**Mapping Immigration using Social Explorer**

Objective: To observe how Asian populations have changed over time in the neighborhood immediately surrounding a targeted Buddhist temple.

Activity/Assignment:

* For a given temple location on the map, you will use Social Explorer to take snapshots of the changing demographic patterns in a specific Asian cultural-linguistic group to show patterns of immigration over time.
* You will save the acquired images a USB drive (note they will be deleted from the computers in the lab).
* After class, add these 5 images to a PowerPoint presentation (1 image per slide).
* On the sixth slide, write 2–4 sentences that describe the overall immigration patterns the images depict. (For example, you might write: “The neighborhood immediately surrounding the temple is primarily Caucasian, but the temple is located between two neighborhoods that are currently 40% and 60% Asian. Both neighborhoods began to see an increasing number of Thai residents beginning in 1990, and steadily increased until plateauing in 2010. A slight decrease in the Thai population is noted in 2015.”)
* When complete, upload the PowerPoint presentation to the appropriate inbox on Canvas.

How to use Social Explorer:

1. <http://libraries.psu.edu> > Databases Tab > S > Social Explorer > > Maps > US Demography > Start Now > [Skip the tour] To use this tool, you must enable Flash on your computer.
2. Go to Change Data.
3. Select the year: 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, or 2015.
4. Select Asian and Hispanic Groups, and then specify the relevant cultural-linguistic group you are looking for. (Keep in mind that these categories change over time, and it may not always be possible to fine exactly what you’re looking for. If data was not collected on a particular group, use the more general “All Asian” category.)
5. Enter the address for your location, and select the proper zoom so you can see both the temple and the surrounding neighborhoods. Make sure your temple is centered on the map.
6. Click on the temple marker to open up a small window with more specific information. (If there is more than one location showing on the map, make sure you select the right one.)
7. Take a screenshot of these results. To take a screenshot: on a Mac use Command-Shift-3, on a PC use Snipping Tool from the Start menu.
8. Go back to step 1, and repeat until you’ve completed a screenshot for each of the target years.

Tips:

* Remember to look at the categories used, and to make note of the differences between different years.
* You can get a sense of the overall racial mix of a census tract by using the Change Data > Race option and looking at Caucasian, African American, etc.
* Zoom in and out to see how the data looks at different levels.

Recommended reading:

* Kenneth Prewitt (2013) *What Is "Your" Race?: The Census and Our Flawed Efforts to Classify Americans*, Princeton University Press.
* Jørn Borup (2016) “Who are these Buddhists and How Many of Them are There? Theoretical and Methodological Challenges in Counting Immigrant Buddhists: A Danish Case Study,” *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 31:1, 85-100.