



THE INTEREST OF RACE



MAT 259 Lara Floegel-Shetty



CONCEPT



I was interested in seeing if there is a reflection of public interest in racial, more specifically black, education in materials checked out from SPL during major racial events. In compiling the data, I first wanted to see if there was a general rise in books discussing black culture before analyzing the data more closely to see if I could pinpoint any potential increase in checkouts to major outside events. The events that I focused on are as follows:

- Transition from Obama's presidency to Trump's
- Shootings of black folkx that made national headlines
- Black Lives Matter Movement



PROCESS



Popular Books

Looked up a list of books discussing racism towards black folkx.

Common Keywords Associated with Key Events

black lives matter
police brutality
Jim Crow
racism
white supremacy

Filtered Data Based on Findings

No distinction in the type of resource checked out.



QUERY I: OVERVIEW



Obama elected
President

01

BLM
Movement

03

years	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
counts	121	118	248	198	337	348	378	466	418	541	797	1062	5576	6220

02

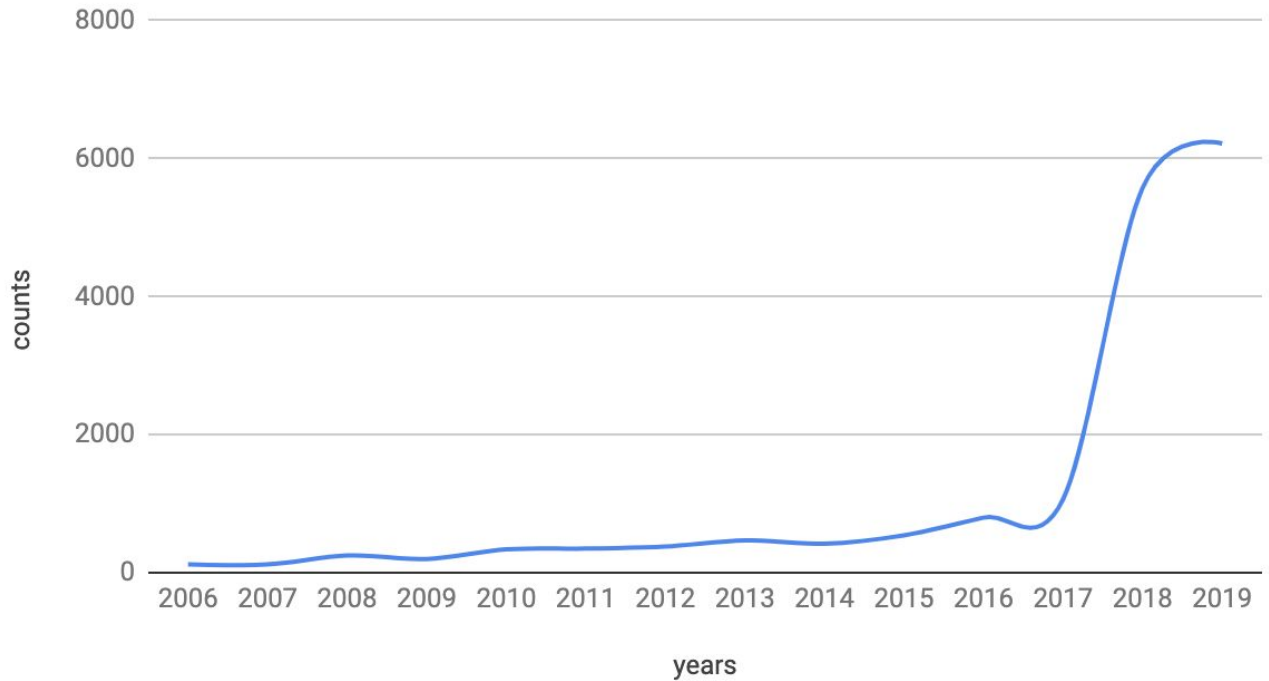
Trump elected
President



GRAPHICAL VIEW



counts vs. years





CODE



```
SELECT
  YEAR(cout) AS years,
  COUNT(cout) AS counts
FROM
  spl_2016.outraw
WHERE
  (( '%new jim crow%'
    OR '%black lives matter%'
    OR '%how to be an antiracist%'
    OR '%white fragility%'
    OR '%the end of policing%'
    OR '%so you want to talk about race%'
    OR '%police brutality%'
    OR '%white supremacy%')
  AND YEAR(cout) <= '2019'
GROUP BY years
ORDER BY years ASC
```



QUERY 2: A CLOSER LOOK



years	months	counts
2015	1	34
2015	2	40
2015	3	22
2015	4	33
2015	5	32
2015	6	22
2015	7	39
2015	8	41
2015	9	35
2015	10	40
2015	11	36
2015	12	36
2016	1	47
2016	2	43
2016	3	51
2016	4	47
2016	5	39
2016	6	49
2016	7	58
2016	8	64
2016	9	55
2016	10	55
2016	11	58
2016	12	57

01

Trump takes office

02

Killing of Philando Castile



QUERY 2: A CLOSER LOOK



01

Killing of Stephon Clark

years	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
months	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	8	9	10	11	12	
counts	216	517	490	500	553	587	201	866	761	776	678	445	475	337	328	257	247	683	679	692	621	540	565	423	276	17	113	144	194	208	

Killing of Breonna Taylor

02

CODE

```
SELECT
  YEAR(cout) AS years,
  MONTH(cout) AS months,
  COUNT(cout) AS counts
FROM
  spl_2016.outraw
WHERE
  (( LOWER(title) LIKE '%new jim crow%'
    OR '%black lives matter%'
    OR '%how to be an antiracist%'
    OR '%white fragility%'
    OR '%the end of policing%'
    OR '%so you want to talk about race%'
    OR '%police brutality%'
    OR '%white supremacy%'
    OR '%antiracism%')
  AND YEAR(cout) >= '2018'
  AND YEAR(cout) <= '2020'
GROUP BY years, months
ORDER BY years ASC
```

CONCLUSION

Findings after looking at data and key dates:

- uptick in checkouts around key dates
- overall rising interest and education in racism towards the black community
- biases:
 - missing key words
 - Covid-19
 - hard to distinguish materials discussing injustices towards non blacks
 - online materials