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Final Project Thoughts

For the final project, I plan on pursuing a final project in line with my concentration of Development. In particular, I would like to create an interactive map highlighting the often-sad realities about education gaps for age, sex, class/caste, and income levels in South Asia. Education and education disparities have always been of interest to me, as it is such an important indicator of so many realities faced in a country. I would like to focus on data from South Asia—particularly in India and Nepal. This project would add to my research portfolio centering around the topic of education gaps among Dalit populations in the aforementioned countries. I am aware that data sources might be limited on the topic, but if I am able to find applicable information that does not yet exist in the appropriate/mappable form, I plan on creating this data myself.

In the past, I have done research about the relationship between sex, victimhood, and conflict. This topic could be an interesting project to map into an interactive visual to understand the realities presented in the data over time, by location, and conflict type. Each element could be mapped into its own product, but I would be most interested in seeing them overlap and be more interactive to get a more complete picture. The Global Conflict Tracker maintained by the Council of Foreign Relations is an inspiration for this project.

Webmaps have been interesting to me for quite some time. The ability to visualize geographic data is a powerful tool with the ability to change perceptions and shape realities. Being able to create maps like this is an excellent skill to have, and I am excited to be able to develop my skills beyond simple and static mapmaking with QGIS. Additionally, I am eager to learn some basic coding for databases. It will be helpful interacting with dataset creation, formatting, and application in mapmaking; I anticipate it will also aid in a future career to make data collection and utilization more manageable.