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### Evaluating the Effect of Binghamton University Students on Broome County Local Elections

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# Evaluating the Effect of Binghamton University Students on Broome County Elections

**PRESENTER:**  
 **Andrea Shirkey**

- BACKGROUND**
- A higher education institution such as Binghamton University holds a significant influence in their occupying regions.
  - With over 17,800 students enrolled, the influence of the Binghamton University student body is not only relayed on campus but is projected throughout the region as well.
  - This research addresses the effect of Binghamton University students on local elections by studying Broome County election participation.
- ★ **Research's Purpose:** To evaluate the effect of college students at local elections, and test the statement that as students vote in local elections they detract the focus from the locals and their issues within the county.

- METHODS**
1. Create student survey and local interview questions
  2. Distribute student surveys to on/off-campus students
  3. Interview locals registered in Broome County
  4. Evaluate results

- RESULTS**
- Based on the 80 student survey responses, Binghamton University students' effect on Broome County elections is insignificant.

# Binghamton University Students Do Not Detract the Attention From Broome County Residents in Local Elections.

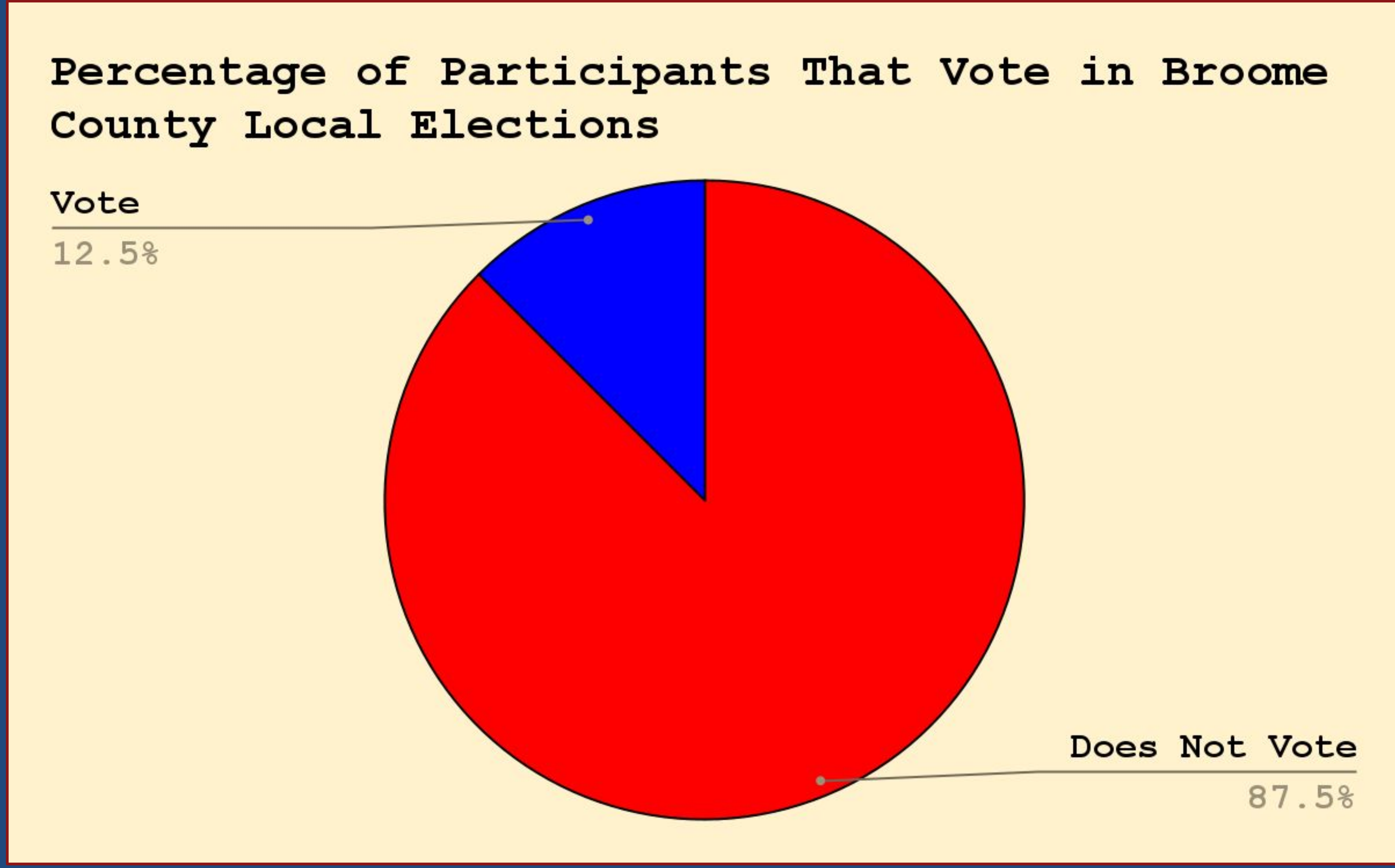


Figure 1

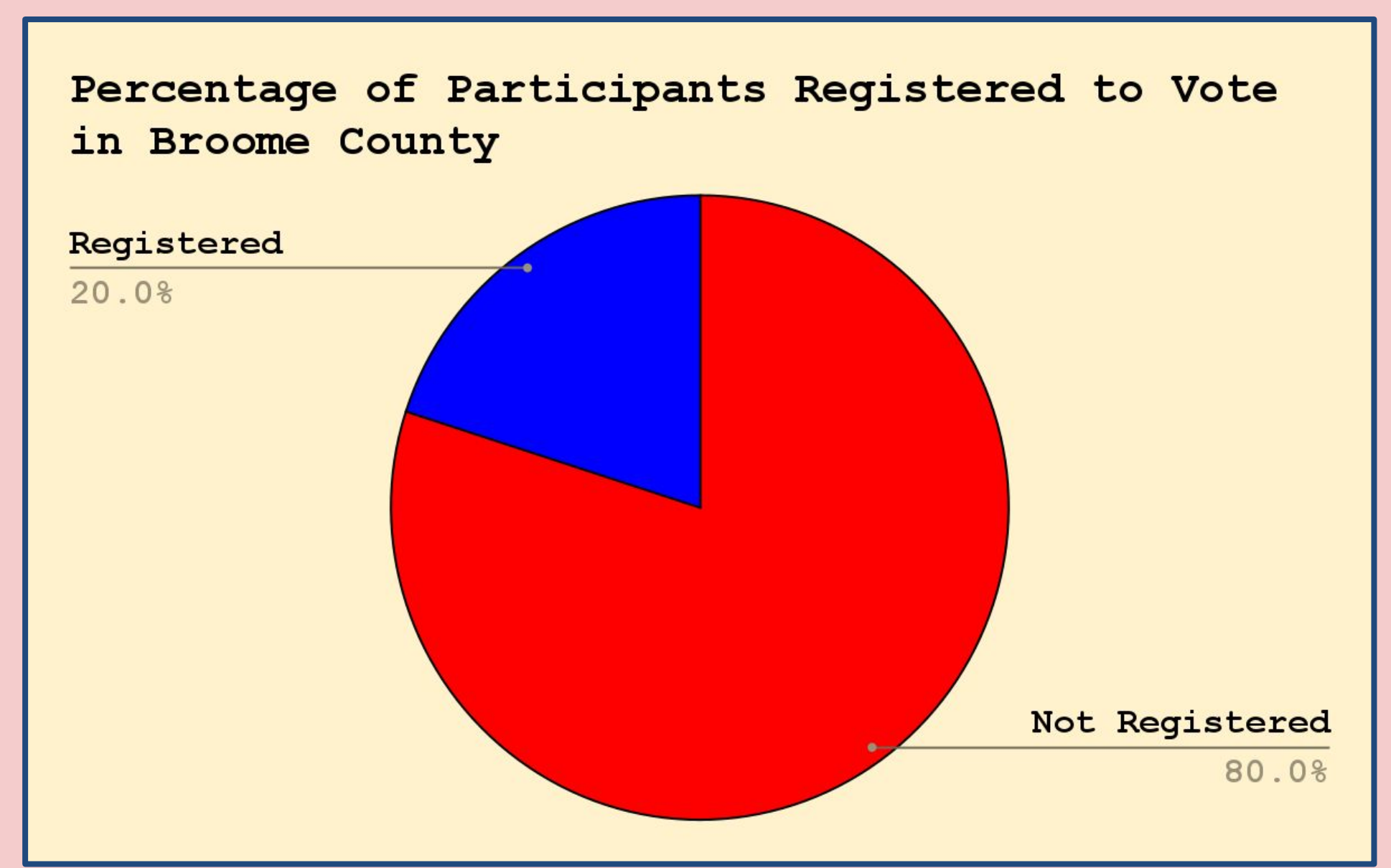


Figure 2

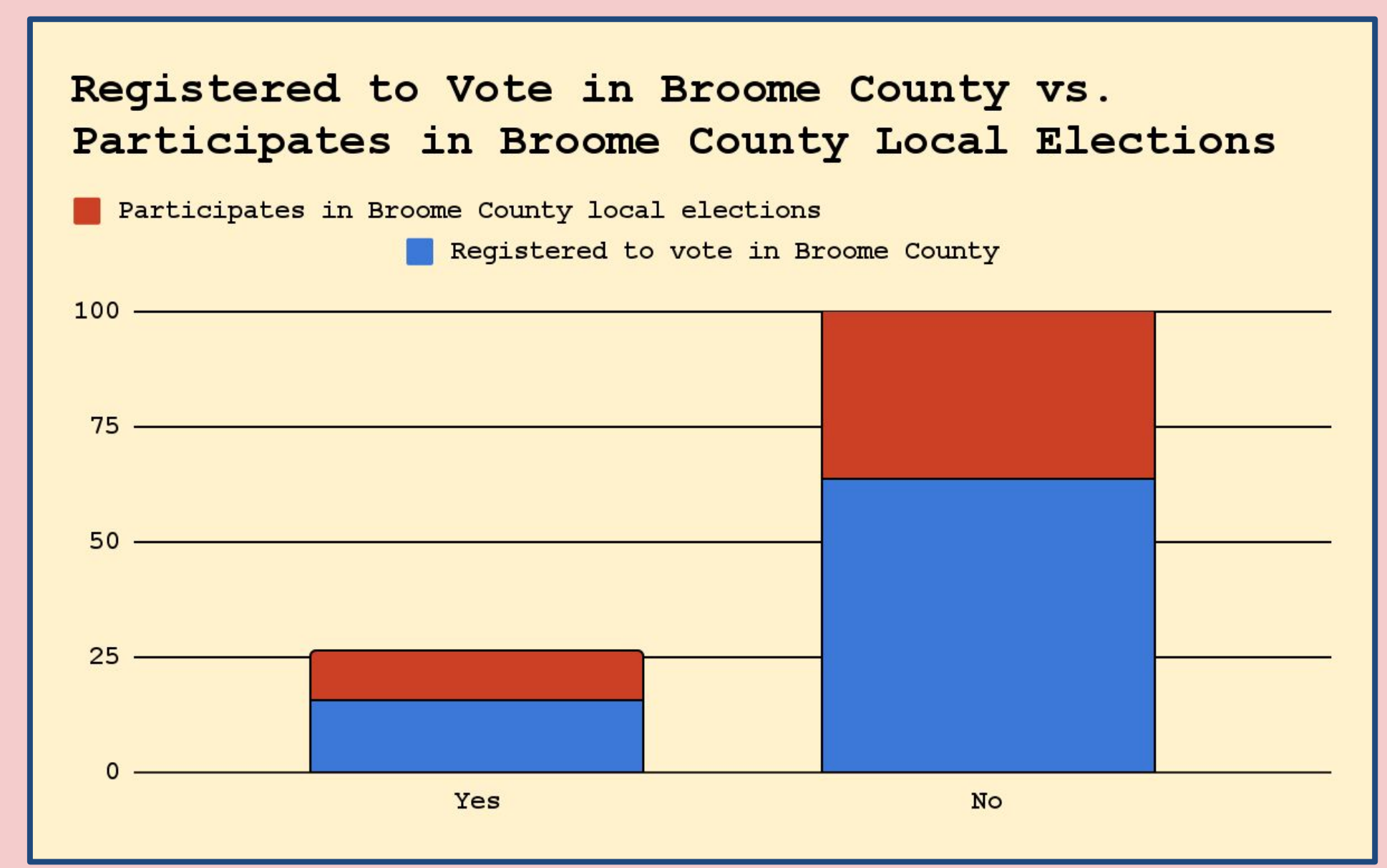


Figure 3

## LOCAL INTERVIEW RESPONSES

RESPONSES	"DO YOU APPRECIATE THAT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CAN VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS?"
1	"Many students won't be around long term, which means they won't spend much time under the officials they help elect... Binghamton University brings a lot to our community, so the students there should have some input in the result of our election."
2	"They should have the right the voice their opinion because they live her a significant portion of year. No taxation without representation!"
3	"Absolutely! Students tend to be more liberal."

## STUDENT SURVEY COMMENTS

"I have very little faith in national electoral politics but would like to vote locally. I have not found the time/opportunity to register yet."

"I do not think it is fair to the local community for me to vote on their policies, considering I am only a temporary resident in this area. I would not want to vote for policies of a place that I am only staying in for four years."

"I haven't gotten around to it, and I don't know how to do it either."

"My vote is more important at my home address."

"I just forgot and didn't prioritize it (I am going to try to never do that again)."

"I do not plan on living in Broome County after college."

"I forgot to do it in time for the last election."



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