Project: Social Distancing Survey

Supervisor: Don Taylor

Role Description: SSRI will collect survey data examining social distancing in response to the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID19) pandemic. Using a demographically representative sample of about 1,200 North Carolinians, it will ask respondents about their behavior in the past week and will repeat data collection over (at least) a two-month period, in order to examine how residents’ reactions and responses unfold over time. The RA for this project will have the opportunity to participate fully in analyzing and reporting the data collected and to work with Duke faculty to develop briefs for local and state policy-makers on residents’ beliefs about and concerns regarding coronavirus and social distancing and on how best to tailor both policy and communications with residents to achieve desired outcomes.

Desired Background: This project will be a good fit for a public policy, psychology and neuroscience, political science, or sociology doctoral student with an interest in how individuals learn and respond to new information. Familiarity with quantitative methods, data management, and statistical modeling will be essential.

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