

Using Abortion Provision and Health Care Coverage to Predict the Number of Crisis Pregnancy Centers in a State

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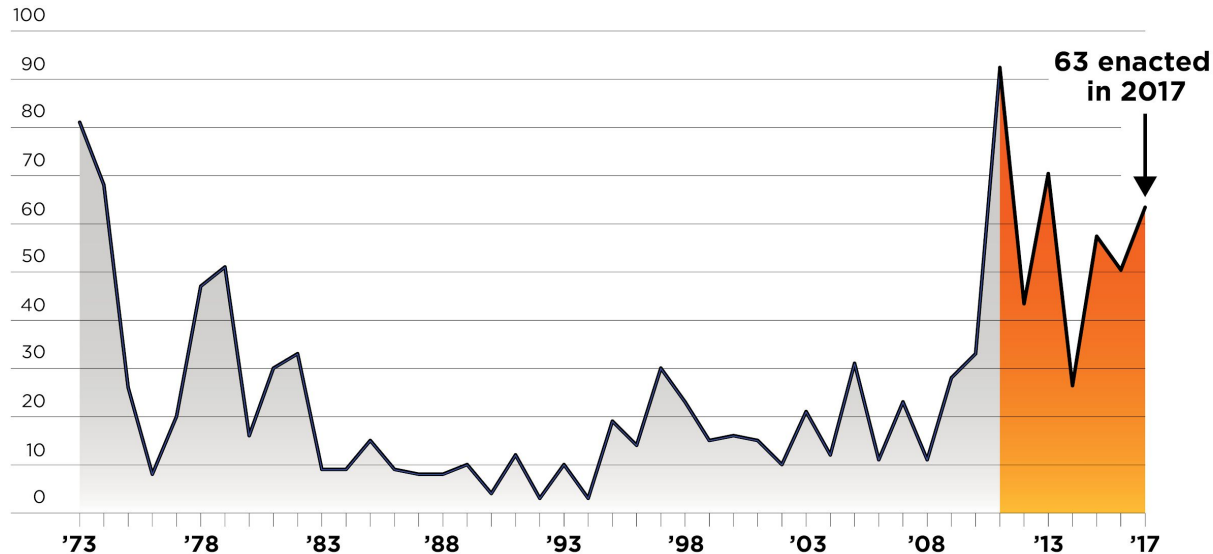
Background

- CPCs are non-medical facilities which aim to prevent people from accessing an abortion
- Provide some services
- Some misinformation



One-third of the 1,193 state abortion restrictions since *Roe v. Wade* have been enacted in the past seven years

Number of abortion restrictions enacted



Research Question


How is the number of crisis pregnancy centers in a state affected by abortion provision within the state and health care coverage, controlling for political and demographic factors?

Validation

- Validating variables
- Validating findings: regression and robustness check

Dependent variable: number of crisis pregnancy centers in a state

Reproduction



The Fake Clinic Database

- Open source database with name, address, social media links
- Only source I could find on CPCS: validation an issue

Independent variables

- Abortion provision within the state
 - Presence/absence of laws regarding abortion
 - Number of abortion providers
 - Number of abortions provided
- Health care coverage within the state
 - Medicaid expansion
 - Percent uninsured

Data sources for independent variables

Variable	Source	Year of data
Number of abortions provided by state	Guttmacher Institute	2014
Number of abortion providers within state	Guttmacher Institute	2014

Data sources for independent variables

Variable	Source	Year of data
Facility requirements	KFF (Guttmacher data)	2018
Restrictions on gestational age		2019
Mandatory ultrasounds		2017
State policies		2018
Waiting periods		2018

Data sources for independent variables

Variable	Source	Year of data
Medicaid expanded	Kaiser Family Foundation	2019
Uninsured rate	Kaggle: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Census	2015

Control variables

- Political and demographic factors within the state
 - Voting behavior (2012, 2016)
 - State population

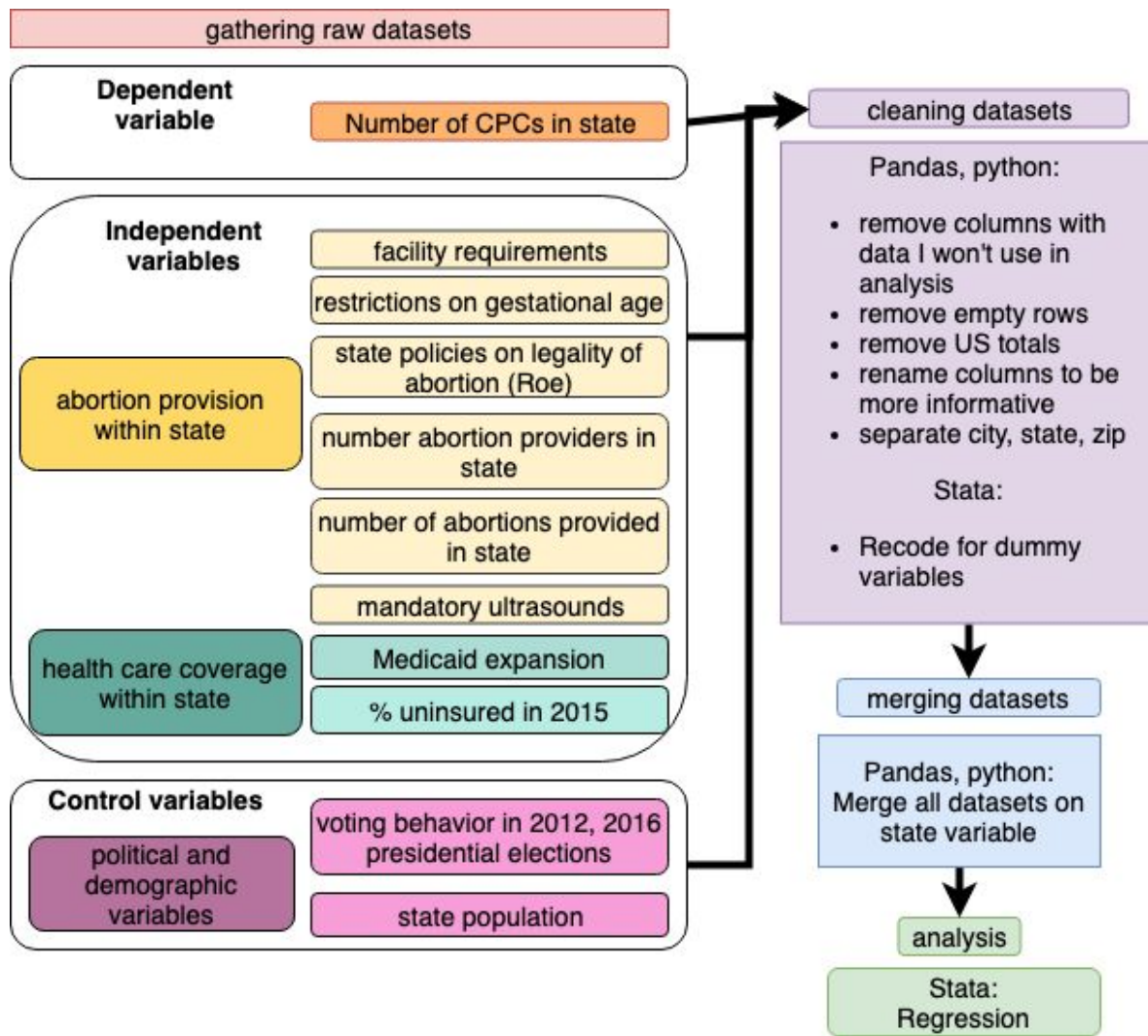
Data sources for control variables

Variable	Source	Year of data
Voting behavior	Federal Elections Commission	2012, 2016
State population	Kaiser Family Foundation (uses data from Census Bureau's American Communities Survey)	2017

Data management

- All data publicly available
- Saving code, data, and output separately
- I annotate my code clearly and separate files based on objective





Findings

- State election result in 2012 and 2016
- Number of abortions provided and number of providers
- Regulations not significant on their own but correlated with one another

Limitations

- Number CPCs by state
- Laws not static

Discussion

- Appears that CPCs are more prevalent in states with more abortion providers
- Lack of regulations on CPCs makes them hard to measure
- Next steps: composite measure for abortion regulation

Questions?