Summary Paper

I was able to read over many different online articles and blogs on both stereotyping and online dating, both very enjoyable/easy reads. These topics are something that has some current day relevant which made me enjoy this even more than the other reading assignments thus far.

Stereotyping in society takes place everywhere, and today there are a few hot topics. Obviously the media drives a lot of the public views and topics, so two of the hottest I’ve seen were regarding the middle east/ISIS/islam/muslims, something that shouldn’t surprise anyone, and the other being the attack on men in society.

I’ll start with the middle east: people are afraid of any foreigners resembling that of the middle east right now with all the terrible information going on, especially ISIS with their viral beheading videos. Media drives opinions, so the greater the media exposure the more skewed people’s thinking will be. People of the muslim community are taking particular offense to such, and fighting back via social media such as twitter. Some comical responses can be found as the #MuslimApologies hashtag was trending on twitter this week. Comments such as “Sorry for curing cancer, etc.” have been propping up. These muslims are feeling the brunt of stereotyping, as ever since 9/11 people have looked twice when seeing a muslim in an airport. It’s a sad truth, and one view that a scholar can definitely draw from this is how powerful major events are, and how long they take to recover from. It has been 13 years since 9/11 and it still skews the view on the Muslim population in the US. Modelling is beneficial because we are able to try and predict future behavior and outcomes. This stereotyping I feel just shows us how powerful the lasting impact it can have on a culture ([http://abcnews.go.com/US/muslimapologies-twitter-respond-stereotypes/story?id=25793112](http://abcnews.go.com/US/muslimapologies-twitter-respond-stereotypes/story?id=25793112" \t "_blank))

The second stereotype I found to have the most information to read up on in recent news was in regard to men/women’s rights. Last week at the UN famous Harry Potter actress Emma Watson delivered a very powerful speech regarding feminism. Of course women loved it. Secondly, the NFL, the most popular/powerful sports league in North America and arguably one of in the world, has had a scandal of domestic violence throughout the league. Ray Rice hitting his wife, and now Arizona Cardinals Jonathan Dwyer was charged with 8 counts of domestic violence in an attack on his wife. This accruence of information is damning men all abouts, as heightened awareness of rape, violence, etc are at its peak right now. Once again, clearly the media and recent events drives stereotypes and cultural shift. Whereas 10 years ago NFL would turn a blind eye, now all the public pressure forces them to hand out lengthy suspensions. It is almost as if any woman with independence, success, education, etc. is starting to form an upper hand amongst men due to the fact men are garnishing this view as beastly animals that can’t be controlled. This is particularly upsetting to me, but I am not trying to get into this as we are trying to find the relevance and link in modeling. I’d love to see the pay scale rate model of women to men the past 5 years and how much women make with a bachelors degree these days. Also would love to look at crime rates in modeling and conviction percentage of men to women. Despite all these NFL guys getting in massive trouble, Hope Solo, star USA soccer player, has not been suspended or anything despite huge domestic violence charges. [http://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/2014/09/29/hollywoods-attack-on-men-will-industry-change-its-gender-stereotyping-following/](http://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/2014/09/29/hollywoods-attack-on-men-will-industry-change-its-gender-stereotyping-following/" \t "_blank)

Online dating was even more interesting to me, and has a clear cut modeling goal of mine: How many people find love! Isn’t this one of the most intrinsically driven entities in society, to find the love of your life and live happily ever after? I believe this is what has caused so man online dating services to boom and have such success. One article I looked at claimed online dating does not work. There are less committed relationships online than offline ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2014/09/30/does-online-dating-work-lets-be-honest-we-have-no-idea/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2014/09/30/does-online-dating-work-lets-be-honest-we-have-no-idea/" \t "_blank)). This is alarming news and this type of statistic is what can eventually lead to the decrease in usage of sites such as this. However, this contradicts other studies that say more people met online than at college or at bars…the statistics are skewed because statistics can always be set to specific parameters. Hence why we need a consistent, objective, unbiased model! Behind the data may be the cultural shift to single living, as only 53 percent of Americans even desire to be married, 1 in 5 people above age 25 have never been married, which is a record! ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2014/09/30/does-online-dating-work-lets-be-honest-we-have-no-idea/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2014/09/30/does-online-dating-work-lets-be-honest-we-have-no-idea/" \t "_blank)) In an article I read regarding the CEO of PlentyOfFish.com, he made it very clear that it its easy to make a lot of money starting up the right dating site. Is the drive for more dating sites purely financial or is it altruistic? All the facts I see makes me believe the first, as our society in business is constantly driven by dollar signs. I would love to model that as well, sites that generate the most money versus sites that result in the most couples. [http://quickbooks.intuit.com/r/starting-a-business/5-tips-for-launching-a-successful-online-dating-site/](http://quickbooks.intuit.com/r/starting-a-business/5-tips-for-launching-a-successful-online-dating-site/" \t "_blank)