# An Analysis of Racially Polarized Voting in Town of Islip Elections, 2005-2017

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- I am a Professor of Political Science and the Director of the Center on Democratic

  Performance at the State University of New York at Binghamton. My primary teaching
  responsibilities at the University cover graduate and undergraduate courses on American
  and European politics of political representation and research methodology. I received
  my Ph.D. from Florida State University and have been employed as a professor since
  1977, first at the University of New Orleans from 1977 to 1985, and since 1986 at
  Binghamton. I have been a research fellow at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced
  Study, the University of Essex, and the Free University of Amsterdam. My CV is
  attached as Exhibit 1.
- 2) I have published and co-authored articles on racial representation in U.S. urban municipalities, partisan gerrymandering, and racially polarized voting analysis.
- 3) I have not testified in federal court in the last five years.
- I have been retained by counsel for the plaintiffs in this case of *Flores et. al. v. Town of*Islip to provide my expert opinion. I am being paid \$200 per hour plus expenses for my study and testimony in this case. My compensation is in no manner contingent on the outcome of this case.

- 5) My report is divided into six sections:
  - a) Section One provides an overview of the project. It describes the methods I used (bivariate regression analysis, ecological inference, and projection analysis) and the election data I relied on to form my opinions. A full catalogue of the materials I relied upon to produce this report is attached as **Exhibit 2**.
  - b) Section Two explains the logic of my analysis through applying these methods to two examples: first to the example of the 2015 election for Tax Receiver and then to the 2017 Town Council election.
  - c) Section Three presents and interprets the results of my analysis of 18 endogenous elections: 7 for Town Council, 10 for Town-wide office (Supervisor, Clerk, and Tax Receiver), and a 2006 referendum on the Town's at-large election system.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Endogenous elections are those held for purposes resulting in internal governance of the jurisdiction in question. Exogenous elections touch on and are relevant to the governance of the jurisdiction in question but are called with other purposes in mind.

- d) Section Four conducts two projection analyses to evaluate whether Latino voters would be able to elect their candidates of choice to the Town Council in a fairly drawn single-member district. The first analysis uses election data from Suffolk County Legislative District 9, where Latinos are a majority of the approximately 86,000 residents, in order to compare the ability of the same voters to elect their candidate of choice in an already established single member district (District 9) where Latinos are residentially concentrated. With a 2010 total population of approximately 335,000 in the Town, the approximately 86,000 District 9 residents roughly constitute the population size appropriate for one of four single-member Town Council districts The second projection analysis tallies votes from recent Town election among the electoral districts in a hypothetical Latino-majority district constructed by plaintiffs' demographic expert, Professor Andrew Beveridge.
- e) Section Five presents and interprets the results of my analysis of 31 exogenous elections: 9 Suffolk County elections in which all eligible voters in the Town could participate, 9 New York State elections in which all eligible voters in the Town could participate, and 13 elections to national office in which all or nearly all eligible voters in the Town could participate.
- f) Section Six summarizes my results and offers my conclusions.

#### SECTION ONE: OVERVIEW

At-large elections can have a super-majoritarian effect on political representation by effectively excluding minority voices from electorally based representational processes.

The U.S. government recognized this potentially undesirable effect in 1842 when it required states that had been using at-large elections for the U.S. House of

Representatives to institute districts, except in special circumstances, and in 1967 when it forced the remaining states with at-large House elections. *See* 5 Stat.491 (1842) and 2 USC § 29c) (1967). Whether an exclusionary effect impacts a particular jurisdiction depends in large part on the size and voting patterns of the majority and minority groups in that area.

7) I understand that the Supreme Court has established a three-pronged set of necessary preconditions to evaluate whether, under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, "the minority group['s]...submergence in a white multimember district impedes its ability to elect its chosen representatives." Thornburg v. Gingles, 478 U.S. 30, 90 (1986). The three factors are (1) sufficient group size to constitute a majority of a single-member district, (2) minority group voter cohesion, and (3) white bloc voting in opposition to the minority group's electorally-expressed preference. The Supreme Court has also considered the existence of nine other factors highly relevant, including "the extent to which voting in the elections of the state or political subdivision is racially polarized" (Senate Factor 2, an inference derived from the combination of factors 2 and 3) and "the extent to which the state or political subdivision has used unusually large election districts, majority vote requirements, anti-single shot provisions, or other voting practices or procedures that may enhance the opportunity for discrimination against the minority group" (Senate Factor 3). Id. at 37. My opinions in this case are relevant to the second and third preconditions and these two other factors. Specifically:

- a) As discussed in detail in this report, in my opinion, analysis of election data for Islip using appropriate statistical methods demonstrates the existence of *Gingles* factor 2 (minority cohesion) and factor 3 (white bloc voting in opposition) in Islip, which, by implication, show that voting in Islip is racially polarized.
- I also conduct a projection analysis, which shows what election outcomes for minority voters' candidates of choice would likely be but for Islip's at-large electoral format (i.e., who would be elected in a fairly drawn set of single-member districts). When minority voters' candidates of choice are consistently defeated under the Town's at-large elections but could be expected to prevail under single-member districts, we have sound reason to conclude that the choice of one election system instead of the other causes the difference.
- c) The Town of Islip's at-large procedure for electing members of the Town Council includes factors that impede single-shot voting. Single-shot voting refers to voters selecting only one candidate when they are entitled to select more than one. This strategy, when adopted by minority voters, can concentrate support behind minority voters' candidate of choice while the majority splits their votes among several candidates. Islip's election procedure prevents minority voters from using a single-shot voting strategy by having a designated post for one Council Member, Town Supervisor. It further reduces the efficacy of single-shot voting by electing a small portion of the Town Board in odd-numbered years.
- 8) In voting rights litigation, and the social sciences more generally, the analysis of racially polarized voting patterns and race-related voter participation rates takes three forms:

  (a) extreme-case analysis, (b) bivariate regression analysis, and (c) ecological inference.

Extreme case and regression methods were used in *Thornburg v. Gingles* and cited with approval.<sup>2</sup> The third method, ecological inference, was developed in the mid-1990s and has been used in legal proceedings on questions of racially polarized voting as well as in academic studies applied to a variety of topics.<sup>3</sup>

- 9) The three methods share this common intuition: When electoral units, such as New York State's electoral districts ("EDs"), with high versus low concentrations of racial or language minority groups show correspondingly high and low levels of voter support for a candidate, respectively, one infers that differences in vote support are grounded in the differences in the group composition of the EDs.
- 10) Based on my initial review of the racial/ethnic residential patterns in Islip, I concluded that it would not be possible to rely on extreme case analysis to estimate minority voter cohesion or the degree of racially polarized voting. That is because the method relies on looking at voting patterns in EDs with extreme, nearly homogeneous, racial/ethnic compositions. For example, if all Latino voters in a town resided in EDs occupied exclusively by Latinos, then observing the votes cast in those EDs would tell us how Latino voters voted. If just a limited number of EDs were exclusively occupied by Latino voters, then observing votes in those EDs would offer some insight into how Latino

<sup>2</sup> See *Thornburg v. Gingles* (1986, 52-3 and fn.20), citing "Engstrom & McDonald, "Quantitative Evidence in Vote Dilution Litigation: Political Participation and Polarized Voting", 17 <u>Urban Lawyer</u> 369 (Summer 1985); Grofman, Migalski, & Noviello, The "Totality of Circumstances Test" in Section 2 of the 1982 Extension of the Voting Rights Act: A Social Science Perspective, 7 <u>Law & Policy</u> 199 (Apr. 1985)." For an extension to analysis of three groups (as here: African Americans, Latinos, and others/principally whites), using ecological regression see Engstrom, Richard L. and Michael D. McDonald. "Quantitative Evidence in Vote Dilution Litigation, Part II: Minority Coalitions and Multivariate Analysis." <u>Urban Lawyer</u>, 19 (Winter 1987): 65-75.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For a listing of voting rights cases using the three methods, through 2014, along with an application of the ecological inference method, see de Benedictis-Kessner, Justin "Evidence in Voting Rights Act Litigation Producing Accurate Estimates of Racial Voting Patterns," <u>Election Law Journal</u> 14 (December 2015): 361-81. For details of using ecological inference analysis applied to three demographic groups (as here: Hispanics, non-Hispanic blacks, and others / principally Anglo-whites), see Lau, Olivia, Ryan T. Moore, and Michael Kellerman. (2007) "eiPack: R x C Ecological Inference and Higher Dimension Data Management," <u>R News</u> 7:43-7.

voters voted. In Islip, however, no ED has a concentration of Hispanics of citizen voting age population beyond 70 percent, and therefore there are no extreme case Latino EDs. Without extreme case Latino EDs, there is no way to use the method to arrive at estimates of Latino voter cohesion nor any way to use the method to describe racially or ethnically polarized voting. Therefore, I rely on bivariate regression analysis and ecological inference. A description of how these methods work is provided below.

- Bivariate regression analysis ("regression analysis") applies a regression to derive a best fitting line in order to determine if a correlation exists between the percentage of Latino CVAP ("Citizen Voting Age Population") in an ED and the percentage of votes cast for a particular candidate. Ecological inference produces estimates of voting patterns by race by analyzing the bounds of the data to produce maximum likelihood statistics. These methods produce my polarized voting analysis.
- 12) After analyzing the elections through bivariate regression analysis and ecological inference, I conduct a projection analysis. Projection analysis uses the results of the polarized voting analysis to evaluate the ability of Latino voters to elect their candidates of choice under the Town's current at-large system compared to their expected ability to elect their candidates of choice in an election conducted under fairly drawn singlemember districts. Many projections use the numerical estimations of minority cohesion, white crossover voting, and group turnout rates to ask whether a Latino candidate of choice could be expected to be elected in a hypothetical majority Latino district.<sup>4</sup>

  Conveniently and informatively, conducting a projection analysis of this sort for Islip is less hypothetical than in other circumstances. This is because Islip has within its borders

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See, e.g., Litchman, Allan J. (1991) "Passing the Test: Ecological Regression in the Los Angeles County Case and Beyond." Evaluation Review 15: 770-99, at 776-8.

a majority Latino district used to elect a representative to the Suffolk County Legislature District 9 ("LD9"). Therefore, the results of LD9 elections and whether Latino voters elected their candidates of choice permit us to project what would happen in a Town Board election under a fairly drawn single-member district. All projection analysis requires is an identification of which candidate was the candidate of choice for Latino voters and a calculation of the actual votes for that candidate and her or his opponent among the EDs contained in LD9. In elections where the Latino voters' candidates of choice lost Town-wide, but out-polled her or his opponent in LD9, the choice of using an at-large system is identifiable as the source of the difference. In a single member district system, Latino voters' candidates of choice would have won these elections.

- Table 1 lists the results of the eight Town Council elections from 2005 through 2017.

  Every two years, in odd-numbered years, two Islip Town Council members are elected to staggered four-year terms. Column 2 lists the major party candidates contesting each of the seven elections. Voters at the polls can vote for two, one, or no Council candidate.

  As a result, it is not possible to say how many individuals actively participated in Council elections because each voter can cast zero, one, or two ballots. Instead, as shown in column 3, voter participation in Town Council elections is recorded as voters signing in at the polls. Vote tallies by party of the candidates are reported in column 5 and 6, and their respective votes as percentages of voters at the polls are reported in column 7.

  Column 8 reports the population database I used for the polarization analyses.
- Table 2 reports the results of elections to single-member town-wide offices (Supervisor, Tax Receiver, and Clerk), which are also conducted at-large. The information is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Often a major party candidate occupies a position on ballot lines of two or more parties. Vote counts and percentages in Tables 1-5 sum candidate votes across all ballot lines he or she occupies.

- organized in a manner similar to Table 1. In addition, the last row reports the results of a 2006 referendum vote on the question of whether the Town should change its council election format from at-large to single-member districts.
- I also analyzed eight elections with major party competitors for Suffolk County offices from 2005-17. Results of votes received within the Town of Islip are listed in Table 3. Similarly, Table 4 reports the results of Islip voters' candidate support in statewide elections for New York Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller for 2006, 2010, and 2014.
- The final sets of elections analyzed are support from voters in the Town of Islip for major party candidates seeking national office, shown in Table 5. The votes for President and U.S. Senate cover all EDs in Islip. The U.S. House 2012-16 elections in congressional district 2 (CD 2) cover nearly all but not precisely all EDs in the Town (212 of 226). That means the analysis for U.S. congressional district 2 can be taken as strongly suggestive but not precisely indicative of Town-wide voting patterns.

Table 1: Vote Tallies for the Eight Islip Town Council Elections, 2005-17

Year	Candidate	# Voters at the Polls	Republican Vote	Democratic Vote	Candidate % of Voters at the Polls	Population Data
2017	Bergin Weichbrodt (R)	62893	32244		51.3	2012-16
	O'Connor (R)	62893	30104		47.9	2012-16
	Gonzalez (D)	62893		23302	37.1	2012-16
	Fenley (D)	62893		22820	36.3	2012-16
2015	Cochrane (R)	35564	19047		53.6	2012-16
	Mullen (R)	35564	18754		52.7	2012-16
	McDermott (D)	35564		13138	36.9	2012-16
	Pulitano (D)	35564		12533	35.2	2012-16
2013	Flotteron (R)	36822	20343		55.2	2011-15
	Bergin Weichbrodt (R)	36822	19998		54.3	2011-15
	Fidelia (D)	36822		14089	38.3	2011-15
	Hafele (D)	36822		14081	38.2	2011-15
2011	Cochrane (R)	51247	26536		51.8	2009-13
	Senft (R)	51247	26380		51.5	2009-13
	Parrington (D)	51247		20748	40.5	2009-13
	Ortiz (D)	51247		20617	40.2	2009-13
2009	Bergen (R)	38910	20903		53.7	2007-11
	Flotteron (R)	38910	19180		49.3	2007-11
	Bodkin (D)	38910		15378	39.5	2007-11
	Morgo (D)	38910		13483	34.7	2007-11
2007	Finlay (R)	43303	18312		42.3	2005-09
	Schettino (R)	43303	16586		38.3	2005-09
	Edwards (D)	43303		23345	53.9	2005-09
	Parrington (D)	43303		20339	47.0	2005-09
2005	Bodkin (R)	41459	21915		52.9	2005-09
	Flotteron (R)	41459	18381		44.3	2005-09
	Parrington (D)	41459		16690	40.3	2005-09
	Alvarez (D)	41459		12680	30.6	2005-09

Table 2: Vote Tallies for Islip Town-wide Political Office & Proposition Elections, 2006-15

Year	Office	Republican Candidate	Democrat Candidate	Total Vote	Rep Vote	Dem Vote	Rep%	Dem%	Population Data
2015	Supervisor	Carpenter	Licari	34056	21168	12888	62.2	37.8	2012-16
	Tax Receiver	Weik	Castro	33359	22147	11212	66.4	33.6	2012-16
	Clerk	Murray	Fidelia	32221	19556	12665	60.7	39.3	2012-16
		Sales in the sales							
2011	Supervisor	Croci	Nolan	49709	25026	24683	50.3	49.7	2009-13
	Tax Receiver	Weik	RossiFontana	47018	26735	20283	56.9	43.1	2009-13
	Clerk	Murray	Fields	47172	24621	22551	52.2	47.8	2009-13
	ALERICA HELE								
2007	Supervisor	Datre	Nolan	41581	12957	28624	31.2	68.8	2005-09
	Tax Receiver	Allen	Slinkosky	39174	21375	17799	54.6	45.4	2005-09
	Clerk	Cross-party er	ndorsement	~~~	~~~	~~~	~~~	~~~	2005-09
2006	Supervisor	Green	Nolan	68818	29206	34295	42.4	49.8	2005-09
Year	Issue	Prefer District	Prefer At-Large	Total	Yes	No	%Yes	%No	Pop. Data
2006*	Dist vs At-large Proposition	Vote = Yes	Vote = No	46434	21371	25063	46.0	54.0	2005-09

<sup>\*</sup> The wording of the 2006 proposition question, as reported on the County's election website, was, "Shall the local law adopted by the Islip Town Board on March 07, 2006, entitled, 'a local law providing for the establishment of a ward system for the election of councilpersons in the Town of Islip' be approved?"

Table 3: Vote Tallies of Islip Voter Support in Major-party Contested County Elections, 2005-17

Year	Office	Republican Candidate	Democratic Candidate	Total Vote	Rep Vote	Dem Vote	Rep%	Dem%	Population Data
2017	County DA	Perini	Sini	57929	20716	36380	35.8	62.8	2015
	County Sherriff	Zacarese	Toulon	56250	27698	27520	49.2	48.9	2015
2015	County Exec	O'Connor	Bellone	34232	15339	18880	44.8	55.2	2015
2014	County Comptroller	Kennedy	Gaughran	56054	29758	26284	53.1	46.9	2015
2011	County Exec	Carpenter	Bellone	49977	23140	26809	46.3	53.6	2009-13
2006	County Clerk	Pascale	Viloria-Fisher	63416	33913	29498	53.5	46.5	2005-09
2005	County Sherriff	Tisch	DeMarco	37097	18546	18551	50.0	50.0	2005-09
	County Treasurer	Carpenter	Crespo	36637	23726	12223	64.8	33.4	2005-09

Table 4: Vote Tallies of Islip Voter Support in Statewide Office Elections, 2006-14

		Republican	Democratic	Total	Rep	Dem			Population
Year	Office	Candidate	Candidate	Vote	Vote	Vote	Rep%	Dem%	Data
2014	Governor	Asotino	Cuomo	61345	29794	28552	48.6	46.5	2015
	Atty General	Cahill	Schneiderman	60727	30478	28653	50.2	47.2	2015
	Comptroller	Antonacci	Dinapoli	60950	27896	31431	45.8	51.6	2015
2010	Governor	Paladino	Спото	75234	28486	44048	37.9	58.5	2008-12
	Atty General	Donovan	Schneiderman	71701	37964	33130	52.9	46.2	2008-12
	Comptroller	Wilson	Dinapoli	72510	37409	33430	51.6	46.1	2008-12
2006	Governor	Faso	Spitzer	69147	24146	43926	34.9	63.5	2005-09
	Atty General	Pirro	Cuomo	68295	33946	33108	49.7	48.5	2005-09
	Comptroller	Callaghan	Hevesi	65271	29029	33949	44.5	52.0	2005-09

Table 5: Vote Tallies of Islip Voter Support in Elections for National Office, 2006-16

		Republican	Democratic	Total	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	Dem			Population
Year	Office	Candidate	Candidate	Vote	Vote	Vote	Rep%	%maQ	data
2016	President	Trump	Clinton	137094	68279	63607	49.8	46.4	2012-16
	U.S. House	King	DuWayne	120044	70055	49931	58.4	41.6	2012-16
	U.S. Senate	Long	Schumer	130166	46697	81068	35.9	62.3	2012-16
2014	U.S. House	King	Mather	56980	36949	18963	64.8	33.3	2012-16
2012	President	Romney	Obama	120466	53777	65133	44.6	54.1	2010-14
	U.S. House	King	Falcone	101802	54974	46781	54.0	46.0	2010-14
	U.S. Senate	Long	Gillibrand	112943	37702	73888	33.4	65.4	2010-14
2010	U.S. Senate A	Townsend	Schumer	74224	29418	44053	39.6	59.4	2008-12
	U.S. Senate B	DioGuardi	Gillibrand	71757	32182	38360	44.8	53.5	2008-12
2008	President	McCain	Obama	132370	59878	71308	45.2	53.9	2006-10
2006	U.S. Senate	Spencer	Clinton	69774	27120	41586	38.9	59.6	2005-09

#### SECTION TWO: METHODOLGY AND EXAMPLES

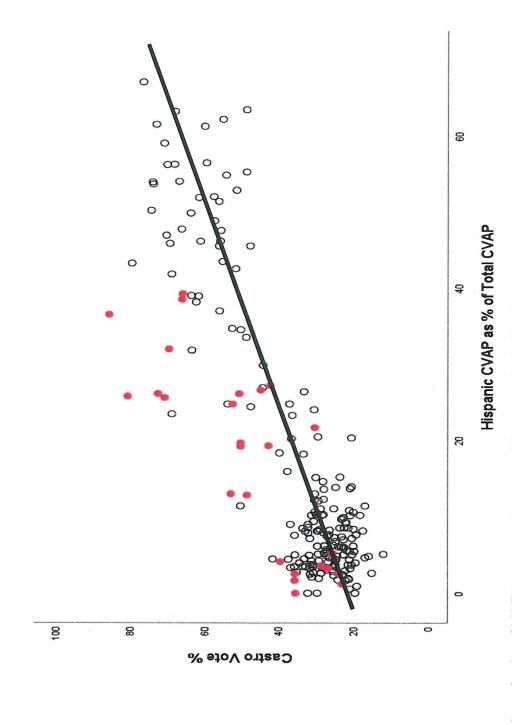
#### A. 2015 Town Receiver of Taxes Election

- To provide a detailed explanation of how regression and ecological analysis produce reliable and reasonable estimates of racially polarized voting patterns, I first work through the 2015 Town Receiver of Taxes election. I chose this election as the basis for a detailed methodological explanation because voters could only choose one candidate (multi-member office elections, such as the "vote-for-two" Town Council elections, are more complex), it was the most recent vote-for-one Town office election, and it involved a candidate with a Latino surname. Building off the example of the 2015 Tax Receiver election, I offer a second detailed example through an application of the analytical methods to the 2017 vote-for-two Council election below.
- In a single-office, vote-for-one election involving two candidates, knowing the percentage of a group that voted in support of one candidate reveals the percentage of the group that supported the other candidate. For example, if Latinos offered 100 percent of their support to candidate *A* then we know they offered 0 (zero) percent of their support to candidate *B*. In a vote-for-two election, as occurs in Town Council elections, if Latinos offered 100 percent support to candidate *W*, we do not know what level of support, if any, they provided to candidates *X*, *Y*, and *Z* until we estimate the voting pattern for each candidate individually. For example, it's possible that Latinos gave 100 percent support for *W* by single-shot voting and withheld all votes for the others, but also possible that they also gave 100 percent support to, say, candidate *X* (or *Y* or *Z*).
- 19) In the 2015 election for Town Receiver of Taxes, Maxima Castro (Democrat and Working Families) ran against Alexis Weik (Republican, Conservative, Independence,

- and Reform). Weik won the election with 22,147 votes; Castro received 11,212 votes (see Table 2, *supra*).
- I use citizen voting age populations ("CVAP") as the best descriptor of information on the racial/ethnic composition of voters in EDs. The data on the 2015 vote counts for candidates and on the estimates of the 2015 CVAP for each of the EDs were delivered to me electronically by Professor Andrew Beveridge, a demographic expert retained by plaintiffs in this case. Professor Beveridge provided electronic copies of the data for all elections I analyzed in connection with my opinions in this report, including the 2015 elections.
- Figure 1 provides a graphic display of the relationship between Castro's vote support and the racial/ethnic composition of the relevant EDs. The circles and dots in the interior of the graph represent the position of the various EDs with respect to their percentage vote support for Castro (vertical axis) and the Latino percentage of CVAP (horizontal axis).

  To clarify the analysis, the graph uses red dots to indicate EDs in which the non-Hispanic black CVAP percentage in an ED is greater than the overall Latino CVAP percentage in that ED.

Figure 1: Plot of Relationship between Voter Support for Maxima Castro and Race/Ethnicity in the 2015 Tax Receiver Election



EDs where Latino CVAP is greater than non-Hispanic black CVAP
 EDs where non-Hispanic black CVAP is greater than Latino CVAP

It is visually clear that support for Castro is directly related to the proportion of Latino citizens of voting age in each ED. In predominantly white EDs, support for Castro is weak and matches the proportion of Latino voters in those areas between 20% and 40%. There is also a tendency for EDs with greater than 20 percent Latino CVAPs to support Castro at relatively and increasingly higher percentage levels as the concentration of Latino CVAP in an ED increases. In other words, vote support for Castro increases as Latinos comprise an increasing percentage of voting age citizens in an ED compared to white voting age citizens. On this basis I infer that Latino voters provided more support for Castro compared to white voters.

# 1. Calculating Voter Support: Regression Analysis

Regression and ecological inference analyses provide a more robust inference than what is visible in the graph above in the form of numerical estimates for the level of support for Castro by each of the three groups of voters (Latinos, non-Hispanic blacks, and whites.<sup>7</sup> The reason for deriving separate vote support estimates for the three groups is to ensure that the direct relationship between the rise in Castro support and EDs with increased Latino CVAP is not actually because non-Hispanic blacks residing in EDs with Latinos are, by themselves, the reason support for Castro increases. From the separate numerical values, it is possible to provide reasonable and reliable precision about the cohesion of Latino voters and the degree, if any, of white bloc voting in opposition to the Latino voters' preferred candidate. The degree of racially polarized voting, if any, is the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> I use "white" in a loose sense to refer to people the Census records as neither Hispanic nor non-Hispanic black. In the analysis of this 2015 election, the CVAP counts by group are Hispanic 41,598, non-Hispanic black 23,162, and white 155,687 (with 3 percent of those in my loosely termed "white" category recorded by the Census as Asian, less than half a percent Native American, and another less than half a percent Hawaiian/Pacific Islander).

<sup>7</sup> See, fn. 6, supra

- difference between Latino and white voter support for the Latino preferred candidate when the groups prefer different candidates.
- Regression analysis uses a formula to derive the "best fitting line" to all the data points to demonstrate the direct relationship between increased support and increased racial or ethnic composition of EDs. For interpretative convenience, this "best fitting line" reflecting increased Castro support among Latino voters is drawn through the data points in Figure 1.8 This line demonstrates the direct relationship between increased support for Castro and increased Latino concentration of voters in EDs, after taking separate account of non-Hispanic black support. That is, in order not to confuse attribution of vote support increases due to increased concentrations of all non-white voters, regression analysis takes account of the increases attributable to both Latinos and non-Hispanic black voters and apportions increases attributable to each group.
- ED has zero percent Latino CVAP and zero percent non-Hispanic black CVAP (i.e., is 100 percent white), Castro's estimated vote support percentage is 22.7. This number, 22.7 percent, is the regression based estimate of white voter support for Castro. Next, as the percent Latino CVAP in an ED increases, regression analysis estimates that vote support for Castro increases. For instance, from the regression estimate, a 10 percentage point increase in Latino CVAP is expected to lead to an increase of 5.26 percentage points in support for Castro. A projected movement from zero percent Latino and zero percent non-Hispanic black CVAP (where, as just reported, Castro's vote support in a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The line shown in the graph is based on a calculation that weights the EDs equally, regardless of the number of votes cast in the different precincts. The numerical estimations are based on weighting the precincts with respect to votes cast, because to accurately describe how individuals behaved one wants to give much more weight to a precinct where 1,000 votes were cast than to one where 10 votes were cast.

100 percent white ED is estimated to be 22.7 percent) to 100 percent Latino CVAP adds an estimated 52.6 percent support for Castro above the 22.7 level of support from white voters. Thus, the regression estimates indicate that Castro received 22.7 percent support from white voters versus 75.3 percent support from Latino voters (i.e., 22.7 + 52.6 = 75.3). The 52.6 percentage point difference between Latino and white voter support is statistically significant; that a difference this large could be attributed to mere chance far exceeds one in a ten million. <sup>9</sup>

- Regression also demonstrates that the voting pattern for Islip's 2015 Tax Receiver election is racially polarized. Castro is the candidate of choice of Latino voters, receiving approximately three-quarters of their votes. White voters offered cohesive support to Weik, 77.3 percent (i.e., 100 minus the 22.7 white voter support for Castro). In different words, white voters as a bloc voted against the Latino candidate of choice. Weik won as a result of the Town-wide white majority supporting her; the Latino voters' candidate of choice, Castro, lost.
- Regression analysis also offers estimates of uncertainty associated with each group's estimated support. "Uncertainty" refers to doubt due to the variability associated with the estimation technique as applied to the data at hand. It is an estimated variability akin to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Statistical significance applied to the difference between some characteristic of two groups, here between Latino and white voter candidate support, is a way of evaluating whether it is plausible to think the difference is a result of mere chance attributable to random forces (not statistically significant) or is so consistently systematic that it is much more likely a true, systematic difference (is statistically significant). It is conventionally evaluated to a degree of being "95% confident" that the difference is systematic, often described as having a *p*-value of < 0.05 (i.e., probability the difference is random is less than 5 in 100). *See, e.g.,* Kerlinger, Fred N. and Howard B.

Lee. (2000). Foundations of Behavioral Research. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, pp. 232-3. Confidence intervals serve essentially the same evaluative statistical purpose. A confidence interval constructed around a statistical result, such as the level of Latino or white support for a candidate, allows us to say we are 95 percent confident that the actual result (level of a group's support) is inside the lower and upper bounds of the interval. *See, e.g.,* Blalock, Hubert M. Jr. 1979. Social Statistics (revised 2nd ed.), New York, NY: McGraw-Hill, pp. 208-13.

the percent margin of error frequently used in polling results. The regression uncertainties, by group, are  $\pm$  3.7 for Latinos,  $\pm$  5.4 percent for non-Hispanic blacks, and  $\pm$  0.6 percent for whites. To record and interpret these numbers in a way similar to polling margins of error, each number needs to be multiplied by two (technically 1.96) to provide statistical significance at a 95 percent level of confidence.

- Adding these uncertainties to each group's best estimate of support for Castro means the best estimates can be read with the following qualifications:
  - a) Latino support for Castro =  $75.3\% \pm 7.3\%$  (68.0-82.6 percent).
  - b) Non-Hispanic black support for Castro =  $79.9\% \pm 10.6\%$  (69.3-90.5 percent).
  - c) White support for Castro =  $22.7\% \pm 1.2\%$  (21.5-23.9 percent).

One way to evaluate whether the difference between Latino and white support for a candidate is statistically significant is to look to see whether the confidence interval for Latinos overlaps with the confidence interval for whites. The low point of 68.0 for Latinos is nowhere near the 23.9 high point for whites, which, to repeat, means the difference is statistically significant (by a wide margin).

# 2. Calculating Voter Suport: Ecological Inference

The ecological inference ("EI") method of analysis was developed in the mid-1990s as a computationally intensive approach for estimating how individuals behave (e.g., provide a level of support for a candidate). Professor Gary King, Professor of Political Science at Harvard University originated this method. King's book spells out the statistical and mathematical details of the EI methodology as it applies to a two-group analysis (e.g., black voters). The methodology was expanded later to apply to three-group analyses. EI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> King first described the approach in his book <u>A Solution to the Ecological Inference Problem: Reconstructing Individual Behavior from Aggregate Data</u> (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1997).

- is appropriate in this case because it takes separate account of Latino, non-Hispanic black, and white voting patterns.<sup>11</sup>
- El determines levels of candidate support from the possible bounds of both the jurisdiction-wide information (in this case the Town) and each ED under investigation. For instance, we know that a 40 percent turnout rate among approximately the 155,000 white CVAP is outside the bounds of possibility because that accounts for more voters casting a ballot in the 2015 Town of Islip Receiver of Taxes election than there were actual ballots cast (33,359). That is, overall and within EDs, there are limits to the possible numerical descriptions of candidate support and voter turnout. EI methodology relies on these limits to arrive at estimates of how individuals from different groups behaved.
- To illustrate, I will use an example of how EI works as it hones in on its best estimate of candidate support and turnout. The process might start by assuming 25 percent of white CVAP cast ballots and gave 80 percent of their support to Weik in the Town Receiver of Taxes election. That result turns out to be impossible because it would mean that whites cast 38,922 votes (0.25 x 155,687 = 38,922 (where 155,687 is the estimated white CVAP in 2015) when in fact only 33,359 total votes were cast in the election. A revised estimate could assume that whites cast 20 percent of the total vote with 80 percent going to Weik. However, that estimate would also be incorrect because it would mean that white voters cast 31,374 votes and Weik received 24,910 votes, but in fact that Weik received a total of 22,147 votes (see Table 2, above). EI continues to work iteratively, back and forth, through a computationally intensive process tentatively accepting, then

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Lau, Olivia, Ryan T. Moore, and Michael Kellerman. (2007) "eiPack: R x C Ecological Inference and Higher Dimension Data Management," R News 7:43-7.

- rejecting various possibilities until it reaches a set of values for all three groups that make the results highly likely—highly likely in the sense that moving away from them to some other set of numbers flies in the face of one or another constraint.
- EI estimates as applied to candidate support in the 2015 Tax Receiver election indicate

  Latino voters gave 70.4 percent support to Castro (29.4 percent to Weik); non-Hispanic

  black voters gave 71.4 percent support to Castro (28.6 percent to Weik); and white voters

  gave 30.0 percent support to Castro (70.0 percent to Weik). While the estimated support

  for Castro among Latino voters and non-Hispanic black voters are 5 to 10 points different

  from the regression analysis estimates, EI analysis still reveals racial/ethnic polarized

  voting that is statistically significant. EI also reveals that Castro's defeat is due to white

  bloc voting against her (white voter cohesion in favor of her opponent, Weik).
- Like the regression estimates, EI provides 95 percent confidence intervals around the best estimate of voter support for each group. There is 95 percent confidence that support levels for Castro among Latinos, non-Hispanic blacks, and whites are in the following ranges.
  - a) Latino support for Castro = 70.7-76.8 percent.
  - b) Non-Hispanic black support for Castro = 75.7-82.7 percent.
  - c) White support for Castro = 22.7-24.1 percent.

Here, as with the regression analysis, the low point of the interval for the Latino estimate, 70.7, is nowhere near the high level for whites, 24.1, indicating a statistically significant difference.

# 3. Projection Analysis

34) The reason to establish facts about group size, location, and racially polarized voting patterns in legal proceedings is to evaluate whether, as applied to Islip, (1) Latino voters

lack the opportunity to elect candidates of their choice via the Town's at-large system for electing Council members <u>and</u> (2) whether that missing opportunity would be available under a single-member district system. The illustrative analysis of the Town Receiver of Taxes election shows that Latino voters lacked the opportunity to elect Castro in Townwide voting. The next question is whether it is reasonable to expect that Castro could have been elected under a system of single-member districts.

- 55) County Legislative District 9 is a majority Latino population area within Islip's boundaries. The estimated total population in LD9 in 2015 is approximately 86,000, among whom approximately 56,000 are Hispanic (≈65%). Counting citizens of voting age for the same time frame, total CVAP is approximately 45,000, of whom just fewer than 20,000 are Hispanic (≈45%). With approximately 336,000 Town residents in all, the 86,000 population count is roughly the size required when constructing one of four equipopulous single-member districts—i.e., 336,000 / 4 = 84,000. 12
- Castro's vote total in LD9 was 2,663 (64.4%); Weik received 1,471 votes (35.6%) from voters in LD9. Clearly, Castro would have won the election if the outcome had been determined by voters in just LD9. Therefore, while the Latino voters' candidate of choice, Castro, was easily defeated in the at-large election, there is substantial reason to believe that Castro would have prevailed in an election between these two candidates held in a single-member district similar to LD9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The population and CVAP data are from Professor Beverage's Census-based estimates for the 2012-16 years. The vote counts are from the Suffolk County Board Elections electronic files delivered to Professor Beveridge and passed along to me.

An alternative projection can be made using the hypothetical majority-Latino district drawn by plaintiffs' demographic expert, Andrew Beveridge. Simple sums of votes for Castro and Weik in the EDs covered by his hypothetical district show Castro outpolling Weik, with 2,290 votes for Castro and 1,294 votes for Weik (Castro recieves 63.9% of the vote and Weik receives 36.1%). As was true for projections from LD9, there is substantial reason to believe that had an election between these two candidates been contested in a majority-Latino single-member district Castro, the Latino voters' candidate of choice, would have prevailed.

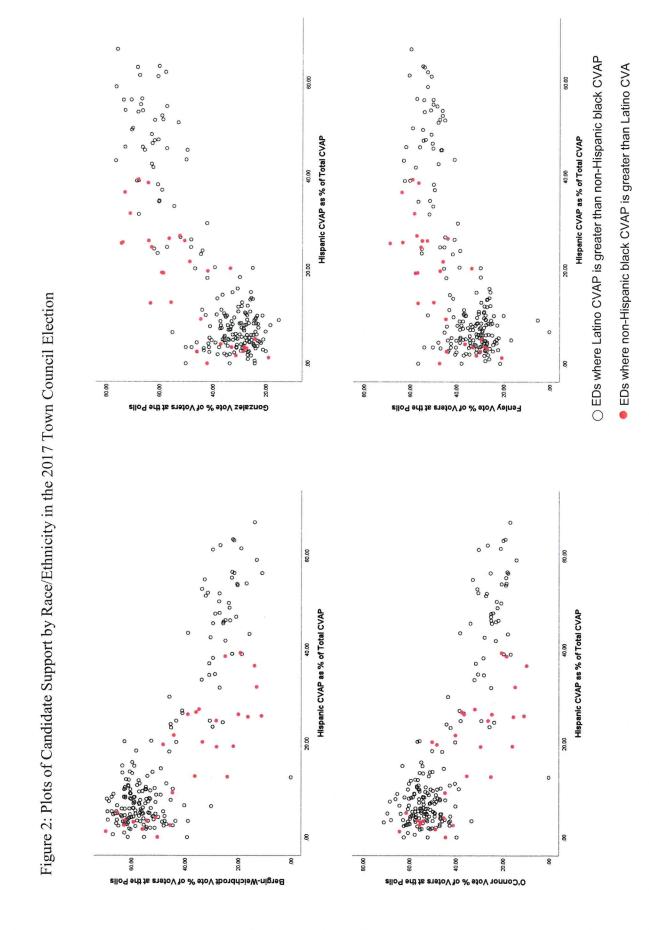
### B. Town Council Election: Vote-for-Two Illustration

# 1. Calculating Voter Support: Regression Analysis and Ecological Inference

I next apply these methods of analysis to vote-for-two elections, such as those held to elect the Islip Town Council. In Town Council elections, voters at the polls may decide to cast two ballots for their two most preferred candidates; they might decide to single-shot vote by casting just one ballot and thus forgo expressing a second preference; or they might decide not to cast any ballots for Town Council. Given the varying possibilities, it is not possible to know how many individuals actively participated in a Council election by casting one or two ballots. Instead, it is possible to calculate the number of individuals who signed in intending to vote in some election on the ballot (Town Council or otherwise). As a consequence, percentages of support for a candidate in Council elections have to be calculated as votes received divided by voters at the polls.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The hypothetical district contains the following EDs: 3009, 3029, 3033, 3055, 3059, 3060, 3063, 3068, 3073, 3083, 3084, 3085, 3092, 3093, 3094, 3095, 3096, 3100, 3104, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3117, 3119, 3124, 3125, 3156, 3160, 3174, 3175, 3176, 3190, 3194, 3199, 3200, 3204, 3205, 3206, 3207, 3219, and 3226. The data of vote tallies received from the Suffolk County Board of Elections, and delivered to me through Andrew Beveridge, do not contain votes from EDs 3219 and 3226.

- To illustrate with an example, I examine the most recent Town Council election in 2017. The vote percentages reported in Table 1 (above) across all four candidates (Bergin Weichbrodt, O'Connor, Gonzalez, and Fenley) would have a sum of 200% if every Islip voter at the polls cast two ballots. The sum of the four percentages, however, is 172.6% (51.3 + 47.9 + 37.1 + 36.3 = 172.6). This has two analytical consequences. First, the racially polarized voting analyses need to be conducted for each of the four candidates—i.e., unlike in the Tax Receiver election where performing the analysis for Castro is tantamount to conducting the same analysis for Weik because the results are complementary (70 percent support for one implies 30 percent support for the other). Second, voter participation rates must be calculated as voters at the polls as a percentage of citizen voting age population.
- Figure 2 displays in graphs the relationship between voter support for each 2017 Town
  Board candidate in relationship to the Latino CVAP percentage in various EDs. As in
  Figure 1, each dot represents an ED, and the red dots indicate EDs where the nonHispanic black CVAP percentage is larger than the Latino CVAP percentage. It is
  visually apparent that vote support for Gonzalez and Fenley increases in correspondence
  to increases in Latino CVAP percentages. Likewise, vote support for Bergin Weichbrodt
  and O'Connor declines as the Latino CVAP percentage increases. Gonzalez and Fenley
  are the candidates of choice of Latino voters; Bergin-Weichbrodt and O'Connor are the
  candidates of choice of white voters.



The percentage of voter support estimates from regression for the four candidates, with their 95 percent confidence intervals adjacent in parentheses, are:

	Bergin Weichbrodt	O'Connor	Gonzalez	Fenley
Latino	15.2 (8.0_22.4)	15.6 (8.2_23.0)	74.0 (66.0_82.0)	52.7 (44.9_60.5)
Non-Hispanic Black	2.9 (-7.7_13.5)	3.5 (-7.1_14.1)	84.7 (73.1_96.3)	79.6 (69.2_90.0)
White	60.8 (59.6_62.0)	56.5 (55.3_57.7)	27.4 (26.0_28.8)	30.3 (28.9_31.7)

The differences between Latino and white support is statistically significant with respect to all four candidates.

42) The percentage of voter support estimates from EI, with their 95 percent confidence intervals adjacent in parentheses, are:

	Bergin Weichbrodt	O'Connor	Gonzalez	Fenley
Latino	10.7 (9.2_12.2)	7.4 (5.4_8.9)	81.2 (79.0_84.3)	54.9 (52.4_57.3)
Non-Hispanic Black	11.7 (9.5_14.9)	17.8 (13.1_22.1)	75.0 (69.6_79.6)	74.3 (71.0_76.9)
White	60.5 (60.0_61.1)	56.4 (55.9_57.1)	27.0 (26.3_27.5)	30.4 (29.7_31.1)

Under both methods, Gonzalez and Fenley are the candidates of choice of Latino voters, by sizable margins. This is evident from a comparison of the estimated the Latino votes they received, about 52 to 75 percent of the Latino votes, with the estimated Latino votes received by the other two candidates, Bergin Weichbrodt and O'Connor, who received about 8 to 15 percent of Latino votes. White voters provided statistically significantly lower support of both Latino voters' candidates of choice.

# 2. Estimating Turnout Rates

- Figure 3 displays the correspondence between turnout rates among EDs (vertical axis) in relation to the Latino CVAP percentage (horizontal axis) for the recent 2017 Town Council election. The rates are recorded as voter sign-ins as a percent of CVAP in an ED. As before, EDs with more non-Hispanic black CVAP than Latino CVAP are indicated with red dots.
- A notable substantive feature of the display is the disjunction in turnout rates in EDs with greater or less than approximately 20 percent Latino CVAP. Among the predominantly white EDs (which have less than 20 percent Latino CVAP), 89.7 percent of the overall CVAP is white (129,050 white CVAP of the total 143,814 CVAP in these EDs). Board of Elections data reports that, among these EDs, 50,603 people signed in at the polls. That means the signs-in represent a turnout rate of 35.2 percent (50,603 of the143,814 total CVAP residing in the EDs). This 35.2 percent is a rough estimate of the turnout rate of white voters in the Town. Estimation for the remaining 17.1 percent of whites depends on their level of turnout in all the remaining EDs—i.e., those above 20 percent Latino CVAP.
- As a first step in my analysis, I anchored my estimates by counting sign-ins with Latino and non-Latino surnames from a list of registered voters that the Board of Elections recorded as signing in for the 2017 election. Professor Beveridge processed the data in two alternative ways using the U.S. Census Bureau list of Spanish surnames and reported the results to me. One method of counting

- people with Spanish surnames is provided by Bureau of the Census. <sup>14</sup> The second, more recently developed method, comes from academic work by Bernard Grofman and Jennifer Garcia. <sup>15</sup> Dr. Beveridge's data can be found in **Exhibit 2** to this report.
- The number of voters with Spanish surnames who signed in for the 2017 election is 3,705, or 8.9 percent of the 41,598 Latino estimated CVAP as of 2017. The Census Bureau has provided guidance that that this type of estimation of Latino voter turnout likely represents a minimum Latino voter turnout, with a reasonable variability somewhere between it and 1.5 times larger (1.5 times 8.9% is 13.3%). The count of Spanish surname people signing in derived from using the Grofman-Garcia method is 4,688 or 11.3 percent. Therefore the anchor I sought for determining a reliable method of estimating turnout indicates a statistically based estimate for the 2017 Town Council election should have a Latino voter turnout value in the range of 8.9 to 13.3 percent, likely centered at or around 11 percent.
- 47) Because the EI estimates result in a Latino turnout estimate of 10.6 percent, with a confidence interval ranging from a low of 8.9 to a high of 12.8 the check through the Spanish surname counts provides confidence that EI-based turnout estimates are accurate.<sup>17</sup> Therefore, since the EI estimates results in a Latino turnout estimate close to

<sup>15</sup> Grofman, Bernard and Jennifer R. Garcia. 2014. "Using Spanish Surname to estimate Hispanic Voting Population in Voting Rights Litigation: A Model of Context Effects Using Bayes' Theorem." *Election Law Journal* 13: 375-93.

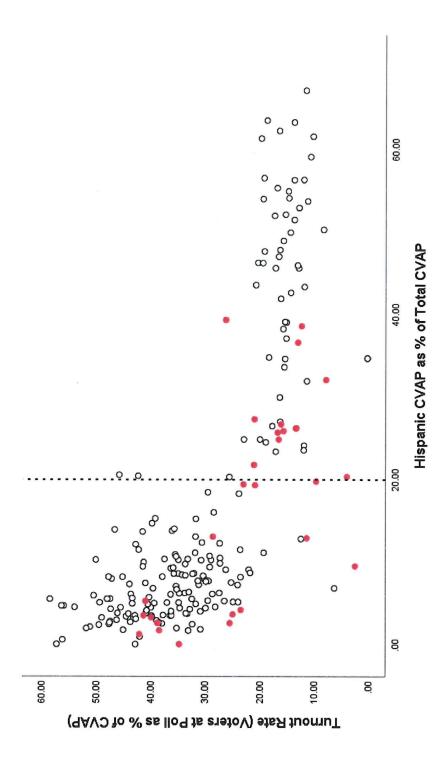
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The Census Bureau evaluation of Spanish surnames is described in Word, David L. and R. Colby Perkins Jr. (1996) Building *a Spanish Surname List for the 1990s: A New Approach to an Old Problem* (Technical Working Paper #13). Population Division U.S. Bureau of the Census: Washington, DC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Turnout estimates using regression could apply a simple linear form of analysis, a neighborhood model calculation, or a double regression formulation, but they each produce unacceptable out of range estimations in this case. The neighborhood model, in this case and in other applications, runs into problems by assuming all differences are attributable to the neighborhood in which people reside. Here it indicates Latino turnout of 19.6 percent, too high for even the 13.8 percent upper bound of the Census-based estimates. The simple linear and double regression methods fail in this case largely because in an ordinary application they don't accommodate the discontinuity apparent in Figure 3. For details of those methods and descriptions of their associated assumptions, see Grofman,

the most secure benchmark one could estimate, I rely on EI as an accurate and reliable estimation technique for turnout.

Bernard (1993) "The Use of Ecological Regression to Estimate Racial Bloc Voting," <u>University of San Francisco Law Review</u> 27:593-625).

Figure 3: Plot of Relationship between Voter Participation and Race/Ethnicity in the 2017 Town Council Elections



O EDs where Latino CVAP is greater than non-Hispanic black CVAP

EDs where non-Hispanic black CVAP is greater than Latino CVAP

\*The plot excludes the ED 3085 (Fire Island). Voters signing in at that ED reported outnumber the total CVAP.

# SECTION THREE: ENDOGENOUS ELECTION ANALYSIS: TOWN-WIDE OFFICES

# A. Town Council Elections

- Tables 6 and 7 report the results of the ethnically/racially polarized voting analyses in 8

  Town Council elections, in which 14 council members were elected. Table 6 shows the regression results; Table 7 shows the EI results. Both forms of analysis point to the same conclusion: voting patterns in support for 15 of 16 candidates for Town Board are racially polarized. The only exception is 2007, when white voters all supported the same Town Board candidate (John Edwards).
- Aside from the 2007 election when both Town Council candidates of choice of Latino voters uncharacteristically received more than 40 percent support from white voters, and which followed on the heels of then-Town Supervisor McGowan's guilty pleas to bribery and corruption charges, white voters have tended to offer about 30 percent of their support to Latino candidates of choice. Latino voters since 2005 have tended to provide about 60 percent support for their preferred candidates, with percentages rising above 60 percent when one of their candidates of choice was Latino (Gonzalez, Fidelia, and Ortiz). However, no Latino candidate has ever been elected to the Town Council. Latino voters have consistently voted cohesively in Islip Town Council elections since 2005 and, with the exception of 2007, have been unable to elect their candidates of choice.

<sup>18</sup> It is proper to keep in mind that all candidate support percentages in both tables are votes received as percentages of voters at the polls, regardless of whether a voter cast a ballot in the Town Board election. Given the often large differences between Latino and non-Hispanic black voters giving support to one set of candidates, on the one hand, and white voters supporting different candidates on the other, the precise vote percentage base makes no important difference to the question of ethnically/racially polarized voting patterns.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The 2009 analysis excludes two precincts (3717 and 3722) because the County's electoral data records an exceeding high number of people signing in but casting blank ballots—ED 3217 with 1494 ballots accessed (each sign-in receives 2 ballots in this vote-for-two situation) and 1257 left blank, and ED 3722 with 1160 sign-ins and 860 blank. In 2011, the same precincts show a few hundred accessed and 49 and 50 ballots left blank, respectively. <sup>20</sup> Among other public reports, recounts of aspects of Supervisor McGowan's pleas can be found in the *New York Times* on-line archive. See, e.g., "Ín Memory of Peter McGowan". *New York Times*. (March 6, 2006).

Table 6: Regression Estimates of Vote Support, by Group, for Islip Town Council Candidates

Year	Candidate	Latino Candid ate of Choice	Won Or Lost	Latino %	Latino 95%CI Lo/Hi	Black %	Black 95%Cl Lo/Hi	White %	White 95%CI Lo/Hi
2017	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)			15.2	8.0/22.4	2.9	-7.7/13.5	60.8	59.6/62.0
	O'Connor (R)			15.6	8.2/23.0	3.5	-7.1/14.1	56.5	55.3/57.7
	Gonzalez (D)	#	Lost	74.0	66.0/82.0	84.7	73.1/96.3	27.4	26.0/28.8
	Fenley (D)	#	Lost	52.7	44.9/60.5	79.6	69.2/90.0	30.3	28.9/31.7
2015	Cochrane (R)			15.4	7.2/23.6	14.1	2.3/24.9	63.6	62.0/65.4
	Mullen (R)			14.5	7.1/21.9	10.8	0.2/21.6	63.0	61.6/64.4
	McDermott (D)	#	Lost	60.2	53.0/67.6	76.8	66.0/87.6	29.5	28.1/30.9
	Pulitano (D)	#	Lost	61.5	53.9/69.1	60.7	49.7/71.7	28.5	27.1/29.9
2013	Flotteron (R)			21.9	13.5/30.3	15.4	2.6/28.2	65.6	64.6/66.6
	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)			20.2	11.6/28.8	15.8	3.2/28.6	64.8	63.0/66.6
	Fidelia (D)	#	Lost	64.0	56.4/71.6	86.5	75.1/97.9	29.7	28.1/31.3
	Hafele (D)	#	Lost	56.4	48.2/64.6	81.4	69.2/93.6	31.5	29.9/33.1
2011	Cochrane (R)			18.4	11.0/25.8	7.8	-4.2/19.8	61.0	59.6/64.4
	Senft (R)			14.8	7.8/21.8	1.2	-10.5/12.8	61.7	60.3/63.1
	Parrington (D)	#	Lost	64.0	56.2/70.8	77.6	66.6/88.6	33.5	32.1/34.9
	Ortiz (D)	#	Lost	77.7	66.9/84.9	90.9	79.3/102.5	29.8	28.4/31.2
2009	Bergen (R)			24.6	14.8/34.4	19.6	4.2/34.8	62.7	60.3/64.1
	Flotteron (R)			20.2	10.8/29.6	20.1	5.3/34.9	57.7	56.3/59.1
	Bodkin (D)	#	Lost	57.1	46.9/67.2	66.7	50.5/82.9	35.9	34.3/37.5
	Morgo (D)	#	Lost	55.0	44.9/60.2	65.6	49.6/81.6	30.3	28.7/31.9
2007	Finlay (R)			26.0	19.4/32.6	6.3	-2.7/15.3	47.4	46.2/48.6
	Schettino (R)			20.8	14.2/27.4	6.3	-2.5/15.5	43.3	42.1/44.5
	Edwards (D)	#	Won	62.3	58.9/69.1	83.4	74.2/92.6	50.4	49.2/51.6
	Parrington (D)	#	Won	57.5	54.3/60.7	76.7	68.1/85.3	43.2	42.2/44.2
2005	Bodkin (R)			10.6	0.8/20.4	18.8	5.4/32.2	61.3	59.7/62.9
S. Eliel	Flotteron (R)			11.8	3.4/20.2	13.7	2.1/25.3	51.2	49.8/52.6
	Parrington (D)	#	Lost	54.7	47.5/61.9	71.1	61.5/80.7	35.8	34.6/37.0
	Alvarez (D)	#	Lost	58.3	51.1/65.5	68.6	58.6/78.6	23.8	22.6/24.0

Table 7: El Estimates of Vote Support, by Group, for Islip Town Council Candidates

		Latino Candidate	Won	Latino	Latino	Black	Black CI	\A/I <sub>2</sub> '.4 -	White
Year	Candidate	of Choice	or Lost	%	Lo/Hi	%	Lo/Hi	White	CI
2017	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)	of Choice	LOSI	10.7	9.2/12.2	11.7		% 60.5	Lo/Hi
2017	O'Connor (R)			7.4		Special Line	9.5/14.9		60.0/61.1
	Gonzalez (D)	#	Loot		5.4/8.9	17.8	13.1/22.1	56.4	55.9/57.2
	Fenley (D)	#	Lost	81.6 54.9	79.0/84.3 52.4/57.3	75.0 74.3	71.0/76.9	27.0 30.4	26.3/27.5
2015	Cochrane (R)	**************************************	LUST	14.3	11.4/17.4	15.6	12.9/18.4	63.5	62.6/64.3
2010	Mullen (R)			10.0	6.9/13.0	20.0	16.1/26.1	62.9	62.3/63.4
	McDermott (D)	#	Lost	61.8	58.1/63.7	73.3	68.6/78.6	29.7	29.0/30.4
	Pulitano (D)	#	Lost	61.2	57.0/65.2	63.8	57.8/70.3	28.5	27.7/29.1
2013	Flotteron (R)		2001	13.0	9.4/17.4	17.4	12.0/21.5	66.0	65.1/66.7
	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)			12.9	9.6/16.5	19.2	16.0/22.3	64.6	63.7/65.4
Wille	Fidelia (D)	#	Lost	67.4	63.0/71.8	82.3	76.9/86.8	29.1	28.3/29.8
	Hafele (D)	#	Lost	66.8	64.3/69.3	69.0	65.2/73.7	29.9	29.0/30.8
2011	Cochrane (R)			11.4	8.7/14.1	18.6	13.1/22.8	60.9	60.0/61.7
	Senft (R)			7.7	5.7/9.8	11.3	7.2/17.0	61.8	61.2/62.3
	Parrington (D)	#	Lost	69.3	66.9/71.5	70.0	66.0/74.9	33.4	32.8/34.1
	Ortiz (D)	#	Lost	88.8	86.5/91.5	76.6	65.6/75.6	29.9	29.5/30.4
2009	Bergen (R)			19.9	17.3/22.5	23.2	19.4/26.3	63.0	62.2/63.8
	Flotteron (R)			12.9	11.3/14.9	23.1	17.5/30.7	58.8	57.8/59.7
	Bodkin (D)	#	Lost	58.5	55.4/62.6	69.8	59.7/74.8	35.4	34.8/36.0
	Morgo (D)	#	Lost	53.9	49.8/56.7	68.8	64.5/73.9	30.4	29.7/31.3
2007	Finlay (R)			20.2	16.9/14.8	13.4	10.5/17.6	47.5	47.0/48.1
	Schettino (R)			17.3	14.8/20.0	10.2	7.5/13.8	43.5	43.0/44.0
	Edwards (D)	#	Won	67.7	65.0/70.4	77.5	72.9/82.7	49.9	49.3/50.6
	Parrington (D)	#	Won	63.6	59.7/66.7	68.3	63.1/75.9	43.1	42.6/43.8
2005	Bodkin (R)			13.5	10.6/16.7	17.2	13.0/20.9	59.5	59.9/59.0
	Flotteron (R)			12.2	8.1/15.3	12.8	9.6/16.4	50.1	49.5/50.8
	Parrington (D)	#	Lost	58.9	53.4/58.6	67.3	63.8/71.1	36.5	36.0/37.2
	Alvarez (D)	#	Lost	56.1	56.1/62.1	70.8	53.3/58.6	25.0	24.4/25.6

Table 8 reports voter turnout rates (voters at the polls as a percentage of CVAP) for the same Town Board elections. Latino turnout rates, consistently under 15 percent, are only one-half to one-third the turnout rates of white voters. The low Latino turnout rates and the large between-group differences are likely associated with a combination of Latinos' lower socio-economic status, some matter of disengagement from Town politics, off-year elections, and lack of motivation on the part of candidates and parties who sense difficulty winning.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See, e.g., Gray, Virginia, (1976) "A Note on Competition and Turnout in American States." *Journal of Politics* 38: 153-58, at 153. Dr. Gray's paper finds that the relationship between low competition and low turnout is a relationship so fundamental that it borders on a law. Likewise, it is also accepted that turnout ebbs and flows with on-year and off-year elections. *See, e.g.*, Jacobson, Gary (2013) *The Politics of Congressional Elections* (Boston, MA: Pearson) at 121. On the role of mobilization see Rosenstone, Steven, J. and John Mark Hansen (1993) *Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America,* (New York, NY: Macmillan).

Table 8: Estimated Voter Participation by Group in Islip Town Council Elections\*

			Non- Hspn	Non-Hspn Black		White
	Latino	Latino	Black	CI	White	CI
	Turnout	CI	Turnout	Lo/Hi	Turnout	Lo/Hi
Year	%	Lo/Hi	%		%	
2017	10.6	8.9/12.8	14.2	11.6/17.6	31.9	31.4/32.2
2015	5.1	3.4/7.0	11.5	7.7/17.2	18.7	18.4/19.0
2013	8.0	5.5/10.3	8.1	5.6/11.9	20.0	19.7/20.4
2011	13.3	10.9/15.9	14.6	10.6/19.4	27.4	26.8/27.8
2009	6.1	4.4/8.6	11.9	7.3/16.1	20.7	20.2/21.1
2007	10.6	6.7/15.7	15.7	10.7/22.8	21.6	21.2/21.9
2005	8.9	6.8/11.7	15.2	12.0/18.2	20.5	20.1/20.7

<sup>\*</sup>The 2009 analysis excludes two precincts (3717 and 3722) because the County's electoral data records an exceeding high number of people signing in but casting blank ballots—ED 3217 with 1494 ballots accessed (each sign-in receives 2 ballots in this vote-for-two situation) and 1257 left blank, and ED 3722 with 1160 sign-ins and 860 blank.

## B. Town-wide Vote-for-One Office Elections

- Table 9 reports the results of ethnically/racially polarized voting analyses for Town Supervisor, Receiver of Taxes, and Clerk from 2005 through 2015. Eight of the nine elections are polarized along ethnic/racial lines. Results from five of six elections in 2011 and 2015 show a degree of polarization even higher than the levels reported in Table 6 for the Council elections.<sup>22</sup> The one exception to a racially polarized outcomes came in the special circumstance of Supervisor Nolan's re-election one year after he replaced Supervisor McGowan, who resigned in March 2006 in the wake of his guilty plea.<sup>23</sup>
- Voting on the 2006 referendum to replace the Town's at-large election structure with single-member districts is likely polarized, but it is uncertain. The best estimates have a majority of Latino voters (and non-Hispanic black voters) supporting a change to a system using single-member districts, but the margins of error around those estimates leave room for doubt. Latino voters likely supported the change, but, if they did, their votes were not cohesively in support of the proposition to conclude with statistical confidence they offered majority support.
- Table 10 shows Latino voter participation for vote-for-one town-wide offices is low, as was evident in the Council elections. Indeed, the vote-for-one election turnout percentages are even lower, because the vote counts here are of votes cast whereas the Council counts are of voters signing in. Inasmuch as turnout reflects behavior patterns

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Some part of this greater degree can be attributed to calculating candidate support as a percentage of voters at the polls (Council) versus as a percentage of votes cast for a particular office.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Scandals often carry a heavy political price. While upwards of 90 percent of congressional incumbents win reelection, those touched by any sort of scandal lose about 40 percent of the time, and corruption scandals carry the highest price. See Basinger, Scott J. (2013) "Scandals and Congressional Elections in the Post-Watergate Era." Political Research Quarterly 66:385-98.

associated with socio-economic status, political engagement in Town politics, enthusiasm for contributing to the election of one's candidate of choice, and effort on behalf of parties and candidates to produce that result. These considerations cut against Latino voter participation. It is notable, however, that in 2006 presidential midterm year, when a Latino candidate of choice stood good prospect of winning (and did win), the Latino participation rate stands about double off-year elections.

Whether there is a substantial consequence associated with these observed turnout differences depends on what they portend for the ability of Latino voters to elect their candidates of choice in a fairly drawn single-member district. That is, if the turnout rates indicate that even in a majority-Latino single member district would often foreclose the opportunity for Latino voters to elect candidates of their choice, the low rates could prove important. Projection analyses directly address issue.

Table 9: Estimated Vote Support, by Group, in Vote-for-One Islip Town Offices

					Regression			EI	
Year	Office	Latino Candidate	Out-	Latino Vote% with CI	NHB Vote% with CI	White Vote% with Cl	Latino Vote% with CI	NHB Vote% with CI	White Vote% with CI
		of Choice		Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi
2015	Supervisor	Licari (D)	Lost	67.6 59.6/75.6	80.3 68.5/92.1	29.3 28.1/30.5	70.4 65.8/72.7	71.4 67.5/76.3	30.0 29.3/30.9
	Tax Receiver	Castro (D)	Lost	75.4 68.0/82.6	79.9 69.3/90.5	22.7 21.5/23.9	73.7 70.7/76.8	78.9 75.7/82.7	23.5 22.7/24.1
	Clerk	Fidelia (D)	Lost	74.7 66.7/82.7	89.3 77.7/99.9	29.1 27.9/30.3	82.9 79.3/86.6	73.0 68.9/76.9	29.5 28.7/30.3
2011	Supervisor	Nolan (D)	Lost	78.6 70.6/86.6	98.1 85.1/111.1	41.0 39.6/42.4	90.7 87.9/92.7	75.4 71.0/79.9	40.9 40.2/41.5
	Tax Receiver	Rossi- Fontana D)	Lost	78.3 71.3/85.3	96.1 84.9/107.3	33.1 31.9/34.3	86.1 84.1/88.7	80.1 76.3/83.3	33.7 33.2/34.4
	Clerk	Fields (D)	Lost	76.3 69.3/83.3	95.3 83.9/106.7	39.4 38.2/40.6	87.7 84.8/90.2	78.9 74.1/82.6	39.0 38.4/39.7
2007	Supervisor	Nolan (D)	Won	77.4 70.4/84.4	95.2 85.8/104.6	65.6 64.6/66.6	84.2 81.6/87.6	87.5 82.0/91.7	65.1 64.7/65.7
	Tax Receiver	Slinkosky (D)	Won	64.1 56.9/71.3	84.8 75.2/94.4	39.9 38.9/40.9	68.5 64.8/72.0	81.7 77.8/86.3	39.7 39.1/40.3
2006	Supervisor	Nolan (D)	Won	77.7 70.8/83.5	79.4 70.6/88.2	43.6 42.6/44.6	77.3 74.7/79.7	87.4 81.8/92.8	48.1 47.7/48.7
Year	Issue	Prefer District							
2006	Districting Proposition	Vote = Yes	Lost	53.9 46.7/61.1	56.4 49.0/63.8	44.4 43.4/45.4	54.8 52.0/58.8	56.0 52.0/60.3	44.2 43.5/44.8

Table 10: Estimated Voter Participation by Group in 3 Vote-for One Town Elections

Year	Office	Latino Turnout %	Latino Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	Non- Hspn Black Turnout%	NHB Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	White Turnout %	White Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi
2015	Supervisor	4.9	3.7/6.1	5.7	4.1/7.6	19.6	19.2/20.0
	Tax Receiver	5.6	4.7/6.8	4.4	3.3/5.6	19.2	18.8/19.5
	Clerk	4.2	3.0/5.7	7.7	5.6/10.0	18.3	17.9/18.7
2011	Supervisor	6.8	5.0/8.5	8.4	6.7/11.3	28.8	28.3/29.3
	Tax Receiver	5.7	3.6/8.2	9.1	7.1/11.5	27.4	26.7/28.0
	Clerk	4.6	3.4/5.9	9.1	6.1/12.6	27.7	27.3/28.2
		<b>Zenick</b> Kath					
2007	Supervisor	6.7	4.0/9.1	8.2	6.3/10.6	22.7	22.3/23.2
	Tax Receiver	5.2	4.1/6.3	7.9	5.4/11.4	21.6	21.1/22.0
2006	Supervisor	11.9	8.9/14.3	14.1	8.6/17.9	37.3	36.8/37.8
							MARKETER
Year	Issue					de la solo	A PROPERTY.
2006	Dist vs At-large Proposition	4.1	3.2/5.0	6.3	4.5/8.7	26.3	25.9/26.7

## SECTION FOUR: PROJECTION ANALYSIS

- As explained above, projection analysis permits us to examine whether Latinos can elect candidates of their choice to the Town Board under a single-member district system. As previously noted, LD9 is a majority Latino single-member district wholly within the Town. In Islip, the results of LD9 elections and whether Latino voters elected their candidates of choice permit us to project what would happen in a Town Board election under a fairly drawn single-member district. All that is needed is to know the candidate of choice for Latino voters and a calculation of the actual votes for that candidate and her or his opponent among the EDs contained in LD9.
- For example, in the 2017 Town Council election, aggregating the votes from LD9 for the four candidates as a check on their prospects for winning an election in a single-member district shows both Latino voters' candidates of choice would have considerably outperformed both of their chief opponents:

Candidate	Vote Tallies
Gonzalez	4,396
Fenley	3,614
Bergin Weichbrodt	1,599
O'Connor	1,552

I also performed the same sort of projection analysis using Professor Beveridge's hypothetical majority-Latino district.<sup>24</sup> This analysis leads to the vote tallies of:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> The hypothetical district contains the following EDs: 3009, 3029, 3033, 3055, 3059, 3060, 3063, 3068, 3073, 3083, 3084, 3085, 3092, 3093, 3094, 3095, 3096, 3100, 3104, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3117, 3119, 3124, 3125, 3156, 3160, 3174, 3175, 3176, 3190, 3194, 3199, 3200, 3204, 3205, 3206, 3207, 3219, and 3226. The data of vote tallies received from the Suffolk County Board of Elections, and delivered to me through Andrew Beveridge, do not contain votes from EDs 3219 and 3226.

Candidate	Vote Tallies
Gonzalez	3,899
Fenley	3,179
Bergin Weichbrodt	1,395
O'Connor	1,351

- Running in the Town's at-large, vote-for-two election, the candidates of choice of Latino voters lost their bids for council office. Running in a single-member district similar to LD9 or in the hypothetical district draw by Professor Beveridge, however, I project that Gonzalez and Fenley would have won easily. In short, the use of the at-large system impaired the ability of Latino voters to elect their candidate of choice compared to what reasonably can be expected to have resulted were the election conducted using a single-member district system in which these same candidates were elected by voters making up LD9.
- 59) Since 2005, three county LD9 elections have been contested:

2013 primary election: Martinez (D) vs. Montano (WF)

2015 primary election: Mata (D) vs. Martinez (WF)

2017 general election: Martinez (D) vs. King (R)

Martinez, whether running on the Democratic or Working Families party line, was the preferred candidate of Latino voters in each election from 2013-17.<sup>25</sup> In LD9, which is majority Latino, Latino voters' candidate of choice prevailed in all contested elections.

60) Tables 11 through 15 report tallies of LD9 voters for all 45 elections presented and discussed in this report to demonstrate how candidates of choice of Latino voters would have fared in elections limited only to LD9. The 45 elections contain 52 candidates (38)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> None of these elections were ethnically or racially polarized. Latino and white voters in this area of the Town both supported the winning candidate in all three elections.

- vote-for-one results and the 14 in the 7 vote-for two council elections). All 52 Latino voters' candidates of choice are projected winners by vote counts of Islip voters residing in LD9. These projections show Latino voters are highly likely to be able to elect their candidate of choice in a similarly drawn single-member district in the Town.
- The 45 elections choose 52 candidates (38 vote-for-one results and the 14 in the 7 votefor two council elections). All 52 Latino voters' candidates of choice are projected
  winners by vote counts of Islip voters residing in LD9. And, while there is statistical
  uncertainty about the Latino majority preference for switching from an at-large to singlemember district format, 51 percent of the voters in LD9 preferred to switch. However
  one chooses to consider the ballot proposition result, projections show Latino voters have
  great likelihood of being able to elect their candidate of choice in a legally established
  single-member district within the town borders.
- Table 16 reports vote tallies in Dr. Beveridge's hypothetical Latino-majority districts for the 2013, 2015, and 2017 Town elections. In the three vote-for-two Town Council elections—2013, 2015, and 2017—all six candidates of choice of Latino voters are projected as winning candidates, while all six were defeated while contesting the elections at-large. As well, all three Latino voters' candidates of choice for Supervisor, Receiver of Taxes, and Clerk are projected to have easily prevailed against their opponents in the three elections involving vote-for-one Town offices. As in the existing legally established single-member district of LD9, Latino voters have great likelihood of being able to elect their candidate of choice in the hypothetical single-member district constructed as an example by Professor Beveridge.

Table 11: Projected Vote Support for Town Council Candidates within County LD9, 2005-17

Year	Candidate	Latino Candidate of Choice	Projected Win/Loss LD 9	Votes Latino CoC	Votes not Latino CoC
2017	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)				1599
	O'Connor (R)				1552
	Gonzalez (D)	#	Win	4396	
	Fenley (D)	#	Win	3614	
2015	Cochrane (R)				1204
	Mullen (R)				1155
	McDermott (D)	#	Win	2695	
	Pulitano (D)	#	Win	2507	
2013	Flotteron (R)				1365
	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)				1286
	Fidelia (D)	#	Win	2977	
	Hafele (D)	#	Win	2727	
2011	Cochrane (R)				2009
	Senft (R)				1841
	Parrington (D)	#	Win	4205	
	Ortiz (D)	#	Win	4809	
2009	Bergin (R)				1640
	Flotteron (R)				1479
	Bodkin (D)	#	Win	2520	
	Morgo (D)	#	Win	2367	
2007	Finlay (R)				1866
	Schettino (R)				1645
	Edwards (D)	#	Win	3936	
	Parrington (D)	#	Win	3569	
2005	Bodkin (R)				1966
	Flotteron (R)				1648
	Parrington (D)	#	Win	3075	
	Alvarez (D)	#	Win	2837	

Table 12: Projected Vote Support for Latino Voters' Outcomes of Choice within LD9, Town-wide Elections 2006-15

Year	Office	Latino Candidate of Choice	Projected Win/Loss LD 9	Vote %
2015	Supervisor	Licari (D)	Win	63.0
	Tax Receiver	Castro (D)	Win	64.4
	Clerk	Fidelia (D)	Win	68.7
2011	Supervisor	Nolan (D)	Win	71.7
	Tax Receiver	RossiFontana (D)	Win	69.1
	Clerk	Fields (D)	Win	69.6
2007	Supervisor	Nolan (D)	Win	77.4
	Tax Receiver	Slinkosky	Win	59.9
	Clerk	cross-party endorsement	~~~	~~~
2006	Supervisor	Nolan (D)	Win	65.0
Year	Issue	Prefer At-Large		Total
2006	Dist vs At-large Proposition	Vote = Yes	Win	51.0

Table 13: Projected Vote Support for Latino Voters' Candidates of Choice in LD9, Countywide Offices 2005-17

Year	Office	Latino Candidate of Choice	Projected Win/Loss LD 9	Vote %
2017	County DA	Sini	Win	82.2
	County Sherriff	Toulon	Win	76.7
2015	County Exec	Bellone	Win	78.3
2014	County Comptroller	Gaughran	Win	74.9
2011	County Exec	Bellone	Win	72.7
2006	County Clerk	Viloria-Fisher	Win	64.6
2005	County Sherriff	DeMarco	Win	62.2
	County Treasurer	Crespo	Win	50.1

Table 14: Projected Vote Support for Latino Voters' Candidates of Choice in LD9, Statewide Offices 2005-17

Year	Office	Latino Candidate of Choice	Projected Win/Loss LD 9	Vote %
2014	Governor	Cuomo	Win	75.4
	Atty General	Schneiderman	Win	84.4
	Comptroller	Dinapoli	Win	77.6
2010	Governor	Cuomo	Win	78.7
	Atty General	Schneiderman	Win	72.1
	Comptroller	Dinapoli	Win	70.9
2006	Governor	Spitzer	Win	75.5
	Atty General	Cuomo	Win	63.9
	Comptroller	Hevesi	Win	68.7

Table 15: Projected Vote Support for Latino Voters' Candidates of Choice in County LD9, National Offices 2005-17

Year	Office	Latino Candidate of Choice	Projected Win/Loss LD 9	Vote %
2016	President	Clinton	Win	77.6
	U.S. House CD #2***	DuWayne	Win	75.2
	U.S. Senate	Schumer	Win	83.7
2014	U.S. House CD #2***	Mather	Win	66.6
2012	President	Obama	Win	81.0
	U.S. House CD #2***	Falcone	Win	76.2
	U.S. Senate	Gillibrand	Win	84.6
Appellier pu				
2010	U.S. Senate A	Schumer	Win	79.9
	U.S. Senate B	Gillibrand	Win	75.4
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2008	President	Obama	Win	77.2
2006	U.S. Senate	Clinton	Win	76.0
	does not include ab			70.0

Table 16: Vote Support for Town Office Candidates within a Hypothetical Latino-Majority Single-Member District, 2013-17\*

Year	Candidate	Latino Candidate of Choice	Projected Win/Loss LD 9	Votes Latino CoC	Votes not Latino CoC
2017	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)				1395
	O'Connor (R)				1351
	Gonzalez (D)	#	Win	3899	
	Fenley (D)	#	Win	3179	
2015	Cochrane (R)				1057
	Mullen (R)				1026
	McDermott (D)	#	Win	2252	
(F)	Pulitano (D)	#	Win	2155	
2013	Flotteron (R)				1185
	Bergin-Weichbrodt (R)				1144
	Fidelia (D)	#	Win	2493	
	Hafele (D)	#	Win	2305	
	Town Office	Latino Candidate of Choice	Projected Win/Loss	Vote %	
2015	Supervisor	Licari	Win	61.6 %	
	Tax Receiver	Castro	Win	63.9 %	
	Clerk	Fedelia	Win	67.2 %	

<sup>\*</sup>The hypothetical district contains the following EDs: 3009, 3029, 3033, 3055, 3059, 3060, 3063, 3068, 3073, 3083, 3084, 3085, 3092, 3093, 3094, 3095, 3096, 3100, 3104, 3111, 3113, 3115, 3117, 3119, 3124, 3125, 3156, 3160, 3174, 3175, 3176, 3190, 3194, 3199, 3200, 3204, 3205, 3206, 3207, 3219, and 3226. The data on vote tallies received from the Suffolk County Board of Elections, and delivered to me through Andrew Beveridge, do not contain votes from EDs 3219 and 3226.

## SECTION FIVE: EXOGENOUS ELECTION ANALYSIS

- Elections for Town office hold the most weight in racially polarized voting analysis because they speak directly to preferences for representation in the jurisdiction and for the offices in question. Town elections also involve candidates groomed and recruited in the politics of Islip, in contrast to, for example, candidates from elsewhere in Suffolk County in county elections, New York State in state or some federal elections, or the United States overall in the case of presidential elections. Exogenous elections at the county, state, and federal level are still, however, persuasive evidence of further racial polarization.
- Polarized voting patterns between Islip's Latino and non-Hispanic black voters, on the one hand, and white voters, on the other, generally persist in exogenous elections. Tables 17, 18, and 19 show patterns of ethnically/racially polarized voting in 7 of 8 Suffolk County elections, 7 of 9 elections for statewide offices, and 7 of 11 of elections for national offices. In the polarized exogenous elections, white voter support for Latino voters' candidates of choice is somewhat higher than in the Town Council elections, at an average of 35-45% compared to about 30%, respectively. If levels of white voter support for Latino preferred candidates reached above 45 percent, as they do in some exogenous elections, Latino preferred candidates in Council elections would stand a reasonable chance of election. However, this has not been shown to actually occur in Town Council or other Town-level elections.

Table 17: Islip Voters' Estimated Vote Support for Candidates for County Offices, by Group

				Regression			Ē	
			Latino	NHB	White	Latino	NHB	White
		Latino	Vote%	Vote%	Vote%	Vote%	Vote%	Vote%
		Candidate	with CI	with CI	with CI	with CI	with CI	with CI
Year	Office	of Choice	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi
2017	County DA	Sini	91.0	94.9	55.9	93.4	91.7	57.3
			0.96/0.98	87.1/102.7	55.1/56.7	92.2/94.6	90.2/93.3	56.8/47.7
	County Sherriff	Toulon	73.3	75.2	45.0	91.7	868	40.5
			65.5/81.1	64.8/85.6	43.8/46.2	90.1/93.4	85.2/93.2	39.9/41.2
2015	County Exec	Bellone	83.7	93.1	47.3	97.8	84.4	47.5
			76.1/91.3	81.5/104.7	46.1/48.5	85.8/90.0	81.7/88.1	46.8/48.1
2014	County Comptroller	Gaughran	83.3	102.6	35.0	94.6	7.78	42.6
			77.3/89.3	93.6/111.6	33.8/36.2	92.7/96.3	81.9/91.5	41.6/43.6
2011	County Exec	Bellone	77.8	92.3	46.6	89.4	73.2	46.4
			71.6/84.0	82.1/102.5	45.6/47.6	86.3/92.7	67.3/77.5	45.8/47.3
2006	County Clerk	Viloria-Fisher	77.3	92.6	39.0	76.4	87.2	39.5
			71.1//83.5	77.2/95.0	38.0/40.0	73.3/79.3	84.7/90.7	39.0/40.0
2002	County Sherriff	DeMarco	82.9	101.0	39.2	74.3	75.5	45.4
			79.7/93.1	91.4/110.6	38.2/40.2	6.97/6.07	70.8/81.1	44.8/46.0
	County Treasurer	Crespo	63.0	64.7	27.0	67.4	6.09	28.4
			54.6/71.4	53.5/75.9	25.8/28.2	64.3/70.9	58.3/64.3	27.8/29.0
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Table 18: Islip Voters' Estimated Vote Support for Candidates for Statewide Office, by Group

				Regression			亩	
						Latino	SHN	
		Latino	Latino	NHB	White	Vote%	Vote%	White
		Candidate	Vote%	Vote%	Vote%	with CI	with CI	Vote%
		of Choice	with CI	with CI	with CI	Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	with CI
Year	Office		Lo/Hi	Lo/Hi	Lo/HI			Lo/Hi
2014	Governor	Cuomo	85.5	98.6	34.6	92.6	8.06	37.4
			80.1/90.9	90.4/106.8	343.6/35.6	90.7/94.5	88.6/93.5	36.9/37.9
	Atty General	Schneiderman	82.0	98.5	36.2	90.4	6.06	37.6
			75.8/88.2	89.1/107.9	35.2/37.2	87.6/92.3	87.6/94.4	37.0/38.3
	Comptroller	Dinapoli	85.3	8.66	41.0	94.6	87.7	42.6
			79.3/91.3	92.0/107.6	40.0/42.0	92.7/96.3	81.9/91.5	41.6/43.6
2010	Governor	Cuomo	86.5	98.9	49.5	92.3	94.5	51.9
			81.5/91.5	91.1/106.7	48.5/50.5	91.1/93.4	92.3/96.3	51.4/52.3
	Atty General	Schneiderman	83.7	98.8	34.5	91.0	88.3	35.1
			77.9/89.5	90.0/107.6	33.5/35.5	89.6/92.5	84.3/91.3	34.6/35.6
	Comptroller	Dinapoli	80.7	8.96	35.2	90.4	85.8	36.2
			75.1/86.3	88.0/105.6	34.2/36.2	88.2/92.5	82.8/89.1	35.7/36.8
2006	Governor	Spitzer	85.0	88.7	58.4	90.3	91.4	58.8
			79.2/90.8	81.3/96.1	57.6/59.2	88.2/91.9	89.1/93.7	58.2/59.3
	Atty General	Cuomo	73.4	83.7	42.1	76.0	88.5	42.6
			68.0/78.8	76.7/90.7	41.3/42.9	73.8/78.9	84.6/92.5	42.1/43.1
	Comptroller	Hevesi	81.1	87.3	45.0	88.1	88.2	46.7
			74.9/87.3	79.3/95.3	44.2/45.8	85.3/91.1	84.9/91.3	46.0/47.2

30.0/30.8 33.2/34.3 24.7/26.2 19.4/20.8 41.2/42.3 56.6/57.6 50.8/51.9 44.5/45.5 42.3/43.2 53.3/54.1 53.4/54.4 Vote% with CI White Lo/Hi 33.7 25.4 20.0 30.4 45.0 53.7 41.7 57.1 51.3 53.8 42.7 Table 19: Islip Voters' Estimated Vote Support for Candidates for National Office, by Group 92.2/95.8 91.1/94.5 82.8/88.5 93.4/96.6 89.1/94.5 87.7/93.3 90.7/94.9 87.3/92.7 92.1/96.0 90.6/95.2 89.0/94.1 Vote% with CI Lo/Hi 94.3 90.0 93.0 95.0 92.2 92.2 86.2 91.0 92.9 93.0 94.1 93.9/96.5 89.0/93.5 92.6/96.3 94.6/97.2 80.4/85.8 94.8/97.3 94.6/97.0 94.9/97.2 90.2/94.7 89.0/93.1 92.7/96.1 Latino Vote% with CI 94.4 Lo/Hi 0.96 94.4 83.4 92.9 95.8 91.0 96.1 95.1 96.1 91.2 29.8/31.8 23.2/25.6 28.0/30.4 18.2/20.6 38.2/40.2 40.5/42.5 50.7/52.7 49.2/51.2 42.9/44.9 51.7/53.3 54.1/56.1 Vote% with CI White Lo/Hi 30.8 24.4 19.4 43.9 51.7 39.2 29.2 55.1 50.2 41.5 52.5 91.1/107.5 Regression 85.8/105.8 98.8/115.6 95.0/110.5 93.7/110.5 90.9/108.1 91.8/105.4 95.1/113.1 91.2/109.2 91.2/105.2 89.6/104.4 \*\*\*CD #2 does not include about a dozen of the Town's EDs with CI 102.6 Vote% 107.2 102.1 NHB Lo/Hi 99.3 99.5 98.6 95.8 104.1 100.2 98.2 97.0 90.3/100.7 36.7/97.9 85.8/97.4 89.2/98.4 68.8/82.4 36.8/98.2 77.5/88.8 80.6/91.8 90.5/99.7 89.5/98.7 82.3/93.1 Latino Vote% with CI 91.6 Lo/Hi 92.3 93.8 75.6 95.5 92.6 95.1 87.7 83.3 86.2 94.1 Candidate of Choice Latino DuWayne Gillibrand Gillibrand Schumer Schumer Obama Falcone Clinton Mather Clinton Obama U.S. Senate A U.S. Senate B U.S. Senate U.S. Senate U.S. Senate U.S. House U.S. House CD #2\*\*\* U.S. House CD #2\*\*\* CD #2\*\*\* President President President Office Year 2016 2014 2012 2010 2008 2006

The results of voter participation in these exogenous elections are reported in Tables 20, 21, and 22. Turnout in the exogenous elections ebbs and flows depending on whether they are presidential, national midterm, or off-year (i.e., odd-numbered). In presidential election years, Latino participation is in the mid-40 percent range; in presidential midterm years it ranges from high single digits to low teens, and in off-year elections it tends to be in the vicinity of 5 percent. White voter participation also ebbs and flows in similar ways, increasing in presidential election years and decreasing in off-year elections.

Table 20: Estimated Islip Voter Participation, by Group, in Election to County Office

Year	Office	Latino Turnout %	Latino Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	Non-Hspn Black Turnout%	NHB Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	White Turnout %	White Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi
2017	County DA	5.1	4.2/6.5	8.3	5.6/11.4	33.1	33.7/34.6
	County Sherriff	4.9	3.4/6.4	8.8	6.5/11.2	33.1	32.7/33.4
2015	County Executive	4.6	3.1/6.6	6.5	4.0/9.7	19.5	19.2/19.9
2014	County Comptroller	8.3	6.6/10.5	17.6	14.2/20.5	34.0	33.5/34.5
2011	County Exec	5.7	4.2/7.3	11.3	8.5/13.6	28.9	28.3/29.5
2006	County Clerk	12.9	9.3/17.2	10.7	7.2/15.6	34.3	33.7/34.8
2005	County Sherriff	5.7	4.6/6.8	5.6	4.3/7.6	20.5	20.2/20.9
	County Treasurer	5.3	3.7/7.1	7.1	4.6/9.5	20.1	19.7/20.7

Table 21: Estimated Islip Voter Participation, by Group, in Elections to State Office

Year	Office	Latino Turnout %	Latino Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	Non-Hspn Black Turnout%	NHB Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	White Turnout %	White Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi
2014	Governor	9.6	7.8/11.0	14.3	10.9/18.2	34.3	33.8/34.8
	Atty General	8.6	6.8/11.9	11.8	9.4/13.8	34.5	33.9/35.0
	Comptroller	8.3	6.6/10.5	17.6	14.2/20.5	34.0	33.5/34.5
2010	Governor	15.2	11.9/18.5	17.3	14.0/22.9	42.2	41.3/43.0
	Atty General	14.0	11.8/15.9	15.8	12.0/20.7	40.4	39.9/41.0
	Comptroller	12.8	8.1/16.7	21.5	15.4/27.5	40.5	40.0/41.1
2006	Governor	13.5	10.7/16.7	12.9	9.4/15.7	37.3	36.7/38.0
	Atty General	9.1	6.3/11.8	19.0	15.7/22.6	37.2	36.7/37.7
	Comptroller	7.8	6.2/9.9	16.8	12.8/20.1	35.4	34.6/35.9

Table 22: Estimated Islip Voter Participation, by Group, in Election to National Office

Year	Office	Latino Turnout %	Latino Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	Non-Hspn Black Turnout%	NHB Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi	White Turnout %	White Confid- ence Interval Lo/Hi
2016	President	45.5	40.4/49.2	25.8	18.3/37.5	71.6	71.0/72.3
	U.S. House	35.3	39.5/39.6	27.3	19.9/35.3	67.1	66.3/67.7
	U.S. Senate	37.4	31.9/41.6	30.5	26.1/35.6	68.7	67.7/69.7
2014	U.S. House	6.0	4.5/7.2	16.8	14.4/19.9	34.2	33.6/34.7
2012	President	44.2	41.8/46.6	38.9	34.1/44.4	74.9	73.8/75.6
	U.S. House	38.2	34.3/40.8	23.5	20.5/30.2	64.9	64.2/65.7
	U.S. Senate	44.6	42.7/47.4	22.7	18.1/30.8	71.1	69.4/72.0
2010	U.S. Senate (Schumer)	13.3	11.1/15.2	20.1	16.7/24.7	41.7	41.2/42.1
	U.S. Senate (Gillibrand)	13.7	12.2/15.4	13.8	11.3/16.0	40.8	40.2/41.2
2008	President	44.0	41.7/46.5	33.2	29.1/36.6	68.6	68.0/69.2
2006	U.S. Senate	13.8	11.4/16.1	16.2	13.0/19.2	37.2	36.6/37.7

## **SECTION SIX: CONCLUSION**

- 66) Elections at all levels show persistent patterns of ethnically/racially polarized voting among voters in Islip, in which white voters and Latino voters vote as distinct blocs. The persistence is most pronounced in Town Council elections. In Town Council elections, white crossover voting provided non-polarized support for Latino candidates of choice in just one of 16 candidacies in the last decade (John Edwards in 2007). There are only 9 out of 51 elections in which ethnically/racially polarized patterns do not appear, all of which are exogenous elections. Racial polarization was most often absent when a relatively unknown Republican candidate contested a New York statewide election for U.S. Senate or Governor. The more local the position or closer the office to Town governance, the clearer is the persistent pattern of ethnic/racial polarization.
- The at-large voting structure impairs Latino voters' candidates of choice from getting elected to the Town Council. White voters' bloc voting consistently defeats the Latino voters' candidates of choice from being elected to the Town Council. Were the Town to elect its Council using a single member district system, and a district with borders similar to LD9 were drawn, the evidence shows through both EI and regression analysis that Latino voters could elect candidates of their choice to the Town Board.
- Democratic principles hold that a voting majority find majority representation in an elected council. So it is in the Town of Islip; white voters have persistently elected a majority of the Town's council members. Democratic principles also give due consideration to the legitimate interests in fair and effective representation, consideration that calls for abiding by not just a preference for majority representation of majority preferences but also for equality among voters to ensure that significant minority voices are heard. At-large elections, more especially those with enhancing factors such as a

designated post, a small council size, and off-year voting, can silence minority voices.

Those conditions are present in Islip.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Michael D. McDonald

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