RUNNING SPSS

SPSS is located in most computer labs (library, Boucke, Waring, Willard, etc.)

I. Accessing the data

1. The data set is too large to download to a floppy disk. In order to do your analyses, you will need to work with the data set directly from Laurie's personal webpage on a computer that has SPSS.
2. Go to http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/l/k/lks12/. The data set is # 20 on the list: Violence Data Set.
3. Right-click on the link and select "Open."
4. This will open the data set in SPSS and will bring up the "Data Editor" displaying the actual data. You can view the variable names and survey questions by clicking on the "Variable View" tab at the bottom left-hand corner of the scree.

You can begin your data analysis from either the data screen or the variable screen.

II. Analyzing the Data

1. Starting with the Toolbar at the top of the screen:
2. Select → Analyze
   → Descriptive Statistics
   → Frequencies
3. *Frequencies*: This will bring up a new box that lists all the variables in the dataset. You click once on the ones you want frequency distributions for and click the **arrow** to move them to the right column. To select the specific statistics you need (mean, standard deviation, mode, etc.), click on **statistics** and it will bring up a list to chose from. Simply click in the boxes to place a check next to the statistics you want.

   You will need to run statistics for all you IV and DV and for any other information you want to describe in your methods section (age, gender, race, etc.)

   Select **OK**
   This will run the frequencies and display them in a new window called **Output.** You can print them here by going to FILE and selecting Print, or you can wait until you have done all of your analyses and print everything at the same time. ****REMEMBER: YOU MUST BE IN THE OUTPUT WINDOW TO PRINT THE FINDINGS.****

4. Select → Analyze
   → Descriptive Statistics
   → Crosstabs

4. *Crosstabs*: This is where you test the IV and DV of your hypotheses. In this box you will find the list of all the variables.
5. Select the DV for your first hypothesis, and click the **arrow** to move it into the box labeled "row."
6. Select the IV for your hypothesis and move it into the box labeled "column."
7. Click on the **Statistics** button at the bottom left of this box and place a check next to *Chi-Square* then click "continue."
8. Click on the **Cells** button and place a check next to *column*, then click "continue."
9. Click **OK.** This will display your crosstabs in the Output window.

Note: if you place your IV in the columns, you need the column percent. However, if you place your IV in the row, you need the ROW percent. It does not matter if you put your IV in the columns or in the rows, but you must select the correct percentage.

10. For your control variable, follow the same steps as above, but in the third box, place your control variable. Request the same statistics and percentages, then select OK.
11. This will display the crosstab, with the chi-square in a separate box under. You will notice there are 3 different statistics in the Chi-Square test box. You are only concerned with the first row of results (Pearson chi-square and Asymp. Sig).

III. Changing Variables

1. From the Data Editor screen:
2. Select → Transform
   → Recode
   → Into Different Variables
3. *Using question F7 from the female survey as an example, let's say you hypothesize a woman is more likely to be sexually victimized by someone she knows rather than a stranger. There are 7 response categories that you want to recode into "stranger" and "not a stranger."*
   Categories: 1=current spouse; 2=ex-spouse; 3=male live-in partner; 4=female live-in partner; 5=relative; 6=someone else you knew; 7=stranger.

4. After selecting "Into Different Variables," a new box pops up that lists all the variables. Recoding must be done one at a time, so select the first variable you want to recode, and click the arrow button to move it into the box on the right.
5. Click in the "Name" box under "Output Variable." Here you need to name your new variable. You are limited to 8 letters, so you might consider naming the new variable a variation from the original question number (i.e. F7a_r). Type in the new variable name and click "Change."

6. Then click “Old and New Values.” Let’s say for this example that I wanted the non-stranger categories to equal 1 and the stranger category to equal 2. First, under the “old value” value column, I would type 1 in the value box, then type 1 in the value box under the “new value” column, then click **Add**. Then I would enter 2 under old value, 1 under new value, then click **Add.** I would repeat these steps through category 6, then I would enter 7 under old value and 2 under new value, click **add** then click **Continue.**
7. Click **OK.** This will create a new variable that will appear at the bottom of the variable list. This is the new variable that you would use in your crosstab analysis.

IV. Other things to know

1. You can make any changes you want to the dataset. Since you are working with the data directly from the webpage, you will not need to save any changes you make.
2. You can print only the sections of output that you want by highlighting them in the Output window then selecting Print.
3. **When printing output, be sure you are in the output screen. If you hit print while in the Data Editor, you will print out all the data (which would be a big waste of your pages!!).**
4. Please be sure to note recodes that have already been done. This may save you a lot of time and hassles.