**Topic**:

**What is your project about?**

Although Steven Pinker famously argued that humans are now living in the most peaceful era in the history of our species [1], many contemporaries disagree [2]. One needs only to look at the Syrian Civil War [3], Rohingya genocide in Myanmar [4], or Russian annexation and incursion into the Ukraine [5] to understand why there might be skepticism to the claim. While western democracies may be living in their most enlightened age of humanity, full of modern convenience and materialism, there is absolutely no denying that numerous places teeter on the edge of the other side of the spectrum.

As such, our project looks to further understand one of these long time conflict zone, Sudan. A country that split into two nations in 2011 [6], has seen numerous and nearly continuous internal conflict since gaining its independence from Egyptian and British claims in 1956. [7] Specifically we aim to identify factors that lead to individuals leaving their homes, with are internally displaced persons, or a refugees to neighboring nations over the course of the most recent conflicts, 2008 through 2016.

**Project Question:**

**What specific question are you seeking to answer with this project?**

What factors were most likely to impact the Sudanese and South Sudanese populations to leave their homes for refuge during the 2008 through 2016 time period?

These factors will include:

Socio-economic, to include per capita income pre and during, access to work pre and during, access to food and clean water pre and during, access to transportation etc.

Militarily, to include population distance to military facilities, military range capabilities etc.

Conflict, to intensity of conflict (number of attacks, number of casualties and deaths) distance to conflict, munitions used etc.

**Ideal Experiment:**

**What experiment would you run to answer your question?**

In an ideal experiment, we would examine the percentage of a population leaving their homes, either as IDPs or refugee to another country. This would be conducted in a number of experiments where we test various factors. The first would randomly assign a population of different socioeconomic means that have the same access to the same physiological needs (food, water, shelter) and distance, effects, and scale of conflict to determine socioeconomic indicators on percentage of population leaving their home.

**Pick a Study Context:**

**Where can you get the data that (a) measures your outcome variable, and (b) includes variation in treatment variable?**

In order to properly identify our outcome variable as well as variations in treatment, we are going to use multiple datasources.

Our outcome variable is percentage of population leaving their homes in a specified region. In order to have those numbers we must use the UN HCR Refugee Project which states the number of individuals who left a region in a given year. This data can be supplemented and corroborated by the Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC).

UNHCR also has in depth demographics information that will allow us to determine certain cultural and socio-economic conditions in regions. This data can also be supplemented and corroborated by SEDAC

For determining military capability factors, we will need to understand what type of equipment they Sudanese and South Sudanese Military has, where its located, and what its potential is. While a dataset is not directly built, two CIA fact book documents could be used to construct such data.

Finally, for determine conflict levels and intensity, The Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) Project can be used to determine individual battles, their location, as well as the battle damage assessment to the civilian population.

**Project Design:**

**Given the context you want to study (and the data you can find), what design do you think would be feasible?**

Due to the robustness of the datasets, I believe that a

**Model Results:**

Results if hypothesis is True:

Results if hypothesis is False:

**Final Variables Required:**

**Data Sources:**

**References:**

[1]

[2] <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/steven-pinker-this-is-historys-most-peaceful-time-new-study-not-so-fast/>

[3] <https://www.cfr.org/interactive/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/civil-war-syria>

[4] <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/burma>

[5] <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2019/03/18/five-years-after-crimeas-illegal-annexation-the-issue-is-no-closer-to-resolution/>

[6] <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14069082>

[7] <http://countrystudies.us/sudan/20.htm>