One-Click Talks
Democracy Policy Lab Meetings

During each meeting of our lab one person will present a one-click talk. The one-click talks are designed to help focus our attention on the evidence and/or model in a paper, rather than on the framing of the paper.

Each talk should last between 7-10 minutes. Each talk will have four components:
1) **Question.** Every talk should clearly articulate the question of interest. Ideally, the question will have an interesting answer regardless of what the evidence shows.
2) **Data.** You should provide a brief description of the data that is used in your study. Hopefully, you can present summary statistics, how you collected your data, and why they help you to answer the question.
3) **Design.** This section should answer how you're reaching your conclusion. That is, how will you use the data to estimate a quantity of interest. This is a chance to be clear about the estimand, the assumptions you have to make to identify the estimand, and any evidence you might have that those assumptions are reasonable.
4) **Results.** The key results from your analysis. We have a preference for numbers, rather than figures. Please try to provide robustness checks and alternative specifications---but of course, you have a very limited amount of space.

The one-click talk is useful regardless of where you are with your project. In the early stages, the one-click talk can help you to focus on what is interesting, what data you might collect, how you might test your key causal question, and provide feedback on interesting results. At this stage, you will likely find you'll have a different and much better project than before.

If you're at a later stage in a project, the one-click talk will help you focus the paper as you prepare for submission. At this stage, we will help you clarify what is interesting in the study, features of your data that are compelling, why your design is effective, and how to present results.

Everyone should plan to present a one-click talk. It is hard and uncomfortable---that is the point! Thinking hard about your work and distilling it this way will help you do better work.