Statistical Thinking

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Math 141, 1/24/22

Section 1

Statistical Thinking

Stand Your Ground Defense

Below are the 220 cases where the defense was used, along with the defendant's and the victim's race and the trial outcome.

Table 2

	Minority Defendant Convicted	Minority Defendant Acquitted	White Defendant Convicted	White Defendant Acquitted
Minority Victim	19	45	5	19
White Victim	10	15	40	67

1. Overall, which group was convicted at a higher rate?

2. When the victim was white, which group was convicted at a higher rate?

3. When the victim was a minority, which group was convicted at a higher rate?

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How is this possible?

Simpson's Paradox

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Should we conclude that white defendants are convicted at a higher rate than minority defendants?

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  - Understanding the context of the data
  - Respecting what the data says (and what it does not say!)