



The Latin American Voter: Pursuing Representation and Accountability in Challenging Contexts (New Comparative Politics)

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In this volume, experts on Latin American public opinion and political behavior employ region-wide public opinion studies, elite surveys, experiments, and advanced statistical methods to reach several key conclusions about voting behavior in the region's emerging democracies. In Latin America, to varying degrees the average voter grounds his or her decision in factors identified in classic models of voter choice. Individuals are motivated to go to the polls and select elected officials on the basis of class, religion, gender, ethnicity and other demographic factors; substantive political connections including partisanship, left-right stances, and policy preferences; and politician performance in areas like the economy, corruption, and crime.

Yet evidence from Latin America shows that the determinants of voter choice cannot be properly understood without reference to context—the substance (specific cleavages, campaigns, performance) and the structure (fragmentation and polarization) that characterize the political environment. Voting behavior reflects the relative youth and fluidity of the region's party systems, as parties emerge and splinter to a far greater degree than in long-standing party systems. Consequently, explanations of voter choice centered around country differences stand on equal footing to explanations focused on individual-level factors.

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Editorial Review

Review

“*The Latin American Voter* makes a unique, first contribution to a neglected area of electoral behavior. Can the Latin American voter be explained? The authors answer ‘Yes,’ with the proviso that Latin American voters are different. Voting in this region, they conclude, depends on context, heterogeneity, institutions, country, and ballot choices. In sum, they discover the Latin America voter as not one, but many. This perhaps surprising finding deserves a careful read by anyone wanting to understand elections in this part of the world.”

—Michael S. Lewis-Beck, University of Iowa

“... makes a significant contribution to Latin American studies and comparative electoral behavior. The book should be cited by everyone doing electoral behavior research in Latin America in the years ahead.”

—Russell Dalton, University of California-Irvine

“Can one really understand voting behavior without locating the vote in variant social, structural, ethnic and ideological contexts such as Latin America represents? Fully anchored in an understanding of major theoretical traditions, Carlin, Singer and Zechmeister’s collection, *The Latin American Voter*, may prove as fundamental to theorizing about voter choice as did earlier classics. This is a treasure trove of theoretical insight, derived from a masterful survey of existing literature, subjected to inventive and rigorous empirical examination.”

—Kenneth M. Coleman, University of Michigan

About the Author

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Elizabeth J. Zechmeister is Professor of Political Science and Director of the Latin American Public Opinion Project at Vanderbilt University.

Users Review

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everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider when those information which is within the former life are hard to be find than now's taking seriously which one works to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you receive the unstable resource then you understand it as your main information it will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take The Latin American Voter: Pursuing Representation and Accountability in Challenging Contexts (New Comparative Politics) as the daily resource information.

Martina White:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specially book entitled The Latin American Voter: Pursuing Representation and Accountability in Challenging Contexts (New Comparative Politics) the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in most aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a e-book then become one contact form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get just before. The The Latin American Voter: Pursuing Representation and Accountability in Challenging Contexts (New Comparative Politics) giving you one more experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful details for your better life in this particular era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

David Blunt:

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