<u>Brief Notes on the Parent's Data</u> *(refer to website for more information)*

a. Introduction

As part of the Family Transfers Project (FTP), we interviewed a sub-sample of parents of the prime-age respondents (N=337; 219 mothers and 118 fathers). This elderly component was the most exploratory component of the FTP. We designed it for a few reasons. First, we think it is an important preparatory step before beginning a project that is more explicitly focused on the elderly. Hence we focused on their HH, health status, and place in systems of family support. Second, we wanted to be able to assess the extent to which we can combine data on elderly with data on their children to explore dynamic family systems analytically.

We used a questionnaire that was very similar to that used for the prime-age respondents. There were two main differences. First, we collected a full HH roster from the parents; this should give us some useful indications about the extent to which the elderly are taking on more responsibility for care of grandchildren etc in the era of HIV/AIDS. Second, we collected more limited information about transfer relationships. Specifically, we only asked about transfer relationships between these elderly respondents and their brothers and sisters and children.

Interviews of the elderly took place at the end of fieldwork in each site since we needed to have completed most of the prime-age sample before we could sample their parents. We used the same interviewers and general fieldwork techniques (including gifting).

Note that the elders' sample is selective in a couple of ways: First, we only sampled those parents resident in the same area. Generally this refers to the same village as their prime-age respondent son/daughter. Second, although we attempted to make some corrections for parents' parity – by making the sample probability inversely proportional to it – the likelihood of making it into our sample is positively correlated with that parity (ie. since we're sampling the parents of surviving children). So these are more likely to be parents of larger families. We'll have to correct for that formally next time.

The data follow the structure of the questionnaire and the variable names are equivalent to the question numbers (with an addition of prefix 'f' for father and 'm' for mother). So I am not providing a codebook.

b. Sample description

The mean age of these parents (for those who claimed to know their year of birth) was 62 for mothers and 69 for fathers.

When these parents are linked to the prime-age adults who are the main respondents in the Family Transfers study we find the following (summarized in Table 1): (i) 137 female respondents have parents who were interviewed. Of these, 25 have data on fathers only, 74 have data on mothers only, and 38 data on both mothers and fathers. (ii) 134 male respondents have parents who were interviewed. Of these, 27 have data on fathers only, 79 data on mothers only, and 28 data on both mothers and fathers.

Table 1 Number of parent's households in sample, by sex, and by prime-age respondent's sex

	Parent's household data			
Prime-age sample	Fathers	Mothers	Both parents	Total
Female	25	74	38	137
Male	27	79	28	134
Total	52	153	66	271*

* 271 = total number of parental HHs with data. The "66" includes data from both parents; doubling it makes the table's total 337 (ie. # parents interviewed).

c. Datasets

The parents' data have not been merged with the prime-age respondent's data because such a data file would very quickly pass the maximum allowable number of variables in STATA (roughly 2000). In stead, several data-files have been prepared which users can merge with the prime-age sample as they wish. We suggest pulling out the desired variables and creating new datasets for specific analyses.

Here are the parents' datasets. Note that variable names are consistent within grouped datsets 1-3 and 4-9 (the latter have prefixes 'f' for father and 'm' for mother). Other than variable names the datasets are completely equivalent. Eg. dataset 1=2+3; 2=6+8; 3=7+9; 4=6+7*; 5=8+9*.

#	Name (all *.dta)	Description	Basic stats
1	Parent99_001229	Fathers and Mothers appended	N=337; vars=549
2	Parent99_fathers_001229	All fathers (ie. of both male and female prime-age respondents)	N=118; vars=545
3	Parent99_mothers_001229	All mothers (ie. of both male and female prime-age respondents)	N=219; vars=544

4	Parent99_both_h_001229	Mothers and fathers of prime-age males	N=134; vars=1088
5	Parent99_both_w_001229	Mothers and fathers of prime-age females	N=137; vars=1088
6	Parent99_fathers_h_001229	Fathers of prime-age males	N=55; vars=545
7	Parent99_mothers_h_001229	Mothers of prime-age males	N=107; vars=544
8	Parent99_fathers_w_001229	Fathers of prime-age females	N=63; vars=545
9	Parent99_mothers_w_001229	Mothers of prime-age females	N=112; vars=544

* These two do not sum exactly because where both a prime age respondent's father and mother are interviewed, they represent a single unit ("prime-age respondent's parents).

d. A note on merging

i. Where the dataset has an '_h_' in the name, merge with the prime-age sample using variable "husqqnum." Where it has a '_w_' in the name, merge on "qqnum."

ii. If you wish to merge these parent's data with prime-age HH data, you need to merge selected variables with the sex-specific prime-age sample prior to using the latter to create HH files.