David J Schlosz Assignment #6

The dataset I used for this study was drawn from the PRRI – RNS August 2015 survey. I used the dataset to look at the correlation between people’s views of the Evangelical church, ranging from very favorable to very unfavorable, and their answers to three questions concerning the LGBT population.

The questions I looked at were the following:

1. Opinions regarding allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally (Table 2).
2. Laws that would protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people against discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, and housing (Table 3).
3. Allowing a small business owner in your state to refuse to provide products or services to gay or lesbian people, if doing so violates their religious beliefs (Table 4).

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| Table 1. Descriptive statistics of data used in study. | | | | | |
|  | Min | Max | Median | Mean | SD |
| Views of the Evangelical Church | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2.355 | 0.896 |
| Gay marriage is against my Religious beliefs | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2.61 | 1.198 |
| LGBT people should have the right to marry | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2.48 | 1.23 |
| There should be Laws protecting LGBT people from discrimination | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2.037 | 1.04 |
| Refusal of service to LGBTQ is a violation of religious beliefs | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2.853 | 1.167 |
| Data sourced from PRRI-RNS August 2015 Survey | | | | | |

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| Table 2. Gay Marriage is against my Religious beliefs | | | | |  |
| View of the Evangelical Church | Completely agree | Mostly agree | Mostly disagree | Completely disagree |  |
| Very Favorable | 39 | 12 | 13 | 18 |  |
| Mostly favorable | 73 | 55 | 55 | 46 |  |
| mostly unfavorable | 20 | 14 | 39 | 62 |  |
| Very Unfavorable | 8 | 3 | 14 | 39 |  |
| Data sourced from PRRI-RNS August 2015 Survey  Using R to analyze the data it was apparent there is a correlation between those surveyed views of the Evangelical Church and Gay marriage violating their religious beliefs. The data was non-parametric so a Spearman’s test was used indicating a positive correlation of 0.354. This indicates that the more favorable the individuals view the Evangelical church, the more they agree that gay marriage is against their religious beliefs. | | | | | |

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| Table 3. Gays and lesbians should be allowed to marry. | | | | |  |
| View of the Evangelical Church | Completely agree | Mostly agree | Mostly disagree | Completely disagree |  |
| Very Favorable | 13 | 22 | 11 | 31 |  |
| Mostly favorable | 42 | 70 | 54 | 52 |  |
| mostly unfavorable | 52 | 46 | 11 | 10 |  |
| Very Unfavorable | 26 | 23 | 5 | 9 |  |
| Data sourced from PRRI-RNS August 2015 Survey | | | | | |

There is a correlation between those surveyed views of the Evangelical Church and their views of whether gays and lesbians should be allowed to marry. The data was non-parametric so a Spearman’s test was used indicating a correlation of -0.267. This indicates that the more favorable the individuals view the Evangelical church, the less they agree that gays should be allowed to marry.

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| Table 4. There should be Laws protecting LGBTQ against discrimination | | | | |  |
| View of the Evangelical Church | Completely agree | Mostly agree | Mostly disagree | Completely disagree |  |
| Very Favorable | 31 | 24 | 11 | 14 |  |
| Mostly favorable | 59 | 95 | 49 | 21 |  |
| mostly unfavorable | 63 | 47 | 13 | 19 |  |
| Very Unfavorable | 35 | 18 | 6 | 5 |  |
| Data sourced from PRRI-RNS August 2015 Survey | | | | | |

There is a correlation between those surveyed views of the Evangelical Church and their views as to whether there should be laws protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination. The data was non-parametric so a Spearman’s test was used indicating a correlation of -0.18. This indicates that the more favorable the individuals view the Evangelical church, the less they agree that there should be laws protecting gays from discrimination.

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| Table 5. Small business right to refuse service to LGBTQ | | | | |  |
| View of the Evangelical Church | Completely agree | Mostly agree | Mostly disagree | Completely disagree |  |
| Very Favorable | 16 | 19 | 22 | 21 |  |
| Mostly favorable | 54 | 53 | 56 | 55 |  |
| mostly unfavorable | 12 | 30 | 45 | 39 |  |
| Very Unfavorable | 3 | 5 | 21 | 31 |  |
| Data sourced from PRRI-RNS August 2015 Survey | | | | | |

There is a correlation between those surveyed views of the Evangelical Church and their views as to whether small business should be allowed to refuse service to gays and lesbians due to religious beliefs. The data was parametric so a Pearson’s test was used indicating a correlation of 0.202. This indicates that the more favorable the individuals view the Evangelical church, the more they agree with the right of small business to refuse service to gays if it violates their religious beliefs.