

## Ron Unz

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hi ron,

i thought you might be interested in this info that peter gill sent to me regarding his (& byrt's) study of irish iq that, i'm sure you'll recall, was MUCH discussed on my blog a couple of months ago. (~\_^) i have professor gill's permission to forward it to you.

all the best,  
hbd chick

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** "[Peter.Gill@hig.se](mailto:Peter.Gill@hig.se)" <[Peter.Gill@hig.se](mailto:Peter.Gill@hig.se)>

**To:** XXX

**Sent:** Monday, November 5, 2012 9:34 PM

**Subject:** Gill & Byrt

Surfing the net I came across your blogg and the mention of our 1972 standardization of Raven's progressive matrices.

I would argue that our data achieved an exceptional level of population representativity.

We were young masters students and were determined to adopt absolutely best practice sampling procedures. We consulted with Ireland's foremost statistician (Geary, member of RIA and the Statistical and Social Enquiry Society of Ireland). We also knocked on the door of IBM (literally) and were given access to their best computing capability.

We approached the Department of Education and were given a computer list (unique at the time) from which we drew a random sample from the approximately 4000 national school (including special schools). To ensure an accurate sample, the PSU:s were stratified and at second stage sampling, we drew a proportionate random sample within each primary PSU (imagine the amount of work this required - visiting each school the day before - having earlier written to the principal, being given a list of all pupils, drawing a random sample from that list, and then, the following day, asking the principal to assemble only the chosen pupils, to a general assembly where the tests were administered.

If memory serves me correctly, we (and our other field-workers) did this 83 times.

I doubt that you will find a more accurate sample in the international litterature.

Sincerely,

Peter Gill, Professor of Education  
University of Gävle  
Sweden