From: Erin Fletcher
To: Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Subject: ACS number of times married question
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 11:42:01 AM

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express my concern with the proposed change to the American Community Survey to drop a question asking how many times an individual has been married. Not withstanding my professional opinion that the question should be expanded to include a wider understanding of partnership in the form of lengthy or serious cohabitations, this question is important to researchers and the American public at large in order to estimate the population of divorced individuals and the rate of divorce, important indicators for child and adult outcomes and wellbeing as well as costs to the court system and more. I urge you not to delete this question.

Thank for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Erin Fletcher

Erin K Fletcher, PhD
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics
Gettysburg College
Glatfelter 106
1.717.337.6677
efletche@gettysburg.edu
@ekfletch