SOCL 1255: Sociology of the Family
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Knight Lab Timeline

KnightLab Timeline Info
- KnightLab Timeline site: http://timeline.knightlab.com/
- KnightLab support forum:
  https://knightlab.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/categories/201567526-TimelineJS
- Tutorial video: https://vimeo.com/143407878
- Link to the copy of the template spreadsheet for Timeline:
  https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pHBvXN7nmGkiG8uQSUB82eNlnL8xHu6kydzH_-eguHQ/copy
- Link to the official example spreadsheet (from the Timeline website):
  https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/u/1/d/1xuY4upIooEeszZ_lCmeNx24eSFWe0rHe9ZdqH2xqVNk/pubhtml
- Link to an example spreadsheet that utilizes various features:
  https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1SOskelXtiJuFnKbYvl2bRbBSOYdHD3Ogrzs1xejIJn4/edit?usp=sharing

KnightLab Timeline is a user-friendly web browser tool that allows people to create interactive timelines. Each marker on the timeline can present text, images, videos, and soundbites. The goal is to tell a story with these markers, guiding your audience through a temporal narrative.

Components of an effective Timeline:
- Strong, **coherent content**
- A **clear series of events and periods** (pick stories with an overt chronological narrative!)
- An overarching **theme** relating the events to one other
- **Media elements** that help illustrate and support the narrative

Questions to Consider
- What **story** am I trying to tell? What is the **message** I want to convey?
- What are the **main events**, **processes**, **points**, and **periods** in time that I want to highlight?
- Who is my **audience**?
  - How can I most effectively write for this audience?
  - What kinds of information does that audience need?
- How can I best tell this story?
  - What kinds of **media** will I need? (photographs, text, maps, videos, etc.)
  - Which items will require additional detail or **context**?
  - How can I integrate a **balance** of text, images, and other media forms?

Timeline Examples

- <u>Whitney Houston 1963-2012</u>: Telling the life of Whitney Houston through key dates and events

- <u>Revolutionary User Interfaces</u>: Tracing the development of computers and their increased accessibility, showing the influences of various people and agencies

- <u>The decline of IRS Nonprofit regulation</u>: Following the relationship between the IRS and other political and economic entities (the timeline is embedded in the website; scroll down to find it)

- <u>Professor Blum's example timeline</u>

- <u>The Emergence of Facebook in-class example.</u>