Brother, Can You Spare a Manufacturing Job? How Voters React to Deindustrialization

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What led to Donald Trump's surprising 2016 election victory? This paper examines the potential contribution of deindustrialization. Counties differ by exposure to manufacturing, which we use in an instrumental-variable approach to identify the effect of manufacturing job loss on change in Democratic vote share. We find that Democratic vote share falls in counties with high manufacturing job loss since 2004. Disaggregating this result by race shows that the Democratic vote share fell where layoffs affected white populations, and rose where layoffs affected nonwhites. This suggests a racial component to how voters process economic hardship. JEL: ,

Keywords:,

I. Data and Methods

A. Data

Following Baccini and Weymouth (2021) American Economic Review Pointers:

- Do not use an "Introduction" heading. Begin your introductory material before the first section heading.
- Avoid style markup (except sparingly for emphasis).
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II. First Section in Body

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Row 1	1	2
Row 2	3	4

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REFERENCES

Baccini, Leonardo, and Stephen Weymouth. 2021. "Gone For Good: Deindustrialization, White Voter Backlash, and US Presidential Voting."

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MATHEMATICAL APPENDIX