



Antidisestablishmentarianism in the American Election: The Rise of Donald Trump and Far Right Parties in Europe, Identity Politics in the light of Niccolo Machiavelli's Treatise – 'The Prince'

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Niccolo Machiavelli's Political Theory and Trump

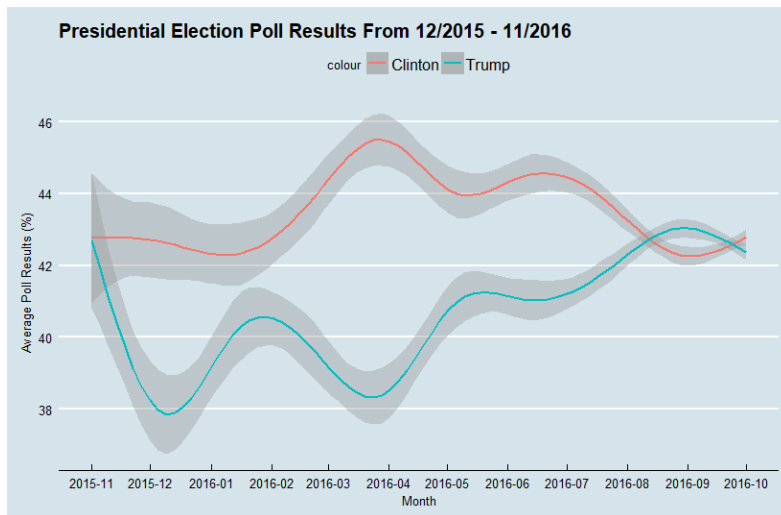
Niccolo di Bernardo Dei Machiavelli was an Renaissance historian, philosopher and political commenter. He is often called the father of modern political science. His political theory can be attested to the rise of President Donald Trump as his book "The Prince" in the beginning asks a very simple question to the reader, "A leader should be loved or feared"? Machiavelli answers in his discerning wit that a leader should be both in theory but since it is not practical, a leader should be feared more than loved. Machiavelli pointed out the case of Girolamo Savonarola, a friar who promised to purge Florence out of vice, the corrupt Borgia Pope Alexander ordered for his execution and Savonarola was burned at the stake. According to Machiavelli this is what happens to good people in politics, he put forward the notion that a good leader should not be a good person in the Christian sense. He directed that a good leader should be cunning, brave and should be have an upper hand in deceit to bring honour to the state in any form at any cost. Machiavelli was quite stringent in his treatise, "The Prince", he gave the example of a Dominican friar who promised the population of Florence, to make it a city of God, the corrupt Borgia Pope condemned him, and the friar was burned at the stake, accordingly to Machiavelli this is what happens to good people in politics, although many humanist philosophers like Saint Thomas More wrote a lot about Christian ethics in politics, strictly abided by moral philosophy intertwined with the state.

This was the underlying case with the former President Obama, during his presidency he was metaphorically burned at the stake for the sake of his reforms. We should remember, the same people who elected Obama twice voted for a complete outsider, Donald Trump. President Trumps rise can be attributed to the economic weather in Europe, a political earthquake has given rise to far-right European parties who want to

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bring protectionism in terms of economic and immigration reforms. The rise of Nigel Farage, leader of the UKIP party, Front National headed by Marine Le Pen in France and other far right parties in Poland, Norway and Sweden have brought Europe on the midst of civil and economic war. The United States has been pulled out of the G20 agreement and the US economy is committing financial euthanasia as the NATO countries have started to look at Russia and China for trade. The after shocks can be felt in India and around the world since the liberal political landscape is often shaped with respect to political climate in Europe and America.

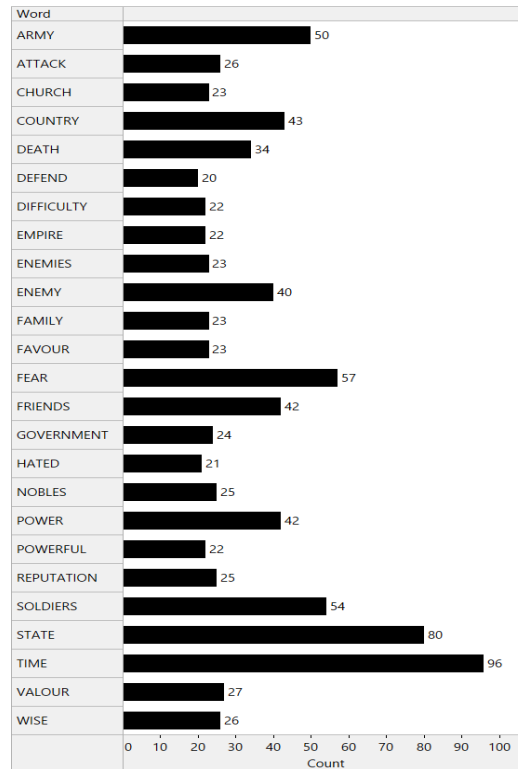


Graph 1: Poll results of presidential candidates, 2016.



Fig 1: Word map of The Prince.

Niccolò Machiavelli - The Prince

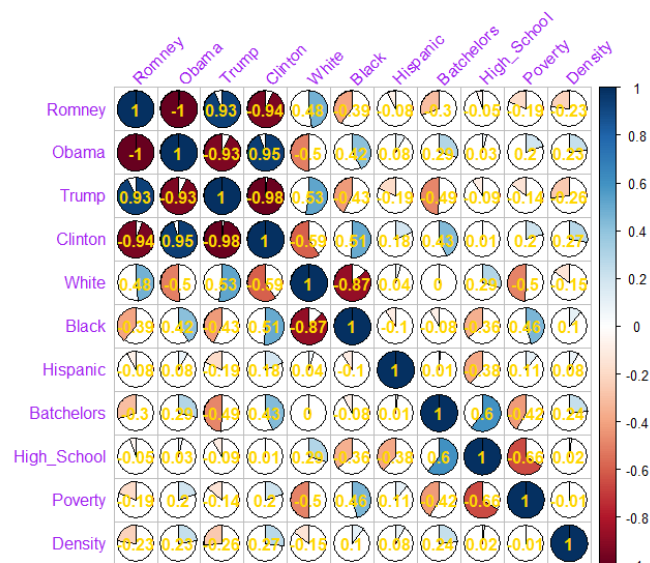


Graph 2: Word count of the book The Prince.

Electoral Integrity [2016 Elections]

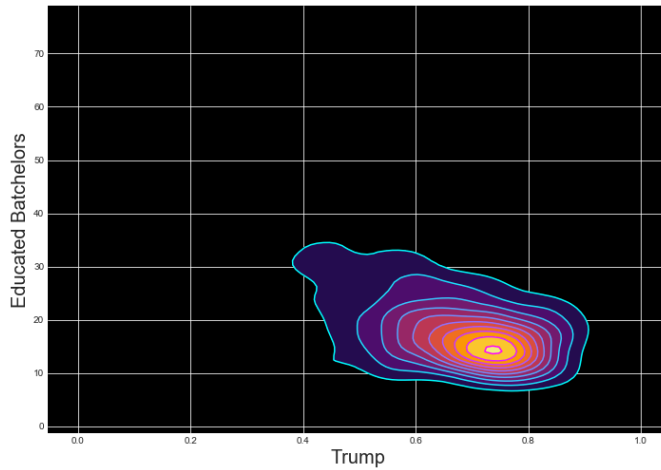
The challenge to the American Republic on grounds of electoral integrity are not new, the 2016 campaign is the best example as it highlights events that show the cracks in the electoral system. Without stringent measures addressing these reforms, the bitterly fought election may be the tipping point which undermines the credibility of the political spectrum and tarnishes the image of American democracy. In regulated democratic countries, registering and balloting are considered mediocre matters as there is large backup of technological help and workforce that often streamline the work to make it more practical. After the Bush v. Gore vote count in Florida during the 2000 election, the statehouses have become more polarised with respect to Republicans and Democrats as there is a rift between legal regulations for registering and casting votes. There is no solid agreement about the reforms that states should recognize as to maintain uniformity. Debates surrounding strict or lenient regulations are divided with the consensus arriving from the majority voters and the party represented. In democratic counties, lenient regulations are the norm while in Republican counties, strict regulations are called for, thus the cracks emerge at the county level and continues at

the state level. Stringent requirements like an absurd list of necessary documents are a physical and physiological barrier, especially for minorities, low income groups and senior citizens. Plus, making the registration process harder discourages the population and results in a depressive turnout. In Democratic counties, there is healthy expansion of easy voting facilities which have extended hours to target night shift workers thus reducing the logistic costs incurred by the citizens to cost a vote. Convenient voter registration pads reduce time and promotes equal participation as to create a balanced approach towards election integrity. The 2016 elections were sharply aggressive, as Donald Trump fuelled the temperature by his populist rhetoric as he created a trust breach between the people and authorities by advocating volunteers to keep a manual check on polling stations which in turn created local tensions as locals are often inexperienced and partisan over a party, discouraging minorities and low-income groups from active participation. It is to be noted that the Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton, won the majority vote in the final round of election but Donald Trump won the majority counties.



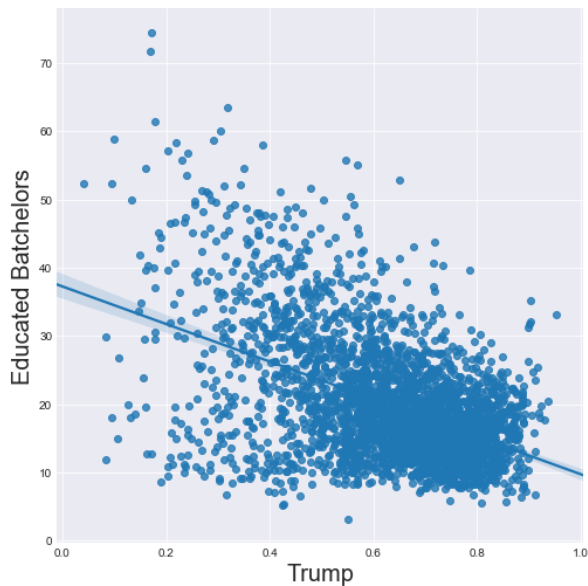
Graph 3: Correlation plot with respect to candidates, race, and educational background.

The plot clearly shows the division within the political arena, race, poverty, and education are important factors that connects candidates with politicians.



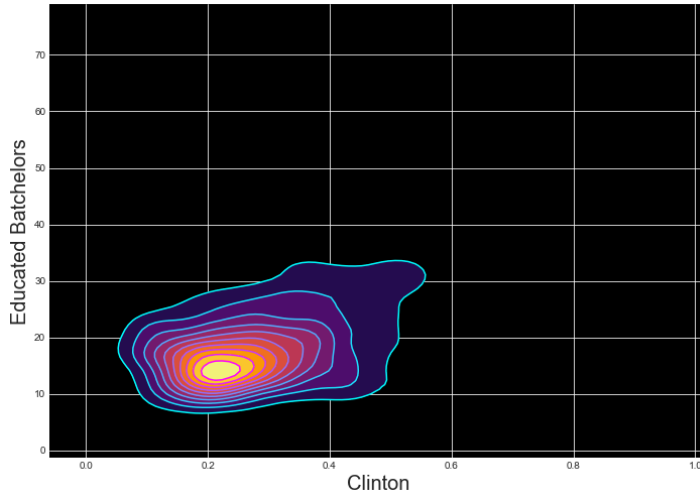
Graph 4: Educated Percentage across counties, Donald Trump.

The kernel density is saturated in counties with low education percentage, Trump won most of the counties with high percentage of white voters with low educated Batchelors.



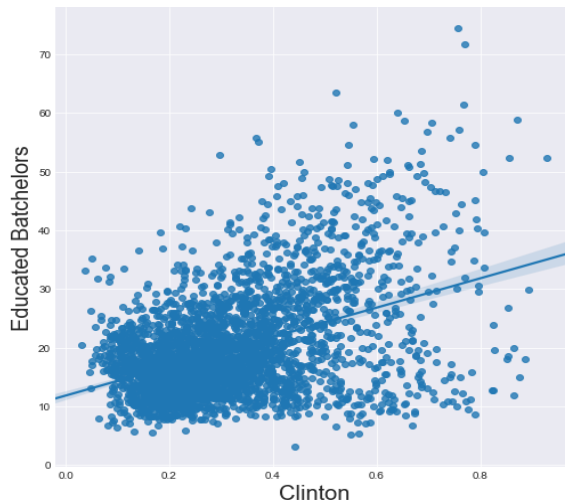
Graph 5: Regression, Educated Percentage across counties, Donald Trump.

The relationship between educated Batchelors with respect to votes is nonlinear, this shows that Trump demographics attracted by Trump's 2016 campaign.



Graph 6: Educated Percentage across counties, Hillary Clinton.

The kernel density is saturated in counties with high education percentage, Clinton won most of the counties with high percentage of educated Batchelors.



Graph 7: Regression, Educated Percentage across counties, Donald Trump.

The relationship between educated Batchelors with respect to votes is linear, this shows that Clinton attracted college educated voters.

Trump and Asia – Pacific

Trump's campaign trail was aggressive in the least, but it gave subtle policy hints towards China, often accusing the government as currency manipulators and threatening to slab sanctions on Chinese imports, while at the same time debilitating to haul US troops out of Beijing's local adversaries, Japan and South Korea. Though Trump has said little on the South China Sea dispute, the amid tensions between China and Japan are heating the region, plus the North Korean crisis is adding fuel to the fire and Trump has hinted about policy shifts with Japan that have kept the countries together for more than 50 years. The worst scenario would involve a US withdrawal from the region which could power the Chinese which in turn would trigger Japan to gear up their military program. China is an emerging bold player in geo politics as it is planning to replace the dominance of American Dollar as the standard currency for petro-retail trade.

North Korea Crisis

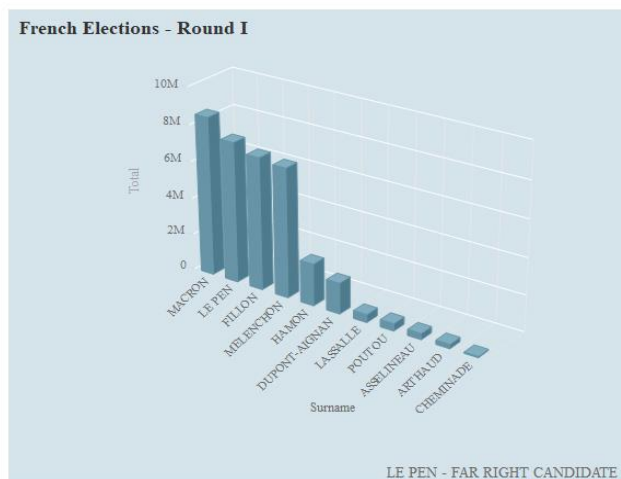
North Korea is sending messages by perusing their nuclear program and testing intercontinental missiles, it is part of their propaganda and often provokes South Korea, Japan and America as the videos target major cities of these three nations. North Korea had a mid range delivery system but didn't have an ICBM which can hit upto 15,000 kms away because it is multiple missile systems in one, stacked on each other the missile starts its trajectory into space and finally positions it to the target. All war is a symptom of man's failure as a thinking animal quite strikes the nerve when we go through history. In every generation, there is a major war and with the North Korean problem brewing on a high flame plus the refugees crises, we must accept our moral obligations, with the coming of the North Korean crises and the proxy war in Syria, the real impact of the American election is coming to the mass majority and the aftershocks can be felt in Asia. The Greek civilisation is often associated with democracy, but important Greek thinkers such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were unapologetically elitist. Their theories of human nature were less than flattering. Thus, they emphatically condemned aspects of democracy as an inalienably degenerate and wasteful type of government.

Brexit and Trump Effect in Europe

Conservative populism across Europe and the United States takes diverse structures contingent upon broad factors, for example, political history, society and culture. Populist parties are becoming mainstream in Europe as the continent struggles to assimilate thousands of Syrian and Iraqi refugees and scholars identify it as a political earthquake due to the surge of right wing parties. The most common factor is scaring people by propaganda of economic insecurity as parties tend to portray the changing demographics and socio economic equality in the workplace thus touching a physiological nerve in the mind of the people. There is also a cultural backlash that can be explained by evoking the predominant ways of the society thus triggering a cultural war. Hate speech is not limited to Eastern European countries but has also swept into

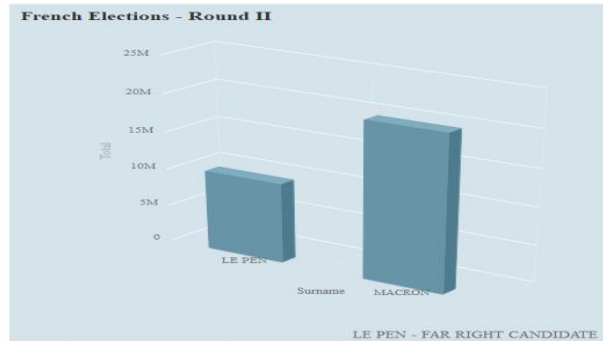
the U.K, France and Germany. Politicians like Donald Trump, Nigel Farage, and Marine Le Pen are gaining ground so is their ideology.

The representatives of these parties have gained crucial seats in many countries and entered into coalition pacts in eleven Western democracies, including Austria and Switzerland. Donald Trump often chided the European establishment and after the Brexit vote used the plot to attract the same feelings in the American people because of their Anglo Saxon roots, Nigel Farage often endorsed Trump and they had joint campaign rallies together. Trump's victory sent a shockwave to liberal communities across the western world as his triumph was a signal of support to other populist parties. The rise of Trump boldened the far right parties and they tried antidestablishmentalist political campaigns often siding with the American and English campaigns to further strengthen their momentum. Then 2017 French election, saw the rise of the far right candidate Marine Le Pen, leader of the The National Front (Front National). The party has existed for more than 40 years, Le Pen is the daughter of Jean - Marie Le Pen, founder of the party and it was considered as a racist and antisemitic party as his father always tried to put dirt over the Holocaust. Marine distanced herself from her father as she tried to normalise the image of the party. She has also denied French guilt over the Holocaust, she denied French involvement of Velodrome d'Hiver incident when French authorities rounded Jews so that they could be eventually sent to Nazi concentration camps, it is to be noted that the former French President Jacques Rene Chirac, publicly acknowledged guilt on behalf of the French state.



Graph 8: Results of the French Elections, Round I.

Marine Le Pen was close to the leading candidate Macron but in round II the gap widened and Macron was the presidency.

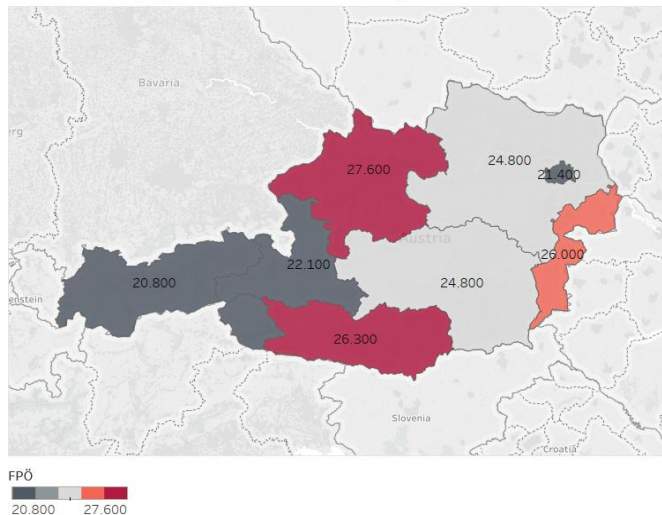


Graph 9: Results of the French Elections, Round II.

The centrist candidate Macron won the election, but the far-right party came second, this shows the change in political environment in France.

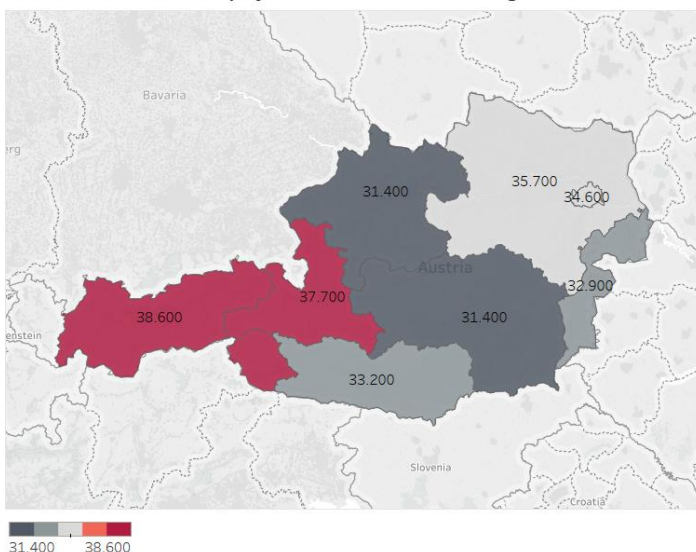
In the Austrian elections held in October 2017, two right wing and anti-immigrations parties swept most of the votes with the 31-year-old conservative People's Party Leader, Sebastian Kurz winning the bid for Chancellorship by promoting border controls and limited refugee policy. The freedom party resonated with its populist message and pays the way for other populist European parties.

Freedom Party of Austria - Votes Percentage Distribution



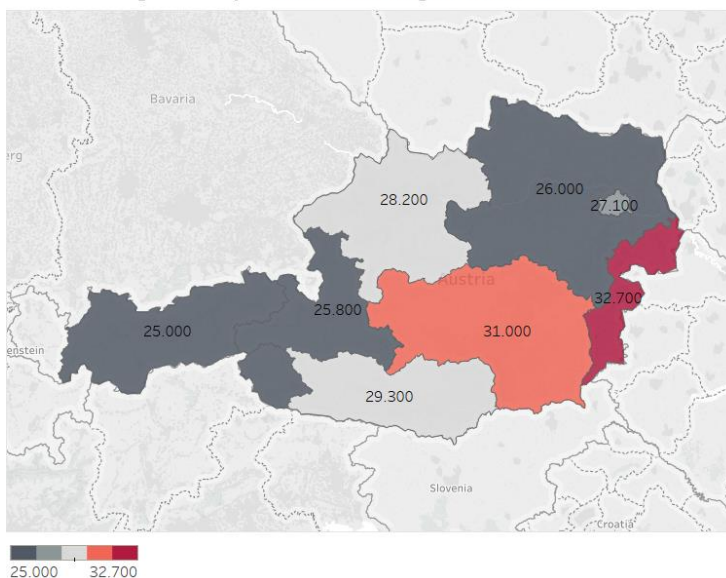
Graph 10: Results of Austrian Elections, 2017 [Party – FPÖ]

Social Democratic Party of Austria - Votes Percentage Distribution



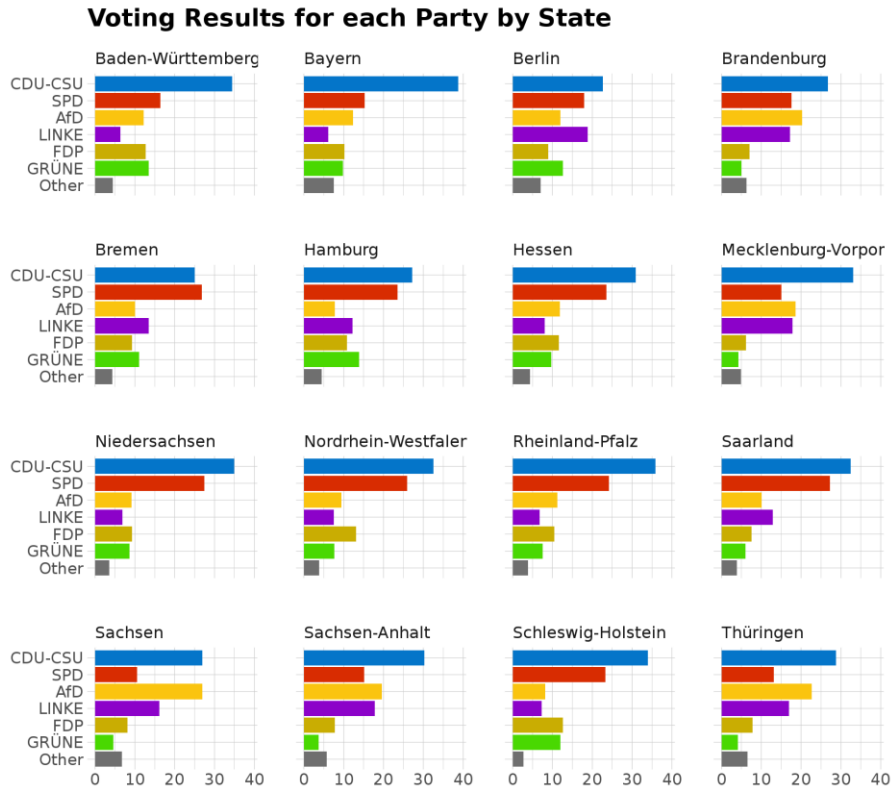
Graph 11: Results of Austrian Elections, 2017 [Party – SPÖ]

Austrian People's Party - Votes Percentage Distribution



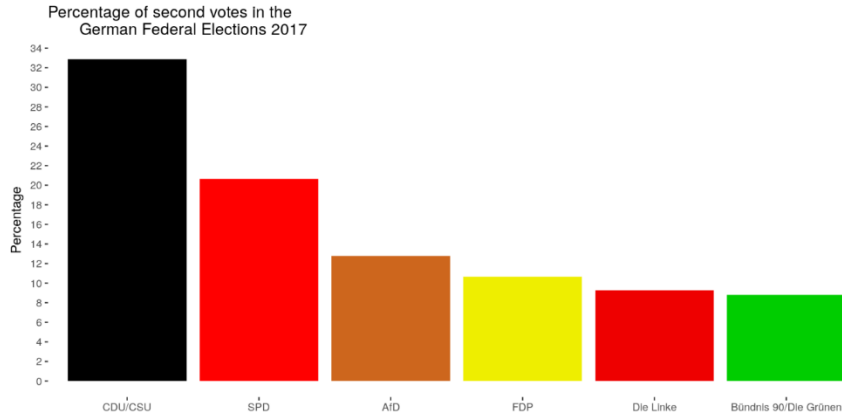
Graph 12: Results of Austrian Elections, 2017 [Party – ÖVP]

The graphs show the outcome of the 2017 elections in Austria and the rise of the far-right parties, the present government is anti-EU and anti-immigration which came to power using populist campaign slogans and fear mongering among voters. Political conservatism is not a bad thing in politics but tilting towards the extreme in any political ideology marginalises the majority population and minority.



Graph 13: The rise of the right-wing party, AfD in Germany.

Angela Markel and her party, CDU won the elections but in many states, the extreme right-wing party AfD [Alternative for Germany] has won the majority seats.

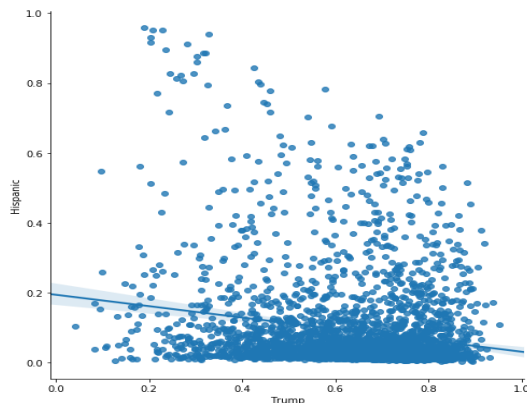


Graph 14: AfD stood third in the election.

Alternative for Germany, German nationalist, right-wing populist, and Eurosceptic party become the first nationalist movement to enter the German parliament since World War II, after winning 12 percent of the vote in federal election.

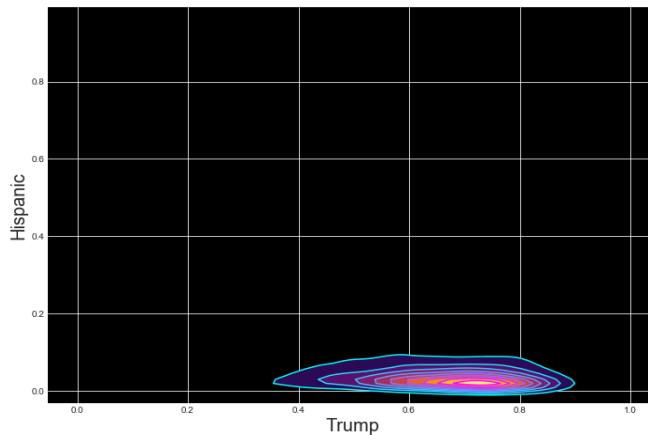
Identity Politics In The United States

Results : The following are regression graphs with respect to candidates and ethnicities in the United States, each candidate has majority over certain sections of society. The Democrats are popular with black, hispanic and educated whites where as the Republicans are popular with whites.



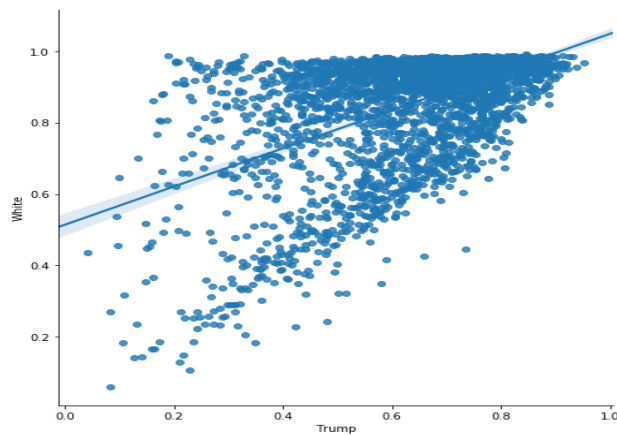
Graph 15: Votes across Hispanic Population, Trump.

Trump's rhetoric was quite stringent when it came to Mexican immigrants, the plot shows the nonlinear relation between Hispanic voters and Trump's campaign. Trump proposed a border wall to keep away illegal immigrants and often commented negatively about Mexicans.



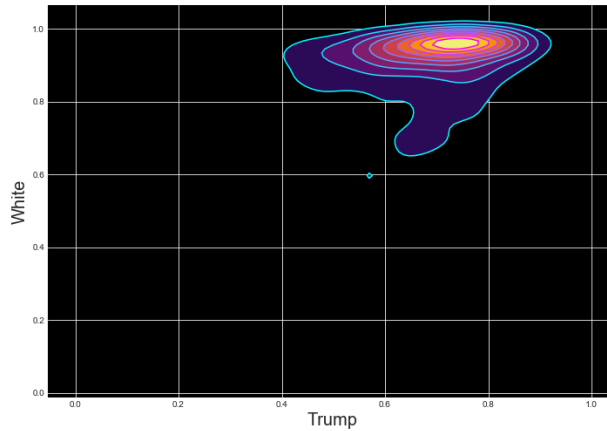
Graph 16: Density width across Hispanic Population, Trump.

The kernel density is strongest in counties where the Hispanic population is between 0% to 20%.



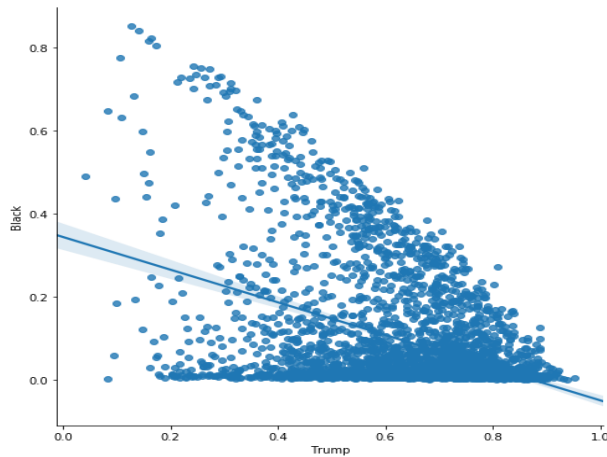
Graph 17: Votes across White Population, Trump.

The plot shows the linear relationship between white voters and the Trump campaign, the majority votes gained by Trump were from this demographic.



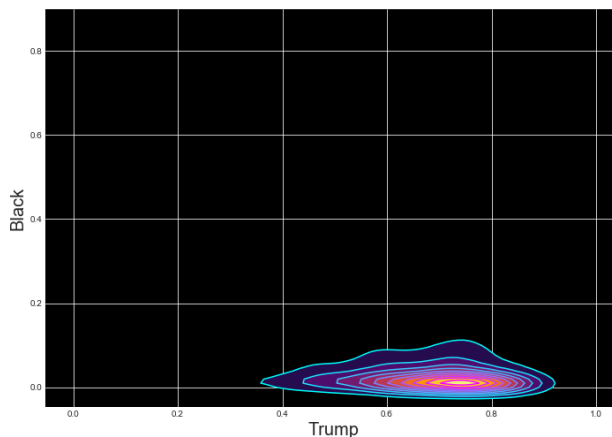
Graph 18: Density width across White Population, Trump.

The kernel density is strongest in counties where the majority population is white, between 85% to 100%.



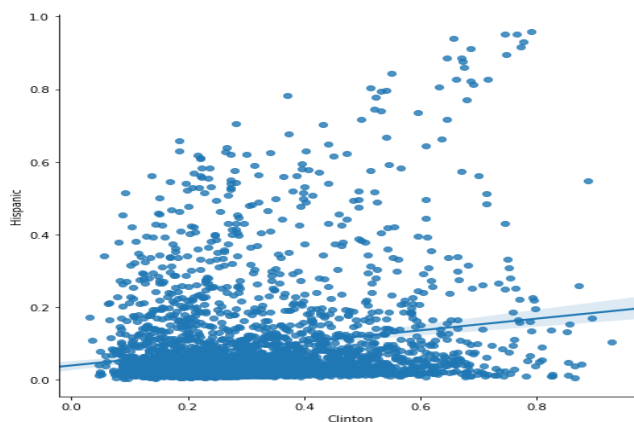
Graph 19: Votes across Black Population, Trump.

The plot shows the non linear relationship between black voters and the Trump campaign. Black voters kept their distance from Trump's campaign as Barack Obama was quite stringent and campaigned for Hillary Clinton, he attracted the black caucus and strengthened their support for Hillary Clinton.



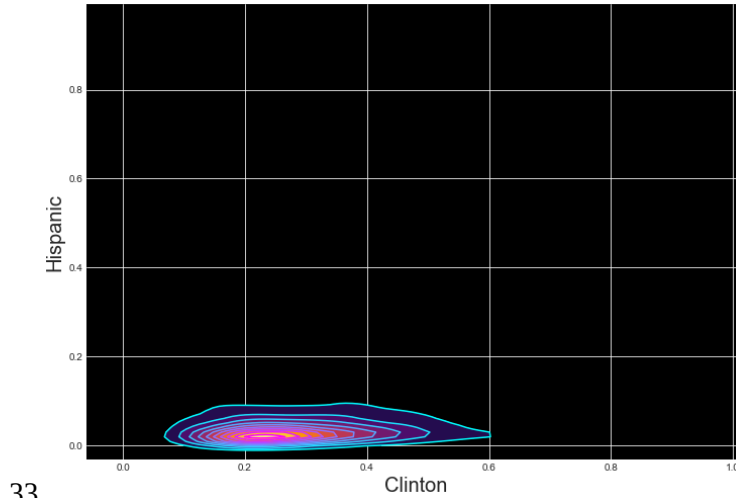
Graph 20: Density width across Black Population, Trump.

The kernel density is strongest in counties where the Black population is between 0% to 20%.



Graph 21: Votes across Hispanic Population, Clinton.

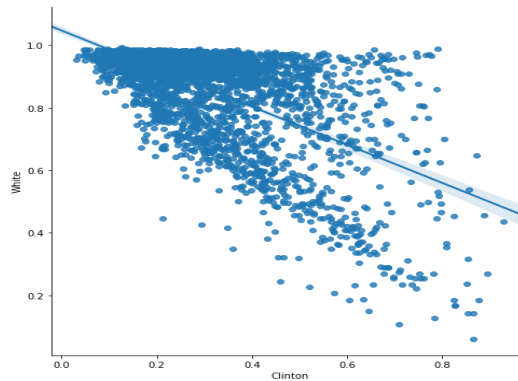
The plot shows the slow linear relationship between Hispanic voters and the Clinton campaign.



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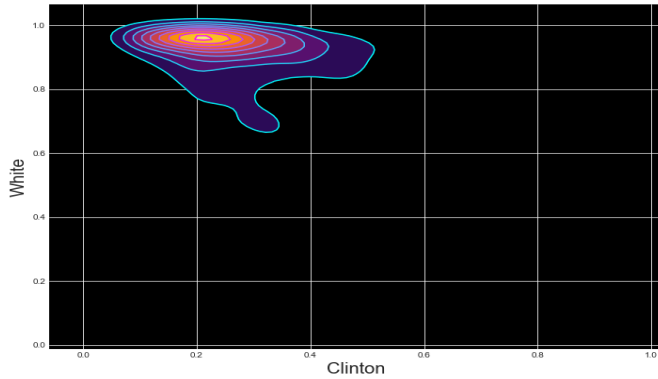
Graph 22: Density width across Hispanic Population, Clinton.

The kernel density is strongest in counties where the Hispanic population is between 0% to 20%. The Hispanic population was quite discouraged as their candidate Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz lost the first election round.



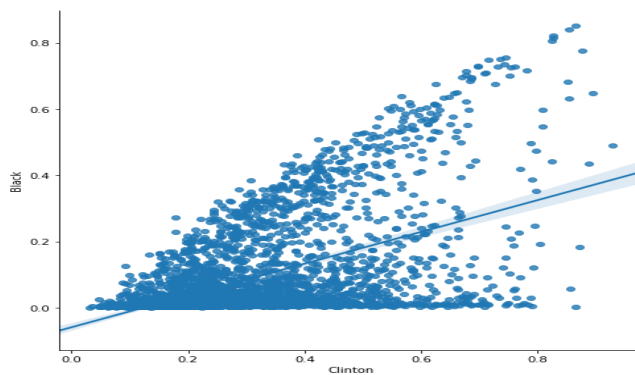
Graph 23: Votes across White Population, Clinton.

The graph shows the nonlinear relation between White voters and the Clinton campaign, Hillary won the most votes where the white voter percentage was 40% - 50%.



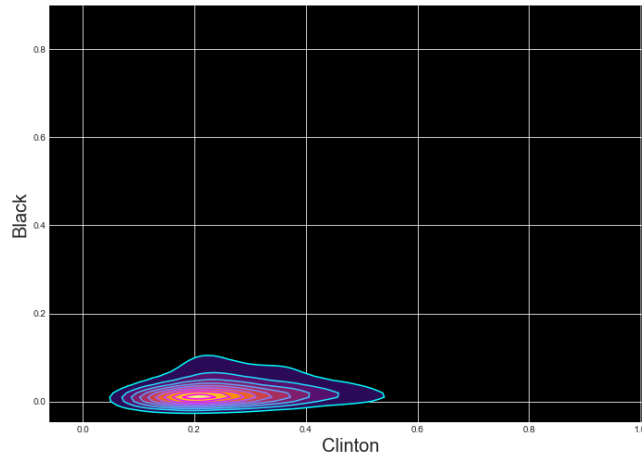
Graph 24: Density width across White Population, Clinton.

The kernel density is strongest in counties where the white population is between 40% - 50%.



Graph 25: Votes across Black Population, Clinton.

The black population diligently campaigned for Hillary Clinton as the former president Obama supported her campaign, the graph shows a linear relation between black voters and the Clinton campaign.



Graph 26: Density width across Black Population, Clinton.

The kernel density is strongest in counties where there is significant percentage of black population. Blacks were underrepresented in the 2016 election but still the majority votes were for Hillary Clinton.

Conclusion: The governments need to target all sections of society without political discrimination as it leads to power consolidation among a certain section of the society. In the 2016 American election, the white vote was the main factor influencing the election even though the popular vote was won Hillary Clinton. The graphs are a proof that candidates segment their voters by populist rhetoric to gain the maximum fraction of votes.

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