Dr. Raymond D'Angelo
Introductory Sociology

Computer Exercise

<u>Learning Objectives</u>

Skill

- Using software to access and analyze census data
- Quantitative writing
- Using real world data to enhance and support key course concepts

Substance

- Use Census data and different data sets to write about social inequality.

Below are the guidelines for a data analysis paper on social inequality.

1. Select a topic.
2. Once the topic has been approved you are to find the relationship between an independent variable and income or some other measure of inequality.
3. The paper should be four or five written pages about inequality. You are to integrate the data from the [DataCounts](#)! U.S. Census datasets with data from at least two other sources which may be any sociological journal article, The New York Times, sociological reference books or reliable data from a responsible social scientific source.

Directions for the computer:

Search the DataCounts! data set for exercises on inequality. Try to work in groups and help each other. But remember that your paper must be your own work. We will discuss the answers to the questions and compare different explanations. Please do not hesitate to ask for help.

1. Access the DataCounts! data set and WebCHIP at http://ssdan.net/webchip/webchip4/
2. Click on the **"Select Dataset"** dropdown menu
3. From there, find **"Census 2000"** in the drop-down box
4. The data available for this project include:

   a. CHILDPOV2K
   b. CHILDSCH2K
   c. EARN2K
   d. EDOCC2K
   e. ELDPOV2K
   f. DOCTORS2K
   g. FPOV2K
   h. LAWYERS2K

5. You can find information about each dataset in the Glossary (click the tab on the menu bar). After looking through the information, you are to select one data file for your paper. Compute marginals and tun cross tabulations and see what you find. How much inequality is there? What are the significant factors in determining inequality?