

## Chapter 1 Homework

1. Advanced breast cancer has a high mortality. Initial clinical trials indicated that high dose chemotherapy followed by a bone marrow transplant could reduce the mortality rate by as much as 40%.

- a. Why did physicians and scientists believe that higher doses of chemotherapy would be more effective than standard therapy for advanced breast cancer?
- b. Why is it necessary to give patients a bone marrow transplant following high dose chemotherapy? What will happen if they do not receive a bone marrow transplant?
- c. In the context of this example, discuss how political pressures overwhelmed scientific evidence. How could this be avoided in the future?
- d. Find a news report describing a new health technology published in the last year. In your opinion, does this news report provide balanced discussion of the potential promise and the potential limitations of this technology?

2. The Pew Global Attitudes Project is a worldwide survey of public opinion. In 2002, more than 38,000 people in 44 countries were asked to assess the quality of their own lives, their level of optimism about their lives in the next 5 years, and to rank problems faced by themselves and their countries. In this exercise, you are asked to review the results of this survey and to prepare several graphs summarizing the results.

Pew World Attitudes Website: <http://people-press.org/reports/display.php3?ReportID=165>

Pew World Attitudes Report: <http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/165.pdf>

You will examine results in countries profiled in Unit 2: the United States, Canada, China, India and Angola. For parts a-e, please construct graphs, for part f provide a discussion which supports your findings.

- a. What fraction of people surveyed in each country expressed satisfaction with their own lives?
- b. What fraction of people surveyed in each country report that they are unable to afford food?
- c. What fraction of people in each country cite the following as a very big problem in their country:  
Poor drinking water  
Crime  
AIDS and disease
- d. What fraction of people in each country believe that the following is the greatest danger facing the world today:  
Nuclear weapons  
AIDS an infectious disease
- e. What fraction of people surveyed in each country are optimistic that their lives will improve in the next 5 years?
- f. Compare general agreement on questions 4 and 5 throughout countries in Africa and Europe.