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ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHILDREN'S AND PARENT'S POLITICAL PREFERENCES
(Abstract)

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Prior work has discovered that a relationship exists between children's and parent's political preferences. This paper takes the work one step further by postulating the exact relationship. In analogy to Mendelian heredity it is assumed that each parent "gives" the child one half of his political preference. Preferring the same preference as the parent is dominant over not preferring the same preference.

Children can either have the same or different preferences than the parent, but those that have the same preference as the parent may be hybrids or pures. The hybrids will have some offspring that have different preferences than themselves. The dominant pures' offspring will not differ from the parents. The recessive pures' offspring will not differ from the parents. A simple heuristic

model (and then a Markov model of this idea) are developed.

Some testable consequences of this model are:

1. One half the children of parents with mixed preferences will be for one party preference, one half for the other.
2. Children of parents with the same preference will not be divided up in this way.
3. In the absence of any tendency to change (or of immigration and/or emigration) strong inbreeding will produce successively stronger preference for one party.

Similarities are developed between mathematical learning theory and the model. It is suggested that it is fruitful to consider further the parallel between learning and evolution to see if the same model will fit both.