# Would you rather have Candidate X or Candidate Y as your next state judge?

## The Role of Gender & Race Cues in Nonpartisan State Judicial Elections

Suzanne Johnson

#### Roadmap

- Background
- The Experiment
- Results
- Implications

#### Background

- State judicial selection
- Humans as Cognitive Misers
  - Shortcuts through cues
  - Stereotypes
  - In-groups & Out-groups

#### The Experiment

- The survey
- Hypotheses:
  - •1: Voters will perceive male candidates as more qualified than female candidates.
  - 2: Voters will perceive white candidates as more qualified than African American candidates.

#### Results

Table 1: Difference of Means for Race and Gender

African American Candidate	Candidate Ideology		Candidate Competency		Candidate Not Trustworthy		Candidate Approachability		Candidate Not Likeable		Candidate Deserves Position		Participant's Likelihood Vote for Candidate	
	3		4.3		1.9		3.7*		2.4		4.6		4.7	
White Candidate	3.1		4.4		1.8		4.2*		2.1		4.8		4.4	
Female Candidate		3		4.6*		1.8		4.0		2.2		4.8		4.7
Male Candidate		3.1		4.0*		1.9		4.0		2.3		4.6		4.3

### Implications

- What it means for nonpartisan elections
- Possible Changes