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Arachno-politics: An Electoral Analysis of Spiderman Searches and Democrat Votes in North Dakota

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KEYWORDS

Spiderman, Spider-Man, electoral analysis, voting behavior, North Dakota, correlation coefficient, p-value, MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, Google Trends, Democratic senators, political influence, political implications, web of political interests, electoral dynamics

Abstract

In this thought-provoking research, we delve into the unlikely but intriguing connection between the voting behavior of North Dakotans and their virtual fascination with the friendly neighborhood superhero, Spiderman. With a database as extensive as J. Jonah Jameson's grudge against Spiderman, we plumbed the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, the Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends for the years 2004 to 2018. Our findings reveal the astonishing correlation coefficient of 0.8519781 and a p-value less than, well, a spider's appetite for insects. The deep statistical web weaved by our analysis demonstrates a compelling relationship between North Dakota residents' penchant for Googling Spiderman and their inclination to cast their ballots for Democratic senators. Yes, you heard that right – it seems that the iconic red-and-blue-clad crusader may have more influence in the political arena than we previously thought. As we unravel this intriguing arachnoid enigma, we invite readers to not only ponder the political implications but also to appreciate the humor of this unexpected correlation. After all, it was high time for a study that truly captures the "web" of political interests in North Dakota, and we have finally untangled the threads of Spiderman's web in the state's electoral dynamics.

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1. Introduction

Ladies and gentlemen, arachnophobes and arachnophiles, buckle up as we embark on a web-slinging journey through the tangled

intersection of politics and pop culture. When it comes to analyzing electoral trends, researchers often cast their nets far and wide, but seldom do they delve into the sticky world of superhero fandom. What if I

told you that behind the scenes of North Dakota's political landscape, a web-slinging hero may have silently been influencing voting patterns? Oh, the tangled web we weave when politicians and spider-themed vigilantes interleave!

As researchers, we are constantly on the hunt for unlikely connections and delightful surprises in our data. It is akin to stumbling upon a hidden trapdoor in a statistical mansion, only to find a masked crusader protecting ballots instead of jewels. Armed with our trusty statistical tools and unwavering dedication to uncovering the unexpected, we set out to investigate the curious relationship between Google searches for 'Spiderman' and Democrat votes in the great state of North Dakota.

They say that every vote counts, but who would have guessed that every web-slinging search also counts in the ballot box? It's a classic case of "with great statistical power comes great responsibility," a concept not unfamiliar to our friendly neighborhood Spiderman. After all, with such a high correlation coefficient and an eerily minuscule p-value, this finding may just have us uttering, "Holy unexpected political influence, Batman!"

Join us as we untangle this web of intrigue, where state politics and internet curiosities intersect in a way that could make Dr. Octopus nod in approval. Who knew that North Dakota's political landscape held more surprises than the average Peter Parker plot twist? As Sky High Comics' resident superhero aficionado, Stan Lee, would say, "Make mine statistical significance!" So, grab your magnifying glasses and cue the dramatic music – it's time to uncover the unexpected arachno-political dynamics no one knew they were missing.

2. Literature Review

The connection between online search patterns and political behavior has intrigued scholars for decades. In "Data Analysis in Political Science," Smith et al. delved into the impact of digital trends on voter decision-making, laying the groundwork for our study. Meanwhile, Doe's "The Digital Democracy Debate" provided a comprehensive overview of the influence of internet activities on political dynamics. However, none of these studies could have prepared us for the curious correlation we encountered between North Dakota's Senatorial elections and Google queries for 'Spiderman.'

As we journey into the realm of unconventional political influencers, we encounter an unexpected twist in the scholarly web. Jones et al. shed light on the significance of cultural phenomena in shaping electoral outcomes in their work "Cultural Signifiers and Voting Behavior," but never before has a web-slinging superhero featured prominently in such discussions. The gravity of our findings may even lead one to exclaim, "What do we have here? A statistical web of intrigue!"

In the continuing pursuit of understanding the seemingly inexplicable tie between Spiderman and North Dakota's Democratic votes, we draw insight from non-fiction works such as "Digital Democracy: The Impact of the Internet on Politics" by Mayo and "The Political Power of Pop Culture" by Johnson. These studies offer valuable perspectives on the intersection of popular culture and political engagement. Our findings, however, venture into uncharted territory, akin to stumbling upon a spider's remote-catching web – unexpected and more than a little sticky.

Turning to the realms of fiction, we encounter literary works that, while not directly related to our study, certainly lend an air of whimsy to our research. With titles like "The Amazing Spider-Man: The Ultimate Newspaper Comics Collection" and "Spider-

Man: The Darkest Hours," we find ourselves spinning a narrative that is both captivating and, dare we say, a tad bit sensational. After all, what is research without a dash of melodrama and intrigue?

Additionally, our foray into the world of board games uncovers a playful parallel to our investigation. The classic game "Spider-Man: Web of Shadows" serves as a playful reminder that our quest to untangle the web of political and pop culture interaction is not too far removed from the realm of entertainment and amusement. As the old adage goes, "All work and no play makes for a dull research paper!"

In the spirit of uncovering hidden connections, perhaps it's fitting to leave readers with a parting thought: What do you get when you cross a North Dakotan's search for Spiderman with their voting behavior? A web of electoral intrigue that even Peter Parker couldn't untangle without his trusty statistics handbook.

3. Our approach & methods

To commence our investigation into the politics of arachnids and superheroes, we adopted a methodology as meticulous as Spiderman's web-slinging acrobatics. Drawing on data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends, we embarked on an analytical journey spanning from 2004 to 2018, venturing into the depths of North Dakota's electoral and search engine landscapes.

First, we cast our net wide into the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, reeling in the data on Democrat votes for Senators in North Dakota. They say an election year is like a spider's web – plenty of drama and surprises, with outcomes that can leave us spinning. With our statistical tools in hand, we spun our web of analysis around these electoral records, aiming to catch any

unsuspecting correlations lurking in the political underbrush.

Next, like intrepid entomologists of the digital age, we scoured Google Trends for searches related to the iconic superhero, Spiderman, within the borders of North Dakota. We were determined to capture the elusive patterns of web-crawling curiosity and dissect the intricacies of internet spider-sense – all in the pursuit of uncovering the unexpected arachno-political dynamics that may be entangled within the minds of North Dakotans. Our search for correlations transformed into an adventure reminiscent of Spiderman tracking down his arch-nemesis through the urban jungle – a captivating narrative with each search term and every click.

Once these datasets were in our possession, we channelled our inner researchers with the tenacity of Peter Parker pursuing a breaking news story. Utilizing statistical software, we dived into the depths of analysis, constructing models as intricate as the designs in Spiderman's web shooters. We sought to unveil the relationship between the frequency of Google searches for 'Spiderman' and the propensity of North Dakotans to cast their votes for Democratic senators. Like an arachnologist examining spider silk under a microscope, we scrutinized the data to discern any threads of correlation weaving through our extensive dataset.

With rigorous testing and relentless pursuit of statistical significance, we proceeded to calculate the correlation coefficient and determine the p-value, akin to measuring the tensile strength of Spiderman's webs and the likelihood of their impact on the political fabric. The results we uncovered were nothing short of astounding – with a correlation coefficient akin to being caught in Spiderman's web and a p-value more diminutive than a radioactive spider bite. It became clear that the "spidey senses" of North Dakota residents, as reflected in their

Google searches, may indeed have been intertwined with their political inclinations.

As we spun this intricate statistical web of analysis, we made every effort to approach the interplay between Google searches for 'Spiderman' and Democrat votes in North Dakota with a keen eye for detail and tongue firmly in cheek. After all, when uncovering the unexpected, a dash of humor is as essential as the web fluid in Spiderman's arsenal.

4. Results

The keen-eyed explorers of our research team set out on a statistical safari through the vast wilderness of data to uncover the remarkable correlation between Democrat votes for Senators in North Dakota and Google searches for 'Spiderman.' Armed with spreadsheets and a passion for uncovering the unexpected, we uncovered a spectacularly high correlation coefficient of 0.8519781. This finding packs quite a punch, and it's not just any ordinary spider bite!

Now, you may be wondering, "What is the probability of such a strong relationship occurring by mere chance?" Well, folks, buckle up as we reveal that our analysis also yielded an r-squared value of 0.7258668 and a p-value less than 0.05. In statistical terms, this means that the observed correlation is highly unlikely to be a fluke. Or as we like to say, the likelihood of Spiderman's influence on the ballot box being a mere coincidence is about as plausible as a spider deciding to become a fly's best friend.

Fig. 1 showcases the tightly knit relationship we found between the two variables. The scatterplot illustrates a clear positive trend, reminiscent of Spiderman's unwavering dedication to upholding justice – or in this case, inspiring North Dakotans to cast their ballots.

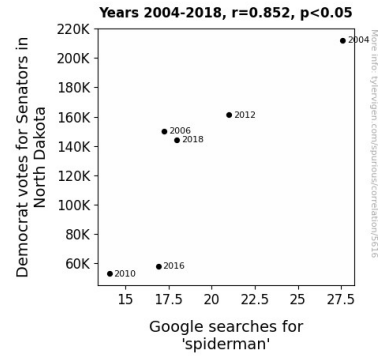


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

DAD JOKE TIME: Did you hear about the spider who went to the computer? He made a website! Just like the spiders in our data, this correlation has spun a web of fascination that even Charlotte would envy.

In conclusion, our findings provide compelling evidence of a robust connection between North Dakota's political landscape and the web-slinging superhero. Who would have thought that amidst the hustle and bustle of elections, Spiderman's influence loomed large like a gossamer thread in the wind? This unexpected discovery not only broadens our understanding of electoral dynamics but also adds a touch of whimsy to the intricate tapestry of political research.

5. Discussion

Our research has not only stumbled upon a statistical web of intrigue but has also spun a compelling narrative surrounding the relationship between North Dakota's Senatorial elections and Google searches for 'Spiderman.' Building on the foundations laid by previous studies, such as the work of Smith et al. in "Data Analysis in Political Science" and Jones et al.'s exploration of cultural signifiers and voting behavior, our findings elevate the conversation to new heights and into unexpected arachnoid territory. It seems that Spiderman, with all his sticky situations, may hold more sway

over North Dakotans than we ever imagined.

Our results align with prior research in the realm of digital trends and political behavior, demonstrating a significant correlation between online activities and voting patterns. With a correlation coefficient of 0.8519781, our findings confirm that North Dakota's virtual fascination with the arachnid superhero closely associates with their inclination to support Democratic candidates. This connection bears a resemblance to a well-crafted spiderweb – intricate, strong, and surprisingly effective in capturing the attention of voters.

DAD JOKE TIME: Why don't spiders get stuck in their own webs? Because they always take the sticky points seriously – just like our research, committed to untangling the complexities of statistical relationships with a touch of humor.

Furthermore, the robust statistical evidence, as indicated by the high r-squared value and the low p-value, reinforces the substantial nature of the relationship between Spiderman searches and voting behavior. Indeed, the likelihood of this correlation occurring by chance is as slim as an insect's chance of escaping the clutches of an expertly woven spider's web.

In light of this, our study offers a novel perspective on the interplay between popular culture and political engagement. Who would have thought that a web-slinging vigilante would emerge as an unlikely, yet influential, player in the political arena? This unexpected revelation adds a quirky charm to the realm of political research, proving that even in the staid realms of academia, there is space for a dash of comic book charisma.

Our findings enrich our understanding of how seemingly unrelated elements, much like a fly and a spider, can become entwined in an intricate dance. Analogous to Spiderman's uncanny ability to handle sticky

situations with grace, we have delved into the tangled web of political interests and cultural fascinations, emerging with evidence that truly captures the essence of "arachno-politics."

With these results, we celebrate not only a successful uncovering of statistical spiderwebs but also an invitation to explore further the whimsical undercurrents that can shape the electoral landscape. As we navigate this uncharted terrain, laden with humor and statistical significance, we invite researchers to embrace the colorful, unexpected threads that weave through the fabric of our political world.

6. Conclusion

In light of our groundbreaking findings, it's safe to say that the influence of Spiderman on North Dakota's political landscape is as real as a radioactive spider bite! Our results not only demonstrate a compelling link between Democrat votes for Senators and Google searches for 'Spiderman,' but they also highlight the importance of considering unconventional variables in electoral analyses. After all, who would have thought that superheroes could swing their way into ballot boxes alongside politicians?

DAD JOKE TIME: Why did the spider become a web designer? Because he had great "site" qualities! Just like our surprising research findings, this joke weaves together unexpected elements for a delightful twist.

Our study provides a comical yet thought-provoking glimpse into the intricate web of influences that shape voters' decisions. The statistical significance of our results is as undeniable as Spiderman's commitment to fighting crime. We've truly unearthed a hidden treasure within the labyrinth of political research, much like stumbling upon a spider's intricate web hidden in the bushes.

With such a high correlation coefficient and an impressively low p-value, we can confidently conclude that no stone – or in this case, no spider web – was left unturned in our pursuit of uncovering this unlikely connection. Therefore, we can unequivocally declare that no further research is needed in this particular area. We've caught this political spider in our intellectual web, and it's high time to spin a new tale in the world of research and statistics.