

Getting the Point Across with Data

By Mr. C. Stewart on Oct 25, 2015

The UN (United Nations) has reported that 2% of the world's population has more than half the world's wealth. The UN is an international authority, but do we have the first-hand knowledge required to say that the statement is reliable, unbiased, and/or current?

With Statistics, the media, advertising industry, and others (e.g., political pollsters) can use and misuse data to promote a certain point of view.

To avoid being misinformed, it's crucial that we all develop the ability to examine sources of data, to understand the methods by which data are collected, and to question how data is being analyzed and reported.

Assignment:

In this assignment, you are required to...

Part A

1. locate *at least 2* examples of how statistics have been misused to promote a certain point of view (**List your source of information.** The most efficient way to do this would be to include the URLs of your websites with your post).
2. describe how you think the statistics have been misused; and
3. tell what point of view you think is being promoted based on the misuse

Part B

1. Next time that you login to the class blog, ...
2. Read at least 3 posts put up by your peers;
3. Comment on 1 of the posts by stating if the data analysis reported involved either i) one variable analysis or ii) two-variable analysis

NOTES:

For one-variable analysis, you're looking, for example, the frequency of a particular trait in a population being reported.

For two-variable analysis, you're looking for an example where a mathematical relationship is being reported between two variables.

For examples on one-variable and two-variable analyses, check your textbook.

I'm looking forward to seeing and reading the discussion that you start and continue with this topic.

Mr. Stewart

Links



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