# Mathematics for the People: Draft List of Topics[[1]](#footnote-1)

* Payday Loans – high interest loans which target people with limited access to credit
  + Simple Interest
  + APR
  + APY
  + Risk
  + Credit Scores
* Redlining – the practice of only issuing mortgages to minorities (especially Blacks) within certain areas.
  + Present & Future Value
  + Accumulation of Generational Wealth
  + Data Analysis
  + Data Visualization
* Crime Rates – American perception of crime rates which have been steadily dropping since 1991 and the relation to policy (e.g. police funding)
  + Data Visualization
  + Linear and Exponential Growth
  + Interpolation and Extrapolation
  + Regression
* Medical Insurance – Insurance premiums and healthcare billing as it forms an obstacle to healthcare access in the United States
  + percentages & rates
  + Risk
  + Expected Value
* Lotteries and Gambling – While gambling is often sold as a way to improve educational funding in a state, does it really? Who gambles and why?
  + Probability
  + Expected Value
  + Percentages
* Racially Motivated Policing – We can look at the statistics and the data and see how different populations are policed
  + Statistics
  + Probability
  + Data Analysis
  + Data Visualization
* Climate Change – How does increased atmospheric CO2 contribute to global warming? What are the sources of atmospheric CO2 and how does individual/corporate behavior contribute to the problem?
  + Data Visualization
  + Data Analysis
  + Interpolation and Extrapolation
  + Correlation
* Sweatshop labor – Why do the goods we buy cost what they do? How much are the workers who make them earning?
  + Percentages
  + Rates
  + Data Visualization
  + Data Analysis
* Air Pollution – How does pollution spread? What is the connection to disease in the community?
  + Geometry
  + Correlation
  + Data Visualization
  + Data Analysis
* Renewable Energy – What are the costs and benefits of different energy sources?
  + Cost-Benefit Analysis
  + Optimization
  + Risk
* Credit Card Debt – How does debt accumulate? How do banks calculate minimum payments? How can you choose a credit card which is good for you?
  + Compound Interest
  + Optimization
  + Simulation
* Incarceration – Study the social and economic impact of incarceration on communities
  + Percentages
  + Probability
  + Data Visualization
  + Data Analysis
  + Statistics
* Minimum Wage – how is the minimum wage structured in different places? How has it changed over time?
  + Budgeting
  + Inflation
  + Data Visualization
  + Data Analysis

1. Some topics inspired by http://www.radicalmath.org [↑](#footnote-ref-1)