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Comments Received :

The following comments were submitted by American Atheists in response to the request for comments pertaining to the NSFG forms undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act review. Because the comment period was reopened for an additional 30 days, we are resubmitting the comments.

The notice said that the comment period was being reopened because the CDC received only "one non-substantive comment related to the previous notice." If by this statement, the CDC is implying that American Atheists' comment was non-substantive or unrelated, we disagree.

The PRA requires an evaluation of "whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility." American Atheists believes that in their current form, the questions pertaining to religious belief and practice used in the NSFG are so poor that they lack utility to the agency, and therefore their inclusion is not necessary. We recommend that they be revised, as discussed in the comment, and until such time, that they be removed from the survey.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.