AP Stats – Semester Project - Fall 2023

Goal: Be yourself and connect! Become more aware of a current event or historic paradigm, along with its associated statistics, through a documentary or film and other media resources.

Task: Choose a topic/theme and a documentary, film, and/or other media resources to understand and research a problem and determine the statistics associated with this topic. Watch one of the mandated films and one of your choosing.

Product: Take the information that you have found and learned, then present a short report (1 to 3 pages) highlighting the issue(s) and the pertinent descriptive statistics associated with the central theme. Completed by each student, or with a partner.

Potential Topic Choices: social media, global warming and climate change, economic and social inequalities, affordable health care or affordable college costs, corporate corruption, mass incarceration in U.S., etc.

Must Choose one of these three Documentaries or films:

1. The Social Dilemma (2020, available on Netflix) We tweet, we like, and we share— but what are the consequences of our growing dependence on social media? This documentary-drama hybrid reveals how social media is reprogramming civilization with tech experts sounding the alarm on their own creations.
2. The Choice 2020: Trump vs. Biden (Frontline on PBS) FRONTLINE investigates the defining moments that shaped Donald Trump and Joe Biden's lives.
3. Just Mercy (2019, Film) American biographical legal drama film co-written and directed by Destin Daniel Cretton, adapts the book written by Bryan Stevenson about the inequities of the justice system in America
4. America's Medical Supply Crisis (2020, Frontline on PBS) Why was the United States left scrambling for critical medical equipment as the coronavirus swept the country? With the Associated Press and Global Reporting Centre, FRONTLINE investigates the fragmented global medical supply chain and its deadly consequences.

Other Documentaries or films (possible choices):

1. The 13th (available on Netflix) The film explores the intersection of race, justice, and mass incarceration in the United States. The title references the 13th Amendment: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

2. <u>The Insider</u> (1999, available on YouTube) a script adapted by Eric Roth and Mann from Marie Brenner's 1996 Vanity Fair article "The Man Who Knew Too Much" regarding biochemist Jeffrey Wigand and his battle with Big Tobacco.

3. Prediction by the Numbers (2017, NOVA on PBS; available on dailymotion.com) Predictions underlie nearly every aspect of our lives, from sports, politics, and medical decisions to the morning commute. With the explosion of digital technology, the internet, and "big data," the science of forecasting is flourishing

4. American Factory (available on Netflix, 2019) Documentary film directed by Steven Bognar and Julia Reichert, about Chinese company Fuyao's **factory** in Moraine, a city near Dayton, Ohio, that occupies Moraine Assembly, a shuttered General Motors plant.

5. The Great Hack (available on Netflix)

6. Dirty Money (available on Netflix)

7. Growing Up Poor in America (Frontline on PBS)

8. The Facebook Dilemma (Frontline on PBS)

9. Mississippi Burning (1988, film) *Mississippi Burning* is a 1988 American biographical crime thriller film loosely based on the 1964 [Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner murder investigation](#) in Mississippi. Upon release, *Mississippi Burning* was criticized by activists involved in the civil rights movement and the families of Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner for its fictionalization of events

10. Schools of the Future (2016, NOVA on PBS)

11. Money-Driven Medicine (2009), or Sicko (2007), or the Bleeding Edge (2018) documentaries on healthcare in the U.S. Many available through LFPL and kanopy.com Link: https://lfpl.kanopy.com/?

12. Others not listed here (Your suggested documentaries or films)

Other potential resources:

- ProPublica: **ProPublica** is an independent, non-profit newsroom that produces investigative journalism in the public interest. https://www.propublica.org/

- FiveThirtyEight: Nate Silver's **FiveThirtyEight** uses statistical analysis — many hard numbers — to tell compelling stories about elections, politics, sports, science, economics and trends. https://fivethirtyeight.com/

- NPR (National Public Radio): **NPR** delivers breaking national and world news, top stories from business, politics, health, science, technology, music, arts and culture at https://www.npr.org/

- FOX News: Breaking News, Latest News and Current News from **FOXNews**.com. Breaking news and video. Latest Current News: U.S., World, Entertainment, Health at https://www.foxnews.com/

- U.S. Government Open Data: http://www.data.gov/

- US Census Bureau: http://www.census.gov/data.html

- U.S. Health data: https://www.healthdata.gov/
- Facts & Data for U.S. States: http://www.statsamerica.org/profiles/sip_index.html
- NOAA (formerly National Climatic Data Center): http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/
- The CIA World Factbook: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/
- The Guardian Newspaper: https://www.theguardian.com/us

Scoring Rubric provided separately, by Friday, 12/18

Project report due by Tuesday, January 5th

Early bird BONUS if completed by Monday, December 28th.