First, get your own copy of PRAM, which may be found at the mini-web site: http://academic.csuohio.edu/kneuendorf/c63311/PRAMS
At this site, two versions of PRAM may be found (i.e., PRAM 0.4.5 and PRAM 0.4.7). For this assignment, you should use the newer PRAM 0.4.7. (Please note that Scott’s pi occasionally does not always work with this version of PRAM; PRAM 0.4.5 seems to dependably produce Scott’s pi. Since this assignment does not ask for pi, this should not be an issue right now.) After downloading PRAM, you need to change the file’s name from pram47.ss to pram47.exe.

For this assignment, use the *iCarly* reliability data set (RelData11.xls) which may also be found on the mini-web site, as well as linked to our class web site. The data set is constituted of your and your fellow class members’ coding of the 20 “common” acts of disrespect found in the unforgettable “I Believe in Bigfoot” episode of *iCarly*. Notice that consistent with the requirements of PRAM, the first column contains the coder ID, the second column contains the case ID, and all other columns contain coded variables.

PRAM cannot handle missing data, so make sure that you do not try to run analyses on any variables that have blank cells. PRAM does not generate true error statements; a generic message that will be produced if there is missing data says “Run-time error ‘9’: Subscript out of range.”

Run the following five reliability statistics for all variables:
1. Percent agreement
2. Cohen’s kappa (for multiple coders—included when you run plain kappa)
3. Krippendorff’s alpha (this will require separate runs for variables at different levels of measurement)
4. Pearson correlation
5. Lin’s concordance.

Remember that not all stats are appropriate for all variables, but running all stats on essentially all the variables is easy and in most cases efficient.

Using PRAM as a diagnostic tool, analyze and critique the reliabilities for the 10 major variables: Incident, Nonverbal 1, Verbal 1, Physical 1, Initiator, Target, Target Role, Recipient, Recipient Role, and Corrective Action. Note that only Incident might be thought of as Interval/Ratio; all others are Nominal.
Complete in writing a relatively brief analysis (5 pages or less, not including output, which I’d like you to hand in as an attachment); also be prepared to discuss your analyses in class:

1. Comment on the “face” reliability of each of the 10 variables, following a visual inspection of the data set. Which variables seem to show acceptable reliability, and why do you say this?

2. Compare these assessments with the findings of the reliability coefficients. For nominal variables, look at percent agreement, Cohen’s kappa, and Krippendorff’s alpha. For the interval/ratio variable, look at all five coefficients. What do the reliability coefficients tell you that your visual inspection did not?

3. What do you conclude about the future of these variables? Are they usable as measured by these coders? If not, what might be done?

4. What do you conclude about the future of the coders? Are there any who should be dismissed? Explain.

5. Comment on reasonable improvements that you think could and should be made to PRAM 0.4.7.