

Doing Justice
Research Option # 2
Indicted Corruption Probe Officers and Their Neighbors

Starting materials

You will need the list of names and addresses that appeared in one of the Philadelphia newspapers in March of 1929.
On blackboard, look in subfolder:

1928 Philadelphia Grand Jury Probe

Unzip the newspaper clippings from 1928-1929 in the file:
[1928 grand jury newspaper.ZIP](#)

You also will find all the names entered into an excel spreadsheet on Blackboard:

1928_CORRUPTION_PROBE_Indicted_officerS.xls

Officers are numbered alphabetically. Depending on how many people are involved in the project, you will want to take a smaller or larger random sample of officers. Taking a random sample means that the results will be representative of the entire group.

Go to:

<http://www.random.org/integers/>

and ask for a n integers between 1 and 85 where n is a number that is 3 – 4 times the number of researchers.

SAVE the random number report, and put an X next to the sampled names in the indicted officer spreadsheet. **Figure out with your research mates who is researching which officers.**

Print out several copies of:

[1928 corruption probe data entry worksheet.xls](#)

This is your data entry form.

What to do

1. Go to the NARA archive: National Archives and Record Administration Mid-Atlantic Center at 933 Chestnut Street. Their web site is: <http://www.archives.gov/midatlantic/>
Be sure you take - pencils (no pens allowed in archive); a **drivers license** or **passport** (Temple ID **will not be sufficient**); paper; the spreadsheet with names and addresses of your sampled officers; some change or a buck or two to **donate** to the archive for the pages you print (yes your tax dollars pay for the archive and the personnel there but it is not flush with funds); **Best times to go** are **very early** or **late in the afternoon**. They tend to be the busiest around lunch time and in the early afternoon. Be prepared **to wait** if a station is not currently available. You will be asked to stash purses and backpacks in **small lockers** which **may all be in use** so I strongly suggest you leave purses and backpacks at home or safely locked in your car. You will not be allowed

into the archive with a purse or a backpack. Nothing more than some papers in an open manila folder. A computer is ok.

2. You also can do this at public libraries in Philadelphia and Delaware Counties so go there instead.
3. Find/wait for an open computer station
4. Go to www.nara.gov and start up ancestry.com. See searching tips below.
5. Look up your officer.
6. Once you have located his record, see if the address corresponds to the newspaper address. If it does, you are in.
7. If it does not, check and see if the occupation corresponds to police officer. If it does, and the name matches, let's assume this is your officer.
8. If you are still having a hard time finding your officer you can ask at the information desk for a copy of the 1930 City Directory. This lists names and occupations alphabetically.
9. Either print out the census page or if the printer is not working enter the appropriate information on the blank spreadsheet pages
10. If the officer's household is the first or last household on the page record the two adjoining households just on one side - the next door neighbor and the next-to-next-door neighbor. Note that the street name and hundred block is written vertically along the left hand margin.
11. You now have one piece of paper that is **easy to lose**. So as soon as you can, but hopefully **that very same day** enter your information into the spreadsheet on the computer. **Still keep your original census because you must turn that in as part of your project requirements. Strongly recommend** that you go to Tech Center and pdf the census record and email it to yourself. ***By the end of the day you want to have emailed to yourself both a pdf of the original census record and the spreadsheet you have completed. Don't go out and party unless you have done this.***
12. Now you need to code the occupation of the two next door households. In each adjoining household you will code up the occupational prestige of the oldest employed male. Fill in codes on your spreadsheet. You will get these occupational prestige codes from the table from the Ganzeboom article on Blackboard.
13. If monthly rent was reported, you will figure out to which decile their rent belongs A table will be provided. You will do this for the officer's household, and the two adjoining households.
- 14. Repeat the above searching the 1920 census**

Tips

Searching 1930 and 1920 Census Records

Courtesy of:

Heather Bolander-Smith

National Archives and Record Administration – Mid-Atlantic Region

- Start off with exact spelling of first and last name, rather than soundex after selecting Philadelphia
- You can narrow on age.
- Race codes: W white B Black M mulatto
- Age is age at first marriage
- Codes under occupation give Census SIC (standard industrial classification) codes, not prestige as I mentioned Saturday.
- If last name generates too many, try entering first and last name
- If Ancestry

- If you need extra help you might reach Ms. Bolander-Smith at Philadelphia.archives@nara.gov. Phone number is: 215.606.0112
- Heritage Quest is another option; there may be different results.

Purpose

The project has both a descriptive and a hypothesis testing purpose. Descriptively, these officers can be compared to their neighbors. What are the differences in family size, marital status, occupational status, owner/renter status, country of origin, and the like.

Further, if both the 1920 and the 1930 data are recovered you can see how the officers' living situation (own/rent, house value, rent) changed from 1920 to 1930, and compare that to how their neighbors were changed.

Ms. Henderson and I will work with the research team to get these data into a stats program, and help get tables and figures generated.

Collaboration and Restrictions

This project probably needs a minimum of 3 researchers to make it viable. Each researcher must each collect data for three officers. All researchers will have access to the entire cleaned data set and the tables and figures that we will help generate. Each researcher writes his/her own research paper.



Research Project Options

Item Folder External Link Course Link Test Select:



1 1928 Police Corruption Probe: Looking Up Indicted Officers

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2 Butler's (or Schofield's raids)

ARCHIVE USED: Temple University Urban Archives, Temple University Library
PURPOSE: To geolocate the addresses of residential and nonresidential police liquor raids, and place those locations in the broader social fabric of the society of the time. Link the pattern observed with Black ideas.

TIME FRAME:

1. 1924-1925: Dates could be randomly sampled for the Butler period, then two sources could be examined: clippings in TUA holdings (see bootlegging bibliography), and old newspapers on microfilm (see Research Guide to Old Newspapers)

OR

2. 1928-1932 Lemuel Schofield. According to the Urban Bootlegging Bibliography, there are separate clipping files devoted to liquor raids. Picking this period means you might not have to look at old newspapers.

STEPS

1. Data are gathered from sources and placed on standardized data forms, and entered into spreadsheets. Coding is checked.

2. We will assist in the geocoding of the addresses, and then explain how this works.

3. You then generate some maps using GEODA (we will provide simple step by step guide)

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3 Processing of Delinquents in Philadelphia Municipal Court in the 1920s

ARCHIVE USED: Philadelphia City Archives (30th Street and Market Street)

PURPOSE: The processing of juveniles is supposed to help the child at the same time that he/she is punished for what they did. Many cases in family court are "dismissed" before the actual hearing in front of a magistrate takes place. If a hearing takes place, the child is then either adjudicated "delinquent" or not. We will soon be talking about the issue of foreign born vs. native born and how much law gets delivered to the two groups of offenders, assuming you are holding constant the people victimized.

METHODS. Go to City Archive, look up specified tables in court yearly reports.

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