Welcome!

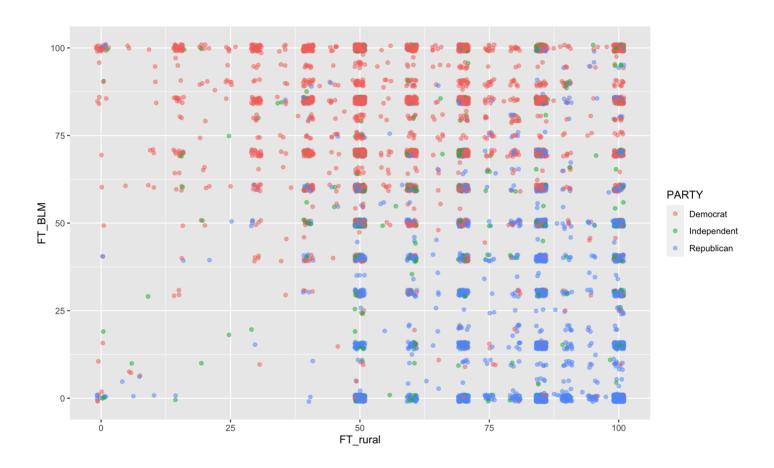
Week 3.2: Colors and Labels

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PS 490: R Workshop

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Last Week



This Week -- we add color!

So your graph from last week was basic. It shows the general trends of your data but might do so in inefficient ways

- The labels on the axes do not communicate something meaningful
- The legend is poorly labeled
- R's default colors might not be the most beautiful, especially, if you are coloring/filling by a particular variable
- The default scales might not be as informative

So we will fix those problems today.

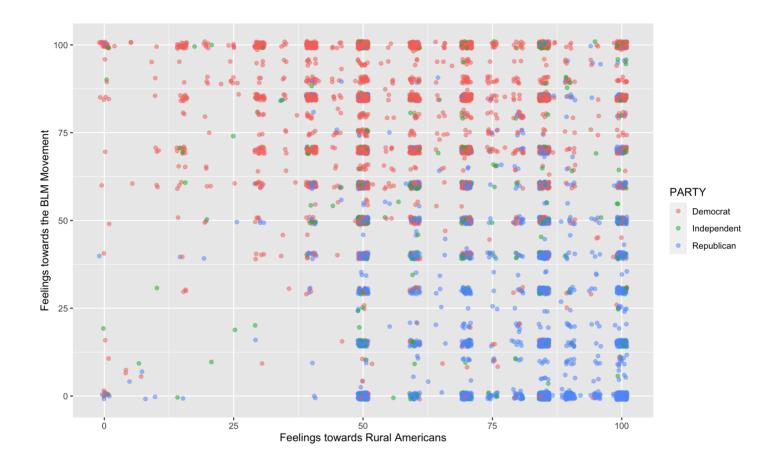
The Label Layer

Changing X and Y axis labels

To change the x and y axis labels, we use xlab() and ylab() respectively.

Within the parentheses, we add the new labels that we want in quotes ("") as such:

```
ANES %>%
  filter(!is.na(PARTY)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = FT_rural, y = FT_BLM, color = PARTY))+
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(1, 1), alpha = .5)+
  xlab("Feelings towards Rural Americans")+
  ylab("Feelings towards the BLM Movement")
```



Adding Title, Legend Names and Subtitles

To add a title, subtitle, caption, or legend label to our graph, we can use the options provided by labs()

```
labs(
  color = "",
  fill = "",
  title = "",
  subtitle = "",
  caption = ""
)
```

- The color/fill option labels the legend and it is dependent on whether you used COLOR or FILL in the data layer
- title adds a main title to the top of the plot
- subtitle adds a subtitle to the top of the plot
- caption adds a caption to the bottom of the plot

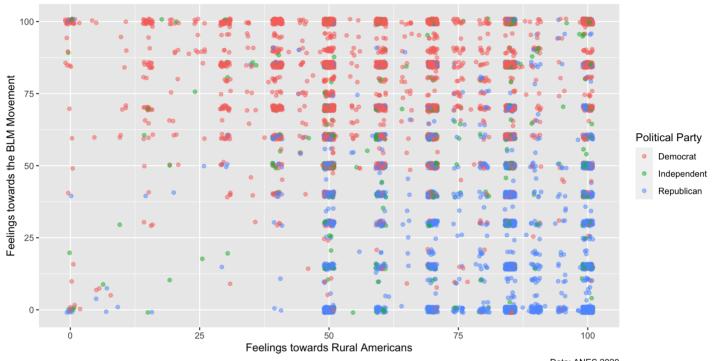
```
ANES %>%
  filter(!is.na(PARTY)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = FT_rural, y = FT_BLM, color = PARTY))+
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(1, 1), alpha = .5)+
  xlab("Feelings towards Rural Americans")+
  ylab("Feelings towards the BLM Movement")+
  labs(
    color = "Political Party",
    title = "Feelings towards Rural Americans and
    the BLM Movement",
    subtitle = "Analysis from the American National Elections Stuccaption = "Data: ANES 2020
    Author: Jennifer Lin"
)
```

A few things to note:

- 1. Since it is a scatterplot, and I used color in the data layer, my label option for my legend is color
- 2. When you press ENTER to break a line in the quotes, it inserts a line break in the outcome.

Feelings towards Rural Americans and the BLM Movement





Data: ANES 2020 Author: Jennifer Lin

Exercise: Adding labels to your graph

- 1. Revisit your code from last class. Copy the results that you have from the data and graph layers onto the code for this week.
- 2. Using xlab(), ylab() and labs() to add a x axis label, y axis label, title, subtitle, legend label and optional caption.

The Scale Layer

Changing the Colors in Our Plots in R

ggplot comes with a lot of scale_*_*() functions. These help us override defaults.

```
Most ggplot scales come in the format of scale_[SOMETHING]_[SOMEHOW]()
```

- [SOMETHING] -- What do you want to scale? Color, the x-axis (x), the fill, y-axis (y)?
- [SOMEHOW] -- How do you want it to start the rescale process? Transformed, gradients, manual?

Arguments

Most scales take the following arguments

- name = Name the thing you are scaling
- breaks = Locate where you want to break it
- labels = Assign each break point a name
- limits = Set upper and lower bounds (if applicable)

Common Scale Uses

```
• scale_x_continuous()
   ∘ [SOMETHING] = x-axis
   o [SOMEHOW] = continuously
• scale fill manual()
   ∘ [SOMETHING] = shape fill
   ∘ [SOMEHOW] = manually
scale_colour_brewer(palette = "[PALETTE
 NAME]")
   ∘ [SOMETHING] = color
   • [SOMEHOW] = Using the R Color Brewer palette
```

scale_color_manual()

If you are using a fill, this situation is the same thing, just change color to fill

So I want to introduce my own colors to the mix since the R default colors are completely trash.

```
scale_color_manual(
  name = "Party",
  breaks = c("Democrat", "Republican", "Independent"),
  values = c("Democrat" = "#3182bd", "Republican" = "#de2d26", '
)
```

```
scale_color_manual(
  name = "Party",
  breaks = c("Democrat", "Republican", "Independent"),
  values = c("Democrat" = "#3182bd", "Republican" = "#de2d26", '
)
```

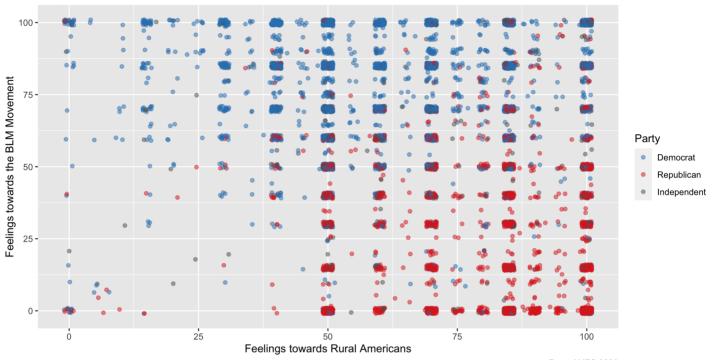
Here, I am using the name, breaks and values arguments

- name changes my legend label name from the labs() argument earlier (or from defaults)
- breaks set the categories for the legend. NOTICE that your legend will appear in this order
- values allows you to set colors manually. You can list the color ("red", "blue" etc) or use HEX codes (but keep them in quotes!)

```
ANES %>%
  filter(!is.na(PARTY)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = FT_rural, y = FT_BLM, color = PARTY))+
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(1, 1), alpha = .5)+
  xlab("Feelings towards Rural Americans")+
  ylab("Feelings towards the BLM Movement")+
  labs(
    color = "Political Party",
    title = "Feelings towards Rural Americans and
    the BLM Movement",
    subtitle = "Analysis from the American National Elections Stuc
    caption = "Data: ANES 2020
   Author: Jennifer Lin"
  ) +
  scale color manual(
    name = "Party",
    breaks = c("Democrat", "Republican", "Independent"),
    values = c("Democrat" = "#3182bd", "Republican" = "#de2d26", '
```

Feelings towards Rural Americans and the BLM Movement





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scale_x_continuous()

Now suppose I do not like the fact that the axis labels of my graph are too far apart, and I want to manipulate the continuous scale so that it shows more breaks.

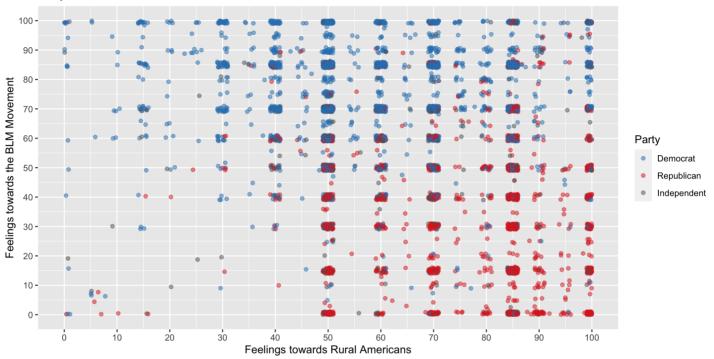
```
scale_x_continuous(
   breaks = seq(0, 100, 10),
   limits = c(0, 100)
)+
```

Here, I use the breaks and limits options

- breaks tell R the numbers to include on the axis and how frequently I want to scale to add a new tick for a number. Since I am lazy, I am not writing all 10 numbers. Rather, I use seq(BEGINNING, END, BY) to count.
- limits tell R to cut the scale off at a certain point. In this case, I am telling it to go for the full scale (0-100)

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Exercise: Changing your scales

- 1. Using the graph that you created in the last exercise, change the scales on your continuous variable
- 2. Change the color of your fills or lines, either by variable, or revisit your graph layer and change it globally
- 3. CHALLENGE: Go online and find a HEX code generator and add a color that is not an R default color (i.e. your color should include a #).

Your Submission to the Lab Assignment for this week

- 1. Export the graph as a PDF using the "Export" button on the upper left hand corner of the plot window.
- 2. Upload your PDF AND the code, with your answers to the questions
- 3. Don't worry about the background or the font sizes. We will work on that next week.