

## **Todd Makse**

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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. The Ohio State University, Political Science, anticipated June 2010.

M.A. The Ohio State University, Political Science, December 2005.  
*Major: American Politics; Minor: Political Methodology*

B.A. Rice University, Political Science, Linguistics, and Spanish, May 2001. *Magna cum laude.*

### **DISSERTATION**

“The Redistricting Cycle in American State Politics”

Committee: Craig Volden (chair), Jan Box-Steffensmeier, Alan Wiseman

My dissertation explores the implications of the “redistricting cycle” with respect to strategic party decision-making. The redistricting cycle is a feature of modern (post-*Baker v. Carr*) American politics whereby redistricting is a predictable occurrence following each decennial Census, and its consequences include changes in competitiveness, incumbent decision-making, and party behavior. In the first part of my dissertation, I examine cyclical effects from the perspective of party organizations, through two essays on the allocation of resources to legislative candidates. The second part of my dissertation develops a theory of party strategy in the redistricting process itself.

### **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS:**

Research interests: redistricting; state politics; elections and voting behavior; political parties; legislative politics; political participation; campaign finance; public policy diffusion.

Teaching interests: state politics; elections and voting behavior; legislative politics; American political parties; political methodology; philosophy of science.

**WORKING PAPERS**

“The Role of Policy Attributes in the Diffusion of Innovations” (with Craig Volden)  
*(Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Politics)*

“Revisiting the Divisive Primary Hypothesis: 2008 and the Clinton-Obama Nomination Battle.” (with Anand E. Sokhey) *(Revise and Resubmit at American Politics Research)*

“Majority or Bust: The Influence of Redistricting on Party Finance Strategies.” *(Under review at American Journal of Political Science)*

“Winning’s Half the Battle: How Parties Finance State Legislative Candidates in Post-Redistricting Elections.”

“Not in My Front Yard! What Yard Signs Tell Us About Expression, Instrumentalism and the Paradox of Political Participation” (with Anand E. Sokhey)

**AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS:**

Ohio State University Summer Survey Research Fellowship, Summer 2009, \$4,050.

Department of Political Science recognition of teaching excellence, Spring 2007 and Spring 2009.

Best Graduate Student Paper Award, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2008, for paper, “Winning’s Half the Battle: How Parties Finance State Legislative Candidates in Post-Redistricting Elections.”

Harvey Walker Senior Research Grant, October 2008, \$800.

Dean’s Distinguished University Fellowship, Ohio State University, 2003-05; 2007-08.

State Politics and Policy Conference honorarium, May 2008, \$200.

Francis R. Aumann Award (best graduate student paper presented at a professional conference or convention), 2006-07, Ohio State Department of Political Science, \$150.

Best Graduate Student Paper Award, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2006, for paper, “Redistricting and Party Organizational Strategy in State Legislative Elections.”

APSA Travel Grant, August 2006 (\$300) and September 2009 (\$200).

Ray Travel Award, Ohio State Council of Graduate Students, April 2006, \$516.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Makse, Todd and Anand E. Sokhey. 2009. "Not in My Front Yard! What Yard Signs Tell Us About Expression, Instrumentalism and the Paradox of Political Participation." (Poster) Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, ON.

Makse, Todd and Anand E. Sokhey. 2009. "Not in My Front Yard! What Yard Signs Tell Us About Expression, Instrumentalism and the Paradox of Political Participation." Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Makse, Todd and Anand E. Sokhey. 2009. "Voter Turnout and Symbolic Participation in a Previously Divided Primary Electorate." Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA.

Makse, Todd. 2008. "Winning's Half the Battle: How Parties Finance State Legislative Candidates in Post-Redistricting Elections." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA.

Makse, Todd. 2008. "Pursuing Legislative Control of Redistricting through Party Finance Strategy." Eighth Annual Conference on State Politics and Policy, Philadelphia, PA.

Makse, Todd. 2008. "Realizing Gains from Redistricting through Party Finance." Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Makse, Todd. 2006. "Redistricting and Party Organizational Strategy in State Legislative Elections." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Makse, Todd. 2006. "Incumbent Decision-Making in Response to State Legislative Redistricting." Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Makse, Todd and Craig Volden. 2006. "The Role of Policy Attributes in the Diffusion of Policy Innovations." Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, GA.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

Instructor, *Techniques of Political Analysis*, Summer 2006-Spring 2007, Autumn 2009

Instructor, *Introduction to American Politics*, Summer 2007; Winter-Spring 2009

Instructor, *Legislative Politics*, Autumn 2008

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED):**

Recitation section leader, *Introduction to American Politics*, Autumn 2005; Winter 2006.

Teaching assistant, *Methods of Quantitative Analysis* (graduate level), Autumn 2005

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Referee: American Politics Research; Political Behavior.

Chair for panel “Competition, Context and Political Participation.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 2009.

Chair and discussant for panel “Committees in State Legislatures.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 2008.

Discussant for panel “Political Ambition and Incumbency: Moving Up or Staying On” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 2008.

Parallel Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Political Science, 2005-06.

First-year student mentor, Department of Political Science, 2004-06.

**REFERENCES**

Professor Craig Volden  
Department of Political Science, Ohio State University  
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Professor Jan Box-Steffensmeier  
Department of Political Science, Ohio State University  
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Email: [steffensmeier.2@osu.edu](mailto:steffensmeier.2@osu.edu)

Professor Alan Wiseman  
Department of Political Science, Ohio State University  
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Email: [wiseman.69@osu.edu](mailto:wiseman.69@osu.edu)

Professor Anand Sokhey  
Department of Political Science, University of Colorado at Boulder  
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