The NIMBY Problem



Power to the People! Civil Society and Divisive Facilities





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How do states handle siting controversial facilities?

Example: Nuclear Plants in Japan



6 Approaches to Site Selection

Explanation	Logic
Technocratic Criteria	Geology and geography determine sites
Partisan discrimination	Dominant political party punishes political opponents
Discrimination against Minorities	Racial/ethnic majority punishes minority
Economics	Wealthy neighborhoods push away facilities; poorer ones seek potential jobs, taxes, and income
Political intervention	Strong politicians bring home what they see as "pork" or push away "bads"
Civil Society	Mobilization against facilities depends upon quality and quantity of social capital

Measuring Civil Society

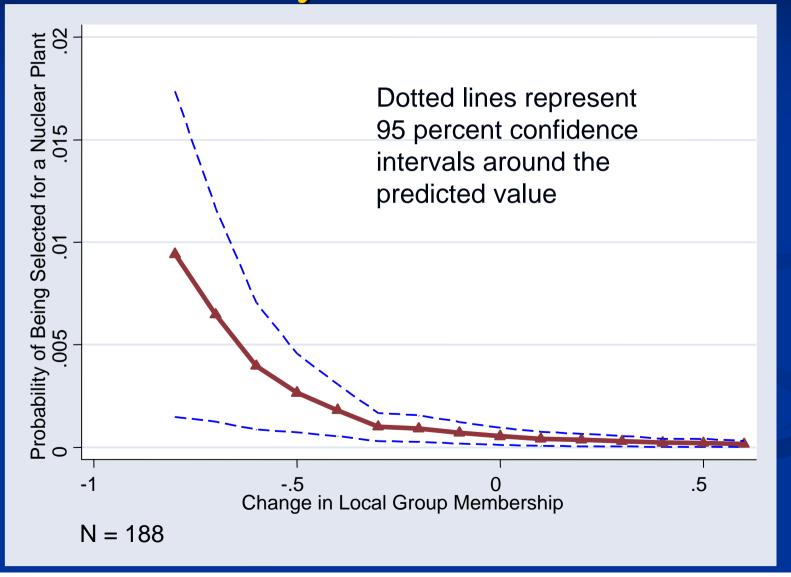
Based on internal MITI memos and interviews

 Quantity of Civil Society
 Ideally, change in voluntary associations' membership over time
 Available: change in primary sector employment

Quality of Civil Society
 Draw on sociological studies of population change

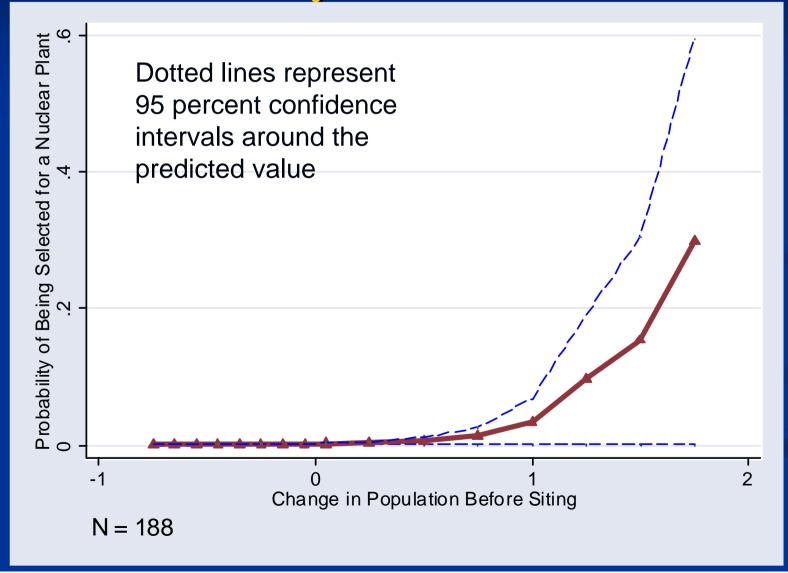
Civil Society,

Probability of Selection as Host

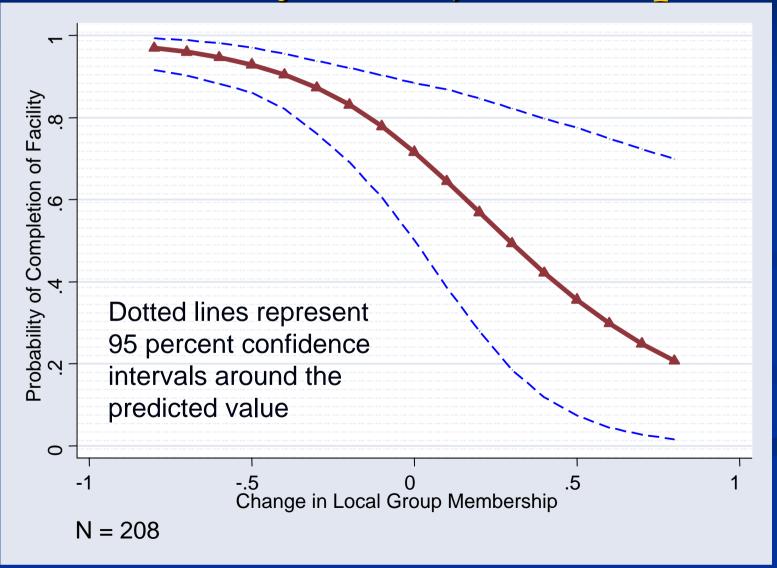


→ Solidarity,

Probability of Selection as Host



Horizontal Associations, Probability of Project Completion



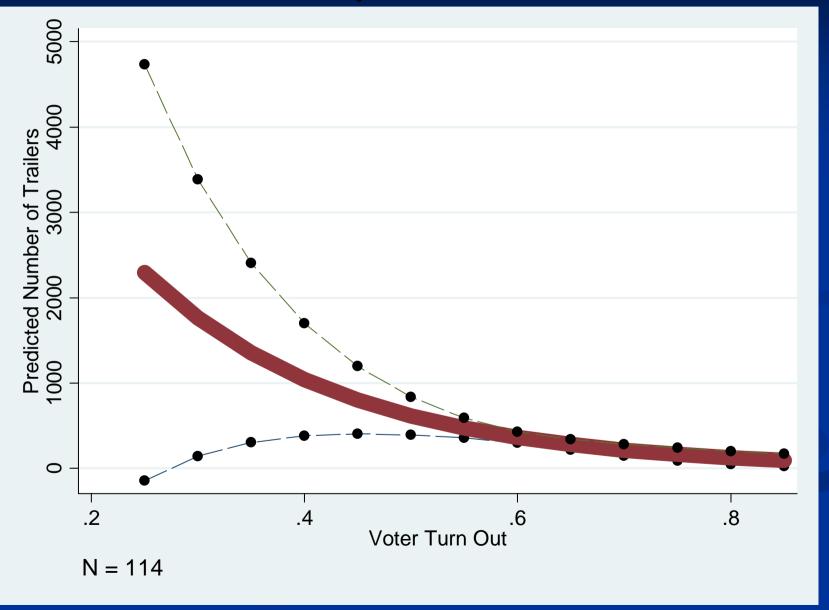
Example: Siting Trailers in Post-Katrina New Orleans

New housing said to be critical, but local communities uncooperative

Who would be saddled with temporary trailers?



Civil Society, Probability of Selection as Host



Conclusions

Planners judge potential host communities based on strength of civil society

States may envision strong civil society as a liability, as they **avoid** strong civil society when choosing locations

site fights

DIVISIVE FACILITIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN JAPAN AND THE WEST

DANIEL P. ALDRICH

