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# 1 Happiness, Inequality, and Mental Health Policy Preprocessing the Data

1.0.1	Bingyao Zou, Aurora Deng, Andrew Golden		

## 2 Introduction

#### 2.0.1 Bacground

**Happiness** is a feeling that comes over you when life is good. According to current studies, six key variables are found to support happiness: income; healthy life expectancy; social support; freedom; trust; and generosity. Of these six predictors of happiness, the most important is income, which at the national level is measured as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or economic growth. We admit that economic security drives greater contentment, and thus leads to higher happiness scores. In more developed countries, however, economic growth may not buy citizens as much gains in well-being as poor countries.

In this case, our group is assessing income in a different way—Income Inequality & Economic Inequality. We assume that if a country's economic growth is not equally distributed, it will lead to lower levels of happiness for its citizens. Moreover, a sense of fairness and trust is the cornerstone of community, and having satisfying social relationships in the community is essential to improving well-being.

Before exploring the relationship between happiness and inequality, we need to rule out some potential impacts, among which the impact our group is focusing on comes from governments' actions to improve happiness. It is well known that some countries provide **mental health support** in order to support their citizens, such as funding, coordination, legislation, the establishment of information systems, and the procurement and distribution of essential medicines. Given the huge influence of governmental efforts, our group decided to separate the countries with and without published mental health policies.

In general, our group's research topic is how inequality relates to reported happiness in countries with and without mental health programs.

#### 2.0.2 Data and Variables

### **Happiness Score by Country**

- Description: The national happiness level based on respondents' rating of their own lives
- Source: 2019 United Nations World Happiness Report, using data collected by Gallup
- Data Type:
  - Numerical, from 0 to 100
  - Higher is better
- Limitation: Happiness is hard to quantify and measure, which can mean different things to different people, and across cultures. Since there is no worldwide standard for happiness, the research associated with it is considered to be less reliable.

#### **GINI Index**

- Description: The degree of inequality in the distribution of family income in a country
- Source: 2010 Central Intelligence Agency, The World Factbook
- Data Type:
  - Numerical, from 0 to 100
  - Higher indicates greater inequality

#### **Mental Policies Summary**

- Description: Whether a country is in action for mental health
- Source: 2017 World Health Organization (WHO)
- Data Type:
  - Binary, 0 or 1
  - 1 indicates the country has at least one mental policy, 0 indicates no policy
- Processing Detail: The original data lists the specific mental-health related public policies of
  each country. We define a new binary variable based on the summary so that we can see
  directly whether a country's government publishes their mental policy or not
- Limitation: Binary variable can be in only one of two categories either yes or no, so we can only learn if a country has a related policy. However, among these policies, some are heavily invested while some are still in the planning stage. In order to better distinguish their specific impacts on the happiness score, it would be useful to suggest a ladder which can represent the scale of these policies.

# 3 Data Cleaning

Get the tables using pandas

```
[1]: import pandas as pd from urllib.request import urlopen
```

[2]:

#### Check/Rename column names

The original mentalhealth data has been recorded for multiple years. Our group decided to keep the latest record and droped previous data.

```
[7]: mentalhealth2 = mentalhealth[['Country', 'PolicyPlan', 'Year']]
```

```
[8]: mentalhealth2.sort_values('Country')
```

```
[8]:
              Country PolicyPlan Year
     286
          Afghanistan
                             Yes 2016
     152
          Afghanistan
                             Yes 2014
     110
              Albania
                             Yes 2014
     258
              Albania
                             Yes 2016
                             Yes 2014
     57
              Algeria
     160
                Yemen
                             Yes 2014
               Zambia
     223
                             Yes 2016
     55
               Zambia
                             Yes 2014
                             Yes 2014
     46
             Zimbabwe
     224
             Zimbabwe
                             Yes 2016
```

[346 rows x 3 columns]

```
[9]: mentalhealth3 = mentalhealth2.drop_duplicates(subset='Country', keep='first')
[10]: mentalhealth4 = mentalhealth3[['Country', 'PolicyPlan']]
```

## 4 Data Integration

```
Merge gini data and happiness data and save the new data frame
[11]: dirtymerge1=gini.merge(happiness,how='outer',indicator=True)
[12]: | #Request the countries where the happiness data frame found no match
      dirtymerge1.loc[dirtymerge1['_merge'] == 'right_only', "Country"]
[12]: 157
                       Czech Republic
                United Arab Emirates
      158
      159
                                Qatar
      160
                              Bahrain
      161
                    Trinidad & Tobago
      162
                               Kuwait
      163
                          South Korea
      164
                      Northern Cyprus
      165
                                Libya
                      North Macedonia
      166
      167
                              Lebanon
      168
                          Ivory Coast
      169
                  Congo (Brazzaville)
      170
             Palestinian Territories
      171
                              Somalia
      172
                               Gambia
      173
                                  Iraq
      174
                     Congo (Kinshasa)
      175
                              Myanmar
      176
                            Swaziland
                                Syria
      177
      178
                          Afghanistan
      Name: Country, dtype: object
[13]: #Request the countries where the gini data frame found no match
      dirtymerge1.loc[dirtymerge1['_merge'] == 'left_only', "Country"]
[13]: 2
               Micronesia, Federated States of
      12
                               Papua New Guinea
      16
                                        Eswatini
      17
                                     Gambia, The
      19
                         Congo, Republic of the
```

```
Guyana
      48
                                          Angola
      52
             Congo, Democratic Republic of the
      55
                                  Cote d'Ivoire
      59
                                       Djibouti
      75
                                       Maldives
      89
             Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)
      92
                                   Korea, South
      96
                                           Macau
      100
                                      West Bank
      105
                                      Greenland
      109
                                      Macedonia
      121
                                    Timor-Leste
      126
                                 European Union
      127
                          Sao Tome and Principe
      150
                                         Czechia
                                  Faroe Islands
      155
      156
                                          Jersey
      Name: Country, dtype: object
[14]: #Improve the merge result
      replacements1={'Gambia, The': 'Gambia',
                     'Congo (Brazzaville)': 'Congo, Republic of the',
                     'Congo (Kinshasa)': 'Congo, Democratic Republic of the',
                     'Ivory Coast': "Cote d'Ivoire",
                     'Korea, South': 'South Korea',
                     'North Macedonia': "Macedonia",
                     'Czechia': 'Czech Republic'}
[15]: happiness.Country.replace(replacements1,inplace=True)
[16]: gini.Country.replace(replacements1,inplace=True)
[17]: dirtyMerge2=gini.merge(happiness,left_on="Country",__
       →right_on='Country',how='outer',indicator=True)
[18]:
     dirtyMerge2
[18]:
           Rank
                                           Country GINI
                                                         Year
                                                                scoreofhappiness \
            1.0
      0
                                           Lesotho
                                                    63.2
                                                          1995
                                                                            3.802
      1
            2.0
                                     South Africa
                                                    62.5
                                                          2013
                                                                            4.722
      2
            3.0
                 Micronesia, Federated States of
                                                    61.1
                                                          2013
                                                                              NaN
      3
            4.0
                                             Haiti
                                                    60.8
                                                          2012
                                                                            3.597
      4
            5.0
                                                    60.5
                                                          2009
                                          Botswana
                                                                            3.488
            . . .
                                               . . .
                                                     . . .
                                                           . . .
      167
            NaN
                                              Iraq
                                                     NaN
                                                           NaN
                                                                            4.437
      168
            NaN
                                           Myanmar
                                                     NaN
                                                           NaN
                                                                            4.360
```

40

```
170
            {\tt NaN}
                                                            NaN
                                                                             3.462
                                             Syria
                                                     NaN
      171
            NaN
                                       Afghanistan
                                                      NaN
                                                            NaN
                                                                             3.203
                _merge
      0
                 both
      1
                  both
      2
            left_only
      3
                  both
      4
                  both
      . .
      167
           right_only
      168 right_only
      169 right_only
      170 right_only
      171 right_only
      [172 rows x 6 columns]
     Merge mental policy data and previously merged data and save the new data frame
[19]: dirtyMerge3=dirtyMerge2.merge(mentalhealth4, on='Country')
     Our group's Data Frame:
[20]: df2=dirtyMerge3[['Country','GINI','scoreofhappiness','PolicyPlan']]
[21]: #Drop the missiving value
      dffinal=df2.dropna()
[22]: dffinal
[22]:
                Country GINI
                                scoreofhappiness PolicyPlan
      0
                Lesotho
                          63.2
                                            3.802
                                                           No
      1
           South Africa 62.5
                                            4.722
                                                          Yes
      2
                                            3.597
                   Haiti 60.8
                                                           No
      3
               Botswana 60.5
                                            3.488
                                                          Yes
      4
                Namibia 59.7
                                            4.639
                                                          Yes
                     . . .
                           . . .
                                              . . .
                                                          . . .
      124
                Belgium
                         25.9
                                            6.923
                                                          Yes
      125
                Ukraine
                          25.5
                                            4.332
                                                           No
      126
                  Sweden 24.9
                                            7.343
                                                          Yes
      127
                Slovenia 24.4
                                            6.118
                                                           No
      128
                Slovakia 23.7
                                            6.198
                                                          Yes
      [121 rows x 4 columns]
```

Swaziland

NaN

NaN

4.212

169

NaN

# 5 Saving File to Disk

#### For future use in R