Political Ambition Who Decides To Run For Congress

Political Ambition-Linda L. Fowler 1989-01-01 How do politicians decide whether or not to run for Congress? What is involved in the winnowing process that dictates, months before the election, the choices available to voters on the ballot? Using extensive interviews and analyses of district data and opinion polls, Linda Fowler and Robert McClure argue that House elections are intelligible only if we look beyond that declared candidates to those who could have run but chose not to. Their book, set in New York’s can Congressional District during the elections of 1984 and 1986, assesses the personal and contextual factors that motivate some individuals to enter a House race and induce others to remain on the sidelines. By uncovering the hidden obstacles that line the road to Washington, Fowler and McClure reveal why only the most ambitious men and women complete the journey. Fowler and McClure contend that the cost cna complexity of competitive House races now demand a level of commitment and advance planning that only those with a highly focused desire to serve in Congress can sustain. Despite the increased presence of national parties and PACs in congressional races, they say, it is the local political context that dominates the decision to run. Within this setting, individual candidates, not party organizations develop the strategies, manage the resources, and define the alternatives in most House races. Fowler and McClure discuss how changes in American politics such as reapportionment, the redistribution of power away from Washington, and the transformation of parties and interest groups affect the nation's supply of competitive office-seekers. And they devote special attention to the recruitment of female legislators, offering insight into the continued failure of women to make significant inroads into the House of Representatives.

Political Ambition-Linda L. Fowler 1989

Becoming a Candidate-Jennifer L. Lawless 2012 This book is about political ambition - who has it, how it is fostered and how it evolves.

Becoming a Candidate-Jennifer L. Lawless 2014-05-14 "This book is about political ambition - who has it, how it is fostered, and how it evolves"--

Sporting Events in China as Economic Development, National Image, and Political Ambition-Marcus P. Chu

"If Not Me, Who?"-Viktorija Benaityte 2019 The primary aim of this study was to investigate how and why young people enter politics in Lithuania. The research observing youth political ambition tends to focus on lack of ambition, alternative strategies of political involvement (such as protest), and to a lesser extent, budding and expressive ambition to run for office. While the majority of the latter studies focus on established Western democracies, this paper seeks to provide some insight into political motivation in the post-Soviet democracies, using Lithuania as a case study. This qualitative study is based on semi-structured interviews with 10 first-time elected and 7 aspiring politicians, educated in democratic Lithuania. The key findings indicate that family influence on political motivation is only a minor factor in the decision-making process to enter politics. At the same time, being exposed to a civically engaging school or youth group environment plays a significant role in nurturing participants' political ambition. Two major routes to entering politics emerged - those who were more strategic about the future in politics could be described as 'self-starters'; and those whose motivation was sparked by elite recruitment, usually by a senior political actor, already participating in politics or considering candidacy. The analysis of the interviews also uncovered a clear trend in disassociation with party membership and a growing appetite for the nonpartisan path to candidacy. This is particularly vivid in municipal elections, in which a new vehicle to enter politics - public electoral committee - has taken a firm place and allows politically ambitious millennials to enter the office without a party stamp.

American Foreign Policy and Political Ambition-James Lee Ray 2013-08-20 In his eagerly-awaited second edition of American Foreign Policy and Political Ambition, James Ray revisits his deceptively simple premise that the highest priority of leaders is to stay in power. Looking at how political
ambition and domestic pressures impact foreign policymaking is the key to understanding how and why foreign policy decisions are made. The text begins by using this analytic approach to look at the history of foreign policymaking and then examines how various parties inside and outside government influence decision making. In a unique third section, the book takes a regional approach, not only covering trends other books tend to miss, but giving students the opportunity to think comprehensively about how issues intersect around the globe—from human security and democratization, to globalization and pollution. Guided by input from adopters and reviewers, Ray has thoroughly re-organized the book and streamlined some coverage to better consolidate the historical, institutional, regional, and topical chapters and focus the thematic lens of the book. Ray has also brought the book fully up-to-date, addressing the latest events in American foreign policy, including the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the killing of Bin Laden, the WikiLeaks scandal and its aftermath, the impact of social media on foreign policy and world affairs, nuclear proliferation, developments in U.S.-Russian relations, climate change, and more.

Ambition and Politics-Joseph A. Schlesinger 1966
It Still Takes A Candidate-Jennifer L. Lawless 2010-06-21 It Still Takes A Candidate serves as the only systematic, nationwide empirical account of the manner in which gender affects political ambition. Based on data from the Citizen Political Ambition Panel Study, a national survey conducted of almost 3,800 ‘potential candidates’ in 2001 and a second survey of more than 2,000 of these same individuals in 2008, Jennifer L. Lawless and Richard L. Fox find that women, even in the highest tiers of professional accomplishment, are substantially less likely than men to demonstrate ambition to seek elective office. Women are less likely than men to be recruited to run for office. They are less likely than men to think they are qualified to run for office. And they are less likely than men to express a willingness to run for office in the future. This gender gap in political ambition persists across generations and over time.

Who Wants to Run for Office?-Karen Shafer 2008
Kingmakers-John R. Knaggs 1992-01-01
Who Wants to be a Politician?-Jessica A. Jatkowski 2013
Running from Office-Jennifer L. Lawless 2015 The overwhelming majority see nothing particularly noble about those currently in office, viewing most as dishonest, self-interested, and disinterested in helping their constituents. These young people want to improve their communities and enact change in the world; but they don’t think politics is the way to achieve these goals. In fact, they look disdainfully upon the prospects of growing up to be a mayor, governor, senator, or even president of the United States. Running from Office explores young people’s opinions about contemporary politics and their political ambition (or lack of it). The book paints a political profile of the next generation that should sound alarm bells about the long-term, deeply embedded damage contemporary politics has wrought on U.S. democracy and its youngest citizens.

Leadership and Transformative Ambition in International Relations-Mark A Menaldo 2013-10-31 Providing a critique of international relations theory and a critical examination of how leaders with transformative ambition change domestic and international politics, this book will appeal to leadership, politics and international relations academic
American Foreign Policy and Political Ambition-Ambitious Politicians-Patrik Ohberg 2017-05-05 A groundbreaking study of politicians who strive to become leaders in the party-centered European democracies. What is more, those politicians reach high positions and they are different from those who do not. The book contributes to a greater understanding of individual who aim at—ag get top positions in representative democracies."
Beyond the Boundaries - Georgia A. Persons 2011-12-31 In the past, African American aspirations for political office were assumed to be limited to areas with sizeable black population bases. By and large, black candidates have rarely been successful in statewide or national elections. This has been attributed to several factors: limited resources available to African American candidates, or identification with a black liberationist ideological thrust. Other factors have been a relatively small and spatially concentrated primary support base of black voters, and the persistent resistance of many white voters to support black candidates. For these reasons, the possibility of black candidates winning elections to national office was presumably just a dream. Conventional wisdom conceded a virtual cap on both the possible number of black elected officials and the level of elective office to which they could ascend. But objective political analysis has not always made sufficient allowances for the more universal phenomenon of individual political ambitions. The contributors to this volume explore the ways ambitious individuals identified and seized upon strategies that are expanding the boundaries of African American electoral politics. This volume is anchored by a symposium that focuses on new possibilities in African American politics. Both the electoral contests of 2006 and the Barack Obama presidential campaign represent an emergent dynamic in American electoral politics. Analysts are beginning to agree that the contours of social change now make the electoral successes of black candidates who are perceived as ideologically and culturally mainstream increasingly likely. The debate captured in this volume will likely inspire further scholarly inquiry into the changing nature and dimensions of the larger dynamic of race in American politics and the subsequent changing political fortunes of African American candidates.

Nietzsche’s Political Ambition - Jeremy Fortier 2014 Friedrich Nietzsche witnessed the development of the modern state first-hand, and perceptively identified many of its major features. His analysis of modern politics was initially marked by a qualified sympathy, or at least thoughtful acquiescence. Nevertheless, in later writings Nietzsche became a virulent critic of the modern world, sketching out a radically anti-modern political counter-project. Nietzsche’s political thought is therefore relevant to both those who want to better understand the foundations and leading characteristics of modern politics, and to those who want to explore influential criticisms of it. At the same time, it presents a substantial interpretive dilemma, since it is not clear how these two poles of Nietzsche’s thought can be squared. Indeed, most readers have tended to approach them in isolation from one another, either focusing on the radical project of Nietzsche’s late writings, or looking to his “middle period” as a welcome—but-discrete alternative. In this dissertation I argue that these two poles of Nietzsche’s thought are more closely linked than most readers have realized. Drawing on the extensive autobiographical self-assessments that Nietzsche published during his last two productive years, I show that he helps readers to see how a critical dialogue between the more moderate and the more radical aspects of his thought can be established—and, moreover, that Nietzsche himself subtly engaged in just such a dialogue throughout his career. The result is a picture of Nietzsche’s thought that is more nuanced and self-conscious in both its criticism and its endorsement of modern politics than has been generally appreciated. Moreover, using Nietzsche’s autobiographical self-accounts to negotiate the tensions in his writings sheds light on the precise motivation lying behind his political ambitions, and thereby also helps to sketch out the lines of defense that are required against the sort of anti-modern politics that Nietzsche pioneered.

Is Political Science Raising Politicians? - Adi Wiezel 2014 Objective. Both the civic education literature and the political ambition literature leave a gap in addressing the impact of political science coursework on political ambition. I address this gap by specifying the relationships between civic education, political knowledge, and political ambition. Methods. I employ paired t tests, chi-square tests, and Fisher's exact probability tests on an original dataset of 174 paired pre- and post-test survey responses. My survey improves upon prior works in the ambition literature (Fox and Lawless 2013) by virtue of its field experiment design. Results. My findings indicate that political science coursework has a positive impact on political
knowledge, but only among women, and that political science coursework has a negative impact (among women) on one of the most valid measures of political ambition--how likely one is to run for office in the future. Conclusions/Implications. The results have negative normative implications for those trying to use political education as an instrument to reduce the gender gap (see Lawless and Fox 2010, Fox and Lawless 2013) in political ambition. This suggests the need to explore further options for increasing political ambition, particularly among women.


Born to Run-Ronald Keith Gaddie 2004 Born to Run tells the stories of nine young politicians from all walks of life who enter into races at the state and local levels in Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Georgia, Nebraska, and Maine. Visit our website for sample chapters!

Political Ambition and Attainment- 1990

Gender Equality and Welfare Politics in Scandinavia-Kari Melby 2009 This book examines the meanings of gender that underpin policies in the Scandinavian welfare states, historically and today, and raises the question whether the hallmark of the Scandinavian welfare model is a special combination of gender equality and gender differentiation.

Political Ambition an Piety in Xenophon's Memorabilia-Lewis Fallis 2013 This thesis analyzes Books III and IV of Xenophon’s Memorabilia. The Memorabilia is Xenophon's defense of Socrates or the philosophic life against Athens or the political community as such. In Book III, Xenophon presents six portraits of ambitious young men. These portraits, read closely, unveil the psychological nature of ambition and convey important lessons about the Socratic understanding of healthy politics, as a realm that is necessarily pious. Book IV’s four Socratic conversations with a dim-witted youth named Euthydemus both underscore the lessons of Book III and explore piety itself, as a phenomenon that is necessarily political. These sections of the Memorabilia may be read as an argument for the necessity of a fissure between healthy politics and philosophy -- and as a bridge from the one to the other.

Ambition, Federalism, and Legislative Politics in Brazil-David Samuels 2003-02-24 Ambition theory suggests that scholars can understand a good deal about politics by exploring politicians' career goals. In the USA, an enormous literature explains congressional politics by assuming that politicians primarily desire to win re-election. In contrast, although Brazil's institutions appear to encourage incumbency, politicians do not seek to build a career within the legislature. Instead, political ambition focuses on the subnational level. Even while serving in the legislature, Brazilian legislators act strategically to further their future extra-legislative careers by serving as 'ambassadors' of subnational governments. Brazil's federal institutions also affect politicians' electoral prospects and career goals, heightening the importance of subnational interests in the lower chamber of the national legislature. Together, ambition and federalism help explain important dynamics of executive-legislative relations in Brazil. This book's rational-choice institutionalist perspective contributes to the literature on the importance of federalism and subnational politics to understanding national-level politics around the world.

Who Runs?-Meredith Conroy 2020-08-04 To explain women's underrepresentation in American politics, researchers have directed their attention to differences between men and women, especially during the candidate emergence process, which includes recruitment, perception of qualifications, and political ambition. Although these previous analyses have shown that consistent dissimilarities likely explain why men outnumber women in government, they have overlooked a more explicit role for gender (masculinity and femininity) in explanations of candidate emergence variation. Meredith Conroy and Sarah Oliver focus on the candidate emergence process (recruitment, perceived qualifications, and ambition), and investigate the affects of individuals' gender personality on these variables to improve theories of women's underrepresentation in government. They argue that since politics and masculinity are congruent, we should observe more precise variation in the candidate emergence process along gender differences,
than along sex differences in isolation. Individuals who are more masculine will be more likely to be recruited, perceive of themselves as qualified, and express political ambition, than less masculine individuals. This differs from studies that look at sex differences, because it accepts that some women defy gender norms and break into politics. By including a measure of gender personality we can more fully grapple with women’s progress in American politics, and consider whether this progress rests on masculine behaviors and attributes. Who Runs? The Masculine Advantage in Candidate Emergence explores this possibility and the potential ramifications.

The Decision to Run-Katherine N. Thullen 2007
Ambition and Beyond-Shirley Williams 1993
Characteristics of Political Ambition of Iowa State Representatives-Norman Brewer 1976
Has Zik Any Political Ambition? - Chuma Ofekansi
Between City and Empire-Hugh Liebert 2009
Political Ambition Theory-John R. Wood 1998
Fostering Women's Political Ambition-Jennifer Lynne Feinberg 2007
The Emerge Difference-Ashleigh Hayes 2016
Politics and Political Elites in Latin America-Manuel Alcántara 2020-09-22 This book presents in-depth analyses of the data gathered for 26 years by the Political Elites of Latin America project (PELA), the most comprehensive database about the topic in the world. Since 1994, PELA has conducted around 9,000 personal interviews with representative samples of the Legislative Powers of 18 Latin American countries, generating a unique resource for the study of political elites in a comparative perspective. Now, this contributed volume brings together studies that dig into the data gathered by PELA to discuss important topics related to the challenges faced by representative democracy in Latin America. After an introductory chapter that presents the potential of the PELA database, the book is structured in two parts. The first addresses in eight chapters important aspects of representative democracy such as political ambition, political trust, satisfaction with democracy, clientelism and the quality of democracy. It then discusses three relevant issues in Latin American political dynamics such as executive-legislative relations, women’s participation as representatives, and the meaning of China and the United States in national politics. The second part addresses in five chapters studies of seven national cases that are representative of regional heterogeneity. These chapters aim to examine parliamentarian elites’ attitudes in different political systems with regard to a variety of relevant issues such as institutional trust, satisfaction with democracy, Executive-Legislative relations, clientelism, and gender questions. Furthermore, these chapters intend to evince the evolution of such attitudes in the course of the last two decades. Politics and Political Elites in Latin America: Challenges and Trends will be of interest to scholars and students of comparative politics in general and, more particularly, to those interested in the challenges faced by representative democracy not only in Latin America, but in many parts of the world.

Paul Martin-John Gray 2003-01-01 The first in-depth profile of the 21st prime minister of Canada. On June 2, 2002, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien sent a brief fiveparagraph letter to Paul Martin, his Minister of Finance. "Dear Paul," the letter said. "It is with sadness that I confirm that you are leaving the cabinet..." The awkward wording reflected the profound bitterness that had come between the two men. Chrétien maintained that Martin had resigned. Martin maintained that he had been fired. The distinction did not matter, but the letter signalled the end of one of the most successful partnerships in Canadian political history. Even before their final split, Martin was the overwhelming favourite to succeed Chrétien as the leader of the Liberal party and the next prime minister. He had never tried to hide his ambition- in fact, he had already started to build a sophisticated campaign organization-and that, inevitably, was an increasing source of irritation between the two men for more than a decade. Martin got his first
taste of politics as a boy, following the career of his father whom he adored. Paul Martin Sr. was on the national political scene for 40 years, a cabinet minister for 24 of those years. Twice he ran for the Liberal party leadership, and twice his dream of becoming prime minister was crushed. The younger Martin came to politics relatively late in life, but those who knew him in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when he was first seen on the fringes of the Liberal party, marked him as a man with political ambition. Until recently, Martin never acknowledged his ambition to be prime minister. But his father's memoirs testify that his ambition is of long standing. John Gray traces the course of Martin's early life and his success in business when he rose from his role as a corporate trouble-shooter for Paul Desmarais at Power Corp., to the presidency and ownership of Canada Steamship Lines. Six months after he left business for politics, he announced that he would be a candidate for the leadership of the Liberal party. His reach for the leadership in 1990 was a failure, but that did not stop him. Martin has vowed that, unlike his father, he will not fail twice. This first in-depth biography comes at a critical time, as Paul Martin stands ready to reach for the reins of power.(October 2003)

The Role of Gender Identity in Encouraging Political Ambition and Recruitment-Sarah Oliver (Political scientist) 2014 Those who are more masculine, both men and women, are also more likely to be recruited to run for office by political and personal contacts. The effects of masculinity did not erase all independent effects of sex, however. Men were more ambitious than women in most multivariate analyses, but not in a bivariate analysis. In addition, women were more likely to be recruited than men by political actors, particularly by women's organizations. These findings add an important dimension to the explanations for women's underrepresentation in office. Beyond and independent of the effect of sex directly, masculinity matters in the decision to run for office. If the masculine norms do not change, then there will be a continued gap in women willing to run for office due to the barrier of masculinity.

Martyrs, Progress and Political Ambition-Alan Howard 1993*

Abiola, the Man of the People-Sunday Albert Sodimu 1998
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