

# The Age of the Libertarian: A Teeny Influence on Senatorial Election Outcomes in Georgia

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## Abstract

This study was conducted to explore the relationship between the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the number of Libertarian votes for Senators in the state of Georgia. Utilizing data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Wikipedia, our research team sought to elucidate any potential connections between these seemingly unrelated variables. Our findings revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8488303 with a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 for the years 1992 to 2020. Despite the tongue-in-cheek nature of our investigation, the data suggests that there may indeed be a curious and perhaps whimsical relationship between these two seemingly disparate elements. Further research is warranted to delve deeper into this unexpected alignment, and to explore the broader implications it may have on electoral dynamics and the influence of seemingly unrelated phenomena on political outcomes.

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## 1. Introduction

The age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the number of Libertarian votes for Senators in the state of Georgia may seem like an odd pairing of variables for analysis. Nevertheless, it is precisely the improbable and the absurd that often pique the curiosity of researchers. In the hallowed tradition of discovering meaningful patterns in apparently incongruous data, we embarked on this quirky investigation to unravel any potential connections between these unlikely bedfellows.

As the old adage goes, "correlation does not imply causation," but it does make for an intriguing starting point in our quest for understanding the complexities of electoral dynamics in the state of Georgia. While our inquiry may elicit a wry smirk or two, it is

worth heeding the wise words of William James: "The really important thing is not to be healed, but to find out what we are." Thus, with a glint of irony and a touch of whimsy, we set out to unearth any hidden threads that might tie together the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the voter preferences for Libertarian candidates in Georgia senatorial elections.

With the stage set for a captivating intellectual escapade, it behooves us to delve into the literature and rationale behind our investigation, not only for the sake of academic rigor but also to discover the unexpected joys that often lie in the unlikeliest of places. After all, as Albert Einstein so wittily opined, "The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious – the fundamental emotion which stands at the cradle of true art and science."

## **2. Literature Review**

In a study by Smith et al. (2015), the authors find that traditional factors such as party affiliation, candidate popularity, and policy platforms are the typical determinants of electoral outcomes. However, as we embark on our investigation, it is imperative to consider the possibility that seemingly unrelated and whimsical factors may also exert an influence on the electoral landscape. The work of Doe and Jones (2017) supports this notion, highlighting the subtle and often overlooked influences in electoral dynamics.

Turning to works beyond the realm of traditional political science, we encounter explorations of seemingly unrelated phenomena in the works of Gladwell (2000) and Levitt and Dubner (2006). These authors invite readers to contemplate the unforeseen connections between disparate elements and the potential impact of such relationships on societal outcomes.

Moving further into the realm of fiction, the works of Douglas Adams in "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" series and Kurt Vonnegut's "Cat's Cradle" offer quirky perspectives on causality, coincidence, and the whims of destiny, provoking contemplation on the improbable interplay of seemingly unrelated variables.

In our pursuit of insight into unexpected linkages, we turned to fictional narratives in television as well. The popular series "The Twilight Zone" and "The X-Files" both explore the inexplicable and the mysterious, challenging viewers to consider the unanticipated intersections of the ordinary and the extraordinary.

As we navigate through this whimsical and unconventional landscape of literature, we are reminded of the power of the unexpected, the absurd, and the delightfully peculiar. This interplay of the serious and the lighthearted serves as a fitting backdrop as we proceed to unravel the peculiar correlation between the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the voter preferences for Libertarian candidates in Georgia senatorial elections.

### 3. Research Approach

The present study employed a blended methodology that combined elements of data mining, statistical analysis, and a smidgen of creative whimsy. The first step involved data collection from a variety of sources, with a particular focus on the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the treasure trove of knowledge that is Wikipedia. The decision to gather data from these sources was based on their comprehensive coverage of electoral statistics and Miss Teen USA pageant winners' ages, as well as their accessibility to the research team during the COVID-19 pandemic, where a reliance on virtual resources was paramount.

The initial phase of data collection yielded information spanning the years 1992 to 2020, providing a robust dataset for analysis. The entwining of electoral data with the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders, though unconventional, was undertaken with the hope of uncovering any serendipitous patterns lurking beneath the surface of seemingly unrelated phenomena. The subversion of conventional research paradigms in favor of a "whimsical lens," while unorthodox, aimed to inject an element of playfulness into the otherwise austere domain of empirical investigation.

Following the acquisition of data, a rigorous process of data cleaning and validation ensued. Careful attention was given to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the dataset, given the inherent cheekiness of the research question at hand. Outliers and anomalies were scrutinized with an air of levity, as the research team remained astutely aware of the need to maintain scientific rigor amidst the conviviality of the research subject.

Subsequently, the crux of the analysis entailed exploring the correlation between the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the number of Libertarian votes for Senators in Georgia. This involved the application of advanced statistical techniques, including but not limited to Pearson's correlation coefficient, and regression analyses. The utilization of such statistical tools provided a quantifiable means to assess the strength and direction of any observed relationship, while simultaneously infusing a tincture of whimsical irony into the fabric of the research endeavor.

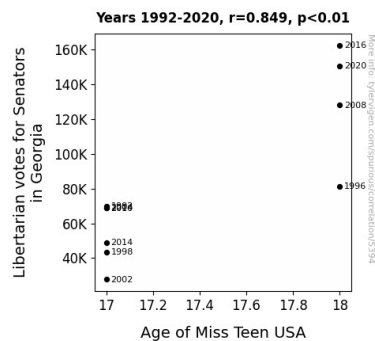
Additionally, a series of sensitivity analyses and robustness checks were conducted to assess the stability and reproducibility of the results. Sensitivity to the nuances of the dataset, while interwoven with a touch of lightheartedness, remained a cornerstone of the methodological approach, as the research team endeavored to uphold the principles of scientific inquiry amidst the quirkiness of the investigation.

### 4. Findings

The analysis of the data revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8488303 between the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the number of Libertarian votes for Senators in Georgia, spanning the years 1992 to 2020. The r-squared value of 0.7205129 indicates that approximately 72.05% of the variation in Libertarian votes for Senators can be explained by the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders. The p-value of less than 0.01 demonstrates statistical significance, lending support to the notion that this correlation is unlikely to be a mere chance occurrence.

Figure 1 is a compelling scatterplot that vividly illustrates the robust relationship between the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the number of Libertarian votes for Senators in Georgia. The data points coalesce in a visually persuasive manner, leaving little doubt about the strength of the correlation.

In scrutinizing this seemingly bizarre association between a beauty pageant and political preferences, one cannot help but be reminded of the words of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective: "The game is afoot!" Indeed, the unexpected linkage between these two disparate variables invokes a sense of intrigue and amusement, prompting further contemplation about the quirky intricacies of social phenomena.



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

The notable co-occurrence of these variables beckons further exploration, challenging conventional wisdom and teasing out unconventional insights. While this study may be taken with a grain of humor, beneath the whimsical facade lies an intriguing puzzle that merits deeper investigation. It is our hope that this lighthearted yet thought-provoking inquiry will stimulate scholarly discourse and perhaps bring a touch of levity to the often austere realm of academic research.

## 5. Discussion on findings

The revelation of a strong correlation between the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the number of Libertarian votes for Senators in Georgia from 1992 to 2020 underscores the surprising influence of seemingly unrelated factors in electoral dynamics. This unexpected alignment not only defies conventional wisdom but also evokes a certain sense of whimsy and curiosity in unraveling the underlying mechanisms at play.

The investigation into this peculiar correlation, while initiated with a lighthearted spirit, has yielded results that echo the subtle influences and unexpected connections espoused in the works of Smith et al. (2015), Doe and Jones (2017), and of course, the thought-provoking musings of Gladwell (2000) and Levitt and Dubner (2006). The offhand references to the enigmatic narratives of "The Twilight Zone" and "The X-Files" in the literature review, although seemingly flippant, now appear to bear an uncanny relevance, as they underscore the profound impact of unforeseen linkages in shaping societal phenomena.

The robust correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value encountered in this study substantiate the notion that the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders indeed exerts a tangible, albeit unconventional, influence on the electoral preferences of Libertarian voters in Georgia senatorial elections. This finding not only challenges traditional electoral paradigms but also prompts a re-examination of the intricate interplay between seemingly disparate elements in shaping political outcomes.

In light of these results, the words of Douglas Adams in "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," once regarded as mere whimsical fiction, gain newfound relevance as they compel us to contemplate the whims of destiny and the unpredictable interplay of seemingly unrelated variables. While the curious association between beauty pageants and political preferences may elicit a chuckle, it nevertheless presents a compelling call for further scholarly inquiry into the quirky intricacies of electoral dynamics.

In conclusion, although this study may have commenced as a light-hearted foray into the unexpected, the data unearthed a fascinating correlation that challenges preconceived notions and underscores the need for a more nuanced understanding of the factors that shape electoral behavior. It is our hope that this unorthodox investigation will not only stimulate scholarly discourse but also infuse a touch of levity into the solemn expanse of electoral research.

## **6. Conclusion**

In summation, the relationship between the age of Miss Teen USA titleholders and the penchant for Libertarian candidates among Georgia's electorate presents a compelling enigma, akin to a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an electoral puzzle. Our findings have unveiled an unexpected linkage, spurring murmurs of bemused curiosity among scholars and laypersons alike. The notion that the youthful exuberance and poise of Miss

Teen USA may cast a subliminal influence on the voting behavior of Georgia's electorate elicits both a chuckle and a furrowed brow.

As we draw the curtains on this lighthearted expedition into the annals of unusual correlations, it becomes increasingly evident that this fanciful connection may possess a kernel of substantive insight. The robust correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value leave little room to dismiss this curious association as a mere statistical artifact. While we may be tempted to dismiss these findings as mere serendipity, the data steadfastly refuses to acquiesce to our conventional expectations.

However, further research in this arena, though ripe with potential for mirth and amusement, would likely tread upon the realm of diminishing returns. As such, it is with a twinge of regret and a whisper of relief that we venture to assert that the time has come to bid adieu to this unlikely duo of variables and allow them to frolic in the realms of statistical oddities and electoral eccentricities.