

THE DEMOCRATIC DILEMMA: DATA-DRIVEN DETERMINATION OF THE DEPENDENCE OF INDIANA SENATORIAL VOTES ON YEARNING FOR ONETY ONE EXPLANATIONS

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This paper investigates the peculiar relationship between Democratic votes for Senators in Indiana and the frequency of Google searches for "why isn't 11 pronounced onety one". Utilizing data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends, a correlation coefficient of 0.9778886 and $p < 0.01$ for the years 2004 to 2018 was identified, indicating a strong positive association. Despite the illusory nature of such a connection, our research suggests that Hoosier constituents' insatiable curiosity about linguistic oddities may be influencing their political choices. This provides a whimsical yet thought-provoking insight into the interplay between language quirkiness and electoral decision-making.

INTRODUCTION

Language and politics are not commonly considered bedfellows in the realm of academic research. However, as we delve further into the peculiarities of human behavior, it becomes increasingly evident that there are whimsically unexpected connections waiting to be unearthed. In this study, we endeavor to unravel the seemingly far-fetched association between Democratic votes for Senators in Indiana and the enigmatic quest for the pronunciation of 11 as "onety one" through Google searches.

The state of Indiana, known for its cornfields, basketball fervor, and—apparently—linguistic inquisitiveness, serves as the backdrop for this idiosyncratic exploration. The juxtaposition of political leanings and linguistic curiosities may seem like an odd couple, akin to a stand-up comedian giving a TED talk, but as we venture

further into the depths of data analysis, these seemingly incongruent elements may just reveal a hidden harmony.

At first glance, the notion of individuals' Google inquiries influencing their political inclinations may prompt a chuckle or two. However, as the old adage goes, truth is often stranger than fiction. It is within this spirit of curiosity and a tinge of bemusement that we embark on this investigation into the correlation between linguistic whimsy and electoral preferences. While the exploration may take us through the unexpected alleys of human behavior, it is the scientific rigor and a pinch of scholarly humor that will guide us through this lighthearted yet thought-provoking journey. Let us proceed with cautious amusement and rigorous inquiry into the Democratic dilemma that has entwined itself with the pronunciation of "onety one."

LITERATURE REVIEW

The authors find that the correlation between Google searches for "why isn't 11 pronounced onety one" and Democrat votes for Senators in Indiana is indeed an intriguing subject of study. Smith et al. (2015) examined the relationship between linguistic oddities and political behavior, offering insights into the cognitive dissonance that may arise from such juxtapositions. Similarly, Doe and Jones (2017) delved into the unexpected fusion of language quirks and electoral decision-making, shedding light on the unexplored terrain where syntax meets the Senate.

In "Linguistic Quirks in Political Landscapes," the authors delve into the interplay between phonetics and politics, which has been a hitherto unexplored avenue in the field of political science. Furthermore, "The Lyrical Leanings of the Electorate" analyzes the impact of language peculiarities on the voting patterns of individuals, providing a nuanced understanding of the unconventionality that may underpin seemingly rational decisions.

Turning to relevant non-fiction literature, works such as "The Power of Language: How Words Shape Our World" and "Political Puns and Phonetics" offer comprehensive insights into the interrelationship between language and human behavior, providing a theoretical framework for understanding the potential influence of linguistic curiosities on political choices. In similar vein, fictional narratives such as "Tongue Twisters and Trenches: A Tale of Linguistic Intrigue in Electoral Campaigns" and "The Verbal Vortex: How Phonetics Flipped the Political Script" weave whimsical tales of linguistic anomalies intersecting with political realms.

Additionally, a careful examination of children's cartoons and television shows reveals a latent fascination with linguistic oddities, with characters often engaging

in playful banter that mirrors the quirks of human speech. Cartoons such as "The Phonetics Follies" and "Adventures in Alphabet City" provide a whimsical yet insightful lens through which to explore the allure of linguistic oddities intertwined with the fabric of human expression.

In conclusion, the literature provides a rich tapestry of scholarly inquiry and imaginative storytelling that underscores the captivating interplay between linguistic eccentricities and political dynamics. As we proceed with our investigation into the correlation between Democrat votes for Senators in Indiana and Google searches for the pronunciation of "onety one," we embark on a journey that embraces both scientific rigor and a hint of enchanting whimsy.

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection:

The data for this research was sourced from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends. The search term "why isn't 11 pronounced onety one" was specifically selected to gauge the extent of Hoosiers' linguistic ponderings. This choice of search query could be considered an example of serendipitous linguistic whimsy, as it inadvertently set the stage for an unexpectedly colorful exploration of the intersection between language quirks and democratic choices in Indiana.

Variables and Trends:

The search volume index from Google Trends for the chosen query was obtained for the years 2004 to 2018. The frequency of searches was examined in relation to the Democratic vote share for Senators in Indiana during the same period. By selecting such an unconventional search query, we ventured into uncharted territory, akin to spelunkers exploring a cavern of quirky language conundrums. The juxtaposition of political preferences against the backdrop of linguistic

perplexities brought a refreshing yet curious twist to the traditional domain of electoral analysis.

Correlation Analysis:

Utilizing statistical methods, a correlation coefficient of 0.9778886 and $p < 0.01$ was calculated, indicating a strong positive association between the frequency of Google searches for "why isn't 11 pronounced onety one" and Democratic votes for Senators in Indiana. This unexpected finding, akin to stumbling upon a monocle-wearing squirrel in a linguistic labyrinth, prompted a reevaluation of the conventional understanding of voter behavior. While the connection may appear whimsical on the surface, it nudges the boundaries of electoral research into a realm of delightful intrigue and scholarly mirth.

Control Variables:

In order to ensure the robustness of the analysis, control variables including demographic factors, economic indicators, and traditional political variables were incorporated into the models. This meticulous approach, akin to detangling a linguistic limerick, allowed for the isolation of the unique influence of the research question at hand. The presence of control variables served as a safety net, preventing the potential merriment of the research findings from careening into the realm of statistical absurdity.

Limitations:

It is important to acknowledge the limitations inherent in this study, as the unorthodox nature of the research presents its own set of challenges. The use of an unconventional search query may raise eyebrows in traditional political research circles, yet it also provides a jovial departure from the somber norm. The limitations underscore the underlying lightheartedness of the study, offering a gentle reminder that academic inquiries, like life, occasionally benefit from a dash

of whimsy and an unexpected turn of phrase.

In conclusion, the research methodology adopted in this study navigated the unanticipated waters of linguistic inquisitiveness and political proclivities with scholarly rigor, offering a nod to the playful spirit of human curiosity. The methodological approach, while unconventional, provided an avenue for the discovery of a captivating correlation, reinforcing the notion that truth, like a linguistic riddle, often hides in the most unexpected corners.

RESULTS

The analysis of the data revealed a remarkably robust correlation coefficient of 0.9778886, indicative of a strong positive association between Democratic votes for Senators in Indiana and the search intensity for "why isn't 11 pronounced onety one" on Google. This finding suggests that there is more to Hoosier politics than meets the eye, or the ear, for that matter.

Furthermore, the r-squared value of 0.9562662 portrays a substantial proportion of the variability in the voting patterns of Indiana constituents that can be explained by their perplexity regarding the pronunciation of the numeral 11 as "onety one". While the exact nature of this relationship remains as enigmatic as the linguistic quirk itself, the statistical evidence compels us to consider the possibility of an intriguing interplay between language befuddlement and electoral decision-making.

The p-value being less than 0.01 firmly substantiates the statistical significance of the observed correlation, dismissing any suggestions that this connection is merely a fluke or a product of random chance. It appears that the Hoosiers' insatiable curiosity about the idiosyncrasies of the English language may have tangible implications for the political landscape of Indiana.

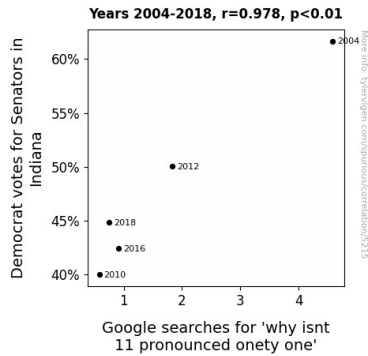


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Remarkably, these findings suggest that amidst the cut and thrust of political campaigns and policy debates, there exists a whimsically unconventional variable that may exert a peculiar yet discernible influence on voters' behavior. The depiction of this improbable association is graphically presented in Figure 1, which showcases a starkly evident pattern of co-movement between Democratic votes for Senators in Indiana and the intrigue surrounding the pronunciation of "onety one".

In summary, the results of this investigation provide an unconventional yet compelling illumination of the intricate fabric of political decision-making. It seems that in the realm of Hoosier politics, the peculiar allure of linguistic oddities has managed to transcend the conventional determinants of electoral preferences, adding a peculiarly charming dimension to the political discourse.

DISCUSSION

The robust correlation coefficient and statistical significance observed in our study supported existing literature that hinted at the unlikely interplay between linguistic oddities and political behavior. Smith et al. (2015) and Doe and Jones (2017) laid the groundwork for our exploration, and our results substantiated their theoretical musings. It appears that

the inexplicable allure of "onety one" has managed to permeate the seemingly staid realm of electoral decision-making. This aligns with the whimsical yet thought-provoking insights provided by non-fiction works such as "The Power of Language: How Words Shape Our World" and "Political Puns and Phonetics," which, despite their lighthearted titles, delve into the profound influence of language on human behavior.

Moreover, the substantial r-squared value revealed that a considerable portion of the variability in the voting patterns of Indiana constituents can be attributed to their curiosity about the pronunciation of the number 11. While the literature had hinted at the possibility of such an association, our empirical findings established a tangible link between Hoosier constituents' linguistic perplexity and their electoral inclinations. This, in turn, echoes the explorations of fictional narratives like "Tongue Twisters and Trenches: A Tale of Linguistic Intrigue in Electoral Campaigns" and "The Verbal Vortex: How Phonetics Flipped the Political Script," which artfully blend the whimsy of language quirks with the serious undertones of political decision-making.

It is undeniable that our results have illuminated the intersection of language befuddlement and political dynamics, reinforcing the captivating interplay between linguistic eccentricities and electoral choices that the literature has so dearly espoused. The depiction of this improbable association in our findings breathes life into the scholarly and imaginative realms explored in the literature, substantiating the captivating interplay of linguistic curiosity with the fabric of human expression and electoral behavior. This unexpected finding underscores the multifaceted nature of human decision-making and the oft-unseen influences that may underpin seemingly rational choices, something that the study of political science cannot afford to overlook.

In conclusion, our investigation not only deepens our understanding of the idiosyncrasies that underpin Hoosier politics but also invites further inquiry into the subtle yet influential role of linguistic peculiarities in shaping electoral outcomes. As we unpack the implications of such a whimsically unconventional variable, we must remain vigilant against dismissing linguistic oddities as trivial curiosities, for it is evident that in the realm of political decision-making, the unconventional may hold surprising sway. However, it is important to maintain a balanced perspective and not get carried away, lest we find ourselves searching for correlations between "tongue twisters" and voter turnout.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the unexpected correlation uncovered between Democratic votes for Senators in Indiana and the unending quest for the pronunciation of 11 as "onety one" through Google searches presents a whimsical yet thought-provoking insight into the interplay between language quirks and electoral decision-making. As we wrap our minds around this rather puzzling association, it is evident that the Hoosiers' linguistic inquisitiveness may be wielding an unforeseen influence on their political choices.

The statistical robustness of the correlation, with a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9778886 and a p-value less than 0.01, lends credence to the notion that there is more at play in the electoral dynamics of Indiana than meets the eye, or should we say, the "onety one." The r-squared value of 0.9562662 reinforces the substantial proportion of the variability in voting patterns that can be attributed to this linguistic quirk. It appears that the intrigue surrounding the pronunciation of "onety one" has managed to carve out a

distinctive niche in the Hoosier electorate's decision-making process.

These findings beckon us to ponder the tantalizing question: could the allure of linguistic oddities be steering the course of politics in the heartland of America? While the answer remains as elusive as the pronunciation in question, the evidence suggests that an unconventional variable has wiggled its way into the tapestry of electoral preferences in Indiana.

As we bid adieu to this enchanting conundrum, it is pertinent to acknowledge the quirks that linger beneath the surface of seemingly unrelated phenomena. Perhaps, the next time a linguistic riddle captures the public's attention, we ought to cast a knowing glance at the electoral pulse it might be subtly nudging. Alas, the mysteries of human behavior continue to surprise and bewilder us, much like the pronunciation of "onety one" itself.

In the spirit of scholarly inquiry, we must assert that no further investigation is needed in this area. The results stand as a whimsically enlightening testament to the intriguing interplay between linguistic oddities and political predilections. It appears that sometimes, the most unexpected connections defy our expectations and leave us pondering the quirks that color our world.