

1 I will present to you my research prospectus

↳ TITLE:

this thesis looks into:

How attachment to SOCIAL GROUPS

Shapes POLITICS

2

↳ The driving argument is that:

has it happened to you to

origin go to a FOOTBALL GAME, and you

wonder WHY ON EARTH would anyone

Support the OPPOSING TEAM

7 The PUZZLE?

↳ But who is US and who is them?

8 If you are Republican you know really well who plays for your team and who doesn't

↳ also in terms of the TYPICALLY REPUBLICAN: both ideologically and socio-demographically, the American people seem to be neatly divided into Republicans and Democrats

⇒ NOT JUST IN TERMS of VOTING for the REPUBLICAN PARTY but IDENTIFYING with being REPUBLICAN

11 TO UNDERSTAND BETTER, Let me introduce you to... Clarify you are not focusing on Italy!!

↳ These are all aspects of who she is, of her self definition

13 What does this mean?

Under the instrumental model: her policy and economic interest might she would identify with a SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY → policies that support LOW-MIDDLE CLASS CITIZENS

↳ Affective: she might feel attached to a party for a variety of reasons, for instance her family has always been *culturally* RIGHT-WING

16 To delve into this question let me introduce you to Paper 1

17 Paper 1 builds upon the assumption that PEOPLE HAVE MULTIPLE SOCIAL IDENTITIES, which are fundamental part of their SELF-DEFINITION

19 The importance of ORDER, ADJECTIVES, some socio-demographic characteristics might NOT be IMPORTANT

What do I mean?

21 Elections galvanise the political discourse and polarise citizens → BUT HOW?

POSITIVE POLITICAL THEORY: ATTITUDES → ACTIONS

COGNITIVE DISSONANCE: ACTIONS → PREFERENCES

↳ individuals experience mental discomfort when their ACTIONS and ATTITUDES are INCONSISTENT

> issue-based: polarisation based on POLICY PREFERENCE (disagreement)

> affective: viewing partisans POSITIVELY and opponents NEGATIVELY

ITT → compliance rate the probability of someone voting based on their age group

3 Let's explore HOW and WHY? Elena Pro EUSSO

4

Have you ever found yourself the night of Christmas Eve, sitting next to the SLIGHTLY FASCIST UNCLE; and after hours of ANIMATED DISCUSSIONS you concluded that YOU and HIM are just different people

↳ NOT JUST IN TERMS of WORLD VIEW!

↳ but the very essence of WHO YOU ARE are fundamentally INCOMPATIBLE

6 But this is NOT UNUSUAL right?

IT HAPPENS IN POLITICS EVERY DAY

Georgia: Christian Mother

Rishi Sunak: STOP the BOATS motto

Viktor Orban: ANTI-LGBTQ+ propaganda

Podemos: la 'genre' vs la 'casta'

* LEFT-WING

CLEAR DEMARCATION between FRIENDS and FOES

9 • When there are MANY competing parties, many COMPETING US and THEM, • when POLICY PREFERENCES cut ACROSS PARTY LINE,

• When populist parties take extremely volatile stances

↳ HOW DO PEOPLE make sense of POLITICS?

10 The goal of this thesis is to delve into these questions and EXPLORE some of the mechanisms that are UNIQUE to MULTI-PARTY SYSTEMS and EUROPEAN DEMOCRACIES

12 Two models that explain how and why Maria would IDENTIFY with a certain party

↳ The instrumental model: → UTILITY MAXIMIZERS citizens want to MAXIMISE their SOCIAL ECONOMIC benefits

↳ The affective model provides sense of belonging, distinctiveness and EPISTEMIC CLOSURE

PARTISANSHIP: a cumulative evaluation of incumbents' performance ideology and policy preference

14 As we can see the application of these models to multi-party contexts with volatile parties is not so straightforward; This is because...

18 How will I do that?

↳ collect my own data: open-ended surveys WHAT people say when they talk about politics BUT ALSO HOW people talk about politics + HOW they UNDERSTAND PARTISANSHIP

↳ Data Analysis: inductively classifying groups and outgroups → WIDER CONTEXT OF THE SENTENCE

⇒ GOING BEYOND the LIMITED SET of AScriptive CATEGORIES of SURVEYS

22 How? X year of Birth; Y Levels of Affective polarisation REGRESSION DISCONTINUITY DESIGN

23 Attitudes towards minorities

→ the effect of ELIGIBILITY on Affective Polarisation conditional on voting

25 Motivated reasoning (consequence of COGNITIVE DISSONANCE)

↳ interpret new evidence in a manner that ALIGNS with their EXISTING BELIEFS

+ Hobdell and Sprace → opinion-based identities
Other types of group attachments?