April 13

In class example: Ethnic identity scale

Let’s perform a similar analysis conducted in the paper Johnson, L. M., Devereux, P. G., & Wagner, K. D. (2022). The group-based law enforcement mistrust scale: psychometric properties of an adapted scale and implications for public health and harm reduction research. *Harm Reduction Journal*, *19*(1), 1-13.

I downloaded data from Generations: A Study of the Life and Health of LGB People in a Changing Society, United States, 2016-2019 (ICPSR 37166), which is available from ICPSR (you should make sure you can locate and download this study). I will use data from Wave 1.

The file is ‘life and health of lgbt people study.sav’

We will explore the factor structure of an ethnic identity scale and its relationship to race and discrimination. For simplicity, I will examine differences between White and Black survey respondents. I dummy coded the self-identified race variable into white (=1) and non-white (=0).

Here are the variables for the scale development:

* RE1: I have spent time trying to find out more about my race/ethnic group, such as its history, traditions, and customs.
* RE2: I have a strong sense of belonging to my own race/ethnic group.
* RE3: I understand pretty well what my race/ethnic group membership means to me.
* RE4: I have often done things that will help me understand my race/ethnic background better.
* RE5: I have often talked to other people in order to learn more about my race/ethnic group.
* RE6: I feel a strong attachment towards my own race/ethnic group.

The response options are 1 = strongly disagree to 5 strongly agree.

Let us pause to think about how you would respond to these questions and what causes and consequences are associated with your own racial/ethnic identity?

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Q1. Explore means and standard deviations for the scale items for whites and non-whites

Q2. Explore the factor structure of the racial/ethnic identity scale. What do you conclude?

Q3. Save the factor scores using the regression method.

* Briefly note whether factor analysis is justified
* How many factors did you extract?

Q4. Use the scores to explore whether the mean factor scores differ significantly between whites and non-whites.

Q5. Run a linear regression to explore the association between racial/ethnic identification and depressive symptoms (Kessler scale) controlling for family social support. What do you conclude?