

The Role of Religious Networks and Other Factors for Different Types of Volunteer Work

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Nonprofit Management and Leadership 14 (No. 1, 2004)

Abstract

In view of current efforts to strengthen volunteering and promote faith-based provision of social services in the U.S., we examine both the underlying complexity of volunteering and who performs particular types of volunteer work. This paper, drawing on a telephone interview survey of 526 randomly selected Indiana residents, considers whether religious involvement helps explain engagement in different types of volunteer work independent of such other contributing factors as family status, socio-economic status, and community attachment. We find that religious involvement plays an independent role, but only for certain types of volunteer work.

Supplementary Tables

The full article is available in the published journal as indicated above. Here we present tables from our Chi-square analysis of the bi-variate relationships among the dependent variables (e.g., overall volunteering and involvement in different types of volunteer work) and four sets of predictor variables (family status, socio-economic status, community attachment, and religious involvement).

**TABLE 1: TYPES OF VOLUNTEER WORK BY FAMILY STATUS
INDIANA RESIDENTS, MAY 2001**

Family Status Variables	N	Percent Performing Volunteer Work by Type of Work							
		Any Type (1)	Fundraising (2)	Religious Services (3)	Leading/Managing (4)	Direct Services (5)	Facilities/Grounds (6)	Communication (7)	Other Type (8)
A. Age									
18-29	94	35.1	28.7	12.8	7.4	11.7	6.4	2.1	11.7
30-44	167	38.3	30.5	8.4	12.6	13.2	7.2	7.2	13.2
45-64	166	52.4	33.7	16.3	15.7	13.3	9.0	8.4	13.3
65 or more	93	46.2	16.1	20.4	11.8	7.5	2.2	3.2	7.5
All	520	43.7	28.7	13.8	12.5	11.9	6.7	6.0	11.9
Significance level (p<)		<u>p<.017</u>	<u>p<.023</u>	<u>p<.037</u>	ns	ns	ns	ns	p<.004
B. Gender									
Male	233	42.5	27.5	10.3	12.0	14.6	9.4	3.9	9.4
Female	293	44.0	29.0	16.7	12.6	9.6	4.4	7.5	13.7
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		ns	ns	<u>p<.034</u>	ns	<i>p<.075</i>	<u>p<.022</u>	<i>p<.078</i>	ns
C. Marital status									
Married	262	48.1	32.8	17.6	14.1	13.0	7.6	9.2	14.9
Living with partner	31	25.8	19.4	3.2	6.5	9.7	3.2	--	3.2
Widowed	63	41.3	15.9	12.7	9.5	1.6	3.2	1.6	12.7
Separated/divorced	90	37.8	32.2	11.1	12.2	10.0	7.8	4.4	8.9
Never married	77	44.2	23.4	10.4	11.7	19.5	6.5	2.6	7.8
All	523	43.6	28.5	14.0	12.4	11.9	6.7	5.9	11.9
Significance level (p<)		ns	<u>p<.037</u>	ns	ns	<u>p<.022</u>	ns	<u>p<.028</u>	ns
D. Child in household									
No	314	44.6	22.9	15.0	11.5	10.8	10.8	4.1	12.4
Yes	212	41.5	36.3	12.3	13.7	13.2	13.2	8.5	10.8
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	11.8	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		ns	p<.001	ns	ns	ns	p<.005	<u>p<.038</u>	ns
E. Race									
Significance level (p<)		ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns

SOURCE: Personal Affiliation Survey: Indiana Nonprofit Sector Project: Scope & Community Dimensions (Kirsten Grønberg, SPEA, Indiana University).

NOTE: Significance levels refer to results of chi-square analysis between type of volunteer work and the relevant family status variable. For p<.01, coefficients are in **bold**, for p<.05 coefficients are underlined, for p<.10 coefficients are in *italics*. Significance levels of .05 or less meet generally accepted statistical criteria. Race is not related to any to the dependent variables and detailed data have therefore been excluded from this table.

**TABLE 2: TYPES OF VOLUNTEER WORK BY SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS
INDIANA RESIDENTS, MAY 2001**

Socio-Economic Status Variables	N	Percent Performing Volunteer Work by Type of Work							
		Any Type (1)	Fundraising (2)	Religious Services (3)	Leading/Managing (4)	Direct Services (5)	Facilities/Grounds (6)	Communication (7)	Other Type (8)
A. Employment status									
Full-time for pay	295	43.7	28.8	10.5	11.9	9.8	8.8	5.1	11.9
Part-time for pay	36	38.9	44.4	19.4	25.0	11.1	2.8	16.7	19.4
Retired	96	50.0	21.9	24.0	10.4	7.3	3.1	4.2	16.7
Other/not in LF	99	37.4	27.3	12.1	11.1	22.2	5.1	6.1	4.0
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		ns	<i>p<.083</i>	<i>p<.007</i>	ns	<i>p<.004</i>	ns	<i>p<.038</i>	<i>p<.019</i>
B. Household income									
LT \$20,000	73	32.9	17.8	12.3	6.8	8.2	5.5	2.7	11.0
20-29,999	59	42.4	23.7	13.6	15.3	13.6	8.5		8.5
30-39,999	67	28.4	20.9	9.0	10.4	9.0	3.0	4.5	7.5
40-49,999	72	40.3	29.2	18.1	15.3	6.9	5.6	6.9	13.9
50-74,999	114	50.0	36.0	15.8	9.6	14.0	8.8	5.3	14.0
75-99,999	65	56.9	29.2	13.8	13.8	12.3	4.6	9.2	16.9
100,000+	33	57.6	48.5	9.1	27.3	27.3	18.2	18.2	12.1
All	483	43.5	28.6	13.7	12.6	12.0	7.0	5.8	12.2
Significance level (p<)		<i>p<.004</i>	<i>p<.012</i>	ns	<i>p<.097</i>	<i>p<.083</i>	ns	<i>p<.014</i>	ns
C. Education									
No HS school degree	48	25.0	10.4	10.4	8.3	4.2	2.1	--	8.3
HS grad	197	34.0	17.3	9.6	8.1	7.6	3.6	3.0	11.7
Some college	116	48.3	33.6	16.4	12.9	14.7	9.5	3.4	11.2
College grad	165	56.4	43.0	18.2	18.2	17.0	9.7	12.7	13.3
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		<i>p<.000</i>	<i>p<.000</i>	<i>p<.086</i>	<i>p<.027</i>	<i>p<.011</i>	<i>p<.035</i>	<i>p<.000</i>	Ns

SOURCE: Same as Table 2.

NOTE: Significance levels refer to results of chi-square analysis between type of volunteer work and the relevant socio-economic status variable. For p<.01, coefficients are in **bold**, for p<.05 coefficients are underlined, for p<.10 coefficients are in *italics*. Significance levels of .05 or less meet generally accepted statistical criteria. Race is not related to any of the dependent variables and detailed data have therefore been excluded from this table.

**TABLE 3: TYPES OF VOLUNTEER WORNTS BY COMMUNITY ATTACHMENT
INDIANA RESIDENTS, MAY 2001**

Community Attachment Variables	N	Percent Performing Volunteer Work by Type of Work							
		Any Type (1)	Fundraisin g (2)	Religious Services (3)	Leading/ Managing (4)	Direct Services (5)	Facilities/ Grounds (6)	Communi- cation (7)	Other Type (8)
A. Years in community									
5 yrs or less	100	35.0	25.0	7.0	11.0	14.0	6.0	5.0	7.0
6 - 15 yrs	110	41.8	28.2	12.7	11.8	14.5	7.3	2.7	12.7
16 - 30 yrs	133	44.4	30.1	15.8	8.3	12.8	9.0	6.8	12.0
31 yrs or more	183	48.1	29.0	16.9	16.4	8.2	4.9	7.7	13.7
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns
B. Likely to stay 5 years									
Very likely	369	43.9	27.9	15.7	14.1	10.3	7.6	6.5	13.0
Somewhat likely	88	39.8	30.7	11.4	9.1	12.5	4.5	2.3	8.0
Not too or at all likely	67	44.8	28.4	6.0	7.5	19.4	4.5	7.5	10.4
All	524	43.3	28.4	13.7	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		ns	ns	p<.080	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns
C. Registered to vote									
No	101	20.8	12.9	5.9	3.0	4.0	5.0	1.0	7.9
Yes	425	48.7	32.0	15.8	14.6	13.6	7.1	7.1	12.7
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		p<.000	p<.000	p<.010	p<.001	p<.007	p<.007	p<.020	ns
D. Own home									
Rent/other	143	39.2	24.5	11.9	12.6	14.0	9.1	4.9	8.4
Own	383	44.9	29.8	14.6	12.3	11.0	5.7	6.3	13.1
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns
E. Frequency of news									
Every day	355	46.8	31.3	15.2	13.0	13.0	6.2	6.8	13.0
Few times week	113	39.8	23.0	15.0	11.5	11.5	9.7	5.3	9.7
Once/wk or less	58	29.3	20.7	3.4	10.3	5.2	3.4	1.7	8.6
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		p<.032	p<.093	p<.051	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns

Continued.

**TABLE 3 (continued): TYPES OF VOLUNTEER WORNTS BY COMMUNITY ATTACHMENT
INDIANA RESIDENTS, MAY 2001**

Community Attachment Variables	N	Percent Performing Volunteer Work by Type of Work							
		Any Type (1)	Fund-raising (2)	Religious Services (3)	Leading/Managing (4)	Direct Services (5)	Facilities/ Grounds (6)	Communi-cation (7)	Other Type (8)
F. Source of news									
TV	130	37.7	26.9	15.4	7.7	8.5	6.2	5.4	8.5
Radio	58	44.8	34.5	12.1	12.1	15.5	6.9	6.9	12.1
Newspapers	244	48.0	28.7	16.8	15.6	11.5	7.0	6.6	13.1
Other	94	38.3	25.5	5.3	10.6	14.9	6.4	4.3	12.8
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
<i>Significance level (p<)</i>		ns	ns	<u>p<.048</u>	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns

SOURCE: Same as Table 2.

NOTE: Significance levels refer to results of chi-square analysis between type of volunteer work and the relevant community attachment variable. For p<.01, coefficients are in **bold**, for p<.05 coefficients are underlined, for p<.10 coefficients are in *italics*. Significance levels of .05 or less meet generally accepted statistical criteria. Race is not related to any to the dependent variables and detailed data have therefore been excluded from this table.

**TABLE 4: TYPES OF VOLUNTEER WORNTS BY RELIGIOUS INVOLVEMENT
INDIANA RESIDENTS, MAY 2001**

Religious Involvement Variables	N	Percent Performing Volunteer Work by Type of Work							
		Any Type	Fundraising	Religious Services	Leading/Managing	Direct Services	Facilities/ Grounds	Communi-cation	Other Type
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
A. Religious preference									
Catholic	95	37.9	32.6	10.5	8.4	7.4	9.5	3.2	10.5
Protestant	193	51.3	28.0	21.2	15.0	11.4	7.3	6.2	17.6
Other Christian	136	47.8	30.1	14.0	14.7	16.2	6.6	8.1	8.8
Other Preference	42	33.3	28.6	7.1	9.5	14.3	4.8	7.1	4.8
None	53	20.8	15.1	--	5.7	7.5	1.9	1.9	5.7
All	519	43.4	28.1	14.1	12.3	11.8	6.7	5.8	11.8
Significance level (p<)		p<.001	ns	p<.001	ns	ns	ns	ns	p<.021
B. Relig. Attendance									
No preference/missing	60	23.3	18.3	--	6.7	8.3	1.7	3.3	6.7
Never	67	31.3	16.4	3.0	6.0	11.9	4.5	3.0	13.4
LT once a month	99	33.3	24.2	--	9.1	9.1	4.0	4.0	13.1
Once a month	51	37.3	33.3	2.0	13.7	5.9	2.0	3.9	9.8
2-3 times/month	57	43.9	38.6	10.5	17.5	15.8	10.5	7.0	5.3
Once a week	116	52.6	35.3	25.9	17.2	16.4	12.1	8.6	9.5
2-3 times/week	76	72.4	30.3	44.7	14.5	11.8	7.9	9.2	22.4
All	526	43.3	28.3	13.9	12.4	11.8	6.7	5.9	11.8
Significance level (p<)		p<.000	p<.020	p<.000	ns	ns	p<.045	ns	p<.041

SOURCE: Same as Table 2. Note: Same as Table 2, except refers to relationship between type of volunteer work and religious involvement variables.