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| **Reviewer 1** | |
| Fix remaining typos and grammatical issues |  |
| Discuss whether surveys performed by non-state actors can contribute information to the regime | * ~~Add a discussion suggesting that PAPI and PCI are more helpful as province-level measures~~   + ~~As a new footnote to paragraph beginning with “The CPV, however, has few reliable instruments…”~~ |
| Add one reference to Malesky Abrami and Zhang (2011) | * Malesky, E., Abrami, R., & Zheng, Y. (2011). Institutions and inequality in single-party regimes: A comparative analysis of Vietnam and China. Comparative Politics, 43(4), 409-427. |
| **Reviewer 2** | |
| Clarify confusion about whether the paper is testing the candidate-monitoring mechanism (it is not) | * ~~Edit arguments on pages 11-12 to clarify theory of elite-monitoring as monitoring provincial elites and not candidates~~ * ~~Edit settings on page 17 to clarify theory of elite-monitoring as monitoring provincial elites and not candidates~~ * Add references to Larreguy, Marshall and Querubin (2016) * Mention more prominently that Malesky and Schuler (2013) already mentions the candidate-monitoring mechanism   + Move it to somewhere more prominent |
| Acknowledge formal treatment of complexity is hard | * ~~Add references to Larreguy, Marshall and Querubin (2016) discussing another example of complex information~~   + ~~To paragraph beginning with “First, information from elections”~~ * ~~Discuss how current formal treatments of informational value has mostly looked at it uni-dimensionally, citing Little (2017)~~   + ~~To paragraph about selective manipulation~~ |
| Reassure reviewer that the paper is robust to small sample sizes | * Mention how inferences were done for GSC and whether it is robust to small sample * Edit description of GSC to mention more clearly its robustness to small sample sizes   + Note how it draws only on data from control units * Add individual treatment effects figures to Appendix G |
| Address concern about RDD set-up | * ~~Discuss in the response to reviewer~~ |
| Address concern about pre-treatment imbalance | * Add mention of pre-treatment imbalance in Figure 2 and Figure 3 to discuss potential dynamic causality |
| **Reviewer 3** | |