

Author(s): Lake, Celinda

Title: Similarity and Representativeness of 1983 Pilot Samples

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Abstract

Lake first compares the sample characteristics of respondents to the two waves of the 1983 Pilot Study to gauge the differences between those groups. She finds no statistically significant differences across important political and demographic variable distributions. Lake then gauges the representativeness of the Pilot Study samples to the 1982 post-election sample from which they were drawn. Again, no statistically significant differences emerge between the Pilot Study and 1982 National Election Study samples on important demographic and political variables. Lake, however, does find some significant differences when examining response effects. Specifically, significant differences emerge in the distribution of three well-established correlates of response -- education, age, and political interest in the 1982 campaign.