My project log is here (please note that there are multiple tabs):

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wJiyLqUx2i2YtEJE7F97OT7KUX-YosbKdVR2489Z2Lc/>

OPTION 1: BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

Maryland law has required schools to submit reports of bullying and harassment of students yearly since the 2005-2006 academic year. Individuals submit [this form](https://www.hcps.org/boe/PoliciesProcedures/docs/Procedures/Bullying%20Harrassment%20or%20Intimidation%20Reporting%20Form%20Rev%202017-2018%20SY.pdf) to their local school boards to report incidents, then the local boards submit reports to the Maryland General Assembly.

While information identifying individual students will not be available, anonymized data for each of MD’s 24 districts should be. The most recent information is summarized in [this report](http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/DSFSS/SSSP/Bullying/BullyingHarassmentReport2018.pdf), indicating that such a database does exist.

While the report is thorough, I think it would be interesting to examine the data myself and also to compare it to more previous years. The report goes back three years, but the program has been active since 2005. I would also like to see if any data was entered for “Other (please specify)” and not combined by similarity.

To-Do:

\* Contact the [Division of Student, Family, and School Support](http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/pages/dsfss/index.aspx) and request access to the databases, with personally-identifying information redacted.

OPTION 2: BURIAL OVERSIGHT

While I was looking into various forms and reports, I found myself becoming interested in the cemetery/funeral system. It is not something that’s often discussed or reported on, but the system functions under government oversight. It is important to surviving family members that the deceased are treated respectfully.

The [Office of Cemetery Oversight](https://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/cem/) and the [Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors](https://health.maryland.gov/bom/Pages/home.aspx) are in charge of licensing and overseeing cemeteries, monument dealers and funeral establishments. Both entities accept complaints via a web form, and it appears that one or both conduct inspections.

I found an inspections report form for the Board of Morticians [here](https://health.maryland.gov/bom/Documents/inspection.pdf), and would like to see the database of these inspections, if one exists. I would like to see if it is relevant to cross-reference this database with the OCO’s inspections and complaints.

In the OCO’s June 2018 minutes, I found that they are in the process of updating their list of non-regulated cemeteries. More significantly, according to the minutes, complaints have doubled “this season.” I am especially interested in seeing a database of complaints filed here.

My plan when inspecting these databases would be to

To-do:

* Ask the OCO for a database of complaints and whether they conduct inspections. If so, I will also request a database recording those inspections.
* Ask the BOM for a database of inspections and complaints.