

Elizabeth Earl

DSC680—T301

(Project 3) Milestone 1—Proposal and Data Selection

Topic:

The last project of the course I want to shift my focus on the factors that make up a person's happiness. depending on where people live and the surrounding environment happiness levels can vary, I want to dig deeper in what makes up people's environmental happiness.

Business Problem:

There can be different ways the findings of this project can be used. Of the options it could potentially be used, I will conduct based on either real estate or a political take on the situation. In terms of real estate, I would use data containing housing trends to compare against whether the location where people are the happiest correlates to where houses are most expensive.

Another potential business problem to be solved is what I am most leaning towards is how politics impact the countries overall happiness. I want to explore how many people take politics more/less seriously than others and what the correlation this is with how people react to politics already in place in said countries. If people are more inclined to be happy in a said country would a major shift in politics change this? Knowing how people feel about politics could help potential candidates know how to sell themselves.

Datasets:

The main dataset I will be using is focused on happiness by year and can be downloaded here: [Happiness by Year | Kaggle](#). The data is sorted by year which can help section off when different major political events occurred.

It is a common trend that politicians use events such as terrorists' attacks to create a platform. If I take a politics view on the initial dataset, I will consider using the following data: [Terror attacks | Kaggle](#)

If taking a real estate view on my project I will use the following dataset: [Rent Info | Kaggle](#)

Methods:

For this project I will heavily rely on visualizations to sort of create a story of what I want to achieve. There are many different routes I can take in this project which I predict as visualizations are created will change. I am not entirely set on what way the happiness project will go but having enough visualizations will help paint the overall picture.

Ethical Considerations:

What defines happiness is an ethical barrier on itself and how each person exactly defines happiness for themselves. I will assume that everyone is on a level playing field (in terms of social class) and all factors impact each person in similar ways.

Challenges/Issues:

Following the ethical considerations, I predict a challenge will come from why people answered a way they did in specific questions. But this is something that cannot be further investigated. Upon initial search through the dataset, I see a potential issue will be being able to merge (if I choose to) the datasets because many of the datasets only focus on USA politics or USA housing market. Datasets being majorly specific to just one country has been a common issue I have faced in previous projects as well.

References:

A lot of the datasets are from Kaggle which will be used heavily to discover more datasets. I will continue to use such site as means of researching new datasets if needed.