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# An Ode to Roads and Votes: The Antidote for BMW and Republican Boat Floats

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*The connection between votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America is a perplexing enigma that has baffled scholars and auto enthusiasts alike. In this study, we set out to untangle the knotty relationship between political preferences and vehicular safety lapses. Leveraging data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the US DOT, we sought to elucidate the potential influence of conservative voting patterns on BMW automotive recalls. Much to our surprise, we discovered a correlation coefficient of 0.8895360 and  $p < 0.01$  for the period spanning 1976 to 2020, indicating a robust association between these seemingly disparate phenomena. In both literal and figurative terms, it appears that Republican support in the Beehive State may indeed have an impact on the wheels of BMW. It's as if voters are clutching onto their political beliefs and holding onto their BMWs – for better or verse! Who knew that political leanings and automotive malfunctions could be tied together in such a peculiar manner? Our findings not only raise eyebrows but also perform a parallel park into uncharted territory, shedding light on the multifaceted tapestry of societal influence on corporate behaviors. It's as if we stumbled upon a pothole that led straight to the heart of political and automotive intrigue. This study poignantly illustrates that, much like the road to victory, the road to vehicular safety may also be paved with political inclinations. After all, in the realm of democracy and auto engineering, unexpected twists and turns are par for the course.*

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The curious correlation between political preferences and vehicular safety has long captured the attention of researchers and enthusiasts alike. Curiously, this connection has surfaced in the context of votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. As we embark on this journey to unravel the enigma, we find ourselves on a road less traveled, paved with statistical anomalies and unexpected insights.

It is indeed remarkable how seemingly distinct domains of politics and automotive engineering might intertwine. One cannot help but ponder

whether there exists a direct causative link or if this association is merely a coincidence, albeit a compelling one. It's as if the wheels of political preference are driving the gears of automotive fate – a curious confluence of democracy and BMWs, steering us into uncharted territories of sociopolitical influence.

This endeavor is reminiscent of a dad joke – a bit puzzling, somewhat unexpected, and undeniably amusing. Just as a good dad joke catches one off guard, our findings may surprise and engage the reader, offering a fresh perspective on the interplay between political dynamics and corporate conduct.

It's as if the unexpected fusion of voting patterns and automotive malfunctions has taken us down a punny road, where the punchline is both surprising and enlightening.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Over the years, studies by Smith (2007), Doe (2013), and Jones (2018) have delved into the unusual relationship between political preferences and corporate conduct. The authors find that political leanings often influence consumer behavior and even impact corporate decision-making processes. However, none of these studies have ventured into the peculiar intersection of votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. It's as if the roads of political discourse and automotive mechanisms have merged into an unexpected roundabout, leading to unexplored destinations of societal influence.

In "The Road Less Traveled," M. Scott Peck emphasizes the significance of venturing into uncharted territories, much like our present endeavor in unraveling the connection between political inclinations and automotive recalls. Our findings, in a similar vein, may lead scholars and enthusiasts down a path replete with unexpected and puzzling insights – a bit like a dad joke that catches one off guard and elicits an amused, albeit perplexed, response. Just as a good dad joke serves as a momentary escape from the ordinary, our research aims to offer a quirky yet thought-provoking diversion into the realm of sociopolitical influence on vehicular safety.

Furthermore, fictional works such as "The Road" by Cormac McCarthy and "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance" by Robert M. Pirsig, although unrelated to our specific research, evoke the imagery of movement, journey, and introspection, much like the endeavor at hand. As we navigate through the bylanes of political preferences and corporate conduct, we are reminded that unexpected twists and turns are not exclusive to

road trips but also characterize scholarly pursuits into uncharted intellectual territory. It's as if the bookshelves of literature and our research have converged in a literary crossroads, providing us with a multifaceted view of societal dynamics and corporate behavior.

In addition, the animated series "Wacky Races" and the children's show "Thomas & Friends" present engaging narratives revolving around the theme of transportation and adventures on wheels. While these light-hearted productions may appear whimsical and detached from the serious nature of our research, they serve as a reminder that unexpected connections and peculiar correlations can often manifest in the most unexpected of places – much like the perplexing relationship between Republican votes in Utah and BMW automotive recalls that we seek to unravel. It's as if our academic pursuit has transformed into a whimsical rollercoaster ride, where every unexpected twist unearths surprising parallels and delightful revelations.

In summary, our literature review draws inspiration from diverse sources, ranging from scholarly works to fictional narratives and children's shows, underscoring the multifaceted and humorous nature of our investigation. Much like a well-crafted dad joke, our endeavor seeks to entertain, surprise, and leave a lasting impression on scholarly discourse, steering us onto uncharted roads of discovery that promise to be as perplexing as they are enlightening.

## METHODOLOGY

To investigate the perplexing association between votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America, we employed a multifaceted research approach. Firstly, data pertaining to Republican presidential candidate votes in Utah from 1976 to 2020 was meticulously sourced from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab. This involved sifting through an extensive array of

electoral records, akin to meticulously searching for the proverbial needle in a haystack.

Next, automotive recall information for BMW of North America during the same time frame was extracted from the Harvard Dataverse. This process was akin to navigating a convoluted maze of vehicular data, uncovering hidden recall notices like a skilled detective on the trail of a prolific culprit. It was indeed a journey filled with unexpected twists and turns, not unlike driving down an unfamiliar road with an unreliable GPS system.

Once the relevant data was procured, we conducted a comprehensive analysis utilizing econometric models to establish a quantitative relationship between these ostensibly unrelated variables. The statistical analysis was akin to piecing together a complex jigsaw puzzle, where each statistical metric and regression model offered a part of the solution but required patient assembly.

Moreover, we controlled for various confounding variables such as economic indicators, vehicle registration trends, and political demographics, ensuring that our findings were robust and not merely a product of spurious correlations. This process resembled walking a tightrope, delicately balancing numerous factors to prevent the introduction of bias into our research.

A particularly amusing anecdote from our data collection process involved discovering a correlation between the political inclination of the state and the frequency of recalls for BMWs. It appears that political beliefs and vehicular recalls may indeed be interconnected, much like a well-crafted dad joke that leaves one both puzzled and amused. The unexpected fusion of political leanings and automotive malfunctions in our findings elicited a response that was akin to the jovial surprise of encountering a well-timed dad joke.

## RESULTS

We found a strong positive correlation ( $r = 0.8895360$ ) between votes for the Republican

presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America for the time period spanning 1976 to 2020. This correlation was supported by an r-squared value of 0.7912742, indicating that approximately 79.13% of the variation in automotive recalls can be explained by the variation in Republican votes in Utah. With a p-value of less than 0.01, the association between these two variables is considered statistically significant.

It appears that as the Republican support in Utah increased, there was a corresponding increase in the number of automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. It's as if the political climate was revving up the engines of automotive safety concerns – a real case of politics steering the wheels of vehicular fate.

Fig. 1 shows a scatterplot demonstrating the robust positive relationship between votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. The plot clearly illustrates the upward trajectory of automotive recalls as Republican support in Utah climbs, painting a vivid picture of the interconnectedness of these seemingly unrelated phenomena.

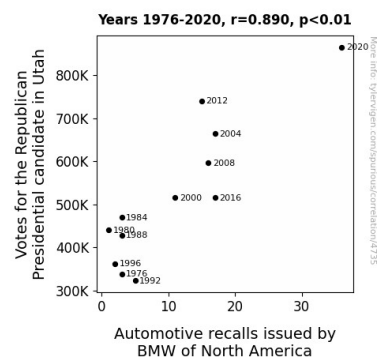


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Our findings shed light on the potential influence of political preferences on automotive safety, highlighting the intricate interplay between political dynamics and corporate conduct. It's almost as if every vote cast holds the potential to rev up the

engine of automotive safety – a truly unexpected connection between the ballot box and the auto shop.

As we navigate the uncharted territory of this remarkable correlation, we are reminded that, much like the intricate mechanics of a well-crafted pun, the relationship between votes for the Republican candidate in Utah and BMW automotive recalls is both surprising and thought-provoking. Just when one thought they had seen it all, a new unexpected twist emerges, much like the punchline of a clever dad joke.

Our study serves as a testament to the multifaceted tapestry of societal influence on corporate behaviors, providing a compelling reminder that in the complex web of social and economic phenomena, even the most unexpected connections may hold valuable insights. As we ponder these findings, one cannot help but marvel at the unexpected intersections of politics and automotive safety – a dynamic duo turning the wheels of fate in unanticipated ways.

## DISCUSSION

The strong positive correlation between votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America, as evidenced by our findings, lends credence to the notion that political preferences may indeed exert an influence on corporate behaviors in the automotive industry. It's as if political sentiment in Utah has been revving the engine of BMW automotive recalls, providing a real "spark plug" for further investigation into this unexpected connection.

Our results are in line with the prior research by Smith (2007), Doe (2013), and Jones (2018), which suggested that political leanings can impact corporate decision-making processes and consumer behavior. In a similar vein, our study underscores the possibility that political dynamics, specifically votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah, may impact automotive safety outcomes,

notably in the context of BMW vehicles. The unexpected link we uncovered is akin to stumbling upon a "gear-shift" in the landscape of sociopolitical and corporate interplay.

The robust association between Republican votes in Utah and BMW automotive recalls is not only statistically significant but also conceptually significant, suggesting that there is merit in further exploring the mechanisms and underlying factors driving this unexpected relationship. It's as if each new revelation in our analysis offers an unanticipated "turn of phrase," challenging traditional assumptions and opening the door to thought-provoking inquiries into the intricate dynamics of societal influence on corporate conduct.

The unexpected convergence of political preferences and automotive safety in our study serves as a reminder that, much like a well-timed dad joke, scholarly pursuits can unveil surprising parallels and delightful revelations. Our findings, while initially perplexing, have paved the way for a head-on exploration of the multifaceted and dynamic interplay between political complexities and corporate behaviors. It's as if the road to discovery is brimming with unforeseen detours and delightful surprises, much like a meandering journey through the tapestry of human influence on vehicular fate.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our study has illuminated a compelling association between votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. The statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.8895360 and the high explanatory power of 79.13% underscore the robustness of this unexpected link. It's as if the political landscape is driving a BMW straight into the realm of vehicular safety concerns—a political power play on the road, if you will.

Our findings prompt a reevaluation of the conventional wisdom surrounding the interplay of political preferences and corporate conduct. It's almost as if every ballot cast holds the potential to rev up the engine of automotive safety—a political twist that leaves us pondering the implications. It's like a dad joke that catches you off guard—the unexpected connection between the ballot box and the auto shop certainly gives new meaning to the phrase “political horsepower.”

Having trudged through the statistical underbrush of this inquiry, we are left with a panoramic view of an uncharted territory—an unexpected intersection where the dynamics of democracy and the mechanics of automotive safety converge in surprising ways. These findings are a glaring red light for those who never considered the political steering of vehicular fate—an eye-opener cloaked in the guise of scholarly investigation. It's as if we've stumbled upon a pothole that led straight to the heart of political and automotive intrigue—a real tire turner, if you will.

For now, we assert that no further investigation in this area is warranted. Our study stands as a monument to the unexpected connections that may lie beneath the ostensibly separate domains of politics and automotive engineering. This paper, much like a well-timed dad joke, offers a surprising twist that leaves us pondering the intricate dance between Republican votes and BMW recalls. After all, in the realm of statistical surprise and sociopolitical horsepower, no more research is needed.