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Political Science and Justice Studies

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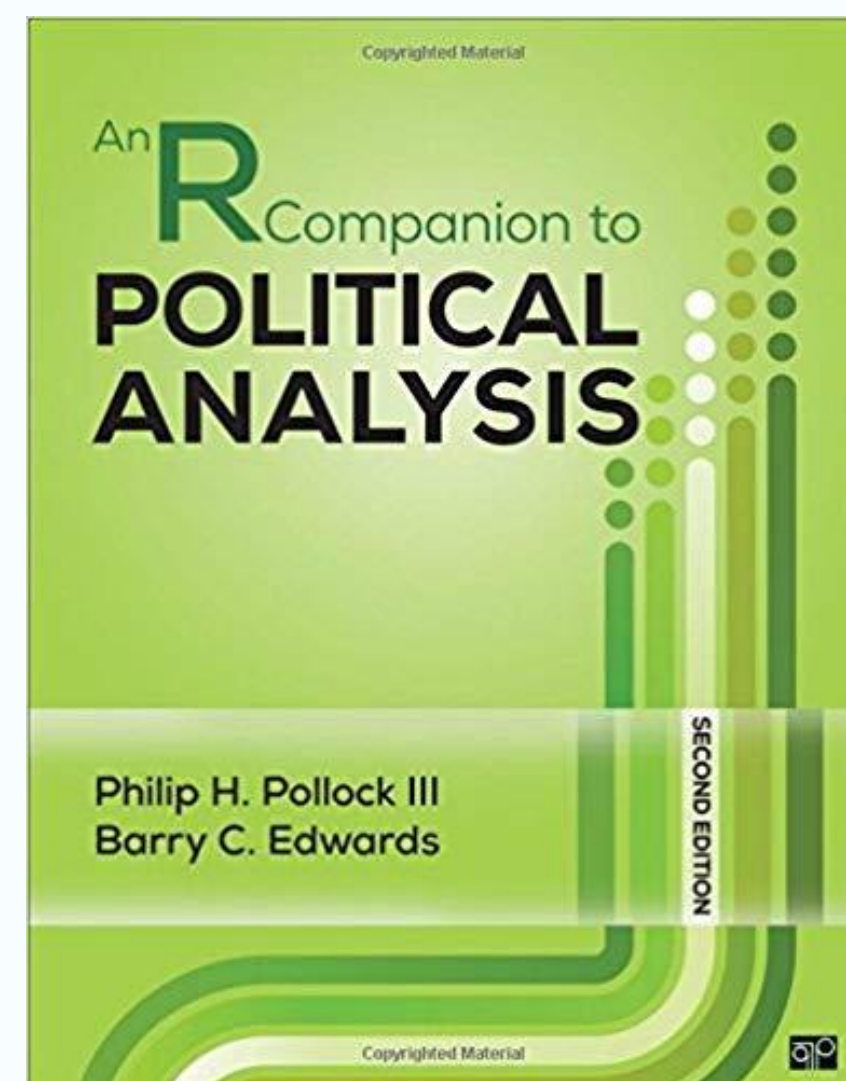
Landscape View

Project Title: Abortion Through Other Eyes

Presentation Date: Friday 4/26

Introduction: In the United States, abortion has consistently been a hot topic of discussion. The citizens of our country have opinions on this subject that vary drastically from one another, and I thought it would be fascinating to delve into what causes these differences. While researching how education affects the opinion on abortion for the sole reason of being unmarried, I also controlled for other numerous variables to see how they affected this issue. By doing so, I was able to obtain a deeper understanding of the issue and the deep division between opinions.

Hypothesis: *In a comparison of individuals, people who have a higher level of education are more likely to be in favor of abortion for the sole reason of being unmarried.*



Method of Research: R Studio is an open-source programming language and software environment for statistical computing and graphics, which is the sole instrument used to conduct this research project. In order to test the proposed hypothesis, data was gathered and utilized from the General Social Survey (GSS). This dataset has been uploaded into R Studio, prior to the research being done. The software then analyzes the appropriate data and performed the task that is written out within the code. No additional datasets were used in gathering statistics on this software platform.

Abortion Through Other Eyes

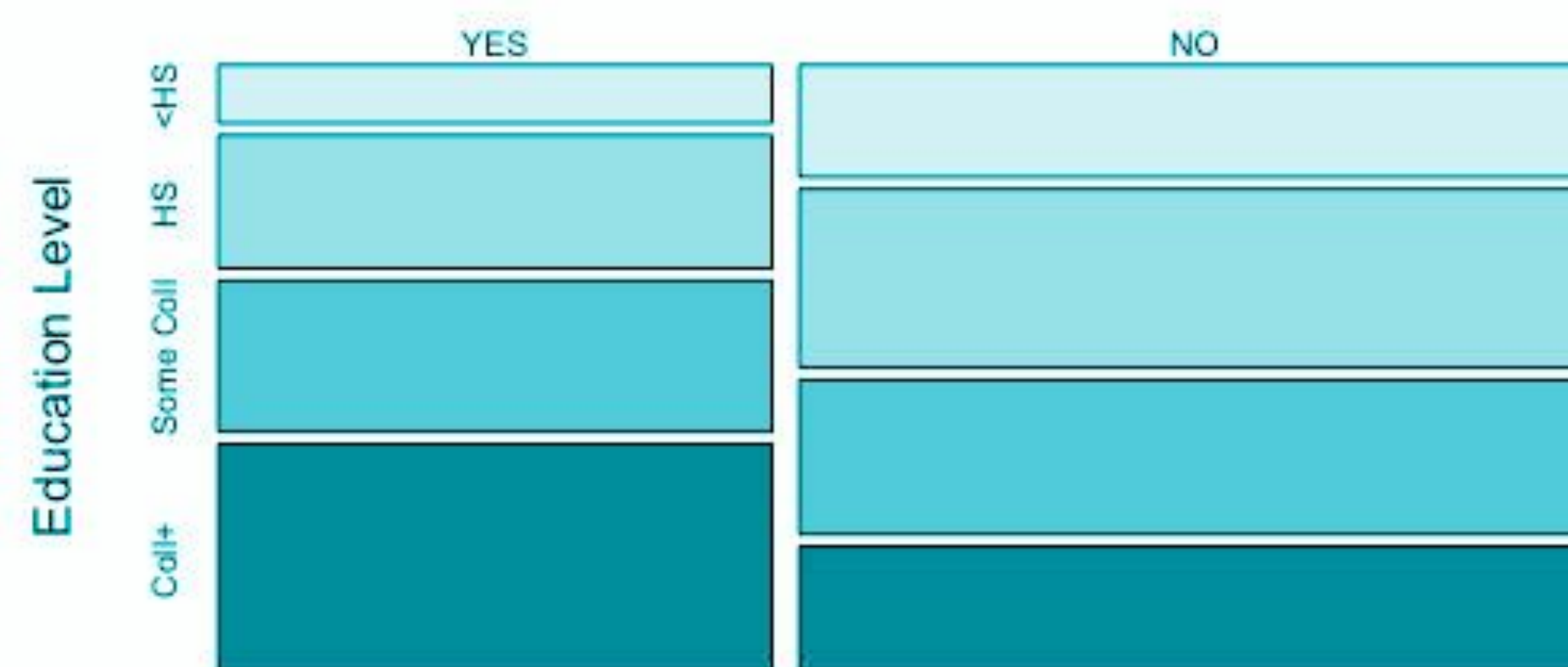
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Effects of Education Level on Abortion Opinion



Opinion on Abortion Based on Relationship Status of Mother

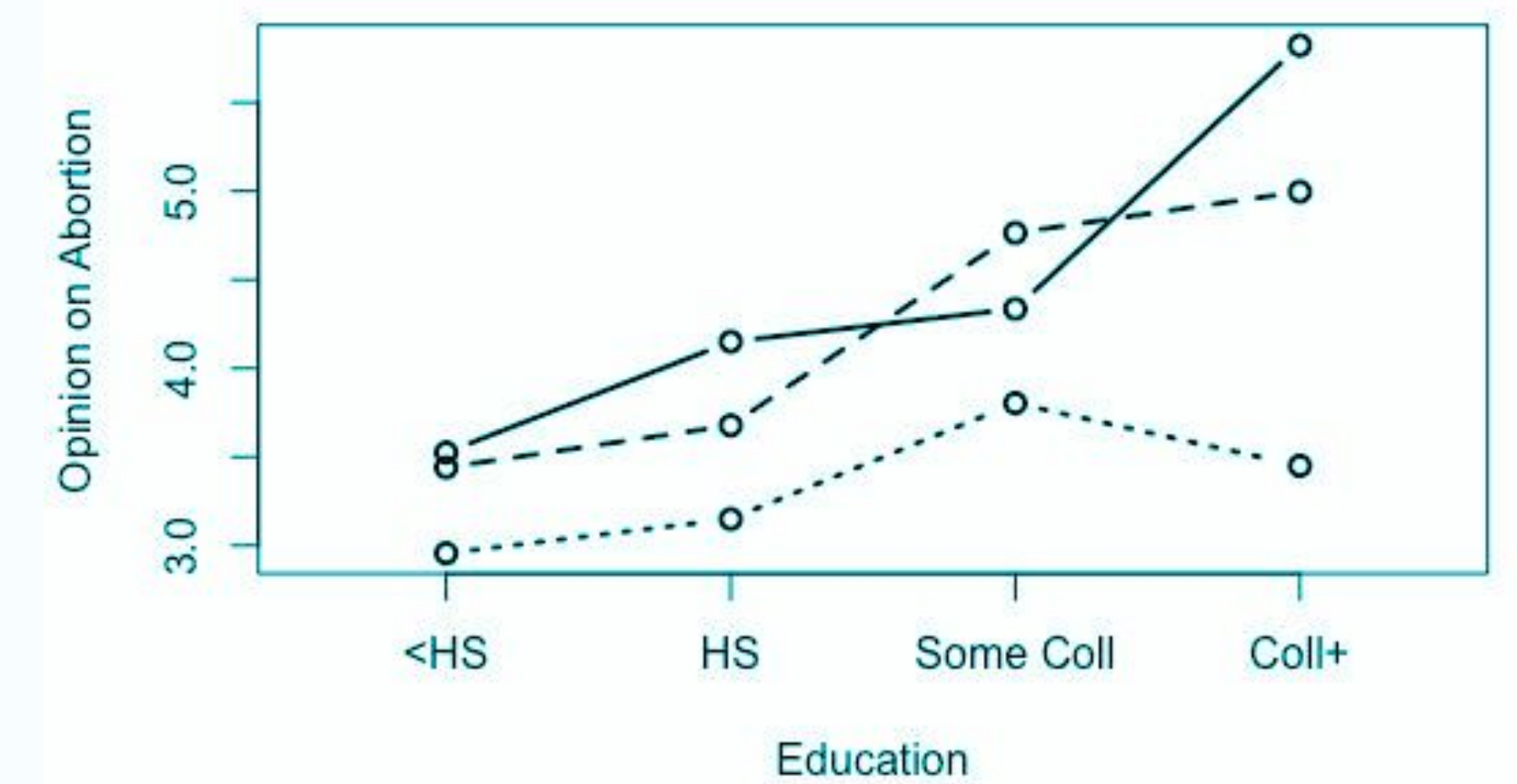
During my research, I created a cross tabulation in order to visually observe how education levels affect abortion opinions.

- Education makes a significant difference

Subset	Chi-Square	P-Value	Somers' D
White	81.412	1.716e-08	0.2561287
Black	22.727	0.01433	0.135272

After creating the subset for race, I can now determine that the respondent's answer on whether abortion should be allowed based on the relationship status of the mother does not depend on the respondent's race.

Opinion on Abortion by Education and Party Affiliation



Above is an iPlot created to present one of the control variables examined, which is party affiliation. When controlling for party affiliation, I noticed that a significant compositional difference had occurred.

- This relationship is an additive one
- Both education levels and party affiliation had an effect on the opinion of abortions

Variables Examined:

- Education: 4 Categories (Independent)
- Abortion Permissible: Not Married (Dependent)
- Race: Black / White (Control)
- Marital Status (Control)
- Party ID: 3 Categories (Control)
- Strong Religious Affiliation (Control)
- Total Family Income (Control)

Literature Review: Miller, Amanda J. "Cohabiting Men's Preferences for and Roles in Determining the Outcomes of Unexpected Pregnancies1." *Sociological Forum*, vol. 27, no. 3, 2012, pp. 708–731., doi:10.1111/j.1573-7861.2012.01342.x.

In the sociological forum, *Cohabiting Men's Preferences for and Roles in Determining the Outcomes of Unexpected Pregnancies*, conducted by Amanda Miller, the data displayed a difference between opinions when comparing different education levels. Although it is unknown if controls were applied and weighed into the outcome, this distinction was still prevalent.

Conclusion: After conducting thorough research through R Studio, I am able to confidently identify that people who have a higher level of education are more likely to be in favor of abortion for the sole reason of being unmarried. Even when controlling for numerous variables, this trend proved itself consistent overall.