

## Week 6 Reflections – Bert Johnson

I have learned so much in this assignment. I also have a lot of questions about dealing with services (this one in particular). It is giving me things I don't understand.

I took the results of earthquakes worldwide and displayed the number of deaths for each hurricane. After seeing the results of the data (once it was displayed), there were a lot of others. I then realized that many earthquakes listed either did not have deaths (in which I think they should have listed zero) or that deaths were not reported/recorded, either case I don't understand why not but they were null in the field.

Another thing that I am still puzzled to this day is why I couldn't have a smaller selection in my classbreak renderings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> selection (2 – 6000 deaths). Anytime I made the max smaller than 6000 the data would disappear; I could change the min and max in all other selections and the displayed data was correct.

I even did some experimentation with copying the data and modifying the data (because I was not the owner of the original data, replaced the nulls with zeros and all the data disappeared, (I did insert the new ID).

I did learn a lot and I truly appreciated the assistance. I can work with this topic at work (at my new job) because they all think this ability is cool (and they all are GIS techs in some capacity).

I have found that what GIS techs do is so varied and so narrowed, it doesn't really take accomplished GIS professionals to possess a great amount of knowledge to do the day-to-day things. This is disconcerting but I hope this does not change the future job outlook.

I am looking forward to moving through this class and being able to use some of the other things I have learned in my studies.