Age and representation: The link between elected officials' ages and their favorability

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<u>Abstract</u>

Relatively few academic studies have examined the relationship between the ages of politicians in the United States and their approval ratings. In addition, most existing research focuses on hypothetical candidates through survey experiments rather than real-world elected officials. My study aims to address this gap by analyzing data from the 2006-2022 Cooperative Congressional Election Studies (CCES) to explore whether age is associated with approval ratings of House representatives, governors, and senators. Using logistic regression models, the analysis finds very limited evidence of an association between age and approval ratings. These findings suggest that age may not be a significant factor in how citizens evaluate politicians.