**Lab 2: Applied Linear Regression and Time Series Analysis**

**Question 2: United States Public Opinion**

The dataset, “public\_opinon\_us\_primary.csv,” contains a subset of variables from the American National Election Survey 2016 Pilot Study. The pilot study conducted a nationally representative survey between January 22 and January 28, 2016. This surveys uses weights for methodological purposes, but we will not be using these weights. For that reason, among others, the results from your analysis might not be nationally representative.

This dataset contains the following variables:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Description** |
| ftobama | Rating of Barack Obama from 0-100 |
| ftblack | Rating of Black Americans from 0-100 |
| ftwhite | Rating of White Americans from 0-100 |
| fthisp | Rating or Hispanics from 0-100 |
| ftsanders | Rating of Bernie Sanders from 0-100 |
| fthrc | Rating of Hillary Clinton from 0-100 |
| presjob | Rating of President Obama’s job performance, 7 point scale (1 = highest, 7 = lowest) |
| econnow | Rating of US Economy, 5 point scale (1 = highest, 5 = lowest) |
| race\_white | Indicator variable taking the value of 1 if respondent is white, 0 otherwise. |
| gender | Indicator variable taking the value of 1 if respondent is male, 2 if respondent is female. |
| birthyr | Birthyear of the respondent. |

Please answer the following questions:

(1) Does Hillary Clinton rate relatively higher compared to Bernie Sanders among individuals who have a higher feeling thermometer rating for minority groups?

(2) How does the inclusion of respondents’ perception of President Obama and the economy (well known predictors of presidential elections) impact your answer to the first question?