

## APPENDIX A: LETTERS OF INVITATION



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM

Respondent nr XXXXXXXX

Mrs. yyyyyy

yyyyy

zzzzz zzzzz

Re: Daily activities and the use of medicinal and recreational drugs in the Netherlands

Amsterdam, 7 September 2000

Dear Mrs. yyyyyy,

The University of Amsterdam is conducting a study of daily activities and the use of medicinal and recreational drugs amongst the population of the Netherlands. To this end over 20.000 people of 12 years and above are approached and asked to participate. The results of the study will lead to a better knowledge of the health and lifestyles of the Dutch population. In order to achieve this it is very important that those people who were randomly selected to participate, do in fact complete the questionnaire.

We would very much appreciate your participation in this study. Your cooperation will be rewarded with a gift voucher of f . You can also choose to give the equivalent value to a charity.

### Options

You can choose yourself in which way you would like to participate with this study. You have a choice of the following options:

- Telephone: You will be phoned by a NIPO pollster at a time of your own choice;
- Disk: You will be sent the questionnaire on disk with a return envelope. You can fill out the questionnaire on your own computer at a time that is convenient for you;
- Oral: By appointment a pollster will meet you at home (or somewhere else);
- Written: You will be sent a written questionnaire and a return envelope. You can fill out the questionnaire at a time that is convenient for you.

You can inform us of your choice in the following ways:

- *Response card:* please send us the enclosed response card, free of charge, within the next two weeks (please check your details and correct if needed).
- or
- *Free phone:* please ring us on 0800 – 0231 355 each working day between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to inform us of your choice. A NIPO-employee is ready to assist you (please keep this letter near at hand).

**Internet answers**

In addition to the above mentioned options you can participate to the study directly through Internet (only when running Windows 95 and higher). Please surf to [www.nipo.nl/ava](http://www.nipo.nl/ava) within the next two weeks. You will find further instructions on this site (please keep this letter near at hand).

**What happens with your details?**

The names of those who we have approached were drawn randomly from the municipal registers. NIPO and the University of Amsterdam guarantee your full anonymity. Your answers will be processed in strict confidentiality, as requested by law. After the interview is completed details of name and address will be deleted immediately.

If you would like more information about this study, please ring our free phone number (0800 – 0231 355).

We would very much appreciate your cooperation with this study.



Dr. P.D.A. Cohen  
Project leader  
University of Amsterdam



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM

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 Respondent nr XXXXXXXX

 Name  
 Address  
 City

Re: Study lifestyles and the use of medicinal and recreational drugs

Amsterdam, date

Dear Sir, Madam,

Some weeks ago you received a letter asking for your participation in a study of lifestyles and the use of medicinal and recreational drugs. You indicated that you were willing to cooperate with this study by filling in the questionnaire on paper or on disk. However, up to today we have not received a reply from you.

We would like to ask you to still participate with this study by sending us your questionnaire. You can also participate through the Internet: [www.nipo.nl/vva](http://www.nipo.nl/vva). You will find further instructions on this site. Please keep your response number (which you can find on the top left hand corner of this letter) near at hand.

NIPO and the University of Amsterdam guarantee your full anonymity. Your answers will be processed in strict confidentiality, as requested by law. After the interview is completed details of name and address will be deleted immediately.

We would very much appreciate your participation in this study. Your cooperation will be rewarded with a gift voucher of f . You can also choose to give the equivalent value to a charity. If you would like more information about this study, please ring us free of charge at 0800 – 0231 355.

Our sincere thanks for your cooperation.

 Dr. P.D.A. Cohen  
 Project leader  
 University of Amsterdam