### Conditional Cash Transfers, Political Participation, and Voting Behavior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organizing Theme</td>
<td>Voice and Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>The CCT is ongoing but the analysis is complete</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intervention Category</td>
<td>Social Transfer</td>
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<td>Sector</td>
<td>Social Development</td>
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<td>Abstract</td>
<td>This paper estimates the effect of enrollment in a large scale anti-poverty program in Colombia, Familias en Acción, on intent to vote, turnout and electoral choice. For identification the analysis uses discontinuities in program eligibility and variation in program enrollment across voting booths. It finds that Familias en Acción had a positive effect on political participation in the 2010 presidential elections by increasing the probability that program beneficiaries registered to vote and cast a ballot, particularly among women. Regarding voter’s choice, the authors find that program participants expressed a stronger preference for the official party that implemented and expanded the program. Overall, the findings show that voters respond to targeted transfers and that these transfers can foster support for incumbents, thus making the case for designing political and legislative mechanisms, as the laws recently passed by the Colombian government, that avoid successful anti-poverty schemes from being captured by political patronage.</td>
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<td>Gender Connection</td>
<td>Gender Informed Analysis</td>
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<td>Gender Outcomes</td>
<td>Female participation or voice in community</td>
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<td>IE Design</td>
<td>Regression Discontinuity</td>
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<td>Intervention Period</td>
<td>2001-Present</td>
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<td>Sample population</td>
<td>The study utilizes the electoral census and administrative records from the FA program, therefore the sample is all voters in Colombia.</td>
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<td>Comparison conditions</td>
<td>The regression discontinuity design compares individuals who are barely eligible for the program with individuals who are barely not eligible based on the household's poverty score index.</td>
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<td>Unit of analysis</td>
<td>Voter-level</td>
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<td>Evaluation Period</td>
<td>2010 Presidential Election</td>
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<td>Results</td>
<td>Familias in Accion (FA) increased the likelihood of registering to vote by 1.6-2.5%. A standard deviation increase in the proportion of FA beneficiaries at each booth results in a 1.6-1.8% increase in the probability of casting a ballot and a 1.5% increase in the probability of voting for the incumbent party. The effect is</td>
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<td>Primary study limitations</td>
<td>Since the study utilizes RD design it can only account for political decisions for people at the margin of program eligibility. The study checks the robustness of program eligibility to different specifications of the poverty score index.</td>
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