Final Results.

Overall, the results of my analysis proved inconclusive. After introducing several potential confounding variables and modifying the data to strengthen reliability, I was unable to determine any statistically backed correlation between divorce freedom scores and suicide rates. The use of an ANOVA test showed no significant difference in suicide rates for each divorce score. A post hoc test highlighted the need for more data points and the presence of variables not properly considered.
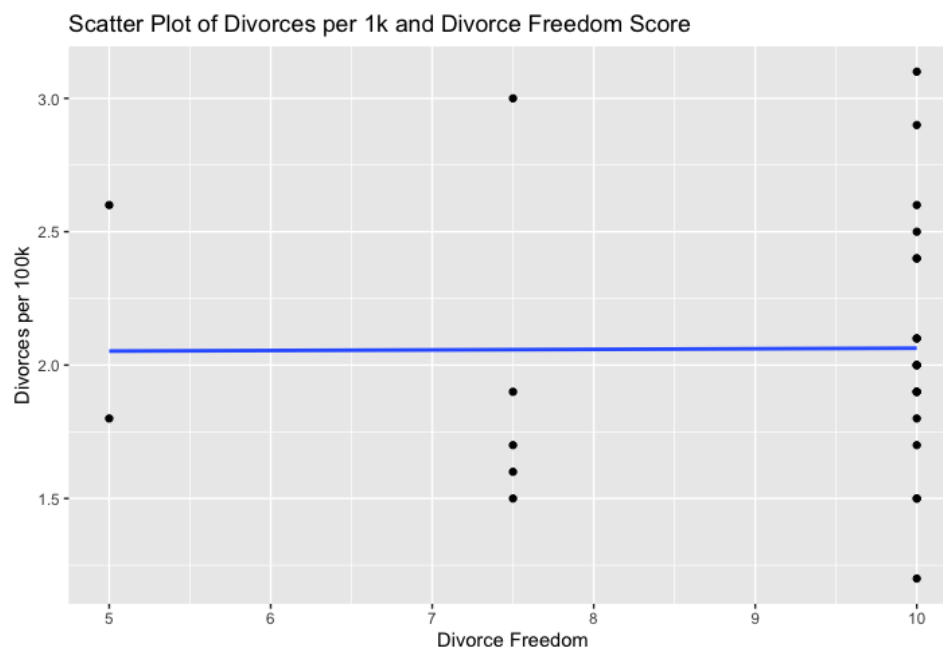
Figure 1. ANOVA results of the comparison between suicide rates and divorce freedom rank.

	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	Pr(>F)
as.factor(Divorce_freedom)	2	116.3	58.15	3.374	0.0519
Residuals	23	396.5	17.24		

The resulting p-value of 0.0519 indicates the differences are quite nearly significant. However, the results of the post hoc test show only one difference is significant and one of the compared groups only had two observations. The lack of observations combined with the insignificance of the other two comparisons leaves us without enough evidence to conclude there are any significant differences. Thus, it can be currently concluded that divorce freedom and suicide are not significantly correlated.

In order to continue the analysis, the focus was shifted to several intermediate correlations. Here, the correlation between divorce freedom scores and actual divorce rates was assessed.

Figure 2.

No apparent association can be seen between divorce rates and freedom scores.

Figure 3.

	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	Pr(>F)
as.factor(Divorce_freedom)	2	0.118	0.05898	0.227	0.798
Residuals	23	5.964	0.25929		

As expected, running an ANOVA test on this model again proved insignificant.

While the logic-based and research focused portion of my analysis lead to some valuable insights, my inability to prove certain intermediate correlations lead to a breakdown of my theory. Ultimately, it was the discovery that divorce rates and index scores had no correlation that dismantled the hypothesis which suggested that there may be a relationship between divorce policy and suicide rates.