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Party-crashers or wallflowers? The lack of strategic voting in experimental primaries

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ABSTRACT

Open and semi-open primaries allow members of opposing political parties to

participate in the primary election. This paper examines the effect of open and semi-open primaries on the turnout of voters. We find that open primaries lead to higher turnout than semi-open primaries, and that the effect is larger for voters who are less politically engaged. We also find that open primaries lead to higher turnout for voters who are less politically engaged than for voters who are more politically engaged. This finding is consistent with the idea that open primaries are more likely to attract voters who are less politically engaged than semi-open primaries. We also find that open primaries lead to higher turnout for voters who are less politically engaged than for voters who are more politically engaged. This finding is consistent with the idea that open primaries are more likely to attract voters who are less politically engaged than semi-open primaries.

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Show Purpose

- We conduct an experiment of voting under different primary types.
- We examine voter choices in primary and general elections when costs increase.
- Voters are largely unwilling to engage in strategic voting.

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Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Notes

¹ For the Hazan (2000) findings and

² As in the case of the number of voters

Issues in  3 Str... outcomes. (14).



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