

# Ancillary Study Applications: An Example

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# Outline

- Idea
- Preparing the Application
- Review Process
- Implementation

# The Idea

- Project: Understanding the Hidden Costs of Social Mobility
  - Grant Proposal
    - Russell Sage Foundation: Special Initiative on Integrating Biology and Social Science Knowledge (BioSS)
    - Reformatted to R21 grant application to the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

# The Idea

- Project: Understanding the Hidden Costs of Social Mobility
  - Aim 3: examine the role of environmental incongruence in the pathway to poor health
    - Develop contextual database that summarizes socioeconomic, health, and mobility characteristics of the environments at time of Wave I and IV (and V) interviews
  - County-level data linkages to describe:
    - (1) Levels of and trends in chronic disease and health risk behaviors
    - (2) Economic opportunity and inequality



| Equality of Opportunity Project                                          | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation | RWJF County Health Rankings and Roadmaps Project | Kaiser Family Foundation State Health Facts | Tax Burden on Tobacco              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Relative mobility                                                        | Life expectancy and mortality risk          | Health outcome ranking quartile                  | Health insurance coverage—state level       | Cigarette tax per pack—state level |
| Absolute mobility                                                        | Diabetes prevalence                         | Health factor ranking quartile                   |                                             | (Wave II-V)                        |
| Causal effect of childhood county of residence on adult household income | Drinking patterns<br>Smoking patterns       |                                                  |                                             |                                    |
| Gini coefficient                                                         | Physical activity and obesity               |                                                  |                                             |                                    |
| College mobility rate (Wave III)                                         | Hypertension prevalence                     |                                                  |                                             |                                    |

**Total: 221 variables**



# Preparing the Application

- The Geography of Health Disparities
  - Choose collaborators if necessary
  - Pay attention to timing!
  - Points to consider:
    - How will this augment existing data in Add Health?
    - Are there any risks to Add Health respondents or existing data?
    - What are the costs?



# Review Process

- Submission (yay!)
- Reviews
  - Ex: consultation with investigators who have created similar databases
- Response to reviews
- Resubmission (?)
- Acceptance



# Implementation

- Hired an RA
  - Compiled and cleaned variables from several datasets
  - Made sure to grab variables from the appropriate years
  - Drafted documentation for new variables
  - Merged new information in Add Health cold room
- Last pieces of advice
  - Be patient
  - Ask questions
  - Stay in contact with appropriate personnel





# Thanks!

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