From:	Rachel Whaley
To:	Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Subject:	Please do not drop "number of times married"
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 3:52:03 PM

Dr. Harris-Kojetin,

I was alerted to the Census Bureau's plan to drop the question on "number of times married" from the American Community Survey. As a researcher who uses various forms of census data in my researcher, I urge you to reconsider. For those studying families, marital instability, family transitions, blended-families, divorce and more - this is an important question. Further retaining a variable that has been asked previously enables longitudinal analyses. If the question is dropped, we will no longer be able to examine trends in number of times married which is important for understand other trends within family demography.

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