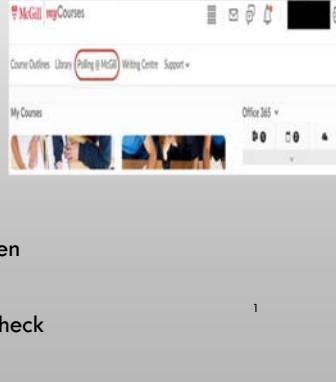


VERIFY THAT YOU ARE SIGNED INTO POLLING

- 1) Login to the [Turning account](#) page.
- <https://account.turningtechnologies.com/account>
- 2) Click **Dashboard** on the left side menu and on the right you should see a green check mark for **Learning Management System**.
- 3) If you do not see the Learning Management System green check mark from the Turning account page:
 - Login to myCourses, from the myCourses homepage,
 - click the **Polling @ McGill** link.
 - You will be redirected to your Turning Account.
 - If you did not create your account, follow the onscreen instructions.
 - If you did create your account, verify that a green check mark for **Learning Management System** appears.



TODAY'S PLAN



The Social Science of Michael Moore's Columbine



The Scientific Method & Research Process



The Role of Theory



Pretest

POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS

**LECTURE 3: FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL ANALYSIS
CONT. & ROLE OF THEORY**

Research Methods

2



Featuring: Michael Moore's Bowling for Columbine

- Academy Award for best Documentary
- During movie think about:
 - What is Moore's question?
 - Does he have a hypothesis? If so which?
 - What are his dependent and independent variables?
 - How does he test his question/hypothesis?

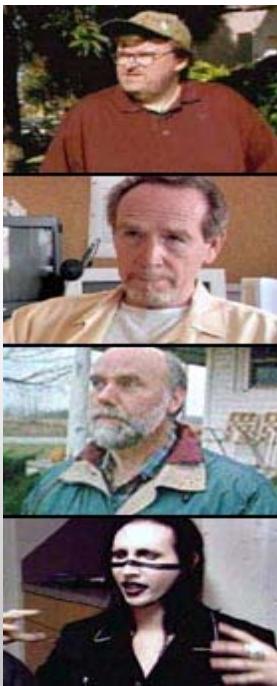
Research Methods

4

How scientific is Michael Moore?

- How does he explore the issue? Research Design?
 - Longitudinal Comparison in US
 - Cross-national Comparison
- How does he collect evidence?
 - Often asks select people
 - Compares select cities/nhoods
 - Measurement of poverty?
 - Relative and absolute gun violence

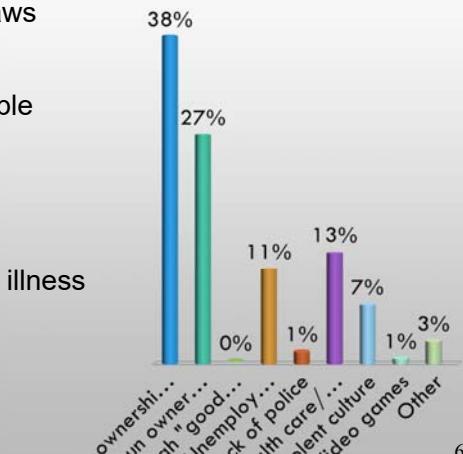
Research Methods



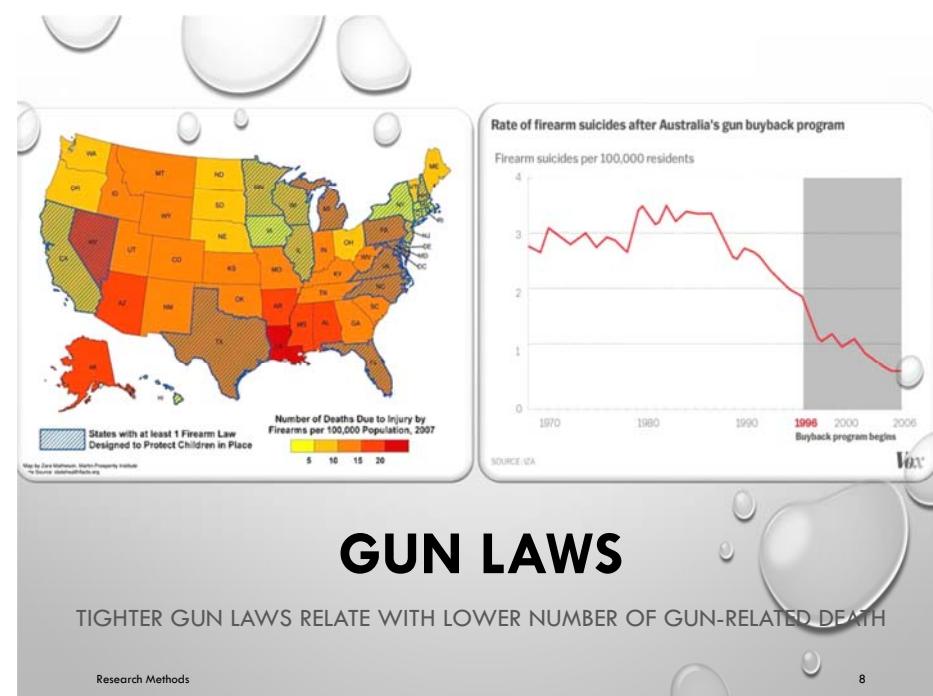
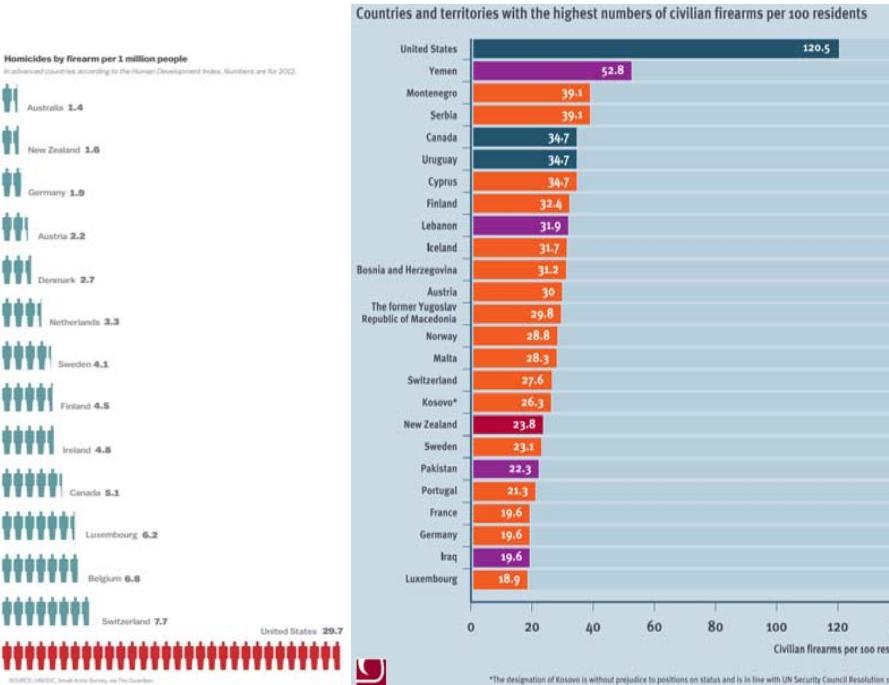
What do you believe is the cause of high levels of gun violence in the US? (click all that apply)

1. Loose gun ownership laws
2. Massive gun ownership
3. Not enough "good" people carry guns
4. Poverty/Unemployment
5. Lack of police
6. Bad Health care/Mental illness
7. Violent culture
8. Violent Video games
9. Other

Research Methods



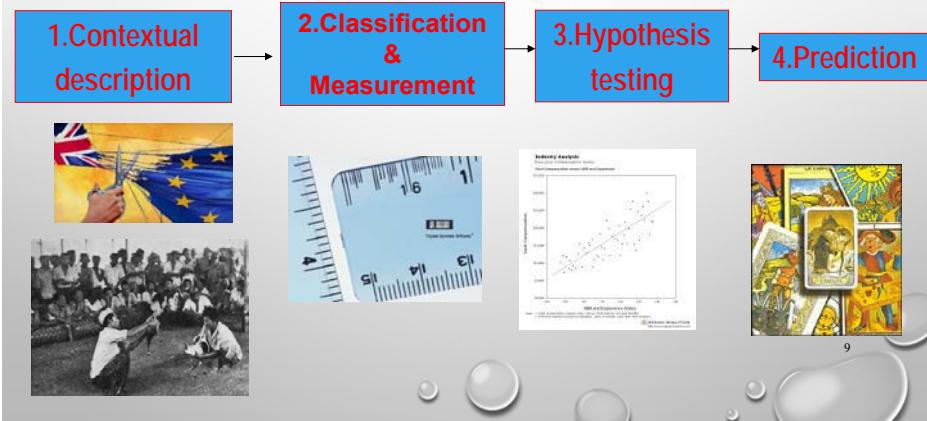
6



8



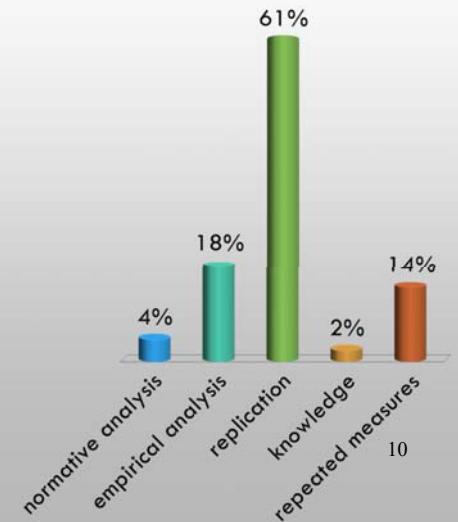
AIMS OF EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE



Intersubjectivity requires that more than one observation occurs; in the scientific process this practice is known as

1. normative analysis
2. empirical analysis
3. replication
4. knowledge
5. repeated measures

Research Methods



ESSENCE OF SCIENTIFIC METHOD

1

2

3

Not using common sense or intuition, but objective observation (empiricism)

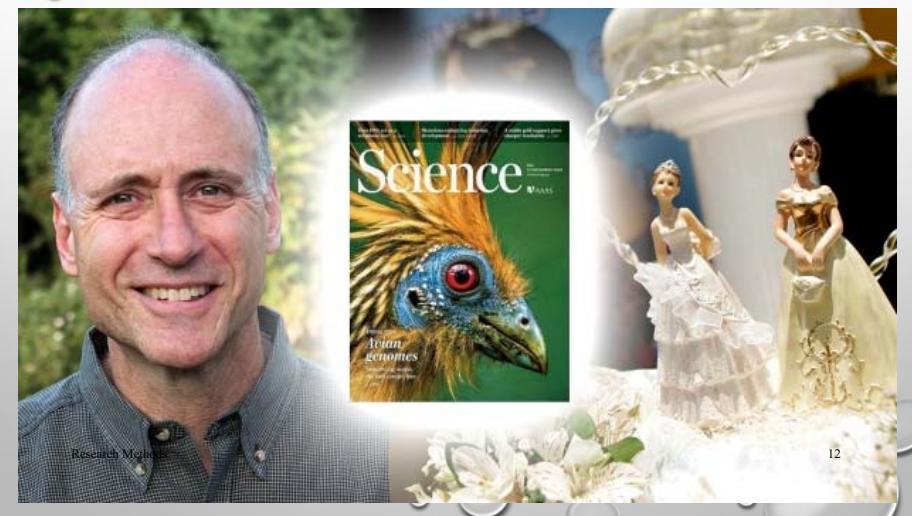
Trying to be objective means to minimize observer influence; taking all data into account, impartiality, etc.)

Inter-subjectivity and Replicability

Scientific Knowledge must also be:
empirically verifiable, generalizable, provisional...



Researcher retracts landmark same-sex marriage study, claims co-author 'fabricated' data



DA/RT Initiative



- DATA ACCESS
- RESEARCH TRANSPARENCY
- ANALYTIC TRANSPARENCY

Research Methods

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THIS WEEK

01

Read chapter by Shivley

02

Assignment 1 is coming up (fill in a survey to get points)

03

Check our additional resources online

04

Make sure you signed up for a lab/conference (problem with Monday morning)

Research Methods

14

PRETEST



Goal:

See your progress
Gives me an understanding of what you know



Go to My courses and sign in with your McGill ID, fill in ALL QUESTIONS



First a few general questions that do not result into any points



30 Questions make up the Pretest



Winner gets a surprise on Thursday everyone who COMPLETES the pretest gets a point counting towards participation

Research Methods

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