

# TAEGYOON KIM

## Political Scientist | Computational Social Scientist

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## EDUCATION

Dual-title PhD in Political Science and Social Data Analytics  
**Penn State University, Expected in 2022**

MA in Political Science  
**Seoul National University, 2016**

Dual-title BA in Political Science and English Linguistics & Literature  
**Yonsei University, 2013**

## ONGOING PROJECTS

Violent Political Rhetoric on Twitter [Link](#)

### Own Dissertation Project

- In Paper 1, I develop an approach to automatic detection of Tweets involving violent political rhetoric and investigate the characteristics of violent Tweets and their diffusion.
- The key findings include a) Twitter users who write posts threatening posts are on the fringe of the Twitter network, b) those users are ideologically more extreme and liberal, c) spread of violent Tweets exhibit strong ideological homophily, and d) violent Tweets spread through multiple chains on following ties.
- In Paper 2, I conduct an experiment to investigate the effects of exposure to online threats of political violence on affective polarization. I argue that, while violent threats from an out-party member leads to affective polarization by inducing fear/anger toward the out-group, threats from an in-party member contributes to affective de-polarization by evoking collective shame.
- In Paper 3, I explore why the mass use violent political rhetoric on Twitter. I claim that offline political events concerning moralized political issues often evoke lethal partisanship, resulting in the rise of violent rhetoric as a means for extreme partisan expression.

Attention to the COVID-19 pandemic on Twitter: Partisan differences among U.S. state legislators [Link](#)

### State Policy Analysis Project (PI: Bruce Desmarais)

- As part of State Policy Analysis Project, we investigate state legislators' attention to the spread of COVID-19 pandemic on Twitter, using statistical/computational tools. It yields insight into how state governments respond to the spread of the virus, both at the national- and state-level, and how their responses differ depending on political party.

## SKILLS

### Programming

**R** (tidyverse, plm, lme4, stm, quanteda, network, igraph, ergm), **Python** (pandas, numpy, matplotlib, scikit-learn, Keras, Pytorch, NLTK, transformers, tweepy), **Stata, Git, LaTeX**

### Data Analytics

**Machine learning, NLP/Text-as-data, Network Analysis, Regression Models, Survey Methods (imputation, clustering, weighting), Visualization**

### Languages

**English (fluent), Korean (native)**

## RESEARCH AREAS

### Political/Social Science

**Political Communication, Political Behavior, Public Policy, State Politics, Politics and Social Media**

### Data Science

**Machine Learning, NLP/Text-as-data, Network Analysis (Information Diffusion)**

## PRESENTATIONS

Spread of Violent Political Rhetoric on Twitter

**PaCSS/PolNet 2020, PolMeth 2020, APSA 2020**

## AWARDS

Paterno Graduate Fellowship, 2018-2019

**Penn State University**

Summer Graduate Research Award, 2019 & 2020

**Penn State University**

## PUBLICATIONS

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The Effects of Diverse Polling Methods on the Estimation of Candidates' Approval Ratings: The Case of 19th Presidential Election in South Korea

With Jongho Choi and Kangwook Han

Journal of International and Area Studies, Vol.24, No.1 (2017)

## TEACHING

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Graduate Statistical Method Course Preceptor

Multivariate Analysis for Political Research, Christopher Zorn,  
Penn State University, Spring 2020

Topics in Political Methodology, Christopher Zorn,  
Penn State University, Fall 2019

Statistical Methods for Political Research, Bruce Desmarais,  
Penn State University, Fall 2019

## REFERENCES

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Bruce Desmarais

DeGrandis-McCourtney Early Career Professor in Political Science, Penn State University

Associate Director of the Center for Social Data Analytics, Penn State University

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