

# Place of Residence and Political Attitudes in Democracies Worldwide

## Point-Based Outline

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Transitions to Democracy

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## 1 Point-Based Outline

1. Introduction to the Paper: The Intersection between Place of Residence and Political Attitudes<sup>1</sup>
  - (a) The Big Picture: The United States and the 2016 Election: Rural voters have helped the Republican secure their victory and these voters are core to Trump's base (Walsh, 2012). Can we observe these effects elsewhere?
  - (b) Guiding Question: Does place of residence influence political attitudes and ideology? How do certain factors of the regime, including its age and electoral formula, influence these results?
  - (c) Brief summary of key conclusions from Literature Review and Data Analysis
2. Literature Review
  - (a) Analysis of the Rural Consciousness in the United States and around the world with considerations of the country's political culture.
  - (b) Discern what the literature has to say about the ties between rurality and political attitudes - As of now, it says that people who live in rural areas tend to be more religious and more conservative on social issues. However, they can also be liberal when it comes to the economy since that is where their own economic interests lie.

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<sup>1</sup>The materials used in this research project can all be found in this Git Repository <https://github.com/lin-jennifer/CompRuralPolitics.git> Which also includes the backstage files used to generate this document along with the Annotated Bibliography and detailed breakdown of analysis results

- (c) Overview of the elections that are considered in the CSES, including countries reported, actors involved and other key characteristics of the election.
3. Research Design: Methods and Variables
    - (a) Data: CSES Module 4 <http://www.cses.org/datacenter/module4/module4.htm>
    - (b) Cases: The cases that are considered in this study are based on those available in the CSES dataset.<sup>2</sup>
    - (c) Methodology: See Section 2 for detailed breakdown
  4. Results: Broken down by Regression Model
    - (a) Regression: Across all polities: Place on ideology on ideology
    - (b) Regression: Interaction of place of residence and level of democracy on ideology
    - (c) Regression: Interaction of place of residence and regime electoral formula on ideology
    - (d) Regression: Interaction of place of residence and age of regime on ideology
    - (e) Regression: Consideration of place of residence, level of democracy, regime electoral formula, and age of regime on political ideology
  5. Conclusion: Place of residence matters, but there is still a lot of noise in the model.
    - (a) When regressed on itself with regime variables, rural residents are significantly more conservative than urban residents
    - (b) Directions for future research
      - i. Consider any other possible variables that influence the interaction since research in American politics concludes that there are other factors such as education and income that matter in the relationship observed (Gimpel and Karnes, 2006)

## 2 Breakdown of Methodology

1. Variables: The following variables were integrated into the analysis<sup>3</sup>:

- (a) D1006 Polity Identifier

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<sup>2</sup>The CSES provides a brief synopsis of the elections that were used for the data collection here" [http://www.cses.org/datacenter/module4/data/cses4\\_codebook\\_part5\\_election\\_summaries.txt](http://www.cses.org/datacenter/module4/data/cses4_codebook_part5_election_summaries.txt).

<sup>3</sup>The Codebook used as a reference to determine which variables to use is located here: [http://www.cses.org/datacenter/module4/data/cses4\\_codebook\\_part2\\_variables.txt](http://www.cses.org/datacenter/module4/data/cses4_codebook_part2_variables.txt)

- (b) D1008 Election year
  - (c) D1010.1 Weights Sample
  - (d) D1010.2 Weights Demographic
  - (e) D1010.3 Weights Political
  - (f) D1015 Election Type
  - (g) D2031 Urban/Rural place of Residence
  - (h) D3014 Self Ideology
  - (i) D5051.1 Democracy to Autocracy scale at the time of the election
  - (j) D5052 Age of Current Regime
  - (k) D5054 Type of Executive
  - (l) D5056 Number of Months since last presidential election
  - (m) D5058 Electoral Formula
2. Researcher recode of data: Missing data identified in the codebook as (99 = MISSING) or some other value that reflects that the respondent does not know the response to the question is replaced with a "." to represent missing data
  3. Analysis: Stata 15.1 was used to analyze the results
  4. Independent Variables:
    - (a) Place of Residence - Treated as a categorical variable
    - (b) Regime Age - Treated as a continuous variable
    - (c) Level of Democracy - Treated as a categorical variable
    - (d) Electoral Formula - Treated as a categorical variable
  5. Dependent Variable:
    - (a) Self Ideology - An individual's self placement on the ideological scale with 00 being most left and 10 being most right

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