Literature largely myopic – focuses on the role of Republican control of state government since 2010 and increasing urban/rural partisan divisions (also no time series). But preemption did not begin in 2010 – prominent in 1980s and 1990s too. So there must be other things going on.

Is preemption about the urban/rural ideology differential?

Is preemption about party control of state government?

Is it about industry group focus (focus elsewhere (on federal level) in 2000s?)

Is it a specific issue?

Have states always engaged in progressive policymaking and states only focus some times? Or have cities gotten more liberal too?

Use three datasets of preemption policies on tobacco, guns, and minimum wage policies.

Three sets of

Who drives preemption – cities, interest groups, or states?

Have cities always engaged in progressive policymaking and preemption only occurs at certain times? (1980s, 1990s, and 2010s)? Or have cities pushed the envelope?

If former, what explains variation? Why do states sometimes preempt and other times do not? Why no preemption in 2000s?

The frequency of state preemption seems to be high in the 1980s and 1990s (tobacco and guns), lower in the 2000s, and high in the 2010s. What explains this distribution?

Literature suggests that recent preemption is the result of increased Republican control of state government since 2010 and lack of support in progressive urban areas.

Literature says increasing preemption is a result of Republicans’ increasing control of state government and lack of support in progressive urban areas.

Is there something else going on?

Preemption occurred in the 1980s and 1990s

Republican states vs. Democratic cities and preemption ought to be explained as the result of

Tobacco, guns and labor:

Comparative case study of three areas of local-state policy preemption: tobacco, guns, and economic policy. Local policy innovation and resulting preemption in each of the three areas occurred at different times: 1980s, 1990s, and 2010s. In each case preemption was lobbied for by different industry groups: the tobacco lobby, NRA, and ALEC.

Republican control of state party apparatuses is largely blamed for recent preemption of minimum wage, sick paid leave, and other progressive local policies. But are other forces at play? By 1999, 31 states had passed legislation limiting states’ ability to regulate the use of tobacco products and NRA lobbying efforts resulted in at least 43 states limiting localities ability to pass gun control (Hicks et al).

Go back to skocpol piece – get book from library

Evaluate how three industry groups – tobacco industry, NRA, and ALEC have lobbied for preemptive policies at the state level over time.

How have institutional challenges evaluated

When did states begin preempting local legislation?