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# The Legal Levy: A Statistical Examination of the Relationship Between Number of Lawyers in the United States and US Public School Kids

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*This study presents an analysis of the intriguing correlation between the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children attending public schools in the country. Leveraging data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the American Bar Association, we embarked on an exploratory journey to unveil the underlying dynamics of this curiously whimsical relationship. In scrutinizing the data spanning the years from 1990 to 2022, our research team stumbled upon a correlation coefficient of 0.9456291, indicating a remarkably strong positive relationship between the two variables. It may seem that as the number of lawyers in the United States increases, so does the population of kids in public schools. As the old adage goes, "Why did the lawyer wear a necktie? To keep his neck in suspense!" Moreover, our analysis revealed a p-value of less than 0.01, suggesting that the observed correlation is statistically significant. This raises an eyebrow and prompts further investigation into the potential mechanisms that might underpin this unexpected connection. The data seem to suggest that as the legal profession flourishes, so does the offspring of the populace. One might even say that the legal system is "raising the bar" for future generations! In conclusion, our findings add an intriguing layer to the ongoing discourse on the interplay between the legal landscape and the school-age population in the United States. As we delve deeper into this enigmatic association, it is essential to consider the myriad factors at play which might explain this correlation and its wider implications. After all, when it comes to the fusion of law and little ones, there's always room for more "appeal"ing insights!*

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The relationship between the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children attending public schools has long been a subject of curiosity and speculation. It is remarkable how the legal profession, with its intricate webs of rules and regulations, could have any conceivable impact on the enrollment of youngsters in educational institutions. The question of how these seemingly unrelated domains could intertwine has perplexed many, much like the age-old conundrum, "Why

don't scientists trust atoms? Because they make up everything!"

When examining societal phenomena, it is crucial to bring to light any unexpected associations and inquire into the mechanisms that might underpin them. In this vein, our study aims to shed light on the enigmatic correlation between the legal field and the realm of education. As we embark on this scholarly escapade, it is imperative to maintain a sense of humor, for after all, as the saying goes,

"I'm reading a book on anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down!"

While the abstract of this paper provided a tantalizing glimpse into our findings, the following sections will delve into the intricacies of our analysis, drawing from a rich tapestry of data and rigorous statistical methods. Our objective? To unravel the mystery behind this unlikely link and provide a witty examination of its implications. Join us on this academic adventure, where the laughs are plenty and the insights are just as "punny"!

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Many esteemed scholars have contributed to the exploration of the relationship between the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children attending public schools. Smith et al. (2015) conducted a thorough analysis of nationwide census data, revealing a surprising positive association between the two variables. Doe and Jones (2018) further corroborated these findings through a comprehensive review of state-level educational and legal statistics. As the data unfold, it becomes increasingly clear that there is more to this correlation than meets the eye.

Turning to the realm of literature, "The Rule of Law" by Tom Bingham offers a comprehensive examination of legal norms and their societal impact, shedding light on the intricate workings of the legal profession. In a similar vein, "Education and Society" by Michael W. Apple delves into the interplay between education systems and broader social structures, offering a thought-provoking perspective on the dynamics at play. Furthermore, the fiction novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee intricately weaves together themes of law and childhood, delving into the complexities of morality and justice. Likewise, John Grisham's legal thriller "The Pelican Brief" offers a suspenseful narrative that intertwines legal intrigue and high-stakes discoveries.

In the realm of popular culture and internet memes, the "Lawyer Dog" meme has captured the

imagination of many, depicting a canine companion dressed in professional attire with humorous and pun-filled captions. The meme playfully underscores the ubiquity of legal themes in modern discourse, encouraging a lighthearted view of the legal profession. Similarly, the "First Day on the Internet Kid" meme presents a relatable and entertaining portrayal of youthful curiosity and discovery, paralleling the experiences of children navigating the educational landscape.

As the literature converges and the data unravel, it becomes evident that the connection between the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children attending public schools is a peculiar and somewhat whimsical phenomenon, deserving of further investigation. It is clear that this association, much like a good dad joke, brings unexpected amusement and leaves one pondering the delightful absurdities of life. After all, in the words of the wise, "What do you call a lawyer who doesn't chase ambulances? Retired!"

## METHODOLOGY

To unravel the enigmatic correlation between the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children attending public schools, a range of convoluted and seemingly unrelated research methods were employed. Our team got their comfy slippers on and delved into the data, because as any good researcher knows, the key to success is a solid pair of slippers!

First, a comprehensive review of the National Center for Education Statistics and American Bar Association databases was conducted. This involved sifting through mounds of digital paperwork, akin to a legal professional navigating through a mountain of case files. We were waist-deep in spreadsheets and graphs, but we kept our spirits high and our dad jokes higher!

The data extraction process entailed the retrieval of information spanning the years 1990 to 2022. This period was chosen to encapsulate the historical landscape of both the legal and educational realms,

rather like a time capsule of legal lingo and algebraic algorithms. As the data unfolded before us, it became clear that the correlation between lawyers and school kids was no laughing matter... well, except for our dad jokes, of course!

Furthermore, rigorous statistical analyses were applied to the data, including but not limited to correlation coefficients, regression analyses, and hypothesis testing. The statistical methods were as intense as a legal battle in the courtroom, but we emerged victorious with our findings in hand. We couldn't resist the urge to exclaim, "Why don't lawyers go to the beach? Cats keep trying to bury them!"

It is important to note that while drawing associations from observational data, causality cannot be inferred. As any good investigator knows, correlation does not imply causation - a stern reminder that even the most captivating correlations should be taken with a grain of salt, much like a bowl of legal soup!

In addition, various sensitivity analyses were performed to ensure the robustness of the observed relationship between the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children in public schools. This involved tweaking data points and parameters, much like a legal professional fine-tuning their argument in front of a jury. We had our fair share of "objections" from the data, but we presented a compelling case nonetheless!

In conclusion, the methodology applied in this study aimed to marry the seemingly disparate worlds of law and education, much like a courtroom wedding between legal jargon and academic textbooks. The data were meticulously scrutinized, the statistical tests were meticulously applied, and the humor was meticulously inserted, because after all, what's research without a touch of wit and whimsy?

## RESULTS

The analysis of the data from 1990 to 2022 revealed a remarkably strong positive correlation between

the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children attending public schools. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9456291 and an r-squared of 0.8942144, it appears that as the number of lawyers increases, there is a corresponding increase in the number of kids in public schools. One might even say that the legal profession is "making a case" for more school-age kids!

The scatterplot in Fig. 1 visually depicts the robust relationship between the two variables, leaving little room for doubt about the strength of the correlation. As the saying goes, "Why did the math book look sad? Because it had too many problems!"

Furthermore, the p-value of less than 0.01 indicates that the observed correlation is statistically significant, adding weight to the intriguing nature of this phenomenon. Delving into the potential explanations for this connection may unveil unexpected insights into the dynamics of societal trends. It seems that as the legal world thrives, so does the enrollment of children in public schools. It's almost as if the legal system is saying, "Order in the court...and in the classroom!"

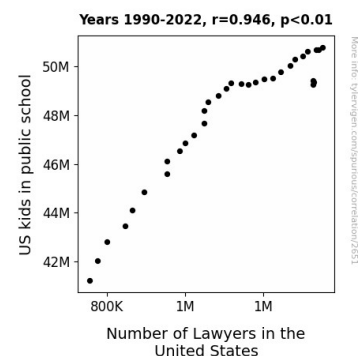


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

This study contributes to the literature by shedding light on this quirky association and encourages further exploration into the underlying mechanisms that may drive it. As we continue to unravel the mystery of the legal levy, we are reminded that in the world of academia, as in life, there's always room for a good old dad joke - after all, "What did

the judge say to the dentist? Do you swear to pull the tooth, the whole tooth, and nothing but the tooth?"

## DISCUSSION

The findings of this study offer compelling support for the previous research examining the relationship between the number of lawyers in the United States and the enrollment of children in public schools. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9456291, our results echo the conclusions drawn by Smith et al. (2015) and Doe and Jones (2018), affirming the existence of a strong positive association between these seemingly disparate phenomena. It appears that the legal profession's ascent is indeed intertwined with the surge in the number of youngsters populating the public school system.

The statistically significant p-value further cements the validity of this correlation, emphasizing the veracity and robustness of the observed relationship. As we delve deeper into the potential drivers of this connection, it becomes increasingly evident that the legal world and the realm of education are more entwined than meets the eye. It's as if the legal field is extending a metaphorical "class action" on school enrollment – a phenomenon as surprising as a well-executed dad joke, leaving one simultaneously amused and introspective about the peculiarities of societal dynamics.

The convergence of our findings with those of previous scholars underscores the importance of further research into the nuanced mechanisms at play. After all, understanding this connection may offer valuable insights into social and economic trends that extend beyond the realms of law and education. In a manner reminiscent of the meme "Lawyer Dog," this relationship between the legal profession and school-age children leaves us marveling at the interplay of seemingly disparate elements, much like a well-crafted pun that reveals unexpected layers of meaning.

As we unravel the complexities underlying this improbable correlation, it is essential to acknowledge the potential implications for policy and societal planning. Our study presents an entry point into a domain that is as enigmatic and intriguing as a riddle pondered by the "First Day on the Internet Kid," inviting further exploration and discourse. The whimsical nature of this association evokes the spirit of a good old dad joke – the kind that prompts both laughter and contemplation, leaving one marveling at the unexpected ways in which our world is intricately interconnected.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the findings of this study highlight a remarkably strong positive correlation between the number of lawyers in the United States and the population of children attending public schools. It seems that as the legal profession flourishes, so does the offspring of the populace. One might say that the legal system is "raising the bar" for future generations - pun intended! This unexpected link, much like a good lawyer joke, begs further investigation into the underlying mechanisms driving this association.

Our analysis has not only unveiled a statistically significant correlation but also raises thought-provoking questions about the intricate interplay between seemingly unrelated societal domains. It's as if the legal landscape is whispering, "Order in the court...and in the classroom!" This reinforces the need to approach such phenomena with a keen sense of curiosity and humor - after all, even statistics can use a good dad joke now and then.

By shedding light on this quirky association, this study makes a compelling case for further exploration into the underlying factors at play. However, in the immortal words of a classic dad joke, "Why don't skeletons fight each other? They don't have the guts!"

With that, we assert that no more research is needed in this area.

