

MIGRANT POLITICAL TRANSNATIONALISM: A SOCIO-POLITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE ELECTORAL BEHAVIOR OF BRAZILIAN EXPATS

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Research Question

Why did 86% of Brazilians in Massachusetts vote for Jair Bolsonaro in the 2018 Brazilian presidential elections compared to only 55% of Brazilians in Brazil?

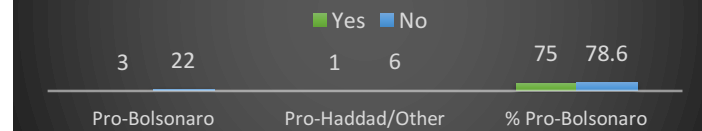
Introduction

- Hypothesis:
 - Electoral behavior = discrimination → religion + use of narrowly controlled media
- Literature on discrimination → religion/radical politics
 - Turks (in Germany)
 - Bolivians expats (in Brazil, Argentina, Spain, U.S.)
 - Cuban-Americans
- Literature on media → shape political thought
 - Radio stations with ties to candidate: 28% higher chance of winning

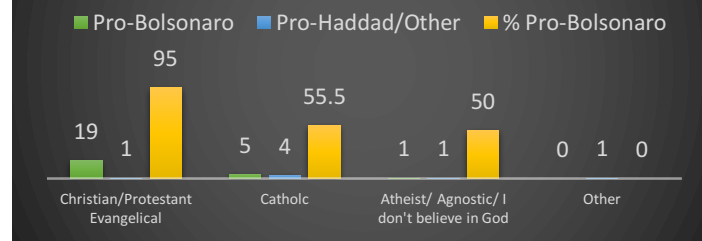
Methodology

- Qualitative: Focus Groups → Interviews (COVID-19)
 - 32 participants (16W/16M)
- Quantitative: 7-question questionnaire

Relationship Between Experience of Discrimination and Voter Preference



Relationship Between Religious Affiliation and Voter Preference



Relationship Between Viewership of Smaller News Outlets and Voter Preference



Conclusion

- 82.8% of Christians (Catholics and Evangelicals) were pro-Bolsonaro
 - 55.5% of Catholics were pro-Bolsonaro
 - 95% of Evangelicals were pro-Bolsonaro
- Use of smaller media
 - 3.8% greater probability of being pro-Bolsonaro
- 7 participants not pro-Bolsonaro
 - 4 participants ≠ Christian

Future Studies

- Include a larger population sample
- Reword question on discrimination
 - To better understand how the effects of “marginalization” or “hardship” impact Brazilian immigrants

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