Kara Brueggemeier

Long

MAT 115H

10/13/15

Survey Proposition Synthesized

I liked mine and Grace’s papers best as I think we have some good ideas that if we combine them, then the survey will be very good.

Questions:

* I feel I have a lot of freedom over my life:
* I have someone in my life to lift me up in hard times:
* I am a part of this community:
* I feel safe on my own street:
* I have positive interactions in the community:

These questions seem to cover the main parts of mental health, and could be answered using a measure from strongly agree to strongly disagree. To make sure they give an answer on either side of the spectrum, we need to make sure that there isn’t a neutral answer as these questions can’t really be answered in a neutral way; either you agree, or you disagree. We just need to measure how far on each side they agree or disagree. Do they completely agree, or are more neutral about it? Grace suggested using “strongly agree,” “agree,” “disagree,” and “strongly disagree” as the Likert scale. The survey should only be about a page so people don’t feel like it’ll be daunting task to completely it, and therefore more people will take the survey. I liked Grace’s idea of giving them an incentive for filling out the survey. She mentioned candy, and I think that would work well for younger ages, but I’m not sure if that would work for people 20 or older.

To conduct a solid survey of both the west and east sides of Newport, we should make sure we cover the census tracts surrounding 505 if possible. To make sure we get a variety of ages and people, we can have the survey handed out at schools, libraries, restaurants, and homeless shelters. If we have the survey at those places, we will get people of all ages and demographics. Maybe, we could even have it being handed out at grocery stores if possible. Hopefully, we can have those places agree to hand out the survey in both census tract 505 and those surrounding it. We need to make sure we have the survey on both sides of York Street as that is the divider between those who are poorer and those who are richer; aka the East and West sides.

It is hard to account for demographics, but one way to do that is see how many surveys we get in return from the different areas we handed them out. We then can see where our data would tip more towards. For example, if we get more people filling out the survey in a library in census tract 501, then we’ll know that the West side information will lean more towards what is happening in 501. We just need to be aware of how much data we can collect from each census tract and make sure they all weigh the same in the end.

I think that we also need to think about how we will get the surveys to and from the places we’re handing them out at. We also need to decide how much each tract is going weigh in the total depending on people in it. If it’s a tract with many people, it should probably weigh more than those with less people. Also, we’ll need to figure out how exactly we’re going to organize this data we gather and what we’re going to do with it in the future (as in a few years). Other than those issues, I think we’ve got it figured out.