

# 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 [Github Repo](#)

### 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.

State Legislators' Responses to COVID-19 Pandemic on Twitter [Github Repo](#)

### 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 have responded to the spread of the virus, both at the national- and at the state-level.
- At the final phase of the main statistical analyses.

## SKILLS

### Programming

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

### Data Analytics

Machine learning, Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing, Network Analysis, Regression Models, Survey Methods (imputation, clustering, weighting), Visualization

### Languages

English (fluent), Korean (native)

## RESEARCH AREAS

### Political/Social Science

Political Communication, Political Behavior, Political Violence, Online Aggression, Politics on Social Media

### Data Science

Machine Learning / Natural Language Processing (Text Classification), 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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