LISS Partner Paper

Journal: I think we should try to aim for a high journal. Let’s try APSR if the results are interesting. Other options would be social forces, political studies, or AJPS. If we want an European journal we could try EJPR.

Introduction:

* Increased polarized climate. More tensions within personal relations. Do we find evidence for this in our data.
* Political homophily in romantic relations. How come? In part due to selection effects as there are strong political selection mechanisms present in mating processes. Research points to selection rather than convergence.
* Nevertheless, it is still interesting to look at influence processes as there is reason to believe that they can play a role.
* Tease out how different partner and dyad characteristics can affect the influence processes. This is theoretical contribution that we make.

Goal:

* Contribute to the research on social influence processes in romantic partnerships with regard to political attitudes.
* Add to the literature on partner vote effects by expanding the social influence effects to political attitudes in different domains. Maybe be more specific on the different domains, so maybe we can expand on this.
* Methodologically we expand on earlier research on partner effects by using longitudinal data spanning roughly 10 years (from a representative HH panel)

**RQ:** To what extent and how are individuals’ political attitudes influenced by the political attitudes of their partner ?

To what extent do partner and dyad characteristics moderate these influence effects?

**Hypos**

I think we should make an explicit distinction between convergence and shocks. Also because we want to have a theoretical contribution as well. So I am in favor of making this explicit.

*Influence hypo.*

Important controls or dyad effects (not clear yet where I want to include it) I do think partnership duration matters for a control variable. We can look up (I think) how long the partners are already together. I also want to check whether we have some subset of respondents where we have a quasi-experiment (so data before cohabitation starts and data during cohabitation). With this we could also tackle the selection question. However, I think we do not have enough data for this.

Moderations:

Gender hierarchy

*H2: If the partnered person changing attitudes is male, the influence of the change of that person on the attitudes of the female partner is stronger, than when the first is female and the second male.*

Educational hierarchy

*H3: To the degree the partnered person changing attitudes its education is higher than that person’s partner’s education, the influence of the change of the first on the attitudes of the second is stronger.*

Political efficacy.

Two ways in which it could be of interest. Multiple ways in which it could work:

1. (individual) Having a high level of political efficacy (internal) makes someone harder to influence. More efficacy, so maybe more likely that individual is confident in own ability to form opinions. So, less easy to be influenced.
2. (partner relation) When there is a difference in level of efficacy, the partner with a lower level of efficacy is more likely to be influenced by the other partner.