From:	Corinne Low
To:	Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Subject:	Feedback on plan to drop ACS number of times married question
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 11:41:12 AM

Hi Dr. Harris-Kojetin,
I am a PhD student who uses the ACS for my research on marriage and family. The ACS is an incredibly rich data source, allowing the study of marriage, divorce, and childbearing over many years. There is no other dataset that fills this role, and in fact every time I attempt to use another data set to answer a question about long-term family trends, I end up finding it far less rich in data than the ACS. Thus, I am hoping the decision to removed the question regarding the number of times married will be reconsidered, as this question provides unbelievably important data for researchers studying US social trends. I use this variable constantly in my analysis.
I would also like to suggest that the ACS include a question on "children ever born," as was included until 1990 in the standard census data, as this question would similarly provide more rich, complete data on marriage and family trends for researchers like myself.
All the best, and with profound thanks,
Corinne

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