The Politics of Re-opening

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Outline

- Inter-state partnerships
- Blowback against restrictions: Pressure from all sides
- Re-opening and cases
- Implications for federalism
Inter-state Partnerships

Figure: Mallinson 2020
Partnership begets Partnership

Figure: Young et al. 2019

New Jersey’s Potential Clout
If New Jersey voters legalize recreational marijuana in November, states along the East Coast and inland could follow suit.

Figure: Smith 2020
### Variation in State Responses

**Figure:** Bergquist et al. 2020
Pressure from Below: Protests

**Figure:**
Young et al. 2019

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**Number of Demonstrations by Driver**
(24 May - 22 August 2020)

- **Driver of Demonstration**
  - BLM: Black Lives Matter
  - COVID-19 Pandemic

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**Figure:** Young et al. 2019
Pressure from Below: Protests

Demonstrations Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic
(24 May – 22 August 2020)

Figure: Young et al. 2019
Pressure from Below: Protests

Global Demonstrations and Political Violence Related to the COVID–19 Pandemic (24 May – 22 August 2020)

Figure: Young et al. 2019
Pressure from Above

Donald J. Trump ✔️ @realDonaldTrump · 1h
LIBERATE VIRGINIA, and save your great 2nd Amendment. It is under siege!

Donald J. Trump ✔️ @realDonaldTrump · 1h
LIBERATE MICHIGAN!

Donald J. Trump ✔️ @realDonaldTrump · 1h
LIBERATE MINNESOTA!

Figure: Lopez 2020
Pressure from the Side

Figure: Tabb 2020

Figure: Wolf, CC BY 2.0
Results of Restriction Removals

Indiana

Figure: Jha 2020
Where Things Stand

Figure: CDC Case Tracker
Lack of federal coordination exacerbates inequalities

Going to be tough for governors to restrict again (e.g. PA)

Erosion of state trust in feds (e.g., state review of vaccine trial data)

Is this just idiosyncratic to this president, or greater breakdown in our system?

Learning may continue to grow more partisan and less geographic