

「選挙・動員・参加：自然実験」

福元健太郎（学習院大学）

堀内勇作（オーストラリア国立大学）・田中翔一郎（学習院大学）

Election, Mobilization and Participation: A Natural Experiment

Kentaro Fukumoto (Gakushuin University)

Yusaku Horiuchi (Australian National University)

Shoichiro Tanaka (Gakushuin University)

Candidates of local elections mobilize voters within the district to poll stations, ask voters outside the district to change their registered address and raise fiscal expenditure. We test these by taking advantage of a natural experimental setting in Japanese local elections. Specifically, we focus on the timings of municipal elections in 2003, and argue that whether or not each municipal assembly or mayoral election was held at the end of April is regarded as a treatment naturally and randomly assigned. After confirming that a nearly hundred of observable pretreatment variables are indeed well balanced between the treated and control groups, we test the effects of the three types of mobilization on three dependent variables: voter turnout, relocation of resident certificate and fiscal expenditure. The estimated average treatment effects are statistically and substantially large, especially in municipal assembly elections, where the vote margins between winners and losers tend to be very small.