

Milestone 7

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Abstract

This is an extension of Jessica Trounstone’s “Segregation and Inequality in Public Goods” (2016). I was able to replicate the main results of Trounstone’s paper in R to suggest that racial segregation contributes to political polarization and decreased spending on public goods. Additionally, I extend the analysis by imputing missing data and rerunning Trounstone’s original model as a robustness check.

Introduction

This is my pdf document. Please refer to the Github repository of my final project for further information.¹. You can also access all of the original replication materials made available by Trounstone on Harvard Dataverse here. I make use of Trounstone (2016), Pencharz and Ball (2003), Xie (2020), Wickham (2019), and Xie (2015).

Summary of Trounstone (2016)

Trounstone’s *Segregation and Inequality in Public Goods* attempts to explain differences in public goods provision and political polarization through a racial lens by examining the relationships between polarization, goods provision, and segregation. Trounstone measures segregation with Theil’s H index, which measures the degree to which the diversity of a neighborhood differs from the diversity of the entire city. The main finding of the paper is that segregation, not simply diversity or political views, is an important determinant of both political polarization and spending on public goods. In general, segregation leads to the coincidence of racial and spatial political cleavages, which can make compromise on taxation and public spending difficult and tends to generally drive down the rate of spending on public goods. Because minorities are much more likely to live in racially segregated areas than whites, this suggests that public goods are also segregated across racial lines.

Replication

Table 1 was able to be replicated exactly. The replication for Table 2 was close, but not exact, as were the replications for Table 3 and 4, which combined replicated Table 3 in the main paper. However, the implications of the main results are essentially the same for all of these regressions. The IV regression was able to be replicated exactly and the results presented in Tables 5 and 6 reconstruct the results from Table 5 in the original paper. So far, I have not been able to successfully recreate the marginal effects; however, I

¹ All sources, analysis, and further information are available on my Github repository for this project

am working to figure out what the problem is. I believe that with a little bit more time I will be able to successfully recreate all of the results given my success in Table 1 and Tables 5 and 6.

As for the paper's Appendix Tables, I was able to successfully recreate Tables A1 and A2. I have not yet been able to successfully recreate Table A3 in Stata because I am having difficulty in figuring out why I have fewer observations and also how they calculated some of their statistics, as it seems that they filter for some conditions only for some rows, which I have yet to figure out how to do in R. I did not attempt to recreate Table A4 due to time constraints and also because it seemed extraneous.

Extension Ideas

There are a variety of ways that I could build upon this analysis. Because I have not narrowed it down to one yet, I will use this as an opportunity to propose a few ideas.

How well does this theory apply to more recent elections, and can we use new data to test it? For example, I could try to hunt down some more recent election data and use some sort of prediction function to see how well the model predicts the actual results. However, this could be quite difficult if the data is too messy or difficult to obtain (or even non-existent).

Another idea could be to redo the results but using the dissimilarity index, the most common measure of segregation, which Trounstine, perhaps controversially, chooses not to use in her analysis in favor of Theil's entropy score. It could be interesting to see whether her results hold up against this sort of robustness check.

Another interesting thing to do would be to find a city that has recently become less segregated and see if political polarization has decreased and public goods provision has increased.

Finally, another approach to put to practice some more of the skills we've learned in this class would be to try and adopt a Bayesian framework to some of Trounstine's analyses.

Table 1: **Racial Polarization in Segregated Cities**

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>		
		biggestsplit	
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Multigroup H Index	0.932** (0.394)		
White/Nonwhite H Index		0.756** (0.297)	0.835*** (0.296)
Diversity	0.385 (0.362)	0.518 (0.323)	0.584* (0.323)
Percent Asian	−0.115 (0.527)	0.120 (0.558)	−0.004 (0.522)
Percent Black	−0.432 (0.269)	−0.237 (0.216)	−0.133 (0.212)
Percent Latino	−0.191 (0.257)	−0.059 (0.254)	0.095 (0.278)
Medain HH Income (1000s)	−0.004 (0.007)	−0.007 (0.007)	−0.002 (0.006)
Percent Renters	−0.580 (0.422)	−0.806* (0.431)	−0.419 (0.454)
Percent College Degree	0.328 (0.711)	0.723 (0.729)	0.123 (0.869)
Biracial Contest	0.210*** (0.037)	0.208*** (0.037)	0.192*** (0.036)
Nonpartisan Election	−0.090 (0.066)	−0.089 (0.066)	−0.034 (0.065)
Primary Election	−0.092*** (0.032)	−0.090*** (0.032)	−0.071** (0.030)
Population (logged)	0.035 (0.055)	0.048 (0.055)	−0.011 (0.061)
White Ideology			−0.051 (0.032)
Constant	−0.242 (0.569)	−0.393 (0.563)	0.236 (0.605)
Wald Chi Squarred	a	b	c
Observations	91	91	86
Akaike Inf. Crit.	−55.548	−56.381	−64.922
Bayesian Inf. Crit.	32.332	31.499	20.981

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 2: Effect of Segregation on Overall per Capita City Expenditures

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>		
	dgepercap_cpi		
	(1)	(2)	(3)
H_citytract_NHW_i	−1.153*** (0.221)	−1.011*** (0.254)	−1.733*** (0.437)
diversityinterp	0.106 (0.134)		−0.063 (0.246)
pctblkpopinterp	0.681*** (0.167)	0.741*** (0.161)	0.164 (0.523)
pctasianpopinterp	−0.385 (0.302)	−0.852** (0.348)	0.197 (0.706)
pctlatinopopinterp	1.543*** (0.186)	1.577*** (0.205)	1.622*** (0.390)
chng5pctblk		−1.778*** (0.644)	
chng5pctlatino		−2.055** (0.823)	
chng5pctasian		−0.800 (1.093)	
medinc_cpi	0.002* (0.001)	0.001 (0.002)	0.004 (0.003)
pctlocalgovworker_100	0.014 (0.016)	0.006 (0.018)	−0.030 (0.046)
pctrentersinterp	0.527 (0.333)	0.547 (0.385)	0.336 (0.656)
pctover65	0.093 (0.643)	0.487 (0.451)	−0.865 (0.816)
pctcollegegradinterp	5.395*** (0.403)	6.260*** (0.419)	6.527*** (1.029)
logpop	−0.243*** (0.044)	−0.290*** (0.068)	−0.447*** (0.088)
ideology_fill			−0.012 (0.034)
Observations	13,742	11,194	2,130
R ²	0.863	0.897	0.882
Adjusted R ²	0.830	0.865	0.855
Residual Std. Error	0.503 (df = 11094)	0.465 (df = 8544)	0.405 (df = 1741)

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 3: **Effect of Segregation on Public Goods A**

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>		
	highwayspercapNC_cpi	policepercapNC_cpi	parkspercapNC_cpi
	(1)	(2)	(3)
H_citytract_NHW_i	−0.039** (0.016)	−0.215*** (0.023)	−0.046*** (0.018)
diversityinterp	0.005 (0.010)	0.059*** (0.013)	0.001 (0.013)
pctblkpopinterp	0.052*** (0.014)	0.142*** (0.018)	0.031* (0.018)
pctasianpopinterp	−0.036 (0.026)	−0.055 (0.035)	−0.067*** (0.023)
pctlatinpopinterp	0.025* (0.014)	0.335*** (0.019)	0.049*** (0.014)
medinc_cpi	0.0003** (0.0001)	0.00004 (0.0001)	−0.00002 (0.0001)
pctlocalgovworker_100	−0.0003 (0.001)	−0.001 (0.002)	0.001 (0.001)
pctrentersinterp	0.011 (0.023)	0.075*** (0.028)	0.018 (0.021)
pctover65	0.140*** (0.032)	0.147*** (0.045)	0.127*** (0.040)
pctcollegegradinterp	0.218*** (0.026)	0.793*** (0.038)	0.444*** (0.038)
logpop	−0.015*** (0.004)	−0.054*** (0.004)	−0.005* (0.003)
Observations	13,603	13,626	12,905
R ²	0.571	0.837	0.750
Adjusted R ²	0.467	0.798	0.688
Residual Std. Error	0.039 (df = 10958)	0.042 (df = 10991)	0.034 (df = 10321)

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 4: **Effect of Segregation on Public Goods B**

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>		
	sewerspercapNC_cpi	welfhoushealthNC_cpi	genrevownpercap_cpi
	(1)	(2)	(3)
H_citytract_NHW_i	−0.148*** (0.022)	−0.138*** (0.049)	−0.768*** (0.155)
diversityinterp	0.039*** (0.015)	−0.033 (0.025)	0.091 (0.085)
pctblkpopinterp	0.012 (0.017)	0.016 (0.056)	0.272** (0.120)
pctasianpopinterp	−0.124*** (0.044)	0.130 (0.090)	−0.147 (0.233)
pctlatinpopinterp	0.091*** (0.019)	0.140*** (0.028)	1.202*** (0.120)
medinc_cpi	0.001*** (0.0002)	−0.0003 (0.0003)	0.004*** (0.001)
pctlocalgovworker_100	−0.004* (0.002)	−0.007** (0.003)	0.002 (0.013)
pctrentersinterp	0.174*** (0.034)	0.079* (0.046)	0.569** (0.263)
pctover65	0.104* (0.053)	−0.058 (0.070)	0.443 (0.471)
pctcollegegradinterp	0.286*** (0.043)	0.421*** (0.080)	4.331*** (0.349)
logpop	−0.023*** (0.003)	−0.012* (0.007)	−0.126*** (0.032)
Observations	11,223	10,871	13,741
R ²	0.675	0.828	0.886
Adjusted R ²	0.586	0.777	0.859
Residual Std. Error	0.049 (df = 8805)	0.062 (df = 8380)	0.420 (df = 11093)

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 5: Effect of Segregation on Public Goods

Dependent variable:						
	highwayspercapiNC_cpi	policepercapiNC_cpi	parkpercapiNC_cpi	sewerspercapiNC_cpi	welfhouthealthNC_cpi	genrevenue
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
H_citytract_NHW_i	-0.039** (0.016)	-0.215*** (0.023)	-0.046*** (0.018)	-0.148*** (0.022)	-0.138*** (0.049)	-0.7 (0.1)
diversityinterp	0.005 (0.010)	0.059*** (0.013)	0.001 (0.013)	0.039*** (0.015)	-0.033 (0.025)	0.0 (0.0)
pctblkpopinterp	0.052*** (0.014)	0.142*** (0.018)	0.031* (0.018)	0.012 (0.017)	0.016 (0.056)	0.27 (0.1)
pctasianpopinterp	-0.036 (0.026)	-0.055 (0.035)	-0.067*** (0.023)	-0.124*** (0.044)	0.130 (0.090)	-0.5 (0.2)
pctlatinopopinterp	0.025* (0.014)	0.335*** (0.019)	0.049*** (0.014)	0.091*** (0.019)	0.140*** (0.028)	1.20 (0.1)
medinc_cpi	0.0003** (0.0001)	0.00004 (0.0001)	-0.00002 (0.0001)	0.001*** (0.0002)	-0.0003 (0.0003)	0.00 (0.0)
pctlocalgovworker_100	-0.0003 (0.001)	-0.001 (0.002)	0.001 (0.001)	-0.004* (0.002)	-0.007** (0.003)	0.0 (0.0)
pctrentersinterp	0.011 (0.023)	0.075*** (0.028)	0.018 (0.021)	0.174*** (0.034)	0.079* (0.046)	0.50 (0.2)
pctover65	0.140*** (0.032)	0.147*** (0.045)	0.127*** (0.040)	0.104* (0.053)	-0.058 (0.070)	0.4 (0.4)
pctcollegegradinterp	0.218*** (0.026)	0.793*** (0.038)	0.444*** (0.038)	0.286*** (0.043)	0.421*** (0.080)	4.33 (0.5)
logpop	-0.015*** (0.004)	-0.054*** (0.004)	-0.005* (0.003)	-0.023*** (0.003)	-0.012* (0.007)	-0.1 (0.0)
Observations	13,603	13,626	12,905	11,223	10,871	13,603
R ²	0.571	0.837	0.750	0.675	0.828	0.8
Adjusted R ²	0.467	0.798	0.688	0.586	0.777	0.8
Residual Std. Error	0.039 (df = 10958)	0.042 (df = 10991)	0.034 (df = 10321)	0.049 (df = 8805)	0.062 (df = 8380)	0.420 (df = 7880)

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05;

Main Analysis

Table 1

Margins from Table 1 Calculations

TO DO

Table 2

Predicted Effects Following Table 2

Table 3

Figure 1

Main Analysis 4

Main Analysis 5

Table 5

Appendix

TABLE A2 Cities Included in Racial Polarization Data

City Name	Replication				
	Segregation: Mean H Index		Largest Racial Divide, Number of Elections		
	Multigroup	Two-Group	Black/White	Latino/White	Black/Latino
Austin, TX	0.204	0.208	1	0	0
Baltimore, MD	0.510	0.516	3	1	0
Charlotte, NC	0.269	0.287	2	0	0
Chicago, IL	0.572	0.460	7	0	1
Cleveland, OH	0.558	0.531	2	0	0
Columbus, OH	0.316	0.284	3	0	1
Dallas, TX	0.359	0.339	4	0	1
Denver, CO	0.289	0.254	1	2	0
Detroit, MI	0.398	0.255	1	0	1
Houston, TX	0.339	0.308	7	0	2
Indianapolis, IN	0.292	0.293	0	0	1
Jacksonville, FL	0.233	0.222	2	0	0
Los Angeles, CA	0.351	0.366	3	0	5
Memphis, TN	0.470	0.474	2	0	0
Milwaukee, WI	0.423	0.360	3	0	0
New York, NY	0.468	0.474	5	3	1

Oklahoma, OK	0.231	0.165	1	0	0
Philadelphia, PA	0.492	0.487	5	0	0
Phoenix, AZ	0.255	0.270	0	1	0
San Antonio, TX	0.237	0.225	0	4	0
San Diego, CA	0.255	0.266	3	0	1
San Francisco, CA	0.223	0.161	3	0	1
San Jose, CA	0.186	0.198	0	2	1
Tucson, AZ	0.185	0.192	1	0	0
Washington, DC	0.464	0.491	3	0	0

TABLE A3 Summary Statistics: Census of Government Finance and Population

Variable	Obs	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Direct General Expenditure per Capita	13742	1.186	1.220	0.019	70.457
Highways per Capita	13603	0.081	0.053	0.000	1.106
Parks per Capita	12905	0.061	0.061	0.000	1.111
Police per Capita	13626	0.181	0.094	0.000	1.546
Sewers per Capita	11223	0.092	0.077	0.000	1.591
Welfare, Health, and Housing per Capita	10871	0.057	0.131	0.000	4.984
Own Source Revenue per Capita	13741	0.942	1.118	0.021	76.123
Two-Group H Index	13742	0.076	0.099	0.000	0.767
Diversity	13742	0.076	0.099	0.000	0.767
% Black	13742	0.097	0.151	0.000	0.980
% Asian	13742	0.032	0.054	0.000	0.674
% Latino	13742	0.104	0.161	0.000	0.987
5Y Change, % Black	11194	0.007	0.019	−0.101	0.229
5Y Change, % Latino	11194	0.016	0.020	−0.171	0.207
5Y Change, % Asian	11194	0.005	0.011	−0.056	0.128
Median Income	13742	54,520.132	22,081.359	15,642.802	240,938.047
% Local Gov. Employees	13742	3.359	0.951	0.677	8.365
% Renters	13742	0.360	0.140	0.014	0.871
% Over 65	13742	0.125	0.050	0.012	0.771
% College Degree	13742	0.160	0.099	0.003	0.587
Population (logged)	13742	10.132	1.016	6.071	15.921
City Ideology	2130	4.023	0.780	1.000	7.000
Population	13742	53,723.022	208,143.791	433.000	8,214,426.000

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13: sum_bl = "Black/Latino") %>%

14:)

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Table 6: Effect of Segregation on City Expenditures, IV Approach A

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>			
	dgepercap_cpi	highwayspercapNC_cpi	policepercapNC_cpi	parkspercapNC_cpi
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
H_citytract_NHW_i	−2.676*** (0.935)	−0.363*** (0.056)	−0.350*** (0.109)	−0.034* (0.019)
dgepercap_cpilag	1.472*** (0.007)			
highwayspercapNC_cpilag		0.477*** (0.003)		
policepercapNC_cpilag			0.955*** (0.004)	
parkspercapNC_cpilag				0.869*** (0.006)
diversityinterp	0.264 (0.355)	−0.032 (0.022)	−0.020 (0.042)	0.004 (0.007)
pctblkpopinterp	0.376 (0.325)	0.085*** (0.020)	0.096** (0.038)	0.003 (0.007)
pctasianpopinterp	0.143 (0.940)	−0.111** (0.056)	−0.064 (0.110)	−0.022 (0.019)
pctlatinpopinterp	0.087 (0.284)	0.088*** (0.017)	0.088*** (0.033)	0.007 (0.006)
medincinterp	−0.004 (0.003)	0.001*** (0.0002)	0.001*** (0.0004)	0.0002*** (0.0001)
pctlocalgovworker_100	−0.104*** (0.032)	0.021*** (0.002)	0.026*** (0.004)	0.003*** (0.001)
pctrentersinterp	−0.553 (0.350)	0.165*** (0.021)	0.187*** (0.041)	0.035*** (0.007)
pctover65	0.301 (0.730)	0.267*** (0.044)	0.238*** (0.086)	0.072*** (0.015)
pctcollegegradinterp	0.248 (0.567)	−0.044 (0.034)	−0.101 (0.067)	0.028** (0.012)
Constant	0.328 (0.278)	−0.125*** (0.017)	−0.183*** (0.033)	−0.029*** (0.006)
Observations	21,145	20,704	20,627	19,056
R ²	0.685	0.615	0.789	0.540
Adjusted R ²	0.685	0.615	0.789	0.539
Residual Std. Error	4.877 (df = 21125)	0.290 (df = 20684)	0.566 (df = 20607)	0.093 (df = 19036)

Note:

Table 7: Effect of Segregation on City Expenditures, IV Approach B

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>		
	sewerspercapNC_cpi	genrevownpercap_cpi	welfhoushealthNC_cpi
	(1)	(2)	(3)
H_citytract_NHW_i	−0.363*** (0.060)	−1.873** (0.789)	−0.115** (0.054)
sewerspercapNC_cpilag	0.064*** (0.008)		
genrevownpercap_cpilag		1.235*** (0.006)	
welfhoushealthNC_cpilag			0.893*** (0.005)
diversityinterp	0.080*** (0.024)	0.047 (0.300)	−0.047** (0.022)
pctblkpopinterp	0.058** (0.025)	0.360 (0.274)	0.076*** (0.023)
pctasianpopinterp	−0.223*** (0.068)	−0.029 (0.793)	0.009 (0.053)
pctlatinpopinterp	−0.050*** (0.019)	0.206 (0.240)	0.078*** (0.017)
medincinterp	0.0002 (0.0003)	0.0003 (0.003)	0.001** (0.0002)
pctlocalgovworker_100	0.001 (0.002)	−0.003 (0.027)	0.016*** (0.002)
pctrentersinterp	0.073*** (0.024)	0.263 (0.295)	0.098*** (0.023)
pctover65	0.287*** (0.051)	0.782 (0.616)	0.127** (0.050)
pctcollegegradinterp	0.029 (0.040)	−0.035 (0.478)	−0.038 (0.038)
Constant	0.004 (0.019)	−0.174 (0.234)	−0.093*** (0.018)
Observations	16,616	21,148	14,711
R ²	0.006	0.681	0.699
Adjusted R ²	0.005	0.681	0.698
Residual Std. Error	0.284 (df = 16596)	4.115 (df = 21128)	0.252 (df = 14691)

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 8: **TABLE A1 Summary Statistics: Racial Polarization Data**

Statistic	N	Mean	St. Dev.	Min	Max
Largest Racial Divide	91	0.481	0.213	0.016	0.934
H Index: Multigroup	91	0.376	0.119	0.183	0.635
H Index: Two-Group	91	0.353	0.114	0.156	0.614
Diversity	91	0.623	0.088	0.323	0.736
% Asian	91	0.067	0.074	0.008	0.318
% Black	91	0.275	0.181	0.030	0.815
% Latino	91	0.229	0.155	0.009	0.605
Median HH Income	91	36.725	10.114	17.267	75.982
% Renters	91	0.535	0.092	0.368	0.718
% College Degree	91	0.167	0.056	0.049	0.359
Biracial Contest	91	0.725	0.449	0	1
Nonpartisan Election	91	0.714	0.454	0	1
Primary Election	91	0.352	0.480	0	1
Population (logged)	91	14.166	0.826	13.065	15.921
White Ideology	86	3.835	0.648	2.667	5.250

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