Anthony Edward Monreal Kemp

Dr. Brad LeVeck

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Poli-200

Homework 3-Bartel Article Summary

Q: Identify the variables within the study.

A: The main variables within the study are "ANES Respondents Perception of Economic Inequality" as the dependent variable. The multiple independent variables that are held in the study are: 'explanations for economic inequality', 'self-interest', 'political values, support for the 2001 tax cut', 'political information', 'perceptions of inequality', and 'opinions about the 2001 tax cut'.

Q: How are they conceptualized?

A: They are conceptualized off the main hypothesis question: "Americans support massive tax breaks for the rich in an era of accelerating economic inequality?". It attempts to look at the individual aspect of a population using a sample size from a data set showing aftereffects of voters. Examples of this are in the introduction when looking at the theoretical development when the

Q: How are they measured?

A: The 2002 ANES survey data are measured by a numeric rating scale and are tested using descriptive statistics. Each question in the survey data is given to the respondent is a personal preference. Each question has its own numeric weight: 0 being the lowest rating, .5 being a

middle, and 1 being the highest rating. Regression statistics are then used to explain the significance of the hypothesis question.

Q: What are the strengths and weaknesses of these conceptualizations/measurements?

A: The measurement is strong in attempting to get an understanding of a millions of voters throughout the United States. The considered sample size will be diverse enough to depict national averages and gives the ability of a broad range of population stances on the questions given by the survey. The weakness of the measurement is that the measurement most likely suffers from major errors in individual preferences. Meaning the researchers can only see a broad average and not an in-depth look at each voter. The measurement is also assuming that the ANES respondents are being honest in their survey's, this proposes more measurement error.