Case Study 5

for February 26

You get an email from a friend working at a law firm:

Regarding statistics, quick question, if I may. I'm working with a 0.41 correlation between a witness's certainty in their identification of a suspect and their being correct. The authors of the study I'm using say this equates to 70% of those above average being correct and 30% of those below average being correct. Does that sound right to you? And what does that mean overall? Given a 0.41 correlation, are 70% of all witnesses are correct or is the number lower than that?

Does that question make sense? Specifically, I'm looking at language from this article (http://www.psychology.iastate.edu/~glwells/Wells_articles_pdf/Manson_article_in_LHB_Wells.pdf) on pages 11-12 (paragraph that starts on 11 and ends on 12). The paper is also available on the class website.

Explain how the paper interprets the correlation value and computes these percentages. Does it make sense? Why or why not? How would you answer your friend?

The paper is also available on the course website.

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The chair for this week is Craig Rolling.

Students with a "bye" week are: Pamela Sweeney, David Zepeda.