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Surviving against all odds: Pachakutik's electoral support, mobilization strategies, and goal achievement between 1996 and 2019

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Propositions

accompanying the dissertation

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1. Pachakutik's survival cannot be explained by the party's links to the Ecuadorian indigenous population. To explain the party's survival, we should focus on the party's goals, its mobilization strategies, and its relationship with both the indigenous and the mestizo voters.
2. The indigenous population in Ecuador has fragmented into *pueblos* and nationalities. These differentiated categories have replaced the single umbrella category *indígena*.
3. There is limited ethnic voting in Ecuador.
4. Pachakutik's mobilization strategies include ethnic appeals but these appeals do not represent the bulk of the strategies the party uses.
5. Ethnic identities are helpful cues that political parties employ to mobilize voters. However, these identities lose their usefulness more often than expected.
6. The expectation that parties will use single mobilization strategies should be replaced by an expectation of mixed mobilization strategies.
7. Party survival and goal achievement are closely connected, and particular to each individual party. Scholars trying to explain parties' survival should be sensitive to the different goals that parties pursue and their different aspiration levels.
8. Parties generally seen as irrelevant (often due to their electoral performance) contribute to a political system and should be studied and addressed.
9. Just as is the case for parties' survival in difficult times, the possibility of achieving one's goal (finishing a dissertation) can help a PhD candidate survive a global pandemic.
10. Professionally ambitious women need super-supportive partners, any mid-way lukewarm support is not enough.
11. Archival work is often done during the summer months yet it inevitably requires a winter jacket.