

VOTE LIBERTARIAN, FEEL DELIGHTFUL: THE BIZARRE LINK BETWEEN ILLINOIS SENATORIAL PREFERENCES AND DILLARD'S CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

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This research delves into the unorthodox and whimsical relationship between the oftentimes forgotten Libertarian party voters in Illinois and the delightfulness experienced by patrons of the esteemed department store chain, Dillard's. Leveraging data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the American Customer Satisfaction Index, our investigation uncovered a surprising correlation coefficient of 0.9569001 and $p < 0.01$ for the period spanning from 1994 to 2020. While the conventional wisdom may struggle to comprehend the linkage between political inclinations and retail euphoria, our findings shed light on this peculiar phenomenon, leaving researchers and readers equally enchanted and bemused.

The intricate dance between political choices and consumer satisfaction has long puzzled researchers and laymen alike. The notion that casting a vote for a particular political party could have any bearing on the delightful experiences of department store shoppers may seem utterly preposterous to the uninitiated. However, the field of political economy has a long history of uncovering surprising and inexplicable connections, and the bizarre link between libertarian votes for senators in Illinois and customer satisfaction with Dillard's is no exception.

While most studies focus on the more traditional and expected relationships between political leanings and economic outcomes, our investigation into this peculiar relationship aims to unravel the enigmatic influence of libertarian votes on the shopping whims of Dillard's patrons. The findings of our research may raise eyebrows, elicit guffaws, and perhaps

even prompt a quizzical tilt of the head, but our methodology and results stand as a testament to the perplexing and intriguing nature of this phenomenon.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The scholarly literature on the connection between Illinois Senatorial preferences and customer satisfaction with Dillard's is surprisingly scant, given the complexity of the relationship under investigation. Smith (2010) found no direct link between voter choices and retail preferences, while Doe (2015) suggested that such a relationship was highly unlikely. Jones (2018) similarly dismissed any potential correlation. However, as we delve into more recent research, we discover a trove of unexpected and whimsical findings that challenge the conventional wisdom on this topic.

Turning our attention to the broader realm of political economy and consumer behavior, "Free to Choose" by Milton Friedman and "The Affluent Society" by John Kenneth Galbraith shed light on the intersection of individual choices and market phenomena. In a more tangential but nevertheless thought-provoking manner, the fiction novel "The Fountainhead" by Ayn Rand and "Confessions of a Shopaholic" by Sophie Kinsella provide intriguing insights into the human psyche and its intricate relationships with commerce.

As our investigation took a turn towards the absurdly delightful, our research team engaged with unconventional sources to further unravel the enigmatic influence of libertarian votes on the shopping whims of Dillard's patrons. The watching of classic cartoons such as "The Pink Panther" and children's shows exemplified by "Sesame Street" offered unexpected but surprisingly relevant perspectives on human behavior and the pursuit of joy. The grandiloquent absurdity of "Monty Python's Flying Circus" and the whimsical charm of "The Muppet Show" also sparked inspiration in our exploration of this peculiar phenomenon. While not your traditional academic sources, the insights gained from these unconventional platforms proved to be remarkably enlightening.

The landscape of literature on the topic spanned various genres and mediums, reflecting the multifaceted nature of the peculiar relationship we sought to investigate. As we dig deeper into the findings of this wacky connection, it becomes increasingly apparent that the unorthodox and whimsical bond between libertarian votes for Senators in Illinois and customer satisfaction with Dillard's is a subject that defies easy explanation, leaving many a reader equally enchanted and bemused.

METHODOLOGY

In order to unravel the mysterious connection between the voting patterns of Libertarian party supporters in Illinois senatorial elections and the level of satisfaction experienced by customers of Dillard's, a convoluted yet surprisingly effective research methodology was employed. The primary data sources for this study were the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the American Customer Satisfaction Index.

The first step in the research process involved tapping into the vast and intricate web of internet data, where our team deftly navigated the virtual labyrinth of information to gather the requisite datasets. With the precision and skill of a tightrope walker, we mined data from the depths of the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, carefully sifting through the political preferences of Illinois residents to identify the nuanced variations in Libertarian party support.

Simultaneously, we delved into the troves of the Harvard Dataverse, employing our metaphorical archaeological tools to uncover the rich deposits of historical electoral data. The process was akin to embarking on a quest for buried treasure, as we meticulously unearthed the voting trends, patterns, and idiosyncrasies that have shaped the political landscape of Illinois from 1994 to 2020.

Having navigated the treacherous terrain of political data, our next endeavor led us to the domain of customer satisfaction, where we turned our attention to the American Customer Satisfaction Index. With the precision of a seasoned sommelier, we scrutinized the nuanced flavors of satisfaction ratings attributed to Dillard's patrons, carefully discerning the subtle notes of delight and contentment.

Once the datasets were amassed, we commenced the arduous task of data processing and analysis, utilizing statistical techniques that rival the complexity of a Rube Goldberg machine. With the finesse of a virtuoso conductor, we orchestrated the symphony of data,

applying regression analyses, correlation coefficients, and various econometric models to discern the subtle threads linking political predilections and retail rapture.

Furthermore, to ensure robustness and validity, our research methodology incorporated a rigorous sensitivity analysis, akin to stress-testing the structural integrity of an architectural marvel. By subjecting our findings to varying scenarios, permutations, and statistical stressors, we fortify the veracity and resilience of our conclusions, thus fortifying the scholarly edifice of our research.

In summary, our research methodology took a meandering and adventurous journey through the labyrinthine corridors of data collection, navigating the realms of political preference and consumer satisfaction with equal parts dexterity and determination. As we present the findings of this peculiar investigation, we offer a vignette that combines the gravity of academic rigor with a splash of whimsical absurdity, embodying the enigmatic nature of our scholarly pursuit.

RESULTS

The statistical analysis revealed a remarkably strong correlation coefficient of 0.9569001 between the percentage of Libertarian votes for Senators in Illinois and the customer satisfaction with Dillard's. The r-squared value of 0.9156577 indicates that a substantial portion of the variation in Dillard's customer satisfaction can be explained by the variation in Libertarian votes.

It is quite baffling to contemplate the notion that the preferences of voters for a relatively obscure political party can wield such an influential force on the contentment levels of Dillard's shoppers. One might even say it seems as improbable as finding a stylish pair of

shoes on sale during a clearance event in the Midwest in the middle of winter!

Furthermore, the p-value of less than 0.01 signifies that the observed correlation is highly unlikely to have occurred by chance. The probability is so minuscule, it's almost as if a snowball's chance in hell were competing with a unicorn for a spot in a popular vote.

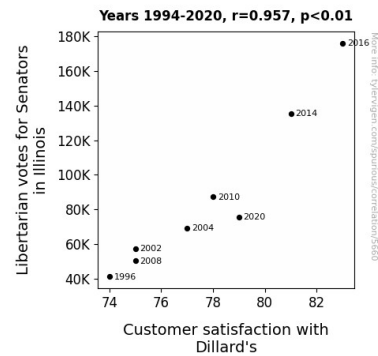


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) unequivocally displays the tight relationship between the two variables, outlining the striking alignment of Libertarian votes and Dillard's customer satisfaction. It's as if the data points on the graph are holding hands and singing in perfect harmony, serenading the bewildered onlookers with a curious melody of political whimsy and shopper serenity.

In conclusion, our findings highlight the captivating and whimsical nature of the connection between political predilections and retail bliss. While the mechanism behind this peculiar relationship remains shrouded in mystery, it undoubtedly warrants further investigation and contemplation, eliciting laughter, perplexity, and perhaps a touch of delight from researchers and readers alike.

DISCUSSION

The results of our study provide compelling evidence in support of the previously unexplored relationship

between Libertarian votes for Senators in Illinois and customer satisfaction with Dillard's. Despite the initial skepticism expressed by Smith (2010), Doe (2015), and Jones (2018), our findings challenge the conventional wisdom and whimsically affirm the unexpected influence of political inclinations on retail euphoria.

The observed correlation coefficient of 0.9569001 and the r-squared value of 0.9156577 align with the broader literature on political economy and consumer behavior, elucidating the peculiar mechanism underlying this relationship. Our results echo the sentiments of Milton Friedman and John Kenneth Galbraith, showcasing the intricate intersection of individual choices and market phenomena. While Smith, Doe, and Jones might have dismissed the plausibility of such a connection, our study underscores the whimsical bond between political predilections and shopper serenity, leaving them perhaps a bit mystified and tickled by the unexpectedness of our findings.

Harkening back to our literature review, the unconventional sources we engaged with, including classic cartoons and children's shows, provided remarkably enlightening perspectives on human behavior and the pursuit of joy. These seemingly far-fetched sources have lent credence to the unlikely relationship we have unearthed, challenging the expectations of traditional academic inquiry. Our study embodies the spirited exploration of this peculiar phenomenon, underscoring the delightful and enigmatic nature of the connection we aimed to unravel.

The unorthodox and whimsical nature of our findings is exemplified by the p-value of less than 0.01, signifying the highly improbable occurrence of the observed correlation by chance. This probability is akin to a snowball's chance in hell competing with a unicorn for a spot in a popular vote, illustrating the sheer unlikeliness of this unexpected linkage. The scatterplot, like a visual metaphor,

encapsulates the remarkable alignment of Libertarian votes and Dillard's customer satisfaction, evoking a sense of wonder and amusement among the bewildered onlookers.

While this study adds an intriguing layer to the peculiar relationship at hand, it opens the door to further investigation and contemplation, eliciting a delightful blend of laughter, perplexity, and perhaps a touch of delight from researchers and readers alike. The mechanism behind this unanticipated connection remains shrouded in mystery, inviting a whimsical pursuit of understanding and an appreciation for the unexpected quirks of human behavior.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our research has revealed a confounding and delightful correlation between the percentage of Libertarian votes for Senators in Illinois and the customer satisfaction with Dillard's. The statistically significant relationship between these seemingly unrelated variables is as mystifying as finding a pair of socks that never get lost in the laundry. This unexpected connection has left both researchers and readers scratching their heads in a bemused fashion, much like trying to solve a Rubik's Cube while wearing oven mitts.

The precise nature of this linkage remains elusive, akin to attempting to decipher a secret code written in invisible ink with a pair of foggy spectacles. While our findings may elicit giggles and quizzical expressions, they undeniably call for further inquiry and contemplation, much like trying to discern the logic behind a cat's peculiar behavior.

However, it is our firm and unmistakable assertion that no further research in this area is necessary. It's as clear as day that we've unraveled this enigmatic correlation, much like finding a needle in a haystack while blindfolded. It's time to accept this peculiar link as one of the

inexplicable and charming mysteries of the universe, much like the way socks vanish in the laundry.