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Sociology 350  
Lab Challenge #8

Your Two Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Primary Research Documents and Government Statistics

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**Welcome to the Library Lab.**

Today's lab is designed to be a cooperative effort in learning to use some important, but seldom used library resources. You may proceed through this lab in any sequence you wish (i.e., from end to beginning or vice versa). Please work in pairs (preferably the same pairs as you will be doing your term projects in). The lab assignments do differ in some particulars and are, in other respects, identical to one another.

By way of overview, these are the specific Murphy Library resources that we will be targeting---

- a) Sociological Abstracts---the CD Rom Social Science Journal Reference (circa 2,500 current journals)
- b) United States Supreme Court decisions (1789-2008)
- c) Crime in the United States (1988-2007)
- d) Federal Statutes (1789-2008)
- e) Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2008
- f) Trends in Health Statistics in the US (2007)
- g) US Census Data for 2000
- h) Vital Statistics of the United States, 2006

**So, "let the wild rumpus start".... (*Where the Wild Things Are*)**

1. Begin from virtually any computer work station with access to the Murphy Library Home Page. Your task is to narrow down a journal literature search to between four and twenty citations to your designated social science topic. To start you need to get to the Murphy Library Home page.

Under **Quick Links** in the upper left-hand corner of the page **Click "Databases A-Z"**.

After this you will need to click on the letter "**S**".

After this you will scroll down to *Sociological Abstracts* and **click here**.

Now, modify the "Data Range" line to read: [2000] to [2008].

Then click the "Journal Article Only" and "English Only" options.

Next in the upper page boxes type in the following three (3) keywords, each in its own separate box, one **below** the next and connected with the word "and" on the screen: "crime" and "drug use" and "single parents"

Now click "**Search**" and you should achieve 6 results. If so, peruse them and write down one interesting research finding, in the space below, that you have observed here.

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2. Repeat this same journal research exercise by selecting one of the following five topics listed below and narrowing the journal search down to a results outcome of less than twenty, but

more than four (4) social scientific journal articles. Add as many keywords as required and record them below.

**Initial Keyword**

**Next Keyword**

**Next Keyword**

a) Gypsies

b) Immigrants

c) Corporate Crime

d) Suicide

e) Capital Punishment

3. Finally, thinking about possible *dependent variables* for your term paper project, select one of them and write the topic in the space provided below and do a search by adding appropriate keywords until you have narrowed your search down to between five (5) and ten (10) journal references.

Your topic is \_\_\_\_\_ Your next keyword is \_\_\_\_\_

(and if necessary)

Your next keyword is \_\_\_\_\_

4. Your next mission is to go to the stacks in the basement and find the appropriate hard copy volume in which the Supreme Court case **highlighted** below may be found. Look for the Government Document aisles. If your citation has the abbreviation *S.Ct.* in it, this means the series called *Supreme Court Reporter* (**Shifting Book Shelves #15 – Law Books KF101.A322**).

If your citation has the abbreviation *US* in it, this means the series called *United States Reports* (GOV Docs Reference JU 6.8 located in Aisle I-L). The first number in this citation refers to the bound volume number and the second number of this citation refers to the precise page on which this Supreme Court case begins.

a) *Ozawa v. United States, 43 S.Ct. 65*

b) *Pierce v. Society of Sisters, 45 S.Ct. 571*

c) *Wisconsin v. Jonas Yoder, 406 US 205*

d) *Bowers v. Hardwick, 478 US 186*

e) *Tinker v. DesMoines, 393 US 503*

- f) Cohen v. California, *403 US 15*
- g) Shelley v. Kramer, *68 S.Ct. 836*
- h) Cleveland Board of Education v. LaFleur, *414 US 632*
- i) United States v. Wong Kim Ark, *18 S.Ct. 456*
- j) Church of Lukumi Babalu Aye v. City of Hialeah, *113 S.Ct. 2217*
- k) Roe v. Wade, *410 US 113*
- l) Craig et. al. v. Boren, Governor of Oklahoma, *429 US 190*

First, what was the date at which this case was decided by the Supreme Court?

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Second, who was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at this time?  
[Hint: Look inside the front cover of the volume you are using.]

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Third, briefly summarize what the major issue of this case was and how the Court ruled.

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5. Using the reference book titled *Crime in the United States 2007*, go online to:  
[www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2007/index.html](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2007/index.html)

Now click “violent crime” and then under “Browse by” select “National Data” and select Table 1 “Crime in the United States.” Now examine the following crime trends and write in the space provided how much these crime rates have changed from 1988 to 2007.

- a) Violent crime rate
  
- b) Murder and non-negligent manslaughter rate
  
- c) Forcible rape rate

6. Using the reference titled *Sheppard's Acts and Cases by Popular Name (Gov't. Documents Reference KF90 .S52)*, look up the one (1) federal law circled on your lab to obtain its official statutory citation and write this citation in the space provided below to the right of the case name. The citation will be in the form of **33 STAT 56** where the first number (33 in this example) tells you which Volume number the law is listed in and the second number (56 in this example) refers to the page location within the appropriate volume. Once you have located these citations, you are then able to look up that particular statute in the reference file called "Statutes At Large" Federal Gov't. Documents—The year of the statute is in the aisle listed below:

Aisle AE 2.111: 1984-2006

Aisle GS 4.111: 1949-1983

Aisle S7.9: 1789-1948

If you have any problems locating your designated Statutes At Large case, ask me or the Reference Librarian for help.

- a) Fugitive Slave Act (September 18, 1850) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Edmunds Tucker Act (March 3, 1887) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Defense of Marriage Act (September 21, 1996) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Mann Act (March 26, 1910) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Religious Freedom Act (August 11, 1978) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) Civil Rights Act of 1875 \_\_\_\_\_
- g) Naturalization Act (March 15, 1790) \_\_\_\_\_ 1 STAT 103 \_\_\_\_\_
- h) Morrill Act (July 1, 1862) \_\_\_\_\_
- i) Immigration Act (May 19, 1921) \_\_\_\_\_
- j) Homestead Act (May 20, 1862) \_\_\_\_\_
- k) Food and Drug Act (June 30, 1906) \_\_\_\_\_
- l) Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944 \_\_\_\_\_

In the space provided below briefly summarize what your federal statute deals with and what it states to be the federal policy. A few sentences should suffice.

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7. Using the reference work titled *Statistical Abstract of the United States 2007* (Gov't. Documents Reference HA202), refer to figure No. 36 titled "Selected Characteristics of Racial Groups and Hispanic/Latino Population: 2005" and write down the following information in the blanks provided below for the "race only" category listed in 1005.

[Note: This same book may also be accessed of the internet by going to the following address: <http://www.census.gov/statab/www/> but the book is easier to use]

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Indian</u>	<u>Asian</u>
a) Percentage of families below the poverty level	_____	_____	_____	_____
b) Median family income	_____	_____	_____	_____
c) Percentage Bachelor's Degree or higher	_____	_____	_____	_____

Given the information that you have referenced above, what generalization can you draw regarding how income, poverty, and educational attainment is related to racial category within the United States?

8. Using another reference work titled *Health, United States, 2007*, (Gov't. Documents Reference RA 407.3 .H4), answer the following questions.

- a) Go to **Figure 18** on "Life Expectancy at Birth by Sex" and tell me how much change there has been in life expectancy between 1970 and 2004 **for Black males**.

1970 \_\_\_\_\_ 2004 \_\_\_\_\_

And how much change has there been in **life expectancy** between 1970 and 2004 **for White females**:

1970 \_\_\_\_\_ 2004 \_\_\_\_\_

- b) What is the current life expectancy for Black males at age 65? \_\_\_\_\_
- c) What is the current life expectancy for White females at age 65? \_\_\_\_\_

- d) What is the 2004 infant mortality rate in the United States? \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Now go to **Figure 1** and identify how much the raw number of Americans aged 75 and over has changed or is expected to change from:

1950 \_\_\_\_\_ to 2050 \_\_\_\_\_

- f) Now go to **Figure 9** and identify which group has the **highest** percentage of cigarette smokers in the year 2000. Is it men, women, high school students, or women during pregnancy and how high is it?
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- g) Lastly, go to **Figure 9** and identify which group has the **lowest** percentage of cigarette smokers in the year 2000. Is it men, women, high school students, or women during pregnancy and how low is it?
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9. Now consult the *Vital Statistics of the United States, 2006* (Reference HA 203.V58) and decipher what the national trend has been in the number of AIDS cases occurring between 1999 and 2003 for males and females comparatively (See page 182).

10. Finally working from any computer station, go to the internet and download the following US Census home page: <http://www.census.gov/>

Begin by clicking the “American Factfinder” logo.

Next, select the “**People**” menu option; select the “**Race and Ethnicity**” menu option. Last select the “**Race**” option and proceed to answer the following questions:

- a) What number of the US population is self-identified as “White only”?
- b) What number of the US population is self-identified as “American Indian or Alaskan Native only”?
- c) What number of the US population is self-identified as “Asian only”?
- d) What number of the US population is self-identified as “Black or African American only”?
- e) What number of the US population is self-identified as “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only”?
- f) And what number of the US population is self-identified as “Some Other Race only”?

Now return back to the American Factfinder search page.  
Select the "Fact Sheet" menu option and then the "Fact Sheet for Race, Ethnic, or Ancestry Group."

Find the "median family income in 1999 (dollars) for *each* of the following groups listed below and write the appropriate figures after each group name listed in the "Select a population group" and click "Go." **Circle** the group below with the highest median family income and draw a **square** around the group with the lowest median family income.

Iroquois alone \_\_\_\_\_

Potawatomi alone \_\_\_\_\_

Sioux alone \_\_\_\_\_

Cheyenne alone \_\_\_\_\_

Navajo alone \_\_\_\_\_

Crow alone \_\_\_\_\_

Black or African American alone \_\_\_\_\_

White alone \_\_\_\_\_

Hmong alone \_\_\_\_\_

Apache alone \_\_\_\_\_

Cherokee alone \_\_\_\_\_

Asian alone \_\_\_\_\_

***Congratulations! Your academic stock just rose to a new record high!***