Leaders' Personalities and the Outcomes of Democratic Elections


Full text not available from this repository.
Official URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/0199253137.001.0001

Abstract

A widely held belief concerning democratic elections is that the votes of many individuals are influenced by their assessments of the competing candidates’ personalities and other personal characteristics and that, as a consequence, the outcomes of entire democratic elections are often decided by ‘personality factors’ of this type. Experts on the electoral politics of six countries – the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Canada and Russia – set out to assess how far this emphasis on personality and personal characteristics is actually warranted by the available empirical evidence. Using a variety of methodologies, the authors seek to isolate and weigh the role played by personality both in influencing individual voters’ behaviour and in deciding election outcomes. They conclude that, even with regard to the United States, the impact of personality on individual voters’ decisions is usually quite small and that, more often than not, it cancels out. They also conclude that, largely for those reasons, the number of elections whose outcomes have been determined by voters’ assessments of the candidates is likewise quite small: much smaller than is usually supposed. Moreover, there are no signs that the importance of personality factors in determining election outcomes is increasing over time.

Item Type: Book

Uncontrolled Keywords: Britain, Canada, candidates’ personal characteristics, candidates’ personalities, democratic elections, election outcomes, France, Germany, Russia, United States, voters’ behaviour

Subjects: J Political Science > JC Political theory
J Political Science > JK Political institutions (United States)
J Political Science > JL Political institutions (America except United States)
J Political Science > JN Political institutions (Europe)

Divisions: Faculty of Social Sciences > Government, Department of

Depositing User: Jim Jamieson

Date Deposited: 14 Jan 2015 17:00

Last Modified: 14 Jan 2015 17:00

URI: http://repository.essex.ac.uk/id/eprint/12321

Actions (login required)

View Item

Altmetric

About

This is the University of Essex Research Repository Service.

Contact

Any correspondence concerning this specific repository should be sent to repository@essex.ac.uk

Credits

The University of Essex Research Repository is powered by EPrints 3 which is developed by the School of Electronics and Computer Science at the University of Southampton. More information and software credits.
Extra info for Leaders' Personalities and the Outcomes of Democratic Elections. Show sample text content. Bush was once affable and charismatic via many of the spring and summer time prior to turning into lazy and pressured in past due August and September—that is, at simply the purpose while he started to path Gore within the polls. As one fashionable reporter admitted, there’s something of a round phenomenon the following.