Journal 0

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1   Introduction

Our current legal system (theoretically) works toward providing equal, fair opportunities for all American citizens, but how effective these laws are at changing American culture proves to be a complicated relationship. By using NLP on books written during specific eras, we can gain insight into the culture during that time period and compare it to the laws governing it. My project focuses on one type of discrimination (sexism) to investigate the relationship between the American legal system and its cultural values.

I didn't do anything coding-wise for this project over the summer, but I did read books by great female authors in the time periods I'll be exploring.

Even when I code a simple selection sort, I somehow end up with multiple errors, so I envision many, many bugs throughout the year. More specifically, the initial pipeline set-up as well as adapting raw data to useful statistics may take time to understand. I've also never used Vec2Word before, and I'm still debating whether or not I should since that will probably create difficulties in my project.

I plan to use the adaptation of the pipeline data to useful statistics as my first marker of success.

For materials, I just need my laptop (not the school-issued one).