



# The "H" in Research

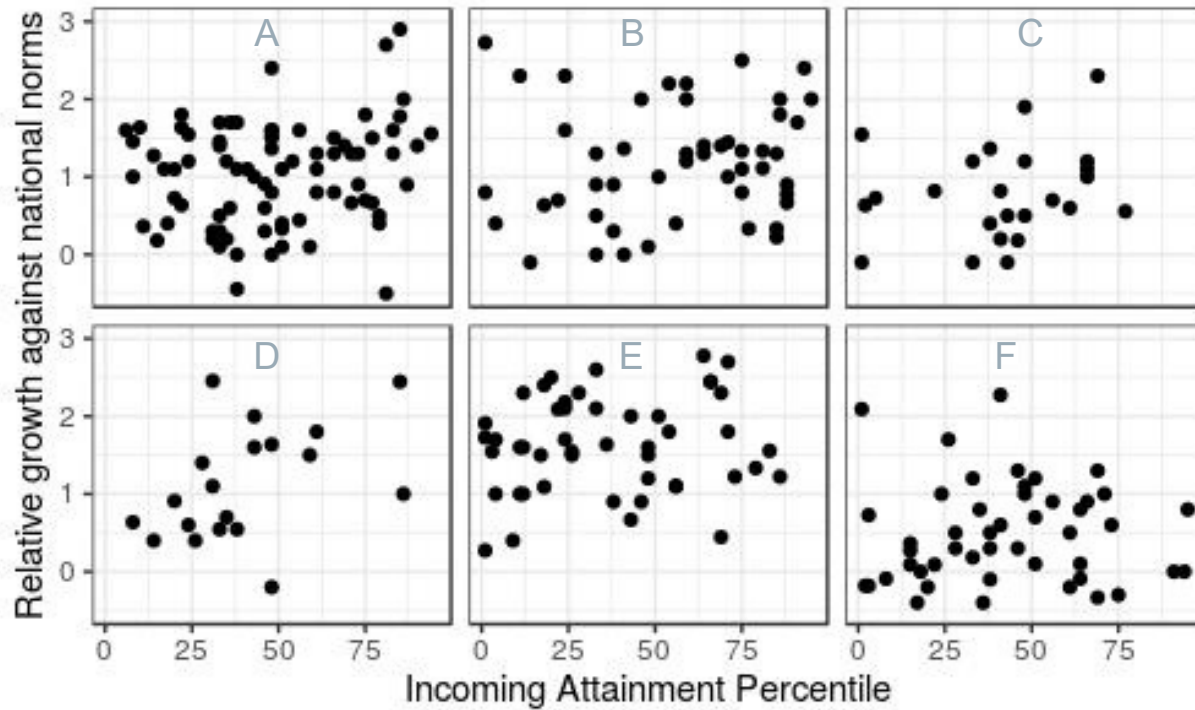
Stands for Human History

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# Educational Research

Aims to predict and explain human behavior in educational contexts.

2017-2018 4th Grade ELA NWEA Scores by PL Classroom



Graphic: Jordan Gutterman, LEAP Innovations,  
2019

# All Learners Are Not Alike

## A Personalized Learning Axiom

Helping educators become more effective in their ability to personalize their instructional practices for every learner, understand each child's history as it evolves, and then teach to and empower the whole child is an imperative for educational research.

# The "Outliers"

A statistical observation that is markedly different in value from the others of the sample



# The "Outliers"

We cannot handle outliers by erasing them from the story .



# The "Outliers"

Be curious about their story and the history that contextualizes their experiences.



# Personalized Learning Research Pathway

## RESEARCH STAGE 1

- Lay a theoretical foundation
- Design and pilot measures
- Observe student and adult behavior
- Describe classroom characteristics
- Tell "life" stories

## RESEARCH STAGE 2

- Investigate measurement validity
- Examine environments
- Study empirical relationships
- Tell "life" stories

## RESEARCH STAGE 3

- Study causal relationships
- Examine longitudinal trends
- Tell "life" stories

# Stage 1 Research

K12 Remote Learning, Race, and Innovation  
(LEAP Innovations, 2020-2021)

The purpose of this mixed-methods study is to deconstruct the dominant narrative that shrouds African-American school communities' implementation of remote learning in classic deficit rhetoric: "vulnerable," "lagging," and "at-risk." We will document the strengths and successes of remote learning, along with the needs that have arisen, within predominantly African-American school communities that are practicing personalized learning.





# How Will Your Research Narrate Our History?

## A Call to Action

Let us aim to be seen as authentically adding to our storehouse of knowledge and perception about every child's and school community's potential and abilities.

# Honor the "H" in Research



- **Interrogate** your beliefs, assumptions, and biases
- **Reject** deficit mindsets about the communities you are studying
- **Acknowledge** your position of power and privilege
- Work **collaboratively** and **share power** with the communities you are studying
- **Commit** to telling *their* story with empathy



# Thank you!

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