# Population Selection Tips

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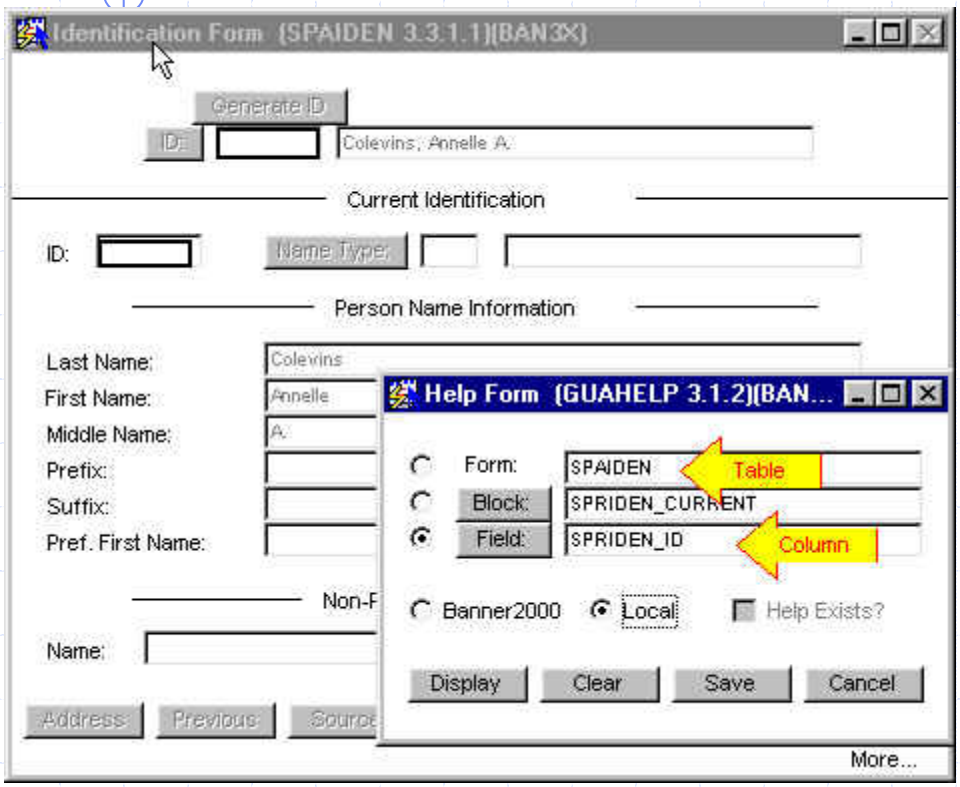
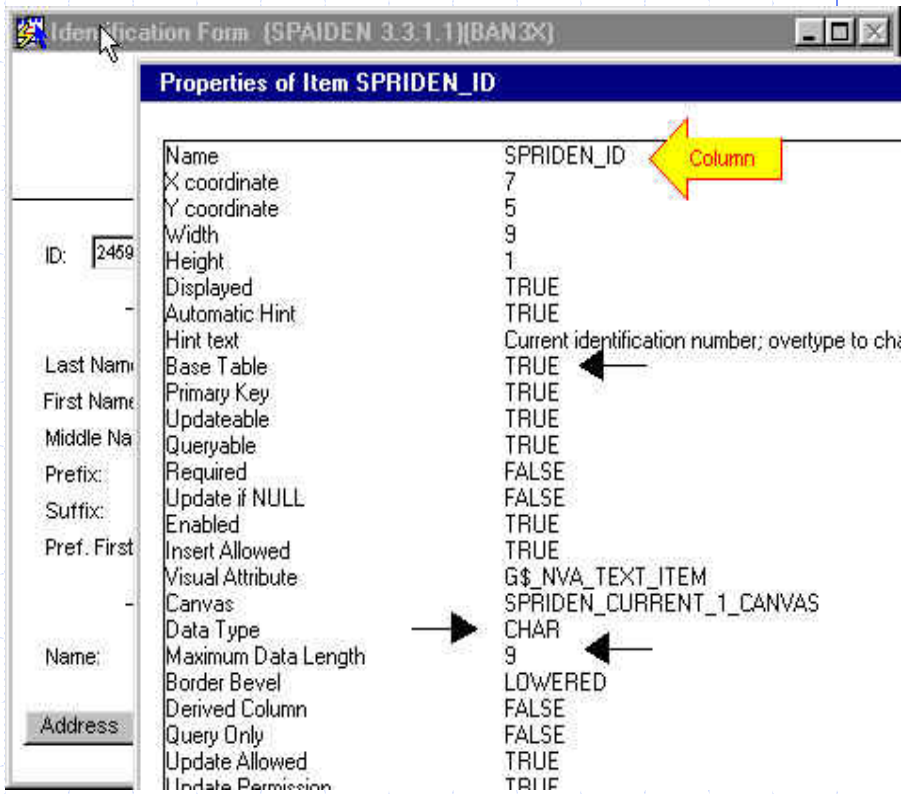
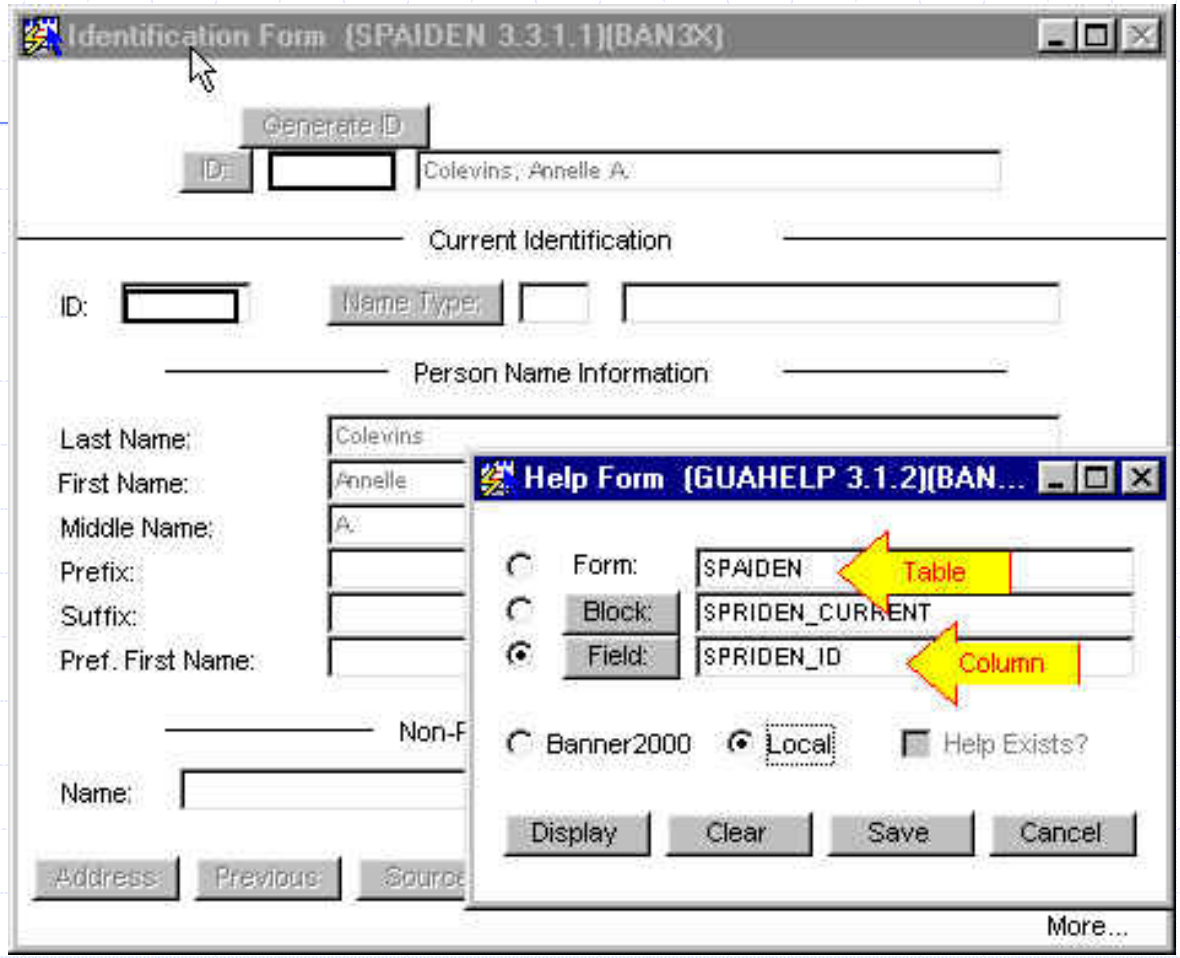
# Most Important Tip – Know Your Data



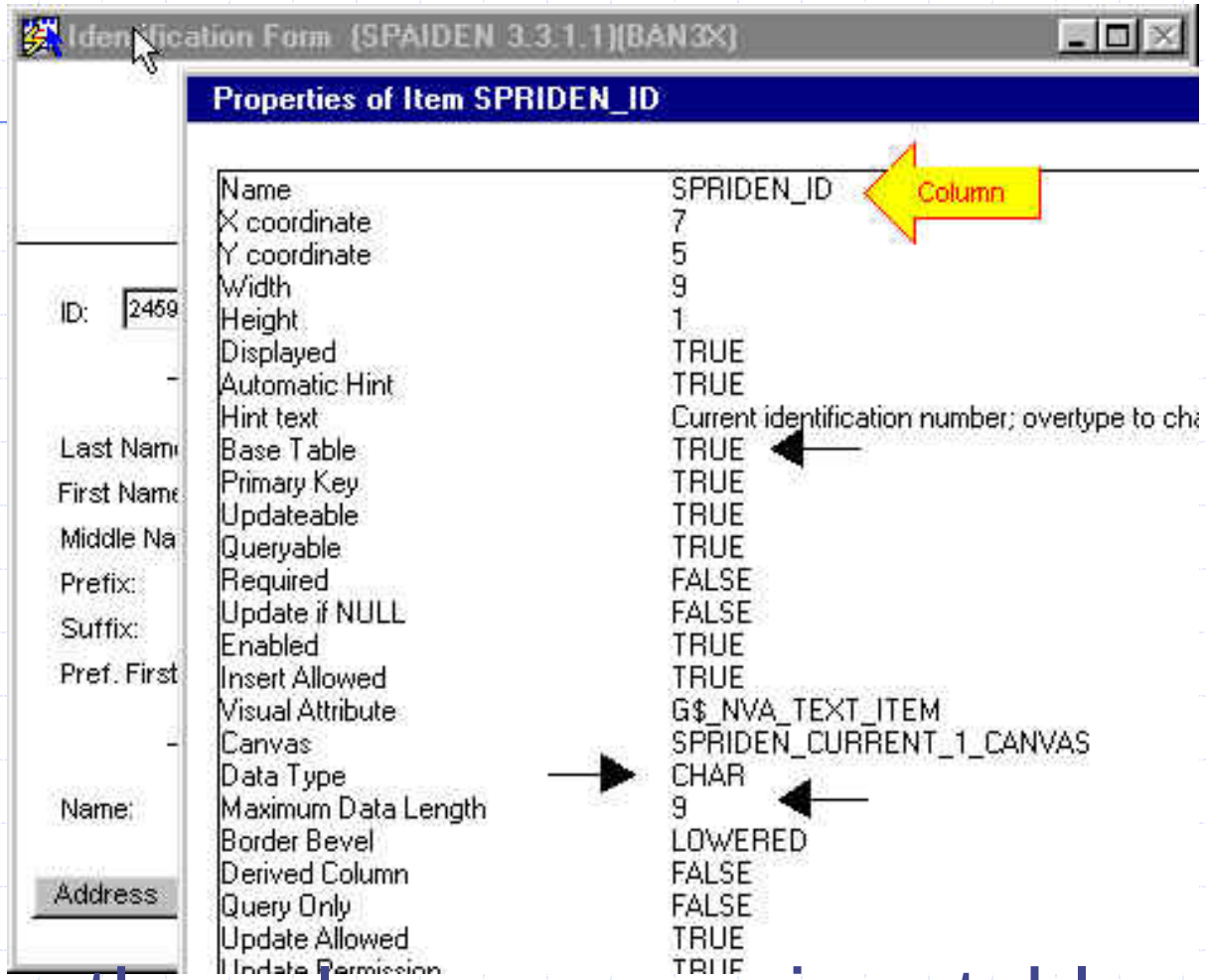

- Know the data fields, business policies and business practices.

# Interactive Help



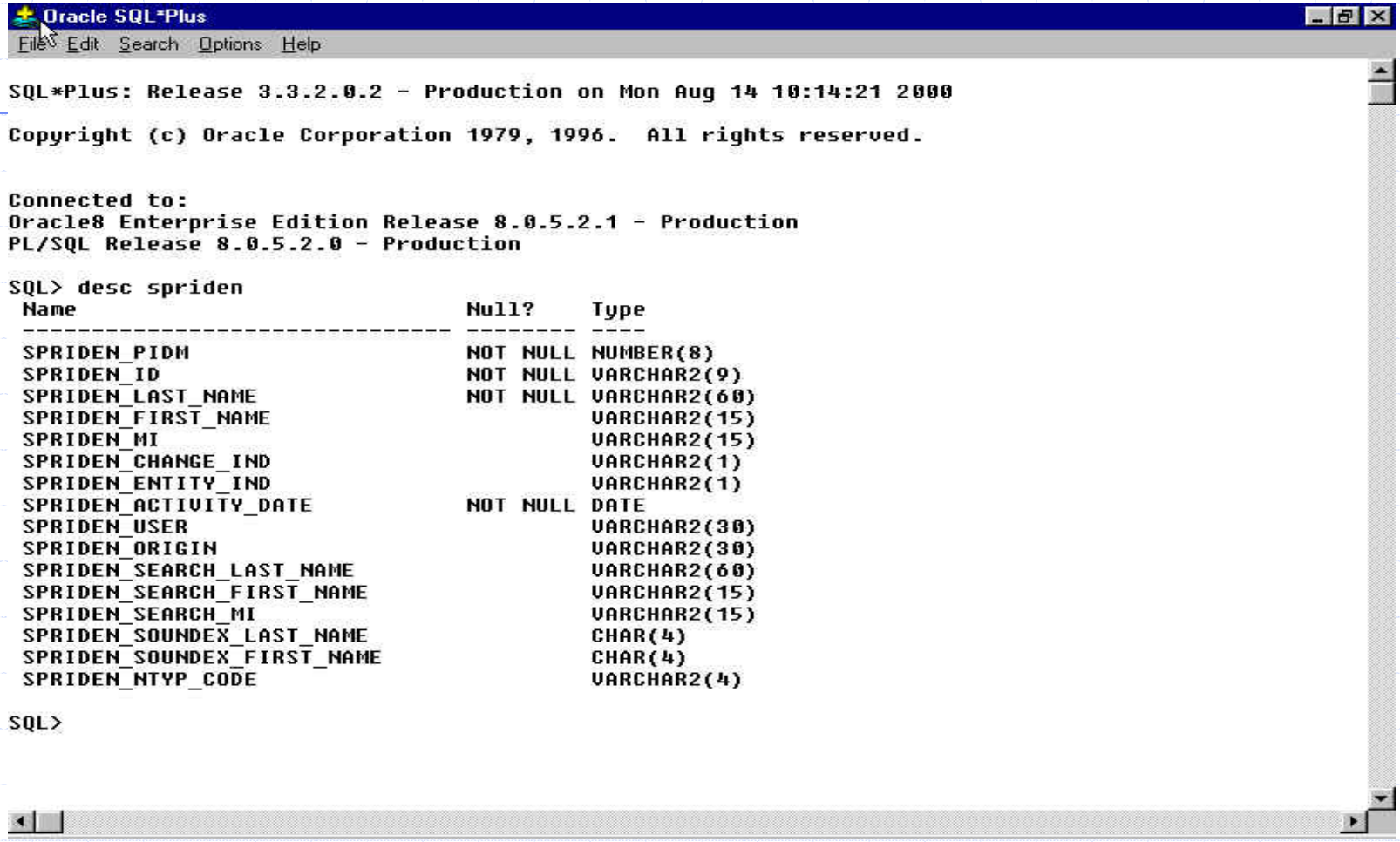

- Help shows the table and column names.
- Click Help on the menu bar then Dynamic Help Query.

# Function Key



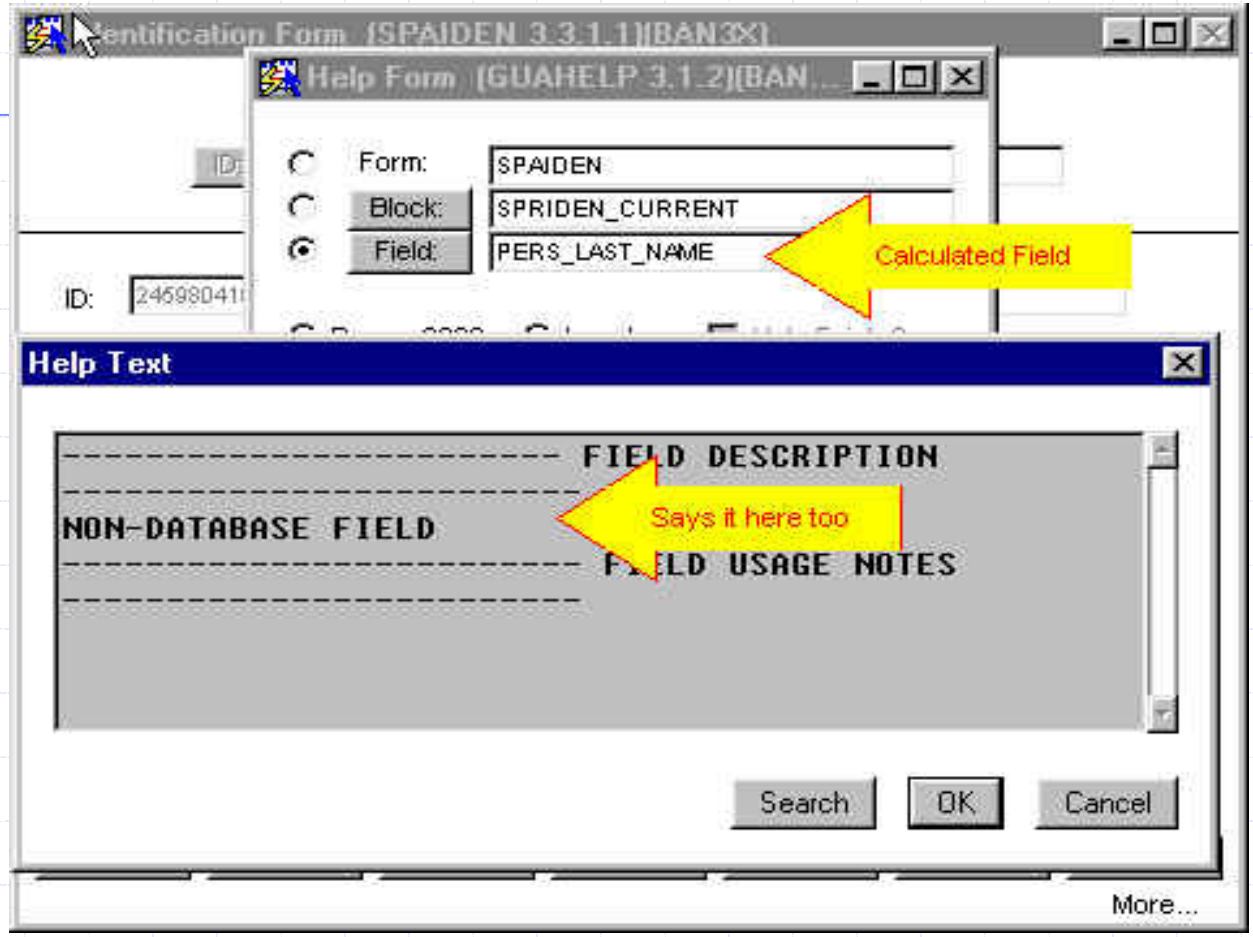

- F1 gives the column name, in a table or not, data type, data length, etc.

# Use SQL. Describe the Table




- desc spriden. The desc command shows each field in the table along with type and length.

# Some Fields Are Calculated




- You have to know the logic behind the calculation. Last Name is an example.

# Second Most Important TIP: Check Your Results

This is certainly the second most important tip. For really critical needs, I check the first person for each letter in the alphabet, or every 10th, or some scheme that allows me to scan through the whole group. Then I build a quick flow (used to be call list) and run it on a second banner session. Check each test person through every form in the quick flow. GUAQFLW

I also check with the user. Does this number sound right? Or ask them to spot check themselves. They know what they are looking for.

- The second most important tip.
- I use a quick flow to check.

# SUB Queries

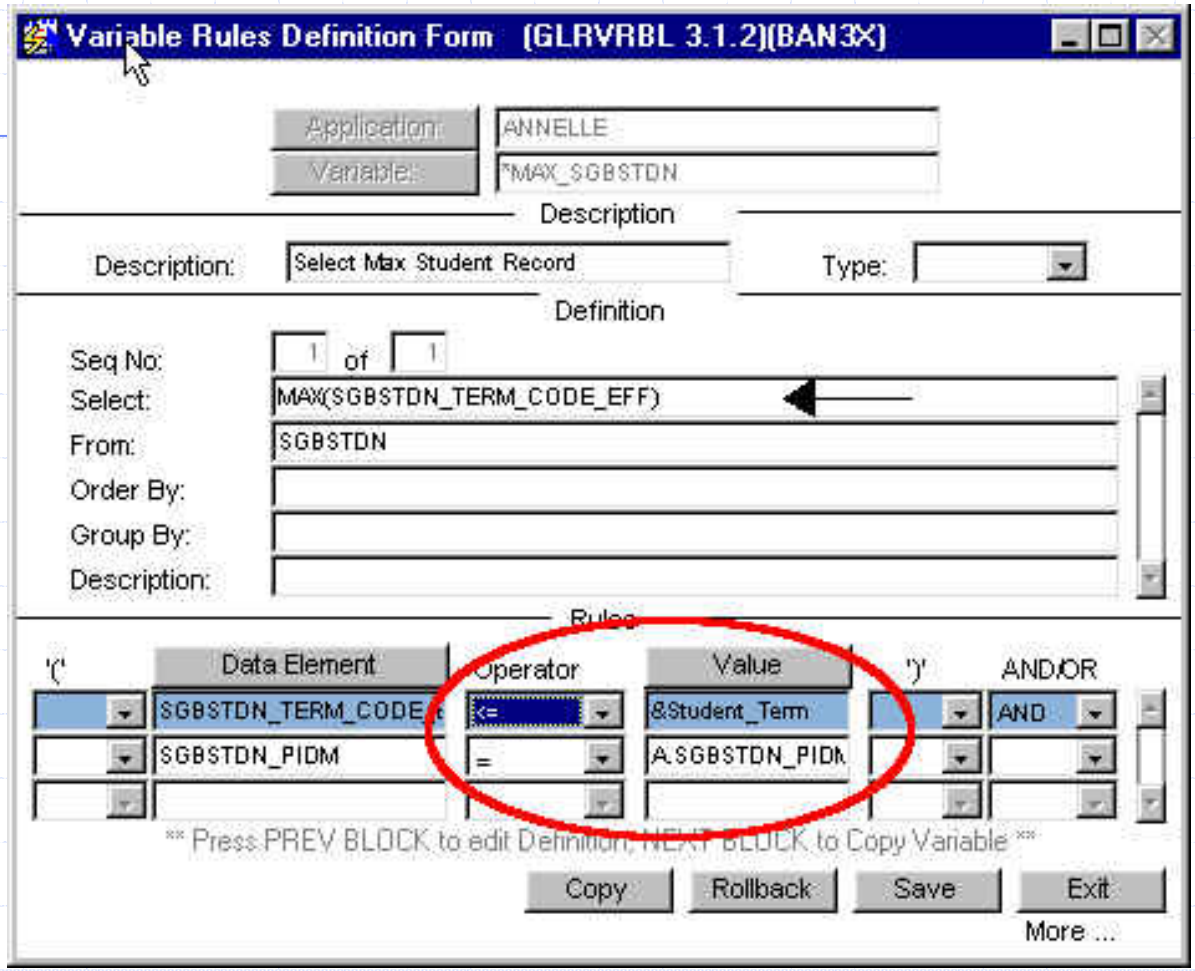
Sub queries have to be used when there might be **more than one row** per person. SLARASG might have room changes. SARAPPD might have more than one decision code per term. Students in SGBSTDN might have records that span terms.

Sub queries must be used to get the **most recent** admission decision, or the **active** room assignment or the **most recent** student row.

There are LOTS of other tables that use more than term to identify the information.

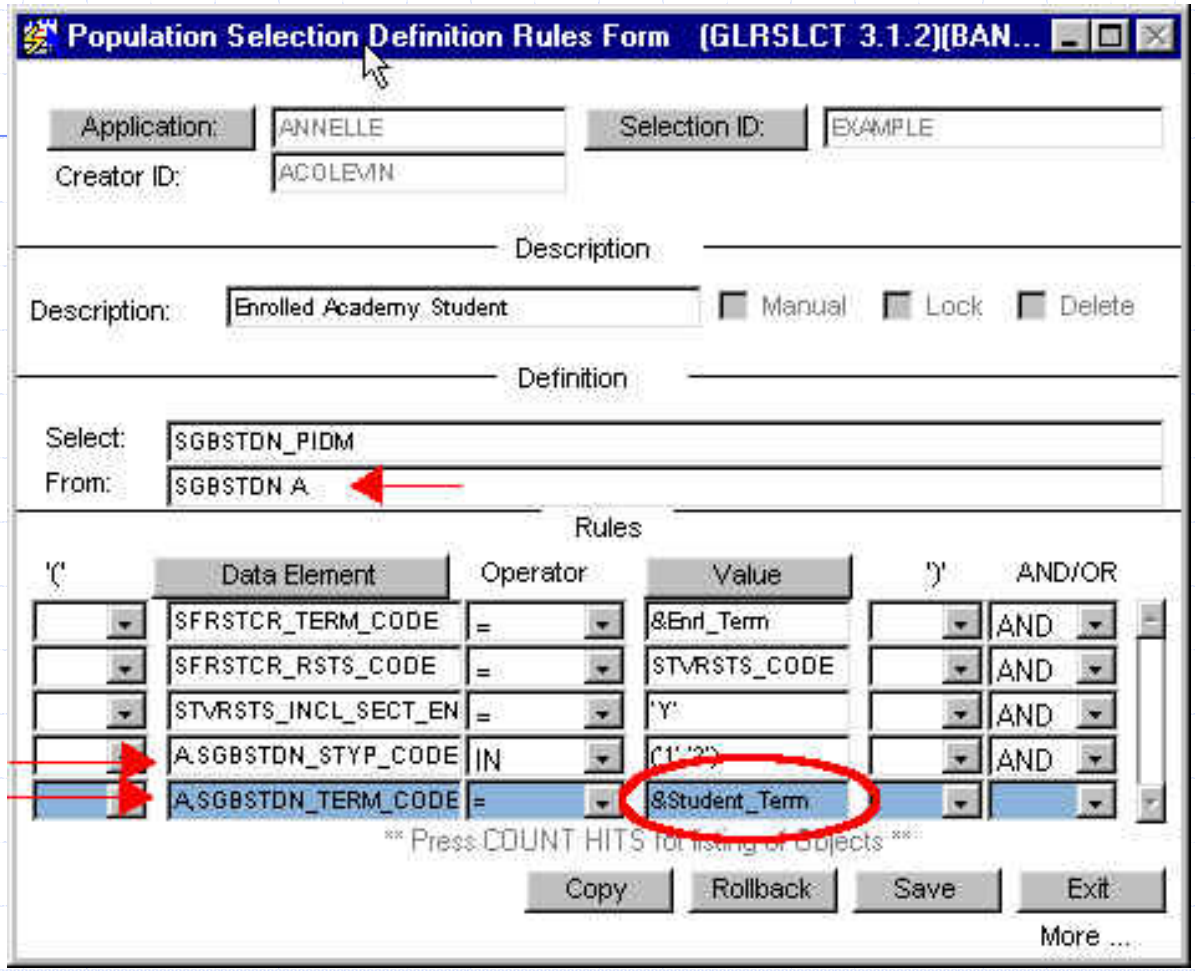
- Know your data.

# Define the Sub Query Variable



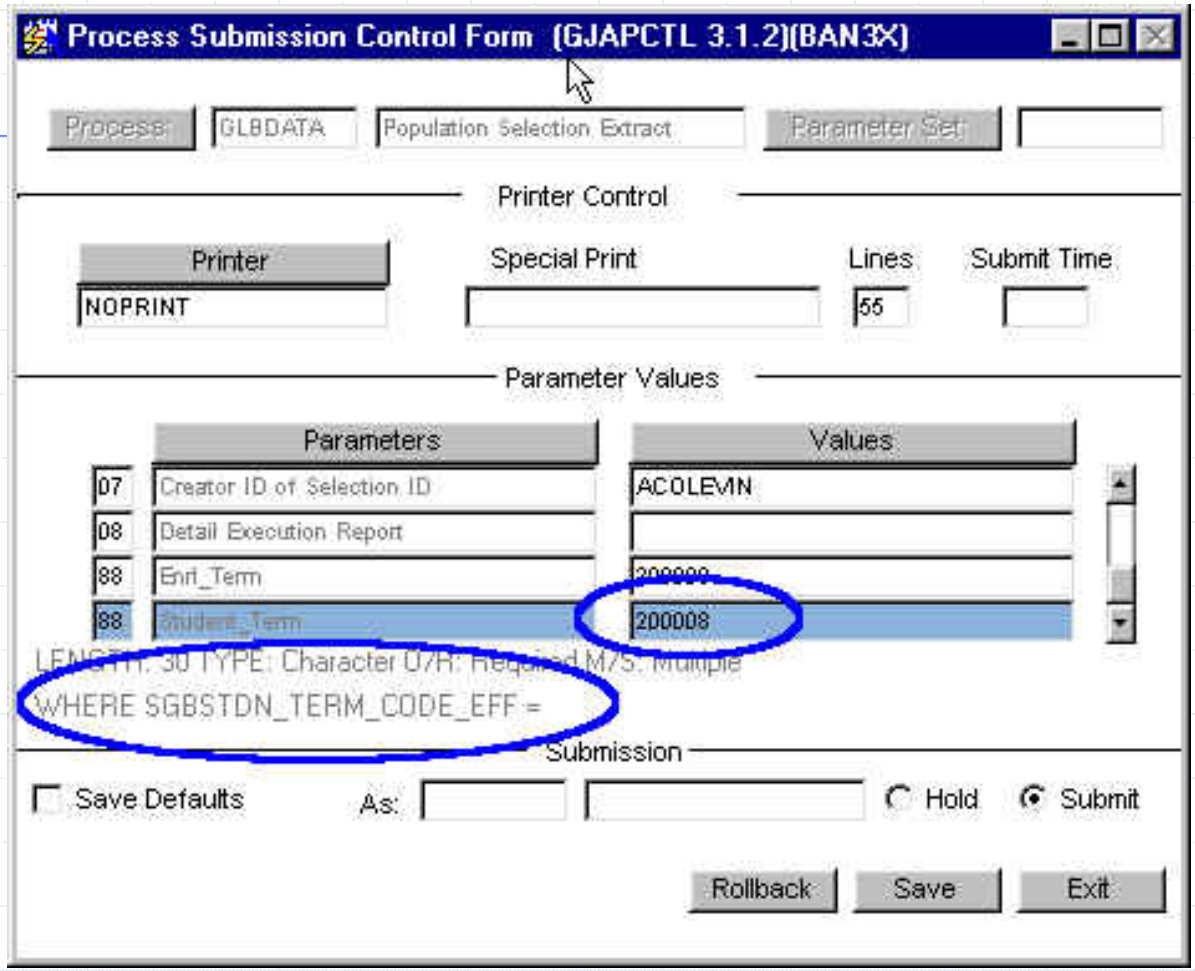

- SGBSTDN term <= the query term.
- PIDM ties the sub query to the main query.

# Rules With A Sub Query



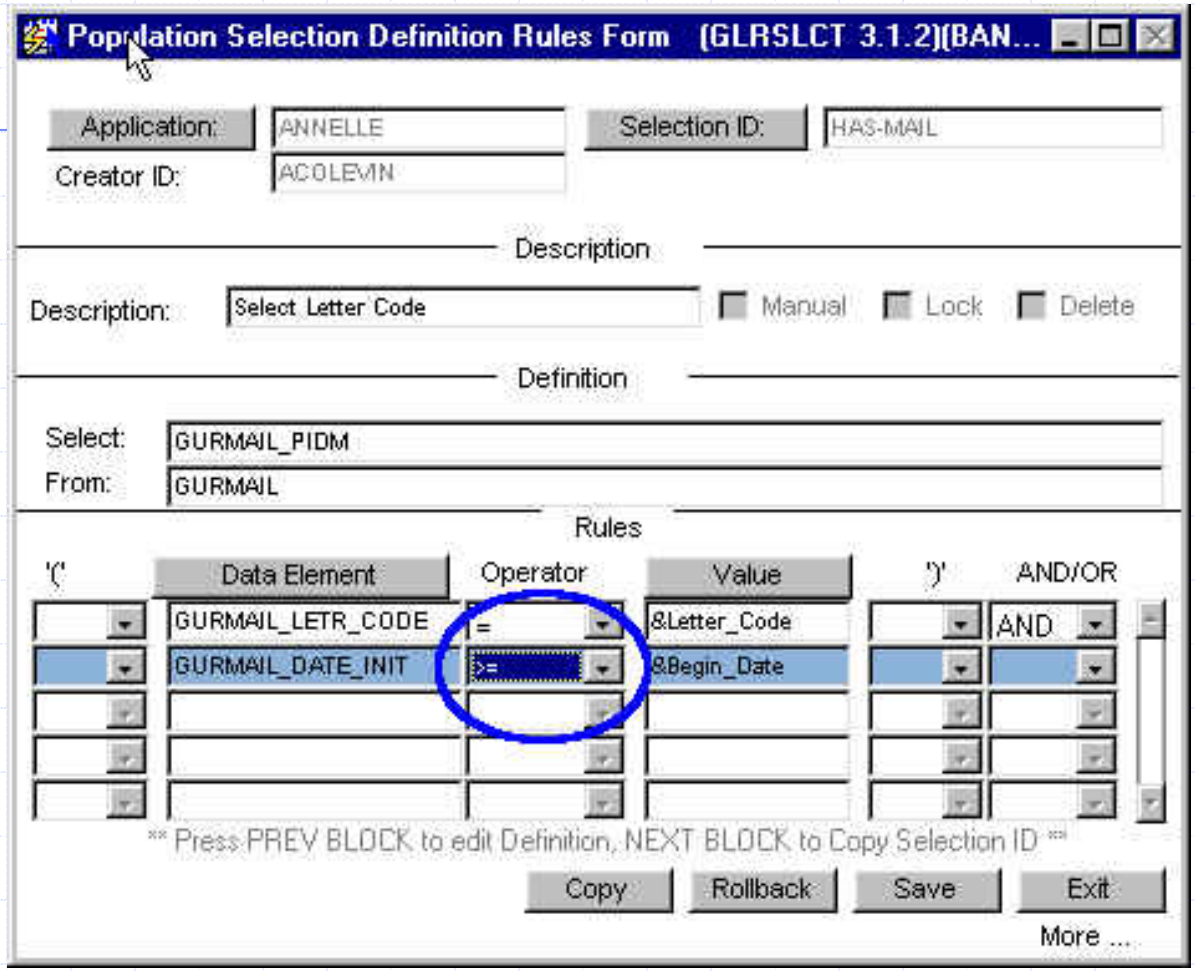

- Use of alias, “A”, indicates sub-query.
- Only 1 per selection. Should be last rule.

# Execute With a Sub Query



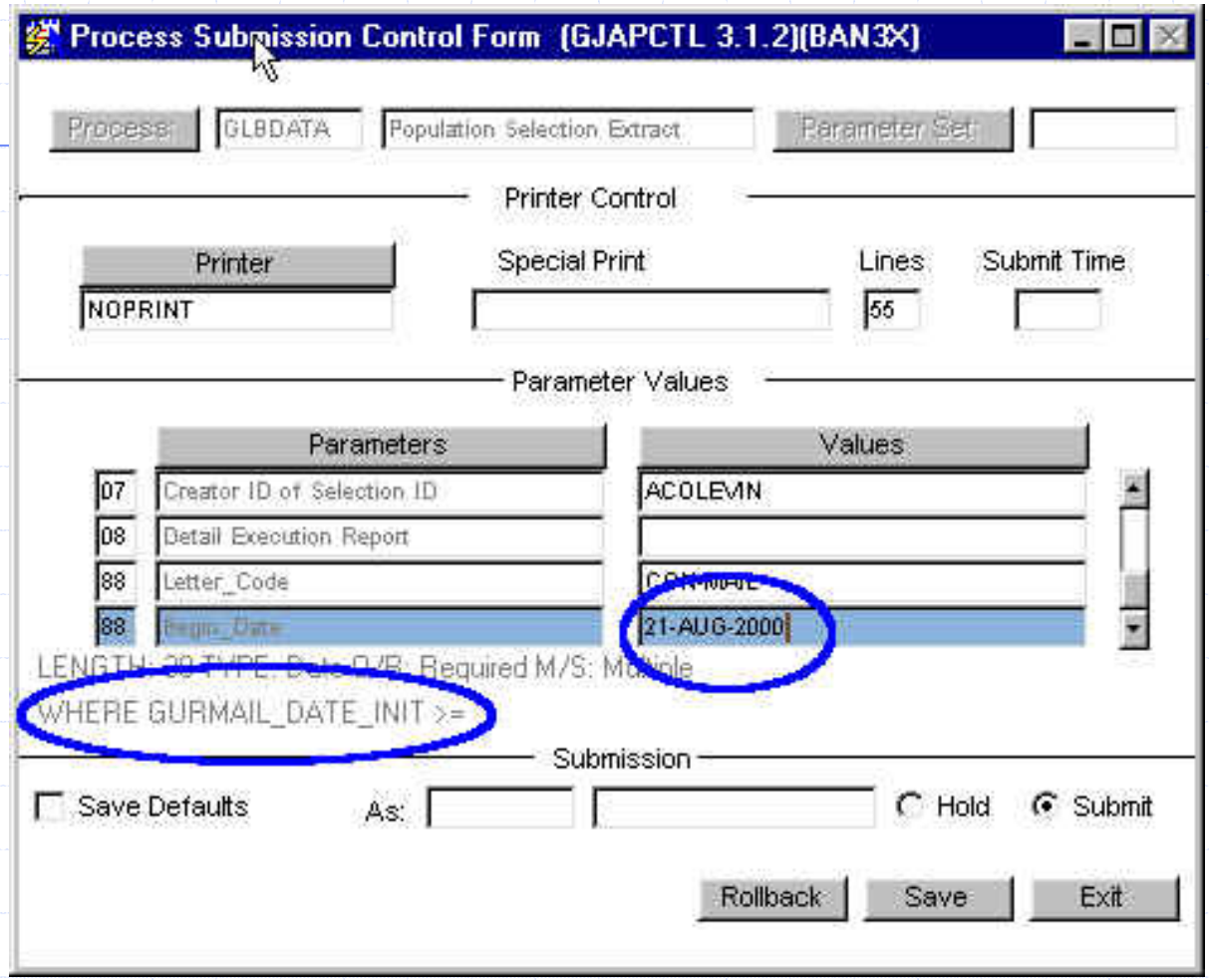

- Like any other dynamic parameter.

# Dates



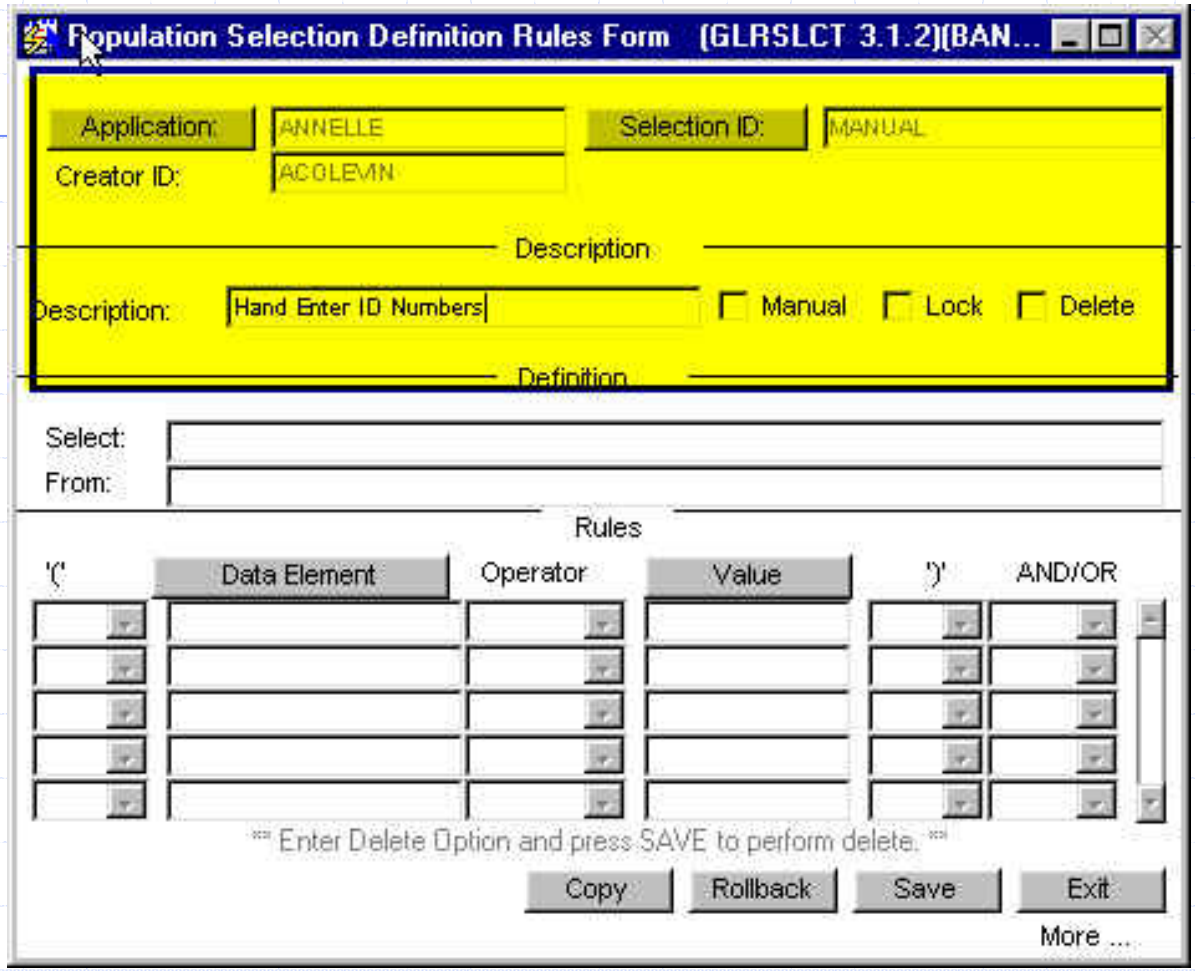

- Date columns have date AND time so you can't select a date with '='. Use '>=' or '<='.

# Dates



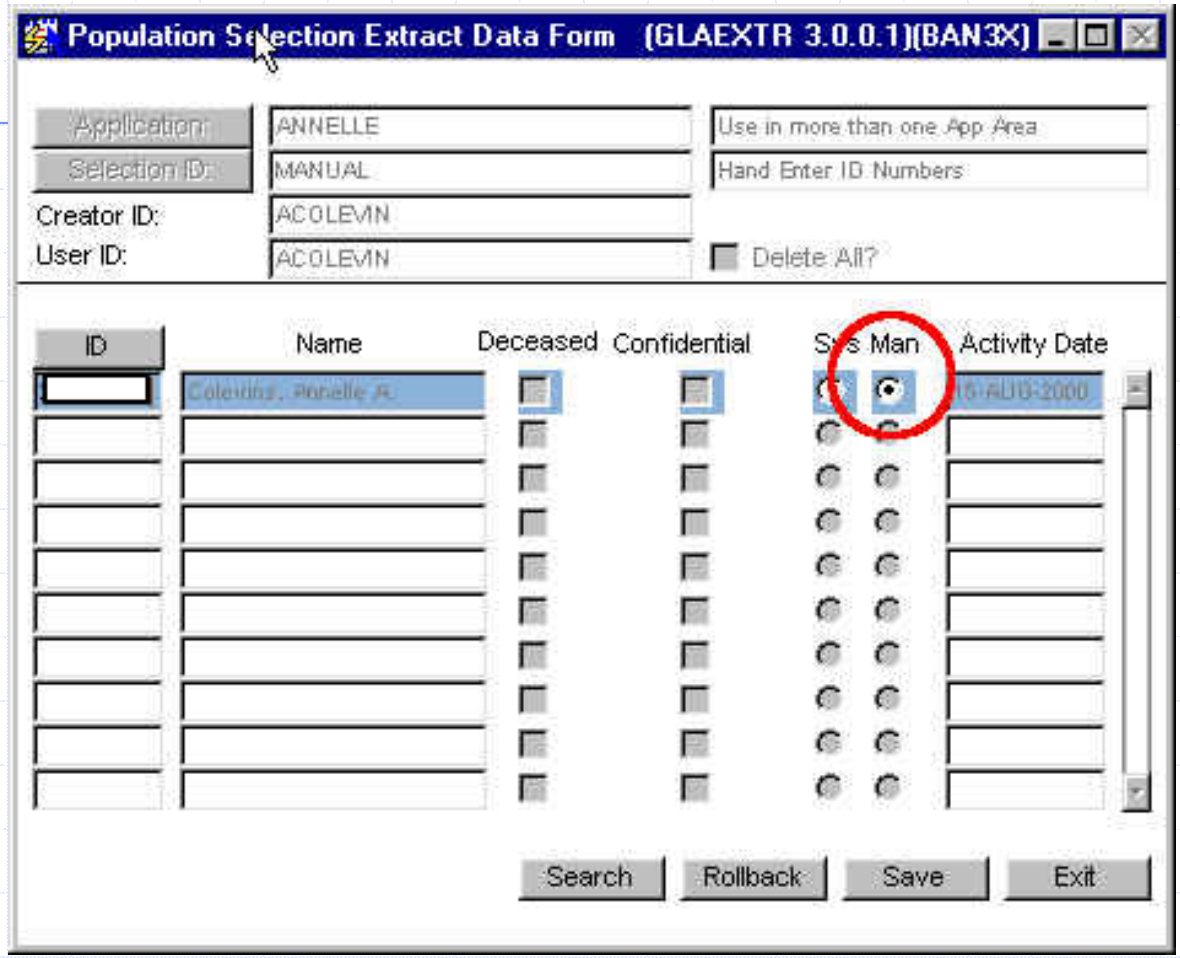

- Use the standard oracle format when running: 'dd-MON-yyyy' or 21-AUG-2000.

# Manual Population Selections



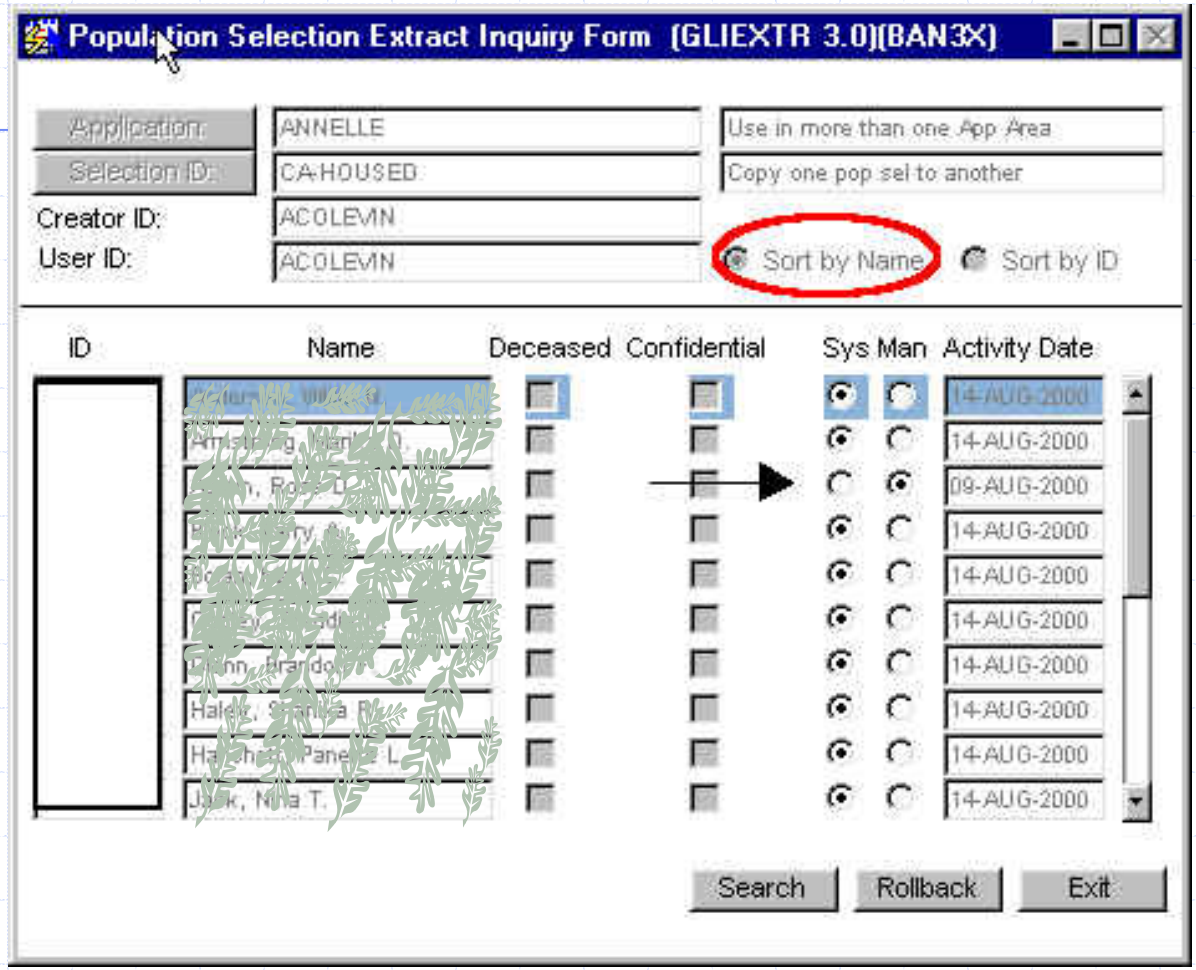

- Just key block and description

# Manual Pop Selections



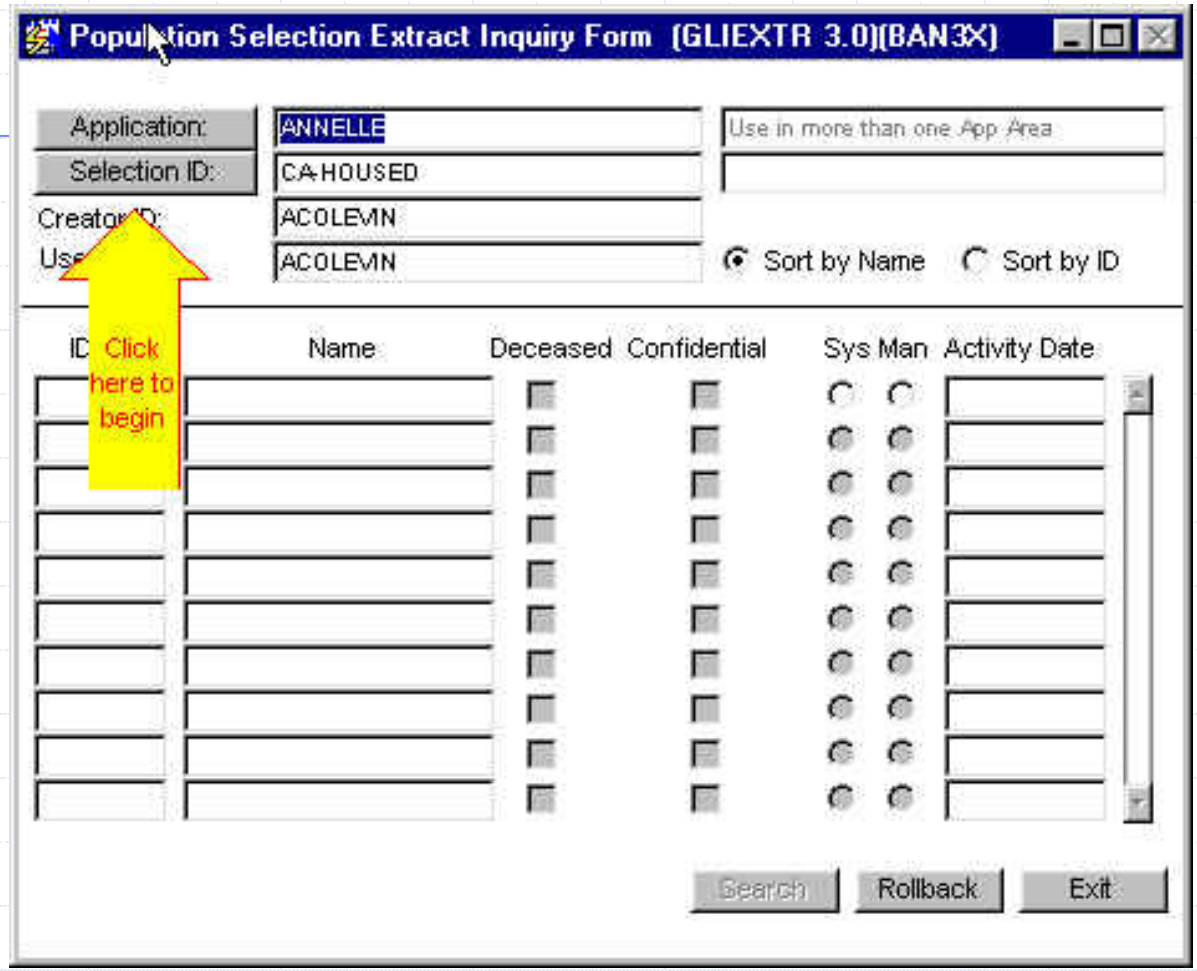

- Enter on GLAEXTR.
- Add to or delete from regular pop selections.

# Display



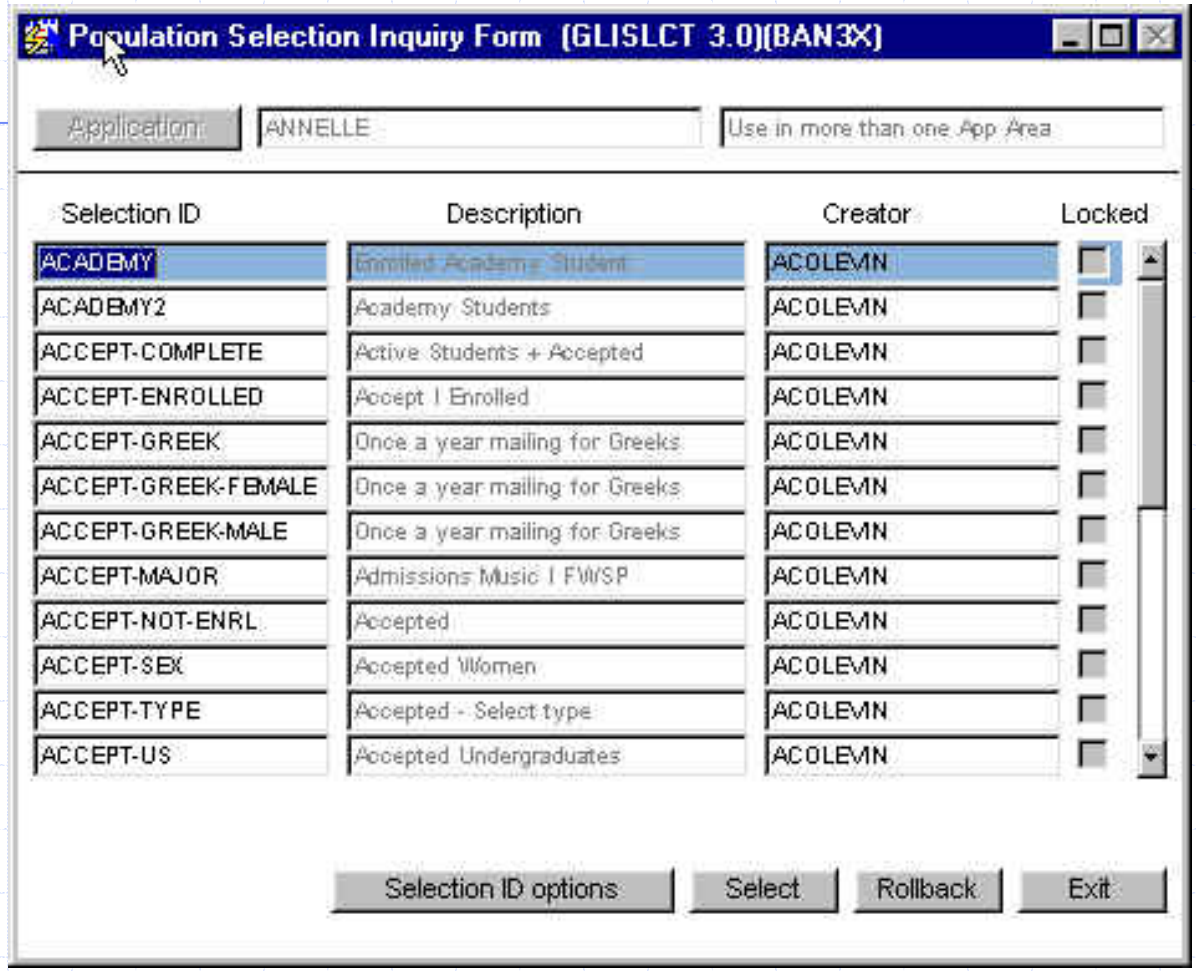

- List by name or ID.

# Search



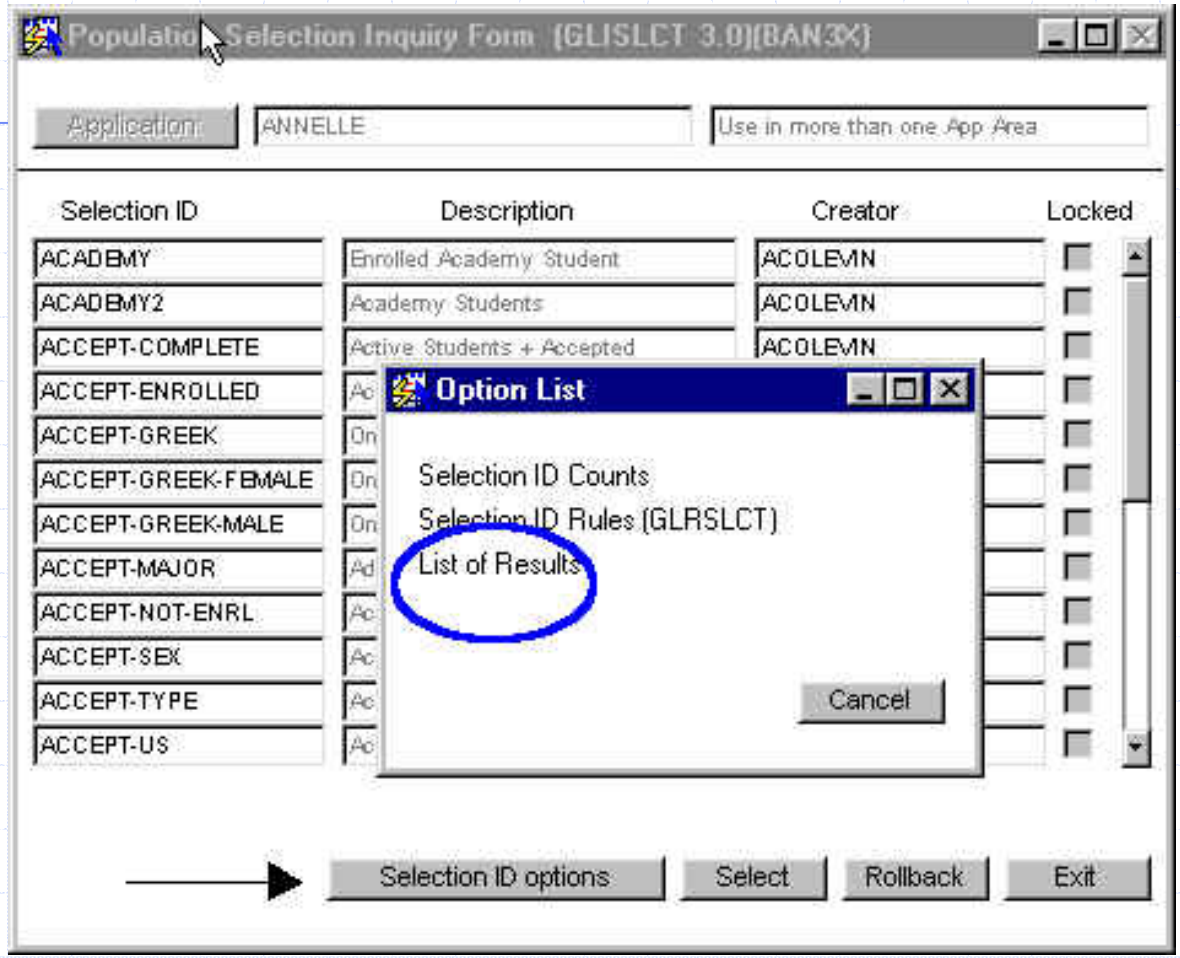

- Search to show results.

# Search



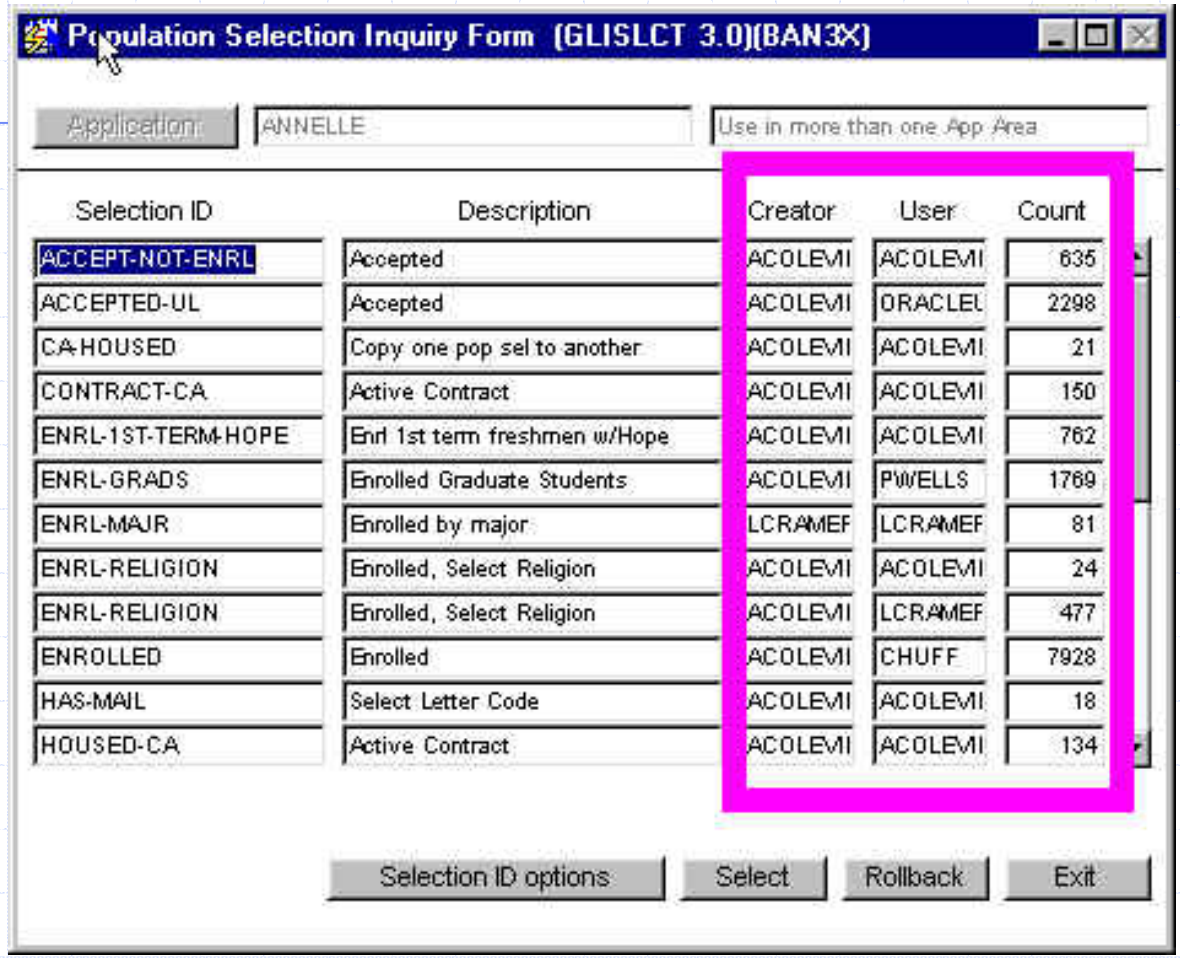

- This is just a list of all population selections in the application.

# Search



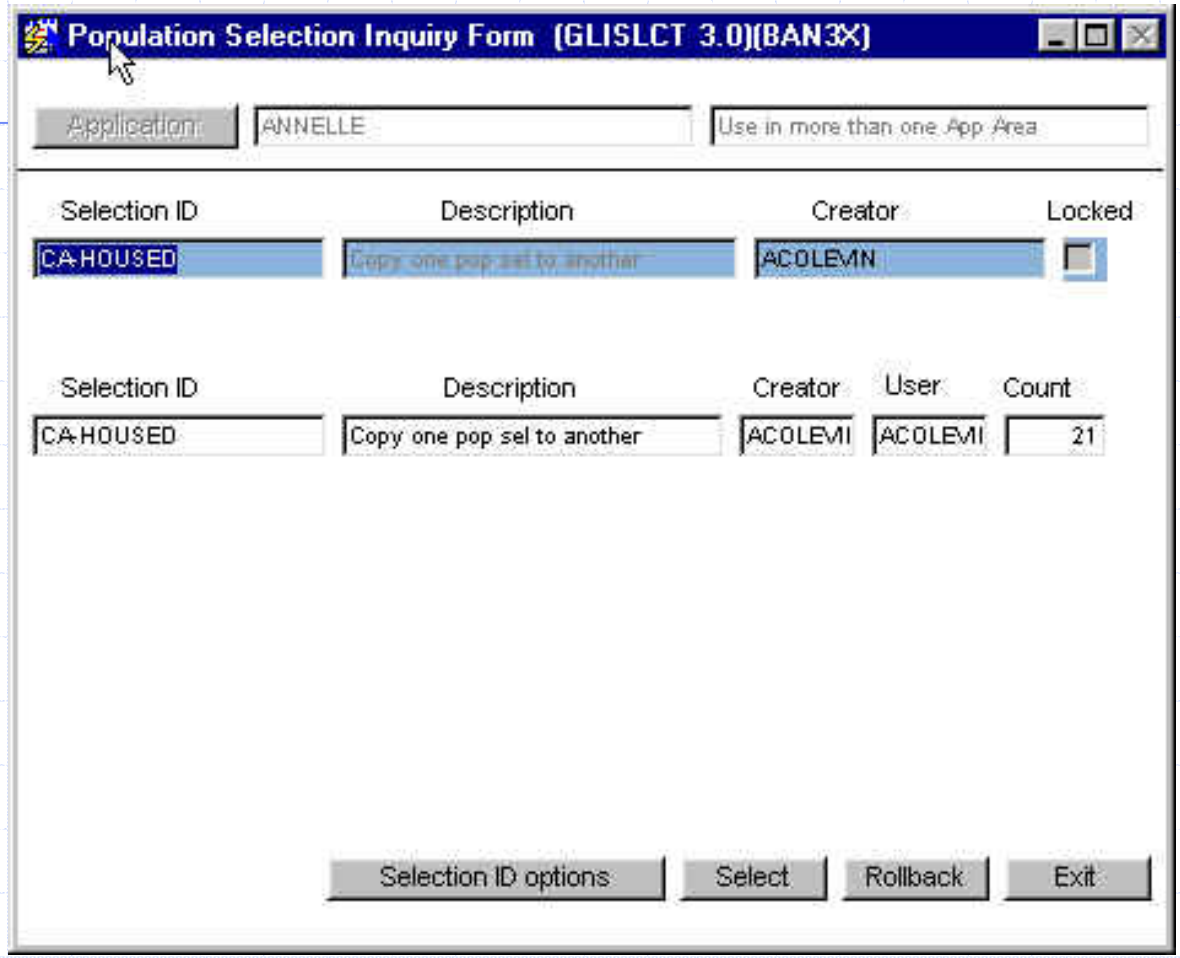

- A more helpful list is available. Click Selection ID Options button then List of Results.

# Search



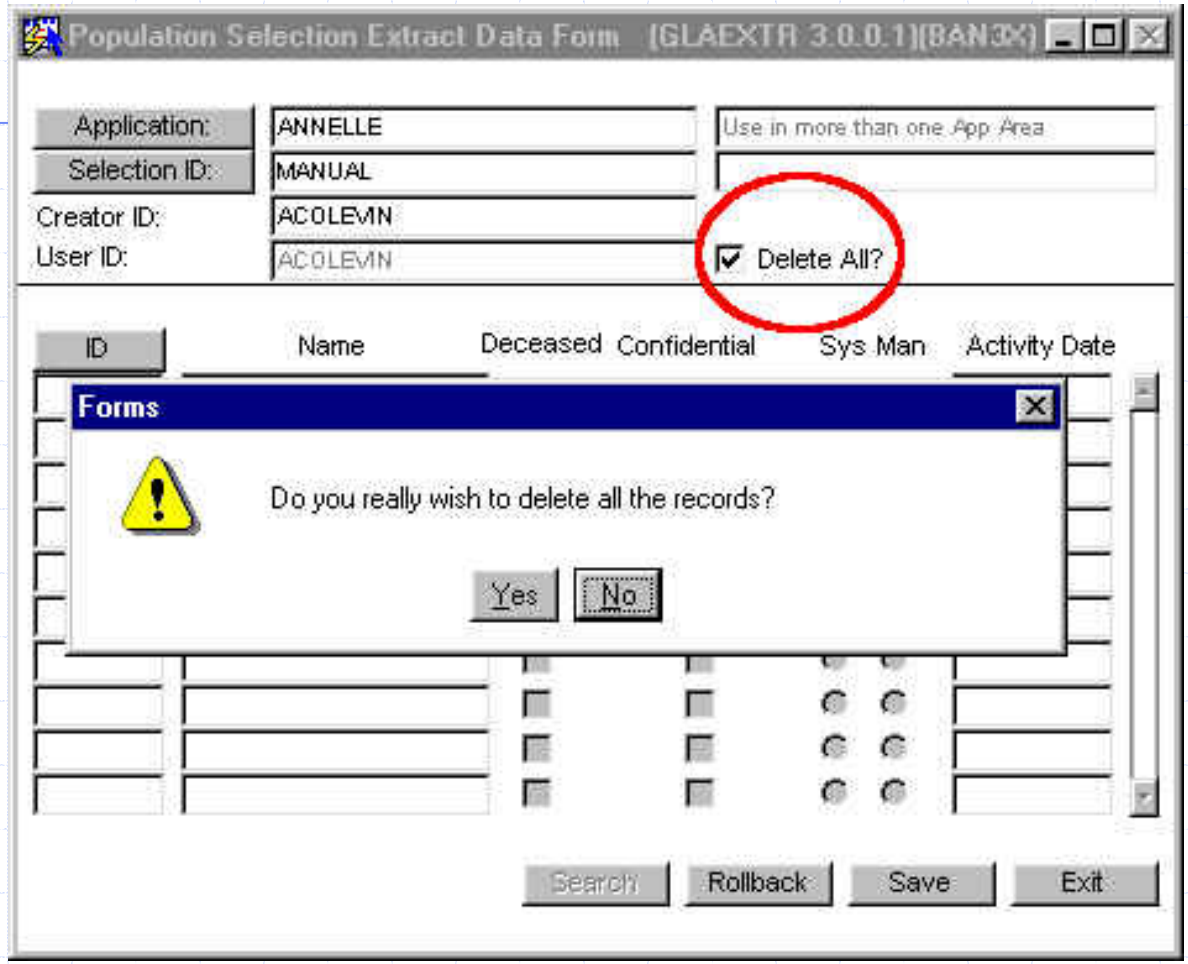

- This option shows only pop. sels. with results.
- Creator, user, and count are also shown.

# Search



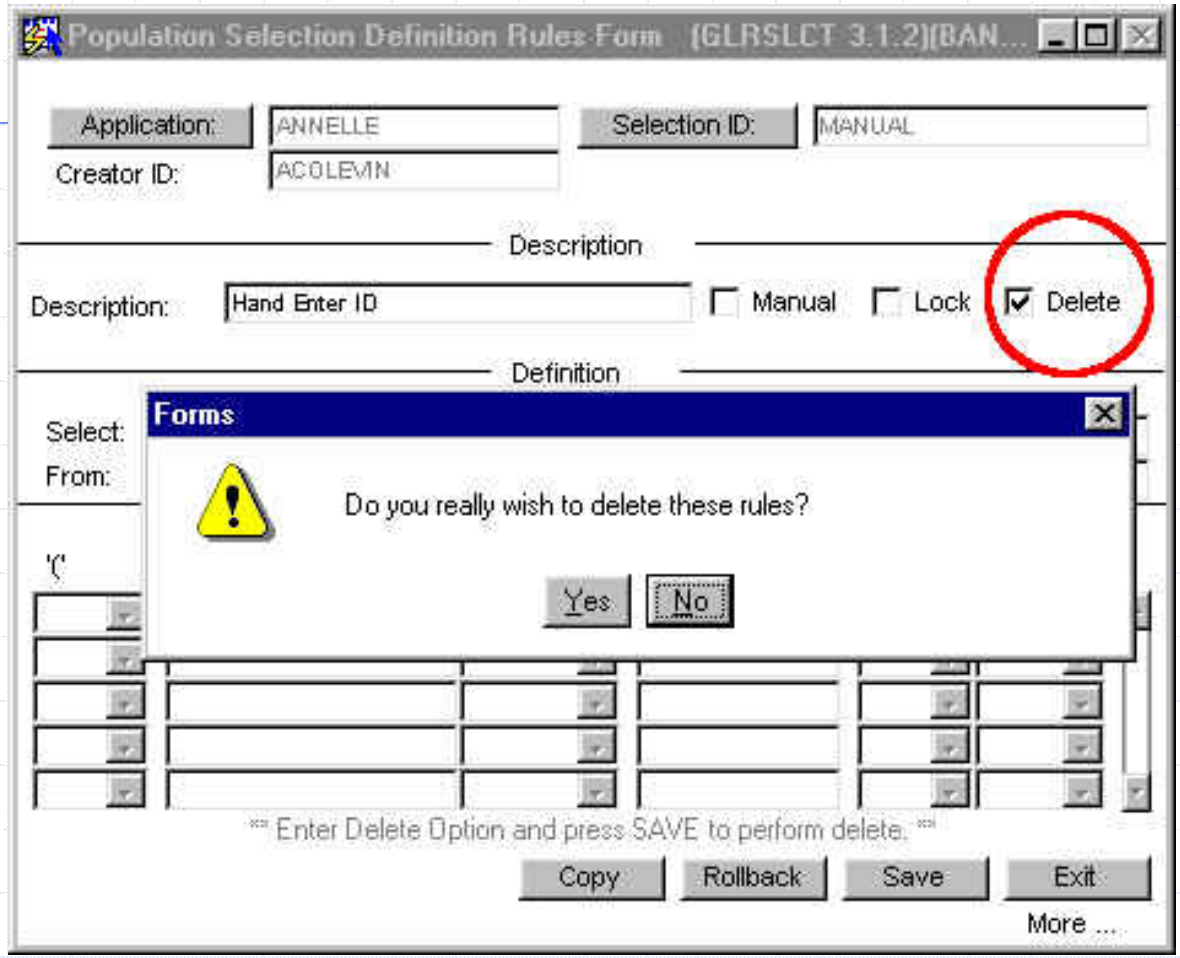

- Selection ID counts is not so helpful. It shows a count only for the one you chose.

# Delete – Results



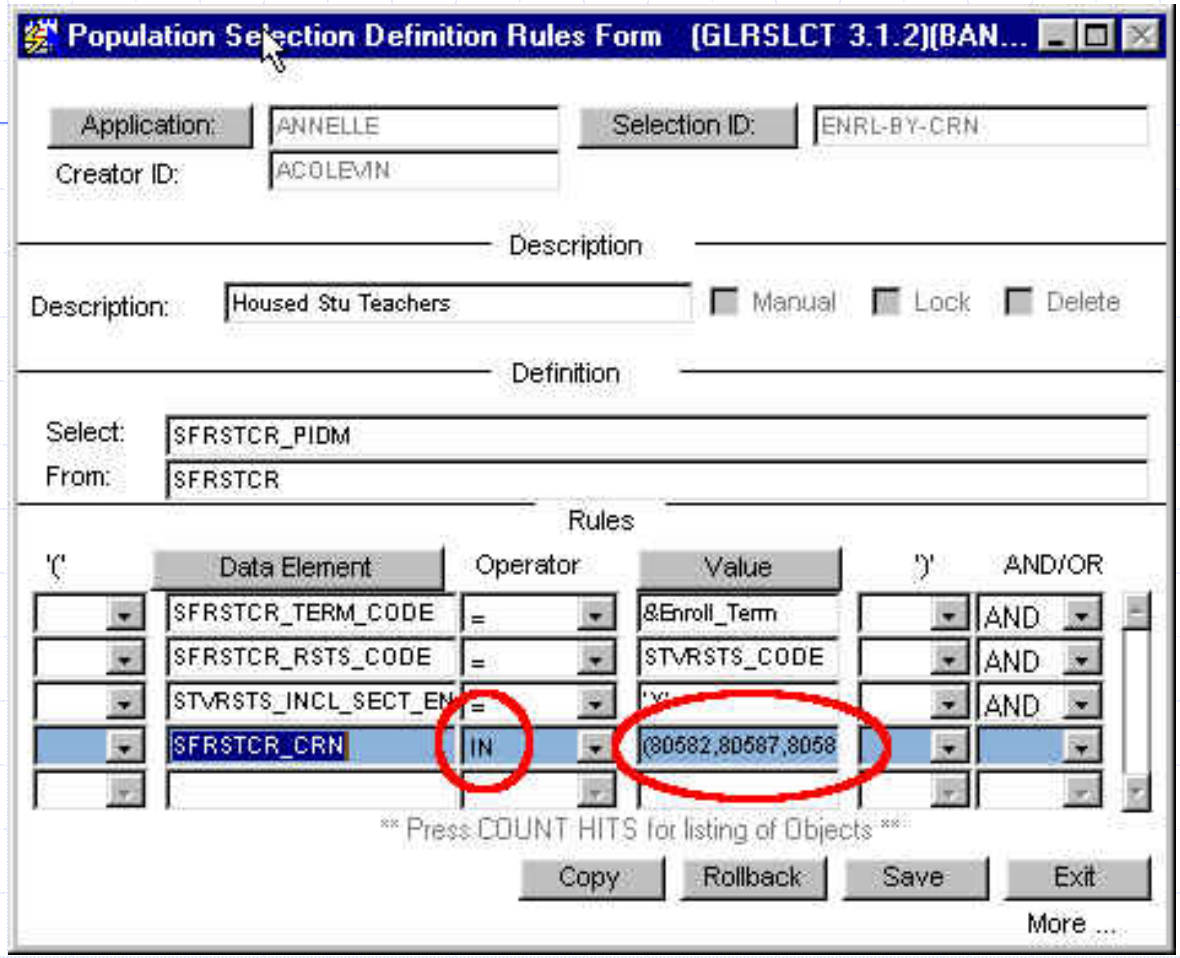

- Check box on GLAEXTR

# Delete – Rules



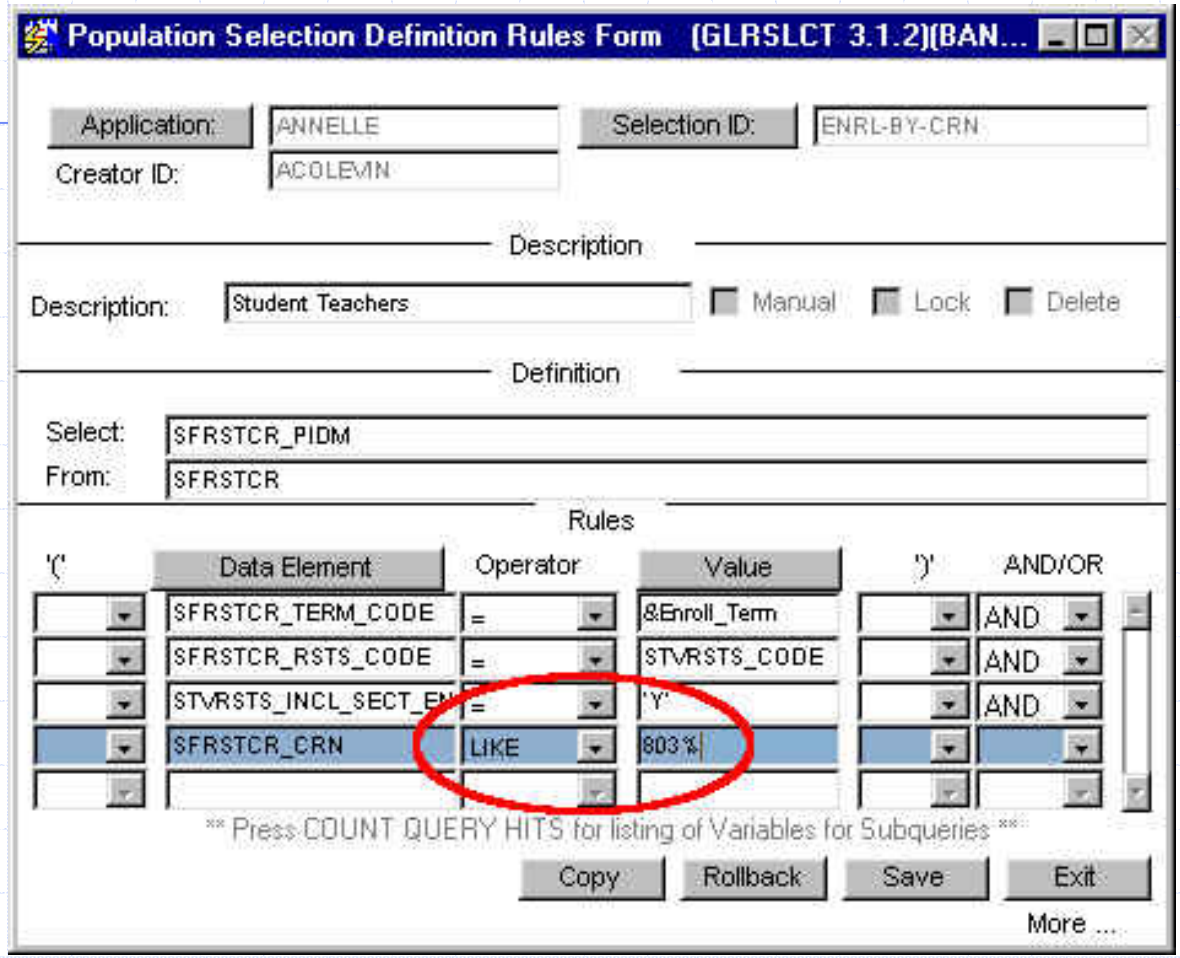

- Check box in the description block of GLRSLCT.
- Be diligent. Specially delete combined entries.

# Rules – In



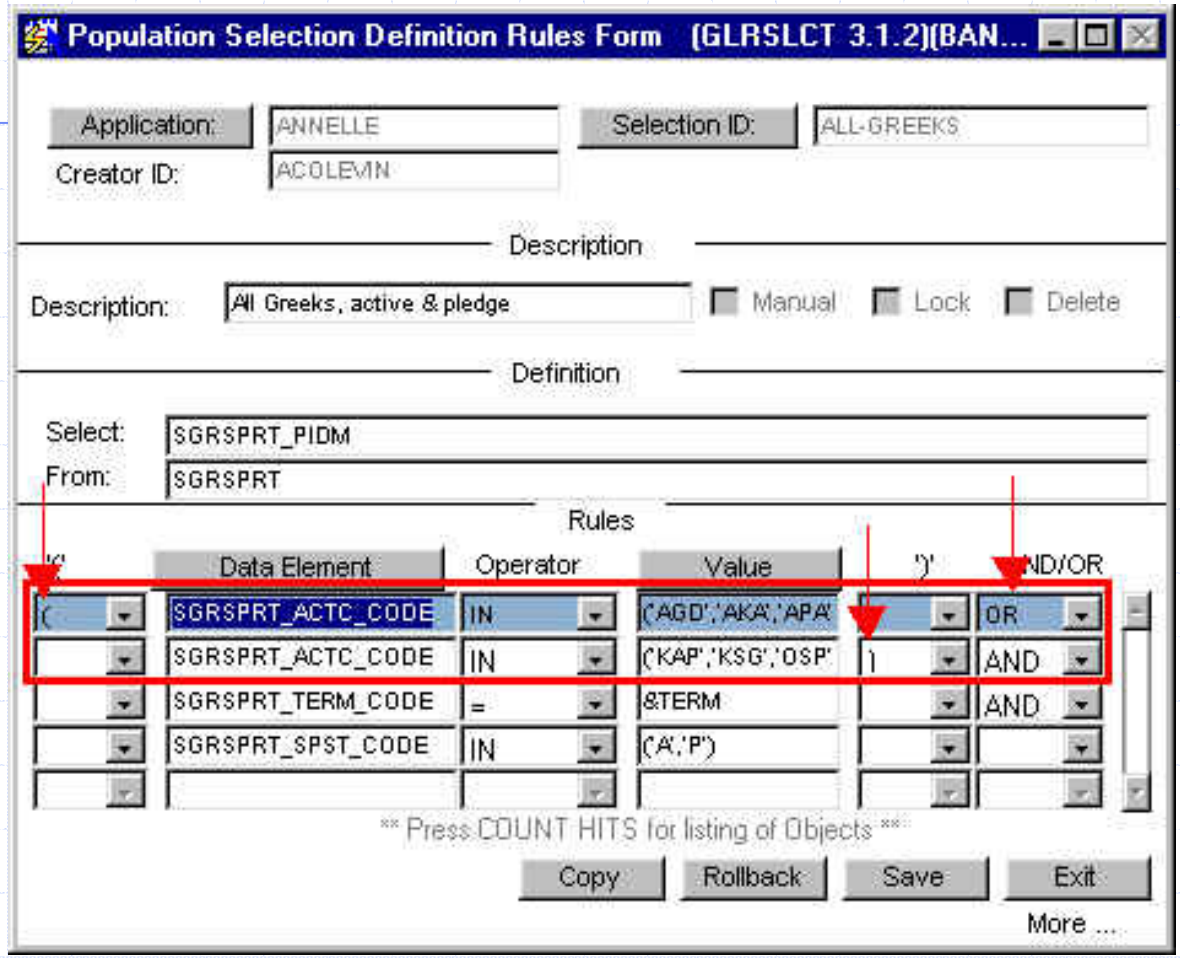

- Takes the place of multiple OR rules.
- Enclose list of values with (). Separate with “,”.

# Rules – Like



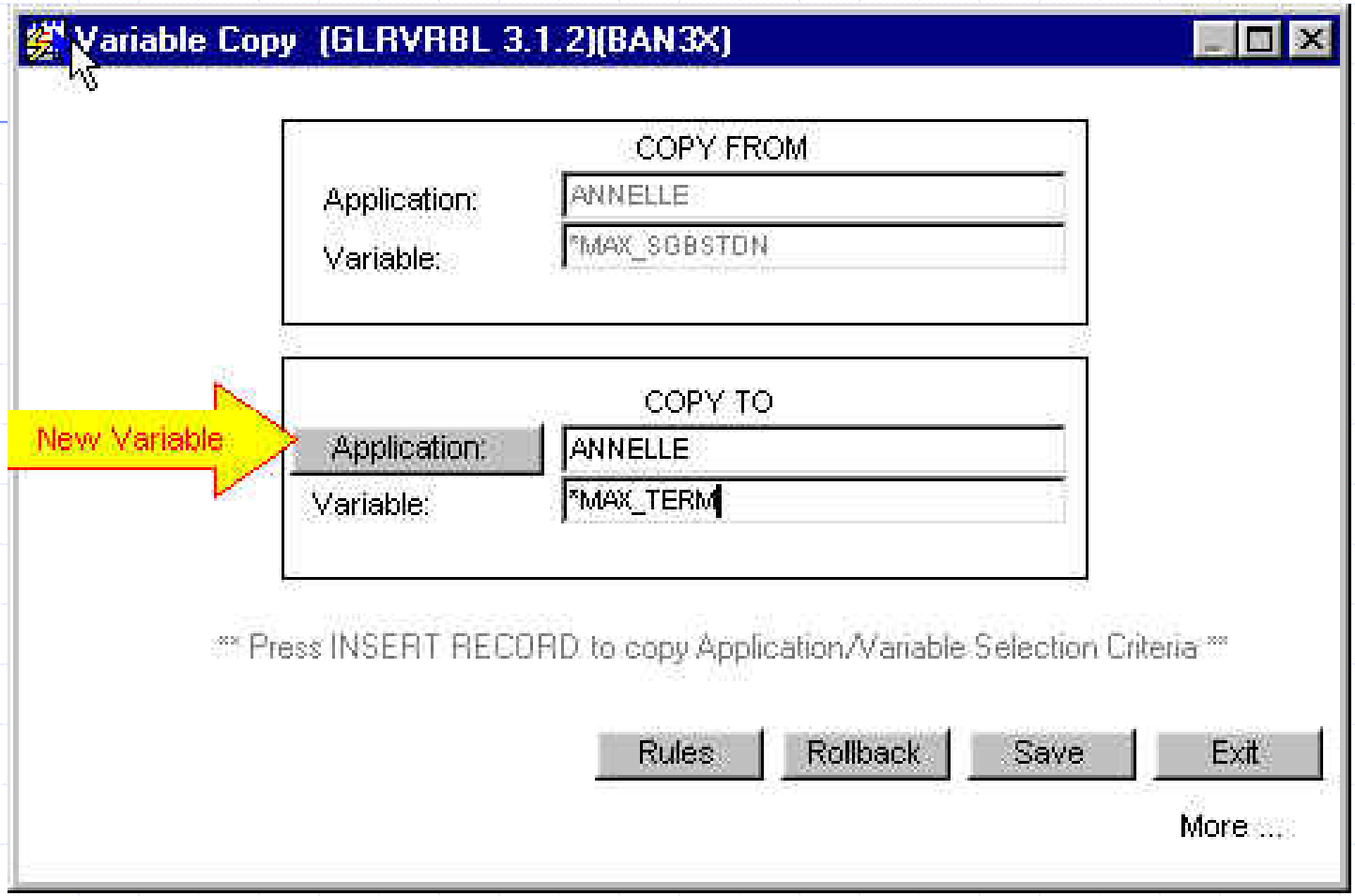

- Wild card is required.

# Rules – Nested And/or



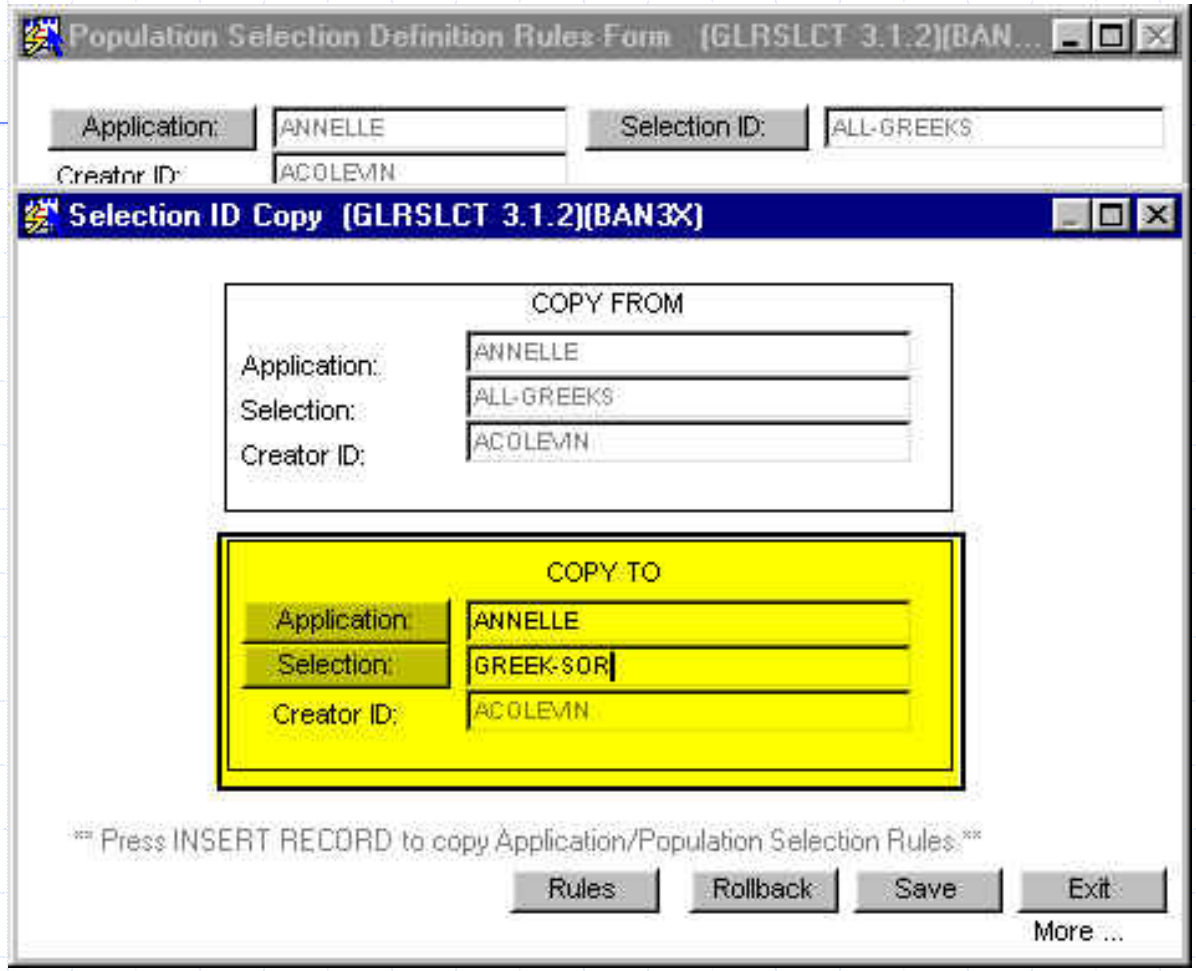

- Use of ( ) is key here.

# Copy Variables



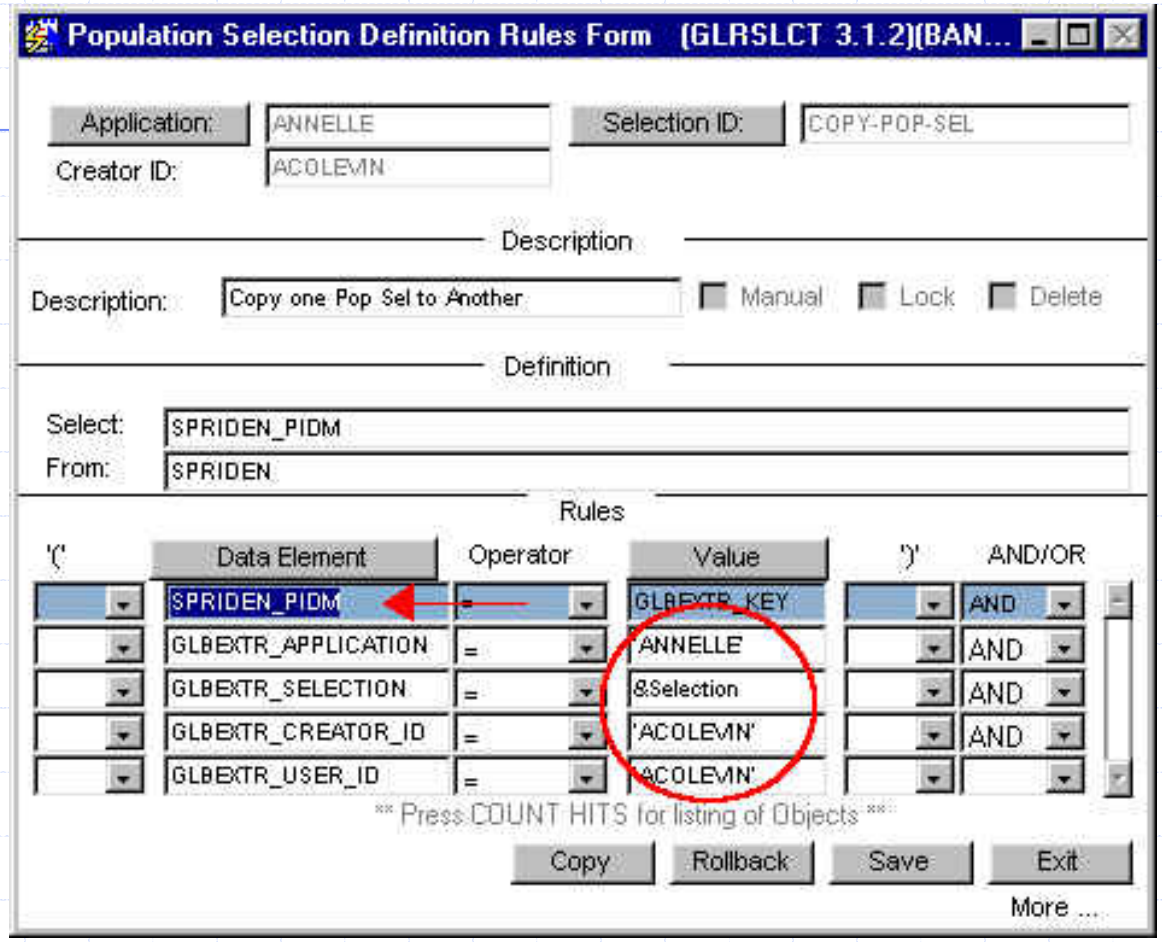

- Variables can be copied using second page.
- Can copy from one application to another.

# Copy Pop. Selection Rules



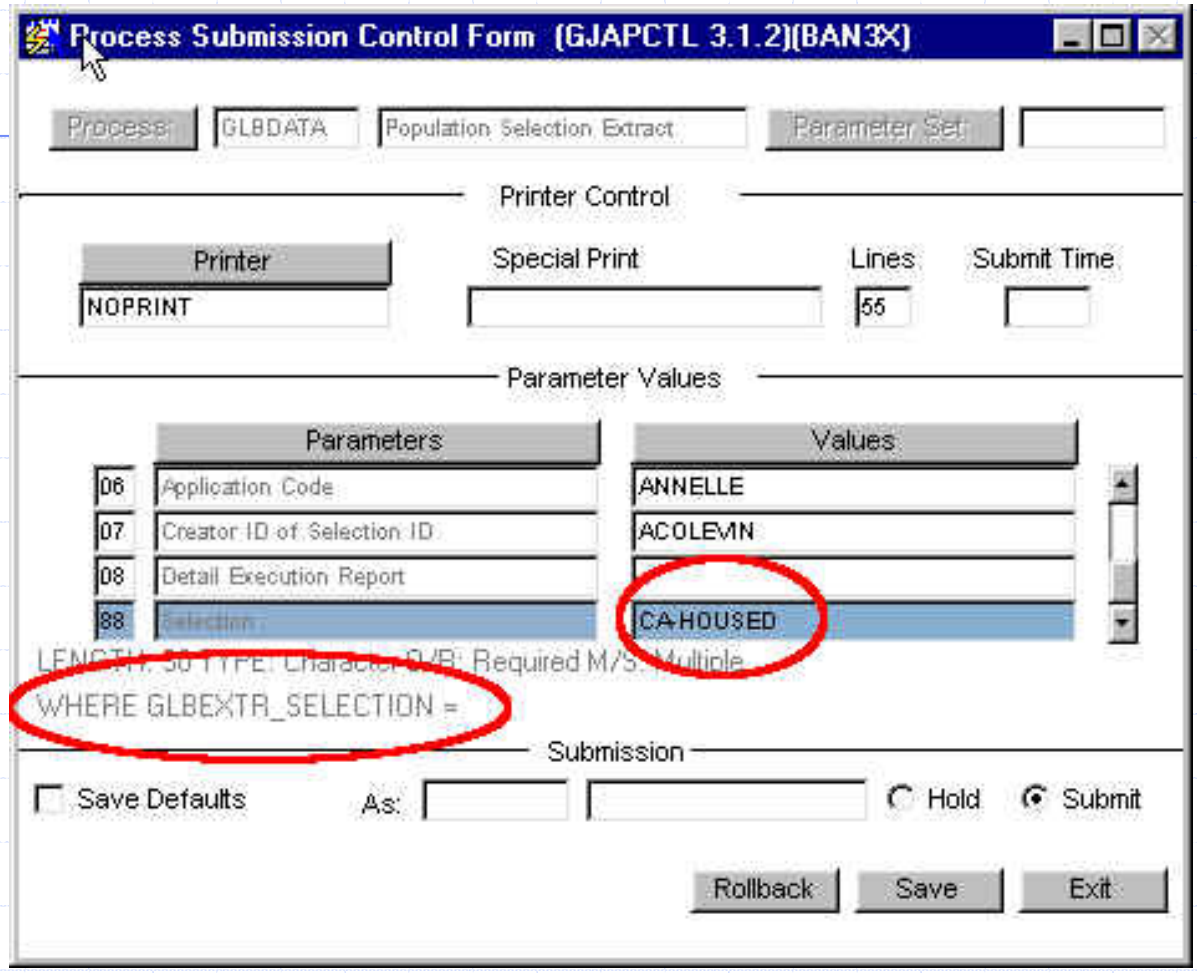

- On the second page of GLRSLCT.
- Can copy to a different application.

# Copy Pop. Selection Results



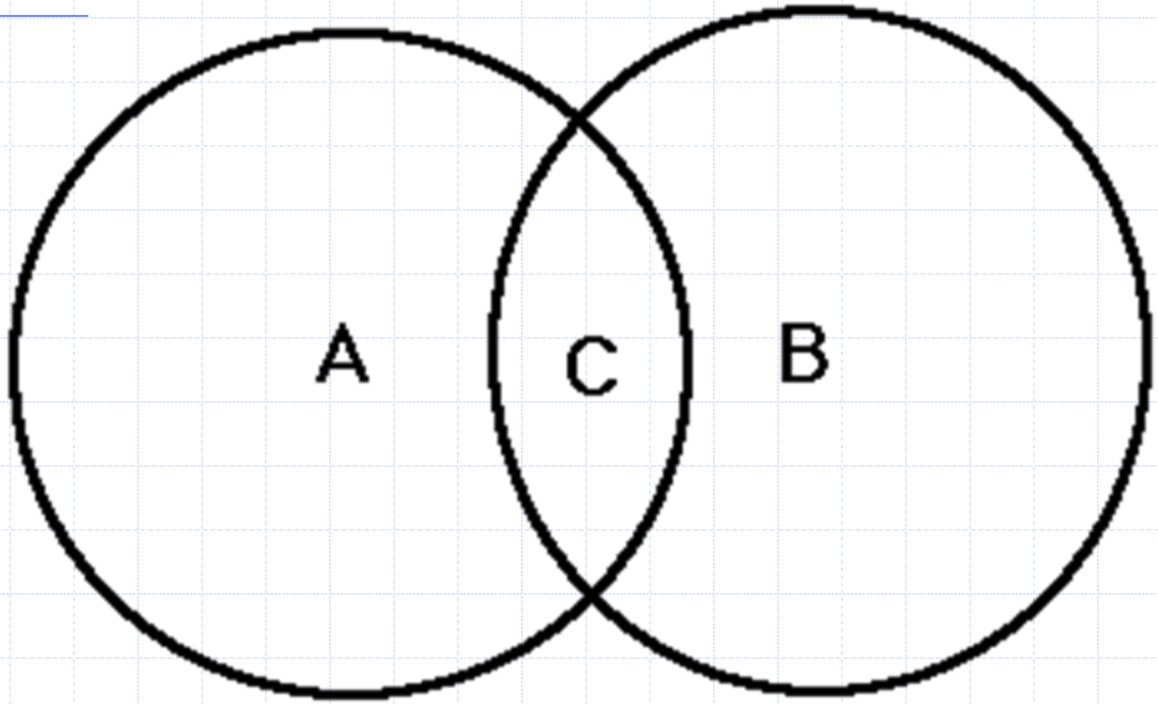

- Match SPRIDEN_PIDM with GLBEXTR_KEY.
- Key fields: Application, Selection, Creator, User.

# Copy Pop. Selection Results



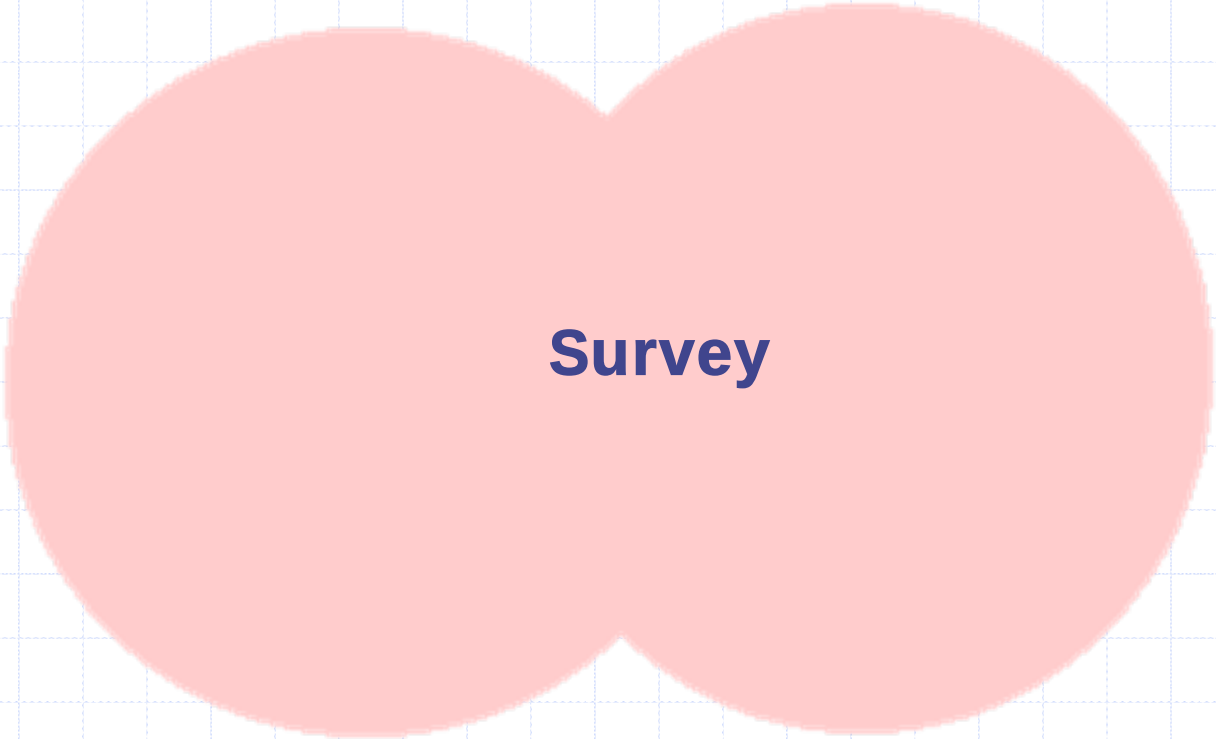

- Enter selection as dynamic parameter.
- Or could have hard-coded in the rules.

# Pardon My Math



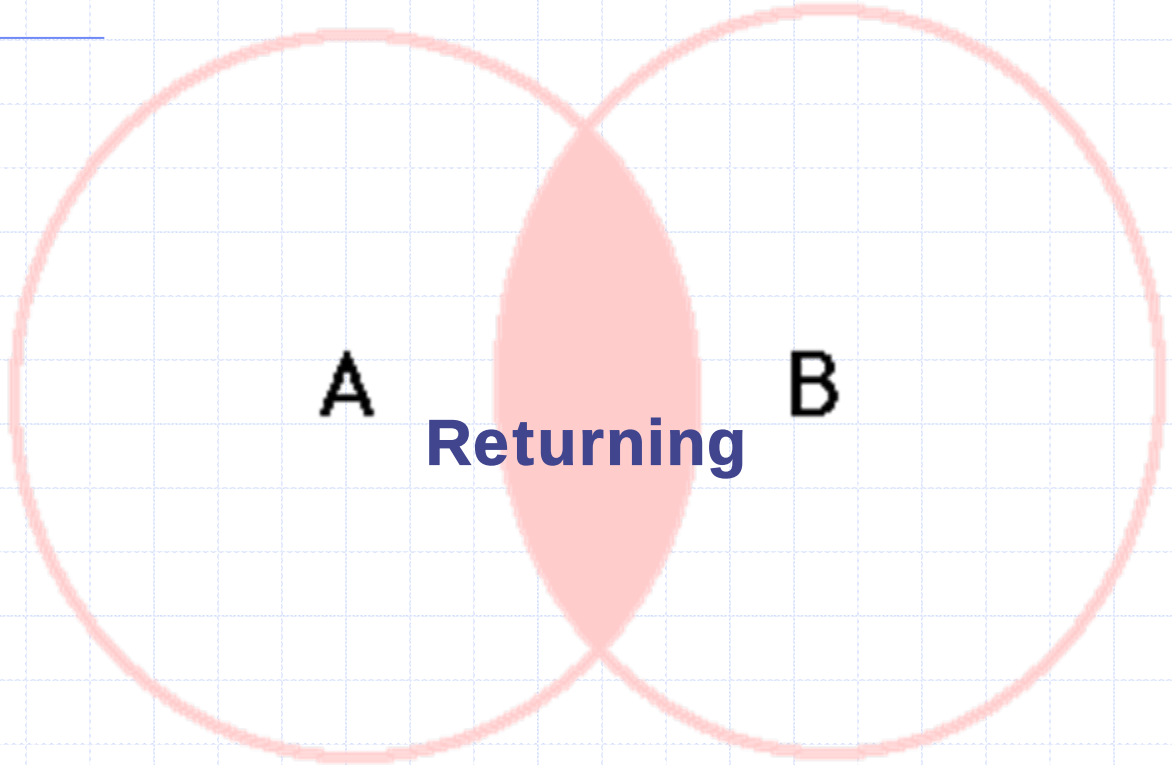

- Two groups that share some students.
- Several sub-groups can be selected with population selections.

# Union



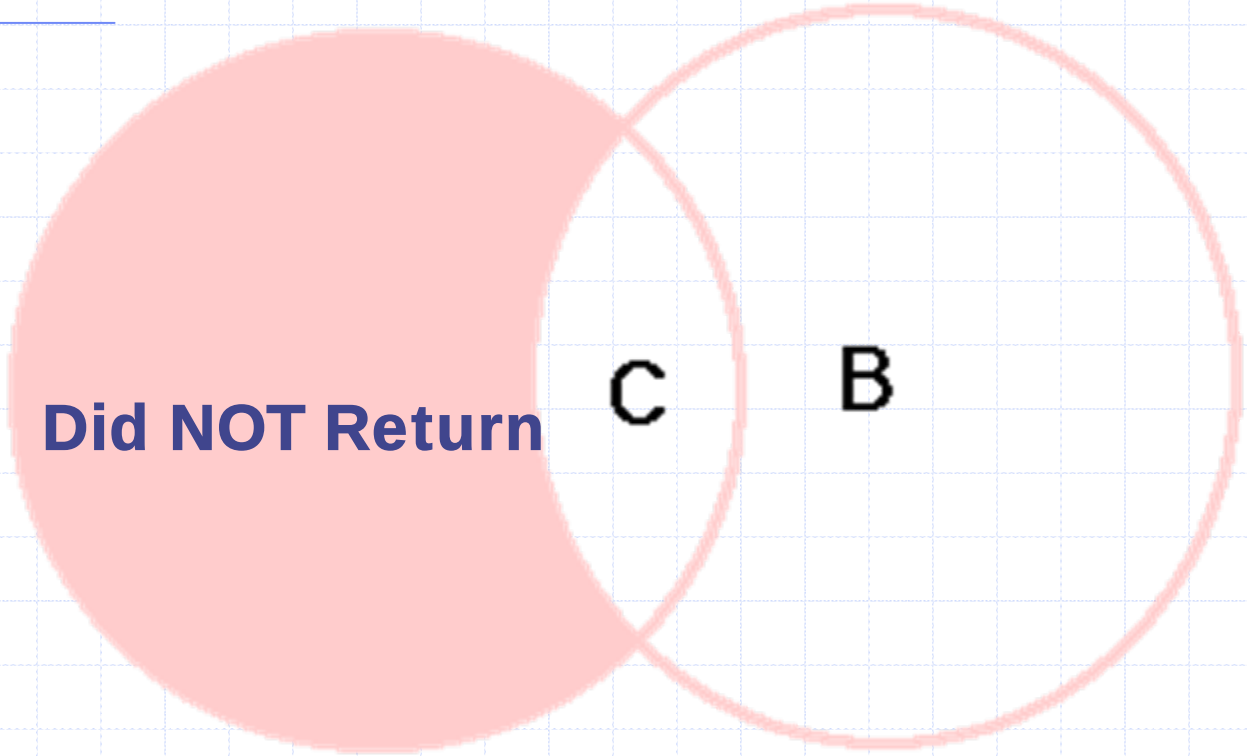

- Union is the group of all students shown.
- Students in A PLUS students in B.

# Intersection



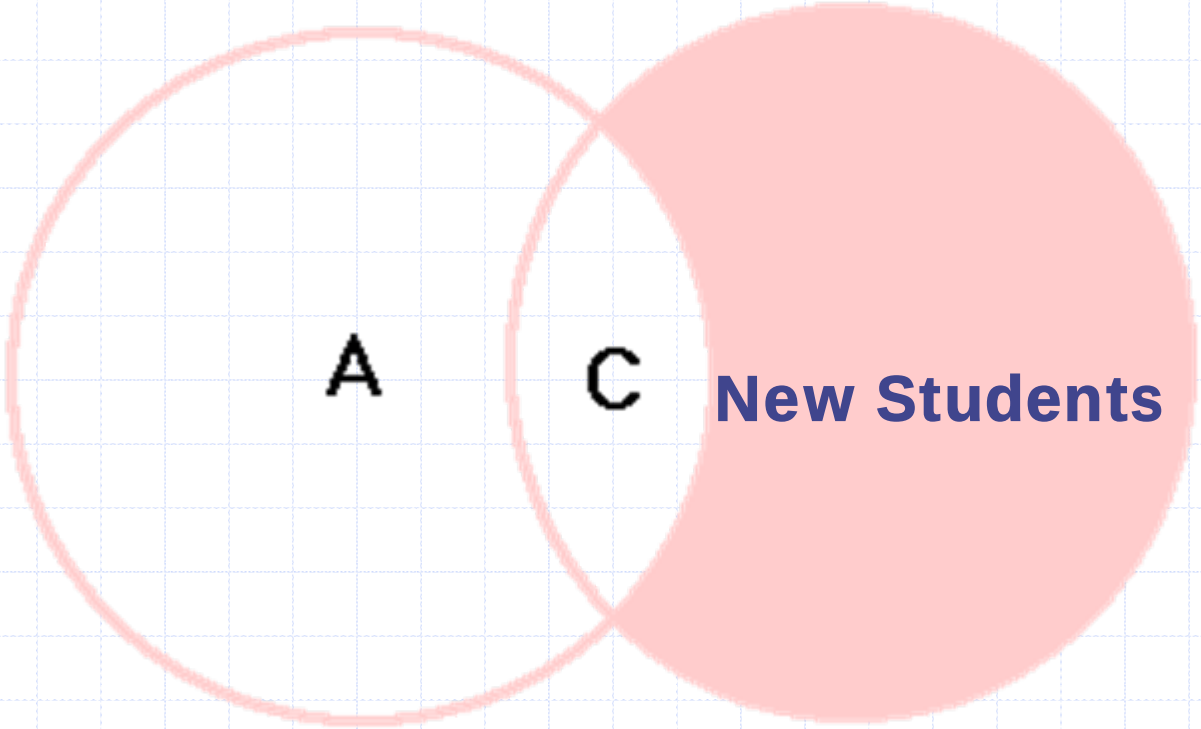

- The group of students enrolled both terms.
- Where Group A and Group B OVERLAP.

# Minus




- Minus is one group without the overlap.
- Group A MINUS Group B.

# Minus




- Minus is one group without the overlap
- Group B MINUS group A

# Minus Can Be Very Powerful

NOT is one group MINUS another group. I most often use NOT for various groups that did not enroll: Accepted applicants who did not enroll; Spring students who did not return the following Fall; Honor students who did not enroll in Honor classes; and so on.

But there are plenty of other examples: Housed students who do not have P O Box Assignments; Accepted Applicants who did not Register for Orientation; Freshmen who do not Live in a Residence Hall. You can probably think of many more.

- You can get 3 (or more) NOTs by using copy population selection as one of the groups.

# Summary

- The most important tip is **KNOW YOUR DATA**
- The second most important is **CHECK YOUR RESULTS**
- The best way to learn is to do. Try some for yourself

# Your Tips

- Time to share. Do you have some tips and tricks?
- What do you find difficult?
- How do you use Population Selections?

# Happy to Answer Questions or Help With Your Pop Selection

- E-mail acolevin@westga.edu
- Phone 770 836 4384
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