

FCS 681 Research Methods
Exercise 3

- I. Motivation of research, dependent and independent variables, and hypotheses
 - a. State what may be the motivation of the research for each research question below. The answer should be one of the following underlined word: description, identification of relationship/difference, or explanation [inferring cause and effect].
 - b. For each question that involves either the second or third motivation above, identify the dependent variable, the independent variable(s) and write an alternative directional hypothesis for the study.
[Hint: Think about which variable probably occurs or varies or changes first and which variable probably follows.]
[Remember: if the study involves a motivation to describe a variable, part b. is irrelevant.]
1. What was the U.S. consumer savings rate in 1998, 2002, 2006, and 2009?
2. Do self-esteem rating scales differ between teenagers who live in two-parent households versus those who live in single-parent households?
3. What is the effect of attending a peer nutrition counseling program on college students' knowledge of healthy food three months later?
4. Holding constant husbands' wage rates, is there an effect of wives' wage rates on their husbands' time allocation to household works?

5. Are California counties' unemployment rates associated with California counties' rates of substandard ("low quality") housing among female headed households?
6. What is the proportion of U.S. households who have used online banking services?
7. What is the effect of a change in the price of organic milk on the quantity demanded of organic milk by American consumers?
8. Is the effect of organic milk price change on the quantity demanded of organic milk the same for consumers of different ethnicities (Caucasian-Americans, African-Americans, and Asian Americans)? (Hint: how many I.V.s are there?)