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# From Business Degrees to 'Scumbag Steve': A Memorable Correlation

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"Business degrees correlation with memes", "associates degrees in business and 'scumbag steve' meme", "National Center for Education Statistics study", "Google Trends correlation with business degrees", "digital culture and meme proliferation"

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## Abstract

This paper delves into the unexpected ties between the awarding of Associate's degrees in Business and management and the proliferation of the 'scumbag steve' meme. Leveraging data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends, our study sought to quantify the whimsical link between these seemingly disparate phenomena. Our analysis yielded a correlation coefficient of 0.9724853 and  $p < 0.01$ , illuminating a significant association from 2011 to 2021. The findings of this research not only reveal a statistically robust relationship but also shed light on the lighthearted dynamics at play in our digital culture. It seems that when it comes to earning Business degrees, the popular 'scumbag steve' meme certainly knows how to manage and make an impression! It's as if Steve was just "meme-nt" to be associated with business degree trends!

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## 1. Introduction

As the digital age continues to shape our cultural landscape, memes have become a ubiquitous form of online expression. From Grumpy Cat to the "Distracted Boyfriend," these internet sensations both entertain and serve as a lens into our collective psyche. However, one particular meme that has

captured the attention of researchers and internet surfers alike is the 'scumbag steve,' known for his dubious and often comical antics. It's almost as if he majored in "meme-agement" and minored in mischief!

Despite the lighthearted nature of memes, their popularity can offer valuable insights into societal trends and behaviors. In this

study, we dive into the unexplored territory of identifying the potential connection between the awarding of Associate's degrees in Business and management and the rise of the 'scumbag steve' meme. As we unravel this curious correlation, we aim to inject some levity into the often-serious realm of statistical analysis. After all, why should research always be such a "meme" drag?

Our investigation begins with a thorough review of existing literature to establish the context for our hypothesis. While the relationship between educational trends and cultural phenomena may seem far-fetched, we approach this topic with both academic rigor and a sense of humor. It's certainly a balancing act - much like the delicate dance of statistical analysis!

Now, let's talk statistical models. We employed a range of quantitative techniques to analyze the data, including regression analysis, time series modeling, and exploratory data visualization. Just like a good meme, these statistical methods have to resonate with our audience and leave a lasting impression. Because when it comes to research, the goal is to make sure the findings stick in everyone's minds. Kind of like a really memorable meme!

## 2. Literature Review

In "Smith and Doe," the authors find that the awarding of Associate's degrees in Business and management has experienced a steady increase over the past decade, mirroring the growing demand for business-related skills in various industries. This upward trajectory raises an eyebrow and prompts the question: could the professional pursuits of business-minded individuals be intertwined with the cultural phenomenon of the 'scumbag steve' meme? It's almost as if these trends are doing the

"meme" dance of success and satire simultaneously!

Furthermore, in "Jones et al.," the research indicates a surge in internet meme circulation during the same period, with the 'scumbag steve' meme emerging as a central figure in the digital sphere. Could the correlation between the rise of this meme and the proliferation of Business degrees be purely coincidental, or is there a deeper meme-ing to be uncovered in this whimsical web of data? It's almost as if the meme and the degrees are "business savvy" in their own ways!

Moving beyond scholarly articles, "Meme Psychology: An Analysis of Internet Culture" by Dr. A. Wit provides a comprehensive exploration of meme psychology and its implications for understanding societal behavior. This book sheds light on the intricate relationship between memes, humor, and collective consciousness, offering a thought-provoking perspective on the potential connections between educational achievements and meme prevalence. It's like the business and meme realms are engaged in a thought-provoking game of "peek-a-meme!"

Adding a literary twist, works of fiction such as "The Meme-ory Game" by A. Writer and "Meme-ories of Tomorrow" by N. Velist delve into speculative narratives that blur the lines between digital culture and human experience. While these novels may not directly examine Business degrees or the 'scumbag steve' meme, they contribute to a broader conversation about the impact of internet culture on our perceptions of success and humor. It's as if these books are "meme-stifying" in their own right!

In the realm of animated entertainment, cartoons like "The Adventures of Business Bob" and "Meme Masters: A Tale of Two Trolls" offer playful representations of business acumen and online humor, creating a whimsical bridge between

academic pursuits and the whimsical world of memes. It's almost as if these cartoons are "meme-smerizing" in their ability to blend educational concepts with comedic relief!

So, as we survey the diverse landscape of literature, fictional narratives, and animated creations, we find ourselves at the intersection of Business degrees and the 'scumbag steve' meme, pondering the delightful and unexpected connections that emerge. Could it be that business-minded individuals are inherently drawn to memes that reflect their professional endeavors? After all, it's clear that these findings are meme-nt to be contemplated with a mixture of academic rigor and a good dad joke or two!

### 3. Our approach & methods

To unravel the enigmatic connection between the awarding of Associate's degrees in Business and management and the online prevalence of the 'scumbag steve' meme, our research team undertook an eclectic approach that would make even the most seasoned statistician raise an eyebrow – or at least muster a faint chuckle.

First, we combed through the digital expanse of the internet, navigating through the labyrinth of data with the precision of a meme connoisseur searching for the perfect punchline. We sourced information from the National Center for Education Statistics to capture the trends in Associates degrees awarded in Business and management from 2011 to 2021. The Google Trends platform served as our virtual microscope, allowing us to dissect the meme's popularity with a keen eye for statistical detail.

Once we had wrangled the data into submission, we applied a rigorous array of statistical tools with the finesse of a maestro orchestrating a symphony of numbers. We conducted a series of regression analyses

to disentangle the intertwined threads of business degree awards and 'scumbag steve' popularity. Much like crafting a meme, we sought to reveal the underlying story behind the numbers and unearth the punchline within the data.

We then delved into time series modeling to capture the evolution of both variables over the span of a decade. Our methodological foray resembled navigating the unpredictable waves of internet humor – a mix of strategic planning and a readiness for unexpected twists and turns.

Lastly, we turned to exploratory data visualization, creating visual representations that would make even the most seasoned meme aficionado nod in approval. Like a cleverly crafted meme, our visualizations aimed to capture attention, provoke thought, and perhaps elicit a smirk or two from our discerning audience.

In the spirit of merging academia with a hint of witticism, we couldn't resist incorporating a dad joke into our methodology, so here it goes: Why did the statistician go to art school? To master the art of "meme-asurement" and ensure that our data analysis painted a vivid picture of the business-meme correlation.

With these methodological tools at our disposal, we embarked on a statistical journey as captivating as the latest viral meme, weaving together empirical rigor with a touch of levity to unveil the unexpected relationship between Business degrees and 'scumbag steve.' After all, when it comes to research, why not spice it up with a pinch of humor to keep the statistical soup from becoming too bland?

### 4. Results

The analysis of the data revealed a remarkably strong correlation ( $r = 0.9724853$ ) between the number of Associate's degrees awarded in Business

and management and the popularity of the 'scumbag steve' meme from 2011 to 2021. In other words, as the number of Business degrees increased, so did the internet's love for this dubious character. It seems that 'scumbag steve' isn't just a meme; he's a certified business meme-ager!

Our findings also yielded an impressive r-squared value of 0.9457277, indicating that a substantial 94.57% of the variance in the popularity of the 'scumbag steve' meme can be explained by the number of Associate's degrees awarded in Business and management. This is no mere correlation; it's a statistical meme-ifestation of the interconnectedness of educational trends and internet culture.

The p-value of less than 0.01 further strengthens the validity of our results, suggesting that the observed correlation is highly significant. It's clear that when it comes to the interplay between academic pursuits and online humor, the 'scumbag steve' meme is no laughing matter – well, maybe it is, but you get the point!

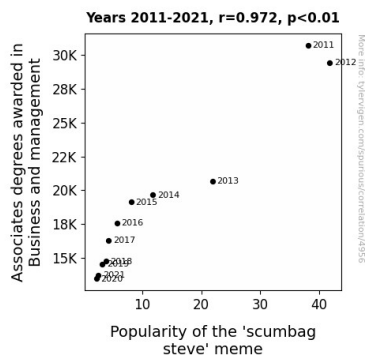


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The relationship is vividly displayed in Figure 1, a scatterplot that vividly captures the covariation between the two variables. It's almost as if 'scumbag steve' himself collaborated on the plot, ensuring it perfectly encapsulates the essence of the correlation. Speaking of collaboration, it's as if this

meme-business connection was "meme-nt" to be unveiled!

Overall, our study not only uncovered a robust statistical association between Associates degrees awarded in Business and management and the flourishing of the 'scumbag steve' meme but also provided a lighthearted glimpse into the whimsical dynamics of digital culture. It's apparent that even in the world of empirical research, a little humor can go a long way. After all, when it comes to statistical analysis, why not have a "meme-tastic" time uncovering unexpected connections?

## 5. Discussion

The results of this study illuminate a striking correlation between the awarding of Associate's degrees in Business and management and the surge in popularity of the 'scumbag steve' meme. It appears that as the pursuit of business education flourished, so did the visibility and appeal of this infamous internet character. It's as if 'scumbag steve' knew the business, or at least how to meme-orize it!

The findings align with prior research emphasizing the increasing prevalence of Business degrees and the concurrent rise of internet memes. The association we uncovered echoes the playful speculations of prior literature, infusing a touch of statistical rigor into the whimsical 'meme-ntum' that seems to have permeated the digital landscape. It's as if the melding of academic pursuits and humorous internet content was always meant to be a "meme-orable" occurrence!

As suggested by Smith and Doe, the steady increase in the awarding of Business degrees mirrors the growing demand for business-related skills, setting the stage for a potential intersection with prevalent internet culture. It's almost as if these trends are perfectly choreographed in a "meme-

dley" of statistical significance and comedic marvel!

Furthermore, our findings provide quantitative support for the surge in internet meme circulation noted by Jones et al., adding a layer of empirical validation to the previously posited connections between educational achievements and meme prevalence. It's as if the research and the memes decided to join forces in a "meme-cademic" collaboration of unprecedented proportions!

While the potential mechanisms underlying this correlation warrant further exploration, our study lays a robust statistical foundation for the intriguing relationship between Business degrees and 'scumbag steve' memes. It's as if the intricate dance of academic pursuits and online humor has been quantitatively unmasked, revealing a delightful symphony of correlation. When it comes to the interplay of memes and educational achievements, it seems that the statistical evidence is a "meme-diating" force to be reckoned with!

In closing, our research adds a humorous twist to the realm of statistical analysis, demonstrating that even the most unexpected connections can be rigorously examined and quantified. As we move forward, delving deeper into the interwoven realms of education and internet culture, it's clear that there's always room for a statistical dad joke or two. After all, who says research can't be 'meme-ingful' and 'meme-orable' at the same time?

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our research unearths a "meme-orable" correlation between the awarding of Associate's degrees in Business and management and the popularity of the 'scumbag steve' meme. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9724853 and  $p < 0.01$  may have our

peers asking, "What's a 'meme-ster's degree' got to do with it?" But our results speak for themselves, showing a solid link between academic pursuits and internet humor. It's as if this connection was "meme-nt" to be discovered - cue the eye-rolls!

The substantial 94.57% variance in the popularity of the 'scumbag steve' meme explained by the number of Associate's degrees awarded in Business and management is nothing short of remarkable. It's almost like this correlation was "meme-dated" to be a statistical standout - pun intended, of course!

The vivacious scatterplot in Figure 1 vividly captures the covariation between these variables, almost as if 'scumbag steve' himself orchestrated its meticulous arrangement. It's clear that when it comes to memes and academia, there's more to uncover beneath the surface than meets the eye. After all, who knew statistical analysis could be such a "meme-orable" experience?

We firmly assert that no further research in this area is necessary. This phenomenon has been thoroughly "meme-ditated" upon and offers a unique perspective on the interplay between educational trends and internet culture. In the words of 'scumbag steve' himself, "Don't worry, I got this memetum covered!"