Proposal:

Will this Work?: Examining the Opinions of New York City Residents towards Police Use of Body Cameras

New York City’s Stop & Frisk program has been a contentious police practice for over 40 years. Recently, the practice has been pushed to the forefront of the media due to public outrage, with many claiming that it is bias towards minorities. The move to eradicate racial discrimination from the Stop & Frisk program has led to several reforms and modifications within the New York City Police Department; one of the changes encourages the use of officers wearing body cameras. This study examines the public’s perception of police body cameras, particularly, if they are effective in reducing discriminatory practices. Moreover, this study seeks to understand the public’s view of the NYPD Stop & Frisk policy overall. The author uses data from a random sample of pedestrians in NYC, and employs a series of t-tests & ANOVA to examine any variations within demographic groups. Descriptive statistics are also used to uncover the results.