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Fear of Whites No Longer Being the Majority

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Ethnicity or Party Identification?

Which has a stronger relationship to the fear of whites no longer being the majority?

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Introduction to Research

- The 2014 National Projections report was based on the 2010 Census and estimates through 2013. The finding of these studies predict that by 2044, more than half of the American population will belong to a minority.

- This study explores how ethnicity and party identification play a role in the fear of whites no longer being the majority in the U.S. It will also attempt to look at which of these two factors has a stronger relationship with the fear of whites no longer being the majority.

- Whites exposed to the racial demographic shift information preferred interactions/settings with their own ethnic group over minority ethnic groups.

- The expected racial demographic shifts of the United States has affected the White American's political party leanings and their political ideology.

- Certain political parties may cater to certain fears in order to increase support. Some may affiliate themselves with a party that identifies this fear, the fear of whites no longer being the majority, and reassures them of keeping the status quo.

Ethnicity

- Since group size is often attributed with dominance or group advantage, the increase in racial minority and the creation of a "majority-minority" may be seen as a threat to White Americans.

- Group threat theory shows how prejudice towards racial minorities stems from a perceived threat to the dominant status of the majority.

- The rise of a third population, essentially what threatens their majority standing, makes individuals prioritize the most privileged group they can lay claim to, that will also exclude the growing group.

- For whites, the most privileged group is the group that contains the most amount of white people. For blacks, the most privileged group is that which contains other Americans.

Party Identification

- The expected racial demographic shifts of the United States has affected the White American's political party leanings and their political ideology.

- This majority-minority shift led politically affiliated White Americans to express more conservative views and lean more towards the Republican party.

- The increasing diversity of the nation is seen as a threat to the group status. The social instability, uncertainty, and threat allow for greater endorsement of conservative views.

- threats that are not expected to be seen for another three decades can promote political conservatism now.

Hypotheses:

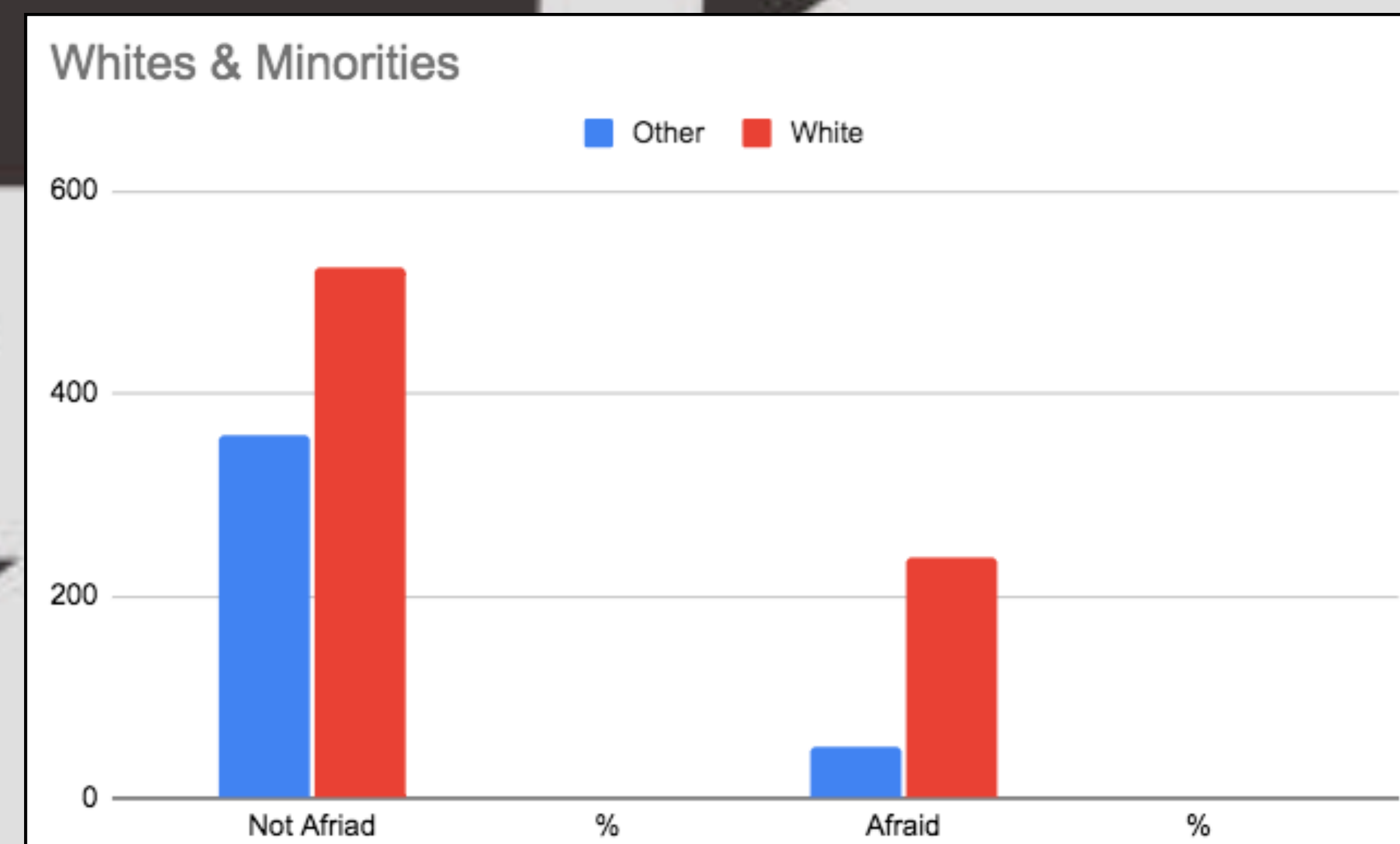
H 1: Whites are more likely to fear whites no longer being the majority than are minorities.

H 2: Republicans are more likely to fear whites no longer being the majority than are Democrats or Independents.

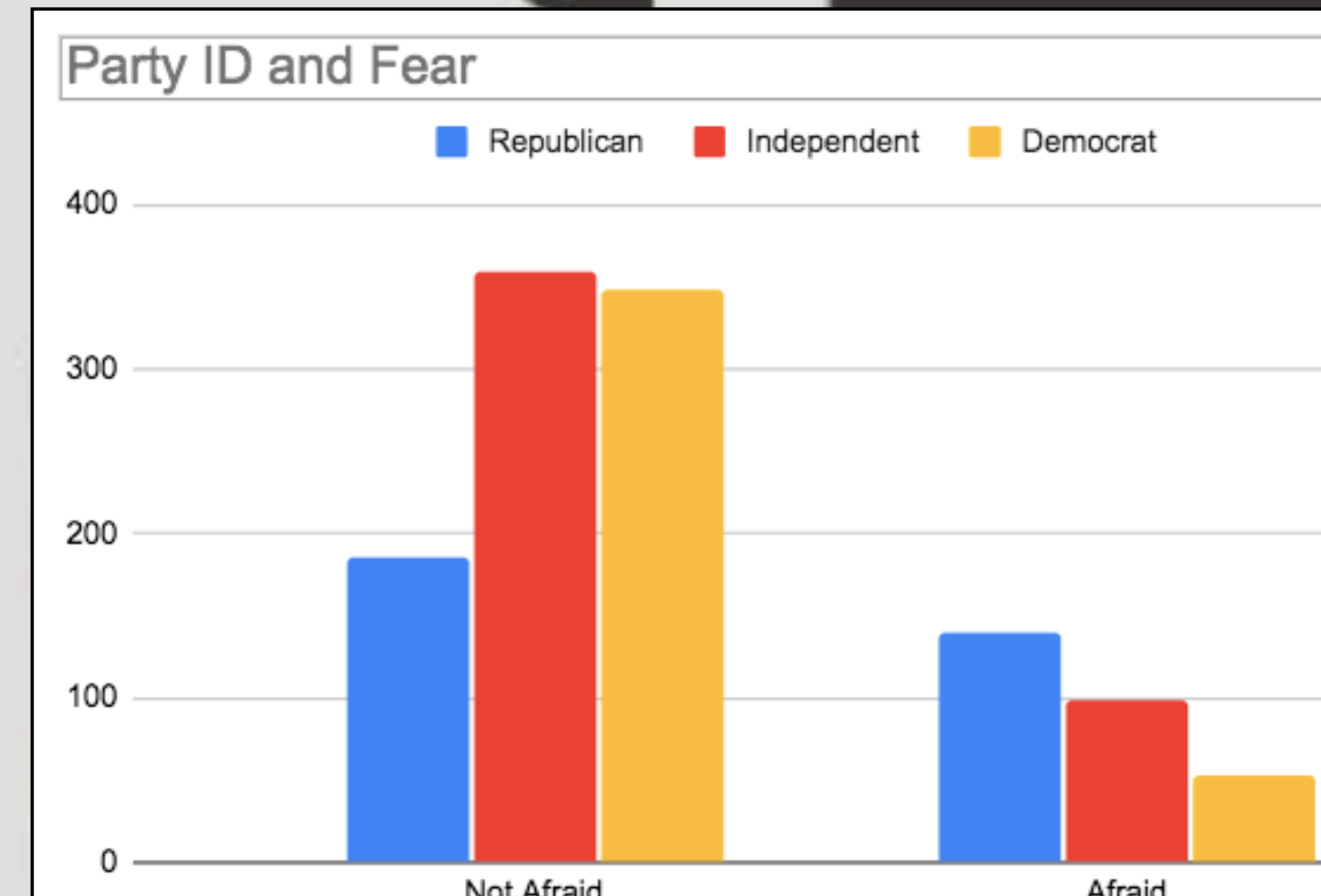
H 3: Party identification has a stronger relationship to the fear of whites no longer being the majority than ethnicity.

Data

H 1: Whites & Minorities



H 2: Party ID and Fear



H 3: Party ID & Ethnicity

Unstandardized Coefficients

Standardized Coefficients

Model	B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
(Constant)	1.419	.042		34.070	.000
Ethnicity	.138	.026	.153	5.341	.000
PartyID	-.127	.016	-.230	-8.031	.000

Table Interpretation

- The first table under the H1 label is a cross tab between the independent variable of the white ethnicity and the dependent variable of the fear of whites no longer being the majority. The table shows us the relationship between Whites and Minorities in relation to the fear of whites no longer being the majority. Whites are more afraid of whites no longer being the majority in the U.S. than are minorities.

- The second table under H2 is a cross tab as well. This cross tab is between the independent variable of party identification and the fear of whites no longer being the majority. The table indicates that Republicans are more fearful of whites no longer being the majority than are Independent or Democrats.

- The table under H3 is a regression output table. A regression compares independent variables and determines which of the variable has a bigger impact on the dependent variable. The values that become important to this research are the statistical significance values and the Beta values. In our case, our independent variables are ethnicity and party identification and dependent value is our fear of whites no longer being the majority. Both of these independent variables are statistically significant. Since both are statistically significant, we look to the Beta value. The greatest Beta value, absolute value, has the bigger impact on the fear of whites no longer being the majority. In this case, party identification has a greater Beta value, therefore party identification has a greater impact on the fear of whites no longer being the majority.

Findings

H 1: Whites and Minorities

The cross tab allows us to see the relationship between ethnicity and our fear question. The graphs indicate that whites are more fearful of whites no longer being the majority in the U.S. than are minorities. These results support my hypothesis as well as the literature. We can look back to the group threat theory to understand this phenomenon. Whites are fearful of a rising third population threatening their dominant status.

H 2: Party Identification

The second cross tab shows us that those belonging to the Republican Party are more fearful of whites no longer being the majority than are Independents or Republicans. Republicans tend to have more conservative views pertaining to a growing third party, especially in the form of immigration. These results support my hypothesis.

H 3: Ethnicity and Party Identification

The regression results show that party identification has a greater impact on the fear of whites no longer being the majority. This supports my hypothesis and the literature. Though those who identify as white have a greater fear of whites no longer being the majority than others, it is alignment with the Republican Party that gives a clear indication of this fear. It is a combination of self identification and party affiliation. White Americans who express conservative views lean towards the Republican Party.

Conclusions

- Though the fear of whites no longer being the majority is no exclusive to one ethnicity, a greater number of whites are fearful of a majority-minority.
- Republicans are more fearful of whites no longer being the majority than are Independents or Democrats.
- Though ethnicity plays a important role in the one being fearful of whites no longer being the majority, party identification gives a clearer indication as it emphasizes certain conservative values that favor a constant majority than a rising third party.

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