From:	Liying Luo
To:	Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Subject:	Please do not drop the "number of times married" question from the American Communicty Survey!
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:48:01 AM

Dear Harris-Kojetin,

I am a Ph.D. student at the University of Minnesota, and am writing to express my serious concerns about the Census Bureau's proposal to drop the question on "number of times married" from the American Community Survey. For researchers including myself who study family and marriage, this change would be a major loss. The times married question is not only vital for understanding blended families, but is also necessary for basic scientific studies of nuptiality and marital instability. Without the number of times married, however, these data will be compromised; for example, will be impossible to construct a life table for first marriages, or to estimate the percentage of people who have ever divorced.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Liying Luo

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