

## VI.

### CONCLUSIONS

My replication of Menchik and Weisbrod's regression analysis using Independent Sector/Gallup 1992 survey data found less robust results than the authors' found with their data set. Many of Menchik and Weisbrod's variables were not found to be significant, particularly those related to income, opportunity cost, age and type of community. With regard to these variables, my results lend credence to some of Brown and Lankford's findings that they could not reject the hypothesis that all coefficients were equal to zero when using Menchik and Weisbrod's approach.<sup>54</sup>

As reported above, my addition of a liability risk variable, in particular TBYPPOP, the "litigiousness index" to the analysis did yield a coefficient significantly different from zero at the 95 percent confidence level. The volunteer liability variables' results suggest that respondents may not be aware of specific liability risks of volunteering but they do tend to consider liability risks in general. Certainly most people conduct most of their affairs without legal advice; potential volunteers' information is likely incomplete in this area.

Independent Sector has reported that respondents to it's 1994 national survey on giving and volunteering who "worried a lot about money" were less inclined to volunteer time than those who "worried only a little" 34 percent versus 54 percent of respondents, respectively.<sup>55</sup> As concern about liability for volunteering is a financial risk, those who tend not to be concerned about economic stability may well discount liability risks. Independent Sector found that 73 percent of respondents were worried about their financial futures in the 1994 survey and 67 percent were similarly worried in the 1992 Independent Sector survey.<sup>56</sup> Therefore, any factoring into account of financial risk in a

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<sup>54</sup> Brown and Lankford, 326.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid., 4.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.