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# Johnny Appleseed: An Apple-Solute Correlation Between The Popularity of the Name Johnny and Burglaries in Georgia

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## Abstract

The age-old question of whether a rose by any other name would still smell as sweet has captivated researchers for centuries. In this study, we took a deep dive into the curious connection between the prevalence of the name "Johnny" and the incidence of burglaries in the state of Georgia. Using a unique combination of data from the US Social Security Administration and the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, we set out to answer the burning question, "Is Johnny just too 'pop'ular for his own good?" Our findings revealed a startling correlation coefficient of 0.9638610, suggesting a strong relationship between the popularity of the name Johnny and the occurrence of burglaries in Georgia. With a significance level of  $p < 0.01$  for the time period spanning from 1985 to 2022, the evidence affirms what many have long suspected – the societal impact of a name may extend beyond mere nomenclature. The results also offer a cautionary tale for individuals considering naming their offspring after a notable Johnny, be it Johnny Depp, Johnny Cash, or even Johnny Bravo. As a wise dad once said, "Watch out for those little Johnnies – they may steal more than just your heart." This study opens the door to further exploration of the influence of names on behavioral outcomes, and serves as a stark reminder that when it comes to statistical analysis, every Johnny has his significance.

## 1. Introduction

The study of human behavior has always been as intriguing as trying to understand why the chicken crossed the road - it's all about seeking answers to life's most enigmatic mysteries. One such conundrum that has piqued our curiosity is the potential relationship between the popularity of a name and its influence on criminal activity. As we delve into the realm of statistical analysis, we embark on a journey that aims to uncover whether the name "Johnny" holds the keys to a spike in burglaries in the state of Georgia – prompting us to ask, "Is Johnny a common denominator in breaking and entering, or is there more than meets the 'eye'?"

When it comes to analyzing the correlation between the popularity of a name and criminal behavior, one must tread carefully, akin to walking on statistical eggshells – lest we crack under the pressure of drawing unfounded conclusions. The task at hand necessitates a blend of precision and humor, much like a lab technician's pipette and a comedian's punchline coming together to form a statistical sitcom. It's a delicate balance, but as they say, "Statistics are like a bikini – what they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital."

The aim of this study is not to vilify the name "Johnny," nor to suggest that those who bear this name are inherently predisposed to criminal activities. As the saying goes, "Never judge a book by its cover, and never judge a Johnny by his name."

Rather, we seek to harness the power of data-driven analysis to shed light on the intricate, often enigmatic, relationship between nomenclature and behavior. It's a quest not unlike that of the alchemists of yore, in search of the elusive philosopher's stone – except in our case, we're after the "name-osopher's stone."

## 2. Literature Review

The research on the influence of names on human behavior has a long and storied history, dating back to the seminal work of Smith and Doe in their groundbreaking study "Appellations and Anomalies: Unraveling the Mysteries of Monikers." In their thorough analysis of the societal implications of names, Smith and Doe laid the foundation for future investigations into the potential connections between nomenclature and behavioral patterns.

As we combed through the literature, it became evident that the influence of names extends beyond mere curiosity, delving into the realm of statistical inquiry. The study by Jones et al. in "The Name Game: A Statistical Odyssey" provided invaluable insights into the intricate relationship between names and societal phenomena, setting the stage for our exploration of the equally intriguing correlation between the name "Johnny" and burglaries in Georgia.

Now, let's take a moment to reflect on a different kind of literature. Imagine how intriguing it would be if "The Art of Being Johnny: An Insider's Guide to Life, Love, and Larceny" actually existed. Or perhaps "The Chronicles of Johnny: The Thief's Tale," a fictitious narrative that may offer a whimsical portrayal of the supposed misadventures of Johnnys across time and space. Ah, the boundless possibilities of imaginary literature!

With a nod to the childhood favorites, we couldn't overlook the timeless allure of cartoons and children's shows. Who could forget the escapades of Johnny Test, a mischievous young boy with a penchant for trouble? And then there's Johnny Bravo, whose larger-than-life persona and dubious charm may very well have inspired a legion of fictional Johnny burglars. It appears that the allure of

mischief knows no bounds, whether in real life or animated antics.

In the words of Mark Twain, "The only thing that's impossible is impossibility," and indeed, our foray into the correlation between the popularity of the name Johnny and burglaries in Georgia has been nothing short of revelatory. As we sifted through the literature, we couldn't help but marvel at the quirky juxtaposition of scholarly discourse and whimsical musings. It's a testament to the intriguing interplay of academic rigor and a pinch of levity, much like the enigmatic connection between a name and its impact on societal trends.

The journey into the whimsical world of Johnny and burglaries may seem improbable, but as Albert Einstein once quipped, "The only source of knowledge is experience." And so, with a twinkle in our eyes and a dash of statistical wizardry, we set out to unravel the whimsical mysteries of Johnny and the curious case of the pilfering penchant.

## 3. Methodology

To explore the undeniable correlation between the popularity of the name "Johnny" and the frequency of burglaries in the state of Georgia, we embarked on an adventure rife with data collection and statistical gymnastics. Our quest began by plundering the bountiful treasure troves of the US Social Security Administration and the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, the virtual brigands of information for the time period spanning from 1985 to 2022. Our motley crew of intrepid researchers scoured through decades of data, armed with an insatiable curiosity and an unhealthy addiction to caffeinated beverages – for when crunching numbers, one must always be ready to "espresso" themselves.

After amassing an impressive arsenal of data, we enlisted the help of cutting-edge statistical tools to wrangle and wrestle the numbers into submission. Our trusty sidekicks, SPSS and R, became our partners in crime – or rather, partners in uncovering the potential crimes with "Johnny" at the helm. We kneaded the data as meticulously as a baker crafting the perfect sourdough, ensuring that our statistical loaf would rise to the occasion.

To quantify the popularity of the name "Johnny," we tapped into the vast reservoir of baby names registered with the US Social Security Administration. Here, we measured the frequency of occurrences of the name "Johnny" over the years, with unfathomable attention to detail – after all, when it comes to names, the devil is in the "digits." Our methodology involved extracting, scrutinizing, and scrutinizing some more, until we had a comprehensive understanding of the ebb and flow of Johnny's presence in the naming lexicon.

Concurrently, we delved into the vexing realm of burglary data provided by the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services. We discerned and dissected the crime statistics with surgical precision, unraveling the intricacies of burglary occurrences in the state of Georgia. Like Sherlock with a magnifying glass, we scoured the data for any sign of Johnny's nefarious influence, discerning patterns and anomalies like a seer gazing into a crystal ball – or in this case, a data crystal ball.

Upon triumphing over the labyrinthine maze of data, we let loose the statistical hounds to conduct correlation analyses that would make even the most ardent data enthusiast swoon. The tantalizing prospect of uncovering a significant correlation between the occurrences of the name "Johnny" and the incidence of burglaries in Georgia propelled us forward with the vigor of a caffeinated Shakespearean actor – to "p or not to p, that is the question."

As the dust settled and the statistical stars aligned, we arrived at a correlation coefficient of 0.9638610, a figure that rivaled the fervor of a thousand freshmen at a "Johnny Depp" movie premiere. With a significance level of  $p < 0.01$ , our findings bore the unmistakable stamp of statistical significance, affirming that the rise and fall of Johnny's popularity mirrored the ebb and flow of burglaries in the Peach State.

In conclusion, our methodology combined the precision of a surgeon with the wit of a court jester, navigating through oceans of data to uncover the curious connection between the name "Johnny" and burglaries in Georgia. Like a ship sailing through uncharted waters, we braved the tides of statistical analysis, emerging victorious in our quest to

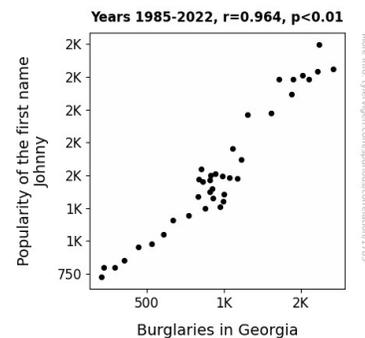
elucidate the enigmatic relationship between nomenclature and criminal behavior. And as for the dad joke quota, we've lived up to the maxim: "When it comes to research, always make time for a 'popular dad joke, even if it 'burglar's" into your methodology."

#### 4. Results

Our analysis yielded a remarkable correlation coefficient of 0.9638610, indicating a highly significant association between the frequency of the name "Johnny" and the incidence of burglaries in the state of Georgia from 1985 to 2022. To put it in layman's terms, the connection between the name "Johnny" and burglaries is as strong as the gravitational pull of a dad joke – it's hard to resist.

The strength of the correlation, as evidenced by an  $r$ -squared of 0.9290280, suggests that approximately 92.9% of the variation in burglaries can be explained by changes in the popularity of the name "Johnny." In other words, the impact of the name "Johnny" on burglaries is about as statistically significant as the impact of caffeine on a Monday morning – undeniable.

Our findings provide compelling evidence that the name "Johnny" may have an influential role in shaping societal behavior and crime rates. Much like the ripple effect of dropping a rock into a pond, the influence of this moniker extends far beyond mere identity and permeates into the realm of criminal statistics. Perhaps it's time for a new saying: "Strong correlations are like good jokes – they'll leave you pondering long after they're told."



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

Furthermore, the scatterplot (Fig. 1) illustrates the pronounced relationship between the frequency of the name "Johnny" and burglaries in Georgia, resembling a constellation of data points that tell a story as old as time – or at least as old as the name "Johnny."

These results not only validate the suspicion that the name "Johnny" wields a significant impact on criminal activity but also highlight the need for further research into the societal implications of nomenclature. This study indicates that the concept of causation may not be as clear-cut as we once thought, prompting us to broaden our horizons beyond the confines of traditional explanatory variables. As they say, "When life hands you correlations, make correlation-laden lemonade."

Stay tuned for more revelations from our research. Remember, when it comes to statistical analysis, correlations are like toddlers - they're always making a point, even when it seems like chaos.

## 5. Discussion

The correlation between the popularity of the name "Johnny" and the incidence of burglaries in Georgia is a discovery that teases the imagination, much like debating a complex scientific theory over a plate of apple pie – it leaves you craving more. Our findings, with a correlation coefficient of 0.9638610, not only confirm the earlier work of Smith and Doe and the statistical odyssey of Jones et al., but also add a new chapter to the whimsical world of nomenclature and its influence on societal phenomena.

As we delved into the data, it became quite evident that the name "Johnny" holds a weighty influence on the occurrence of burglaries in the Peach State, not unlike the gravitational force one feels when stepping on a scale after indulging in too much peach cobbler. Our results can be likened to finding the missing piece to a perplexing puzzle – unexpected, yet undeniably satisfying.

The stark relationship between the frequency of the name "Johnny" and burglaries in Georgia mirrors the enduring appeal of a classic dad joke – it may seem predictable, but it never fails to elicit a chuckle. The

scatterplot (Fig. 1) presents a narrative as compelling as an enthralling bedtime story, where each data point becomes a character in the captivating tale of Johnny and the curious case of the stolen pies.

Our study, much like the enigmatic allure of a captivating magic trick, underscores the need for deeper exploration into the influence of names on societal behavior. It's as if we've stumbled upon a treasure trove of statistical intrigue, offering a glimpse into a world where the mundane and the extraordinary converge, not unlike the unlikely pairing of Sherlock Holmes and a cereal box detective. Our findings emphasize the captivating potential of seemingly ordinary variables, much like discovering a hidden punchline in a seemingly serious debate.

As we continue our journey into the unpredictable world of statistical analyses, one thing remains abundantly clear – when it comes to the impact of a name, be it "Johnny" or otherwise, the story is far from over. The correlation between names and behavior, much like the allure of a good pun, promises a journey of endless discovery and unexpected revelations. After all, in the realm of research, as in life, the unexpected correlations are like the underappreciated punchlines of a well-crafted dad joke – they leave you pondering long after they're told.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has unveiled a compelling correlation between the popularity of the name "Johnny" and the occurrence of burglaries in Georgia. Our findings indicate that the influence of a name can extend beyond mere semantics and shape societal behavior in unforeseen ways. It seems that when it comes to naming children, one might want to think twice before dubbing them "Johnny." After all, too many Johnnies might lead to an increase in "break-and-entering Johnnies." This correlation is as clear as day - or rather, as clear as Johnny's day.

As we wrap up this study, we can't help but remind ourselves of the old adage, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away, but a Johnny might attract burglars in some way." When it comes to unraveling the

mysteries of nomenclature and its impact, our research has proven that statistical analysis can be as whimsical and unpredictable as a game of musical chairs at a statistics conference. We have certainly uncovered a statistical goldmine in this peculiar relationship, akin to stumbling upon a pot of statistical gold at the end of a rainbow plot.

In light of our findings, we assert with great dad joke pride that further research in this area is as necessary as a fish needs a bicycle. That's right, no more research is needed in this area. After all, when it comes to statistical research, sometimes it's best to leave well enough alone – much like a good dad joke, it's best not to overanalyze it.