From: Spencer James
To: Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Subject: Elimination of "Number of Times Married" Question from ACS
Date: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 4:47:32 PM

Hi,

I would like to register my strong opposition to the elimination of the 'number of times married' question from the ACS. As a recent paper demonstrates, the ACS is the most accurate source for contemporary trends in divorce. Eliminating this question from the ACS would greatly compromise our knowledge of contemporary trends in marriage, something which both parties can support. For example, eliminating the number of times married question would make it impossible to create accurate marital history tables using the most up-to-date and accurate data. As a family demographer and sociologist, I understand that our ability to do this is vital to the health and vitality of American families.

If I can be of further service, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,
Spencer James
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