From:	Bernard Salanie
To:	Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Cc:	P. A. Chiappori; Yoram Weiss; Alfred Galichon
Subject:	"Number of Times Married" question in American Community Survey
Date:	Thursday, May 09, 2013 9:51:39 AM

Dear Dr Harris-Kojetin

I am writing to express serious concern at the current proposal to remove this question from the ACS. My colleagues and I have been relying on the ACS in our current work, including two papers under revision for the American Economic Review and for the Review of Economic Studies; some of our graduate students also use the ACS.

There has been a lot of interest in the last ten years in applying new methods to study the changes in marriage patterns, and their relationship to developments in the labor market. First unions are clearly extremely different from second or later unions, and not having this question in the survey any more would severely curtail our ability to shed light on these important issues.

Thank you for taking this into consideration.

Yours

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