

\*Note: I worked with Brian Hockett on this assignment, we worked together on the EDA and coding but decided to do the writings separately hence the discrepancy between both submissions.

Due to some issues with data quality a lot of questions I was interested in answering were unobtainable. Some immediately interesting things I saw was that religiosity very strongly correlated with identifying as liberal. Within Christianity this varied across denominations, with protestants having an even split between liberal and conservative, while catholic and indigenous religions are predominantly liberal. There appears to be little correlation between marriage quality and religious beliefs, most reported a happy marriage. Since atheism and agnosticism were not included in the data set it's impossible to tell whether religiosity is a predictor of a high quality marriage. Surprisingly, the religion people practiced very rarely had a marked effect on the distribution. One of the only exceptions I noticed is that people who attend a graduate program are more likely to identify as Hindu than any other religion. Number of children sees little dependency on religion. Most people regardless of their faith choose to have a number of children generally ranging from 0-2, not quite different from the average number of children a person has anyway. Once again, I noticed only one significant outlier in that people who had 6 children were more likely to identify with indigenous religions. Once again, I don't believe this is a core tenant of the religion but rather this is a product of socioeconomic conditions that disproportionately affect indigenous Americans. If it was not at all clear I believe there are significant flaws in this data set and as I teased earlier, that is extremely apparent in the political distribution. Not only because there is no data on atheism or agnosticism, but because protestant communities appear to be more left leaning than I believe them to be. Perhaps this is being

informed by my own biases, but a quick look at PEW research confirms my thought. This data also does not display an appropriate range of values for income, capping at 25k. When median annual earnings are at around 45k in the U.S., it's hardly fair to describe 25k as representative or telling when it comes to the data. With low statistics like these, any member of any religion will appear as wealthy to the chart unless there is a religion that is specifically tied to being below an annual income of 25k that I both unaware of and that wasn't represented in the data.