

## Minutes from HMC Environmental Supplement meeting

**Date:** 3/20/07

**Attendees:**

In DC: Rachel Seymour  
Jerry Herting  
Geoffrey Williams  
Deborah Toobert  
Brian Martinson  
Marcia Ory  
Jeff Migneault

On phone: Amy Gorin  
Paul Williams  
Russ Lopez  
Les Boden

**Discussion Topics:**

- A Recap of Progress made since last meeting including:
  - i First pass on Sue Hughes address data is largely complete. Final geocoding should be complete in 1- 2 weeks.
  - ii Much work done exploring Martinson's data – to be presented
  - iii Amy Gorin's enrollment is complete. Will work with her to get addresses transferred for geocoding
  
- B Jerry Herting recaps progress from other Brooke Randalls' environmental supplement
  - i Reviewed progress in geocoding a combination of HMC and other research projects.
  - ii Has used a number of techniques to locate difficult to geocode addresses
  - iii Very initial analyses showing some relationships between measures of disadvantaged structures within neighborhoods and emotional distress in teenagers, although these same types of variables seem to be negatively related to drug experimentation.
  
- C Brian presents Preliminary Analysis of Martinson Data. Discussion included the following:
  - i Brian reviewed summary of analysis hand out. Initial aim was to understand and reduce data through factor analysis and cluster analysis. Geocoded variables that were initially looked at fell into two factors: Poverty and Density. Perception of neighborhood questions yielded 3 factors: Access to exercise, places to exercise, and safety of neighborhood.
  - ii Discussion of including more of the geocoded data in analysis (e.g. race/ethnicity) in analysis.
  - iii Discussion of disaggregating some of the variables in factors to explore finer grain relationships. This could be done in a number of ways from going totally to item level data, or to a-priori setting up some scales with more conceptually homogeneous variables (e.g. perhaps limiting density variables to those variables that are clearly density variables. Could force these into a factor model to look at inter-correlations, model fit, etc)
  - iv Discussion of looking at trends in neighborhood characteristics across time and how that affects residents perceptions of their neighborhood, especially perceptions of safety. Further thought necessary to figure out how this would be investigated
  
- D Paul Williams data
  - i There is also some perception questions in his data.

- ii Short discussion of sampling options given Paul's very large sample size. Russ talked about using zipcode data for urban areas. Unfortunately data linked to 10 digit zipcodes is not available.

E Next steps

- i Finish geocoding Sue Hughes' data and move on to Amy Gorin's
- ii Continue analysis of Martinson data, following-up on suggestions from today's meeting
- iii Continue to plan for sampling from Paul William's data set
- iv Start discussions with Deborah Toobert group on looking at her data.