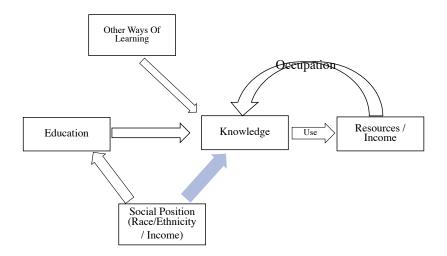
Information Inequality: the Race/Ethnicity & Class of Knowledge

Molly M. King | PhD Candidate | Stanford University

Why care about knowledge inequality?

- 1. Differences in knowledge itself are, by definition, a dimension of 'inequality';
- 2. Knowledge is a potential cause of later inequality in access to resources and outcomes; and
- 3. Differences in the amount of knowledge people have are influenced by unequal social positions in our society.



Methods

How does the status gap in knowledge vary by domain?

Factors	>	Outcome
Gender		Probability
Income		of
Race / Ethnicity		getting
$Age + age^2$		question
(Education)		correct

Surveys/Data: General Social Survey (5 years); Pew Research Center (21); Kaiser Family Foundation; Health Information National Trends Survey (8); Integrated Health Interview Series; Annenberg National Health Communication Survey; USC's Understanding America Study (3); Rand American Life Panel (2); National Financial Capability Studies (3); 21st Century Americanism survey; Global Views American Public Opinion and Foreign Policy; Outlook on Life Survey; State of the First Amendment surveys; Chicago Survey of American Public Opinion and U.S. Foreign Policy

Results

How likely are those with more income to get each answer correct, controlling for all else?

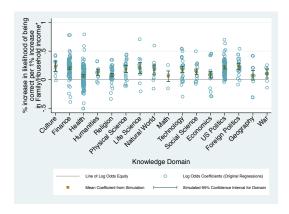


Figure 1: Income correlates with mean knowledge advantage in 15/16 domains

What proportion of questions are those with more income more likely to answer correctly?

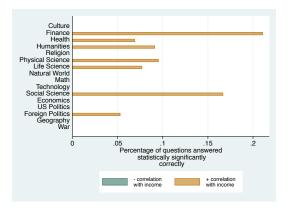


Figure 2: Those with higher incomes answer a greater proportion of questions correctly

 $What \ proportion \ of \ questions \ are \ Blacks \ and \ whites \ more \ likely \ to \ answer \ correctly?$

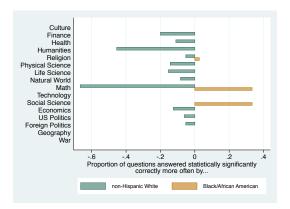


Figure 3: Proportion of questions answered by non-Hispanic Whites vs Blacks