Preview of Project 2: Research Project
Project 2 will be a research project that you will undertake for about 2-1/2 weeks in the class in groups of 2. The project will culminate in (i) a written “spread” or a “brochure” that will incorporate a title, text, images, graphs in a colorful and engaging manner to convey your message to a specific audience, and (ii) an accompanied “research notes” complete with citations and other details listed below. Examples of “spread” on various topics are available in the book “Atlas of Global Inequalities”. Examples of brochures will be shared in the class.

You will be forming the groups for Project 2 on May 2 in class.

A written research proposal is due in class on May 4. The proposal will include a (i) title, (ii) a brief 100-word description of the problems/questions that you will be researching on the social issue, (iii) at least 2-3 sources (scholarly articles from different groups) that you will be using with the full citations (including year) and (clickable) web links, (iv) at least 2-3 data sources that you will be using to provide quantitative information (these sources could be found through the scholarly articles mentioned above), and (v) at least one accessible expert (perhaps in your 2nd layer of social network) on the issue with whom you can engage further on the issue, and (vi) intended audience.

The research spread/brochure will carry out the proposed research and will create a two-page spread/brochure. In addition, a Research Notes will be an updated version of the original proposal that includes all of the updated information from the original research proposal including the updated citations for articles, data sources, web sites, expert name and info, and additional information relevant to the proposal such as existing online communities (that can be leveraged for possible collaboration), possible role of social networking and technology in advancing the cause, and potential competition (from similar sites or efforts, for example, in case of research related to an innovative business design project) emphasizing your niche. These last few elements could carry over to the final project.

The final project due at the end of the quarter on June 6 may build further upon Project 2. Alternatively you may merge with other groups or change direction for the final project.

Due Dates
Research Proposal: May 4, Wednesday
Research Spread/Brochure: May 16/18