

Practice Problems on Questions

1. Clearly define normative, descriptive, and causal questions/claims.
2. Describe the fundamental problem of causal inference.
3. Consider the concept of war. Come up with two examples each of normative, descriptive, and causal questions about war. Posit an answer to these questions as a claim.
4. Using the logic of the counterfactual that we discussed in class, explain why we cannot observe whether the causal claim is true or false.
5. Repeat questions 1 and 2, but for the political variable that most interests you.