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Group Proposal

*Food Choices at TWU Cafeteria*

Population of Interest

The population of interest for our study will be TWU’s student body. No participant that is not a currently enrolled student is disqualified, no exceptions. The student may be from any year, and will be someone who is in the cafeteria on the research day. This someone must have ordered and received food or beverage from the Trinity Cafeteria.

Primary Outcome Variable

The primary outcome variable for our study will be Food choices at TWU Cafeteria. We will focus on which items the student body purchases, and the effects on their decision making.

Predictors and their Relationship with Outcome

The predictors for our outcome variable will be the time of day they dine, the amount of time they spend eating, which items they order, if they are a commuter or resident, whether or not they order beverages, food, or both, their enjoyment of food on a scale of 1-10, whether or not they are in a rush to get to class, and satisfaction with the service on a scale of 1-10. These predictors all contribute to which food item the student purchases, and is incredibly relevant.

Unit of Observation/Sampling Strategy

Our unit of observation will be per-student, and we will be looking for around 200 students. We will interview students individually at half hour time frames from 11:00 to 2:30. This should allow us to receive input from all sorts of different students. We will hold no bias as to which students we interview. It will be completely random, as long as they are a student and are having a meal.

The Plan

Our plan for gathering data is simple. The four of us will stand outside the cafeteria beside the till and get as many people to contribute to our study as possible. We will attempt to finish the study in one day in order to eliminate duplicates. We may include a prize or offer an award to participants, pending REB. Upon approaching a potential participant, we will as them a series of questions with no biases in tone of voice or posture. We will tell them to ask us if they have any questions, and give them our email address.

Work Division

Our group will spend a lot of time together doing the group work. We will have one person do the REB form, all work on the dataset description, get together to work on the paper and presentation. We will insure that the work is equal and that no one member does more work than any other.