

ABSTRACT

The Sociology of Voting Behaviour in Trinidad: Constructing a Predictive Model

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There is an absence of a comprehensive systematic model for understanding voting behaviour in Trinidad. The present situation has led to uncertainty within the field of study resulting in misconceptions about the phenomenon - voting behaviour. This research, therefore, engaged in empirical research towards advancing a single systematic predictive model for understanding voting behaviour in Trinidad, using the 2010 general election as the case in point. This was achieved using the advance scientific data analysis method - Multiple Linear Regression - which examined the contributions of four (4) predictor variables, namely: ethnicity construct, gender construct, religion construct and socioeconomic construct, to predicting voting behaviour. The findings of the research showed that voting behaviour was predominantly predicted by ethnicity construct, followed by, socioeconomic construct and religion construct while gender construct, although statistically significant - in a negative direction - proved to be the least important of these factors. This research supports and expands the current literature on voting behaviour and also provides a critical juncture in solving some of the practical and theoretical problems associated with the phenomenon of voting behaviour in Trinidad.

Keywords: Seon Raymond; Voting behaviour; construct; ethnicity; gender; religion and socioeconomic.