

Happiness

Where you find it depends on where you think you live

By TIM RICHARD

They say good research confirms what you already know. If that is so, then the \$150,000 which the National Science Foundation spent surveying the "quality of life" in metropolitan Detroit was well spent.

Few surprises were contained in the report, actually conducted and written by a five-member team from the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research (ISR).

Suburbanites in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties are generally happier with their lives, their public schools, their neighborhoods and their local governments than Detroiters are; but Detroiters are generally happier than residents of other metropolitan areas across the nation, and folks everywhere are worried about crime and public safety—although the social researchers consider many of their fears ill-founded and exaggerated by the news media.

Surveyed were 1,194 households in the tri-county area. Angus Campbell, director of ISR, said people's perceptions were compared to objective

data, where possible, to determine the accuracy of their perceptions. He added that the survey can help governments and other institutions improve their planning and public services.

Interviews, which averaged 75 minutes each, were conducted from October 1974 to February of '75. Here are some results:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Tri-county residents accept the epithet that Detroit is the "homicide capital of the world," but the ISR group argues that the image and public fears are exaggerated.

Downtown Detroit is avoided by 36 per cent of Detroiters and 66 per cent of suburbanites because of "concern about crime."

Gun ownership is more prevalent in the suburbs (see chart), although a greater percentage of suburbanites say they use guns for hunting.

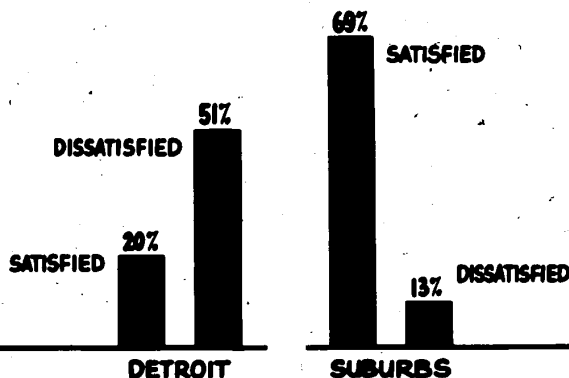
Satisfied with their personal safety were 51 per cent of Detroiters and 66 per cent of suburbanites. Dissatisfied

were 31 per cent of Detroiters and only four per cent of suburbanites. One suburbanite in 40 thought his neighborhood more dangerous than other non-Detroit neighborhoods, but nearly two-thirds thought they were less dangerous than average. ISR suggests: "People tend to overestimate the danger of areas with which they do not have personal experience."

ISR argues with these perceptions of safety: "Improvements in police practices can, paradoxically, raise the apparent crime rate by improving the efficiency of recording crimes. A police department that succeeds in establishing a reputation as being helpful may manage to increase the rate at which such crimes are reported to it, thus resulting in misleading increases in the crime statistics."

"There are suggestions in our data that the fear expressed by the respondents has been exaggerated by the importance attached to official statistics and the newsworthiness of violent crimes."

PUBLIC SCHOOLS



NEIGHBORHOODS

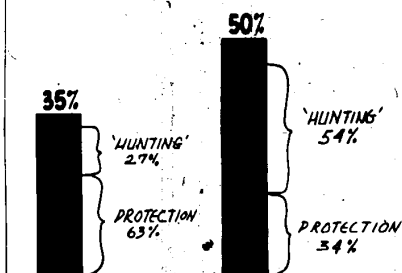
Other people—rather than location, shopping or general appearance—were most important when the persons surveyed were asked about their neighborhoods. Three-fourths of suburbanites preferred neighborhoods that were all or

mostly white, in the Wayne County suburbs, that preference was 80 per cent; in Oakland, 79. Blacks preferred racially mixed neighborhoods (see chart).

Among whites, suburban Wayne County had only six per cent in favor of mixed neighborhoods; in Oakland, 11 per cent.

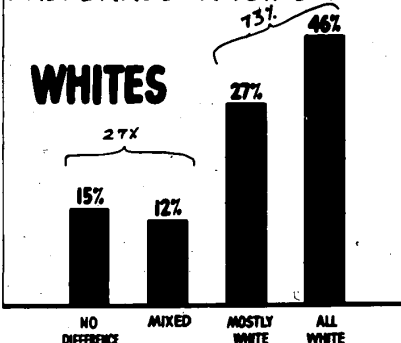
In the entire metropolitan area, 75 per cent were largely or completely satisfied with their neighborhoods. The satisfaction level dropped to 41 per cent in Detroit's inner ring, rose to 73 per cent on Detroit's west side, then jumped to 83 per cent in Oakland County and to about 90 per cent in suburban Wayne County.

OWN GUNS

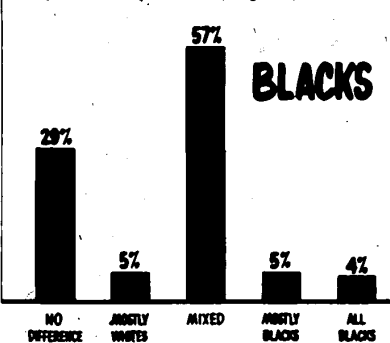


DETROIT SUBURBS

PREFERRED RACIAL MIX



PREFERRED RACIAL MIX



Artists' colony caters to conservative tastes

By MARILYN FINKEL

Carmel, on the Monterey peninsula in California, has both the spectacular setting which would appear to be conducive to the arts and a traditional reputation as an artist's colony.

However, on a recent visit to the area, the gallery exhibits just don't seem to fulfill either the inspirational environment or the reputation.

Painting, sculpture, and the crafts, for the most part, are not only extremely repetitious, but in lots of instances, just not good.

The Birmingham galleries exhibit better quality and more advanced work than Carmel, which is a credit to both our local galleries and the art public.

so appreciate the integrity and daring of the good local galleries here.

There were a couple of bright, artistic spots in the area. A weaver, Sylvia Lovell Cooper, originally from England, whose studio is in Carmel Valley, is doing exciting concepts in fiber.

She emphasizes strong, tightly woven or wrapped compositions which she bases on anthropology, primitive dance myths and such themes. Her special interest is in Micronesian and African mythology.

This primitive inception is enforced with handspun jute and sisal fabrics. She explained that it was so difficult to get proper materials in her region, that she does most of her own spinning and dyeing.

HER HUSBAND, Roger, does welded bronze sculptures of abstracted human forms that are both strong and archaic in feeling. They are long, sparse and linear, the epitome isolated man.

The Coopers also combine their particular specialties in some works but in these, one of the other dominates as they feel equal distribution of interest will diminish both.

"The Touch of Midas" combines bronze, welded circles with rya and basketry weaving. "Accelerated" is jute wrapped in sisal with the rya technique inside. This is a forerunner to a metal armature in which she has combined several materials, all dyed the same color.

"Enter the Matriarch" is part of a dance sequence based on Greek

mythology and combines homespun yarn, jute, horse hair, and goat hair.

IN HER FIBERS and in her philosophy, Sylvia Lovell-Cooper believes that fiber is moving towards closer weaving, flatter appearances with a return to an emphasis on good designs and color combinations.

The San Francisco area, so much more diversified in people and attitude is a much more fertile climate for the creative artist.

One of the most exciting is David Karoski who works in Raku ceramics and heads that department at San Francisco State College. His forms are monumental in size but with thin, delicate walls that belie their size and the complexity of such results in the Raku process.

His vessels are self-contained, closed forms that have either one or two small openings as if just the barest exterior intrusion is allowed. Serenity and confidence exude from these vessels.

SOME HAVE oriental slip designs of green, blue and white, others have the barest glazes of natural earth tones that re-inforce his concept of the primal union of earth, clay and man.

Bloomfield Hills residents, Dr. and Mrs. Paul Feinberg acquired a wonderful vessel of his which has been exhibited in California museums. These are majestic, sculptural forms of strength and beauty.

These are three artists who should be known here. We deserve them.



"Enter the Matriarch" is an example of Sylvia Lovell Cooper's work.

Artist club to hold a meeting in Sept.

The Farmington Artist Club will hold its opening fall meeting at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 18, at the North Farmington Public Library, 22737 Twelve Mile. Admission is charged for non-members.

Mrs. Anna Muccioli, guest speaker, will give a watercolor demonstration and have a question and answer period.

An artist-teacher with her own studio and gallery in Grasse Public Farms, she studied with Boris Shtrom, Pucci, Nick Bubala and Charles Culver.

Some of her work is on display at the Detroit Institute of Art and the Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association.

Choosing a career must be done wisely

The trend toward more institutional education has left teachers and PhD's on the streets while skilled craftsmen and paraprofessionals cannot be snatched fast enough by eager employers.

Enrollment in vocational education programs in Farmington has been making rapid gains in the last 10 years. Farmington School District offers many programs in three different classifications.

Earl Baumark, director of vocational education, estimates that 80 per cent of all Farmington students have enrolled in at least one of the exploratory vocational programs, and 32 per cent of all Farmington high school juniors and seniors are enrolled in one or more vocational classes this fall.

The schools internally offer 43 classes in 10 major categories. Categories include machine shop, welding, auto mechanics, printing, electronics, engineering drafting, marketing, office occupations and nursing. They also offer a home economics series which isn't occupationally oriented, but is designed to improve family living, Baumark said.

MOST OF THESE are offered in what Baumark calls a "pre-vocational" program. Offered at the junior high level, they are designed to feed into other programs. For example, a metals technology class will feed into machine shop.

Those students interested in learning more may elect to take any one of 10 programs offered at a vocational education center in Walled Lake. The center is called the Southwestern Oakland Vocational Education Center (SWOVEC), and nearly 220 Farmington students attend it each year. From 75 to 100 area students will graduate from SWOVEC each year.

Programs in nursing, marketing, office occupations and trade and industrial fields are offered through the well-known co-operative program.

Baumark said his next priority is to establish a program in food management, whenever the money is available.

But even the advantage of a background in vocational education does not guarantee the future graduate a job. According to current advice, students should carefully equip themselves with a broad background in both the sciences and humanities.

Rapid changes in technology may create new jobs and make others obsolete, and a general education may provide the bridge from one to the other.

If a student wishes to further his education in a private educational school, some comparative shopping and a little detective work are in order. A vocational school may be a big investment when a career is in the balance.

THE BEST WAY to check on a school is to contact prospective employers to find out what they think of that school's graduates. After listing three or four companies in your field of interest, a current federal publication suggests you ask them the following questions:

- Would you hire graduates of this school?
- How many have you actually hired in the last year?
- Were they hired because of school training?
- Did training make any difference in starting salary?

The best people to ask would be in the company's personnel office, or you can either visit, write or call them.

There are other inquiries you should make. Are there jobs available for the skills you want? Talk to companies that should be hiring, employment agencies, labor unions and trade associations.

If there are any complaints about the school or courses it offers, the chamber of commerce, Better Business Bureau or Federal Trade Commission should know. You might also call present or former students whose names you can get from high school connections.