The Geography of Discrimination in Voting: MRP Meets the VRA

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CCES Conference 2013
Sundance, Utah
Hitting the bull’s eye throwing a dart backwards over shoulder.

MEASURE OF RACIAL PREJUDICE BY STATE (2008)
The coverage formula has a “plainly legitimate sweep.”

RANKING COVERED STATES IN 10,000 SIMULATIONS (2008)
Prejudice is ambiguously correlated with racially polarized voting.

**RACIAL PREJUDICE vs. RPV (2008)**

![Graph showing the relationship between racial prejudice and racially polarized voting](image)
The real payoff of MRP will be for sub-state estimation.

RACIAL PREJUDICE AND SECTION 2
The real payoff of MRP will be for sub-state estimation.

RACIAL PREJUDICE AND SECTION 2

County-level prejudice

Create sensible presumptions whether racial discrimination impairs minority political participation

(Cannot solve “but-for” causal test)
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The coverage formula has a “plainly legitimate sweep.”

RANKING COVERED STATES IN 10,000 SIMULATIONS

(B) Likelihood that covered states are 'most' prejudiced
(above nat'l average)

At least ...

Likelihood

1 state
2 states
3 states
4 states
5 states
6 states
7 states

... in the top ____ states
The coverage formula has a “plainly legitimate sweep.”

RANKING COVERED STATES IN 10,000 SIMULATIONS

Likelihood that covered states are 'most' prejudiced
(above 75th percentile)

... in the top ____ states

Likelihood

At least ...

0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0

1 state
2 states
3 states
4 states
5 states
6 states
7 states

... in the top ____ states
Did Congress “hit the bullseye throwing dart over shoulder”?

MEASURE OF NEGATIVE RACIAL STEREOTYPES BY STATE

Average prejudice score

Proportion above average

Proportion in top quartile
Comparing “racial resentment” to “explicit stereotypes.”

CCES vs. ANGENBERG: 2008 & 2012
Our project explores *relative* differences in racial attitudes.

SHELBY COUNTY V. HOLDER (ORAL ARGUMENT, FEB. 27, 2013)

**CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS:**
Is it the government’s submission that the citizens in the South are more racist than citizens in the North?
Our project explores *relative* differences in racial attitudes.

SHELBY COUNTY V. HOLDER (ORAL ARGUMENT, FEB. 27, 2013)

*CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS:* Is it the government’s submission that the citizens in the South are more racist than citizens in the North?

*SOLICITOR GENERAL VERRILLI:* It is not, and I do not know the answer to that, Your Honor . . .