

1086-VR-2141 **Larry Wayne Lewis*** (l1ewis@midcontinent.edu), 1217 S. 2nd Street, Louisville, KY 40203.
*Does the Ability to Purchase a Week's Worth of Groceries for less than One Dollar Influence the
Chance that a Student will make an "Innumeracy Type" Statistical Error?*

Some college students enrolled in applied statistical research courses appear to be unable to compare, with surety, the magnitude of decimal or percent numbers as evidenced by their hesitance or inability to quickly and correctly identify whether or not a calculated p-value is less than a specified significance level threshold, thereby producing an otherwise obvious "Innumeracy Type" error. The probability of an "Innumeracy Type" error (not to be confused with a Type I or Type II error) is possibly conditioned upon a student's tendency to participate in a prevalent incorrect societal usage of certain decimal expressions. In an attempt to draw attention to a common improper use of the decimal point in the familiar context of American commerce and currency and its potential influence on students, the author proposed (in 2009) and conducted (in 2010) an action research study that employed a somewhat humorous PowerPoint presentation intervention that might improve the andragogical methodology for the teaching and learning of computationally challenged students. Results from this study will be shared. (Received September 24, 2012)