Notes for September 11 Meeting

General updates:

- **Committee**
  - Added Aloysius and I'm meeting with Jiaying on Friday afternoon and will ask if she will also join
  - Set up a meeting after that
- **Presentation**
  - I will be presenting in the labour/public finance/related fields (LAPUFIR) seminar on Wednesday Nov 13 at 1 PM.

Project updates:

- **Predicting historical cohabitation**
  - I'm currently training a neural net on cohabitation data from 2007 to 2024 and I have census data all the way back to 1900 to use for out of sample prediction.
  - There is a ton of data to process so this is a bit of a challenge computationally.
  - I'm working on a stochastic gradient descent algorithm but it isn't cooperating with me at the moment.
- **Decline of marriage**
  - Exploring the question of how political polarization affects search frictions in the marriage/dating market for young people.
  - I think this can be done without observing individual-level voting behaviour.
  - This relies on having county-level variation in political polarization amongst young people. That is, I need to observe some areas which are politically homogenous and some which are heterogeneous.
  - The first stage is then to show that there is correlation between matching/meeting rates and the direction young men/women vote.
  - Currently looking for the data for this.
- **Endogenous separation**
  - I have some model preliminaries to share. (See other print out)