Project 1 Proposal

Team 2 Dompelgangers

**Project Summary**

High level Focus: Characteristics of murder and murder investigation in the Midwest between 1976 – 2016

**Interest and Intent:** True crime has always been of interest to the public. We’ve seen an increase in interest in media, television, and podcasts. The intent of this project is two-fold: increase understanding and awareness of the prevalence of homicide cold cases; and to debunk regional stereotypes and misconceptions of violent crime rates in different geographical regions/demographics.

**Scope**

* Timeframe:1976-2016 (40 years)
* Region of Interest: Midwest, which includes: Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, Illinois
* Cities of Interest: Top 10 populous cities in Region of Interest

**Source Data\***

*Murderdata.org*

*Murder accountability project*

*Census API*

\*We’ll need to update this as we introduce new angles into our project

**Questions we’d like to answer:**

Gender Dynamics and murder (Bimi)

* Are women more often murdered by men or women?
* Are men more often murdered by men or women?

Relationship Dynamics and murder (Devin)

* Are most female homicide victims killed by a family member, a partner, or a stranger?
* What are the most popular relationships between people involved in murder cases?

Population Density and murder (Matt)

* Are there more murder per capita in urban or rural areas?
* Do the violent crime (murder) reputations of certain cities hold water? (urban cities vs. rural towns).

Cold Cases over time (Amber)

* Are homicide cases being successfully solved more frequently over time?
* What may influence the investigation success rate?

TBD (Eric)

* TBD