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Update on Project

1 message

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Tue, Feb 10, 2026 at 12:05 PM

To: nldavis1@berkeley.edu

Dear Norris,

I'm writing this to give myself a record of work for this week. I'm still working on merging the files together and will hopefully do it by the end of next week. In the meantime, I was doing some reading on social connectedness for the project and realized that the Raj Chetty data is probably not the best fit for our project. Given that this was done to think about economic mobility and it had millions of respondents, it would be difficult to merge and also because a lot of that data is privacy protected, would also likely extend our timeline in a dramatic way (there are probably ways around this but because the social networks thing wasn't our initial intellectual interest anyway, my sense is that it's fine to drop). Obviously the cost is not using some pretty interesting data for a project specifically on racial politics so if you have thoughts on this let me know.

I'm still working through the Hahrie Han/Jae Yeon Kim data but even within the CMPS, there are some other questions I realized we might use to more fluidly get at the underlying idea of linked fate and geography. There are questions about perceptions of neighborhood quality in the 2020 battery (I'll have to check in the others) that ask about how often you interact with your neighbors, the level of trust you have in your neighbors, and your perceptions of if the neighborhood is a good place to live. Because we also have data on where the respondents live and their perception of the racial makeup of where they live, we could ask the following questions:

- Do Black People with lower levels of trust in their communities have higher levels of linked fate? Is this relationship stronger when Black people are in more homogeneously Black neighborhoods?
- Does this interact with the level of civic infrastructure in their communities (this is where we'd interact the Han data)?
- Has this relationship changed from the Obama to the Trump years? (this one is tricky because I'm not sure all the questions will be asked in all the batteries - I might ask you to look to see what variables are in each dataset)
- Is this idiosyncratic to Black people (again, I'm pretty sure the linked fate question is asked to all respondents across race but we'd need to check)

Then, as a secondary analysis, we could then ask:

- Do Black people with lower levels of neighborhood satisfaction have different, more punitive beliefs?
- Do Black people with lower levels of neighborhood satisfaction have a deeper desire to have representatives that look like them?
- Do Black people with lower levels of neighborhood satisfaction have distinct media diets?

We'd definitely use the CMPS because in this sample we'd also be able to capture effects of region and state to more cleanly get at the geographic effects. I'm going to go ahead and get started on just setting this up but text or respond when you see this so we can set up a time to talk about this more in depth. My hope is to get the first question on community trust and linked fate back to you in a couple of weeks.

All the Best,
Christian