groups have improved. This is probably influenced by the actual opening and operation of the Community Attention Home between the Time I study and Time II survey. Also the newspaper articles, T. V. coverage and presentations to community groups about the Home helped to increase community Awareness and Knowledge. Finally the great improvement in the Neighborhood's Awareness and Knowledge percentages was probably also influenced by their proximity to the Home.

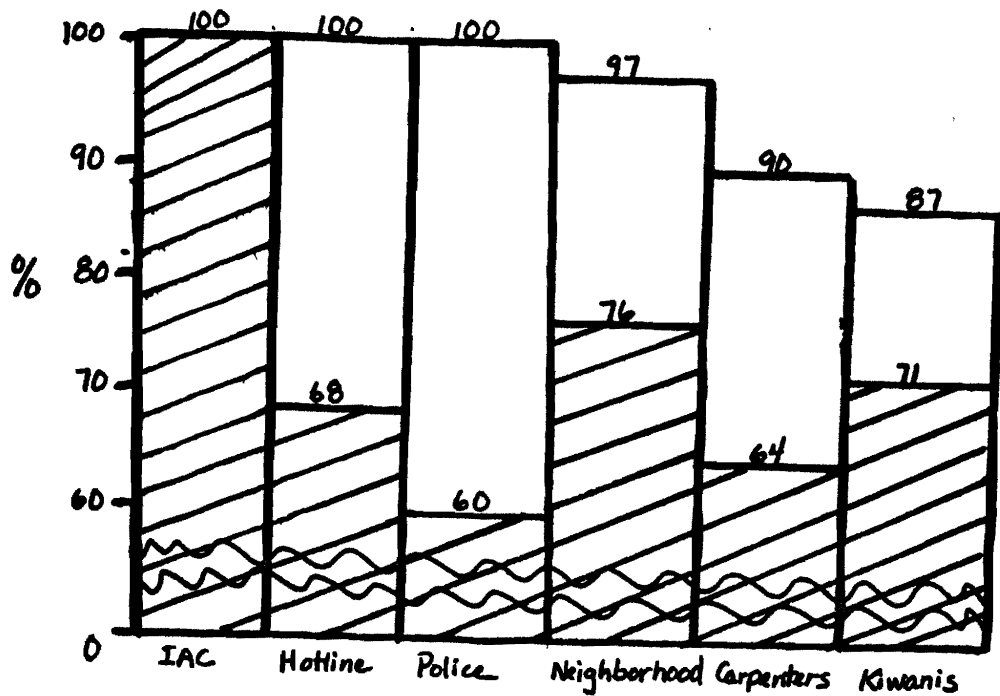
#### Need for Home

Graph III displays each community group's positive response toward the Need for the Attention Home at Time I and Time II. The trend toward improvement is high. At the .05 level tests determining statistical significance between two proportions show significant improvement for the Neighborhood, Police and Hotline. Obviously the Interagency Council's 100% score at both times surveyed cannot be improved. The remaining groups, that is, the Carpenters and the Kiwanis although not statistically significant in improvement have nevertheless displayed a good deal of improvement regarding their positive attitudes for the Need of the Home.

It is very possible that the significant scores in positive attitudes regarding the Need for the Home scored by the Interagency Council, Hotline, Police and Neighborhood are due to the impact the

Home has had on these groups since it began operation. All of these groups have had some degree of concrete contact with the Home in relation to their job or residential vicinity. The other two groups, that is, the Carpenters and Kiwanis, unless volunteering service to the Home, would have less opportunity for involvement with the Community Attention Home.

GRAPH III - - QUESTION 6 - NEED FOR HOME

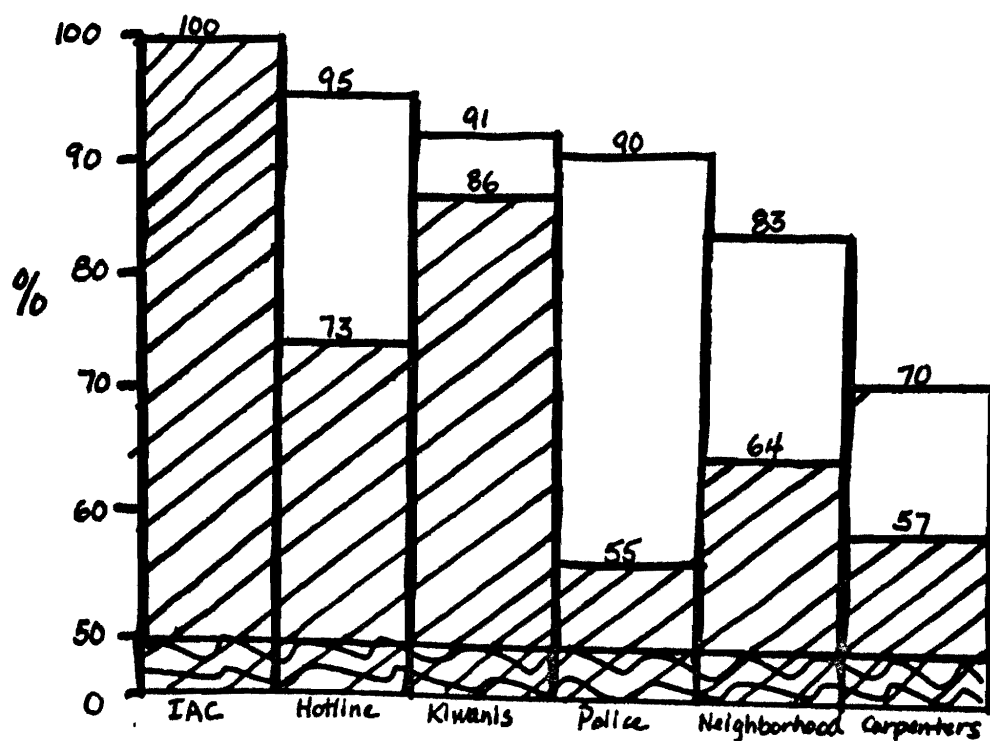


## Involvement

Graph IV shows each community groups willingness to support the Community Attention Home through some kind of donation indicating involvement with the Home. All groups either increased or equalized their previous year's willingness to become involved. Again the Interagency Council showed no increase because both years 100% of the members indicated a willingness to be involved.

The "T" test was computed for this question comparing 1971 results to 1972. The Hotline and Police displayed statistically significant improvement although all groups scored well above their 1971 marks. It is noteworthy that the Police who produced the lowest score in 1971 achieved a 90% willingness to become involved in 1972.

GRAPH IV - QUESTION 7 - INVOLVEMENT



## ANALYSIS OF INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS

This analysis was included to show specifically where improvements were made and also where, if any, decreases were exhibited regarding specific issues about the Attention Home. ( See Appendix C for graphs.)

### Interagency Council

Most of the Interagency Council's scores are high in general at both periods surveyed. The individual items showing the most improvement during the one year period for this group are:

- 2a. Community volunteers should be involved in the handling of adolescents in need of temporary shelter care.
- 2b. Delinquent youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth.
- 2f. Funding for programs such as the Community Attention Home should come mainly from within the community rather than from outside the community.
- 4h. Controlled by government agency.
8. How would you feel if the Community Attention Home were to be placed in your immediate neighborhood.

These are also items which received the lowest positive responses in 1971. Therefore their relatively high improvement is particularly important in achieving general agreement on all issues regarding the Attention Home. However these items also had much more room for improvement than many of the others.

### Neighborhood

The Greatest improvement for this group was found on items in the Awareness & Knowledge area. Increases ranged from 28 percentage points to 49 percentage points for each item in this subject area.

Other high increases were found in these items:

- 2b. Delinquent youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth.
- 2d. It is a poor plan to house youthful offenders, neglected youths, dependent youths, and youth from troubled homes together in the same facility.
6. Do you feel there is a need for the Community Attention Home in The Dalles.
7. Would you support the Community Attention Home in The Dalles.

Increases in 2b and 2d are especially important since they are the most controversial items influencing positive attitudes toward the Philosophy of the Home.

### Carpenters

There are a number of decreased scores for this group between 1971 and 1972. These are found especially in the Support & Philosophy area. However it must be remembered that all Carpenter scores are open to skepticism. This is especially true on individual items where biases become particularly influential. Therefore no discussion will be presented beside the actual graph itself, which is located in Appendix C, Graph 3.

## Kiwanis

There are a number of scores which decreased although none of them are exceptionally great decreases.

The only items which display considerable change are 10 and 8, which are in a positive direction:

10. Do you know what facilities are presently available in The Dalles for youth who are in need of temporary shelter care?
8. How would you feel if the Community Attention Home were to be placed in your immediate neighborhood?

The Kiwanis graph is somewhat erratic regarding improvement from 1971 to 1972 with many small increases and decreases.

## Hotline

Only three decreases were found for the group and two were very minor. The third was on item 2b:

- 2b. Delinquent youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth.

Good increases were especially noted in the Awareness and Knowledge area with all but two items attaining increases of at least 24 percentage points.

Other high increases were also found on items:

6. Do you feel there is a need for the Community Attention Home in The Dalles?
7. Would you support the Community Attention Home in The Dalles?
8. How would you feel if the Community Attention Home were to be placed in your immediate neighborhood?

This general improvement is particularly noteworthy for this group

since there existed such a high turnover rate among the group's members. Evidently the new members are fairly well informed about the Attention Home as well as being in general agreement with other subject areas about the Home.

### Police

There was only one decrease as shown by Item 2a.

2a. Community volunteers should be involved in the handling of adolescents in need of temporary shelter care (as opposed to only paid officials).

All other items received fairly good percentage point increases. These items will not be listed individually because there are too many, but the graph (see Appendix C, Graph 6) displays the good improvement on all items after 2a. This sizeable increase on almost every item indicates that the Police Department's positive attitudes on specific Attention Home issues have all increased consistently since the opening of the Community Attention Home.

### Total Groups

Obviously positive attitudes have increased considerably as expressed by respondents as a whole. (see Appendix C, Graph 7).

The Support & Philosophy area has remained relatively stable except on the following items where sizeable improvements in scores were achieved.



- 2d. It is a poor plan to house youthful offenders, neglected youths, dependent youths, and youths from troubled homes together in the same facility?
- 2f. Funding for programs such as the Community Attention Home should come mainly from within the community rather than from outside the community.
5. Are you in favor of the Community Attention Home types of program?

The Awareness & Knowledge area items all increased considerably, maintaining a very similar pattern as at Time I, but all at higher percentage levels.

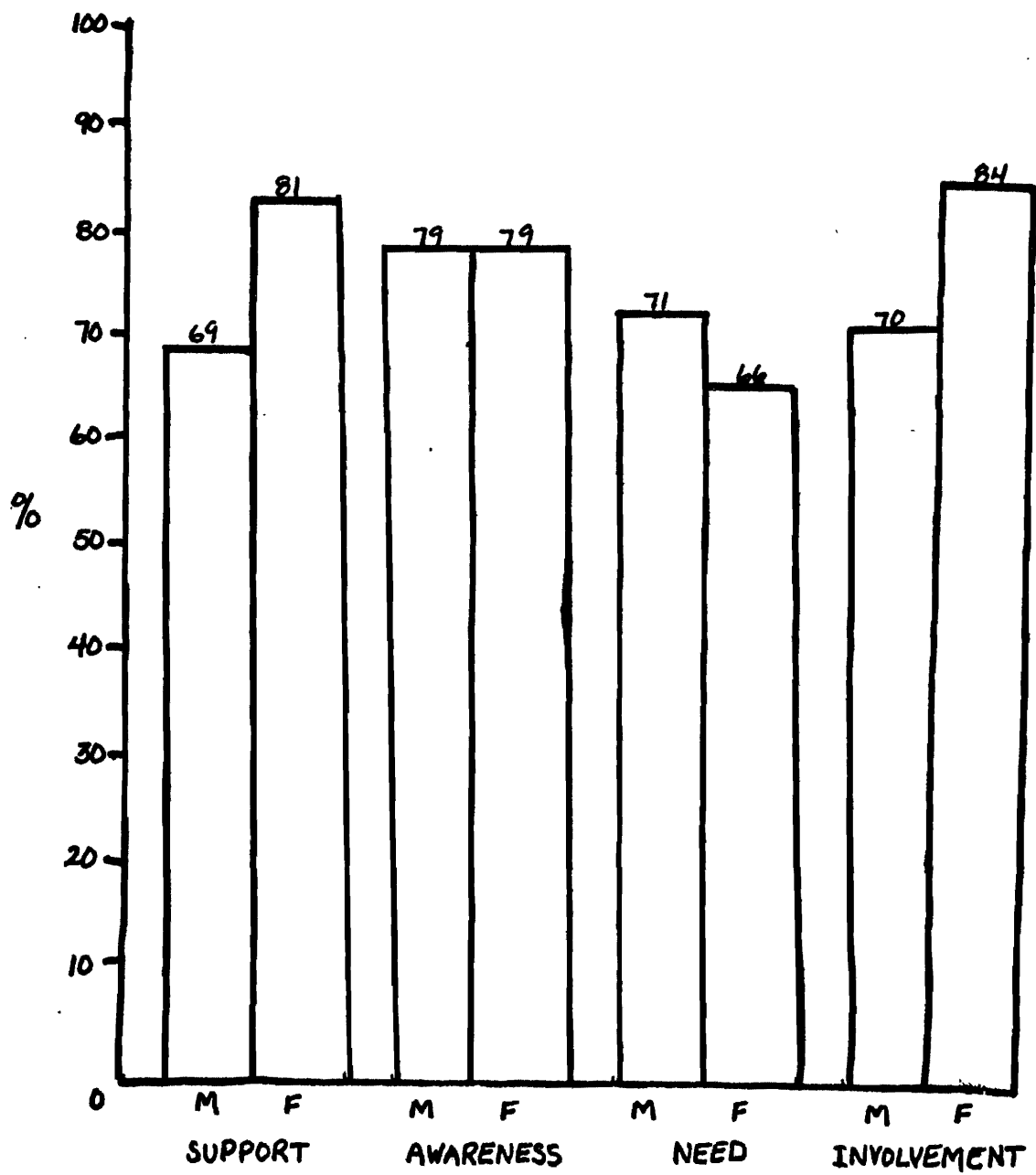
The remaining items regarding need for the home, willingness to support the home and placing the home in one's own neighborhood (Question 6, 7, and 8) also received considerable increased support.

It appears that primary emphasis should go into the Philosophy & Support area if further public relations are going to be continued.

#### MALE-FEMALE COMPARISON

Graph 5 compares the percentages of positive responses for each subject area according to sex. The total number of male respondents was 68, while females numbered 37. No statistically significant differences in response are exhibited between the sexes. However the women did score somewhat higher in the Support & Philosophy area and in the Involvement area.

The women also showed higher positive scores in the Involvement area. Perhaps these women have more time to become involved with the Community Attention Home than the males surveyed.

MALE - FEMALE COMPARISON - GRAPH 5

## AGE GROUP COMPARISON

Graphs 1 through 4 in Appendix D represent the percentages of positive responses for each subject area according to age groups.

Under Philosophy & Support, all age groups are quite similar. The highest is the 11-20 age range, possibly because it is their age group that is most affected by the Home, that is, the clients served by the Home fall within this age range. The lowest was the 61 & up group, possibly because they are least affected by the Home. That is, neither they nor few of their children would be eligible for service at the Home because they would most likely be over the age limit served..

Under Awareness & Knowledge, the groups are again relatively similar. The highest scores are found in the 21 - 30 and 31 - 40 groups where probably a large majority of Interagency Council members and Police fall. These were 2 of the three highest individual groups in their positive Knowledge & Awareness percentages.

Under the Need subject area, the groups were again quite similar. The lowest was the 61 and up group, perhaps indicative of this groups relatively minimal involvement with young people in most cases and, therefore, lack of awareness regarding the needs of these youth.

Finally the Involvement area showed a fairly high similarity of scores also. The major potential for involvement seems to fall within the two younger age groups. This probably indicates not only an

interest in the program because it does serve young people but also more time for involvement since many of these respondents may be students. The two middle age groups probably have lower scores due to less availability of time because they may be assumed to be in the working population. Finally the two older age groups indicate an increase in potential for involvement compared to the middle age groups probably indicating again more time available due to retirement or lessened work capacities.

## COMMUNITY ATTITUDES TOWARD ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE HOME BY ADOLESCENTS

### Introduction

The 1972 survey included several questions regarding how much activity or how much time should be spent at Home versus away from Home by teenagers. The question was worded to indicate what that respondent would allow his own teenager to do. The specific question was:

12-13

Suppose you have a teenager between the ages of 14-15, how  
16-17

many nights would you allow your teenager to participate in the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Nights at supervised activities (I. E. Library, school functions, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Free time (with the knowledge of time, place & companions)

\_\_\_\_\_ Family nights

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe)

The specific instructions were included to fill in the blanks so that a total number of seven days (1 week) would be indicated. The same question was asked for three different age categories in order to determine any differentiation of activities allowed according to age. The rationale for including this category of questions was to aid the Attention Home in developing standards regarding such activities for the youth residing at the Home. These standards therefore would reflect not only the particular house parents' attitudes or biases but guidelines from the community itself. (see Appendix E for graphical results of all data which follows.)

#### Supervised Activities

(Appendix E, Graphs 1 - 3) Community standards are clear for the 12 - 13 year old group and indicate that the youth would be allowed 2 nights a week of supervised activities.

Responses toward supervised activities for the age range of 14 - 15, indicate between 2 to 3 nights of supervised activity allowed per week.

The number of supervised activities allowed for 16 - 17 year olds, again, show 2 to 3 nights a week would be allowed.

#### Family Nights

(Appendix E, Graphs 4 - 6). This question was usually interpreted to mean the number of nights a child would be required to stay at home. For the 12 - 13 year old group, the model response was 3 nights per week required for being with the family. However the range

was quite large, all the way from 1 night a week to 7 nights.

Community attitudes for the 14 - 15 year olds indicate that 2 nights per week was the choice of the largest percentage of respondents.

The number of family nights required of 16 - 17 year olds indicate a modal response of 2 nights a week at home to be appropriate. However a fairly high percentage indicated 1 night a week as the preferred requirement.

### Free Time

(Appendix E, Graph 7 - 9). For free time allowed a 12 - 13 year old, the modal response indicated 2 nights a week. However a fairly high percentage preferred 1 night per week.

The attitudes toward free time for 14 - 15 year olds, indicate modal response was to allow 2 nights of free time per week.

The community attitudes about how many free nights should be allowed the 16 - 17 year olds, show the largest percentage of responses favors 3 nights of free activity per week.

Comments on the question further indicate that variabilities of these general standards occurred depending upon the individual child's maturity, responsibility, grades in school and the event or activities he wished to attend.

### Question 14

This question provides attitudes on the communities feelings

about activities at the Community Attention Home compared with private residential homes. The specific question is: Should the amount of time spent in each activity at the Attention Home (referring to supervised activities, family nights and free time) differ from what is allowed in your own home? Of the 101 respondents answering this item, 36 replied with a Yes and 65 with a No. In addition, five respondents indicated that the Attention Home should be More Lenient while 19 preferred a More Strict atmosphere. Some of the comments included in this answer help to clarify individual attitudes in responding the way they did.

--More strict, time in the Home should be allowed for group treatment sessions, etc. As well as 'family nights.' The short time a child is there should be utilized to the fullest extent possible in helping them to deal with the reason he is there and what happens when he leaves.

--Based on needs of the child, could be either more strict or more lenient.

--At the descretion of the house parents in regard to the students involved.

--The Attention Home should be run just like a home.

--Within reason and operation of such a home youth should be given as much free time as possible.

--I feel it should differ from the youth's home life.

--Depends entirely on previous environment.

--More strict' they wouldn't be there if they hadn't fowled up their free time.

--This would depend upon the individual case.

--Depends on the individual child, his trust, dependability, etc.

--They need extra supervision.

--More lenient -- because you are dealing with problem children.

Many of the comments seem to imply that the type of treatment the child receives while at the Attention Home should depend upon the individual situation rather than prescribed rules and regulations.

#### HOURS TO BE HOME

Question 15 through 17 on the questionnaire were included to receive community standards for curfews for teenagers.

See Appendix F for graphic results of all data that follows. For 12 - 13 year olds the modal response indicates this age group should return home between 9:00 - 9:59 p. m.

The responses for 14 - 15 year olds, indicate that 10:00 - 10:59 p. m. is the preferred curfew for this age group.

The community attitudes regarding curfews for 16 - 17 year olds, show the hour of 10:00 - 10:59 p. m. as the favorite. However a very close second indicated 11:00 - 11:59 p. m. as the curfew. Therefore the curfew range for this group would be recommended at a wider range of between 10:00 - 11:59 p. m. In fact some comments indicated that this would be a more open arrangement for this age group than for the younger ages.

Some of the comments included in the answers to 15 through 17 indicate that curfews would vary depending upon whether the particular



evening was during the week or on a weekend, in the summer or during the school year. Special arrangements would also be made for particular activities.

## CHAPTER VI

### SUMMARY BACKGROUND DATA

The following data provide information on all adolescents who were served by the Community Attention Home during its first year of operation from August, 1971 to August, 1972. These results were compiled from data sheets which were kept on each client using the Community Attention Home during this time period. They are included for possible future comparisons, administrative use and for a better understanding for readers not familiar with the setting.

#### PROFILE OR DATA SHEET ON ALL ADOLESCENTS

#### SERVED BY ATTN HOME DURING 1st YR. IN OPERATION

TOTAL SERVED: 62

##### SEX:

Males	45%
Females	54%
No Data	1%

##### RACE:

White	87%
Amer. Indian	11%
Mexican	2%
Black	0%
Other	0%

##### AGE:

12	- 2%
13	- 18%
14	- 16%
15	- 32%
16	- 13%
17	- 19%

## REFERRAL SOURCE:

Friend	2%	Self	3.5%
MacLaren	2%	Dalles Police	8%
Parent or Relative	3%	School	8%
Other Court	3.5%	Social Agency	20%
		Juvenile Court	
		Counselor	50%

## REASON REFERRED:

Motor Vehicle Theft	2%	Burglary	4%
Possession Stolen Vehicle	2%	Shelter Care	6%
Loitering	2%	Dependency	8%
MIP Alcohol	2%	Beyond Parental control	11%
Use of Drugs	2%	Conflict w/ Parents	13%
Failure to provide care, guidance & protection	2%	Runaway	46%

## PLACEMENT PRIOR TO HOME:

MacLaren	2%	Foster Home	8%
Group Home	2%	Detention	32%
Other	3.5%	Home	46.5%
Children's	6%		
Farm Home			

Detention Used	Prior Court Record	Family Intact
Yes - 39% No - 61%	Yes-44% No - 56%	Yes - 32% No - 66%*

In School	Employed
Yes - 87% No - 13%	Yes - 4% No - 96%

\*No Data on some clients available on this question.

Service Goals \* often more than 1 goal per client.

Plan for School - 5%
Identify &/or counsel on personal problems & behavior - 8%
Identify &/or counsel on family home problem - 14%
Shelter care - 22%
Plan for living situation - 48%
Other - 3%

Majority - planning for return home, sometimes involving identifying and working on family problem and other family members or determining feasibility of other living situation if family situation cannot be resolved.

**Intake Service Goals Met (Self estimates)**

Satisfactory - 92%      Partially Met - 8%      Unsatisfactory - 0%

**PLACEMENT AFTER HOME**

Carroll House	2%	Villa St. Rose	3.5%
Children's Farm Home	2%	Detention	3.5%
Louise Home	2%	Boy's Ranch	4%
MacLaren	2%	CSD	8%
Group Home	2%	Own home or	
Ranch	3%	no change	68%

## CHAPTER VII

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The following is a brief summary of the conclusions drawn from the data in regards to the four subject areas; these are: Support and Philosophy, Awareness and Knowledge, Need, and Involvement.

#### Support and Philosophy

The Time I I survey showed that all six groups surveyed show a highly positive attitude toward the Community Attention Home. The Interagency Council was the most supportive group toward the basic Support and Philosophy of the Home, followed in order by: Hotline Youth Group, Neighborhood, Kiwanis, Police, and Carpenters. As a total community the groups showed a majority to be strongly in favor of the Home after its first year in operation.

#### Awareness and Knowledge

All groups as a whole showed a very high quotient in regards to Awareness and Knowledge, and all groups have improved since the Time I study. The Interagency Council scored highest in this area followed in order by: Kiwanis, Police, Hotline, Neighborhood, and Carpenters.

The most effective means of disseminating information on the Attention Home were the newspaper and word of mouth.

### Need

All groups overwhelmingly favor the need for the Attention Home and all showed improvement in regards to their positive attitudes for the Attention Home as compared to the Time I study. The Interagency Council, Police, and Hotline groups showed 100% agreement on the Need followed closely by the Neighborhood, Carpenters, and Kiwanis.

### Potential For Involvement

Again all groups displayed very good potential for involvement with the Attention Home. In fact all groups equalled or exceeded the previous year's willingness to be involved with the Home.

The Interagency Council showed 100% willingness to support the Home in some way. They were followed by Hotline, Kiwanis, Police, Neighborhood, and Carpenters.

In regards to having the Home located in the immediate neighborhood, the Hotline, Interagency Council and Neighborhood groups were highly in favor of the idea, while the Carpenters, Kiwanis, and Police were not highly conducive to having the Home in their immediate neighborhood.

### Recommendations

These general recommendations flow directly from the data and indicate particular directions which may be useful to pursue in furthering community support for the Attention Home:

1. Whatever has been done so far in the way of promoting the Attention Home program and gaining community support has been effective and should be continued.
2. Focus more effort in Public Relation activities on increasing community understanding of the Attention Home's rationale for placing delinquent and non-delinquent youth in the Home together. This particular issue appears to be the only concept which the community questions significantly. More understanding on the issue will hopefully lead to better community support of the Home.
3. In public relations efforts, focus particular attention on the facts regarding the age range served and the fact that the Attention Home is not controlled by a government agency but rather is a community supported enterprise. These were two items under Awareness and Knowledge where inaccurate information was most prevalent and therefore re-education of the public is needed to correct these false beliefs.
4. Provide more up-to-date reports on what the Community Attention Home is doing in the community and for the community. Perhaps occasional items in the newspaper or other media would be helpful to keep the community abreast and in touch with the Home, its activities, needs and services.
5. Many individuals within the community are very willing to provide tangible support to the Community Attention Home. Much of this potential for involvement remains untapped however. The Board members of the

Community Attention Home need to exert effort in the direction of tapping these resources. Some specific directed efforts which would perhaps lead to the most effective and efficient return on energy expended in this area include:

- a. Recruiting volunteered time from adolescents. This age group appears to have special interest in the Attention Home program and does have time to provide volunteer services. A non-delinquent influence may also be very beneficial to the youth being served by the Home.
- b. Recruit volunteer time or goods and services from retired individuals. This population may be a potentially active group if the Community Attention Home personnel reach out to them first. They often have much time on their hands which they may be willing to devote to a useful purpose. Their involvement may also meet their own needs for feeling useful, needed and no longer lonely, but they will also provide a caring, dependable relationship to the youth at the Home.
- c. Monetary drives and campaigns should be aimed at the working population of the community. These people are more likely to provide cash donations because they have higher monthly incomes than the student or elderly. Also they would be less likely to have time to provide volunteer services to the Community Attention Home.



- d. Focus efforts for volunteering time on women. They also seem to be more willing and able to become involved.
6. Improvement is obvious in all areas regarding the Home by all community groups surveyed. This positive response toward the Home and the great improvement in attitudes since its opening in 1971 indicate that the community exhibits fairly high support for the program. This high support is the key to success for this type of service which relies heavily on community responsibility.
  7. Different ages and sexes are very similar in regard to their attitudes about the Community Attention Home. Therefore positive attitudes regarding the Home are found among all age groups and men as well as women rather than being clustered in any one particular segment of the population. This provides an important concept of community unity and agreement regarding the Home.
  8. Community attitudes regarding adolescent activities outside the Home.
    - a. Supervised activities
      1. A maximum of 2 nights per week for 12 - 13 year olds.
      2. Either 2 or 3 nights per week for a 14 - 15 year old.
      3. Again 2 or 3 nights per week for a 16 - 17 year old.
    - b. Family Nights
      1. A minimum of 3 nights per week for a 12 - 13 year old.
      2. 2 nights per week required for a 14 - 15 year old.
      3. Also 2 nights per week required for a 16 - 17 year old.

c. Free Time

1. A maximum of 2 nights per week allowed for a 12 - 13 year old.
2. A maximum of 2 nights allowed a 14 - 15 year old.
3. 3 nights a week allowed for a 16 - 17 year old.

d. Time to be home on weekdays

1. Between 9-10 p. m. for 12 - 13 year olds.
2. Between 10-11 p. m. for 14 - 15 year olds.
3. Between 10 - 12 p. m. for 16 - 17 year olds.

e. The individual child's treatment at the Attention Home, especially regarding the degree of freedom or restrictions he is allowed should also depend upon the individual characteristics of the case. Perhaps the rules and regulations established here should remain flexible to adapt to the needs of the adolescents as well as their degree of responsibility or irresponsibility demonstrated. Also flexibility should be used according to differential treatment plans, the room for negotiation of these community norms should be allowed.

f. Also considerations should be made for weekday vs. weekend curfews, summer vs. school year and special arrangements for particular activities.

9. The primary services offered by the Community Attention Home as determined by the data obtained on the adolescents served during the first year of operation was shelter care, short term crisis intervention and counselling for runaways. Both males and females, were fairly equally

served between the primary ages of 13 through 17. Most clients came through the Juvenile Court. They had run from their home and most were returned to their home after their stay at the Attention Home. Any expansion of services rendered at the Home should include family counselling during the child's stay at the Community Attention Home. The aim of such intervention would be family recognition and understanding of factors contributing to the child's behaviors as well as beginning steps toward change within the family constellation to remedy the existing problems which resulted in the child's exhibited symptoms.

10. Future research might focus on a wider set of publics and on the client population of adolescents and their families.

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**APPENDICES**

APPENDIX A

QUESTIONNAIRE

APPENDIX A - QUESTIONNAIRE

Group Surveyed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle appropriate items)

Your Age: 11-20 21-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 61-upMarital Status: S M D W Sep.Sex: M or FNo. of children: under 13 \_\_\_\_\_ 13-21 \_\_\_\_\_ over 21 \_\_\_\_\_COMMUNITY ATTITUDE QUESTIONNAIRE II

1. Do you feel there should be alternative methods for handling the following youths other than placing them in jail or detention facilities?

- A. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Youthful offenders  
 B. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Adolescents removed from their home because of family conflict  
 C. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Dependent or neglected youths

If yes, can you give suggestions? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements, and why.

A. Community volunteers should be involved in the handling of adolescents in need of temporary shelter care (as opposed to only paid officials). (Circle one).

Strongly Agree Mildly Agree Mildly Disagree Strongly Disagree

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Delinquent youth should be isolated from non-delinquent youth. (Circle one).

Strongly Agree Mildly Agree Mildly Disagree Strongly Disagree

Why? \_\_\_\_\_



C. Jail or detention facilities should be used for temporary shelter care facilities for dependent or neglected youth. (Circle one).

Strongly Agree Mildly Agree Mildly Disagree Strongly Disagree

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

D. It is a poor plan to house youthful offenders, neglected youths, dependent youths, and youths from troubled homes together in the same facility? (Circle one).

Strongly Agree Mildly Agree Mildly Disagree Strongly Disagree

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E. The major responsibility for providing facilities for the youth in the community who need temporary shelter care lies with the community rather than the state or federal government. (Circle one).

Strongly Agree Mildly Agree Mildly Disagree Strongly Disagree

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

F. Funding for programs such as the Community Attention Home should come mainly from within the community rather than from outside the community. (Circle one).

Strongly Agree Mildly Agree Mildly Disagree Strongly Disagree

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you heard of the Community Attention Home in The Dalles?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, how did you hear of it? (Check the appropriate blanks).

\_\_\_\_\_ TV \_\_\_\_\_ Radio \_\_\_\_\_ Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe)  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Which of the following items apply to the Community Attention Home? (Check yes or no).

- a.  yes  no Serves delinquent and non-delinquent youth.
- b.  yes  no Profit making organization
- c.  yes  no Allows youth to remain in the community (Public school, etc.).
- d.  yes  no Relies partially on volunteer services from the community.
- e.  yes  no Age range served 18 - 21.
- f.  yes  no Treatment as opposed to punishment emphasis.
- g.  yes  no Isolates youth from his peers.
- h.  yes  no Controlled by government agency.

5. Are you in favor of the Community Attention Home types of program? (Circle one).

Strongly in Favor Mildly in Favor No Opinion Not in Favor

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you feel there is a need for the Community Attention Home in The Dalles?

Yes  No

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7. Would you support the Community Attention Home in The Dalles?

Yes  No

If Yes, how? (Check those that apply)

- Cash donations  Donations of goods or special services
- Donations of time (Volunteer activities)  Extra taxes
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

If no, Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

8. How would feel if the Community Attention Home were to be placed in your immediate neighborhood? (Circle one).

Strongly in Favor Mildly in Favor Undecided Mildly Opposed Strongly opposed

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. How do you feel about the Attention Home now that it has been in operation a year? (Circle one)

Strongly in Favor Mildly in Favor Undecided Mildly Opposed Strongly opposed

Any comments or problems? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you know what facilities are presently available in The Dalles for youth who are in need of temporary shelter care?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, describe briefly \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Suppose you have a teenager between the ages of 12 - 13 years, how many evenings a week would you allow your teenager to participate in the following:

(Fill in blanks as it would apply to your family)

\_\_\_\_\_ Nights at supervised activities (i. e. library, school functions, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Free time (with the knowledge of time, place and companions)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Family nights  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Suppose you have a teenager between the ages of 14 - 15 years, how many evenings a week would you allow your teenager to participate in the following:

(Fill in blanks as it would apply to your family)

\_\_\_\_\_ Nights at supervised activities (i. e. library, school functions, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Free time (with the knowledge of time, place and companions)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Family nights  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. Suppose you have a teenager between the ages of 16 - 17 years, how many evenings a week would you allow your teenager to participate in the following:

(Fill in blanks as it would apply to your family)

\_\_\_\_\_ Nights at supervised activities (i. e. library, school functions, etc.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Free Time (with the knowledge of time, place and companions)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Family nights  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

14. With regards to the above, should the amount of time spent in each activity at the Attention Home differ from what is allowed in your own home?

\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no  
 If yes, How? \_\_\_\_\_ More lenient \_\_\_\_\_ More strict \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

15. What hour do you think a child of 12-13 years of age should be required to come home on weekdays? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What hour do you think a child of 14-15 years of age should be required to come home on weekdays? \_\_\_\_\_
17. What hour do you think a child of 16-17 years of age should be required to come home on weekdays? \_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

## APPENDIX B

## BACKGROUND DATA FOR THE FIRST YEAR

## APPENDIX B

- |                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| 1. Interagency Council | 4. Kiwanis |
| 2. Neighborhood        | 5. Hotline |
| 3. Carpenters          | 6. Police  |

## Number of respondents according to age

	1	2	3	4	5	6
11 - 20		3			17	
21 - 30	2	9	1	1	2	11
31 - 40	4	3	1	3	0	3
41 - 50	5	5	5	5	0	4
51 - 60	3	4	0	6	0	2
61 & up	0	6	3	8	0	0
No response	1					
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>

## Number of respondents according to sex

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Male	3	10	10	23	5	17
Female	4	20	0	0	7	3
No response	8	0	0	0	7	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>

## Number of respondents according to marital status

Single	1	8	0	0	16	3
Married	9	18	8	14	2	14
Div.	2	2	1	1		2
Wid.	1	1				
Wid.						
Sep.	0	0				1
No Resp.	2	1	1	8	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>

## Number of respondents w/ children

Under 13	8	8	2	5	1	7
13-21	6	2	2	6	0	3
over 21	3	9	5	9	0	4
No Resp.	7	7	1	8	18	10

## APPENDIX C

## RESPONSES TOWARD INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS\*

\* Time I - Crosshatched

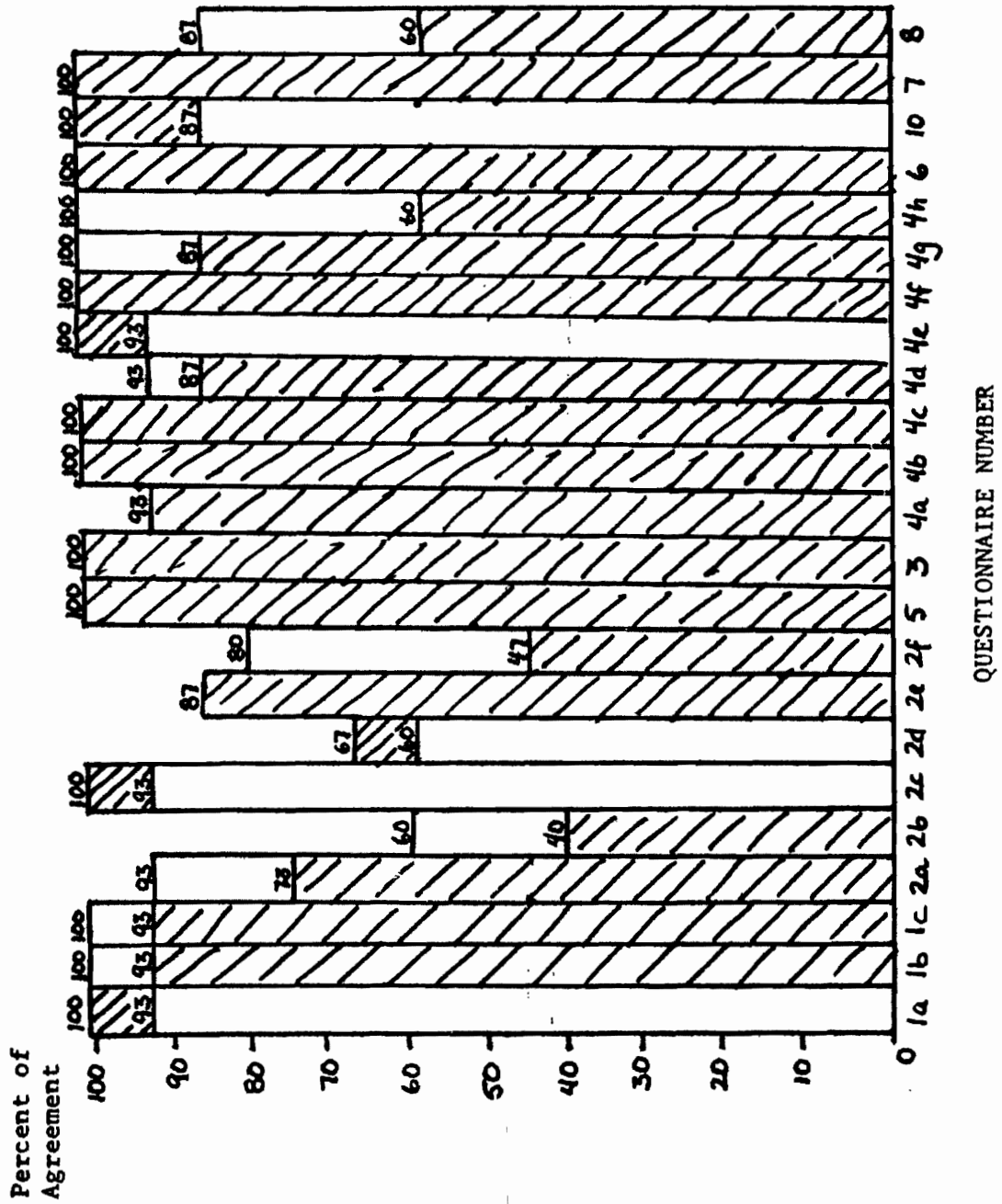


\* Time II - Blank



INTERAGENCY COUNCIL

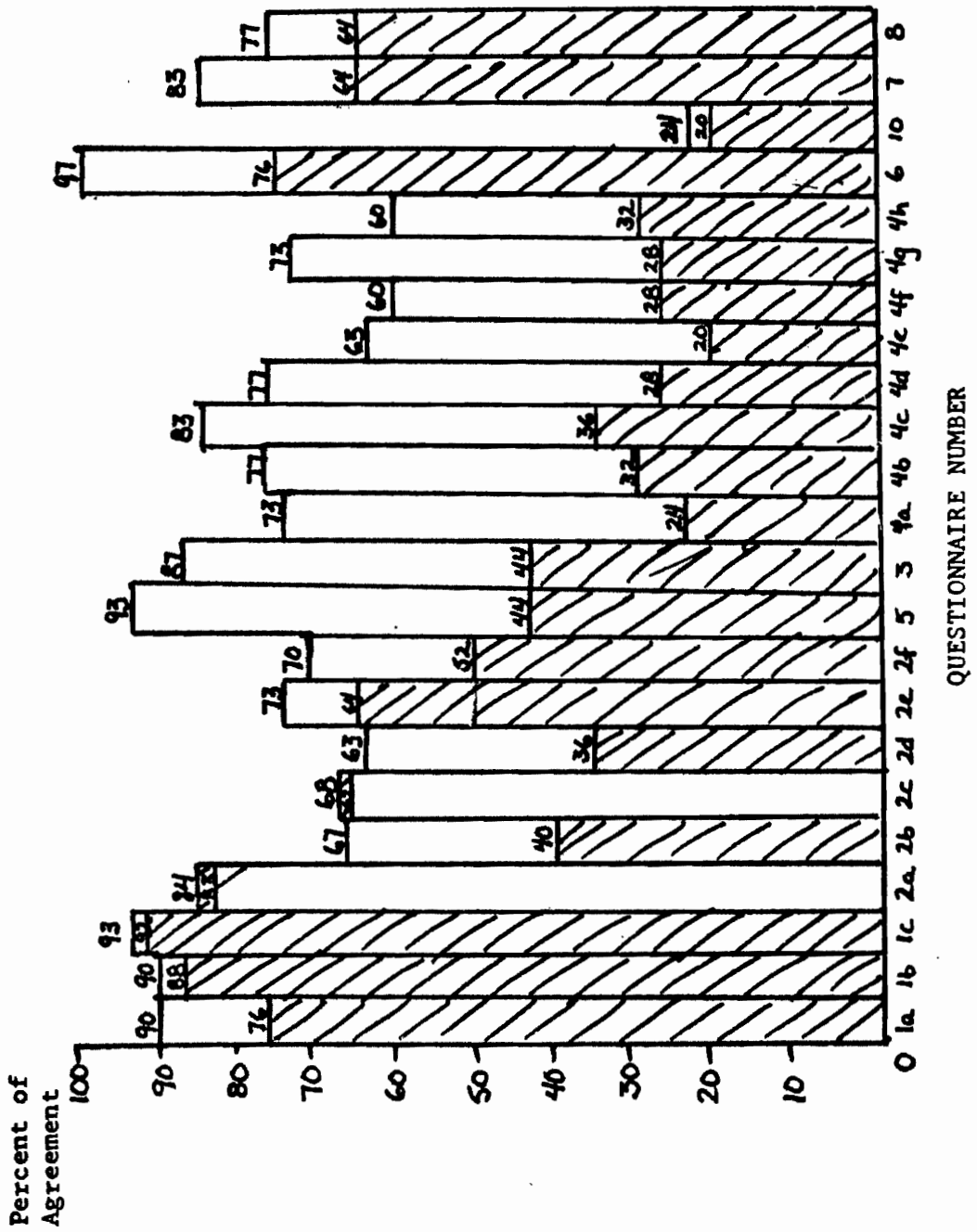
Graph I





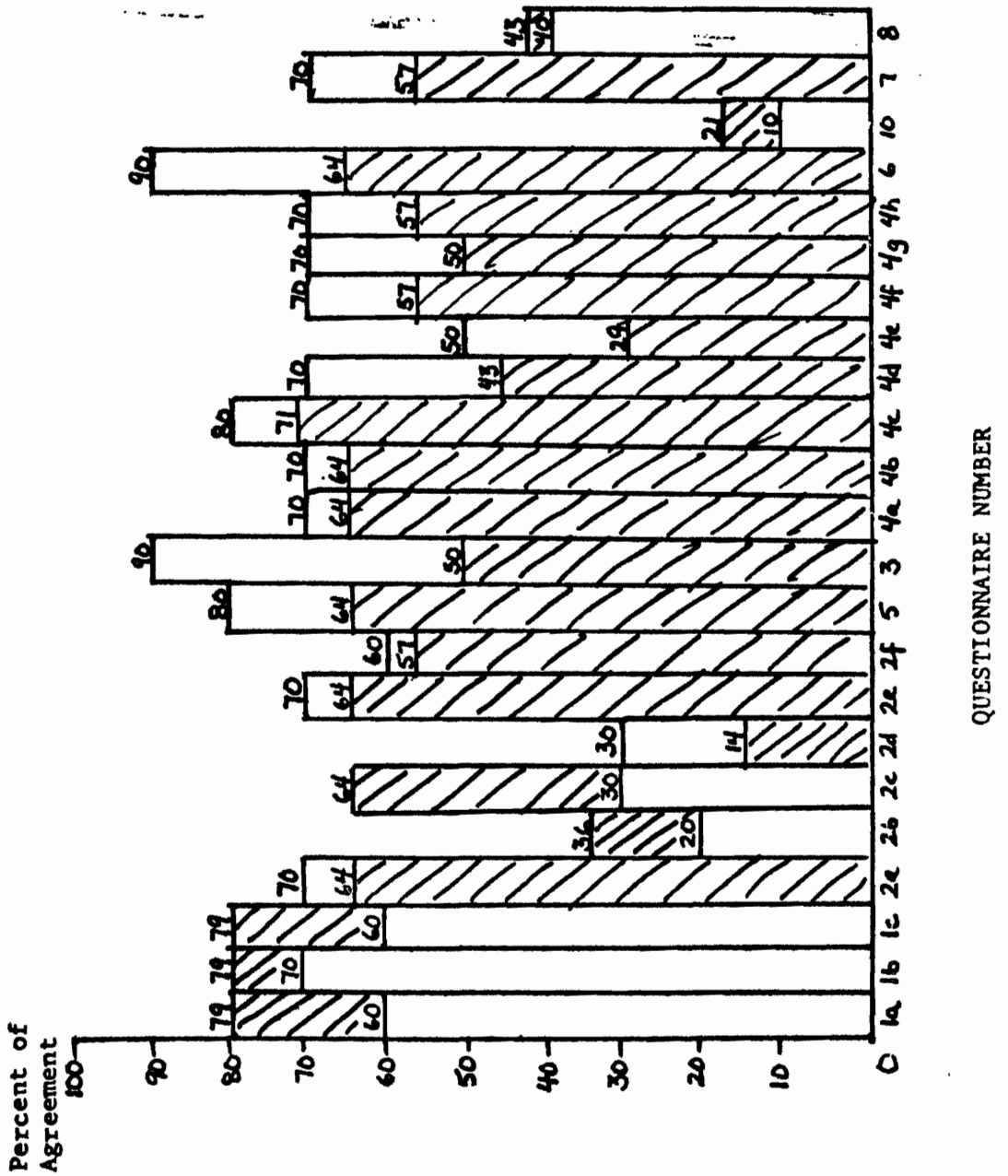
NEIGHBORHOOD

Graph 2



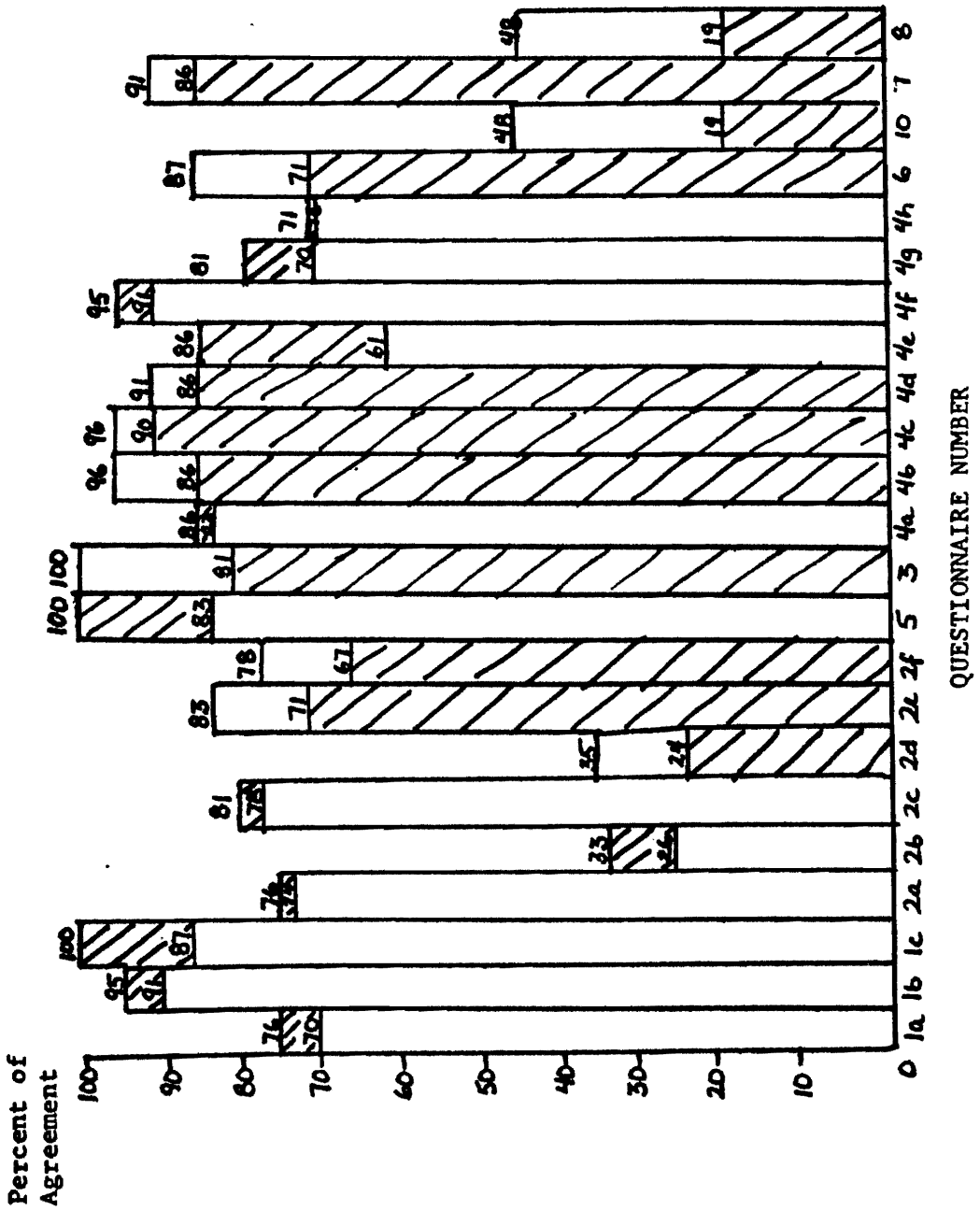
CARPENTERS

Graph 3



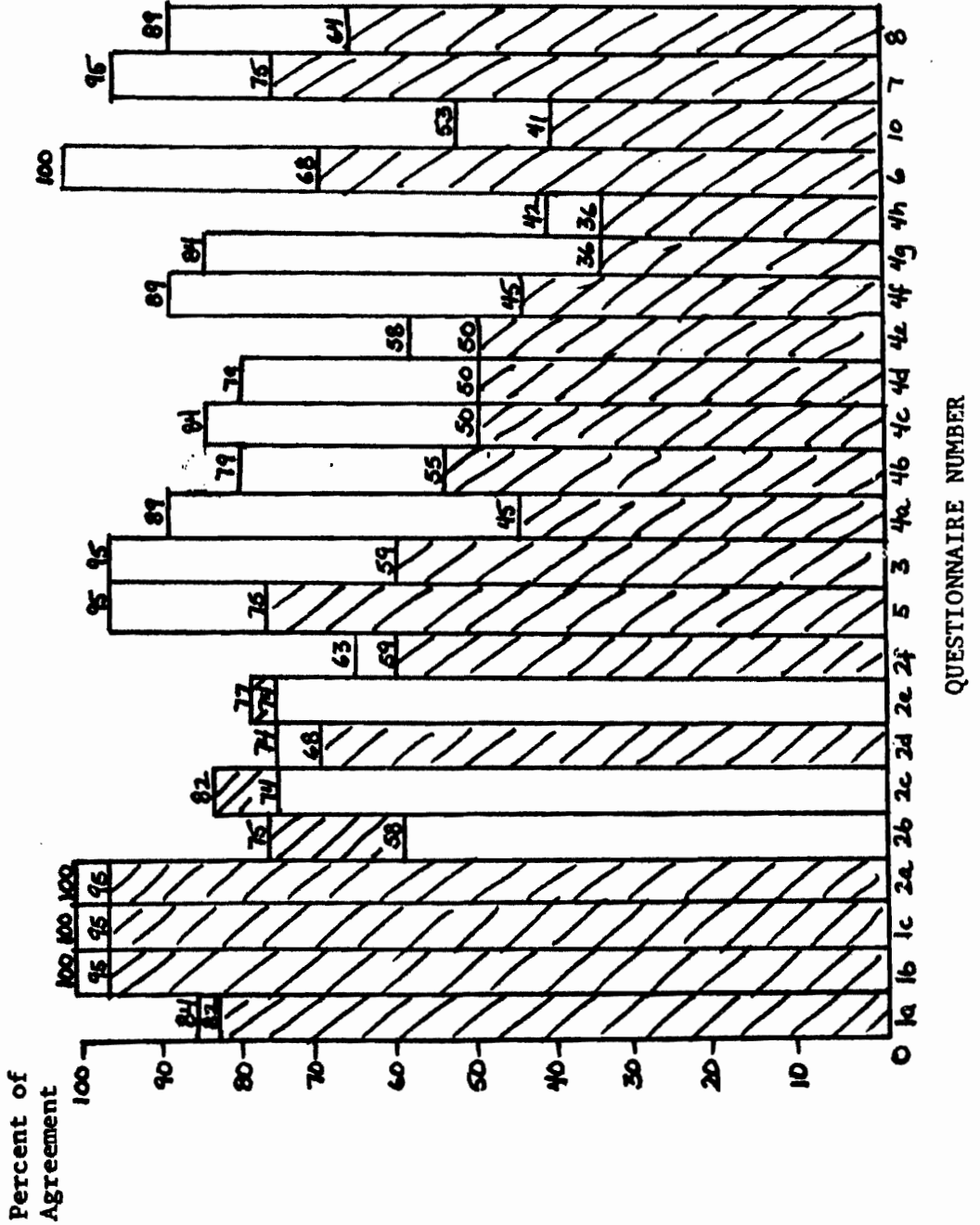
KIWANIS

Graph 4



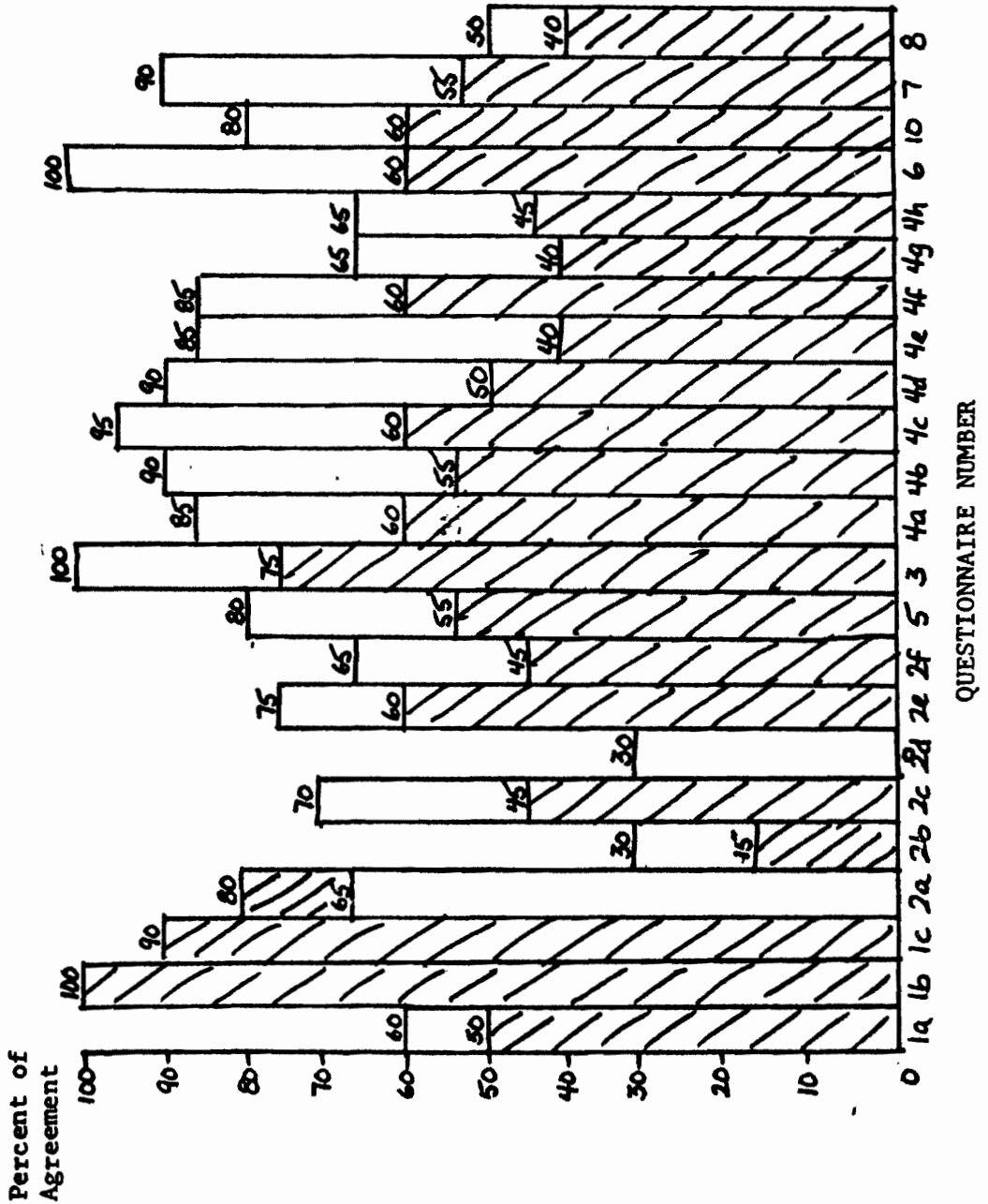
HOTLINE

Graph 5



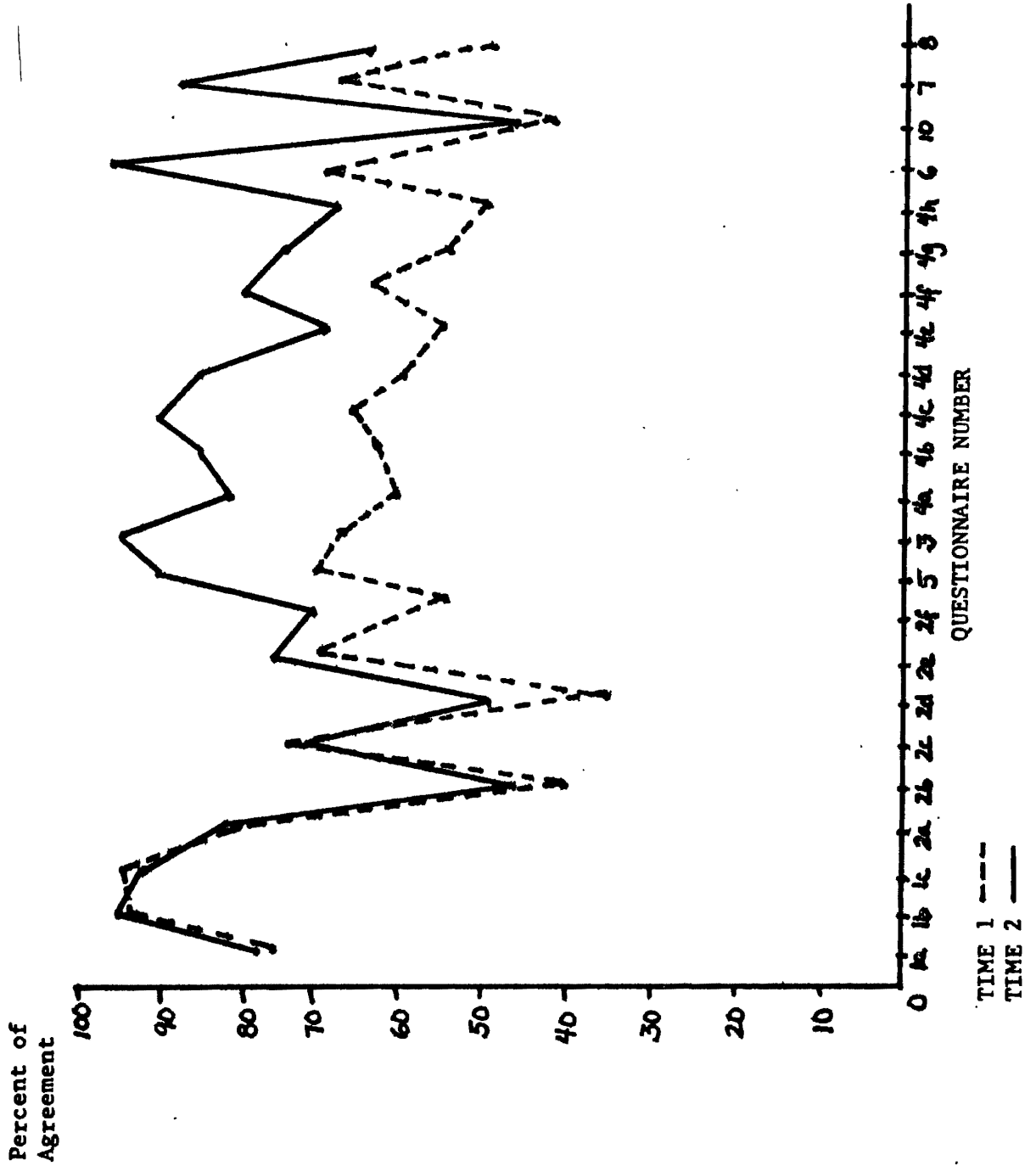
POLICE

Graph 6



COMPILED SCORES OF ALL SIX COMMUNITY GROUPS

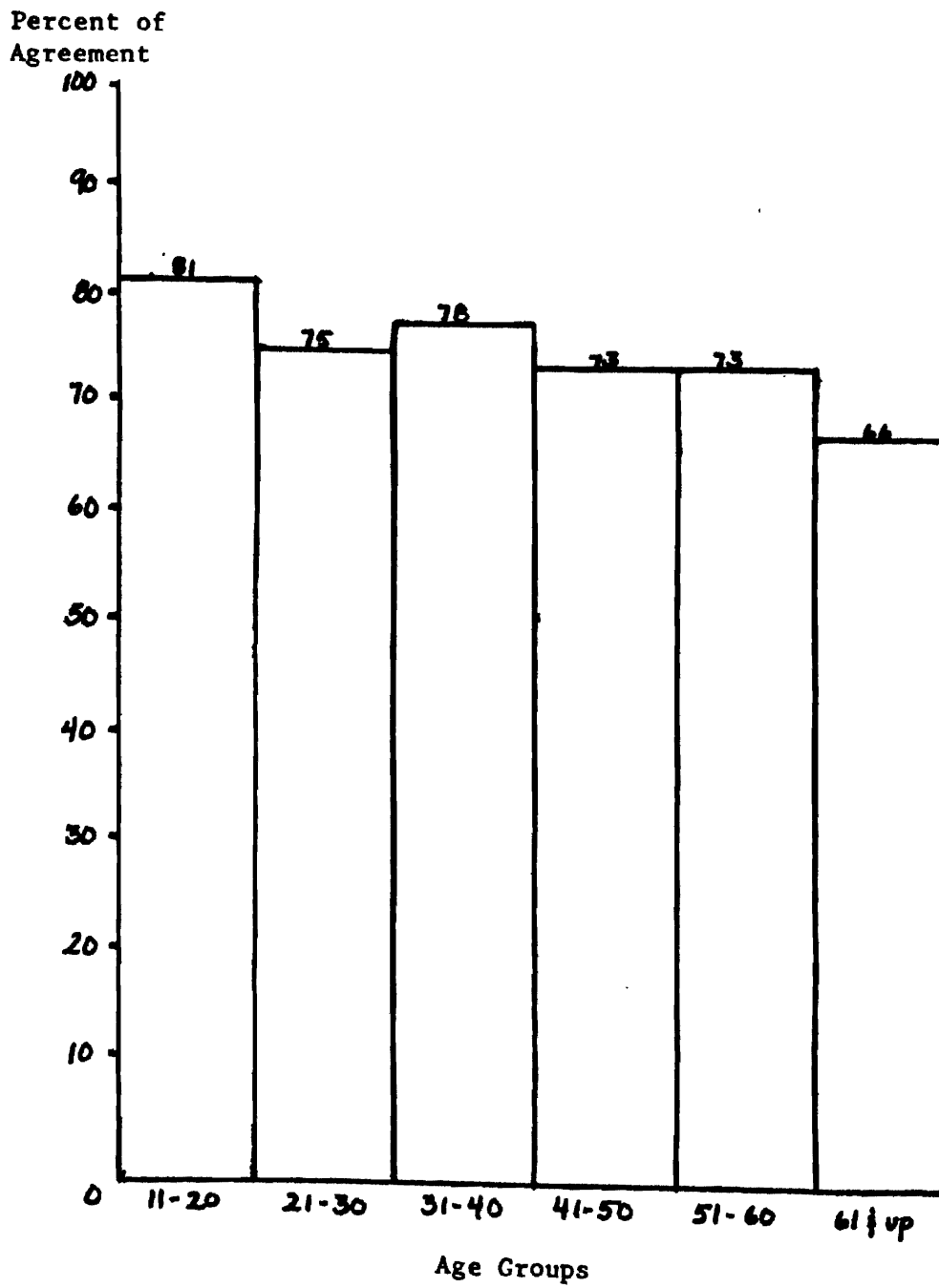
Graph 7



APPENDIX D  
RESPONSES TOWARD SUBJECT AREAS ACCORDING  
TO AGE

## PHILOSOPHY AND SUPPORT

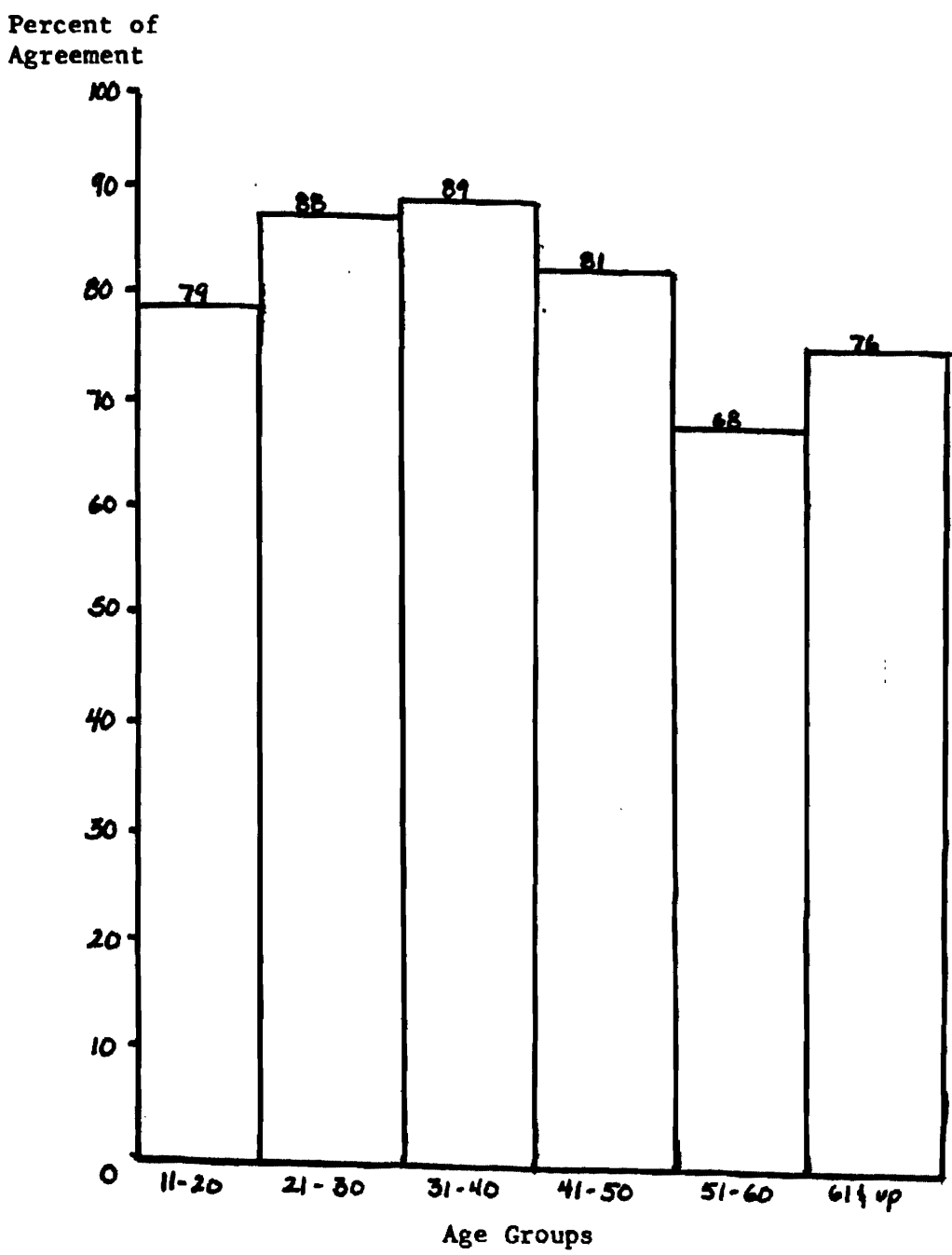
Graph 1





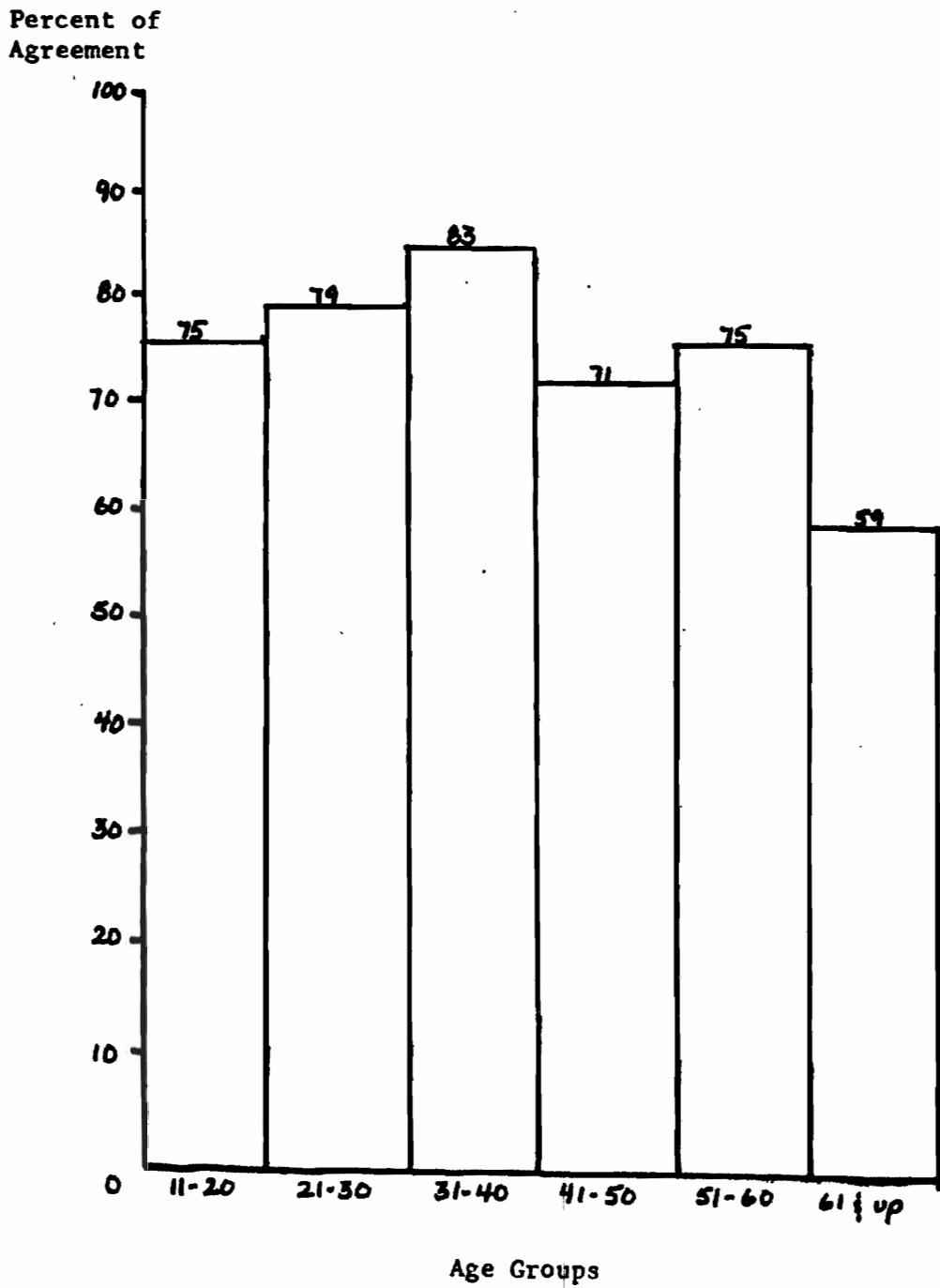
AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE

Graph 2



## NEED

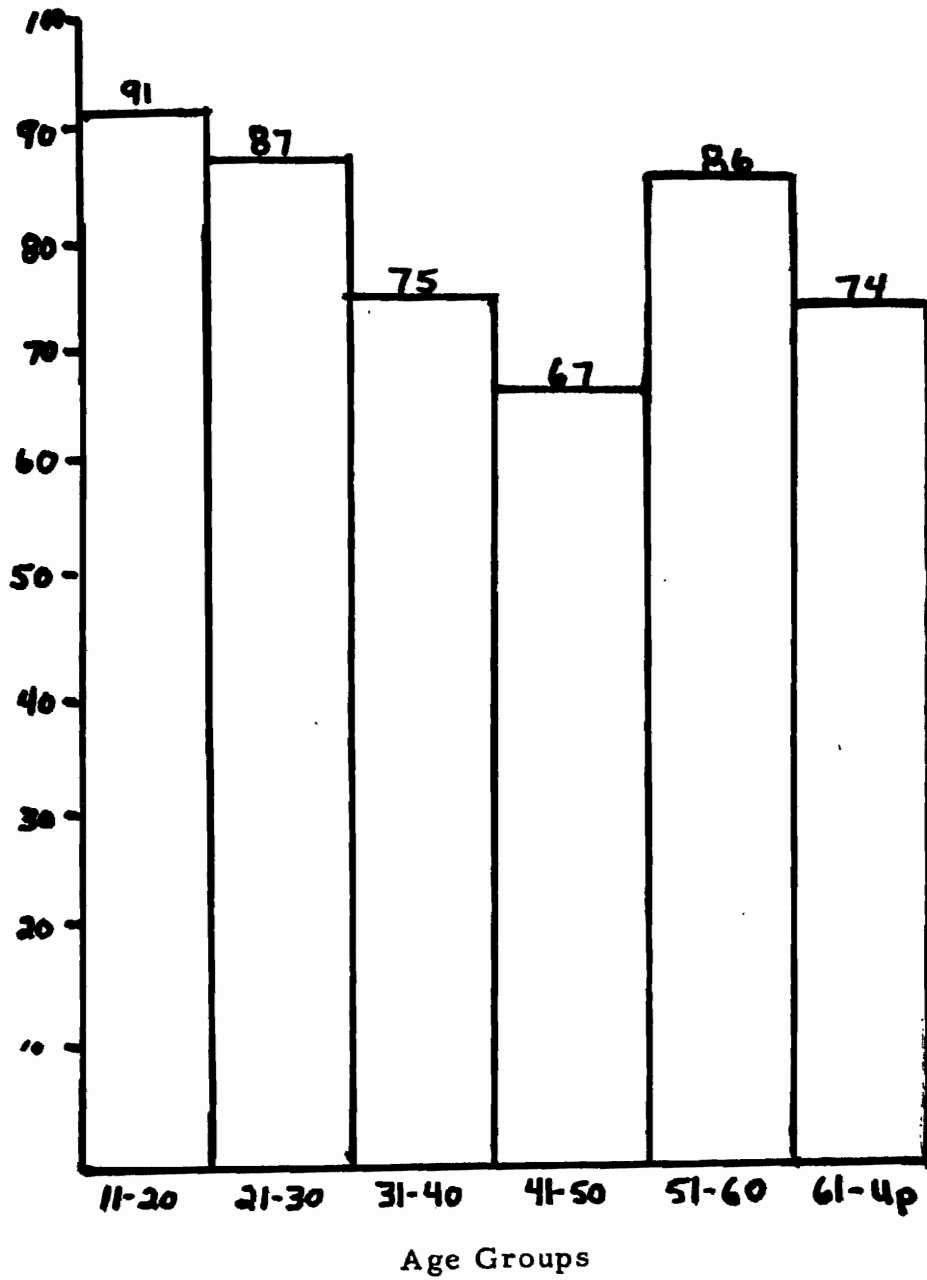
Graph 3



## INVOLVEMENT

Graph 4

Percent of Agreement

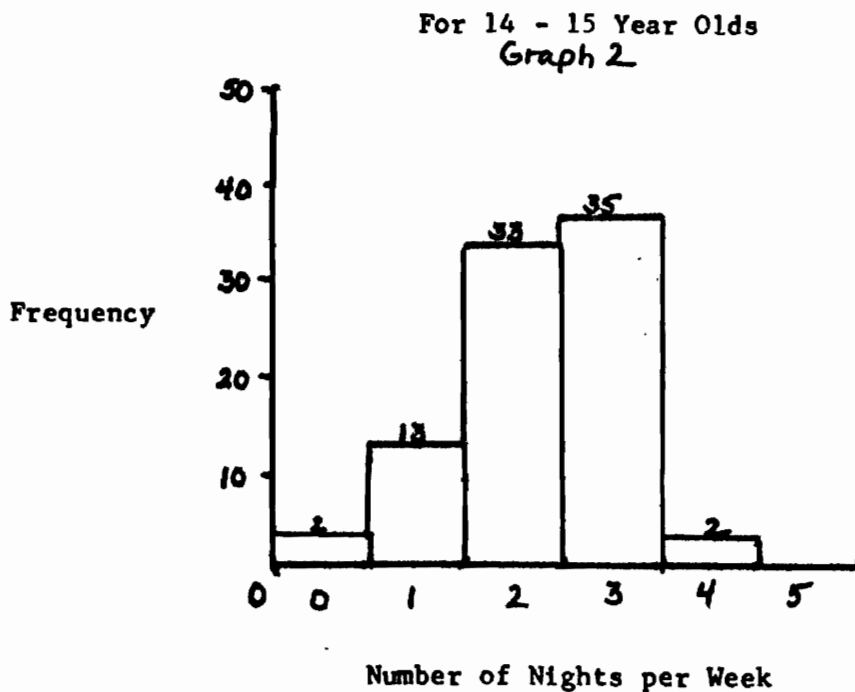
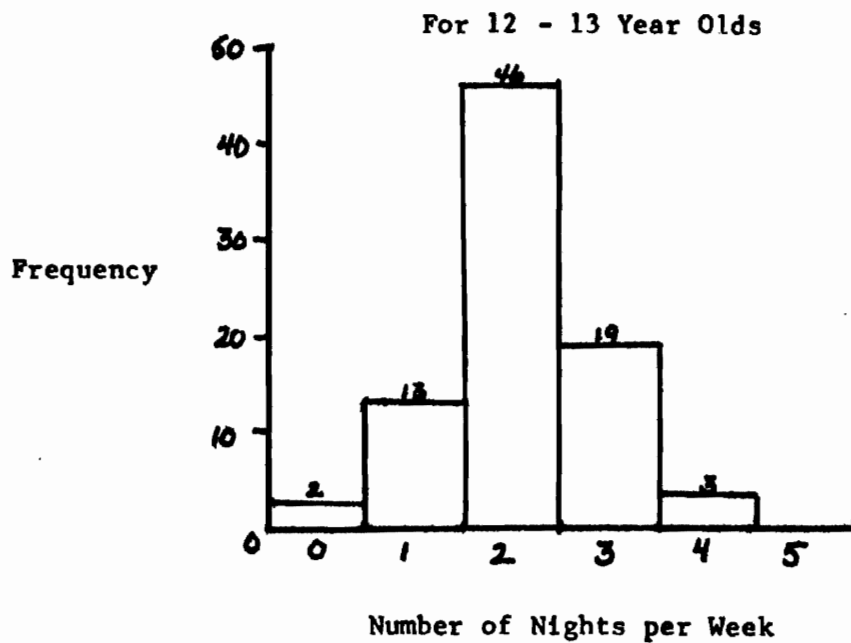


APPENDIX E

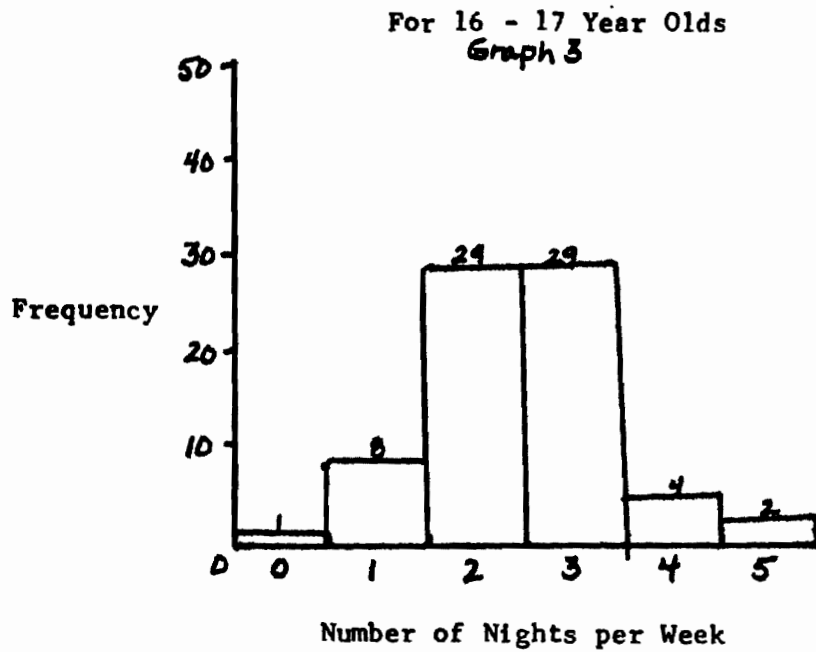
COMMUNITY ATTITUDES TOWARD ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE  
THE HOME FOR ADOLESCENTS

NUMBER OF NIGHTS AT SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES

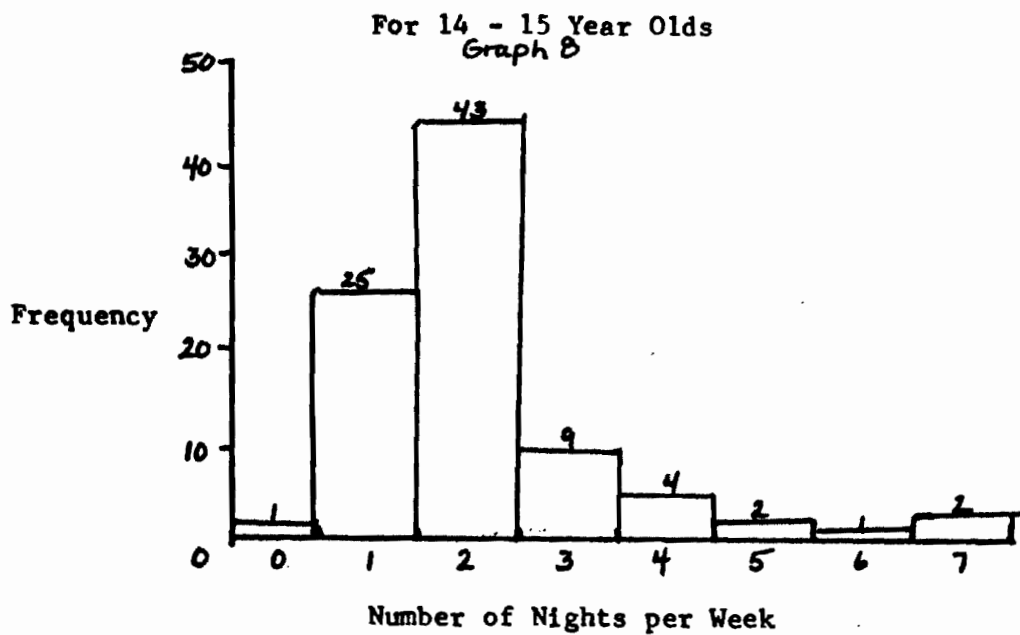
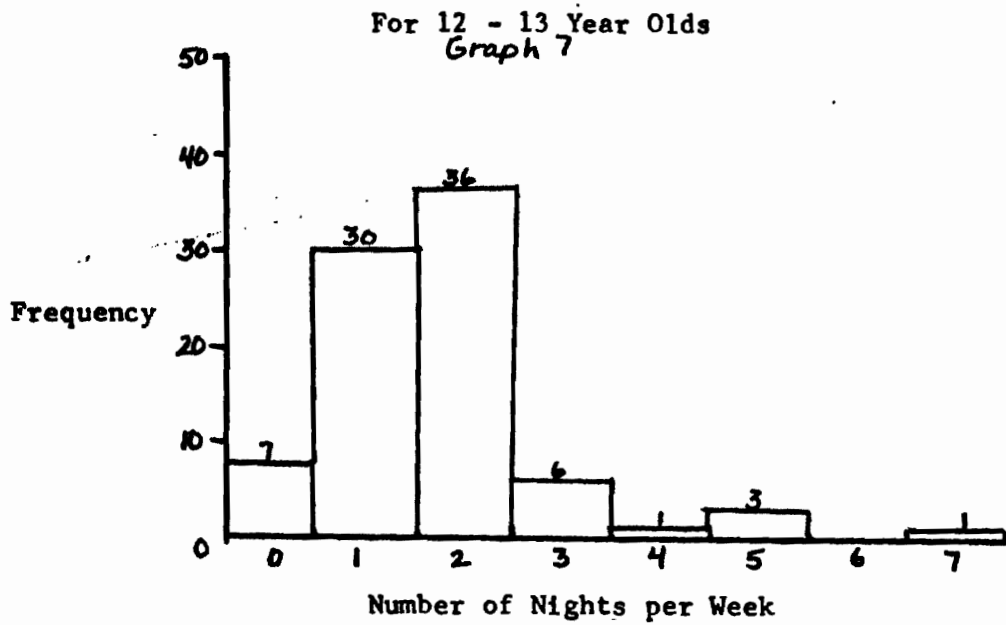
ALLOWED BY COMMUNITY RESPONDENTS

**Graph 1**

NUMBER OF NIGHTS AT SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES  
ALLOWED BY COMMUNITY RESPONDENTS (Cont'd)



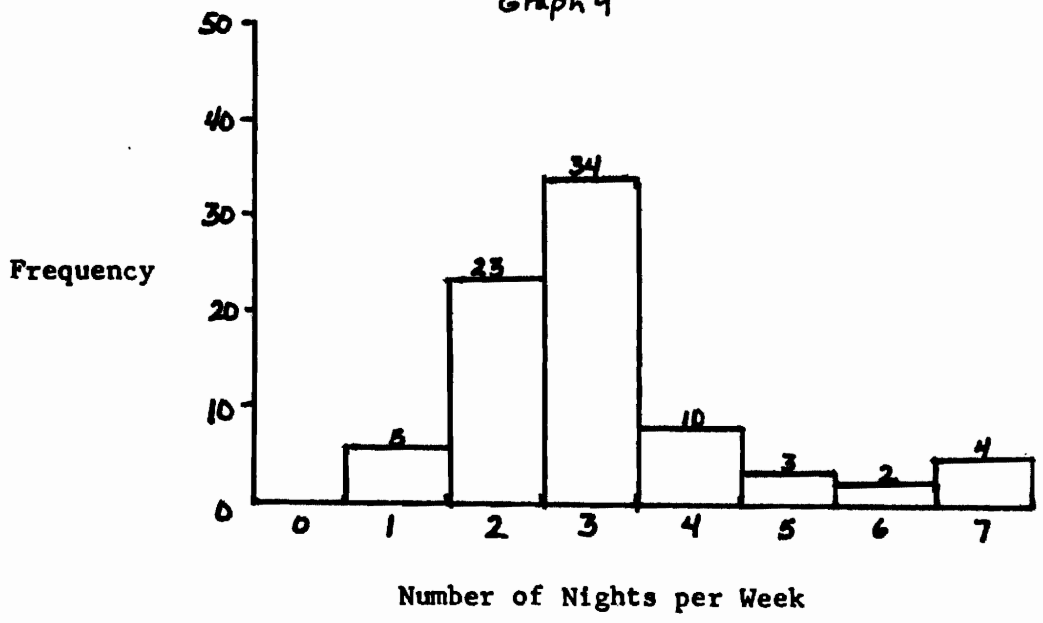
NUMBER OF FREE TIME NIGHTS  
ALLOWED BY COMMUNITY RESPONDENTS



NUMBER OF FREE TIME NIGHTS

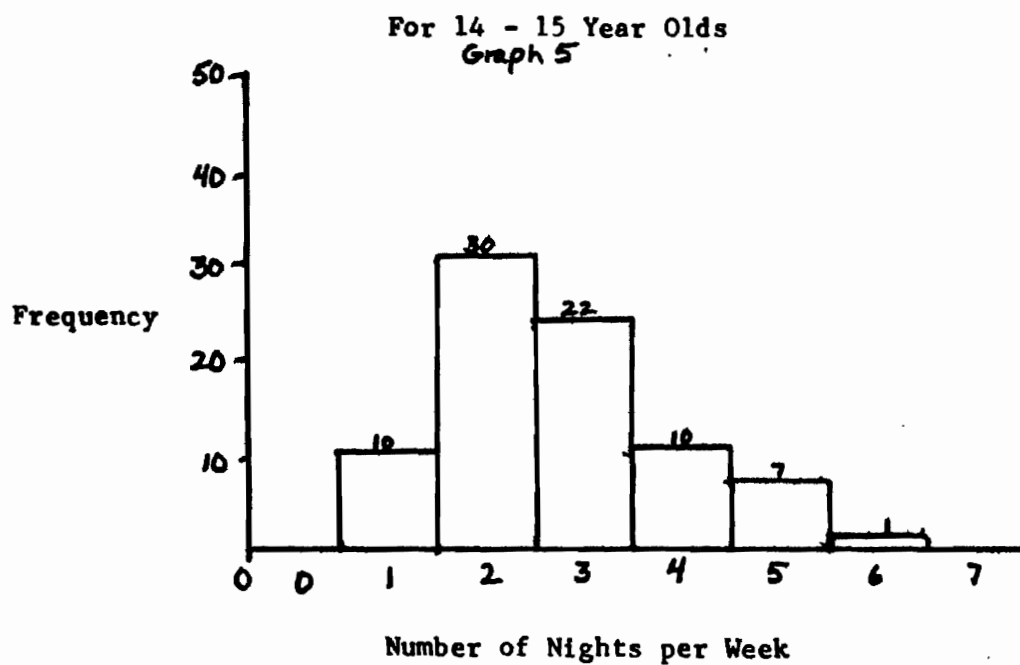
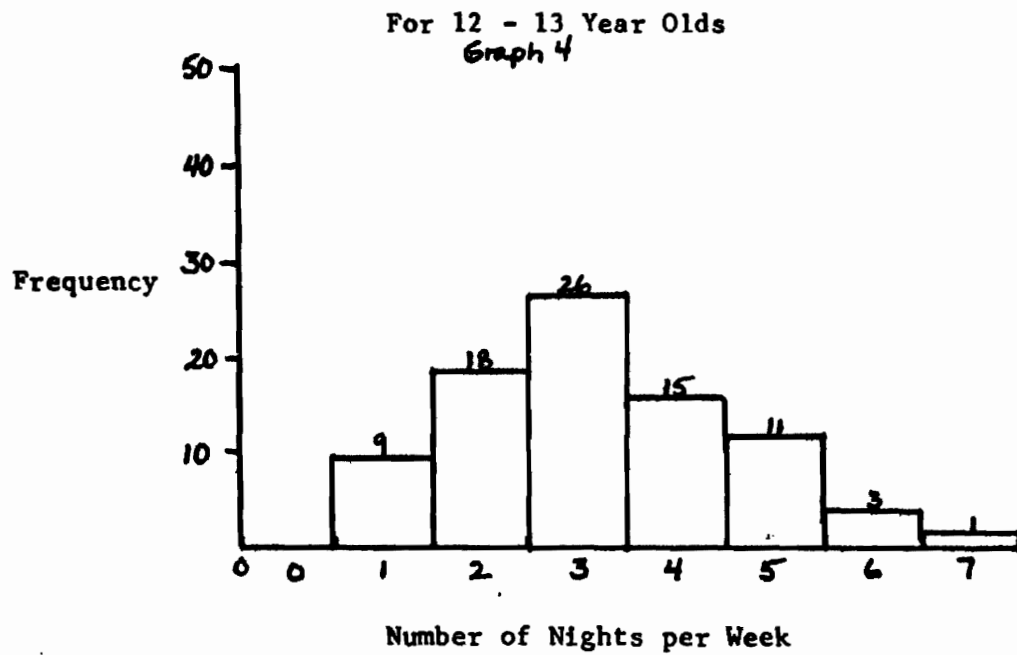
ALLOWED BY COMMUNITY RESPONDENTS (Cont'd)

For 16 - 17 Year Olds  
Graph 9

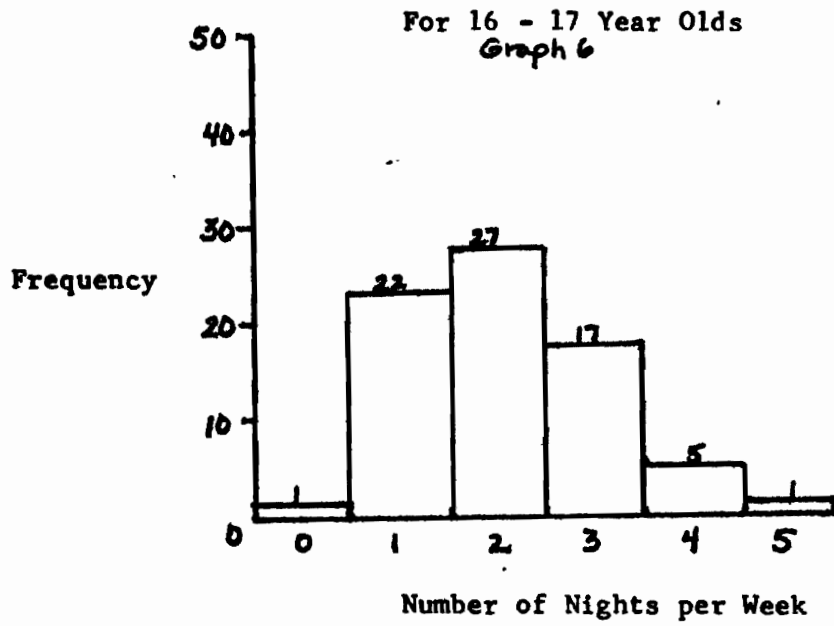




NUMBER OF FAMILY NIGHTS  
REQUIRED BY COMMUNITY RESPONDENTS



NUMBER OF FAMILY NIGHTS  
REQUIRED BY COMMUNITY RESPONDENTS (Cont'd)

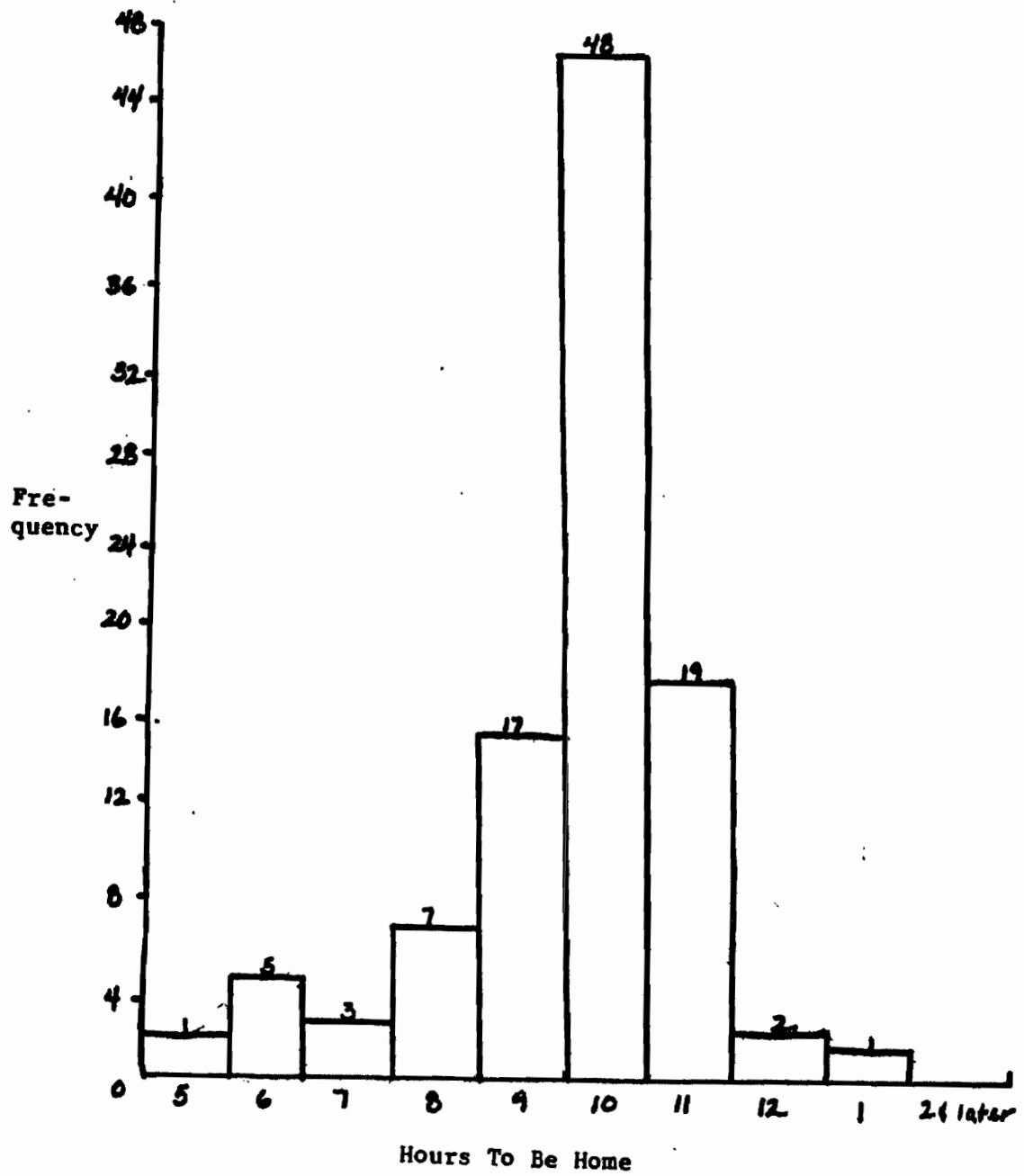


## APPENDIX F

## COMMUNITY ATTITUDES TOWARD CURFEW

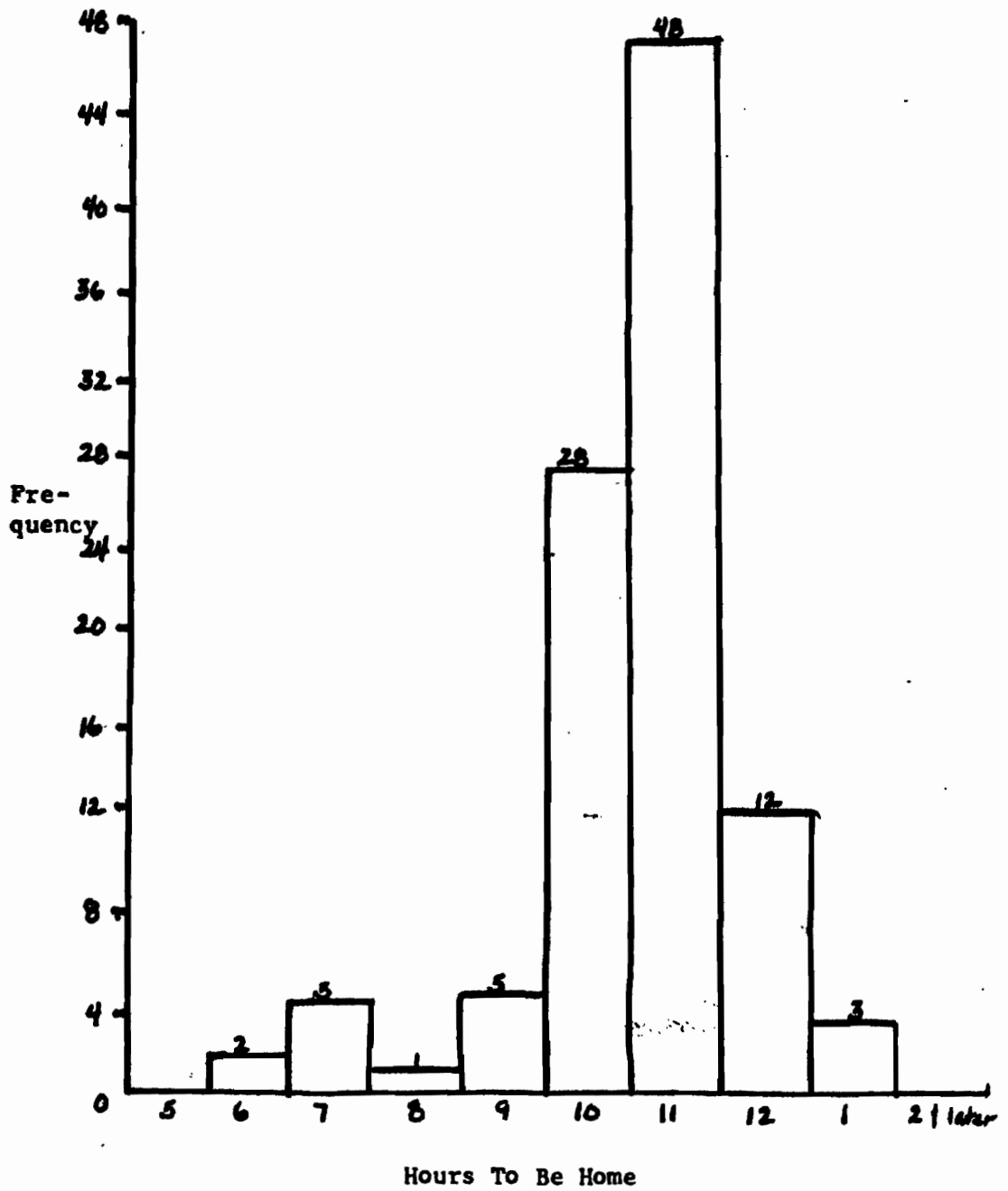
## AGE RANGE OF 12 THROUGH 13

Graph 1



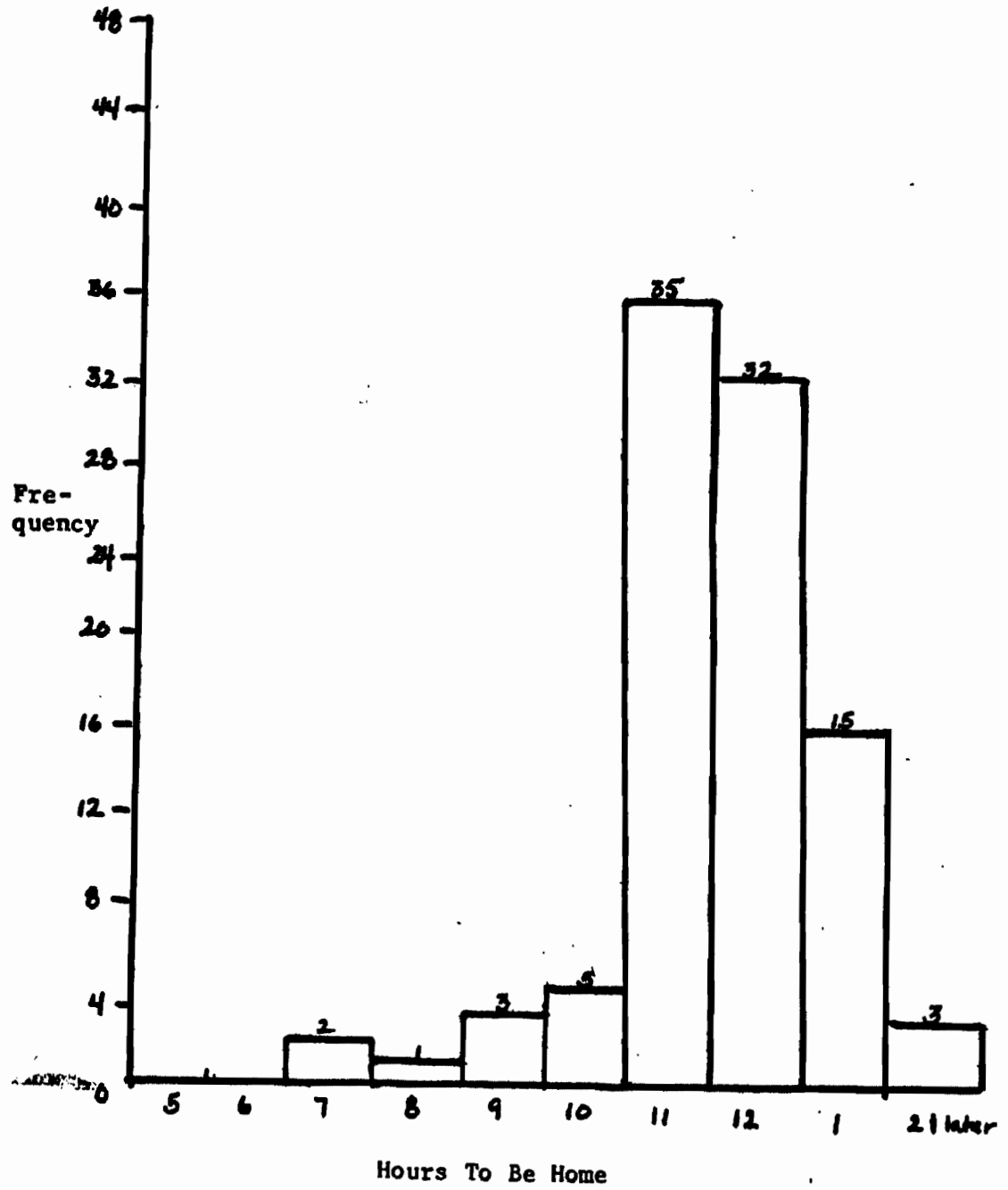
## AGE RANGE OF 14 THROUGH 15

Graph 2



## AGE RANGE 16 THROUGH 17

Graph 3



## APPENDIX G

STATISTICS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN 1971 & 1972

## APPENDIX G

## STATISTICS FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

1971 &amp; 1972

The "T" test for proportions was performed by using the significance ratio formula.

$$SR = \frac{P_1 - P_2}{\sigma_{P_1 - P_2}}$$

where

$P_1$  = proportion of agreement at  $T_1$  (1971)

$P_2$  = proportion of agreement at  $T_2$  (1972)

$\sigma_{P_1 - P_2}$  = standard error of difference

In computing the value of the standard error, the following sequence of formulas were used and the resulting figure was then substituted into the significance ratio formula.

$$\sigma_{P_1 - P_2} = \sqrt{\frac{\bar{p}\bar{q}}{n}}$$

where

$$\bar{p} = \frac{n_1 P_1 + n_2 P_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

$P_1$  = proportion of agreement at  $T_1$

$P_2$  = proportion of agreement at  $T_2$

$n_1$  = size of sample at  $T_1$

$n_2$  = size of sample at  $T_2$

and  $\bar{q} = 1 - \bar{p}$

$$\text{Therefore } \sigma_{P_1 - P_2} = \sqrt{\frac{\bar{p}\bar{q}}{n_1 - 1} + \frac{\bar{p}\bar{q}}{n_2 - 1}}$$

The test was made at the .05 level of significance for a one-tailed test.