PLSC 473: American Judicial Behavior

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Glynn and Sen (2015)

Frame: "Empathy" \rightarrow Personal Relationships

Four theories:

- Learning
- Protectionism
- Lobbying
- Preference Realignment

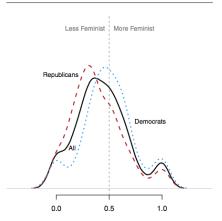
Analytical approach:

- U.S. Court of Appeals Judges, 1996-2002.
- Data = Decisions in cases involving discrimination against women or women's rights (N = 990).
- Outcome = votes in a "pro-feminist" direction.
- Methods: regression ("weighted least squares") on judges' aggregate records + individual votes.

TABLE 1 Number of Children and Girls for U.S. Courts of Appeals Judges Participating in Gender-Related Cases, 1996-2002

Number of Children	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	N
Democrat	12	13	33	24	15	4	_	1	_	1	103
Republican	13	8	44	30	15	7	3	_	1	_	121
Number of Girls	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Democrats	26	35	29	10	1	2	_	_	_	_	
Republicans	36	43	31	9	2	0	-	-	-	-	

FIGURE 1 Distribution of the Proportion of Cases Decided in a Feminist Direction out of All Gender-Related Cases Decided, 1996-2002



Proportion of Cases Decided in a Feminist Direction

TABLE 4 Weighted Least Squares Results, Gender-Related Cases Only

	Voting Record in a Feminist Direction, Gender-Related Cases Only										
		All	Judges	Judges with 1–4 Children							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)			
At Least 1 Girl		0.07**	0.09**	0.07*		0.07**	0.09**	0.07*			
		(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.04)		(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.04)			
1 Girl	0.09**				0.09**						
	(0.04)				(0.04)						
2 Girls	0.05				0.05						
	(0.04)				(0.04)						
3 Girls	0.06				0.08						
	(0.06)				(0.07)						
4 Girls	-0.35										
	(0.46)										
5 Girls	0.27										
	(0.17)										
Republican			-0.15***	-0.17***			-0.15***	-0.17**			
			(0.04)	(0.03)			(0.04)	(0.04)			

Findings:

- Effect of one or more daughters is about 7 percent
- Only an effect for gendered civil cases (not criminal)
- <u>No</u> "daughter effect" in all cases (only cases involving gender discrimination / rights)
- Results "driven primarily by GOP men" (Table 7)