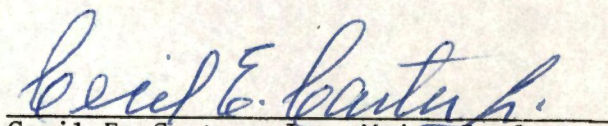
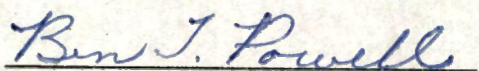
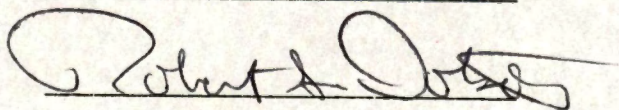


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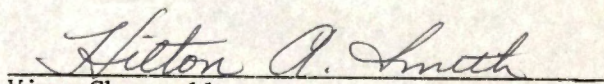
I am submitting herewith a thesis written by James Dennis Taylor entitled "Influence of Parental Characteristics on the Retention of Senior 4-H Club Members in Wayne County, Tennessee." I recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science, with a major in Agricultural Extension.


Cecil E. Carter, Jr., Major Professor

We have read this thesis and
recommend its acceptance:

Accepted for the Council:


Vice Chancellor
Graduate Studies and Research

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INFLUENCE OF PARENTAL CHARACTERISTICS ON THE RETENTION OF SENIOR
4-H CLUB MEMBERS IN WAYNE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

A Thesis
Presented for the
Master of Science
Degree
The University of Tennessee

James Dennis Taylor

December 1975

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ABSTRACT

This study was concerned with the relationship between various parental characteristics and the retention of senior 4-H youth in Wayne County, Tennessee. Data were collected from 30 parents of senior 4-H members and 30 parents of former 4-H members. Senior age 4-H youth were those in the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades while former members included those who had been 4-H members sometime during the past four years but had dropped out of 4-H. Sixty parents were interviewed through personal visits and telephone calls. One hundred and ten variables were identified and used as a basis for determining if parental characteristics were related to the retention of senior 4-H members in Wayne County. The statistical test used in the analysis of data was chi square. The .05 level was selected as being statistically significant. Computations were done by the University of Tennessee Computation Center.

Major findings of the study were:

1. Background characteristics of parents of senior 4-H'ers and parents of 4-H dropouts were not significantly different relative to: father's occupation, mother's occupation, place of residence, property ownership, where father or mother was reared, miles living from Waynesboro, or number of driveable vehicles.

2. Four-H background of parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different relative to: years father or mother was a 4-H'er, years father or mother was adult

leader, years father or mother was a junior leader, participation in 4-H contests, out-of-county 4-H participation, or out-of-town 4-H event participation.

3. The identification of youth organization emblems and motto by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Parents were asked to identify the FFA emblem, FHA emblem, Boy Scout emblem, Girl Scout emblem, 4-H emblem and 4-H motto.

4. Personal and family characteristics of parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Personal and family characteristics studied were age, number of children in family, health condition, years of school completed and economic level.

5. General personal characteristics and availability of communication techniques to parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Characteristics studied were preference of voluntary organizations, keeping of records, ownership of a radio, reception of a radio station WAAN, recipient of Extension newsletter, and subscription to Wayne County News.

6. Special interests of parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different regarding sports, reading, music, sewing and baking.

7. Youth participation in sports and organizations of fathers of senior 4-H'ers compared with fathers of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Participation included athletic club, basketball, baseball, football, 4-H, Beta Club, Future Farmers of America, band,

church, science club, Boy Scouts, other youth activities, Future Homemakers of America and total activity participation.

8. Youth participation in youth organizations by mothers of senior 4-H'ers compared with mothers of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different. Participation areas were athletic club, 4-H Club, Beta Club, FHA, band, church, science club, Girl Scouts, other youth activities and total youth activity participation.

9. Participation and leadership in fund raising drives by fathers of senior 4-H'ers compared with fathers of former 4-H'ers were significantly different. Fathers of 4-H dropouts were more active in fund raising events.

10. Participation and leadership in organizations and sports by fathers of senior 4-H'ers compared with fathers of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Leadership and participation areas were civic clubs, community club, country club, scouts, church, coach of amateur sports, 4-H, other activities and all adult organizations and sports activities.

11. Adult participation and leadership in organizations and sports by mothers of senior 4-H'ers compared with mothers of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Areas of participation included civic clubs, community club, Home Demonstration Club, Scouts, 4-H, church, coach of amateur sports, fund raising drives, other activities and all adult activities.

12. Parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers had received more visits from the Extension Agents.

13. Knowledge about 4-H exhibited by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different. This included what 4-H meant to the parent, knowledge of 4-H being a volunteer organization, the role of a project leader and receiving advice from the Agricultural Extension Service.

14. Parental attitudes relative to the adequacy of 4-H contests, need for other 4-H contests, feelings about the 4-H awards program, competition, project publications, relatedness of 4-H publications to projects, need for 4-H record keeping, emphasis on record keeping, 4-H newsletter, citizenship and leadership opportunities and available projects and activities experienced by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different.

15. Interest in 4-H with respect to times provided transportation to a 4-H event by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was significantly different. Parents of senior 4-H members had provided transportation of their children to 4-H events more frequently than did the parents of the 4-H dropouts.

16. Attendance at a 4-H Awards Program by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers had a tendency to be significantly different. However, it did not achieve the .05 level of significance.

17. Interest in 4-H as stated by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different regarding encouraging the youth to participate in 4-H whether or not they provided transportation to 4-H events, attendance at a county 4-H event, event attended, willingness to serve as a 4-H leader, listening to Agricultural

Extension Radio programs over WAAN, reading of news column in the Wayne County News, and suggestions on improving the 4-H program. General recommendations were made.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING	1
Introduction	1
Need for the Study	2
Statement of the Problem	3
Purpose of the Study	3
Limitations of the Study	4
Method of Investigation	4
The population and sample	4
Developing the interview schedule	5
Collection of data	5
Analysis of data	6
Definitions of Terms	6
II. RELATED RESEARCH	8
Family and Personal Background Characteristics of Parents as Related to the Retention of Senior 4-H'ers	8
Parents' Participation in Sports and Organizations as a Youth Relative to Retention of Senior 4-H Youth	11
Influence of Parents' Adult Participation and Leadership in Sports and Organizations Toward the Retention of Senior 4-H Members	12
Influence of Parent's Knowledge, Interest, and Attitude About 4-H and the Retention of Senior Members	12
III. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY	15
Background Characteristics	15
4-H Background	18
Identification of Youth Emblems and Mottos	22
Personal and Family Characteristics	25
Availability of Communication Media	29
Areas of Special Interests	32
Participation in Youth Organizations by Fathers	34
Participation and Leadership in Youth Activities by Fathers	38
Participation in Youth Organization by Mothers	43
Participation and Leadership in Youth Activities by Mothers	48
Knowledge of 4-H	53
Attitudes Toward 4-H Work	56
Interests in 4-H Club Work	61

CHAPTER	PAGE
IV. SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS, IMPLICATIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS	68
Purpose and Specific Objectives	68
Purpose	68
Specific objectives	68
Methods of Investigation	69
Population and sample	69
Statistical analysis	69
Major Findings	70
Family and personal background characteristics of parents	70
Participation in sports and organizations by parents	71
Influence of adult participation and leadership in sports and organizations by parents	72
Parents' knowledge, interest, and attitude about 4-H	73
Recommendations	74
Recommendations for Further Study	75
BIBLIOGRAPHY	76
APPENDIX	81
VITA	87

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE	PAGE
I. Background Characteristics of Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	16
II. Four-H Background of Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	19
III. Youth Organization Emblem and Motto Identification by Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	23
IV. Personal and Family Characteristics of Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	26
V. General Personal Characteristics and Availability of Communication Techniques of Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	30
VI. Special Interest of Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	33
VII. Youth Participation in Sports and Organizations of Fathers of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Fathers of Former 4-H'ers	35
VIII. Adult Participation and Leadership in Organizations and Sports of Fathers of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Fathers of Former 4-H'ers	39
IX. Youth Participation in Sports and Organizations of Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Mothers of Former 4-H Members	44
X. Adult Participation and Leadership in Organizations and Sports of Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Mothers of Former 4-H'ers	49
XI. Knowledge About 4-H as Stated by Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	54
XII. Attitude About 4-H as Expressed by Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	57
XIII. Interest in 4-H as Stated by Parents of Senior 4-H'ers Compared with Parents of Former 4-H'ers	62

CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING

I. INTRODUCTION

Since before the Smith-Lever Act was passed establishing the Agricultural Extension Service, boys and girls youth clubs have been an integral part of the society. For more than fifty years the basic premise upon which youth educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service have functioned is expressed in A Guide to Extension Programs for the Future, "The future of any society depends on how well it prepares its young people to make the decisions and carry the responsibilities of mature citizenship (29:261).*

Four-H Club work does not replace school work but supplements it. Four-H Clubs provide the missing element—a close and personal association between knowledge and life situations. It has often been stated by teachers that 4-H boys and girls become better classroom students than before (29:262).

Each 4-H clubber is served with a continuous challenge through the 4-H motto "To Make The Best Better" (29:262). The primary aim of this voluntary educational program is to provide greater educational opportunities for the mental, physical, social, and spiritual growth of our young people. It is Extension's objective to provide informal

*Numbers in parentheses refer to similarly numbered references in the Bibliography; those after the colon are page numbers.

educational experiences which supplement the training received in the home, church, school, and other youth programs (40:15).

The building of good parent relations and family life is another basic doctrine of Extension's educational work with young people. Adults have a responsibility for youth development and can help build a strong youth program (40:16).

Four-H Club work at its best is a partnership affair. Parents are important in a 4-H member's success and whether or not he actively participates in 4-H projects, events, and activities (36:4).

Experience indicates that parents can have considerable influence upon whether a boy or girl remains in 4-H or drops out. Over the previous 15 years there had been a decline in the enrollment of senior 4-H youth (i.e. those in grades ten, eleven, and twelve) in Tennessee as well as other states.

II. NEED FOR THE STUDY

The effectiveness of the senior 4-H program has been an interest of most Tennessee Extension agents for several years. Graduate studies and county surveys have been taken on various factors related to the retention of senior 4-H'ers throughout the past few years. However, the relationship between parental characteristics and retention of senior age boys and girls in 4-H Club work in Tennessee had not been studied.

If agents could identify any significant factors related to parental characteristics and the retention of senior 4-H'ers, they

would be in a position to do a more effective job of planning and conducting the 4-H programs in their county.

III. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Senior 4-H enrollment in the United States, as well as Tennessee has been on the decline for several years (5:2). From 1965 to 1974, senior enrollment in Tennessee dropped from 12,369 to 9,851, or a reduction of 20 percent (37:39).

Senior 4-H clubs in Wayne County, Tennessee and in other counties across the state are plagued annually with the problem of losing boys and girls before they reach senior 4-H Club age or shortly thereafter. Senior 4-H membership in Tennessee Extension Supervisory District II declined from 2,839 in 1965 to 2,367 in 1974, or 17 percent. Wayne County senior 4-H enrollment showed more drastic losses from 1966 figures of 172 to 1974 enrollment of 68, or a 60 percent decrease (38:39).

IV. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The primary purpose was to determine the relationships between certain parental characteristics and the retention of senior 4-H youth in Wayne County, Tennessee. Specific objectives of the study were:

1. To identify and study differences between the family and personal characteristics of parents of senior 4-H boys and girls and parents of dropouts in Wayne County.
2. To compare parents of members and dropouts with regard to participation in sports and organizations when they were youths.

3. To compare parents of members and dropouts regarding adult participation and leadership in sports and organization.
4. To compare parents of members and dropouts on interests, attitudes, and knowledge of senior 4-H benefits and opportunities.

V. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study was limited to parents of senior 4-H youth who were members during 1973-74 and parents of former 4-H members in the same grade levels. The latter group included parents of youth who had been 4-H members during the past four years in Wayne County, Tennessee. All areas of the county were represented with parents of youth who attended Clifton, Collinwood, and Waynesboro High Schools.

Parents of senior 4-H members were compared with parents of dropouts on 110 different variables. These variables were classified into four major categories: (1) family and personal background characteristics of parents (38 variables); (2) youth social characteristics of parents (24 variables); (3) adult social characteristics of parents (21 variables); and (4) interests, knowledge, and attitudes about 4-H by parents (27 variables).

VI. METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

The Population and Sample

The population of the study included all parents of Senior High (i.e. those in tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades) youth enrolled in

Clifton, Collinwood, and Waynesboro High Schools during 1973-74. The population included 71 parents of senior 4-H members and 216 parents of 4-H dropouts.

The sample included 30 sets of parents of boys and girls who had been senior 4-H members during 1973-74 and 30 sets of parents of boys and girls who were not 4-H'ers in 1973-74, but had been members sometime in the past four years. They were selected by the "nth" number technique. Therefore, the total sample included sixty sets of parents of senior high age youth. Both the telephone and face-to-face interview techniques were used to secure data.

Developing the Interview Schedule

The initial step in developing the interview schedule was to study and evaluate other questionnaires previously constructed and used in similar studies (11:22). Facts and ideas from committee members, staff members, and earlier questionnaires were also used in developing the interview schedule.

Collection of Data

Data were collected from the sixty parents primarily through face-to-face interviews. However, telephone interviews were conducted with 10 parents. Those having telephones were contacted prior to the personal visit to schedule the interview and to explain the purpose and need for the interview and request for personal interview. All interviews were completed between November 1, 1974 and January 31, 1975.

Analysis of Data

The statistical test used in the analysis of data was chi square. The chi square values which achieved at least the .05 level of significance were accepted as being statistically significant. Computation was done by the University of Tennessee Computing Center.

A contingency Table Analysis Computer program (SPSS, Crosstabs) was used to compare parents of present and former 4-H members. Output for this program included: (1) frequency tables, (2) row, column, and table percentages, and (3) chi square values and degrees of freedom. Although the no responses are included in the tables, they were omitted for purposes of computing the chi square values and the degrees of freedom.

VII. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

It is necessary that both the writer and reader fully understand the particular meaning of certain terms expressed in the study. The following definitions more fully describe the terms as used throughout the remainder of the body of the thesis.

Dropouts (former 4-H members). Tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade boys and girls who were 4-H members sometime during the four years previous to 1973-74 4-H Club year but were not members in 1973-74.

Parents of Senior 4-H Club Members. Parents of Senior 4-H Club members who were in the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades and belonged to a 4-H Club during the 1973-74 4-H Club year.

Parents of former 4-H Club Members. Parents of tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade boys and girls who were not 4-H'ers, but had been 4-H Club members sometime during the previous four years.

CHAPTER II

RELATED RESEARCH

Available literature pertaining to the influence of parental characteristics on the retention or loss of senior 4-H Club members throughout the United States was found to be somewhat limited. Related studies will be reported under the major headings: (1) family and personal background characteristics of parents, (2) parents participation in organizations and sports as a youth, (3) parents leadership and participation in organizations and sports as an adult, and (4) parent's knowledge, attitude, and interest in 4-H Club work.

I. FAMILY AND PERSONAL BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS AS RELATED TO THE RETENTION OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS

In a study by John Copp and R. C. Clark on reenrollment in 1957, it was found that family background opportunities were associated with reenrollment (8:33). The occupation of the senior age youth's parents has been reported to be significantly related to 4-H membership status. Shirley Hamilton collected data from 407 ninth and tenth grade girls in Greene County, Tennessee during 1970 relative to factors related to 4-H membership status. A similar study was conducted with 308 boys of the same age group in 1972 by Joseph McClure in Greene County, Tennessee. Both studies determined that 4-H membership status had been significantly related to the fathers' occupation (11:72; 18:73).

Other classic studies related to family background characteristics of parents include Natalie Straub's 1964 Wisconsin study on factors influencing parent participation in 4-H; Howes' 1952 Maryland study on reenrollment of first-year members in Baltimore and R. L. Esbeck's 1961 Iowa study in 21 selected counties on holding power of 4-H Clubs. These studies indicated that 4-H members were more likely to be sons or daughters of farmers or farm-related parents than were dropouts (8:33; 9:49; 11:72; 12:27; 18:73; 24:61; 34:2). Straub found the amount of time required by parents' occupation could prevent them from assisting with clubs and serving as leaders (34:2).

When the occupation of mothers' senior 4-H'ers and dropouts was studied, Esbeck and Howes found that a significantly higher percentage of mothers of 4-H members did not work away from home than did those of dropouts (9:49; 12:27). Howes' study involved 101 boys who reenrolled in Baltimore 4-H Clubs during 1952 and 58 boys who did not reenroll. Esbeck's study involved girls 13 and 14 years old in Iowa from 21 selected counties. However, McClure found that membership status among senior boys was not significantly related to mother's employment outside the home.

Studies revealing the importance of location of a 4-H'ers' home have been conducted by Copp, Esbeck, Hamilton, Middleton, and Mintmier. C. O. Middleton's 1958 study included 346 boys and 283 girls from 10 Wisconsin counties. E. A. Mintmier's 1957 study on reenrollment in Pennsylvania involved 406 boys and girls. These studies indicate that children had a greater tendency to remain in 4-H Clubs when their home is located in open country or on a farm (8:32; 9:50; 11:74; 20:47; 21:34).

E. E. Letlow interviewed 77 of the 1960 junior 4-H Club members in Bienville Parish, Louisiana who did not reenroll in 1961. Joe F. Nichols interviewed 289 boys and girls during 1972 in Bledsoe County, Tennessee relative to influence of factors on level of participation by seventh, eighth, and ninth grade 4-H'ers. Letlow also reported a positive relationship between dropout rate and nonfarm residence (15:61). However, Nichols reported higher levels of participation come from members of nonfarm residence and high participants remained in 4-H longer (22:13). Middleton found that the size of farms and farm ownership were factors that affected enrollment (20:48). R. K. Weich in 1961 also found that living conditions, parental employment, home, and family size were problem areas of high school students—4-H and dropouts (45:38).

Marvin Shirley interviewed 75 mothers of 4-H Club members in Claiborne Parish, Louisiana during 1961 relative to the factors associated with the knowledge and assistance of parents of junior 4-H members. The study revealed that there was a greater tendency for parents to serve as 4-H leaders and their children to remain in 4-H longer when the parents had been 4-H members themselves (31:3). Parents who were former 4-H leaders were more apt to be participating than other parents (8:33; 34:2). Wesley Rouse interviewed 73 male senior 4-H Club members and 92 male senior youth who had dropped out of 4-H in a Hamilton County, Tennessee study during 1964. The study involved factors influencing retention of senior 4-H Club boys. If parents

were members or leaders, the children were generally encouraged to become active in club work and remain in it for longer periods of time (20:47; 26:33).

Participating in 4-H was found to be significantly related to parents' educational achievement and fathers' occupation, but not to whether or not the mother worked outside the home (22:14; 31:14; 44:69). This relationship was a result of studies by Shirley in 1966, Nichols in 1972, and Warren in 1972. Warren's study included 350 junior high youth in Cannon County, Tennessee relative to factors of participation. R. E. Brach and C. O. Middleton conducted separate studies which indicated that the persistence of tenure in 4-H by boys was significantly related to their higher family socioeconomic level (3:61; 20:48). Brach's study on relationship of family background to persistence in 4-H Club work involved 92 boys and 84 girls in 10 Wisconsin communities.

Conversely, a Michigan study by Cervantes found that in dropout situations among high school youth, less than one in twenty drops out because of economic needs (6:98).

II. PARENTS' PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS AND ORGANIZATIONS AS A YOUTH RELATIVE TO RETENTION OF SENIOR 4-H YOUTH

There is a very limited amount of research available pertaining to retention of senior 4-H youth relative to the prior involvement of their parents in sports and organizations when they were youth. In separate studies by Copp and Clark, Middleton, Shirley and Straub, it was found that parents who were 4-H members were more apt to encourage their child to participate in 4-H Club work (8:33; 20:47; 31:2; 34:2).

III. INFLUENCE OF PARENTS' ADULT PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN SPORTS AND ORGANIZATIONS TOWARD THE RETENTION OF SENIOR 4-H MEMBERS

Children of parents interested in 4-H and active in 4-H affairs had higher reenrollment rates than children of uninterested and inactive parents according to studies by Copp and Clark, Merton, and Mintmier (8:33; 17:34; 21:35). Middleton found that pupils tended to remain in 4-H Clubs longer when their parents were 4-H leaders (20:48).

Maxine Byerley conducted a study in 1971 in Bradley County, Tennessee concerning factors influencing 4-H membership status of 208 ninth and tenth grade girls. Studies including Byerley's have shown a relationship between parental participation in social and other organizations and the retention of their children in 4-H (5:94; 8:33; 11:72; 12:17; 20:48; 26:102; 34:3). This was especially true among 4-H mothers. When mothers were not members of any club or organization, there was a greater tendency for the girls not to be members of 4-H (5:94).

IV. INFLUENCE OF PARENTS' KNOWLEDGE, INTEREST, AND ATTITUDE ABOUT 4-H AND THE RETENTION OF SENIOR MEMBERS

Many 4-H reenrollment studies have included the interest and attitude of parents as variables. Visits by Extension personnel with 4-H members and parents has been studied in conjunction with reenrollment. E. W. Aiton conducted a study on vitality factors in Maryland 4-H programs during 1956. B. J. Greene interviewed 178 mothers of junior 4-H'ers in Livingston Parish, Louisiana during 1962 relative to factors

affecting support and cooperation of parents. F. W. Stowe, Jr. held tape-recorded interviews with 28 4-H dropouts; 16 4-H'ers; and 28 parents and/or leaders of the same club members in Pullman, Washington during 1963. A. W. Brehm surveyed 159 4-H dairy project members in 1957. All these studies further indicated that members receiving visits and help from adult leaders, agents, and/or parents tended to remain in 4-H longer (1:31; 4:61; 10:24; 12:27; 26:104; 31:2; 34:6; 33; 34; 44:67).

Studies by Copp and Clark, Mintmier, and Warren indicated that providing youth with adequate transportation to 4-H activities was significantly important to reenrollment (8:32; 21:35; 44:15).

Jean Cogburn and others studied factors affecting 4-H enrollment. In 1968, Cogburn used a questionnaire to survey 551 senior 4-H'ers relative to factors affecting enrollment patterns in Habersham County, Georgia. They found that the child must receive proper encouragement from the parents or guardians to continue interest in 4-H and other youth organizations. Favorable attitudes and interests by parents regarding joining and remaining in 4-H were proven significant in many studies (2:11; 4:61; 5:94; 7; 11:92; 17:34; 18:74; 20:48; 21:35; 26:108; 31:3; 33:34).

Perry, North Carolina; Sandstead, Colorado; and Sabrosky found that failure or neglect of parents to cooperate with youth regarding 4-H has also been reported as a factor in 4-H dropouts (23:7; 26:72; 28; 30:28). Mintmier indicated family members of the active group reflected a closer relationship with each other than was true of the families of dropouts (21:35). A study by the Boy Scouts of America involving 3,600

scouts, non-scouts, parents, and volunteers across the United States was conducted to find out the needs and desires of boys. The Scout Report, White House Conference on Children, and other studies reveal it is important for families to develop good parent-child relationships and work habits (1:31; 13:50; 35; 46:251).

K. C. Lovejoy and others conducted personal interviews with 152 local leaders of 152 4-H Clubs within nine counties in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Ohio and 458 parents of the children in these same clubs during 1947. Their study was on how to get parental cooperation in 4-H Club work. Parents who leave a positive image of 4-H will tend to become more involved as leaders and supporters of 4-H. This has been shown to influence retention of senior 4-H youth (2; 7; 16:11; 34:6; 42:12).

CHAPTER III

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this chapter is to present findings of the study. Data were organized into 13 tables comparing the characteristics of parents of senior 4-H members with those of the parents of former members. The 110 parental characteristics were organized and presented in 13 tables.

I. BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Table I compares parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former senior 4-H youth relative to their occupations, place of residence, home ownership, place of residence as youth, miles lived from Waynesboro, and the number of driveable vehicles owned by the family.

Fifty-seven percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers were skilled or professional workers compared to 43 percent of the fathers of former 4-H'ers. More fathers of former members, 50 percent, were laborers or farmers than were fathers of senior 4-H'ers, 33 percent.

A similar trend occurred with the mother's occupation with 30 percent of the mothers of senior members being skilled, compared to 23 percent of the mothers of former members. More of the mothers of former members than of members were not employed outside the home.

Thirty-three percent of the parents of former members lived in town compared to 23 percent of parents of senior members.

TABLE I

BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS OF SENIOR
4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Background Characteristics	Parent of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Father's Occupation</u>		
Skilled or Professional	57	43
Laborer or Farmer	33	50
No Response	10	7
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.92; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Mother's Occupation</u>		
Homemaker (not employed)	37	54
Laborer	33	23
Skilled or Professional	30	23
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.71; df = 2; p > .05$		
<u>Residence</u>		
Farm	54	50
Town	23	33
Rural Nonfarm	23	17
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.90; df = 2; p > .05$		
<u>Home Ownership</u>		
Own Home	87	100
Rent or Live with Others	13	0
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 2.41; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Where Father Was Reared</u>		
Farm	70	67
Rural Town or Rural Nonfarm	10	20
No Response	20	13
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.37; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE I (continued)

Background Characteristics	Parent of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Where Mother Was Reared</u>		
Farm	70	73
City or Rural Nonfarm	30	27
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Miles Living from Waynesboro</u>		
Under 10 Miles	60	47
Eleven Miles and Over	40	53
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.60$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Number of Driveable Vehicles</u>		
Two and Under	63	63
Three and Over	37	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		

Practically all of the parents, 100 percent of the parents of former members and 87 percent of the parents of current members, own their home.

Seventy percent of the fathers of members were reared on the farm compared to 67 percent of the fathers of former members. Little differences were noted in the place where the mothers were reared.

Relative to the miles living from Waynesboro, there was a tendency for parents of former members to live a greater distance from the county seat. This would tend to indicate that youth tend to remain in 4-H longer when they do not live as far from the county seat.

Sixty-three percent of both groups had two and under driveable vehicles available to provide transportation for youth to participate in county 4-H activities.

When each variable found within this table was tested by chi square, the observed differences did not achieve the .05 level of significance for any of the variables. Therefore, parents of 4-H members did not differ significantly from parents of former members in their occupation, place of residence, home ownership, where they were reared, distance from place of residence to the county seat or the number of driveable vehicles owned by the family.

II. 4-H BACKGROUND

Table II compares parents of senior 4-H'ers with parents of former 4-H'ers relative to parental involvement in 4-H.

TABLE II

FOUR-H BACKGROUND OF PARENTS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED
WITH PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

4-H Background	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Years Father Was 4-H'er</u>		
One and Over	13	20
Not Any	87	80
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.12$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Years Mother Was 4-H'er</u>		
Under Eight	33	37
Never	67	63
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.00$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Years Father was Adult-Leader</u>		
Fifteen and Under	17	3
Never	53	64
No Response	30	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 2.97$; df = 2; p > .05		
<u>Years Mother Was Adult-Leader</u>		
Less Than Sixteen	23	17
Never	77	83
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.10$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Years Father was Junior-Leader</u>		
Less Than Three	0	3
Never or No Response	100	97
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.0$; df = 2; p > .05		

TABLE II (continued)

4-H Background	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Years Mother Was Junior-Leader</u>		
Less Than Three	3	3
No Response	97	97
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.52; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Participation in 4-H Contest*</u>		
Participated	13	30
Did Not Participate	87	70
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.57; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Out-Of-County 4-H Participation*</u>		
Participated	13	23
Did Not Participate	87	77
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.45; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Out-Of-County 4-H Event Participation*</u>		
Camp, Dress Revue, Judging, and Citizenship	10	23
No Participation	90	77
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.08; df = 1; p > .05$		

*Based on response of person interviewed—some were mothers and others were fathers.

Eighty-seven percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers were never 4-H members compared with 80 percent of the fathers of former members. Likewise more fathers of former members belonged to 4-H one or more years, 20 percent, than did fathers of senior 4-H'ers, 13 percent.

Thirty-seven percent of the mothers of former 4-H'ers belonging to 4-H compared with 33 percent of mothers of senior 4-H'ers. It is interesting to note that more mothers in both groups were former 4-H members than was true for the fathers.

Seventeen percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers served as adult volunteer leaders compared with only three percent of the fathers of former 4-H'ers. A similar, but not as strong tendency, occurred with mothers serving as adult volunteer leader. Twenty-three percent of mothers of senior 4-H'ers served as adult leaders while 17 percent of mothers of former 4-H'ers were adult leaders.

When fathers and mothers of senior 4-H'ers were compared with parents of former 4-H'ers relative to their service as junior leaders, a similar relationship was shown. Ninety-seven percent of both groups never served as junior leaders while they were 4-H'ers.

Thirty percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers had participated in 4-H contests compared with only 13 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers. A similar relationship was shown relative to participation in out-of-county 4-H events with 23 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers participating compared with 13 percent of parents of senior 4-H'ers.

Twenty-three percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers who had participated in out-of-county 4-H events took part in 4-H camp, dress

revue, judging, and citizenship events compared with only 10 percent of parents of senior 4-H'ers.

When each variable within Table II, page 19, was tested by chi square, the observed difference in parents of former and present 4-H members did not achieve the .05 level of significance for any of the variables. Therefore, these data indicate that the 4-H background of parents did not leave a significant influence on the retention of senior 4-H youth in Wayne County, Tennessee.

III. IDENTIFICATION OF YOUTH EMBLEMS AND MOTTOS

Parents of senior 4-H'ers were compared with parents of former 4-H'ers relative to their identification of youth organization emblems and mottos in Table III. These youth organizations included Future Farmers of America, Future Homemakers of America, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and 4-H.

Sixty-three percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers correctly identified the FFA emblem compared to 50 percent of the parents of present members.

Thirty-three percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers could identify the FHA emblem compared with 27 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

Twenty-seven percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with 20 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers could identify the Boy Scout emblem. Thirty percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with 17 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers could identify the Girl Scout emblem.

TABLE III

YOUTH ORGANIZATION EMBLEM AND MOTTO IDENTIFICATION
BY PARENTS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH
PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Identification of Youth Organization Emblems and Motto	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>FFA Emblem</u>		
Could Identify	50	63
Could Not Identify	50	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.61; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>FHA Emblem</u>		
Could Identify	33	27
Could Not Identify	67	70
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.03; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Boy Scout Emblem</u>		
Could Identify	27	20
Could Not Identify	73	77
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.05; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>4-H Emblem</u>		
Could Identify	87	77
Could Not Identify	13	23
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.45; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Girl Scout Emblem</u>		
Could Identify	30	17
Could Not Identify	70	80
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.72; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE III (continued)

Identification of Youth Organization Emblems and Motto	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>4-H Motto</u>		
Correctly Identified 4-H Motto	33	27
Incorrectly Identified 4-H Motto	67	63
Scouts	10	7
FHA	3	3
FFA	54	53
No Response	0	10
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.27; df = 3; p > .05$		

The 4-H Club emblem was the most easily identified with 87 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with 77 percent of the parents of former members correctly identifying it. This comparison would tend to indicate that either Extension is getting the 4-H emblem before the people or it has an emblem which is easier to recognize than do other youth organizations in Wayne County, Tennessee.

When the 4-H Motto was listed with the motto of Scouts, FFA, and FHA, it was found that 33 percent of the parents of 4-H'ers could correctly identify it compared with 27 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

Fifty-four percent of parents of senior 4-H'ers identified the FFA motto as being the 4-H motto compared with 53 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

When the parents of present 4-H members as compared to parents of former members regarding each variable given in Table III, page 23, using the chi square test, none of the observed differences were significant at the .05 level. Therefore, knowledge of youth mottos and/or emblems did not leave a significant influence on the retention of senior 4-H youth in Wayne County, Tennessee.

IV. PERSONAL AND FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

Table IV compares the parents of senior 4-H members with parents of former 4-H members relative to personal and family characteristics. These personal variables and family characteristics include age of father and mother, number of children, health condition, years of school completed by parents, and economic level.

TABLE IV

PERSONAL AND FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS OF SENIOR
4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Personal and Family Characteristics	Parents of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Parents of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Age of Father</u>		
32—39 years old	13	17
40—66 years old	64	73
No Response	23	10
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Age of Mother</u>		
Under 40 years old	47	40
Over 40 years old	53	60
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Number of Children</u>		
Under 3	57	50
Four and Over	43	50
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Health Condition</u>		
Fair	33	33
Good	47	40
Excellent	20	27
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.44$; df = 2; p > .05		
<u>Father—Years School Completed</u>		
Under 9 Years	57	33
Nine to 12 Years	23	47
Thirteen and Over	20	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 4.15$; df = 2; p > .05		

TABLE IV (continued)

Personal and Family Characteristics	Parents of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Parents of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Mother—Years School Completed</u>		
Under 9 Years	23	27
Nine—12 Years	64	57
Thirteen Years and Over	13	16
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.29$; $df = 2$; $p > .05$		
<u>Observation of Economic Level</u>		
High	23	33
Medium	64	57
Low	13	10
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.78$; $df = 2$; $p > .05$		

It was found that both the fathers and the mothers of former members were older than were fathers and mothers of senior 4-H'ers.

Forty-seven percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers were under 40 years of age compared with 40 percent of the mothers of dropouts. Sixty percent of the mothers of dropouts were over 40 years old while 53 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers were in the group.

Parents of senior 4-H'ers tended to have fewer children than parents of dropouts. Fifty-seven percent of the former had under three children compared to 50 percent of the latter.

Twenty-seven percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers had an excellent health rating compared with 20 percent of the parents of 4-H'ers. Forty-seven percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with 40 percent of parents of dropouts had a health rating of good.

When the educational level of the parents of 4-H'ers and parents of former 4-H'ers was compared, it was found that fathers of dropouts had completed more years of school. However, the reverse of this was found regarding education of the mothers. Sixty-four percent of mothers of 4-H'ers completed 9—12 years of school compared with 57 percent of mothers of dropouts.

The interviewer placed each parent into either a high, medium or low economic class based upon their occupation and upon personal observations and/or knowledge about the family.

Parents of 4-H dropouts tended to be in a higher economic level than did parents of senior 4-H'ers. Thirty-three percent of parents of dropouts were in the high level compared with 23 percent of parents of the 4-H'ers.

When each variable within Table IV, page 26, was tested by chi square, the observed differences among parents of members and dropouts did not achieve the .05 level of significance for any of the variables. Therefore, the personal and family characteristics did not significantly influence the retention or dropout of senior 4-H youth in Wayne County.

V. AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNICATION MEDIA

Table V compares the characteristics of parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of 4-H dropouts relative to general personal characteristics and availability of communication techniques. Personal and communication characteristics of parents reported in Table V included voluntary organization preference, record keeping, ownership of a radio, availability of radio station WAAN, recipient of monthly Extension newsletter, and subscription to Wayne County News.

One hundred percent of parents of senior 4-H members and parents of former 4-H'ers preferred a voluntary organization. Four-H is a voluntary organization which youth from grades 4-12 may join voluntarily.

Little difference in record keeping was indicated between the two study groups. Eighty percent of both groups kept some type of records. All parents of both groups owned radios. However, 93 percent of the parents of 4-H members compared to 90 percent of the parents of dropouts could receive programs from radio station WAAN in Waynesboro. The Wayne County Agricultural Extension Service has two 4-H radio programs on this station each week.

TABLE V

GENERAL PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNICATION
TECHNIQUES OF PARENTS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH
PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Personal and Communication Characteristics	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Voluntary Organization Preference</u>		
Prefer Voluntary Organization	100	100
Total	100	100
Value Not Computed		
<u>Do You Keep Records?</u>		
Yes	80	80
No	20	17
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.003$; $df = 1$; $p > .05$		
<u>Do You Own A Radio?</u>		
Yes	100	100
Total	100	100
Value Not Computed		
<u>Can You Pick Up Radio Station WAAN?</u>		
Yes	93	90
No	7	10
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.00$; $df = 1$; $p > .05$		
<u>Do You Receive Extension Newsletter?</u>		
Yes	43	50
No	57	50
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; $df = 1$; $p > .05$		

TABLE V (continued)

Personal and Communication Characteristics	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Do You Subscribe To The Wayne County News?</u>		
Yes	83	50
No	17	50
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.12; df = 1; p > .05$		

Fifty percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts received a monthly Agricultural Extension newsletter compared with 43 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers.

Eighty-three percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers subscribed to the Wayne County News compared with only 50 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers. This would tend to indicate that the homes of senior 4-H members had greater access to information on 4-H youth activities through the county newspaper.

When each variable within Table V, page 30, was tested by chi square, the observed difference in parents of senior 4-H members and parents of dropouts did not achieve the .05 level of significance for any of the variables.

VI. AREAS OF SPECIAL INTERESTS

Table VI compares the parents of senior 4-H'ers with parents of 4-H dropouts relative to their special interests. Two variables were studied in Table VI including interest in other activities and what activities parents were interested in.

Eighty-seven percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers had a special interest compared with 84 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

Forty percent of the parents of 4-H'ers compared to 27 percent of the parents of dropouts tended to enjoy sports. Fourteen percent of the parents of dropouts enjoyed reading compared to 3 percent of the parents of 4-H'ers. Twenty-seven percent of the parents of 4-H'ers enjoyed sewing and baking, compared with 20 percent of the parents of former members.

TABLE VI

SPECIAL INTEREST OF PARENTS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH
PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
<u>Special Interest</u>		
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Do You Have A Special Interest?</u>		
Yes	87	84
No	13	13
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.11; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Areas of Special Interest</u>		
Sports and Related	40	27
Reading	3	14
Music	0	3
Sewing and Baking	27	20
Other	17	20
Does Not Apply	10	13
No Response	3	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 4.11; df = 5; p > .05$		

When each variable within Table VI, page 33, was tested by chi square, the observed difference in parental interests did not achieve the .05 level of significance. The data indicated that the special interest of parents did not significantly influence the retention of senior 4-H youth in Wayne County, Tennessee.

VII. PARTICIPATION IN YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS BY FATHERS

Table VII compares fathers of senior 4-H members with fathers of former 4-H'ers relative to their participation in sports and organizations as a young person. Variables studied were fathers' participation in Athletic Club, basketball, baseball, football, FFA, band, church, science club, 4-H, Beta Club, Boy Scouts, other activities, and their total youth activity participation.

Fathers of dropouts were more active in an athletic club than were parents of senior 4-H'ers.

Forty-four percent of the fathers of dropouts had participated in basketball compared with 23 percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers.

Twenty percent of the fathers of dropouts had played baseball compared with 10 percent of the fathers of 4-H'ers.

Thirteen percent of the fathers of senior 4-H members had played football compared with 10 percent of the fathers of dropouts.

Twenty percent of the fathers of dropouts had participated in 4-H compared with 13 percent of the fathers of 4-H'ers.

There was no participation by either group of fathers relative to the Beta Club.

TABLE VII

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF FATHERS OF SENIOR
4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH FATHERS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Youth Participation in Sports and Organizations	Father of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Father of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
-----Percent-----		
<u>Father's Participation In Athletic Club</u>		
Yes	10	17
No	50	50
No Response	40	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.05$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Father's Participation In Basketball</u>		
Yes	23	44
No	37	23
No Response	40	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.65$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Father's Participation In Baseball</u>		
Yes	10	20
No	50	47
No Response	40	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.34$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Father's Participation In Football</u>		
Yes	13	10
No	47	57
No Response	40	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.02$; df = 2; p > .05		
<u>Father's Participation In 4-H</u>		
Yes	13	20
No	50	47
No Response	37	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		

TABLE VII (continued)

Youth Participation in Sports and Organizations	Father of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Father of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Father's Participation in Beta Club</u>		
Yes	0	0
No	63	67
No Response	37	33
Total	100	100
Value Not Computed		
<u>Father's Participation in FFA</u>		
Yes	13	27
No	50	40
No Response	37	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.87$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Father's Participation in Band</u>		
Yes	0	3
No	63	64
No Response	37	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.001$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Father's Participation in Church</u>		
Yes	50	57
No	13	10
No Response	37	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.01$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Father's Participation in Science Club</u>		
Yes	3	7
No	60	60
No Response	37	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.002$; df = 1; p > .05		

TABLE VII (continued)

Youth Participation In Sports and Organizations	Father of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Father of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Father's Participation in Boy Scouts</u>		
Yes	7	10
No	57	57
No Response	40	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.09; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Father's Participation in Other Youth Activities</u>		
Yes	3	10
No	57	57
No Response	40	33
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.28; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Father's Total Activity Participation in Youth Activities</u>		
No Participation	43	33
One or More	57	67
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.28; df = 1; p > .05$		

Twenty-seven percent of the fathers of 4-H dropouts were FFA members as a youth compared with only 13 percent of the fathers of 4-H'ers.

Three percent of the fathers of 4-H dropouts took part in band compared with 0 percent of the fathers of 4-H'ers.

When participation in church was compared relative to fathers of 4-H'ers and fathers of 4-H dropouts, 50 percent of the former and 57 percent of the latter took part.

Seven percent of the fathers of 4-H dropouts participated in the science club compared with 3 percent of fathers of 4-H members.

More fathers of 4-H dropouts (10 percent) had been Boy Scouts than fathers of 4-H'ers (7 percent). Ten percent of the former had taken part in other youth activities compared with 3 percent of the latter.

Sixty-seven percent of the fathers of 4-H dropouts had participated in one or more total youth activities compared with 57 percent of the fathers of 4-H'ers.

When each variable within Table VII, page 35, was tested by chi square, the observed difference in parents of members and parents of 4-H dropouts did not achieve the .05 level of significance. These data indicated that parental participation in youth activities was not a significant influence on the retention of senior 4-H youth in Wayne County, Tennessee.

VIII. PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN YOUTH ACTIVITIES BY FATHERS

Table VIII compares fathers of senior 4-H'ers with fathers of former 4-H'ers relative to their participation and leadership in

TABLE VIII

ADULT PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS AND SPORTS
OF FATHERS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH FATHERS
OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Leadership and Participation in Organizations and Sports	Fathers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Fathers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Civic Club</u>		
Yes	23	33
No	40	30
No Response	37	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.43$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Community Club</u>		
Yes	10	10
No	53	53
No Response	37	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.20$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Country Club</u>		
Yes	7	23
No	57	40
No Response	36	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 2.33$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Scout Leader</u>		
Yes	17	13
No	47	50
No Response	36	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.00$; df = 1; p > .05		

TABLE VIII (continued)

Leadership and Participation in Organizations and Sports	Fathers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Fathers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>4-H Leader</u>		
Yes	20	3
No	43	60
No Response	36	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 2.80; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Church</u>		
Yes	23	27
No	40	37
No Response	37	36
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = \text{Not Computed}$		
<u>Coach Amateur Sports</u>		
Yes	7	20
No	57	43
No Response	36	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.43; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Fund Raising Drives</u>		
Yes	17	47
No	47	17
No Response	36	36
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 6.74; df = 1; p < .05$		
<u>Other</u>		
Yes	23	10
No	40	53
No Response	37	37
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.22; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE VIII (continued)

Leadership and Participation in Organizations and Sports	Fathers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Fathers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Total Adult Activities</u>		
None	47	47
One	23	13
Two	7	7
Three	3	3
Four	3	10
Five	0	10
Six	10	10
Eight and over	7	0
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 6.82; df = 8; p > .05$		

organizations and sports. Variables studied included: civic club, community club, country club, scouts, 4-H, church, coach of amateur sports, fund raising drives, other social participation and total adult activities participation.

Thirty-three percent of the fathers of former 4-H members belonged to civic clubs compared to 23 percent of the fathers of senior 4-H members. No difference was noted relative to involvement of fathers in community clubs.

Sixteen percent less of the fathers of senior 4-H members than the fathers of dropouts were country club members.

Little variation was shown relative to leadership by fathers in the Boy Scouts. Seventeen percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers assisted with Boy Scouts activities compared with the 13 percent of the fathers of former 4-H'ers.

Twenty percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers were or had served as 4-H leaders compared to only 3 percent of the fathers of former 4-H'ers. This provided some indication that youth remained in 4-H longer when their fathers were involved as leaders in 4-H.

Twenty-seven percent of the fathers of dropouts took part in church compared to 23 percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers.

Fathers of dropouts (20 percent) had a tendency to more often serve as coaches of amateur sports than did fathers of senior 4-H'ers (7 percent). This tends to indicate that youth who had fathers involved with sports were more likely to become involved in sports themselves and terminate their 4-H participation.

It was found that significantly more of the fathers of former 4-H'ers (47 percent) provided leadership to fund raising drives than did fathers of senior 4-H'ers (17 percent).

Fathers of senior 4-H'ers (23 percent) participated and provided leadership in other activities more often than did fathers of 4-H dropouts (10 percent).

When fathers of senior 4-H'ers were compared to fathers of former 4-H'ers, it was found that 23 percent of the former and 13 percent of the latter were involved in at least one activity. Seven percent of the fathers of senior 4-H'ers were participating in eight or more adult activities compared with 0 percent of the fathers of former 4-H'ers.

Only one of the organizational participation and leadership variables was significantly different among parents of senior 4-H members compared to parents of dropouts. Significantly more of the parents of dropouts than of the 4-H members participated in fund raising drives. This variable was found to achieve the .05 level of significance when tested by the chi-square test. There was a tendency for fathers of senior 4-H'ers to be leaders in youth organizations while fathers of former 4-H'ers were more active in social organizations.

IX. PARTICIPATION IN YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS BY MOTHERS

Table IX compares mothers of senior 4-H'ers with mothers of former 4-H'ers relative to their participation in sports and organizations as a youth. Each mother was questioned relative to their participation in

TABLE IX

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF MOTHERS OF
SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH MOTHERS OF FORMER 4-H MEMBERS

Youth Participation in Sports and Organizations	Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Mothers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Athletic Club</u>		
Yes	27	13
No	60	67
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.70$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Basketball</u>		
Yes	50	23
No	37	57
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 3.05$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>4-H Club</u>		
Yes	10	7
No	77	73
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.06$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Beta Club</u>		
Yes	10	7
No	77	73
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.01$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>FIIA</u>		
Yes	47	30
No	40	47
No Response	13	23
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.55$; df = 1; p > .05		

TABLE IX (continued)

Youth Participation in Sports and Organizations	Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Mothers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Band</u>		
Yes	10	7
No	77	73
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.01; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Church</u>		
Yes	74	73
No	13	7
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.11; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Science Club</u>		
Yes	7	10
No	80	70
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.01; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Girl Scouts</u>		
Yes	7	3
No	80	77
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.01; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Other</u>		
Yes	13	20
No	74	60
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.25; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE IX (continued)

Youth Participation in Sports and Organizations	Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Mothers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Total Activities</u>		
None	13	23
One	13	27
Two	27	17
Three	10	7
Four	20	13
Five	7	3
Six	10	7
Seven or More	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 4.93; df = 7; p > .05$		

athletic clubs, basketball, 4-H Club, Beta Club, FHA, band, church, science club, Girl Scouts, other activities, and total activity participation.

Results indicated that 27 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers had taken part in an athletic club as a youth compared with only 13 percent of the mothers of former 4-H'ers. A similar but higher percentage of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers had played basketball as a youth. Fifty percent of the former and 23 percent of the latter had played basketball.

Ten percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers compared with 7 percent of the mothers of former 4-H'ers had taken part or belonged to a 4-H Club, Beta Club, and band. Forty-seven percent of the former and 30 percent of the latter had been members of Future Homemakers of America.

There was little or no difference between parental groups and the mothers' participation as a youth in church activities. Seventy-four percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers and 73 percent of the mothers of former 4-H'ers took part in church when they were children.

Ten percent of the mothers of 4-H dropouts had belonged to a school science club compared with 7 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers.

When mothers were interviewed relative to their membership in Girl Scouts, it was found that 7 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers and 3 percent of the mothers of 4-H dropouts had been a Girl Scout.

Twenty percent of the mothers of 4-H dropouts had participated in the other youth activities compared with only 3 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers.

When total activity participation was accumulated, it was found that 27 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers and 17 percent of the mothers of former 4-H'ers had taken part in two activities. Ten percent of the former and 7 percent of the latter had taken part in six of total activities as a youth.

Table IX, page 44, reveals that mothers of senior 4-H'ers had a tendency to be more involved in organizations and sports as youth than did mothers of 4-H dropouts. This would possibly suggest that a relationship existed with mothers of senior 4-H'ers and the retention of their youth in 4-H Club work.

When each variable within Table IX, page 44, was tested by chi square, the observed difference did not achieve the .05 level of significance. These data did not indicate a significant influence of mothers participation in sports and organizations relative to the retention of senior 4-H'ers in Wayne County, Tennessee.

X. PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN YOUTH ACTIVITIES BY MOTHERS

Table X compares the mothers of senior 4-H'ers with mothers of former 4-H'ers relative to their adult participation and leadership in organizations and sports. Variables studied in Table X relative to the two major groups included: civic club, community club, country club, Home Demonstration Club, Scouts, 4-H, church, coach amateur sports, fund raising drives, other activities, and total activities.

TABLE X

ADULT PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS AND SPORTS OF
MOTHERS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED WITH MOTHERS OF
FORMER 4-H'ERS

Leadership and Participation in Organizations and Sports	Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Mothers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Civic Club</u>		
Yes	10	10
No	73	70
No Response	17	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.15$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Community Club</u>		
Yes	10	13
No	77	67
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.01$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Country Club</u>		
Yes	13	13
No	74	67
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Home Demonstration Club</u>		
Yes	30	20
No	63	60
No Response	7	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Scouts—Leader</u>		
Yes	20	13
No	67	70
No Response	13	17
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.08$; df = 1; p > .05		

TABLE X (continued)

Leadership and Participation in Organizations and Sports	Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Mothers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>4-H—Leader</u>		
Yes	27	20
No	60	60
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.02; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Church</u>		
Yes	53	43
No	37	37
No Response	10	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.01; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Coach Amateur Sports</u>		
No	87	80
No Response	13	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = \text{Not Computed}$		
<u>Fund Raising Drives</u>		
Yes	33	30
No	57	50
No Response	10	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Other</u>		
Yes	13	10
No	77	70
No Response	10	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.03; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE X (continued)

Leadership and Participation in Organizations and Sports	Mothers of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Mothers of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Total Adult Activities</u>		
None	30	33
One	13	34
Two	24	7
Three	10	13
Four	10	3
Five	3	0
Six	7	0
Seven	3	7
Eight	0	3
Total	100	100

$\chi^2 = 10.88$; $df = 8$; $p > .05$

There was no difference in participation by the two groups in civic clubs and country clubs and very little difference in community club participation. Thirteen percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers and mothers of former 4-H'ers belonged to a country club.

Thirty percent of the mothers of 4-H'ers took part in Home Demonstration Clubs compared to only 20 percent of the mothers of former 4-H'ers.

Thirteen percent of the mothers of 4-H dropouts belonged to community clubs compared with 10 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers.

Twenty percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers provided leadership in the local scouting program compared to 13 percent of the mothers of former members. A similar trend was observed in 4-H leadership with 27 percent of the mothers of 4-H members and 20 percent of the mothers of dropouts serving as 4-H leaders.

In church involvement, 53 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers were active compared with 43 percent of the mothers of former members. Leadership with fund raising drives showed 33 percent of the former and 30 percent of the latter involved.

There were no mothers of either group who provided leadership as a coach of amateur sports.

Relative to other organization participation and leadership, 13 percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers and 10 percent of the mothers of former members were involved.

Twenty-four percent of the mothers of senior 4-H'ers took part in at least two activities compared with only 7 percent of the mothers

of former 4-H members. Seven percent of the latter took part in a total of six activities.

Table X, page 49, indicates that more mothers of senior 4-H'ers were involved in leadership roles or organizations than mothers of former 4-H members. Therefore, it would tend to indicate that senior youth remains in 4-H longer when their mothers have been involved in leadership roles with various organizations and activities.

When each variable found in Table X, page 49, was tested by chi square, the observed difference did not achieve the .05 level of significance. These data did not indicate that mothers' participation and leadership in organizations and sports did not significantly influence the retention of senior 4-H'ers in Wayne County, Tennessee.

XI. KNOWLEDGE OF 4-H

Table XI compares parents of 4-H members with parents of dropouts regarding their knowledge of 4-H work. Five variables were studied: the meaning of 4-H, relativeness of 4-H as a volunteer organization, role of project leader, request of advice from Agricultural Extension Service, and the visitation by Extension or provision of information to homes.

Seventy-seven percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers indicated that 4-H meant youth development for the future compared to 57 of the parents of former 4-H'ers. Thirty-seven percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts stated 4-H meant a good opportunity for participation compared to 13 percent for parents of senior 4-H'ers.

TABLE XI

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT 4-H AS STATED BY PARENTS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED
WITH PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Knowledge About 4-H	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>What Does 4-H Mean To You?</u>		
Youth Development For The Future	77	57
Good Opportunity For Participation	13	37
Others	3	3
Do Not Know	7	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 4.50; df = 2; p > .05$		
<u>Is 4-H A Volunteer Organization?</u>		
Yes	100	90
No	0	7
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.55; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>What Is The Role Of A Project Leader?</u>		
Knows The Role Of A Project Leader	37	20
Does Not Know The Role Of A Project Leader	63	77
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.14; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Have You Ever Requested Advice From The Agricultural Extension Service?</u>		
Yes	53	37
No	47	60
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.86; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE XI (continued)

	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
Knowledge About 4-H		
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Has Extension Visited and/or Provided Information To Your Home?</u>		
Yes	87	60
No	13	40
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 4.18; df = 1; p < .05$		

One hundred percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers stated 4-H was a volunteer organization compared with 90 percent of the parents of former 4-H members.

Thirty-seven percent of the parents of 4-H members knew the role of a 4-H project leader compared with 20 percent of the parents of dropouts.

Fifty-three percent of the parents of 4-H'ers had requested advice from the Wayne County Agricultural Extension Service compared with 37 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers. This may tend to indicate parents of 4-H dropouts were less interested and were less aware of Extension, or they had less need for information or advice.

Eighty-seven percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers indicated Extension had either visited and provided information to their home compared with 60 percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts. This variable achieved the .05 level of significance when tested by the chi-square test.

Parents' knowledge about 4-H did not have a significant influence on the retention or dropout of senior 4-H members in Wayne County. However, parents of members as compared with parents of dropouts had received more visits and information from the Extension Service.

XII. ATTITUDES TOWARD 4-H WORK

Table XII compares parents of senior 4-H'ers with parents of former 4-H members relative to their attitude about 4-H. Variables include parents' feelings about 4-H Awards Programs, adequacy of 4-H

TABLE XII

ATTITUDE ABOUT 4-H AS EXPRESSED BY PARENTS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED
WITH PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Attitude About 4-H	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>What Are Your Feelings About The 4-H Awards Program?</u>		
Enjoyed Achievement Awards Program	33	10
Does Not Apply	64	87
No Response	3	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 3.57; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Are 4-H Contests Adequate?</u>		
Contests Are Adequate	93	87
Contests Are Inadequate	4	0
No Response	3	13
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.003; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Should There Be More 4-H Contests?</u>		
Yes	50	33
No	40	44
No Response	10	23
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.32; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>What Are Your Feelings About Competition?</u>		
Competition Is Good	90	94
Competition Is Bad	3	3
Do Not Know	7	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.35; df = 2; p > .05$		
<u>Have You Ever Read A 4-H Project Publication?</u>		
Yes	83	70
No	17	30
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.94; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE XII (continued)

Attitude About 4-H	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Do 4-H Publications Relate To 4-H Projects?</u>		
Publications Relate Effectively	73	70
Do Not Relate Effectively	17	7
No Response	10	23
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.35; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>Should 4-H'ers Keep Records?</u>		
Yes	100	97
No	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.00; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>What Are Your Feelings About 4-H Records?</u>		
Apply Greater Emphasis	3	0
Apply Same Emphasis	80	63
Less Emphasis	17	37
Total Emphasis	100	100
$\chi^2 = 3.83; df = 2; p > .05$		
<u>What Are Your Feelings About A Monthly Senior 4-H Newsletter?</u>		
Need Newsletter	94	87
Do Not Need Newsletter	3	3
Do Not Know	3	0
No Response	0	10
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.92; df = 2; p > .05$		
<u>Are There Enough Citizenship and Leadership Opportunities For 4-H'ers?</u>		
Yes	84	87
No	3	0
No Response	13	13
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.0; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE XII (continued)

	Parent of Senior 4-H'er (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'er (N = 30)
Attitude About 4-H		
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Are The Available 4-H Projects And Activities Adequate?</u>		
Adequate	87	87
Inadequate	13	0
No Response	0	13
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.99; df = 1; p > .05$		

contests, number of 4-H contests, feelings about competition, 4-H publications, relativeness of 4-H publications to projects, 4-H record keeping, feelings about 4-H record keeping, feelings about a monthly senior 4-H newsletter, citizenship, and leadership opportunities, and available 4-H projects and activities.

It was found that 33 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers enjoyed awards programs compared to 10 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

Ninety-three percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers expressed that 4-H contests were adequate compared to 87 percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts. Fifty percent of the former and 33 percent of the latter felt there should be more 4-H contests for senior members.

There were 94 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers who thought competition was good compared with 90 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers.

Eighty-three percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers had read a 4-H publication compared with 70 percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts. Seventy-three percent of the former and 70 percent of the latter indicated the 4-H publications did relate to 4-H projects effectively. However, 17 percent of the former and 7 percent of the latter indicated that project publications did not relate effectively to 4-H projects in senior division.

Parents of 4-H'ers (100 percent) thought 4-H'ers should keep records compared with 97 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

Thirty-seven percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers indicated that less emphasis should be placed on record keeping in 4-H compared with 17 percent for parents of senior 4-H'ers. It appeared that parents felt that record keeping should be included in 4-H but to a much smaller degree.

In the study, 94 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers and 87 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers expressed a desire for a monthly 4-H newsletter to senior 4-H'ers.

Eighty-seven percent of the parents of former 4-H members and 84 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers indicated that enough citizenship and leadership opportunities were available for Wayne County Senior 4-H'ers. The study found that 87 percent of both groups felt the available 4-H projects and activities were adequate.

When tested by the chi-square test, only the variable relative to attitude about the 4-H Awards Program achieved the .05 level of significance. Parents of senior 4-H members had a more favorable attitude toward the 4-H awards program. The other variable failed to achieve the .05 level of significance and did not tend to influence the retention of senior 4-H'ers in Wayne County, Tennessee.

XIII. INTERESTS IN 4-H CLUB WORK

Table XIII shows the comparison of parents of senior 4-H members with parents of former 4-H members relative to each group's interest in the Wayne County 4-H program. Variables indicating degrees of interest were encouragement of youth, transportation to events, times

TABLE XIII

INTEREST IN 4-H AS STATED BY PARENTS OF SENIOR 4-H'ERS COMPARED
WITH PARENTS OF FORMER 4-H'ERS

Interest in 4-H	Parent of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----percent-----	
<u>Have You Encouraged Your Child to Participate in 4-H Club Work?</u>		
Yes	67	60
No	33	40
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.07$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Have You Ever Provided Your Child With Transportation To a 4-H Event?</u>		
Yes	93	80
No	7	20
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 1.30$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>How Many Times Have You Provided Transportation To a 4-H Event?</u>		
Less Than 10	27	37
Ten and Over	67	27
Zero	6	36
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 11.85$; df = 2; p < .05		
<u>Have You Ever Attended a County 4-H Event?</u>		
Yes	57	30
No	43	70
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 3.33$; df = 1; p > .05		
<u>Have You Ever Attended an Annual 4-H Awards Program?</u>		
Yes	33	10
No	67	87
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 3.40$; df = 1; p > .05		

TABLE XIII (continued)

Interest in 4-H	Parent of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
	-----Percent-----	
<u>What 4-H Event Did You Attend?</u>		
Share-The-Fun	13	10
Public Speaking	13	13
Demonstration Day	7	0
Breadbaking	13	0
Other	7	7
No Response	47	70
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 4.54; df = 4; p > .05$		
<u>Would You Be Willing To Serve as a 4-H Leader?</u>		
Yes	60	54
No	40	43
No Response	0	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.12; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>If You Were Willing to Serve as a 4-H Leader, Where Would You Prefer to Meet?</u>		
Home	27	13
School	30	17
Public Meeting Place	23	20
No Response	20	50
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.50; df = 2; p > .05$		
<u>Do You Listen to the Agricultural Extension Radio Programs over WAAN?</u>		
Yes	73	60
No	27	40
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.68; df = 1; p > .05$		

TABLE XIII (continued)

	Parent of Senior 4-H'ers (N = 30)	Parent of Former 4-H'ers (N = 30)
<u>Interest in 4-H</u>		
	-----Percent-----	
<u>Do You Read the Extension Newspaper Articles in the Wayne County News?</u>		
Yes	83	77
No	17	23
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 0.10; df = 1; p > .05$		
<u>What Are Some Suggestions You Have For Improving the Wayne County Senior 4-H Program?</u>		
Special Interest Meetings	7	17
Fishing Contest	3	3
School Credit	3	3
Less Record Keeping	3	7
Additional Funds for Trips	3	0
Enough Opportunities	20	3
Do Not Know	54	64
No Response	7	3
Total	100	100
$\chi^2 = 6.43; df = 6; p > .05$		

transportation provided, attendance at 4-H event, events attended, willingness to serve as a leader, preference of leader training, listening to Agricultural Extension radio program, reading Extension news columns, and ways to improve the senior 4-H program.

Sixty-seven percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers had encouraged their child of senior 4-H age to participate in 4-H Club work compared with 60 percent of the parents of former 4-H members.

Ninety-three percent of parents of senior 4-H'ers had provided their child with transportation to a 4-H event compared with 80 percent of the parents of former 4-H members. Sixty-seven percent of the parents of senior members had provided their children with transportation to a 4-H event ten different times or more compared with only 27 percent of the parents of former members. This appeared to be a significant factor relative to the retention of senior youth in 4-H Club work in Wayne County.

Fifty-seven percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers had attended a county-wide 4-H event compared with only 30 percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts. Thirteen percent of the former and none of the latter had attended breadbaking events. Seven percent of the former and 0 percent of the latter had attended County Demonstration Day.

Thirty-three percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers had attended a 4-H Awards Program compared with 10 percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts.

Parents in both groups indicated a willingness to serve as a leader with 60 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers and 54 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers so indicating. Thirty percent of the

parents of senior 4-H'ers preferred meeting at a school relative to working with 4-H'ers compared with 17 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

Seventy-three percent of the parents of senior 4-H members indicated they listen to the Extension radio programs over WAAN compared with 60 percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts.

Eighty-three percent of all parents of senior 4-H members interviewed read the Extension news articles relative to 4-H compared with 77 percent of the parents of former 4-H'ers.

Parents of senior 4-H'ers (20 percent) felt there were enough opportunities available in 4-H compared with only 3 percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts.

Parents of 4-H dropouts (17 percent) felt more special interest meetings were needed to improve our senior 4-H program compared with 7 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers. Seven percent of the parents of 4-H dropouts felt that less record keeping would be helpful in retaining more senior members compared with 3 percent of the parents of senior 4-H'ers.

There seemed to be a tendency for parents of senior 4-H'ers to be more interested in their youth's participation in 4-H, their own willingness to become involved and desire to assist with Extension work than was shown by the parents of former 4-H members. One significant variable was the number of times transportation was provided to events. The more times transportation was provided to 4-H events, the more likely youth would remain in 4-H.

Other variables in Table XIII, page 62, did not achieve the .05 level of significance when tested by the chi-square test.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS, IMPLICATIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study was designed to help the Wayne County Agricultural Extension staff, other Extension workers, 4-H leaders, parents and friends of 4-H in Wayne County to develop a 4-H program that will enhance the retention of a higher percentage of senior 4-H youth. Only a small number of youth remain in 4-H through the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades in Wayne County. The smallest percent of total enrollment and reenrollment is found within the senior division. It was believed that this study would be helpful in making parents more aware of the 4-H program, obtain ideas on how to improve the program and, thus, retain a larger percentage of the youth in the 4-H program through their senior years.

I. PURPOSE AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Purpose

The primary purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between the parental characteristics and the retention of youth in the senior 4-H program in Wayne County, Tennessee.

Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the study were to compare the

characteristics of parents of senior 4-H Club members with those of the parents of 4-H dropouts relative to:

1. Family and personal background characteristics.
2. Participation in sports and organizations as a youth.
3. Participation and leadership in sports and organizations as an adult.
4. Interests, knowledge and attitude about 4-H.

II. METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

Population and Sample

The population was parents of tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade boys and girls in Wayne County, Tennessee. Data were secured from a total of 60 parents who were interviewed through personal visits and telephone calls.

The sample included 30 parents of boys and girls who had been senior 4-H members during 1973-74 and 30 parents of boys and girls who were not 4-H'ers in 1973-74 but had been members sometime during the previous four years. They were selected by the "nth" number technique.

Statistical Analysis

The completed interview schedules were coded and responses were punched on data processing cards. One hundred and ten independent variables were identified and used in the analysis of the relationship between parental characteristics of members and dropouts. Computations were made by the University of Tennessee Computing Center.

Statistical test used in the analysis of data was the chi-square test. Values that achieved the .05 level were accepted as being statistically significant.

A Contingency Table Analysis Computer Program (SPSS, Crosstabs) was used to show the relationship between each of the 110 characteristics of parents of senior 4-H members and parents of former 4-H members. Output from this program included: (1) two-way frequency tables, including row, column, and table percentages, and (2) chi-square values and degrees of freedom.

III. MAJOR FINDINGS

Major findings were classified and presented under headings related to the objectives of the study.

Family and Personal Background Characteristics of Parents

1. Background characteristics of parents of senior 4-H'ers and parents of 4-H dropouts were not significantly different relative to: father's occupation, mother's occupation, residence, property ownership, where father or mother was reared, miles living from Waynesboro, or number of driveable vehicles.

2. Four-H background of parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different relative to: years father or mother was a 4-H'er, years father or mother was adult leader, years father or mother was a junior leader, participation in 4-H contests, out-of-county 4-H participation, or out-of-town 4-H participation.

3. The identification of youth organization emblems and motto by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different. Parents were asked to identify the FFA emblem, FHA emblem, Boy Scout emblem, Girl Scout emblem, 4-H emblem, and 4-H motto.

4. Personal and family characteristics of parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Personal and family characteristics studied were age, number of children in family, health condition, years of school completed and economic level.

5. General personal characteristics and availability of communication techniques to parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Characteristics studied were preference of voluntary organizations, keeping of records, ownership of a radio, reception of radio station WAAN, recipient of Extension newsletter and subscription to Wayne County News.

6. Special interests of parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different regarding sports, reading, music, sewing and baking.

Participation in Sports and Organizations by Parents

1. Youth participation in sports and organizations of fathers of senior 4-H'ers compared with fathers of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different. Participation included athletic club, basketball, baseball, football, 4-H, Beta Club, Future Farmers of America,

band, church, science club, Boy Scouts, other youth activities, Future Homemakers of America and total activity participation.

2. Youth participation in youth organizations by mothers of senior 4-H'ers compared with mothers of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different. Participation areas were athletic club, 4-H Club, Beta Club, FHA, band, church, science club, Girl Scouts, other youth activity and total youth activity participation.

Influence of Adult Participation and Leadership in Sports and Organizations by Parents

1. Participation and leadership in fund raising drives by fathers of senior 4-H'ers compared with fathers of former 4-H'ers were very significantly different. Fathers of 4-H dropouts were more active in fund raising events.

2. Leadership and participation in organizations and sports by fathers of senior 4-H'ers compared with fathers of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Leadership and participation areas were civic clubs, community club, country club, scouts, church, coach of amateur sports, 4-H, other activities, and all adult organizations and sports activities.

3. Adult participation and leadership in organizations and sports by mothers of senior 4-H'ers compared with mothers of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different. Areas of participation included civic clubs, community club, country club, Home Demonstration Club, Scouts, 4-H, church, coach amateur sports, fund raising drives, other activities and all adult activities.

Parents' Knowledge, Interest, and Attitude About 4-H

1. Parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers had received more visits from the Extension agents.

2. Knowledge about 4-H exhibited by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different. This included what 4-H meant to the parent, knowledge of 4-H being a volunteer organization, the role of a project leader and receiving advice from the Agricultural Extension Service.

3. Parental attitudes relative to adequacy of 4-H contests, need for other 4-H contests, feelings about the 4-H awards program, competition, project publications, relatedness of 4-H publications to projects, need for 4-H record keeping, emphasis on record keeping, 4-H newsletter, citizenship and leadership opportunities and available projects and activities, experienced by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers were not significantly different.

4. Interest in 4-H with respect to times provided transportation to a 4-H event by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was significantly different. Parents of senior 4-H members had provided transportation of their children to 4-H events more frequently than did the parents of the 4-H dropouts.

5. Attendance at a 4-H Awards Program by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers had a tendency to be significantly different. However, it did not achieve the .05 level of significance.

6. Interest in 4-H as stated by parents of senior 4-H'ers compared with parents of former 4-H'ers was not significantly different regarding

encouraging the youth to participate in 4-H, whether or not they provided transportation to 4-H events, attendance at a county 4-H event, event attended, willingness to serve as a 4-H leader, listening to Agricultural Extension radio programs over WAAN, reading of news column in the Wayne County News, and suggestions on improving 4-H program.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made based on the results of the study and the writer's experience and views:

1. Since senior 4-H'ers remained in 4-H longer when their parents provided transportation to many events, Extension should try to make parents fully aware of the youth's need for attendance at events.
2. Senior high youth tended to remain in 4-H longer when Extension visited or provided information to their homes. Extension should make as many home visits as possible to further encourage youth and parents in 4-H participation.
3. Parents of senior 4-H'ers and parents of 4-H dropouts in Wayne County indicated that less emphasis be placed on record keeping through achievement record books. It is suggested that consideration be given at the appropriate levels of Extension work on reducing the importance of achievement record books relative to the selection of 4-H awards.
4. Parents of senior 4-H'ers and dropouts indicated a need for a monthly 4-H newsletter in Wayne County. Extension Agents in Wayne County should provide a monthly newsletter to senior 4-H members. It is

recommended that the State 4-H Staff or Extension Communication Department help counties develop an interesting title and format with suggestions for a monthly or quarterly newsletter to parents of 4-H'ers.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

A similar study should be conducted in other Tennessee counties with a larger number of respondents. It is suggested that the instrument be improved to secure better measurement of important variables found in these data.

ДИМОВ О. С. & ЕЛЕНА

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX

SURVEY OF PARENT'S ATTITUDES TOWARD 4-H

This evaluative tool will be used to survey the attitudes of parents toward 4-H. Two groups will be surveyed. The groups include: Parents of 1973-74 Senior 4-H members (10th-11th-12th grades) and parents of 1973-74 former 4-H members who are in the 10th-11th-12th grades.

RESPONDENT

Parent of Senior 4-H member: _____ Father _____ Mother _____

Parent of former 4-H member: _____ Father _____ Mother _____

CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS

1. Approximate Age: Father _____ Mother _____
2. Vocation or Occupation: Father _____
Mother _____
3. Number of Children: 1 2 3 4 5 more than 5 (Circle)
4. Number of children living at home: 1 2 3 4 5 more than 5
5. Number of driveable cars and trucks: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6
6. What is your present health condition?
Poor _____ Fair _____ Good _____ Excellent _____
7. Present residence: Town _____ Rural Non-Farm _____
Farm _____
8. Property ownership: Own home _____ Rent home _____
Live with relatives or friends _____

9. Where were you reared as a youth?

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FATHER</u>	<u>MOTHER</u>
City (Population over 25,000)	_____	_____
City (Population 5,000—25,000)	_____	_____
Rural Town (Under 5,000)	_____	_____
Rural Non-Farm	_____	_____
Farm	_____	_____

10. How far do you live from Waynesboro? _____ miles

11. What was the highest grade of school completed?

By Father:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	—
By Mother:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	—

12. Economic level (By Observation): High (\$20,000 or more) _____
Medium (\$7-20,000) _____
Low (\$7,000 and less) _____

13. What is your 4-H background?

<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>FATHER</u>	<u>(Yrs.)</u>	<u>MOTHER</u>	<u>(Yrs.)</u>
4-H Member	_____	_____	_____	_____
4-H Adult Volunteer Leader	_____	_____	_____	_____
4-H Junior Leader	_____	_____	_____	_____

14. As a 4-H'er, did you ever participate in a county 4-H event or activity? Yes _____ No _____

15. As a 4-H'er, did you ever attend an out-of-county 4-H event? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, what? _____

16. Your Social Participiaption:

A. As a youth, did you ever participate in any of the following?

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>FATHER</u>	<u>MOTHER</u>
4-H Club	_____	_____
Beta Club	_____	_____
FHA	_____	_____
FFA	_____	_____
Band	_____	_____
Church	_____	_____
Science Club	_____	_____

Athletic Club	_____	_____
Basketball	_____	_____
Baseball	_____	_____
Football	_____	_____
Boy Scouts	_____	_____
Girl Scouts	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____

- B. As an adult or parent, have you ever taken part in any of the following?

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>FATHER</u>	<u>MOTHER</u>
Civic Club	_____	_____
Community Club	_____	_____
Leader—Scouts	_____	_____
Leader—4-H	_____	_____
Leader—Church	_____	_____
Coach—Amateur Sports	_____	_____
Country Club	_____	_____
Fund Raising Drives	_____	_____
Home Demonstration Club	_____	_____
Other (_____)	_____	_____

FEELINGS AND ATTITUDES TOWARD 4-H

1. Can you identify any of the following emblems? (In the actual instrument, emblems of the following were used—FHA, FFA, Boy Scouts, 4-H, and Girl Scouts.)

A. _____ B. _____ C. _____ D. _____ E. _____

2. Which of the following is the 4-H motto?

- A. "Be Prepared"
 B. "Toward New Horizons"
 C. "To Make the Best Better"
 D. "Learning To Do
 Doing to Learn
 Earning to Live
 Living to Serve"

3. What does 4-H mean to you? _____

4. Have you encouraged your child (children) of senior high age to take part in 4-H Club work? Yes _____ No _____
5. Have you ever attended a 4-H activity, contest, or event as a parent of a senior high 4-H'er? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, what kind of 4-H event? _____
6. Have you provided your child with transportation to a 4-H event? Yes _____ No _____
7. Have you ever attended a 4-H awards program as a parent of a senior 4-H'er? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, did you like it? Yes _____ No _____
If not, why? _____
8. In your opinion, do you think 4-H contests and activities are adequate? Yes _____ No _____ Why? _____
9. Should there be more 4-H contests for senior 4-H'ers? Yes _____ No _____
10. What is your feeling about competition? _____

11. Do you prefer a voluntary-type organization? Yes _____ No _____
12. Is 4-H a volunteer organization? Yes _____ No _____
If no, why do you think so? _____

13. Have you ever read a 4-H publication? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, what? _____
14. Do you feel that 4-H publications relate to and efficiently encourage "learn by doing" situations for senior age (10-11-12 grade) youth? Yes _____ No _____
15. Do you keep records? Yes _____ No _____ If so, what kind? _____

16. Should record keeping be a part of 4-H? Yes _____ No _____
Why? _____
17. Do you feel that the available citizenship and leadership opportunities meet the needs of our senior high age 4-H? Yes _____
No _____ Why? _____
18. Do you have a hobby or special interest? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, what is it? _____

19. Do you know what is involved in being a project leader?
Yes _____ No _____
20. Would you be willing to serve as a leader in 4-H Club work?
Yes _____ No _____
21. If you are willing to serve as a leader, where would you prefer to meet? your home _____ school _____ public meeting place _____
22. Have you ever requested advice or professional consultation from a member of the Wayne County Agricultural Extension Service? Yes _____
No _____ Example, if so? _____

23. Has Extension visited or directly provided information to your home? Yes _____ No _____ If so, give circumstance. _____

24. Do you or members of your family receive an Extension newsletter each month? Yes _____ No _____
25. Do you have a radio? Yes _____ No _____
26. Can you pick up Radio Station WAAN? Yes _____ No _____
27. Do you listen to the Extension programs over Radio Station WAAN? Yes _____ No _____
28. Do you subscribe to the Wayne County News? Yes _____ No _____
29. Do you read the Agricultural Extension news columns in the Wayne County News? Yes _____ No _____
30. Should there be a monthly 4-H newsletter to senior age youth? Yes _____ No _____
31. In your opinion, are there adequate projects and activities for senior 4-H youth? Yes _____ No _____
32. Please give us any comments or suggestions you might have about improving the senior 4-H opportunities offered your child (children)?

VITA

James Dennis Taylor was born March 19, 1946 in Rover, Tennessee. The Bedford County native attended secondary school at Community School in Unionville, Tennessee where he graduated in May, 1964. His school interests included eight years as a 4-H'er, editor of the school yearbook, Beta Club, Basketball, 4-H Honor Club, and 4-H All-Stars.

James attended the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture in December, 1968. Dairy Production was his major study. Collegiate activities included: Dairy Club member, editor of Volunteer Dairymen, and Alpha Zeta.

He was married to the former Janice Donegan of Dickson County, Tennessee in September, 1968.

Upon graduation from college in 1968, James began work with the Wayne County Agricultural Extension Service as a 4-H Agent. In 1973 he started working on his Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Extension Education.

James is a Rotarian, member of the Waynesboro United Methodist Church, member of Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture, Epsilon Sigma Phi, and the National Association of County Agricultural Agents and Specialists.