

### **National Lynching, 1883-1941 (Codebook)**

These data were collected by Charles Seguin and David Rigby. They supplement existing lynching inventories to cover the contiguous United States. Details are covered in Seguin and Rigby (2019). Please cite as follows:

Seguin, Charles and David Rigby. 2019. "National Crimes: A New National Data Set of Lynchings in the United States, 1883 to 1941." *Socius* 5:2378023119841780.

**caseid:**

Unique caseid generated for original dataset including both confirmed and disconfirmed cases (note that the released dataset only contains cases that we confirmed, thus the caseids are not consecutive).

**year:**

The year in which the lynching occurred, as reported in our confirming document. This variable ranges from 1883-1936.

**month:**

The month in which the lynching occurred, as reported in our confirming document.

**day:**

The Day on which the lynching occurred, as reported in our confirming document.

**state:**

The state in which the lynching is reported to have occurred in our confirming document (note that in cases in which the lynching is reported in a historical territory (e.g., "Indian Territory," the present day state is recorded).

**county:**

The present-day county in which the lynching is reported to have occurred in our confirming document. In cases in which counties have been dissolved, or boundaries have shifted, since the lynching, we report the county in which the reported city of the lynching is currently located.

**city:**

The city in which the lynching occurred, as reported in our confirming document.

**victim:**

The name of the lynching victim, as reported in our confirming document. Victims for whom no name is recorded are here coded as "Unknown."

**race:**

The race of the lynching victim, as reported in our confirming document. Note that arcane racial terms, (e.g., negro, colored, quadroon, chinaman) have been recoded to their contemporary corollary ("Black" or "Chinese," respectively). Generally, our confirming

newspaper article remarked on the race of the victim. In cases in which race is not recorded in our confirming document, we code the victim as likely white, or “White (?)” Note that the “White” category of this variable includes European immigrants, reported in the confirming newspaper articles variously as “Italian,” “Danish,” “Finnish,” “Polish,” “Hungarian,” “French,” etc.

**alleged offense:**

The alleged offense of the lynching victim, often reported in our confirming document to have precipitated the mob’s fury. In many cases, historical terms for rape (e.g., “ravishing,” “outrage,” etc.) have been coded as “Rape.” In cases in which more than offense is reported in our confirming document, we include several offenses.

**lynch method:**

The form of violence inflicted by the mob upon the lynching victim, as reported in our confirming document. In cases in which our confirming document reports that the mob inflicted multiple forms of violence in sequence, we report each of these forms in the sequence described in the document (e.g., “Dragged, hanged then shot”).

**composition of mob:**

This variable records the details of the makeup of lynch mobs. This variable records estimates of lynch mob size, as reported in our confirming newspaper articles. In cases where our confirming newspaper article does not provide an estimate of mob size, this variable records the language from the article (e.g., ‘Large body of masked men’). In cases where the confirming article does not include either estimates of size, or language characterizing the mob, we code these as ‘Mob.’

**source of record**

This variable records the source of the lynching inventory in which we originally encountered the record of the lynching event that we later confirmed with contemporaneous newspaper articles (e.g., “NAACP Thirty Years of Lynching (1919-1946 Appendix)” or “Pfiefer Lynching Beyond Dixie”).

**confirming document**

This variable records the local newspaper in which our confirming article was printed, and in most cases, the date of the article (e.g., “Arizona Silver Belt 9-8-1883”).