I. INTRODUCTION

We all know that communities with good schools, low crime, vibrant nightlife, and abundant entertainment are extremely desirable places to live. Thus, we did not think that looking at how those variables affect community attachment would be very revealing. We believe that people who like where they live, especially in communities that have the four qualities above, are automatically more attached to their communities. Instead, we chose to examine variables that might affect community attachment in unusual or unsuspected ways. Finally, as the variable “community attachment” was a weighted average of the “loyalty” and “passion” variables, we chose to examine the effects our chosen explanatory variables had on these two variables instead of examining the effects on the “community attachment” variable exclusively.

II. COMMUNITY LOYALTY

“Community Loyalty measures how likely citizens are to stay in the community, recommend it to others as a place to live, and their outlook for the community’s future.”

To examine urbanicity and loyalty, we created a new variable with levels of “very loyal” and “not very loyal.” Perhaps unsurprisingly, the people who live in a medium/low urban area with a low population seem to show the highest levels of loyalty. However, this urban group had an almost equal proportion of not very loyal respondents. Additionally, the second highest urban group category had about the same proportion of very loyal respondents as the lowest urban group. Finally, the highest urban group had the highest proportion of not very loyal respondents, suggesting that people in very densely populated and very urban areas are not living there because they like the community.

III. COMMUNITY PASSION

Community Passion describes the level of pride and connectedness citizens have to the place.

The shapes of the plots for voters who are registered to vote and not registered to vote are fairly similar. This result may suggest that there is not much of a difference in the amount of loyalty people have towards their community whether or not they are registered to vote. There are more spikes in the plot for voters who are registered which could mean that there is more variability in the responses for the registered voters.

IV. CONCLUSION

The register to vote variable is of interest to us because we thought it would speak to the community awareness of people on both a local and national scale. Based on the graph, there may be some truth to this idea in terms of community passion. Those who are registered to vote show a greater amount of passion towards their community compared to those who are not registered. This could suggest that people who are politically engaged on a national level tend to be engaged and passionate at the local level as well.

Overall, there are slightly more people that are in the “not very passionate” category than there are in the analogous loyalty category. Similar to the loyalty plot, we see the most passionate people are living in areas in the lowest urbanicity group, but this group had an almost equal proportion of not very passionate respondents. Again, the largest proportion of not very passionate respondents are from the highest urban group. Finally, the two mosaic plots show that the very high urbanicity-medium population group makes up near equal proportions of the “very passionate/loyal” and “not very passionate/loyal” groups. This could mean that people living in these regions are most likely to be living there for reasons unconnected to aspects of the community itself.

The most unexpected results from our research came from the analysis of urbanicity and loyalty: we were surprised to see that the second highest and lowest urban groups had about the same levels of community loyalty. Additionally, we were disappointed to see that there was not a stronger difference in passion and loyalty of people registered and not registered to vote. To further our research, we would examine other variables that wouldn’t normally be considered when deciding where to live, such as the responses to “I am treated with respect at all times.” In order for the research to be continued, we would like to have more specific information about each of the variables and spend more time cleaning and combining variables in the dataset.