

# Teaching Social Justice via Two-Way Tables

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Today, we will be discussing racial bias in our criminal justice system, which is a potentially a sensitive subject. To make sure that everyone feels empowered to participate, we will use these norms for our work:

- One Voice at a Time
- Step Up, Step Back
- Assume Positive Intent
- Ask Questions to Understand
- Be Authentic & Honest
- Lean into Discomfort

Pick a norm that you are going to focus on using during today's lesson. How will you demonstrate this norm?

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## Glossary

- **Descriptive statement:** a statement made directly on the data without additional background knowledge or inference
- **Speculation:** A statement that is suggested by the data but without firm evidence
- **Single Offender/Victim Homicide:** an event where one person is convicted in a court of law of killing one other person
- **Defendant:** person accused of a crime in court
- **Prejudice:** when a person pre-judges someone negatively without knowing all the facts and background
- **Race:** a group of people that share common culture or traits
- **Racism:** a system that functions to keep a particular racial group in power

**Pre-Algebra**  
**Two-Way Frequency Tables (Homicides)**

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Guiding Question:**

How does separating data into more categories show a clearer picture of the situation?

**Section 1 – One-Way Frequency Tables**

- 1) Make a descriptive statement using the data below.

<b>White Victim</b>	<b>Black Victim</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
3,224	2,677	5,901

*-Race of Victim of Single Offender/Victim Homicides, 2010 FBI Homicide Data \**

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- 2) Make a descriptive statement using the data below.

<b>White Offender</b>	<b>Black Offender</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
2,995	2,906	5,901

*-Race of Offender of Single Offender/Victim Homicides, 2010 FBI Homicide Data \**

\*Data include all single offender/victim homicides that involved both a white/black offender and a white/black victim.

Pre-Algebra  
Two-Way Frequency Tables (Homicides)

Name:  
Date:

Below are some numbers from the 2010 Census data.

White American	223,553,265	72.4 %
African Americans	38,929,319	12.6 %
Asian American	14,674,252	4.8 %
Native Americans or Alaska Native	2,932,248	0.9 %
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	540,013	0.2 %
Some other race	19,107,368	6.2 %
Two or more races	9,009,073	2.9 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>308,745,538</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

- 1) What do you notice about the populations of White Americans and African Americans?
- 2) Roughly, what is the ratio of White Americans to African Americans? How does that compare to the ratios between numbers on the first page?
- 3) Does this new information change how you understand the homicide data on the first page?

### Section 5 – Three-Way Frequency Table

The table below provides the counts of the results of death sentence trials by jury based on race of defendant in Florida between 1976 and 1977.

	Death Sentence		TOTAL
	Yes	No	
White Defendant	19 (0.12)	141 (0.88)	160 (1.00)
Black Defendant	17 (0.10)	149 (0.90)	166 (1.00)
TOTAL	36 (0.11)	290 (0.89)	326 (1.00)

*-Defendants in homicide indictments in 20 Florida counties during 1976-1977 (Radelet 1981) - Two-Way Frequency\**

1) Based on this table, does race affect the outcome of trials? Why or why not?

\*all defendants have been found guilty of single victim homicide

**Pre-Algebra**  
**Two-Way Frequency Tables (Homicides)**

**Name:**  
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The following table adds an additional layer of information by separating the counts by the race of the murder victims.

Defendant's Race	Victim's Race	Death Sentence		TOTAL
		Yes	No	
White	White	19 (0.13)	132 (0.87)	151 (1.00)
	Black	0 (0.00)	9 (1.00)	9 (1.00)
Black	White	11 (0.17)	52 (0.83)	63 (1.00)
	Black	6 (0.06)	97 (0.94)	103 (1.00)
TOTAL		36 (0.11)	290 (0.89)	326 (1.00)

*-Defendants in homicide indictments in 20 Florida counties during 1976-1977  
(Radelet 1981) - Three-Way Frequency*

2) With the new layer of information, does race affect the outcome of the trial?

## Presenter Contact Information

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## Useful Websites:

Census and American Community Survey Data  
*Detailed U.S. demographic data*  
<http://factfinder.census.gov>

Gapminder  
*Tools and data to inform a fact based world view*  
<http://www.gapminder.org>

Google Scholar  
*Search engine for scholarly articles*  
<http://scholar.google.com>