Developing and Submitting an Ancillary Study Proposal

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Overview of Process

• Identification of variables needed to answer a research question
• Discussion of ancillary data with Add Health Director(s)
• Exploration of possible funding sources
• Estimation of budget for adding variables
• Submission of ancillary study proposal
• Appending variables and beyond
Add Health Contextual Data Added by CFDR Investigators

- Wave 3 Contextual Data (released October 2008)
- Sexual Minority Policy Contextual Database (coming soon)
Wave III Contextual Data

- Investigator: Ray Swisher
- “Constructing and Add Health Wave III Contextual Database” (5R03HD048597)
- 594 community contextual variables based on state, county, tract, and block group levels derived from the Wave III addresses.
- Funding for analysis: 1R15HD070098
Project Information
1R03HD048597-01

Project Number: 1R03HD048597-01
Title: CONSTRUCTING AN ADD HEALTH WAVE III CONTEXTUAL DATABASE

Abstract Text:
DESCRIPTION (provided by applicant): This project will construct a contextual database to be merged with Wave III of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health). Working in close collaboration with the Add Health project, it replicates selected contextual variables from waves I and II most likely to be of use to researchers of neighborhood and social policy effects on health and well being during the transition to adulthood. Contexts assessed are: 1) Neighborhoods - Census tract data related to concentrated poverty, racial/ethnic heterogeneity, household types, residential stability, etc. 2) Counties - Census and other data sources related to labor market and marriage market opportunities, religious adherents, and vital statistics; and, 3) States - a variety of data sources on state variation in social policies, such as TANF, Medicaid, EITC, divorce, and child support. Longitudinal contextual data will make possible a wide range of new life course analyses with Add Health, including: 1) Duration and timing of neighborhood experiences; 2) Movement of individuals through neighborhoods of varying characteristics; 3) Effects of changes in neighborhoods themselves; 4) Hierarchical panel and instrumental variable models to minimize selection effect biases; and, 5) More accurate measurements and lagged specifications, through interpolation and extrapolation of contextual characteristics for varying years.
Sexual Minority Policy Contextual Database

- Investigators: Kara Joyner and Wendy Manning
- Funding: Internal
- 10 contextual variables measured at the state and county level for two different time points (Waves III and IV)
Collaborators at BGSU

Wendy Manning
Distinguished Professor

Barbara Prince
Ph.D. student in Sociology
Browse Codebooks for Restricted-Use Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>VARIABLES</th>
<th>OBSERVATIONS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wave I Contextual Data</td>
<td>2,682</td>
<td>20,745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community contextual variables based on state, county, tract, and block group levels derived from the Wave I addresses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wave II Contextual Data</td>
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<td>Community contextual variables based on state, county, tract, and block group levels derived from the Wave II addresses.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wave III Contextual Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community contextual variables based on state, county, tract, and block group levels derived from the Wave III addresses.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wave I Spatial Analysis Data</td>
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<td>20,301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X, Y coordinates that can be used to calculate distances between friends in a network.</td>
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</table>
Research Question and Restricted-Use Variables

• Does the stability of same-sex relationships differ according to context?
• Wave 3 Contextual Data
  – Proportion households headed by same sex unmarried partners (tract)
• Wave 3 Political Context Data
  – Proportion of votes cast for the Republican presidential candidate in 2000 (county)
Relative Odds of Dissolution by Votes Cast for Republican Presidential Candidate and Couple Type: Most Recent Romantic / Sexual Relationships Reported at Wave IV of Respondents w/ Waves III & IV Interviews
10 Variables Proposed for Ancillary Study Data

• Measured for the time periods corresponding to Waves III & IV:
  – Employment Discrimination (state)
  – Hate Crimes (state)
  – Relationship Recognition (state)
  – Adoption (state)
  – Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition (county)
Development and Submission of Ancillary Study Proposal

• Read the document “INTRODUCTION TO ANCILLARY STUDIES IN ADD HEALTH.”

• Contact the Director(s) of Add Health to determine whether proposal is feasible.

• “Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit proposals at least six months in advance of any anticipated grant application deadline.”
Proposal Review Criteria

- Significance
- Approach
- Innovation
- Investigators
- Environment

- Be explicit about the demand for the ancillary data in the scientific community
Estimation of Budget

- Option I: Add Health links the variables.
- Option II: Researcher/Secure Data Facility. The researcher must complete linking work at CPC’s Secure Data Facility (SDF) at UNC-CH. After the researcher links the variables, Add Health performs the following work: cleaning, checking variable construction, and evaluating deductive disclosure risks.
Next Steps

• Creation of a codebook (see examples online)
• Dissemination of variables to Add Health Users
• Use appended data as pilot data or preliminary studies for a grant proposing additional ancillary variables.
Acknowledgements

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