



## NATIONAL DATA ARCHIVE ON NDACAN CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

### **R Code for Importing SPSS Data Files**

The code below can be used to import SPSS data files (.sav) into R. Additional code is provided to assist data users with converting date variables which get imported into R as number of seconds since the start of the Gregorian calendar. The code will reformat the date from number of seconds to yyyy-mm-dd.

```
getwd() #returns the working directory file path- if it requires  
changing use setwd line of code below
```

```
setwd("H:/filepath/ToThe/Location of/Your/SPSSfile") #sets the  
working directory file path to the location of the file you wish  
to import
```

```
install.packages("foreign", repos="http://cran.case.edu/")  
#import the foreign package which gives us the ability to read  
in SPSS data files-you can change the cran url if you wish
```

```
library("foreign") #activates the library called foreign
```

```
mydata <- read.spss("mydatafile.sav", use.value.labels =  
TRUE,to.data.frame=TRUE) #replace "mydatafile" with the SPSS  
file name you wish to import surrounded by quotes
```

```
head(mydata) #this command will display the first few rows of  
your data file
```

```
install.packages("plyr", repos="http://cran.case.edu/") #imports  
the plyr package which allows us to run counts -again you can  
change the cran url if you wish
```

```
library("plyr") #activate the plyr package
```

```
count(mydata, vars = "varname") #count unique values of a  
variable--the variable name is case sensitive
```

```
nrow(mydata)#counts the number of rows in a data frame/file  
which can help to confirm all observations imported into R  
successfully
```

```
spss2date <- function(p) as.Date(p/86400, origin = "1582-10-14")  
#this is the function used to recode dates from seconds since  
start of Gregorian calendar to yyyy-mm-dd format
```

```
mydata$datevarname <- spss2date(mydata$datevarname) #replace  
datevarname with the name of the date variable you wish to
```

recode-repeat this code for as many date variables as you need  
to recode

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