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**Causal Inference and Research Design**

**Assignment 1 – Personal essay**

**Tuesday, June 9th, 2020**

I was born in Bogotá, Colombia twenty years ago and I have been living here since then. I think that I haven’t ever spent more than two months in another place, most of the times I leave only for vacations. That could sound quiet boring, but that´s because you want it to be like that because I think it is not.

When I was a child, I was afraid of plenty of things, I remember that one of them were the fruits, I know it sounds weird. Once, at school, a friend of mine put an apple on my desk and suddenly I started crying, I could not sit there again until she took it off. Nowadays, I don’t know exactly the origin of this “fruitphobia” but I have a theory, when I was a baby I saw two men with the costume of *Bananas in Pyjamas* (the children’s TV show) and they scared me a lot, since then I had stopped eating fruits.

If you have curiosity, today I don´t eat them neither, I prefer doing other kind of activities with my time. I like learning languages; I speak English and French (apart of my native Spanish). Also, I’m sure I have an addiction, I enjoy watching movies but in an excessive way, I love the fact that with 100% of probability each day of my life I could choose a different movie to watch. And talking about numbers and percentages, I am an Economics student, as almost everyone here, I guess. I will start my sixth semester, but my interest in this field is not so clear, I had no idea what economic theory was when I decided studying it. The truth is that I wanted to study Business Administration, and I could say that I did or at least I tried it, I was studying the two of them simultaneously, but I couldn’t follow with Business, I found it extremely boring. In contrast with Economics, area that I love. And because of this love is that I am here in this causal inference class.

I was very impressed when I saw this course in the offer of the university, because precisely the semester that has just finished I read some of the chapters of your book (The Mixtape) in Basic Econometrics class. I have to say that I enjoyed reading it a lot, you make the lecture easy and you are good with the audience. For me, sometimes, this is one of the biggest mistakes of authors, they are so proud that make their books so techniques that just themselves could read it, and you just share the knowledge as it has to be. From that, I’m sure you can induce what I expect from this class, I hope not just learning, I hope having as much fun as I did when I read you. Also, I want to remember this course through the important moments of my future life. I see myself in one year about to begin a master’s degree in France and I swear I will tell my French roommates that *@causalinf* was my teacher one year ago. Some years later, five years from now, I think that is very probable that I will be doing a PhD, it would be nice because I like a lot the investigation and I am pretty sure this field is a paradise in this aspect. Subsequently, in ten years, I am not so sure what I will be doing. Obviously, it’s important to have plans and dreams but the life is not a videogame. You can do a lot of things, sometimes the order doesn’t matter if you feel fulfilled. So maybe I will return to my country, maybe not. Or maybe I can just decide taking a travel all over the world with my first-year salary. The only thing that I can assert is that during each day of my life I will try to feel happy and not getting stressed for stupid things that can have easy solutions. Finally and never less important, I see myself in one-year, five-year and ten-year sharing what I know to improve the lives of other, I don’t care if it is a minimum effect but at least that I can use it for flirting with some girl.