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Background Survey and Last Names Experiment

Networked Life (NETS 112)
Fall 2015
Prof. Michael Kearns

The first page of this document is a simple background survey, and the second page contains an interesting social experiment we will discuss shortly. Please complete both portions and return in hardcopy at the beginning of the next lecture (Tuesday, Sep 1).

Background Survey

Networked Life has no formal prerequisites and is open to all majors and all levels. However, it will be helpful to me in teaching the course to have an overall sense of the students' level of background in certain topics and tools. For each item below, please write "none", "some" or "lots" to indicate your prior exposure to each.

Academic topics:

Social Network Theory:
Economics:
Theory of Computation:
How the Internet Works:

Behavioral Psychology:
Mathematical Sociology:
Discrete Math:
Probability Theory:

Game Theory:
Finance:
Graph Theory:
Statistics:

Computer tools:

Basic Internet usage (web search and browsing, file downloading, email, etc):
Excel usage (simple computations and data manipulation, formulas, etc.):
Other data analysis/statistics software (e.g. SAS, Matlab; please list):

Commercial social network usage (Google+, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Friendster (!), MySpace, Orkut, etc; please list):

Last Names Experiment

Directions: Carefully go through the list of last names given below. Circle a name if you personally know someone who has that last name. For this exercise, "knowing" means that you have met them in person and spoken with them. If you know more than one person with that last name, write the number of people you know with that last name next to your circle.

Count up the circles and numbers, and write the total here: _____

For quality control and entertainment purposes, Prof. Kearns will randomly select some of these forms and call on students to verify that they actually know people with the circled last names.

Algazi, Alvarez, Alpern, Ametrano, Andrews, Aran, Arnstein, Ashford, Bailey Ballout, Bamberger, Baptista, Barr, Barrows, Baskerville, Bassiri, Bell, Bokgese, Brandao, Bravo, Brooke, Brightman, Billy, Blau, Bohlen, Bohn, Borsuk, Brendle, Butler, Calle, Cantwell, Carrell, Chinlund, Cirker, Cohen, Collas, Couch, Callegher, Calcaterra, Cook, Carey, Cassell, Chen, Chung, Clarke, Cohn, Carton, Crowley, Curbelo, Dellamanna, Diaz, Dirar, Duncan, Dagostino, Delakas, Dillon, Donaghey, Daly, Dawson, Edery, Ellis, Elliott, Eastman, Easton, Famous, Fermin, Fialco, Finklestein, Farber, Falkin, Feinman, Friedman, Gardner, Gelpi, Glascock, Grandfield, Greenbaum Greenwood, Gruber, Garil, Goff, Gladwell, Greenup, Gannon, Ganshaw, Garcia, Gennis, Gerard, Gericke, Gilbert, Glassman, Glazer, Gomendio, Gonzalez, Greenstein, Guglielmo, Gurman, Haberkorn, Hoskins, Hussein, Hamm, Hardwick, Harrell, Hauptman, Hawkins, Henderson, Hayman, Hibara, Hehmann, Herbst, Hedges, Hogan, Hoffman, Horowitz, Hsu, Huber, Ikiz, Jaroschy, Johann, Jacobs, Jara, Johnson, Kassel, Keegan, Kuroda, Kavanau, Keller, Kevill, Kiew, Kimbrough, Kline, Kossoff, Kotzitzky, Kahn, Kiesler, Kosser, Korte, Leibowitz, Lin, Liu, Lowrance, Lundh, Laux, Leifer, Leung, Levine, Leiw, Lockwood, Logrono, Lohnes, Lowet, Laber, Leonardi, Marten, McLean, Michaels, Miranda, Moy, Marin, Muir, Murphy, Marodon, Matos, Mendoza, Muraki, Neck, Needham, Noboa, Null, O'Flynn, O'Neill, Orlowski, Perkins, Pieper, Pierre, Pons, Pruska, Paulino, Popper, Potter, Purpura, Palma, Perez, Portocarrero, Punwasi, Rader, Rankin, Ray, Reyes, Richardson, Ritter, Roos, Rose, Rosenfeld, Roth, Rutherford, Rustin, Ramos, Regan, Reisman, Renkert, Roberts, Rowan, Rene, Rosario, Rothbart, Saperstein, Schoenbrod, Schwed, Sears, Statosky, Sutphen, Sheehy, Silverton, Silverman, Silverstein, Sklar, Slotkin, Speros, Stollman, Sadowski, Schles, Shapiro, Sigdel, Snow, Spencer, Steinkol, Stewart, Stires, Stopnik, Stonehill, Tayss, Tilney, Temple, Torfield, Townsend, Trimpin, Turchin, Villa, Vasillov, Voda, Waring, Weber, Weinstein, Wang, Wegimont, Weed, Weishaus.