

Supplementary Materials

Appendix A: List of Studies Included in the Meta-regressions (Excluding the Quebec Experiment)

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Appendix B: Research Queries for Two Bibliographical Databases

PAIS International

KW=(Vote OR Votes OR Voter OR Voters OR Voting OR Turnout OR Election OR Elections OR “Political campaign*” OR “Political participation”) OR DE=”Campaigns, Political”

AND

TI=(Experiment OR Experiments OR Experimental) OR KW=(Randomized OR Randomised OR “Randomly assign*” OR Randomization OR “Controlled experiment*” OR “Controlled trial*” OR “Controlled before” OR “Experimental design*” OR “Experimental field” OR “Experimental research” OR “Experimental study” OR “Experimental trial*” OR “Field experiment*” OR “Field trial*” OR “Natural experiment*” OR “Natural trial*” OR “Quasi experimental” OR “Control group*” OR “Treatment group *” OR “Interrupted time*” OR “Time serie*” OR “Repeated measures design”)

Worldwide Political Science Abstracts

KW=(Vote OR Votes OR Voter OR Voters OR Voting OR Turnout OR Election OR Elections OR “Political campaign*” OR “Political participation”)

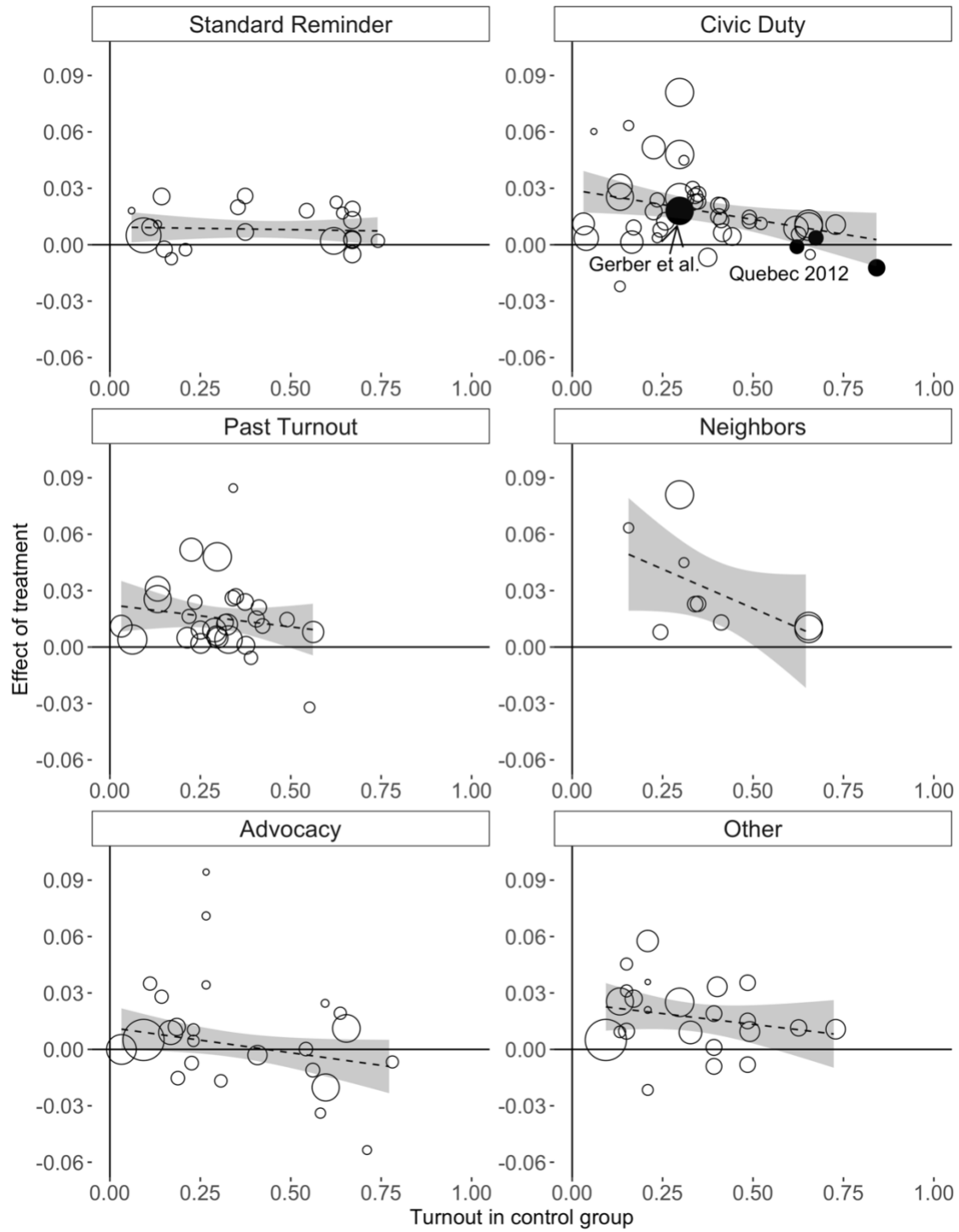
AND

TI=(Experiment OR Experiments OR Experimental) OR KW=(Randomized OR Randomised OR “Randomly assign*” OR Randomization OR “Controlled experiment*” OR “Controlled trial*” OR “Controlled before” OR “Experimental design*” OR “Experimental field” OR “Experimental research” OR “Experimental study” OR “Experimental trial*” OR “Field experiment*” OR “Field trial*” OR “Natural experiment*” OR “Natural trial*” OR “Quasi experimental” OR “Control group*” OR “Treatment group *” OR “Interrupted time*” OR “Time serie*” OR “Repeated measures design”) OR DE=Experiments

Note: While non-random and comparative studies were included in research queries, they were excluded afterwards.

Appendix C: Plots by Message Type

Figure 1: Estimated Treatment Effect Depending on Voter Turnout in the Control Group



Note: Two standard reminder messages with very low N from experiments conducted in 1953-1954 were removed from the plot. Dotted lines represent averages.

Appendix D: Sample Description for the Quebec Field Experiments

				In-district sampled voters		
	Registered voters	Voters who cast a ballot	In-district sampled voters	Voted	Did not vote	Not on voting record
	[a]	[b]	[c]	[d]	[e]	[f]
Pontiac	48 697	30 255	2 631	1 621	984	26
Chutes-de-la-Chaudière	54 981	45 981	2 987	2 467	504	16
Jeanne-Mance-Viger	48 069	32 401	2 905	1 967	936	2
Lac-Saint-Jean	42 721	32 268	2 952	--	--	--

Appendix E: Voter Turnout for the Quebec Field Experiments

	Control group			Experimental group		
	Registered voters	Voters who cast a ballot	Turnout	Registered voters	Voters who cast a ballot	Turnout
	[a]-[c]	[b]-[d]		[c]	[d]	
Pontiac	46 066	28 634	62.16%	2 631	1 621	61.61%
Chutes-de-la-Chaudière	51 675	43 514	84.21%	2 987	2 467	82.59%
Jeanne-Mance-Viger	45 164	30 434	67.39%	2 905	1 967	67.71%
Lac-Saint-Jean	39 769	--	--	2 952	--	--

Note: square brackets refer to columns in Table 1.

Appendix F: Treatment Messages for Individual Experiments

Gerber, Green & Larimer (2008)	Letter from EQ (in English)	Letter from EQ (in French)
<p>For more information (517) 351-1975 email: etov@grebner.com Practical Political Consulting P.O. Box 6249 East Lansing, MI 48826</p> <p>(Name and address)</p> <p>Dear Registered Voter</p> <p>DO YOUR CIVIC DUTY AND VOTE!</p> <p>Why do so many people fail to vote? We've been talking about this problem for years, but it only seems to get worse.</p> <p>The whole point of democracy is that citizens are active participants in government; that we have a voice in government. Your voice starts with your vote. On August 8, remember your rights and responsibilities as a citizen. Remember to vote.</p> <p>DO YOUR CIVIC DUTY – VOTE!</p>	<p>Quebec City, August 21st, 2012</p> <p><i>(Name and address)</i></p> <p>VOTING, A CIVIC DUTY FOR ALL CITIZENS!</p> <p>In a democracy, citizen engagement in the political life is essential. This engagement starts with the election of our representatives, on election day. On September 4th, remember that it is your civic duty to make sure your voice is heard. Vote!</p> <p><i>(Signature)</i> Jacques Drouin Chief Electoral Officer and President of the <i>Commission de la représentation électorale du Québec</i></p>	<p>Québec, le 21 août 2012</p> <p><i>(Name and address)</i></p> <p>VOTER, UN DEVOIR CIVIQUE POUR TOUS LES CITOYENS ET CITOYENNES!</p> <p>En démocratie, la participation des citoyennes et des citoyens à la vie politique est essentielle. Cette participation commence par l'élection de nos représentants, le jour du scrutin.</p> <p>Le 4 septembre prochain, souvenez-vous que c'est votre devoir de citoyen de faire entendre votre voix. Votez!</p> <p><i>(Signature)</i> Jacques Drouin Directeur général des élections et Président de la Commission de la représentation électorale du Québec</p>