Homework 1: Exploratory Data Analysis on the El Salavordan Conflict

Rebecca C. Steorts, STA 490/690

General instructions for homeworks: Please follow the uploading file instructions according to the syllabus. Your code must be completely reproducible and must compile.

Advice: Start early on the homeworks and it is advised that you not wait until the day of as these homeworks are meant to be longer and treated as case studies.

Commenting code Code should be commented. See the Google style guide for questions regarding commenting or how to write code https://google.github.io/styleguide/Rguide.xml. No late homework's will be accepted.

R Markdown Test

0. Open a new R Markdown file; set the output to HTML mode and "Knit". This should produce a web page with the knitting procedure executing your code blocks. You can edit this new file to produce your homework submission.

Working with data

Total points on assignment: 5 (reproducibility) + 10 points for the assignment.

El Salvador Civil War

Recall that between 1980 and 1991, the Republic of El Salvador witnessed a civil war between the central government, the left-wing guerrilla Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), and right-wing paramilitary death squads. After the peace agreement in 1992, the United Nations created a Commission on the Truth (UNTC) for El Salvador, which invited members of Salvadoran society to report war-related human rights violations, which mainly focused on killings and disappearances. In order to collect such information the UNTC invited individuals through newspapers, radio, and television advertisements to come forward and testify. The UNTC opened offices through El Salvador where witnesses could provide their testimonials, and this resulted in a list of potential victims with names, date of death, and reported location.

In this assignment, you will explore the UNTC data set to get a better understanding of how to work with real data versus toy data. Let's read in the data.

```
library(knitr)
library(RecordLinkage)
# read in data
df <- read.csv("../sv-mauricio/sv-mauricio.csv")</pre>
head(df)
##
       X
          ID
                      lastname firstname day month year geocode HandID dept muni
                                            NA
      26
          32 ASENSIO ERNANDES
                                  ALBERTO
                                                    2 1981
                                                            150000
                                                                        NA
                                                                              15
                                                                                   NA
      84
          95
                PALASIOS AYALA
                                   OBIDIO
                                            NA
                                                   10 1985
                                                            150000
                                                                        NA
                                                                              15
                                                                                   NA
## 3 100 117
                          PALMA SEBASTIAN
                                            13
                                                    5 1980
                                                             40000
                                                                        NA
                                                                               4
                                                                                   NA
## 4 143 173
                          PERES
                                  ARCADIO
                                                    8 1984
                                                              40000
                                                                               4
                                           NA
                                                                        NA
                                                                                   NA
```

```
## 5 170 205
                  MAYA QUESADA
                                   ANTONIO
                                                    9 1984
                                                                   0
                                                                         NA
                                                                                    NA
## 6 189 227
                          MEJIA
                                   ALFONSO
                                             13
                                                    5 1980
                                                              40000
                                                                         NA
                                                                                    NA
                                                                                4
dim(df)
## [1] 5395
               11
```

Assignment: Exploratory Data Analysis and Collecting Background Information

Perform an **exploratory data analysis** to help you understand this case study.

Write this up in a **short report** (maximum four pages), summarizing only the most interesting and important findings. Use tables, visualizations, and make sure that you code is **well documented** and **reproducible** so that anyone in the class could benefit from your analysis!

Some questions that you might want to ponder are the following:

- Do you need to do some background reading on El Salvador to understand the context of what your studying here? It might help to look up the munipalities and departments (and how these are defined in El Salvador). How many are there? You might benefit from looking at a map of El Salvador as well. Can you map the munipalities to a map of El Salvador.
- What do the attributes (features) stand for?
- Do you have missing data? How much missing data do you have?
- Do you have unique identifiers?

Comment on how this assessment will help you be a better statitical scientist and data scientist when working with this case study in the future. (Just a few sentences will suffice).