From:	Emily Berkeley
To:	Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Subject:	change in census
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Dr. Harris-Kojetin,

I saw in the federal register that the "number of times married" question was going to be removed from the ASC. Some things, such as removing the word "negro" are obviously needed to respond to changing vocabulary in the country, however I do not see any current need to remove "number of times married", as this is still a completely valid and useful question. I would urge you to reconsider your decision to drop this question. I have used the census data for many projects, and I know from personal experience, if the data are not collected and not available, there is no way to get the data back--there is simply no way to fill in those blanks. I realize that the current budget situation is particularly difficult, but removing just one question from the ACS will have a permanent and lasting impact on the data available for current and future generations.

Thank you.

Emily Berkeley
Researcher