Voter’s power in aging societies – How an aging and shrinking society effects a political system

by

Lars Weber & Veit Schulz
Summary

Research Question

- How will the demographical change effect the political sector?

Main Assumptions

- on the case of Germany
- voters participation differs in the age groups (highest participation – elderly people; lowest participation – twenty-some-things)
- no political tendencies or parties are included in this model
- only a policy orientated view which is independent from parties

Further Research

- Implementation of European and transnational migration
- Survey of different European Countries
- Further policy options to analyze possible strategies
Demographic Trends

- Life expectancy increases - people become older
- Total fertility rate (TFR) below sustainable level - continuously decline
Demographic Trends

children (6 – 16 years) till 2020

elderly people (over 70) till 2020

## Stakeholders

### Children orientated Adults (between 20 and 60 years)
- Adults who have children
- Family orientated thinking
- Favor policies which will not shift a financial burden into the far future and supports young families

### Indifferent Individuals (between 20 and 60 years)
- Single or in a part-time relationship
- Strong individual thinking
- Favor policies which pay off in a certain time frame

### Retired Adults (older than 60 years)
- Would like to live their life intensively
- Favor policies which pay off in the present or near future
Model – Aging Chain

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Model – Total Fertility Rate

- Total fertility rate
  - Fertility rate up to 20
  - Fertility rate 20 to 30
  - Fertility rate 30 to 40
  - Fertility rate 40 to 50
  - Fertility rate over 50

- Births per decade
  - Births given by female up to 20
  - Births given by female 20 to 30
  - Births given by female 30 to 40
  - Births given by female 40 to 50
  - Births given by female over 50

- Female children
- Male children
- Female fraction

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Scenarios

1. Current Situation
   - TFR 1.34
   - no net-migration

2. Voting Right for Children
   - each child gets one vote
   - votes added to children orientated adults
   - no net-migration

3. Total Fertility Rate increases to the sustainable level of 2.10
   - no net-migration

4. Total Fertility rate 2.10 plus voting right for children
   - no net-migration
Scenario 1
Current Situation Development of the Stakeholder

![Graph showing the development of different stakeholder groups over time. The graph indicates a decrease in Retired Adults and Children orientated Adults, while an increase is observed in Indifferent Individuals. The x-axis represents time (years), ranging from 2000 to 2050, while the y-axis shows the number of individuals, ranging from 0 to 40,000.]
Scenario 1
Current Situation Development of votes of the Stakeholder

![Graph showing the development of votes of different stakeholders over time.](image-url)
Scenario 2
voting right for children current TFR of 1.3
Scenario 3 and 4 - increase of the TFR to sustainable 2.10 plus voting rights for children

Scenario 3 – TFR 2.10

Scenario 4 – TFR 2.10 plus voting rights

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