Engaging students with COVID-19 data

[INTRODUCTION]

DataFest: COVID-19 Virtual Data Challenge

- Description of ASA DataFest
- Changes to this year's competition format due to COVID-19
- Examples of students' data sets and analysis questions?
- Description of some of the winning projects?
- Why students were encouraged to explore societal impacts rather than direct health outcomes
  - *Why It's So Freaking Hard To Make A Good COVID-19 Model*

Using COVID-19 data in the classroom

- eCOTS panel: Engaging Students during the COVID-19 Health Crisis discussed considerations for using COVID-19 data in the classroom.

- Pedagogy must be "trauma informed"

  - Poll students to ask if they want to talk about COVID. Get repeated feedback at that point in time, because their feelings may change.
  - Put a marker in the syllabus, so students know when the topic come up.
  - Discuss other impacts besides direct health outcomes.
  - Create option for students who find topic too upsetting.
  - Address the fact that the topic is sensitive to some but is an important area of research in biostatistics. Talk about how to approach data and have a healthy relationship with emotions when doing research on sensitive topics (primarily for graduate students).

- Other resources for teaching about COVID or sensitive topics?

Examples for the classroom

- Include some examples of data sets / articles and discussion questions for class?

Resources for teaching

1. Teaching Statistics During the COVID-19 Health Crisis

2. covid-r: Collection of analyses, packages, visualisations of COVID19 data in R