

The Effects of Tribal Governments on Reservation Poverty Rates

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Senior Thesis

Interests

- ▶ Previous research lacking information of Tribal Governments
- ▶ Poverty Rates are much higher than National Average 15.3% (ACS 2010)
- ▶ Personal and first hand experience
 - Living on a reservation

Brief History

- ▶ Dawes Act 1887
 - Allotment
- ▶ IRA 1934
 - Tribal Governments
- ▶ IGRA 1988
 - Gaming Operations

INDIAN LAND FOR SALE

GET A HOME
OF
YOUR OWN
EASY PAYMENTS



PERFECT TITLE
POSSESSION
WITHIN
THIRTY DAYS

FINE LANDS IN THE WEST

IRRIGATED GRAZING AGRICULTURAL
IRRIGABLE DRY FARMING

IN 1910 THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SOLD UNDER SCALED BIDS ALLIATED INDIAN LAND AS FOLLOWS:

States	Acres	Average Price per Acre	States	Acres	Average Price per Acre
Colorado	5,211.21	\$7.27	Oklahoma	34,664.00	\$19.14
Idaho	17,013.00	24.85	Oregon	1,020.00	15.43
Kansas	1,684.50	33.45	South Dakota	120,445.00	16.53
Montana	11,054.00	9.86	Washington	4,879.00	41.37
Nebraska	5,641.00	36.65	Wisconsin	1,099.00	17.00
North Dakota	22,610.70	9.93	Wyoming	865.00	20.64

FOR THE YEAR 1911 IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 350,000 ACRES WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE

For information as to the character of the land write for booklet, "INDIAN LANDS FOR SALE," to the Superintendent U. S. Indian School at any one of the following places:

CALIFORNIA: Fresno, Merced, Stanislaus, Yuba COLORADO: Denver ILLINOIS: Chicago IOWA: Des Moines KANSAS: Topeka MONTANA: Helena NEBRASKA: Omaha NEVADA: Carson City NEW YORK: Albany NORTH DAKOTA: Bismarck NORTH CAROLINA: Raleigh OHIO: Columbus OKLAHOMA: Oklahoma City OREGON: Portland SOUTH DAKOTA: Pierre TEXAS: Austin WISCONSIN: Madison WYOMING: Cheyenne	ARIZONA: Phoenix ARKANSAS: Little Rock CALIFORNIA: Sacramento COLORADO: Denver CONNECTICUT: Hartford DELAWARE: Dover FLORIDA: Tallahassee GEORGIA: Atlanta ILLINOIS: Chicago INDIANA: Indianapolis IOWA: Des Moines KANSAS: Topeka KENTUCKY: Louisville LOUISIANA: New Orleans MAINE: Augusta MARYLAND: Baltimore MASSACHUSETTS: Boston MICHIGAN: Lansing MINNESOTA: St. Paul MISSISSIPPI: Jackson MISSOURI: St. Louis MONTANA: Helena NEBRASKA: Omaha NEVADA: Carson City NEW HAMPSHIRE: Concord NEW JERSEY: Trenton NEW YORK: Albany NORTH CAROLINA: Raleigh NORTH DAKOTA: Bismarck OHIO: Columbus OKLAHOMA: Oklahoma City OREGON: Portland PENNSYLVANIA: Harrisburg RHODE ISLAND: Providence SOUTH CAROLINA: Columbia SOUTH DAKOTA: Pierre TENNESSEE: Nashville TEXAS: Austin VERMONT: Montpelier VIRGINIA: Richmond WASHINGTON: Olympia WISCONSIN: Madison WYOMING: Cheyenne
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WALTER L. FISHER,
Secretary of the Interior

ROBERT G. VALENTINE,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Literature

- ▶ *Federal Register*
- ▶ Douglas Kachel– Beginning of Indian Gaming
- ▶ W. Dale Mason – Indian Gaming
- ▶ Robin M. Leichenko – Income and Location
- ▶ Duane Champagne – Self–Determination
- ▶ David E. Wilkins and Heidi Kiiwetinepinesiik Stark
 - 3 Broad Categories
 - Original
 - Transitional Constitutional
 - Contemporary Constitutional

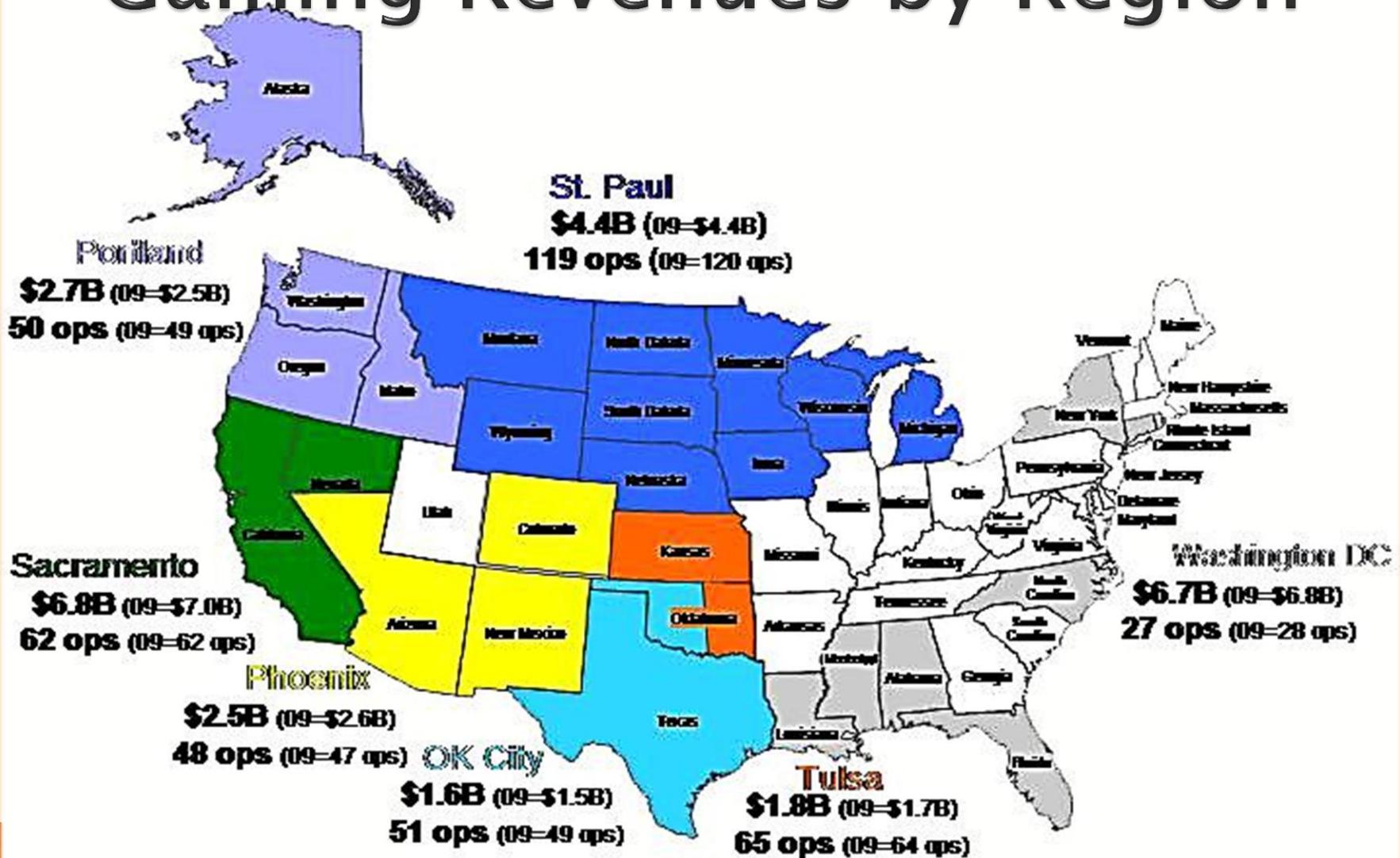
Literature

- ▶ Terry L. Anderson and Dominic P. Parker
 - “because this *poverty* cannot be explained solely by natural resource, physical, and human capital constraints, institutions are likely to be a part of the explanation”

Indian Gaming

- ▶ Regulated by IGRA 1988 and NIGC
 - ▶ National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) is funded by revenues from casinos
 - ▶ 40% or 220 of 565 Tribes have one or more operations.
 - ▶ Revenues from casinos help boost development on reservations
 - ▶ Unemployment Rates
 - ▶ Poverty
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Gaming Revenues by Region



Hypotheses

- ▶ In a comparison of tribal governments those with systems that are IRA formed have higher poverty rates than those governments enacting a more traditional system of government.
 - ▶ In a comparison of Tribal governments those governments who have members that have attained a higher education have increased the overall per capita income on the reservation than those who have not attained a higher education.
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Hypotheses Cont'd

- ▶ In a comparison of Tribal governments, the government system with a higher unemployment rate are most likely not to have a gaming industry on their reservation than those that do have gaming industries.

Methodology

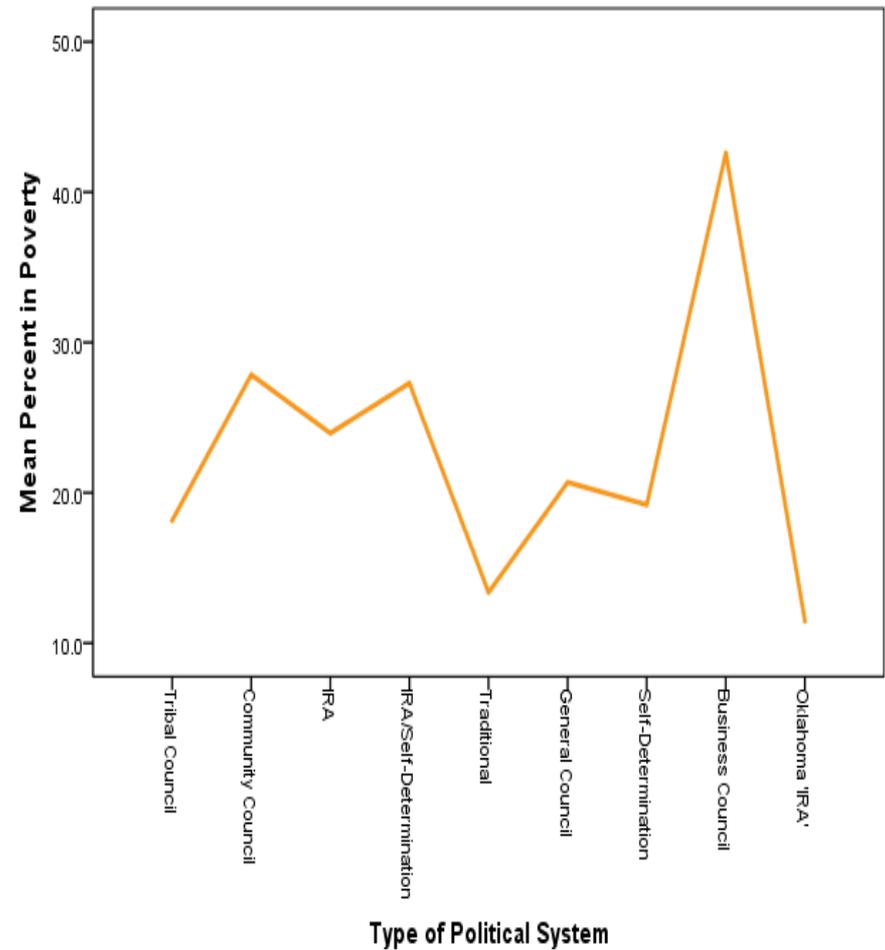
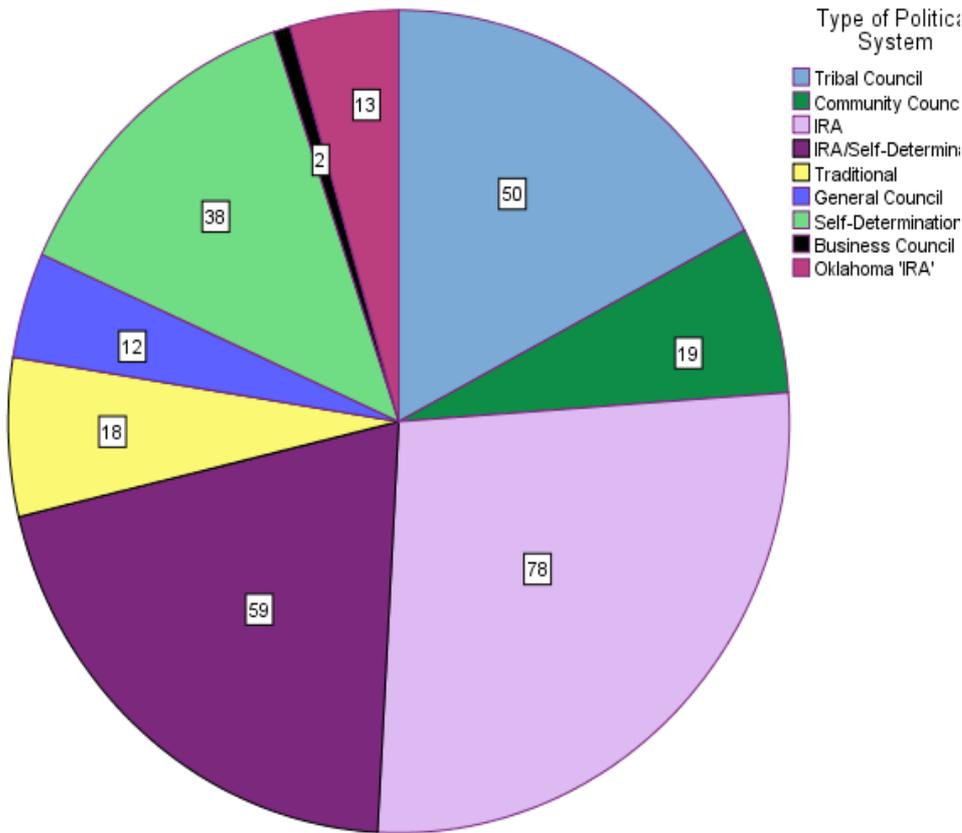
- ▶ American Community Survey 2010 – United States Census Bureau
- ▶ The Native American Constitutional and Law Digitization Project
- ▶ Tiller's Guide to Indian Country
 - 1st Edition Published 1996
 - 2nd Edition Published 2006
 - Demographics
 - Land Area
 - Enrollment and Population
 - Types of Government Systems

Methods

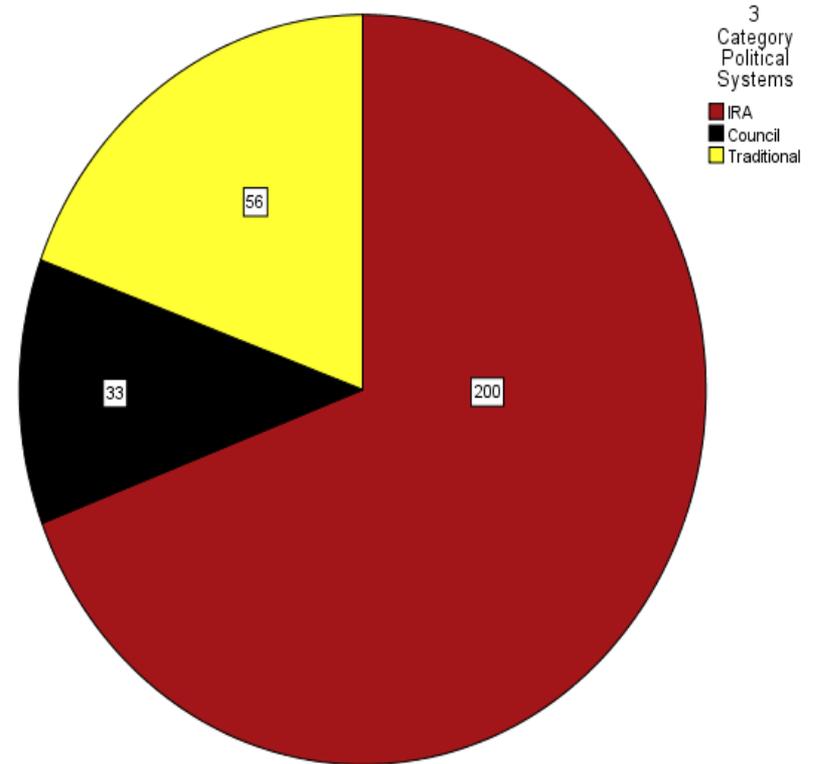
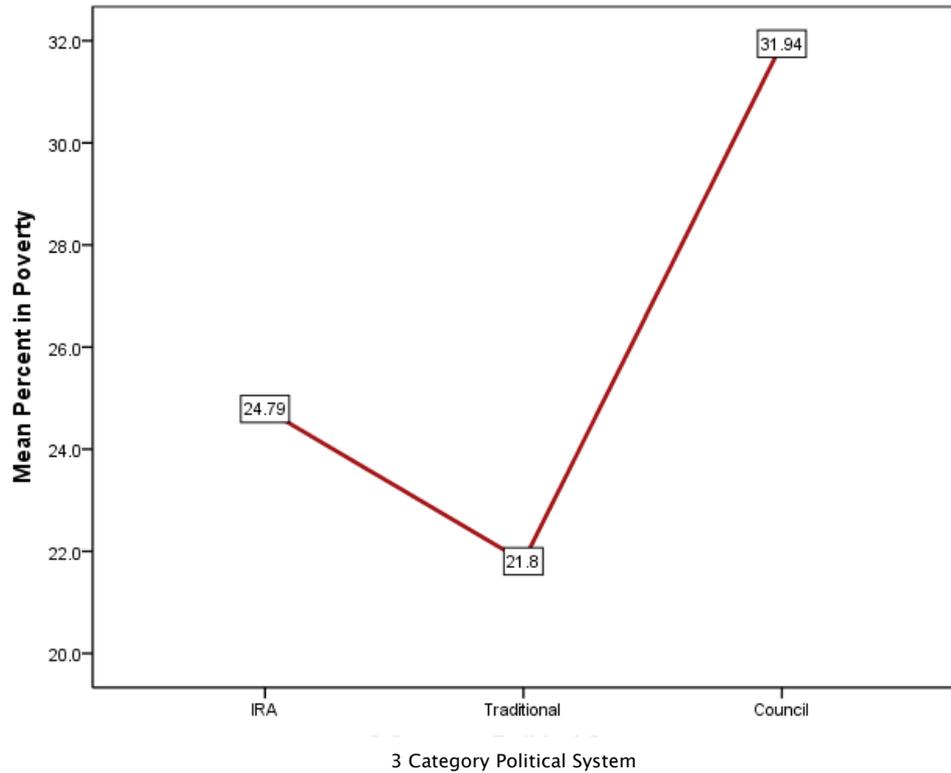
- ▶ Units of Analysis
 - Federally Recognized Tribal Governments – 565
 - ▶ Independent Variable
 - Systems of Government
 - Gaming Operations
 - Education
 - ▶ Dependent Variables
 - Poverty Rates
 - Per Capita Income
 - Unemployment Rates
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Findings– Political Systems

Types of Political System



Political Systems– 3 Categories

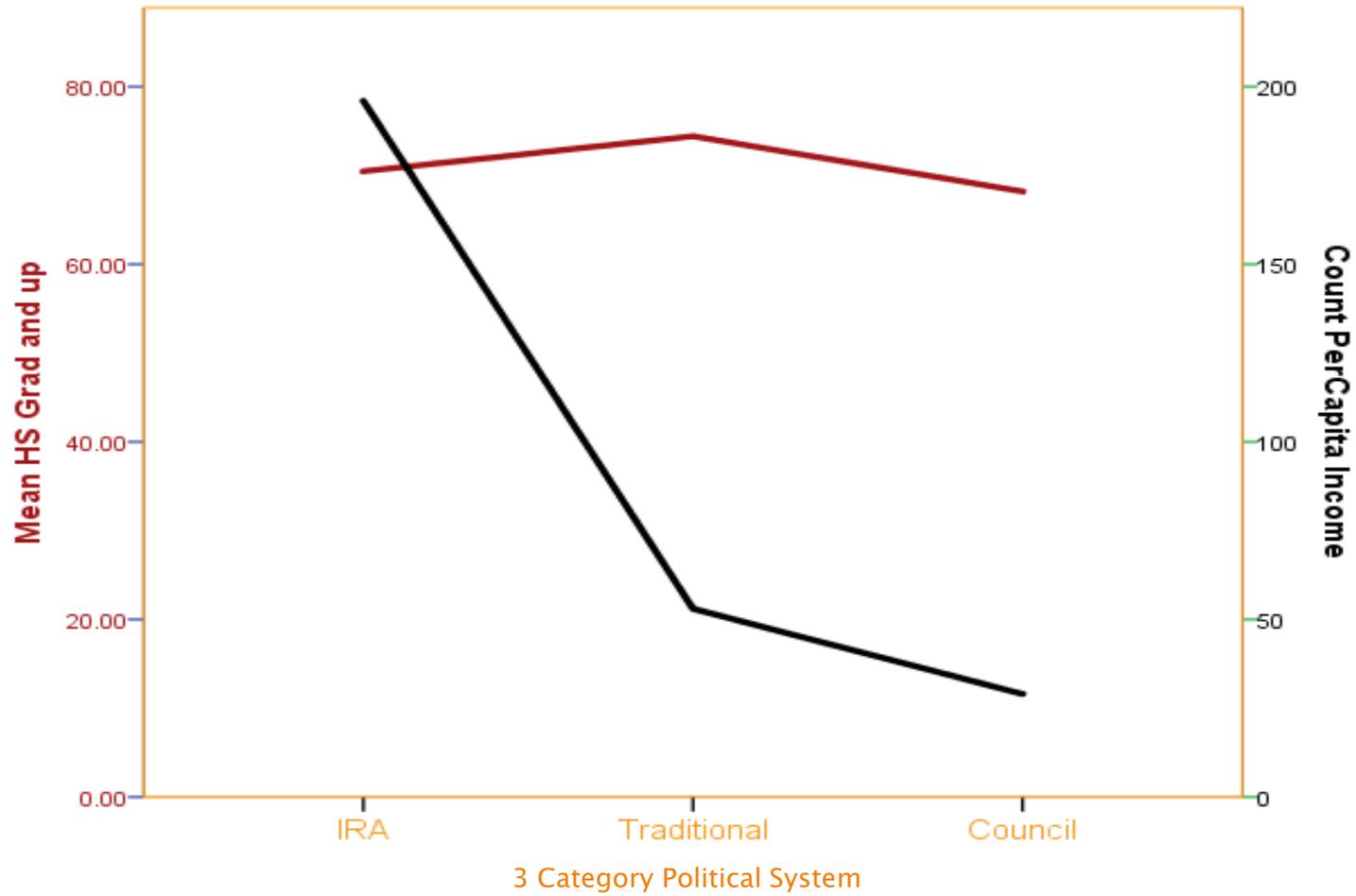


HS Ed and Per Capita Income

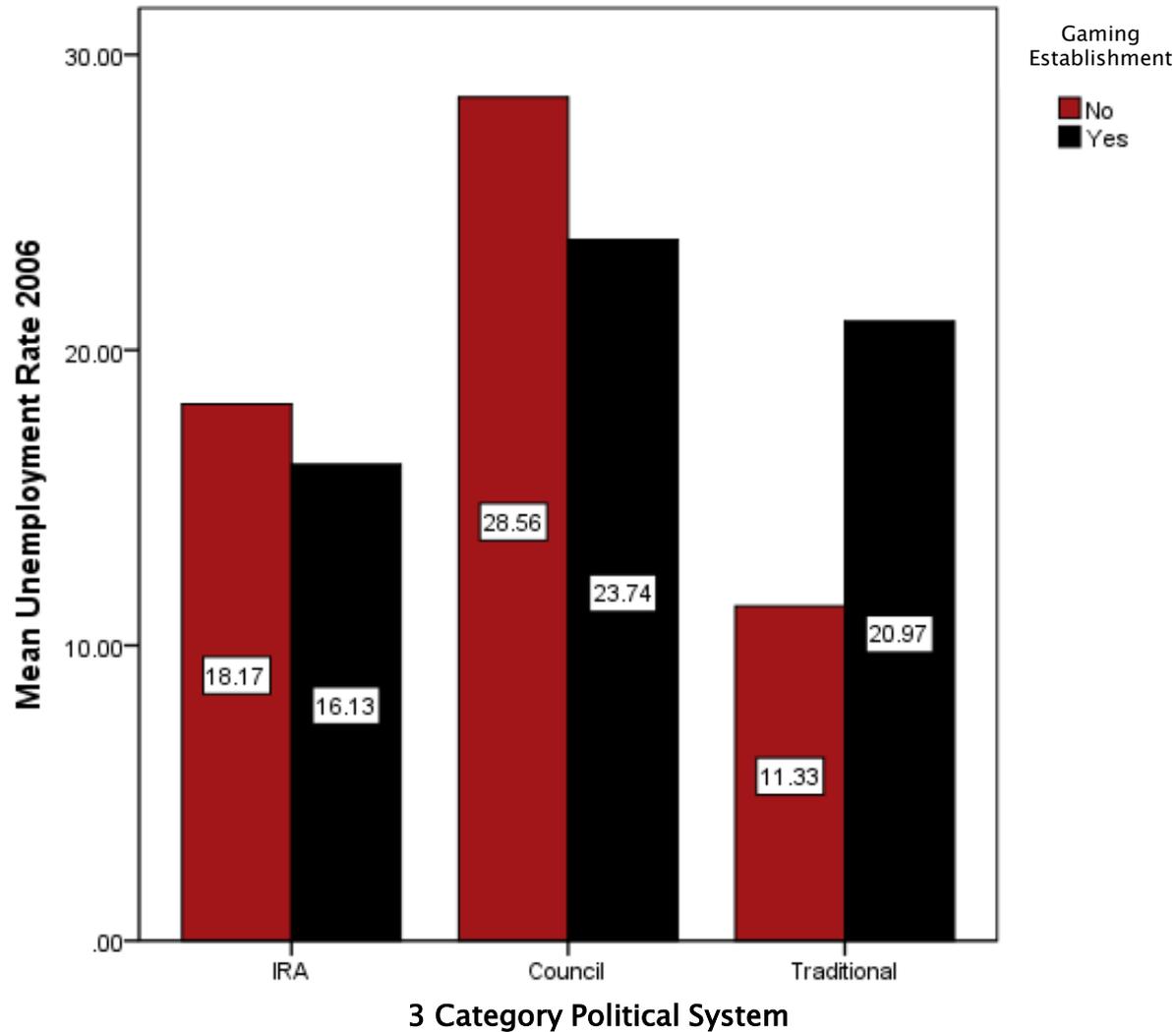
	IRA Mean	Traditional Mean	Mean Difference	Significance
High School Education or Higher	72.18	67.99	-4.19	.149
Per Capita Income '06	16554.35	19288.89	285.13	.878
Per Capita Income '96	12436.06	12721.19	2734.54	.078
	IRA Mean	Council Mean	Mean Difference	Significance
High School Education or Higher	72.18	61.34	-10.85	.004*
Per Capita Income '06	16554.35	14413.29	-2141.06	.609
Per Capita Income '96	12436.06	10934.75	-1501.32	.296

*Significance= P<.05

HS Ed and Per Capita Income



Unemployment and Gaming



Conclusion

- ▶ IRA systems higher poverty rate than Traditional systems
 - ▶ Reservations that have a traditional government system have a higher graduation rate than that of a IRA system of government
 - ▶ Reservations with gaming industries have a higher unemployment rate than the reservations that do have a gaming industry
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QUESTIONS??