Taylor & Francis
Online

Ethnic and Racial Studies ›
Volume 36, 2013 - Issue 4

6,344 Views | 130 CrossRef citations to date | 23 Altmetric

Original Articles

Contextual explanations of radical right-wing support in Sweden: socioeconomic marginalization, group threat, and the halo effect

Jens Rydgren & Patrick Ruth

Pages 711-728 | Received 21 Mar 2011, Accepted 05 Sep 2011, Published online: 01 Nov 2011

Cite this article https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2011.623786

Sample our Social Sciences Journals
>> Sign in here to start your access to the latest two volumes for 14 days

Full Article | Figures & data | References | Citations | Metrics
Reprints & Permissions | Read this article | Share

Abstract

This paper provides a thorough test of important contextual explanations of variation in electoral support for radical right-wing parties. It has been proposed that support of the radical right is particularly strong in areas that are socioeconomically poor and/or where the concentration of immigrants is high. A variant of the latter hypothesis, known as the 'halo effect', states that the propensity to vote for the radical right is highest in areas close to immigrant-dense areas, but not within these areas. The data analyses are based on the total population of voting districts in Sweden (N = 5,668), which makes it possible to avoid some of the problems that usually plague studies of contextual effects on voting, such as low numbers of observations. The results demonstrate support for the socioeconomic marginalization hypothesis and, when

controlling for socioeconomic factors, the halo effect hypothesis; whereas the support for group threat theory is mixed.

Keywords:

Ethnic competition | group threat theory | halo effect | radical right | social marginalization | voting

Notes

1. We also tried to include a Gini measure, the average level of education, and housing types (private/public owned houses). None of these measures added anything to our models, and they caused multi-collinearity. For that reason we excluded them from our final models.

Related research

People also read | Recommended articles | Cited by 130

Information for

- Authors
- R&D professionals
- Editors
- Librarians
- Societies

Open access

- Overview
- Open journals
- Open Select
- Dove Medical Press
- F1000Research

Opportunities

- Reprints and e-prints
- Advertising solutions
- Accelerated publication
- Corporate access solutions

Help and information

- Help and contact
- Newsroom
- All journals
- Books

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email

Sign me up

Copyright © 2026 Informa UK Limited Privacy policy

Cookies Terms & conditions Accessibility

Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG