Dontae Lundy

March 7, 2016

Qualitative Project: Data Collection

Statistical Methods

Baker College Online

# **Introduction:**

The purpose of this study is to determine whether a correlation exists between a person's financial income and their reproduction preferences (desired number of children). This study consists of 2 main variables, and 5 supplementary variables (for a total of 7 variables). The 2 main variables alone should provide enough information to conclude this study – however the supplementary variables can be used to further analyze this study in the near future.

# **The Survey:**

# Reproductive Study

Thank you very much for choosing to Participate in our Study!

**Instructions:** In order to complete this survey, Participants are encouraged to take their time and read through the prepared material carefully. Once the question is understood fully, we encourage all participants to answer as openly and as honestly as possible.

***Note to Participant:*** *Your private information will NOT be shared, instead we will use it to conclude our Scientific study.*

*The Questions below are designed to attain basic attributes about you. Please answer all opinionated questions from your own perspective (and not from the perspective of your friends and/or spouse).*

# Part I: Demographic Information

**Target Population:** *American Adults between the Age of 18-40*

1. What is your Age? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is your Gender? (Male | Female)
3. What is your Race? (African American | Caucasian | Hispanic | Other)

# Part II: Topic Questions

1. What is your Household Income? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you have Children? (Y/N)
3. How Many Children Do you Have? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. How Many Children did you Intend on Having? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is your ideal number of Children? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# **Spreadsheet Design:**

The Spreadsheet was designed by placing major attributes as column headers with the data from each participant being inserted into the database as rows.

The Column variables are as Follows (Green Columns are Primary Variables)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Variable  Name | Variable  Degree | Description |
| ID | Secondary | This column contains a unique ID for the study participant in case follow-up questions are needed in future analysis. |
| Gender | Secondary | Contains information on the **GENDER** of the Participant. |
| Race | Secondary | Contains information on **RACE** the of the Participant. |
| Age | Secondary | Contains information on **AGE** the of the Participant. |
| Total\_Income | Primary | Contains information on the Participant's Yearly Income. |
| Intended \_Child \_Sum | Secondary | How many children the participant Intended to Have. |
| Current \_Child \_Sum | Secondary | How many children the participant currently has. |
| Ideal \_Child\_Sum | Primary | How many children the participant would Like to Have (total) |

# **Methods and Discussion:**

**Target Population:**

My Target Population was Americans 20 years and older. The Survey was distributed using online methods and by hand.

**Sample Size:**

My Sample Size was 30

**Sampling Method:**

The sampling method that was used in this study was convenience sampling. This sampling method was chosen because it allowed me to get the information that I needed in a short time frame.

**Sampling Limitations:**

Some sample limitations include not being able to sample proportional segments of racial groups – resembling the actual racial population in the United States. There would certainly be limitations due to the sample size simply because the sample is not large enough to extract reliable data.

**Sample Bias (Lurking Variables):**

Some possible sources of bias could be in the fact that I only included Americans 20 years and older, however Americans often have children younger than this. Other sources of possible bias would be my sampling method (convenience). A systematic sampling method would provide greater credibility to the study.

**Problems and Issues:**

Some problems and issues that I encountered while trying to collect the data was having a very small pool of people to interview in addition to having a very short window to do it. In order to overcome this barrier I used convenience sampling in addition to online and offline data collection tactics.