Exercise 3

Social Inequality

Deadline: Please upload your assignment by Tuesday (**February 27,5 p.m.)** Upload one file only (pdf). Include the R-code into the Appendix. Do not forget to cite the data. Further, integrate at least one reading into your discussion (see moodle). Use APA-style when you cite the reading(s). Label all figures and tables.

Exercise 3.1

Download the ISSP2019 from moodle (ISSP2019_Ex03.dta)[1]. Select a country of your choice. Apply listwise deletion in respect to your key variables of interest (CLASS, CLASS_SPOUSE, AGE, SEX, v53, v61).

a) Report the original and analytical sample size for your country of choice.
b) Provide the sample statistics by gender. Briefly describe the table.

Exercise 3.2

a) Is social class (CLASS) correlated with perceived social class (PCLASS)? Calculate Spearman's rank correlation coefficient. Conduct the analysis by gender.
b) Is spousal class (CLASS_SPOUSE) correlated with perceived (own) social class (PCLASS)? Calculate the Spearman's rank correlation coefficient. Conduct the analysis by gender.

Exercise 3.3

a) Generate a contingency table with social class (CLASS) by social class of partner (CLASS_SPOUSE). How large is the fraction of class homogenous couples? How large is the fraction of couples where the man belongs to a higher social class than the woman?
b) How strongly is CLASS and CLASS_SPOUSE related? Calculate Spearman's rank correlation coefficient.
c) Social class is a household concept. In the past, the man's social class was used to operationalize social class of the household. Do your findings challenge this view? [around 250-500 words]

Exercise 3.4

a) Examine whether social class determines financial hardship. Create a binary dependent variable for financial hardship (DEP). Estimate and interpret the following linear probability model:

   MODEL 1: CLASS+SEX+AGE

b) There is growing debate that the digital transformation of the labor market has generated new social cleavages beyond conventional class boundaries. Do your analyses support this view?

[1] CLASS and CLASS_SPOUSE were added to the original data. These are the variables that measure the social class based on ISCO (see https://people.unil.ch/danieloesch/scripts/).

Exercise 3.5 (optional)
Examine how social class relates to financial hardship. Conduct the analysis by gender (separate models for men and women). Include the social class of the spouse (CLASS_SPOUSE) in a second step of the investigation. Is the effect size of own social class (CLASS) robust to the inclusion of the social class of the spouse (CLASS_SPOUSE)? Interpret the findings.

MODEL 2a (women): CLASS+SEX+AGE
MODEL 2b (women): CLASS+SEX+AGE+CLASS_SPOUSE

MODEL 3a (men): CLASS+SEX+AGE
MODEL 3b (men): CLASS+SEX+AGE+CLASS_SPOUSE

Appendix

Name		Realizations	Type
DEP	Financial difficulties (1: difficulties; 0: no major)	0 1	Numeric
v61	Perceived Social Class	1=Lower class 2=Working class 3=Lower middle class 4=Upper middle class 5=Upper class	
v53	Financial hardship (Can household make ends meet?)	1=Very difficult 2=Fairly difficult 3=Neither easy nor difficult 4=Fairly easy 5=Very easy	
SEX	Sex	1=Male 2=Female	
CLASS	Social class (Oesch scheme)	1=Unskilled workers 2=Skilled workers 3=Lower grade service 4=Higher grade service	
CLASS_SPOUSE	Social class spouse (Oesch scheme)	1=Unskilled workers 2=Skilled workers 3=Lower grade service 4=Higher grade service	