National Homeless People’s Civil Rights Campaign Survey Instrument

Introduction: My name is ___________ and I’m with ______________. We are working with over a dozen community organizations around the country to try to link different homeless communities together to address the civil and human rights violations that occur all over the country on a daily basis. We are conducting a survey to help us set our priorities. The survey lasts about eight minutes. Would you be willing to participate?

1a) Have police harassed you or have you seen them harass other people:

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<th></th>
<th>Harvey</th>
<th>Cited</th>
<th>Arrested</th>
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<th>Harvey</th>
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<td>sleeping</td>
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<td>sitting or lying down</td>
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<td>panhandling</td>
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<td>receiving free food</td>
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<td>loitering or hanging out</td>
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<td>sleeping in a vehicle</td>
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<td>having a dog</td>
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<td>jaywalking</td>
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<td>appearing “homeless”</td>
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<td>other</td>
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<td>explain:</td>
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*** Interviewer: For each area where the interviewee indicates having been harassed, follow up to see if they have been cited or arrested, as well.

2) To your knowledge, which laws do police use against homeless people most frequently?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

3) Have you been arrested on a bench warrant that you got because you were homeless?
   Yes  No  Don’t know

4) Have you ever seen or encountered private security guards hassling people, ordering people away, or otherwise policing public sidewalks or parks?
   Yes  No  Don’t know

5) Do police hassle you without using the law?
   Yes  No  Don’t know

6) Have you ever had your belongings lost, stolen or confiscated by ______Police, ______Private Security or others _________ (who?) What was taken?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

6a) If yes, did you get them back?
   Yes  No

6b) If yes, how did you get them back?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________
7) Do you know of/have access to any advocacy group/legal non-profit /etc. than can help you with tickets/arrests or citation?

Yes  No

8) Do you think that you have been ticketed because of your race_______, disability_______, gender_______, or economic status_______? (Check all that apply)

8a) Do you think that you have been arrested because of your race_______, disability_______, gender_______, or economic status_______? (Check all that apply)

9) Do you know your rights when being stopped by the police?

Yes  No  Don’t know

9a) Do you know your rights when being stopped by a security guard/city employee in a public area?

Yes  No  Don’t know

9b) If you assert your rights when dealing with police/security guard/city employee, do you find that police respect your rights?

Always  Usually  Rarely  Never

10) Have you ever had a case heard in court about tickets/citations/arrests?

Yes  No

10a) What was the outcome of your case? (For example: jail, fine, social services plan, community service, stay-away order__________________________)

11) Have you ever tried to get a shelter bed in the area?

Yes  No

11a) How often were you able to get a bed?

Always  Usually  Rarely  Never

12) Do you know of places where it is safe and legal for you to sleep outside?

Yes  No

13) Do you have adequate access to hygiene in your community?

___Drinking fountains/drinkable water____ bathroom/showers _____laundry _____hygiene products

___No access

14) Considering the topics we've discussed in the past few minutes, what do you think are the worst issues with violations of homeless people's civil and human rights in our community?

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

* When this form is completed please send it to us at WRAP. We will send you your local results and the national as well.