

Comparative Politics

Week 10
04/30/2020

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Logistics I

- Study guide for the final exam is out. (Comparative Politics, Section 001, Spring 2020 Resources/ Additional Resources)
- Essays back early next week

Logistics II

- Email: jlzhou@nyu.edu
- Office hour: **Thursday 14-15; 17-18 online**
- Book my office hour here: <https://calendly.com/jlzhou/15min>
 - Join meeting via: <https://nyu.zoom.us/j/7478991306>
 - You will be in a waiting room upon entering to avoid interruption to the ongoing meeting.

Today

- Ethnicity
 - Definition
 - Three “ism”s
- Practice
 - Calculation and real-world definition
 - Experiment results

Ethnicity

One way to define ethnicity (Chandra 2006)

- Ethnicity is “a subset of identity categories for which eligibility is associated with (or believed to be associated with) descent”
 - Examples that often meet this definition (depending on context): language, tribe, race, region, religion
- Ethnic groups by this definition are larger than family/clan but not all encompassing

One way to define ethnicity (Chandra 2006)

- Ethnic groups can largely coincide with state boundaries, be subnational (e.g., French Canadians) or span states (Koreans, Hutus and Tutsis)
- Note that this definition leaves out identity categories that siblings would not be expected to share, on average (e.g., gender, sexual orientation)

Schools of thought about the properties of ethnicity

Primordialism

Instrumentalism

Constructivism

- What are the assumption behinds each school of thought?
 - How does it work?
- What are the potential political consequence of ethnicity based on each school of thought?
- Any example?

Schools of thought about the properties of ethnicity

Primordialism

- Ethnic identities are **given, fixed; each person has one primary ethnic ID.**
- Ethnicity almost **inevitably stirs strong emotions** (“ineffable”); people inevitably and constantly want to see their own groups do well relative to other groups

Instrumentalism

- Ethnic identities are not given, but rather very **fluid**; they are **not emotionally-laden**; instead, they become politically relevant only when they guide people's **interest-based choices**.
- If people vote for members of their same groups, it is because they are using coethnicity as a **heuristic** to judge their **material interests**.

Constructivism

- Ethnic identities are **sticky**; they exhibit **constrained change** and can be experienced as emotionally-laden in a given time-period; a given person can have **multiple** ethnic identities.
- **Political entrepreneurs, and institutions**, can shape whether/*which* ethnic identities are political salient at a given time.

Does ethnic diversity have consequences for democratic politics?

...The answer given depends on the school of thought

Primordialism

- Would say **yes, always**
- Creates permanent majorities and minorities, fears of exclusion, higher likelihood of violence unless institutions force power-sharing

Instrumentalism

- Would say **not in any distinctive way**
- Ethnicity is just one way in which people gauge their interests

Constructivism

- Would say **it can**
- It depends on elite incentives to make particular cleavages highly politically salient

Practices

Real-world application (NYC 2010 Census)

Total Population	Number	Percent
White Nonhispanic	2,722,904	33.3
Black Nonhispanic	1,861,295	22.8
Asian and Pacific Islander Nonhispanic	1,030,914	12.6
Other Nonhispanic	75,268	0.9
Two or More Races Nonhispanic	148,676	1.8
Hispanic Origin	2,336,076	28.6

- What is the Ethnic fractionalization index in NYC?
- Recall: Herfindahl index = $\sum_i 1 - s_i^2$

Real-world application (NYC 2010 Census)

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- Herfindahl index = $1 - \sum_i s_i^2$
- = $1 - (0.33^2 + 0.228^2 + 0.126^2 + 0.009^2 + 0.018^2 + 0.286^2)$
- = 0.741039

Real-world application (NYC 2000 Census)

Total Population	Number	Percent
White Nonhispanic	2,801,267	35
Black Nonhispanic	1,962,154	24.5
Asian and Pacific Islander Nonhispanic	783,058	9.8
Other Nonhispanic	76,096	1.0
Two or More Races Nonhispanic	225,149	2.8
Hispanic Origin	2,160,554	27.0

- Herfindahl index = $1 - \sum_i s_i^2$
- = $1 - (0.35^2 + 0.245^2 + 0.098^2 + 0.01^2 + 0.028^2 + 0.27^2)$
- = 0.734087
- From 2000 to 2010, more diversified or not?

How would you answer
census question?

8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
 - Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
 - Yes, Puerto Rican
 - Yes, Cuban
 - Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc. ↗

From U.S. 2020 Census

<https://2020census.gov/content/dam/2020census/materials/partners/2019-08/2020-informational-questionnaire.pdf>

9. What is Person 1's race?

Mark one or more boxes AND print origins.

- White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↗

- Black or African Am. – Print, for example, *African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.* ✓

- American Indian or Alaska Native – *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.*

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean | <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian –
<i>Print, for example,</i>
<i>Pakistani, Cambodian,</i>
<i>Hmong, etc.</i> ↗ | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander –
<i>Print, for example,</i>
<i>Tongan, Fijian,</i>
<i>Marshallese, etc.</i> ↗ |

- Some other race – *Print race or origin* –

Real-world application (U.S. 2020 Census)

- Does it matter to your own sense of identity **how** those questions are asked?
 - For example: which categories are solicited, which options you are given to check boxes, how many boxes you can check
- What if, like in Rwanda or France, they were **not** asked these questions on the census? What difference (if any) would that make to their own identities? To how others might treat them?

Any questions so far?

Minimal Group study (Yamagishi and Kiyonari, 2000)

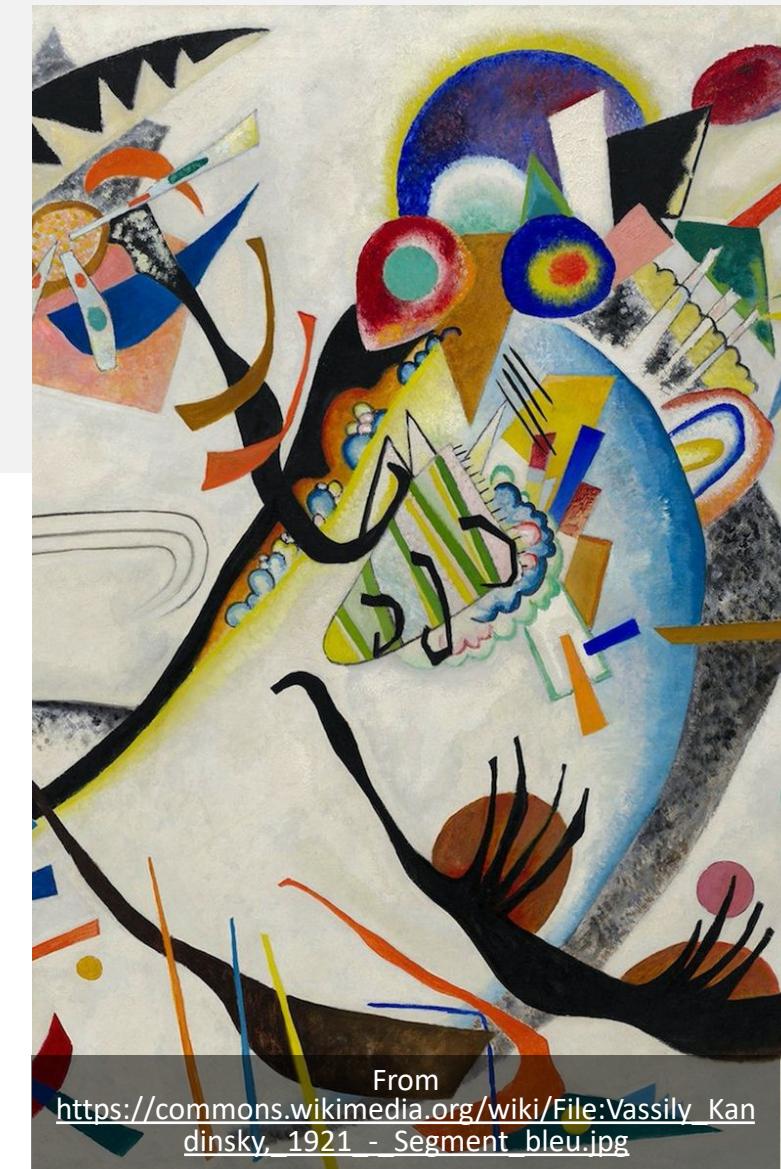
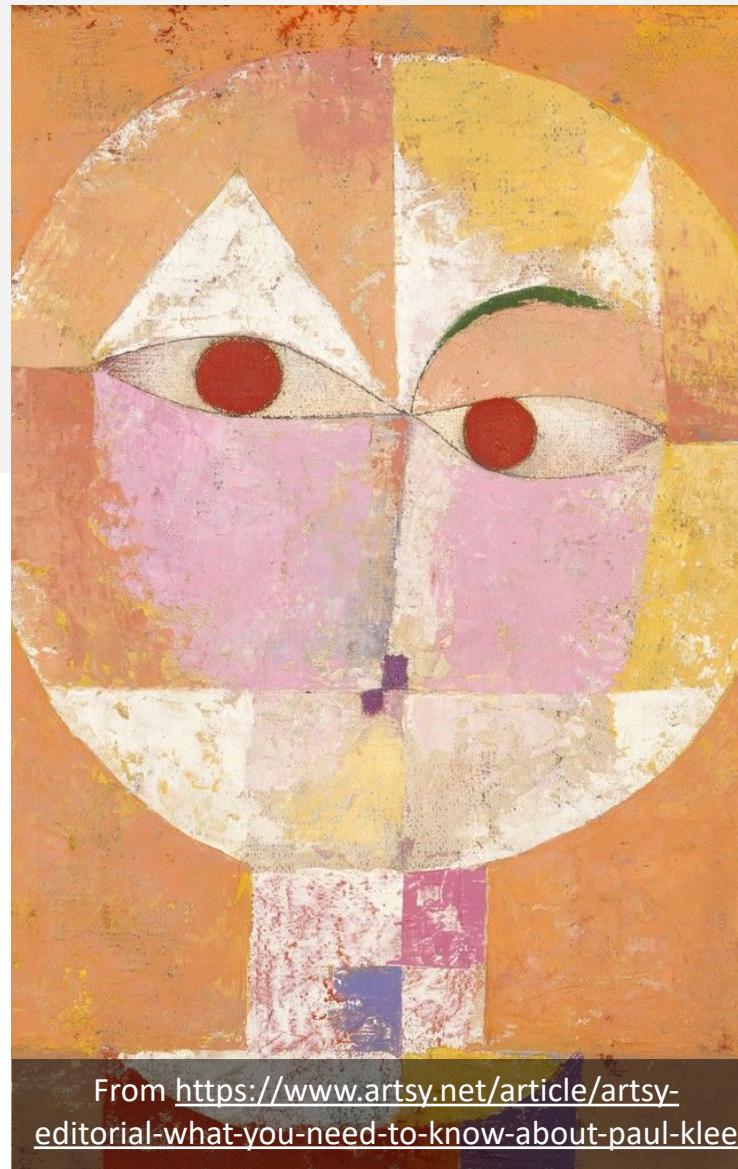
- Main question:
 - Whether and why people treat in-group/ out-group member differently?
- Main approach:
 - Experiment
 - Split people into two groups based on purely random preference
 - Let people do prison's dilemma game with in-group and out-group member
 - Two sets of game:
 - Simultaneous
 - Sequential

https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/2695887.pdf?casa_token=YU4JNZTxKQ8AAAAA:DT7unCM55RQLbh0PBmbtv4MbNRA-HVtea81WiWUZsPqxU1hwpH AwjXrbLXEj2t5xhZOiJAGwtbTDdkJglsHD4ZBYbaCKprdu8r7S99JOw5YnTyxjbQ



Experiment Design

- Step 1: Ask your preference (Klee or Kandinski paintings) and decide the group.



Experiment Design

- Step 2: Simultaneous Prison's Dilemma game
 - You are given 300 Yen (\approx 3 dollars)
 - You are told whether you are facing an in-group or out-group member (but you do not see the person)
 - You decide how much money to give to your partner
 - Whatever you give will be doubled by the moderator and transferred to your partner.
 - All decisions are made simultaneously (You don't know your partner's choice)
- E.g.
 - Start: You: 300 Yen; Your partner: 300 Yen
 - Decisions: You: Give 100 Yen; Your partner: Give 200 Yen
 - Results: You: $(300-100)+200*2=600$ Yen; Your partner: $(300-200)+100*2 = 300$ Yen

Experiment Design

- Step 3: Sequential Prison's Dilemma game
 - Similar setup: you give money to an in-group or out-group member.
 - You know you made the decision first, and then your partner respond.
 - You know that your partner will observe your action (money you gave)
 - **But you don't know:** There is no second player, so the amount by the artificial second player is the same as yours.
- E.g.
 - Start: You: 300 Yen
 - Decisions: You: Give 100 Yen
 - Results: You: $(300-100)+100*2=500$ Yen

Expectation:

- Whether in-group favoritism is due to expectation of reciprocity?
- Simultaneous Prison's Dilemma game
 - You don't know what your partner will choose.
 - You know: your partner don't know what you will choose.
 - Both you and you partner know: group labels of you two.
 - You and your partner may expect that in-group member have reciprocity.

Expectation:

- Whether in-group favoritism is due to expectation of reciprocity?
- Sequential Prison's Dilemma game
 - You don't need to think about what the other person think, because she can observe your action directly.
 - From the perspective of your partner: they don't need to guess whether you cooperate, they can see that.
 - If you think your partner will cooperate if you cooperate, you should cooperate.
 - Regardless of your group identity (and hers).

Expectation:

- Simultaneous Prison's Dilemma game:
 - People give more to in-group member
- Sequential Prison's Dilemma game:
 - People give same amount to both.

Experiment result 1

Table 1. Average Amount of Money Given to Game Partners (Yen)

Partner's Membership	Game Condition	
	Simultaneous (<i>n</i> = 44)	Sequential (<i>n</i> = 47)
In-group	120.02 (sd = 61.71)	153.83 (sd = 84.04)
Out-group	90.45 (sd = 62.95)	168.30 (sd = 91.35)

- What do you think?

Experiment result 1

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- How do these results relate to the discussion in lecture of the constructivist perspective on ethnicity?
- Would you expect more or less out-group discrimination if study participants were divided into groups that were relevant outside the lab (“real” group IDs)?
- What does this study suggest about the conditions under which ethnicity might become salient in political decisions/political behavior?