**Why World Happiness was selected**

The World Happiness Report is a landmark survey of the state of global happiness, was released at the United Nations at an event celebrating International Day of Happiness on March 20th. The report continues to gain global recognition as governments, organizations and civil society increasingly use happiness indicators to inform their policy-making decisions. Leading experts across fields – economics, psychology, survey analysis, national statistics, health, public policy and more – describe how measurements of well-being can be used effectively to assess the progress of nations. The reports review the state of happiness in the world today and show how the new science of happiness explains personal and national variations in happiness.

Our project is called HaP-Py and focused on why are countries happy and what types of things do these countries have in common, if anything?

**Our Process**

Our process was interesting. We looked at the World Happiness report and understand what factors contribute to happiness. Then, each team member looked for other data to correlate (or otherwise) to the happiness report. We reviewed over 10 data-sets and decided not to use some of these (due to data issues, no relationship, or other factors) and kept the ones used to generate our findings. Basically, we were on a fishing expediation for data for a couple of sessions.

**Findings**

We were thrilled about all the data found and that the data used in our report came together to tell a complicated story. Here are our conclusions.

1. Developed Infrastructure: Urban Population, Internet Usage and Improved Drinking water facilitates higher scores of happiness.
2. Family, Economic GDP per Capita, Health Life Expectancy, Social Freedom, Economic Freedom, Generosity, Corruption influence the world happiness score.

* Countries which have lower unemployment rate and high income have higher happiness score.
* Economic Freedom increases the world happiness rate.
* Happiest countries are in the Western Europe.
* Australia and New Zealand, North America and Western Europe are the happiest regions

1. More Leisure time plays in role in happiness.
2. Strangely, suicide rates are not correlated with Happiness.
3. A lack of Michelin restaurants may be a factor in countries where happiness is super low.