Teaching Data That Matters

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A Moment of Acknowledgement

I feel safe in this space, but not everyone does.

Join me in 46 seconds of silence - one for each of the years since the passage of Title IX.
Ethics
History
A Popular Account of the Ancient Egyptians - Sir John Gardner Wilkinson
many people prosper in times of prosperity? How many people find their lives developed by development?

The Cuban Revolution triumphed during the year of greatest affluence in the history of that island.

In Central America, the more wretched and desperate the people, the more the statistics smiled and laughed. During the fifties, sixties and seventies, stormy decades, turbulent times, Central America boasted the highest economic growth rates in the world and the most extensive regional development in the continent.
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Inspirations
Natural and Political
Observations
Mentioned in a following INDEX,
and made upon the
Bills of Mortality.

By
Capt. John Graunt,
Fellow of the Royal Society.

With reference to the Government, Religion, Trade, Growth, Dangers, and the several Changes of the said City.

Non meae est mictatur Turba labore,
Contentus paucis Levaribus.


London,
Printed by John Martyn, Printer to the
Royal Society, at the Sign of the Bell in St. Paul's
Church-yard. MDCLXXVI.
Data for Black Lives
Data as protest. Data as accountability. Data as collective action.
d4bl.org

ajlunited.org
Teaching
Doing More With Sample Datasets

(Source: Tableau) Tableau’s "Superstore" sample dataset showing the fictional sales performance of a fictional company. I don’t care about this.

(Source: Tableau) Tableau’s "World Indicators" sample dataset showing economic and health care data of all the countries of the world until 2012. I care more about this.
Data Storytelling Studio: Climate Change

Course Description

This course explores visualization methodologies to conceive and represent systems and data, e.g., financial, media, economic, political, etc., with a particular focus on climate change data in this version of the course. Topics include basic methods for research, cleaning, and analysis of databases, and creative methods of data presentation and storytelling. The course considers the emotional, aesthetic, ethical, and practical effects of different presentation methods as well as how to develop metrics for assessing impact. Coursework includes readings, visualization exercises, and a final project.
Affluent White Bostonians Unfairly Targeted by Stop and Frisk Practices...Mostly While Leaving SoulCycle

by Catherine "Blenda" Caruso and Kendra "Butter Hating" Pierre-Louis

BOSTON, MA - Recently, an alarming report from the Heritage Foundation revealed that the number of stop and frisk incidents has dramatically increased in several prominent Boston neighborhoods. In fact, these stop and frisk incidents are now so numerous that they have become detrimental to the daily lives of local citizens.

“I was stopped three different days this week leaving SoulCycle,” said Bitsy Von Underwood, a resident of Brookline, MA. “On Thursday I was late to my spa appointment. It was distressing.”

When asked if her Lululemon athleisure played a role in her stop, Ms. Underwood said, “It was clear the police officer was targeting me because of my wealth.” Her husband is currently serving two years for embezzlement of government funds.

To gain access to the records of 150,000 stop and frisk incidents that occurred from 2007-2010, the Heritage Foundation sued the Boston Police Department (BPD). The data clearly show that when it comes to stop and frisk incidents, the BPD disproportionately targets individuals based on racial profile and neighborhood.

“The BPD is going after rich, white people,” said supermodel and Brookline resident Giselle Bundchen, who was also stopped on her way out of SoulCycle. “Last week when my husband was frisked, they even searched inside his UGGS. I have no doubt it’s because of Deflategate.”

However, Boston Police Commissioner William T. Evans countered that their approach is working. “Just last week in a stop and frisk incident I found the numbers for 17 offshore accounts sewed into the lining of the perpetrator’s Armani suit.”

As the map shows, the majority of stop and frisk incidents occur in affluent, primarily white neighborhoods such as the Boston neighborhoods of Brookline and Milton. Brookline is 81% white and has an annual median family income over $95,000, while Milton, ranked 2nd on Money Magazine’s list of best places to live in 2011, is 77% white and has an annual median family income over $110,000. In fact, 63% of people that are stopped and frisked in these neighborhoods are white.

Catherine Caruso & Kendra Pierre-Louis
Helen Bailey, Sophia Reinach, Rikhav Shah, and Maddie Pelz
Learning
“The importance of the story design really hit home though, and made for some interesting conversations with data scientists/engineers that I encountered.”
“My biggest takeaway from the class was the importance of having a “call of action” in each of my projects. I learned that while it was important for viewers to engage with the project or campaign, their post-engagement could be even more important.”
“Awful class taught by an arrogant instructor interested only in pushing his political agenda upon students”
Take-Aways
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<th>Dataset Description</th>
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<td>Accurate notified.</td>
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<td>When the US Foreign Trade.</td>
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<td>Amount of phosphorous in different regions.</td>
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<td>Accurate historical weather data</td>
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<td>Cause of June 2015 black church fires</td>
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<td>Global web user measurements that include 100%</td>
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<td>Public list of citizens on</td>
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<td>Quantifiable effect of corruption in loan economies</td>
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<td>Global American voting statistics that include 100%</td>
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<td>Frequency of misspelling in educational data</td>
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<td>National American voting statistics that include 100%</td>
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<td>Accurate number of car crashes that occur in the U.S.</td>
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<td>Publicly available gun trace data</td>
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<td>Number of wizards in</td>
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<td>Accurate age information for</td>
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<td>Number of Americans without kids</td>
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<td>Public conservatives that have engaged in homoerotic activity</td>
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<td>Location-specific data on</td>
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<td>Accurate birth registration</td>
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<td>Demographics of all bitcoin users</td>
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<td>Financial information for all</td>
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<td>Number of jobs actually lost</td>
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<td>Number of civilians killed during Nigerian Civil War</td>
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<td>Accurate number of car crashes that occur in the U.S.</td>
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My Tips

• Create playgrounds to learn in
• Use real data
• Balance learning objectives with students interests
• Take some risks, and let the students too
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