Advanced Computational Econometrics Final problem

The Communities and crime dataset contains socio-economic data from the 1990 US Census, law enforcement data, and crime for 1994 communities in the Unites States. The objective is to predict the crime variable (total number of violent crimes per 100K population) using the other variables, and to understand the influence of the most important predictors.

- 1. Preprocess the data : remove non-predictive variables and variables with missing data.
- 2. Using all the methods studied in this course, find a prediction function with minimal test error. What are the most important predictors? What is their influence on the response?