

How Partisanship & Religion Impact Democratic Participation in Brazil

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RELIGION *and* BRAZILIAN DEMOCRACY

Mobilizing the People of God

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The rise of religious engagement
in democratic politics in Brazil....

Why?

With what consequences?

Growing Evangelical Activism



Growing Evangelical Activism



Growing Evangelical Activism



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Catholic Activism?



The Evidence

National Surveys, 2002-2017

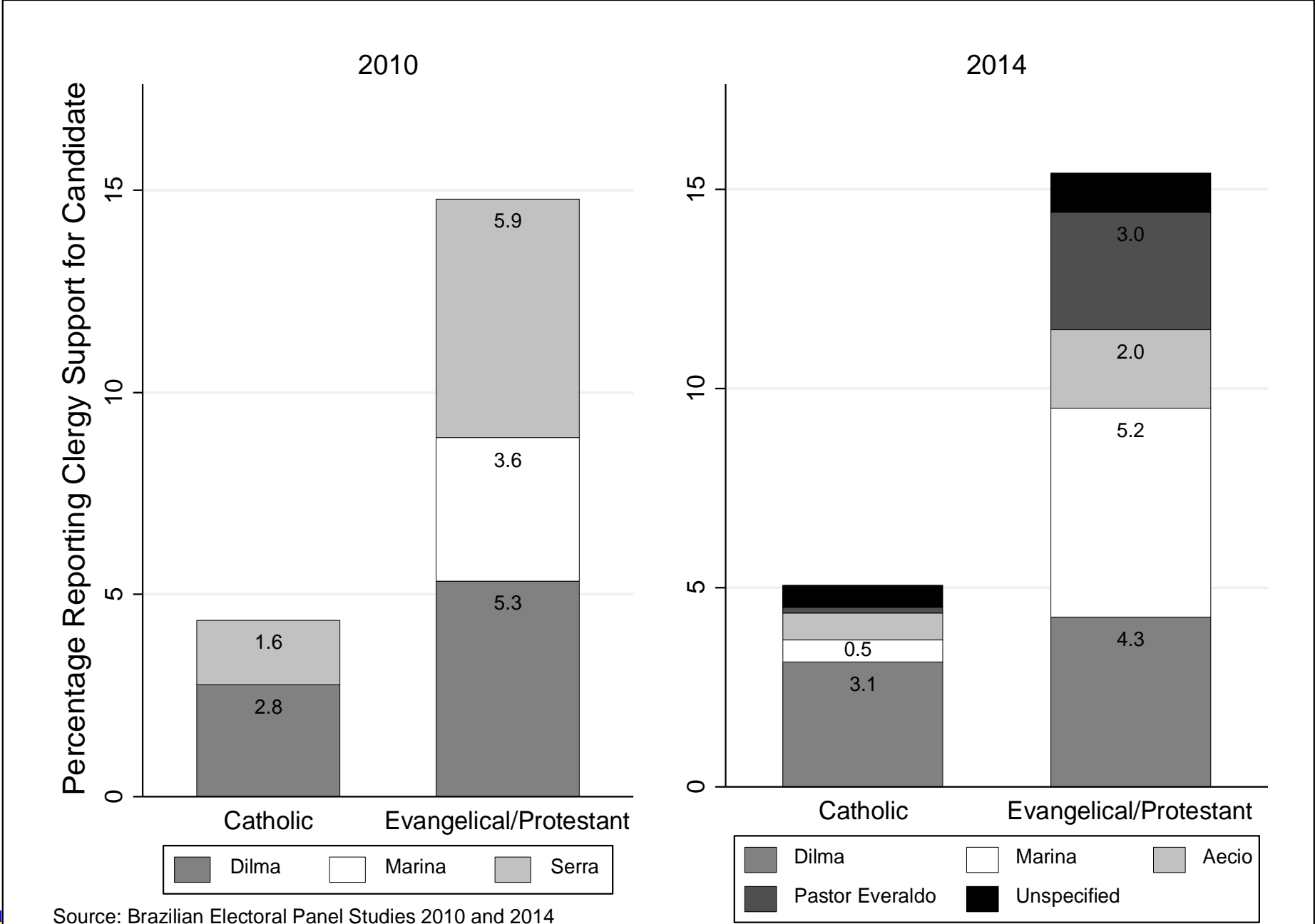
- Sneak peak at some 2018 data

Congregational study, 2014 & 2017

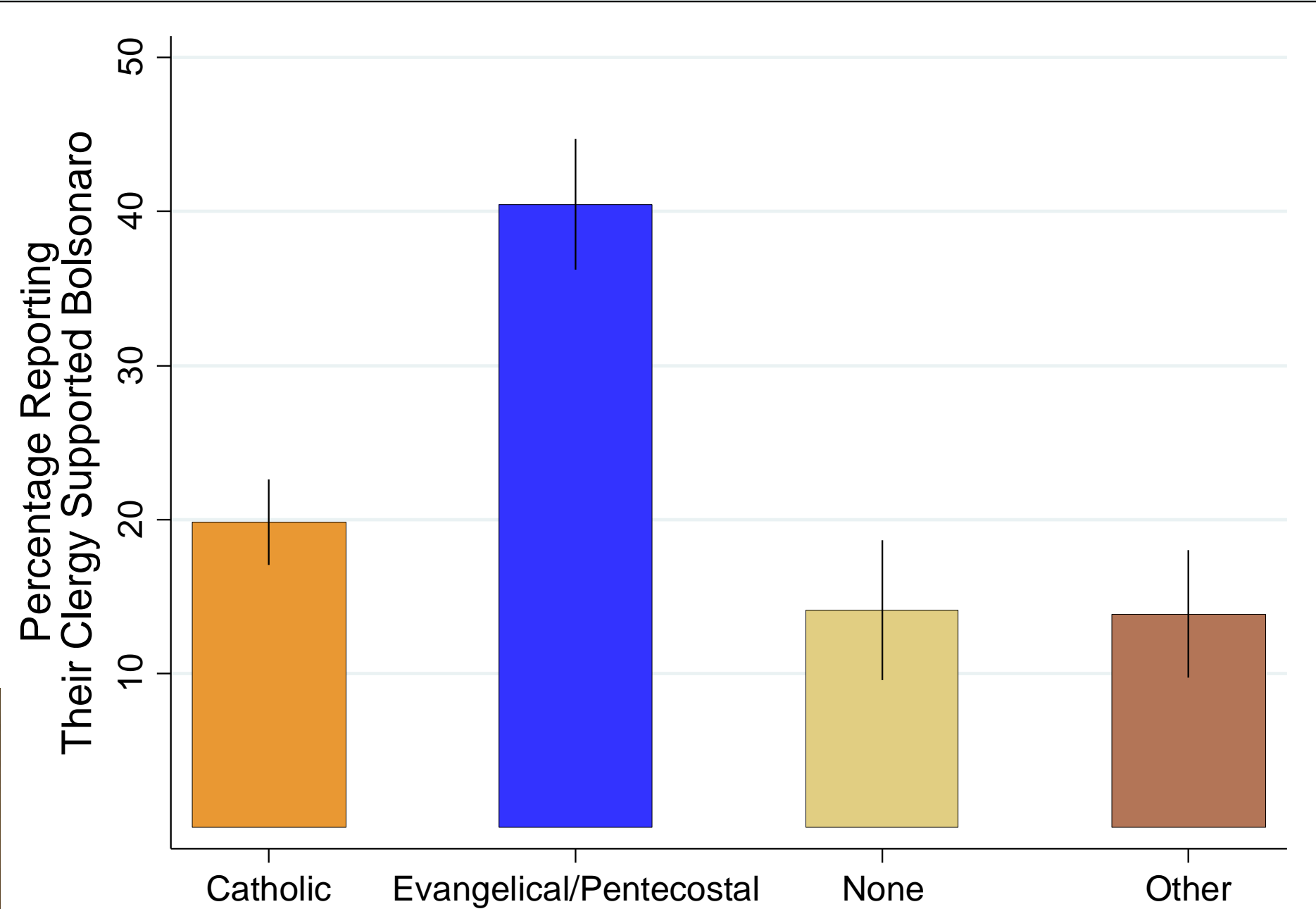
- Juiz de Fora
- Clergy interviews
- Participant observation
- Focus groups
- Quantitative surveys



Clergy support for candidates: “pulverization”

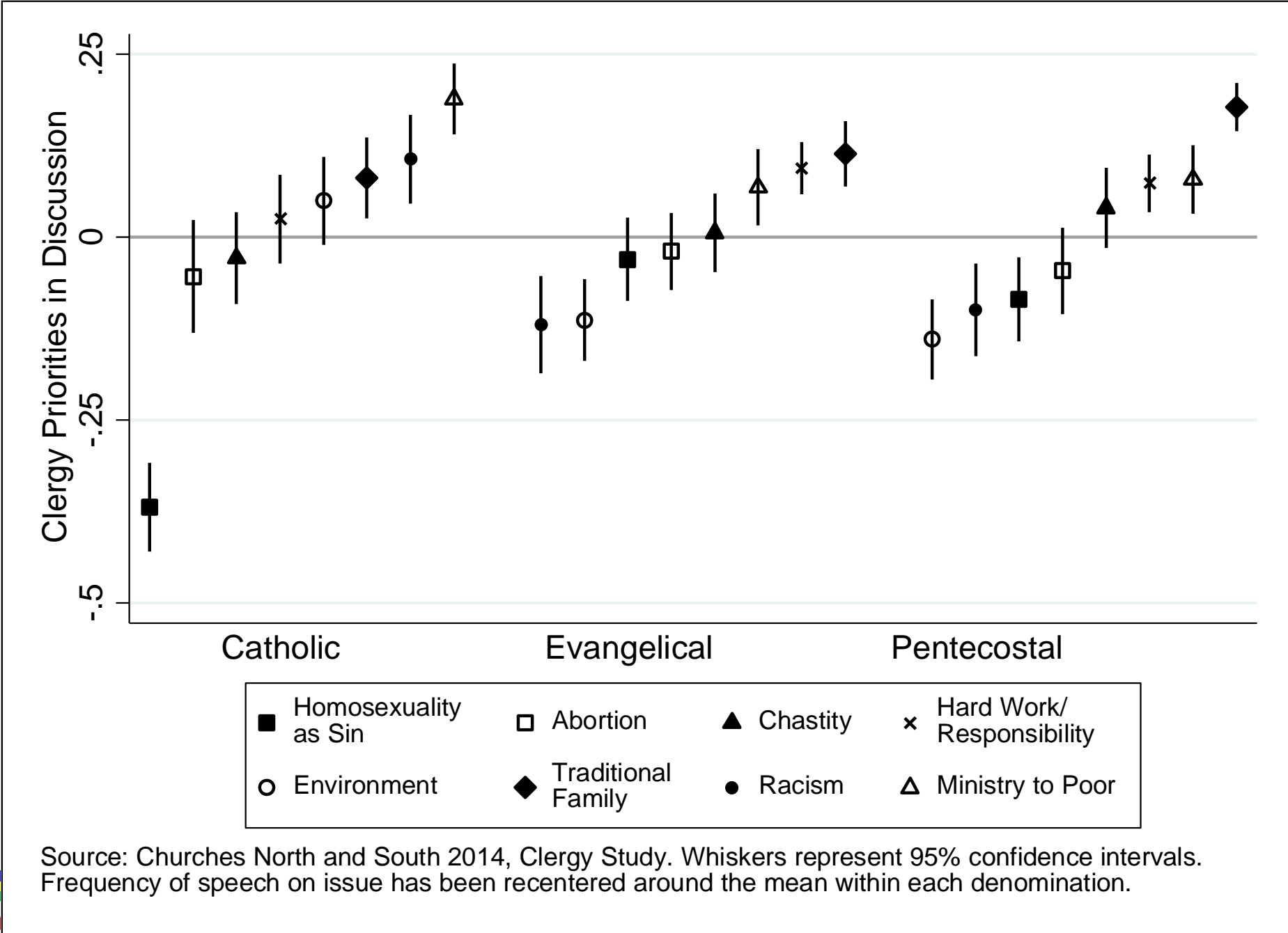


2018:
From
“pulverization”
to ...
consensus?



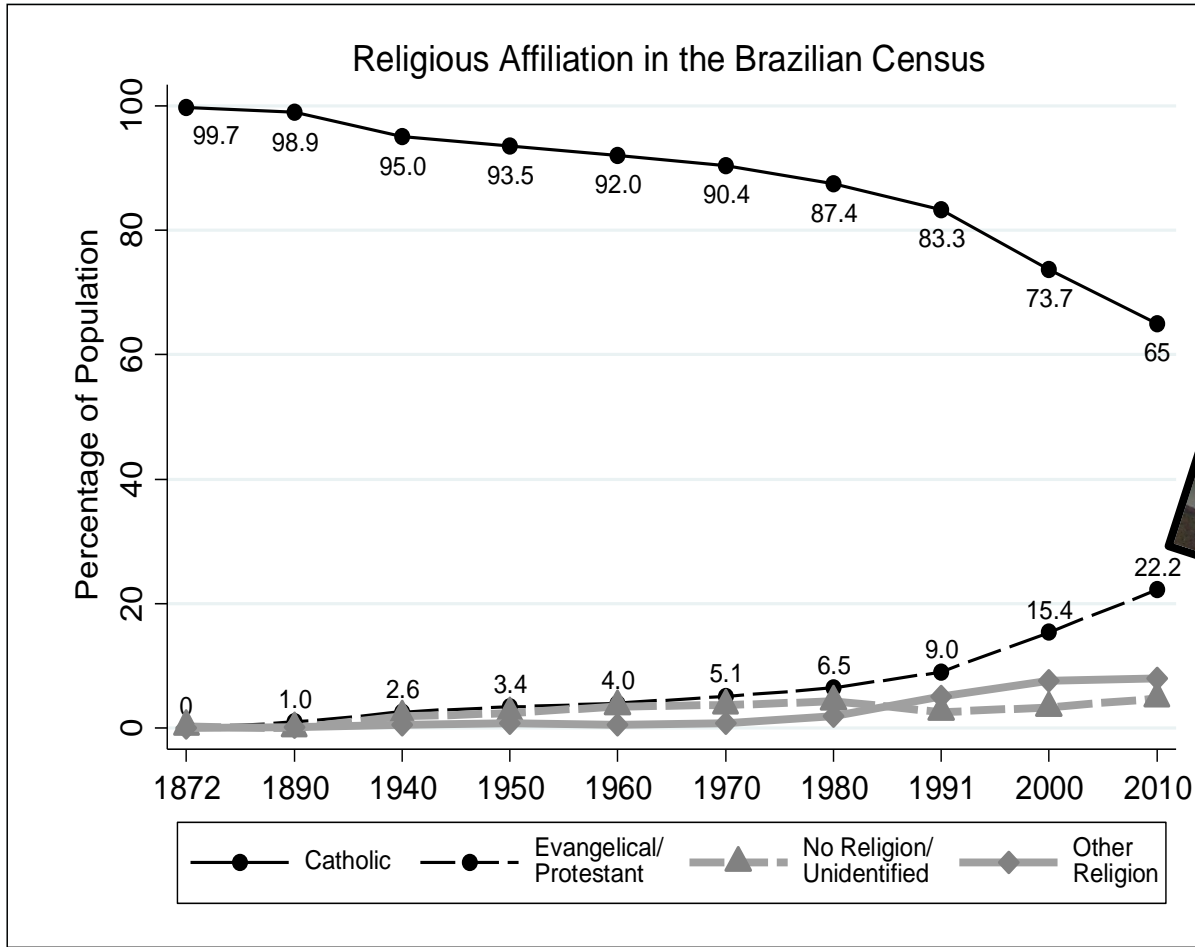
Source: Brazilian Democracy in the Balance panel study, 2018.

Clergy also talk about many other political issues with congregants.

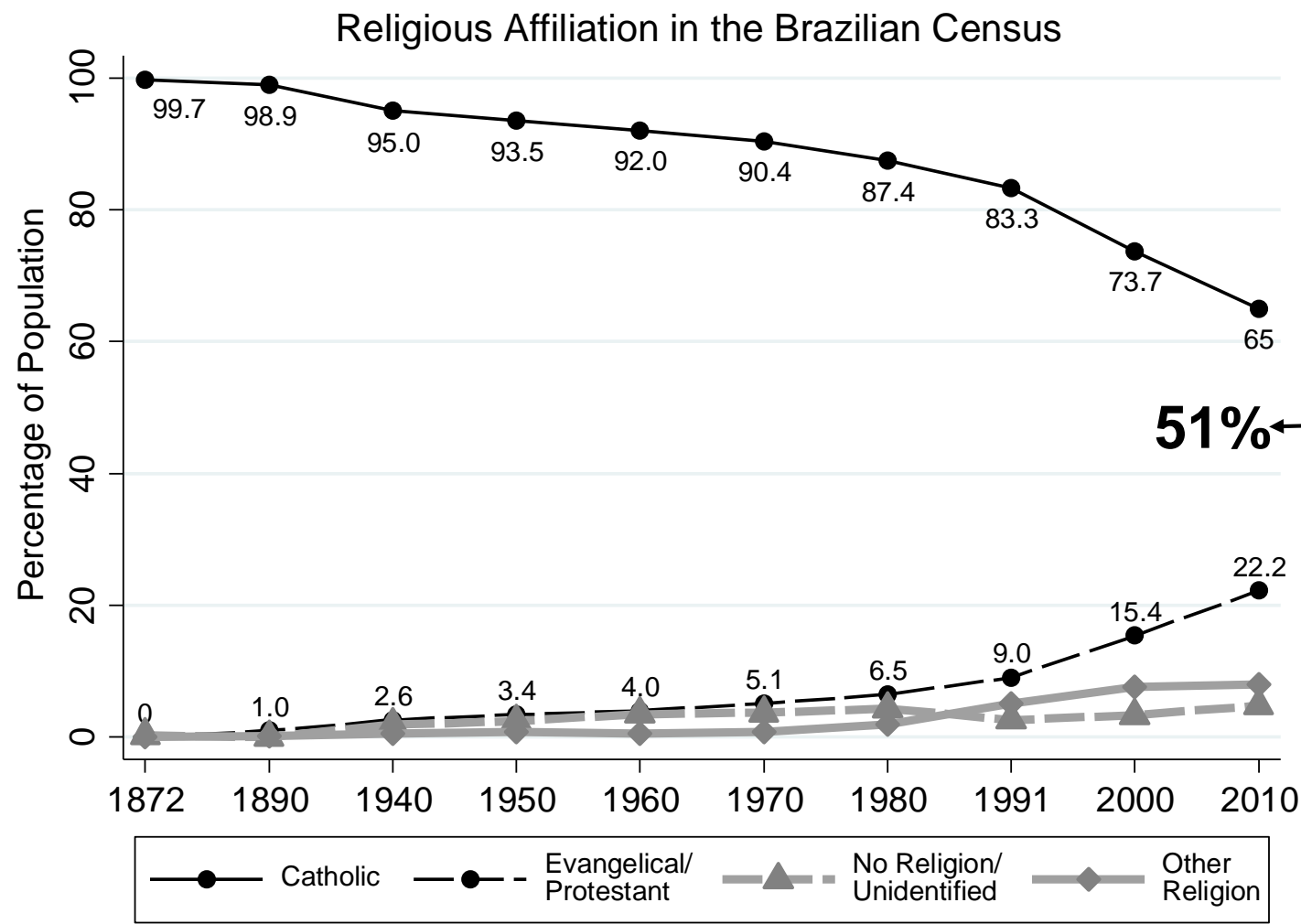


Why?

Religious Changes



Catholic clergy face a culture war on two fronts.



51%

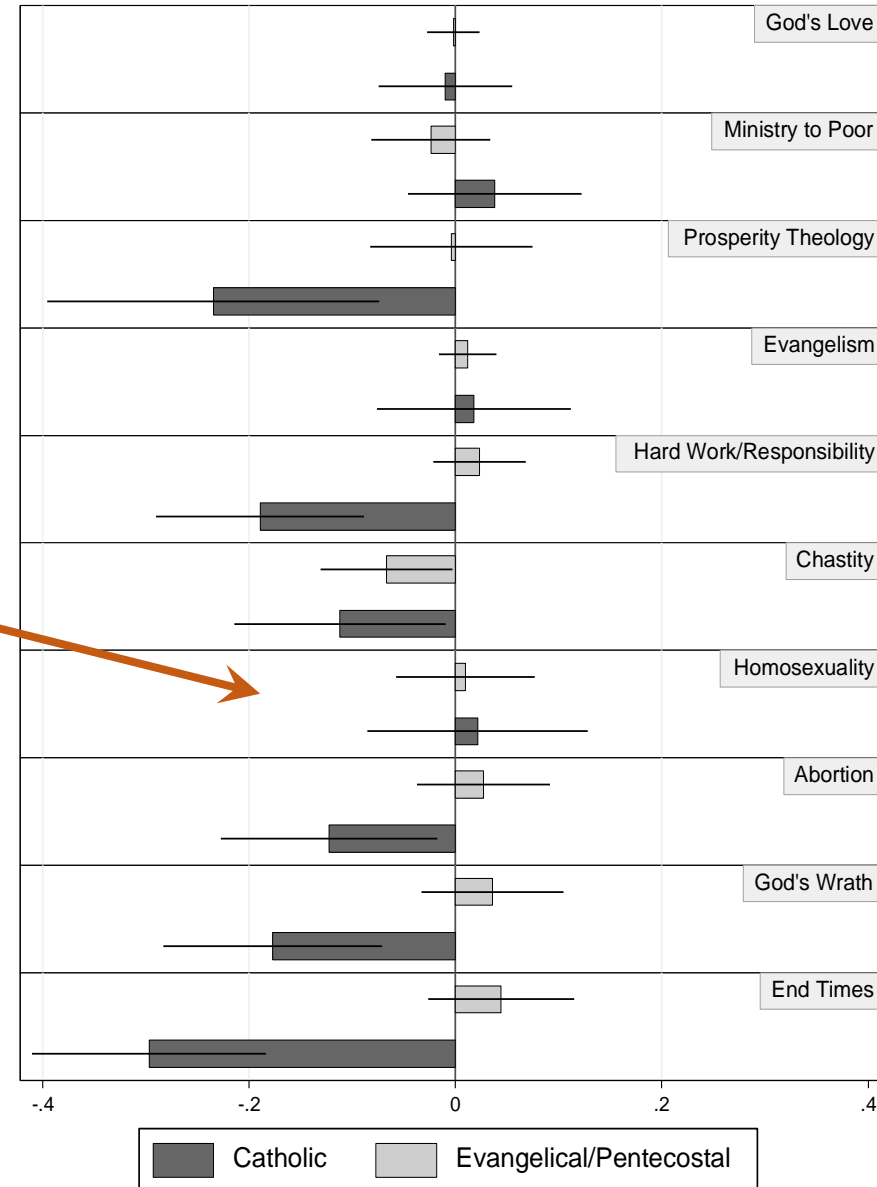


A survey experiment



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Impact of Competitive Threat on Religious Teachings



Note: Marginal effects of indicator for membership threat treatment, with fixed effects for sample component. Sample limited to full questionnaire. Num. observations: 278 to 285.

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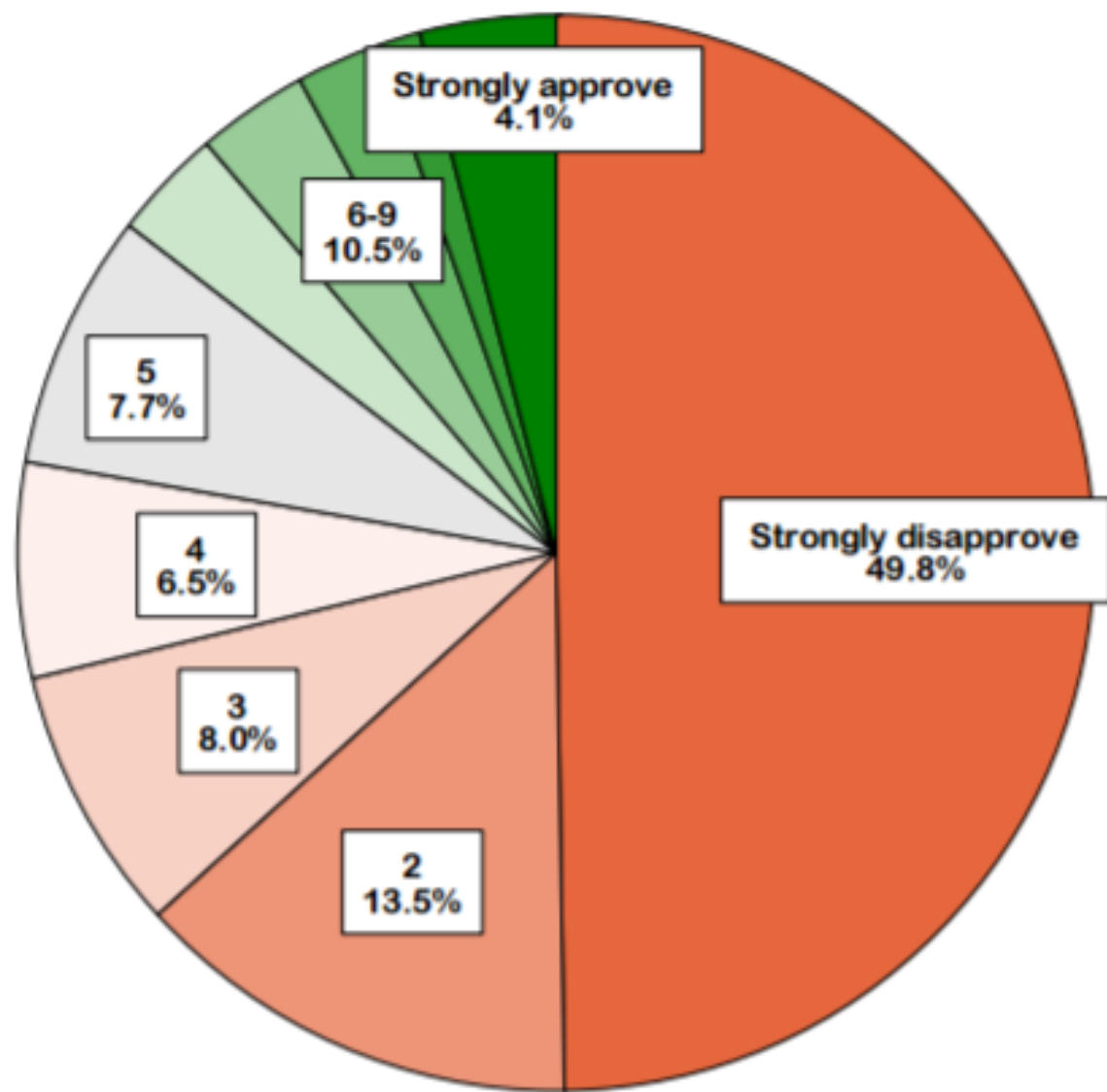
With what consequences?

A hypodermic needle
effect?





Figure 1. Approval for Religious Leaders Campaigning for Candidates in Brazil

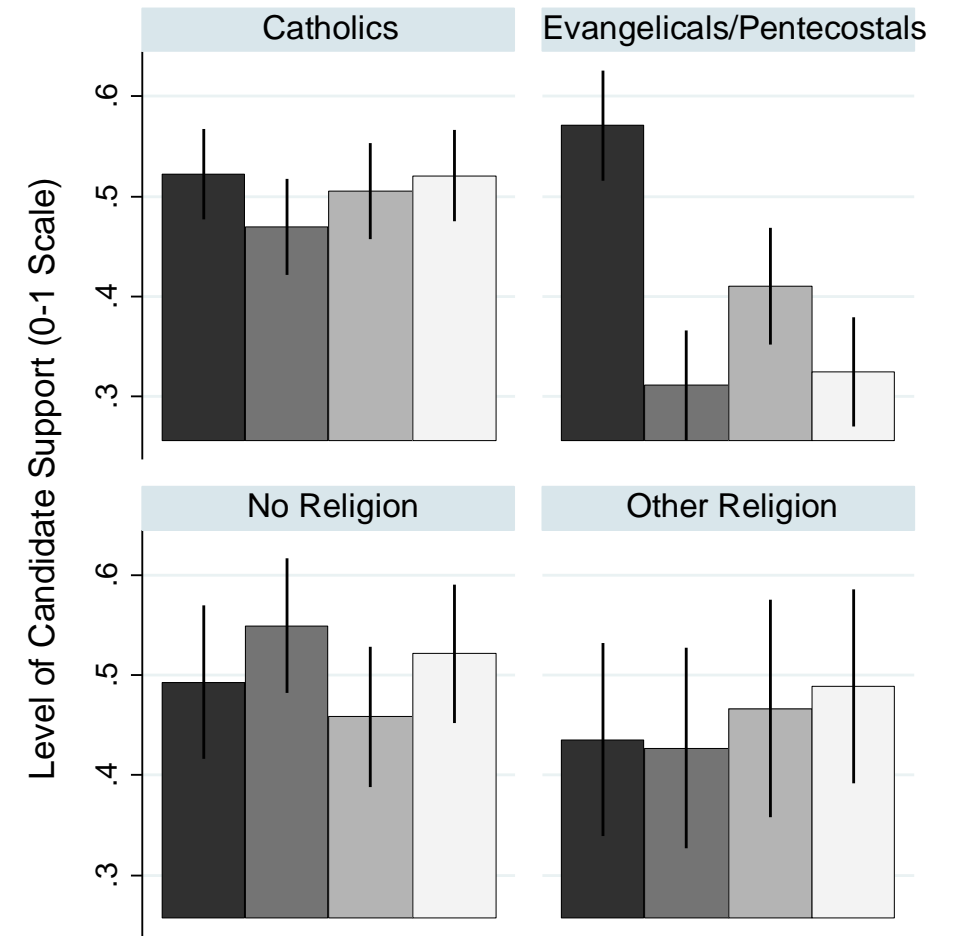
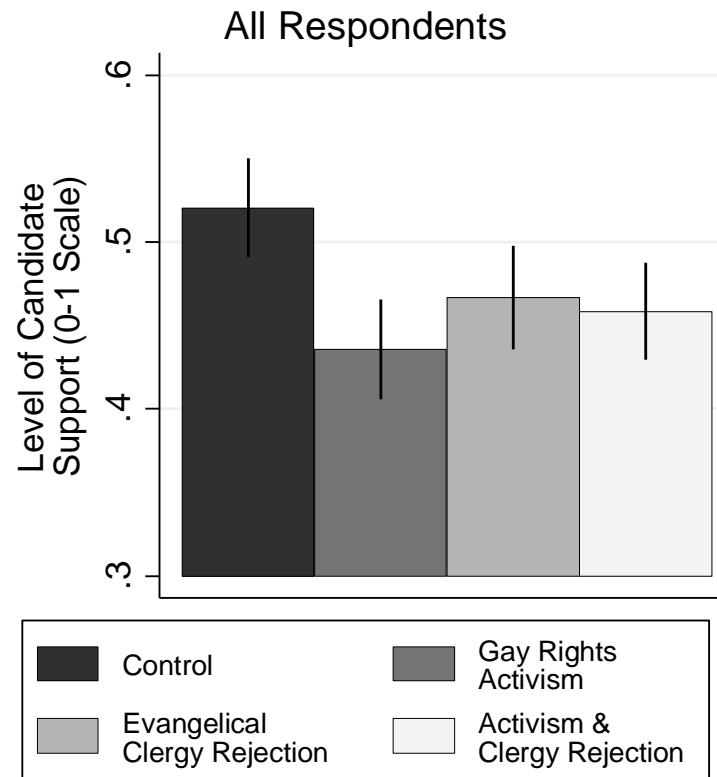


Support for religious leaders campaigning for candidates

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2014; Brazil 2014 v1_W

What happens when a clergy member takes a position on a candidate?

Another survey experiment



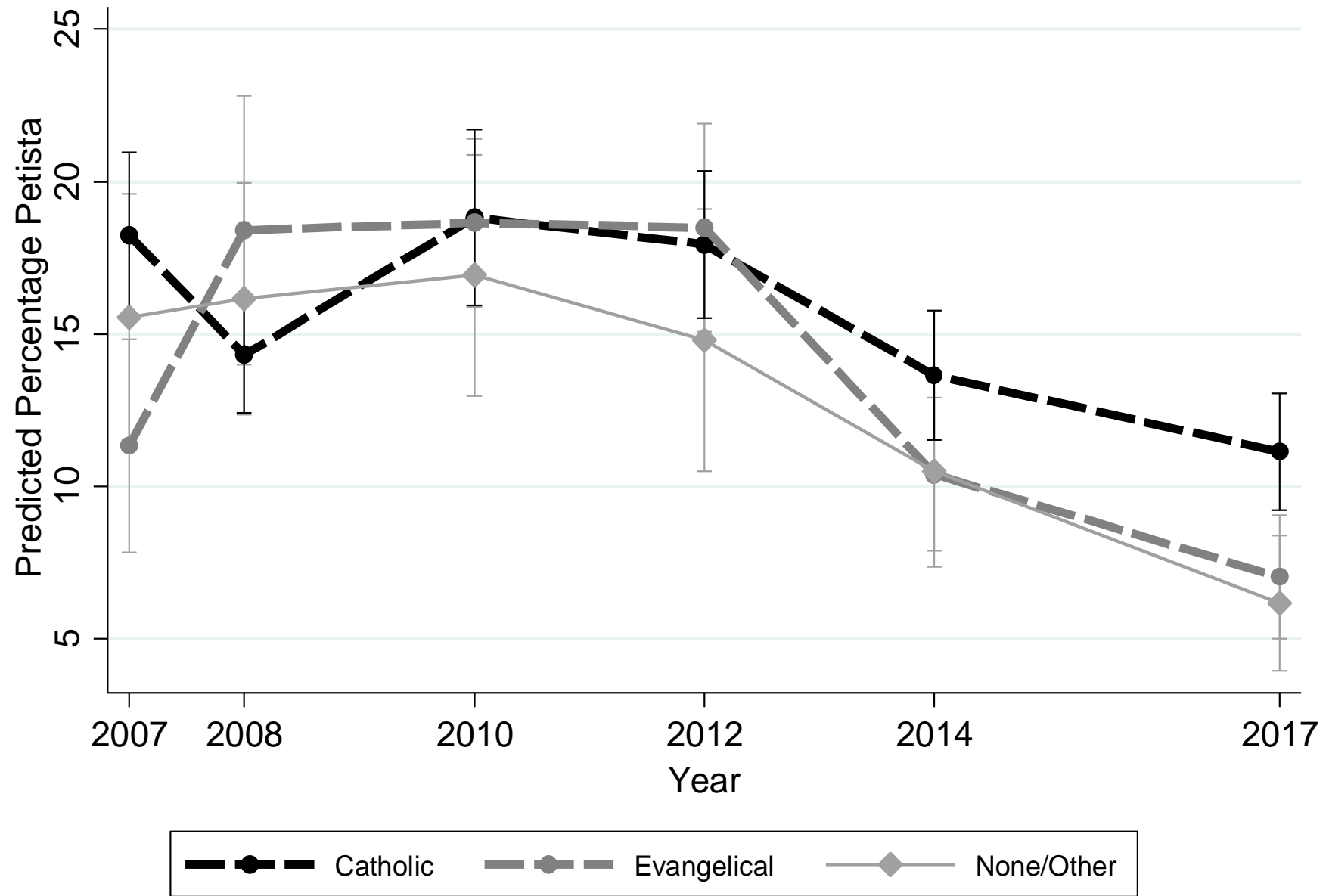
Source: Religion, Race, and Class Online Experimental Study, 2012. Whiskers represent 95% confidence intervals.

But church
effects extend
far beyond
clergy!



An emerging culture war?

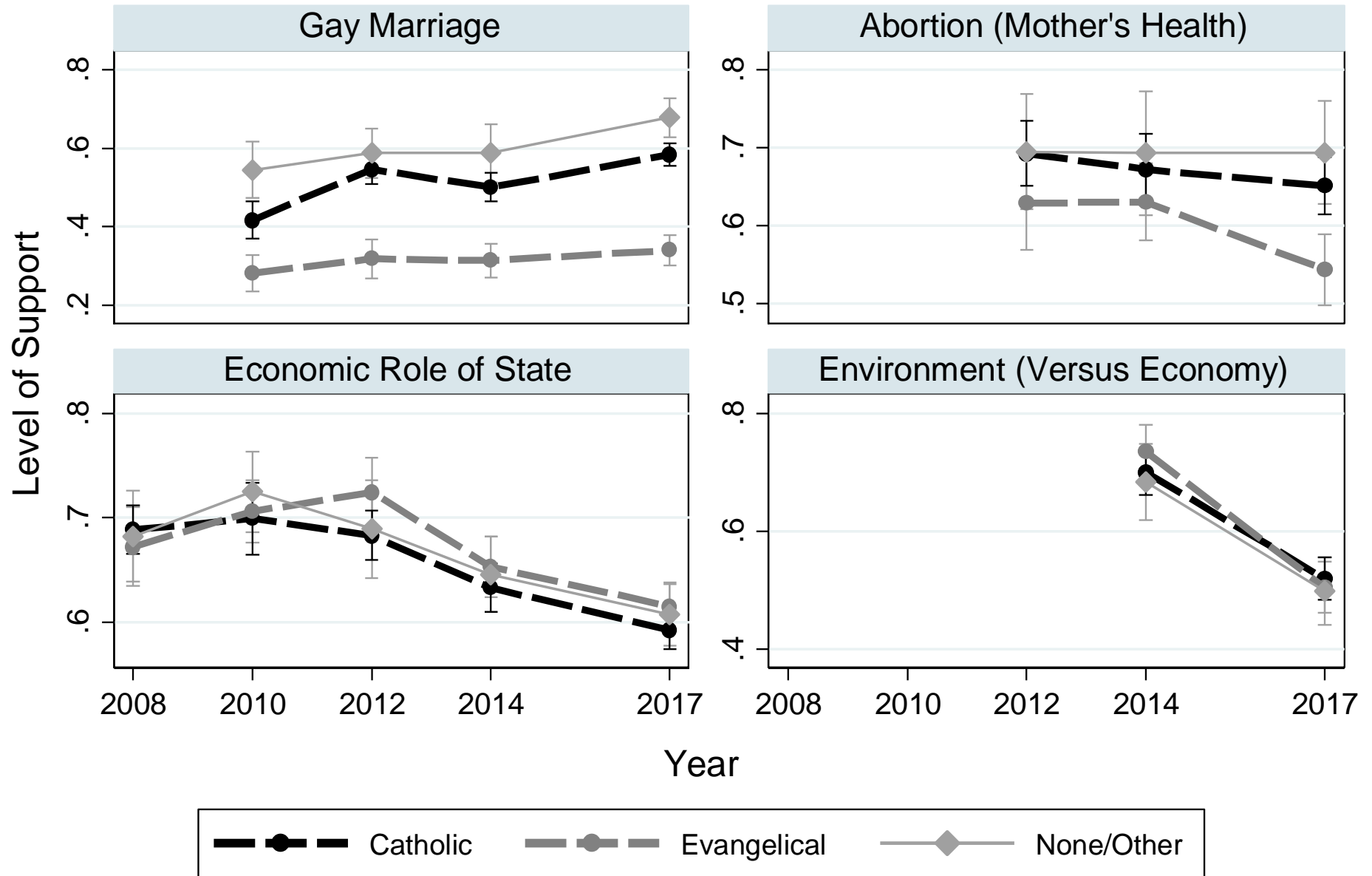
Party identification



Source: AmericasBarometer by LAPOP, Brazil. Estimates adjusted for design effects.

An
emerging
culture war?

Public
opinion



Source: AmericasBarometer by LAPOP, Brazil. Estimates adjusted for design effects. See text and appendix for dependent variables.

An emerging
culture war?

Elite politics



NOTÍCIAS 09/06/2015 09:07 -03 | **Atualizado** 26/01/2017 22:24 -02

Senador Magno Malta diz que Parada do Orgulho Gay 'passou dos limites'; deputado quer criminalizar 'Cristofobia'

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My subsequent work

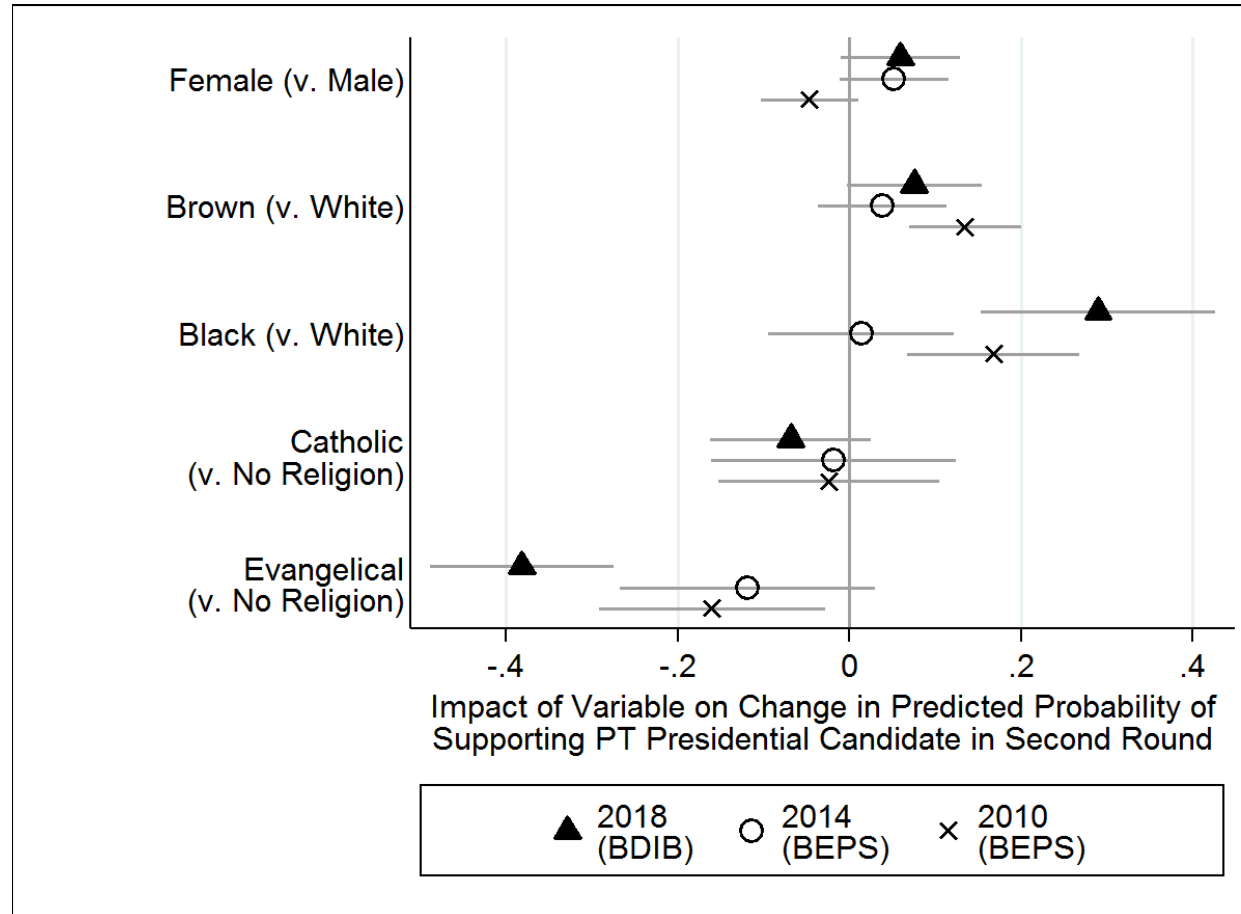
- A five-wave panel study of the 2018 elections
- A cross-national study of how sexual politics issues affect voting
- A study of religion and climate change

**BRASIL ACIMA
DE TUDO,
DEUS ACIMA
DE TODOS.**

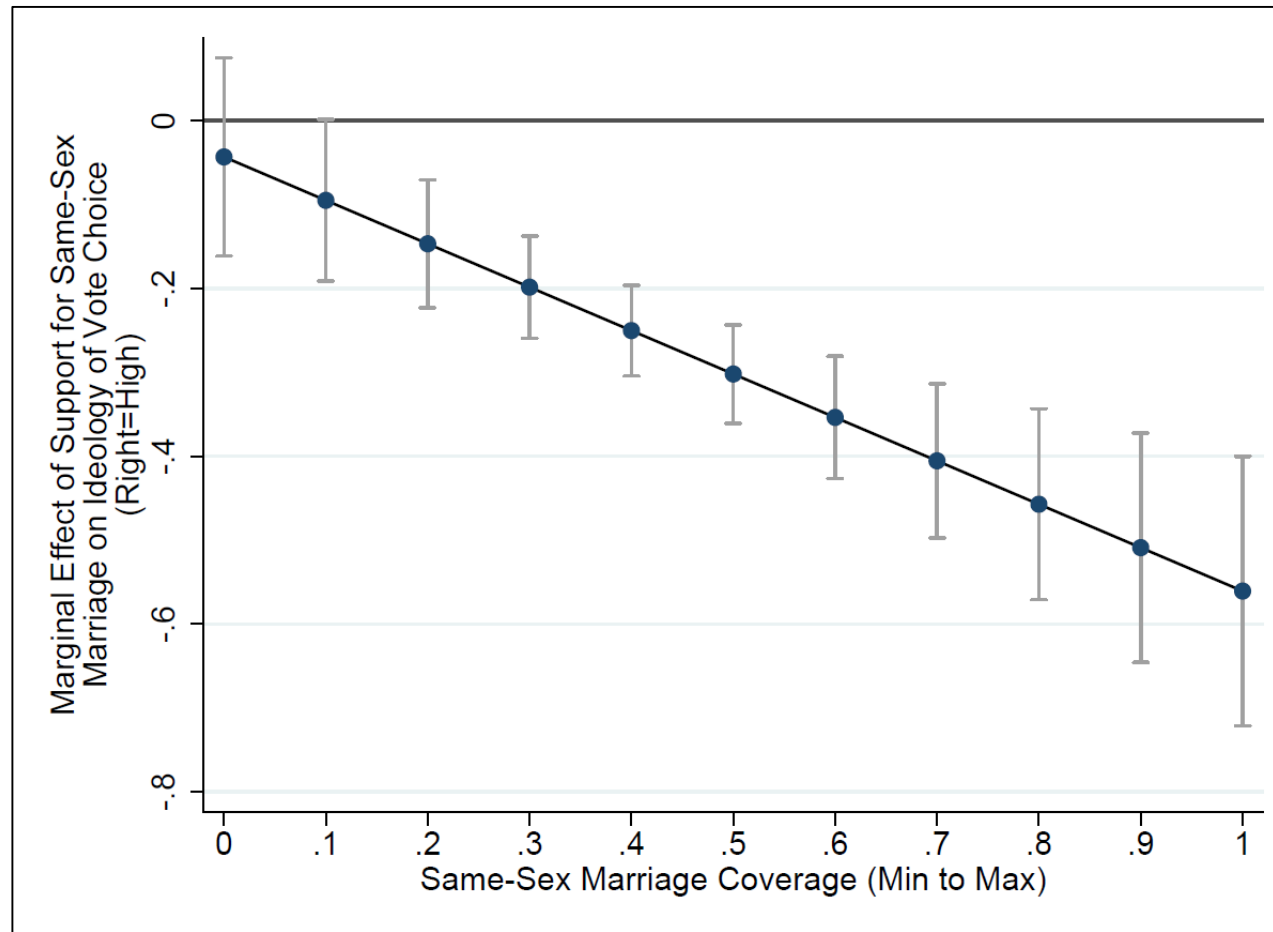
Presidente
JAIR BOLSONARO



Explaining 2018: A demographic realignment



Explaining 2018: Campaign focused on sexual politics



THE BURNING BUSH

Religion and Climate Change in Latin America



Obrigação!

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