Vietnam Draft and Political Attitudes and Behavior

This exercise is based on the following paper:

Green, Donald P., Tiffancy C. Davenport, and Kolby Hanson (2019). "Are There Long-Term Effects of the Vietnam Draft on Political Attitudes or Behavior? Apparently Not." *Journal of Experimental Political Science.* 6(2), 71-80.

This paper examines the long-term effects of the Vietnam draft lottery on the political attitudes and behavior of the men who were were eligible for the draft during the period of 1969–1971. Based on birth dates, the draft lottery was used to randomly select men who turned 19 prior to 1969, 1970 and 1971 to serve in the US army. While many of those selected did not eventually serve, the authors use a survey and publicly available information, such as voter registration, voter records and partisan membership of eligible draftees to study whether being *assigned* to the draft has any long-term political effects.

The data set `survey.csv` contains the following variables.

Name	Description
`draft`	Whether a respondent was drafted (1) or not (0)
`year`	Birth year
`ideology`	Ideology score that takes values from 1 to 5 where 1 is "very conservative," 3 is "moderate," and 5 is "very liberal."
`state`	Respondent's living state

Question 1

Load the data and check the data with the `summary()` function. Which variable (column) has a missing data? Also, check the number of observations (including the missing values).

Question 2

Calculate the mean ideology score by year that respondents were born in. Briefly interpret the result (a sentence will suffice).

Question 3

Events at an early stage of life can have a long-lasting impact on a person's political perspectives. In social sciences, we often measure people's views as ideology, typically using a one-dimensional left-right scale. Estimate the sample average treatment effect on ideology. In this question, we pool all years. Briefly interpret the result in a sentence.

Question 4

Even if we assign the same treatment, respondent's characteristics can change its effect. In this question, we focus on the geographical heterogeneity. Estimate the sample average treatment effect on ideology **by state** (you can still pool all years). Avoid the repetition of the code by defining a function. Finally, briefly interpret the result (a sentence will suffice).

Question 5

A politician from a country in Asia is planning to use this paper to discuss the effect of Draft lottery in her country. Is this a valid approach for policy making? Discuss briefly (two to four sentences will suffice).