Nicole Cornes for Canberra

BRAD CROUCH
April 29, 2007 12:15pm

Article from: Sunday Mail

NICOLE Cornes has emerged as Labor's latest secret weapon for the upcoming federal election.

The glamourous Mrs Cornes will be the ALP candidate for the marginal Liberal seat of Boothby in Adelaide's south.

Mrs Cornes, 37, a *Sunday Mail* columnist and wife of football legend Graham Cornes, is studying law part-time while caring for daughters Amy, 12, and Charlize, 3.

Labor regards the seat, held by Dr Andrew Southcott with a margin of about 5 per cent, as winnable, especially if there is a national swing to the ALP.

The bombshell decision to run Mrs Cornes means the Liberal Party will have to pour extra resources into holding what would otherwise be seen as an easily defensible seat.

Deputy Premier Kevin Foley, a family friend, engineered the coup after a series of conversations casually assessing her views on a range of issues.

On Friday he telephoned "out of the blue" and offered her the opportunity, which she readily accepted.

Yesterday she flew to Sydney to meet Opposition Leader Kevin Rudd and attend the ALP conference.

Mrs Cornes will join the Labor Party tomorrow and admits to having voted for John Howard's Government in the past, but says it is now time for a change.

"I am excited and a little overwhelmed but I see this as a great privilege and opportunity and I just could not say no," Mrs Cornes said.

"I have looked at what Kevin Rudd is about and I am very happy to support him.

"Having a young family I believe I can be part of a team that can make a difference.

"Kevin Foley had been asking my opinions on various issues, I didn't know why, then out of the blue he called me on Friday asking if I was prepared to be the candidate for Boothby.

"I voted for John Howard in the past but I think it is time for a change."

The speed of the recruitment means Mrs Cornes has not had time to fully formulate her views on a number of issues.

She declined to give her view on uranium mining or nuclear power until the Labor conference was over, and wanted more time to examine the WorkChoices issue although she is concerned about its impact on working women.

Mrs Cornes believes a new policy is needed on Iraq, but noted a plan needs to be in place before troops are withdrawn.

"It has all happened very quickly but when you read in the newspapers about what is going on in the world you start to form opinions," she said.

"I am disappointed with the Howard Government on a number of issues, such as its position on Iraq and how the IR laws affect working women.

"If he wants women to have 3 1/2 babies and work as well, then something has got to give – you can't work and maintain a stable family life under those conditions."

Mrs Cornes said her husband Graham was always telling her she should be in politics.

"My mother was a single mother and I've been working since I was 13 and left school at 15, so I certainly wasn't born with a silver spoon in my mouth," she said.

Asked if she was concerned her political opponents would portray her as more style than substance, Mrs Cornes said: "It is up to me to prove them wrong.

"It is not until you take away the style that you will see the substance."

Mr Foley described her as an outstanding candidate.

Her already high profile meant many voters would be familiar with her.

"Nicole Cornes demonstrates the appeal Kevin Rudd has to the broader community," Mr Foley said.

"Nicole left school at 15, is a mother raising two daughters, has run a small business, put herself through university – many South Australians can identify with her.

"I am very pleased she has committed to run for the ALP."

Mr Rudd described Mrs Cornes as "the real deal".

"She is South Australian through and through, she's bright, she's articulate, and she is a hard-working mother of two young kids," he said. "This makes her well qualified to represent the electorate where she was born, raised and educated.

"I believe Nicole has a strong chance of securing this important seat for Labor and know she would make a great local member for families in Boothby.

"I am determined to get first-class candidates to join the Federal Labor team; I have no doubt Nicole will make a first-class candidate."

Premier Mike Rann also warmly endorsed Mrs Cornes, saying she had talent and energy. "She will be a great South Australian member of Kevin Rudd's team and I look forward to working with her and campaigning for her," he said. "Nicole has shown she is prepared to speak out on issues – she is about the future, not the past."

GRAHAM CORNES: She is strong, passionate, determined

GRAHAM Cornes describes his wife as an organised and determined woman who will bring a refreshing honesty to politics.

"I absolutely support Nicole in this bid and I think it is fantastic," he said.

"She is passionate about women's issues, family issues and the law. She has run a small business and raised a family. If politics is about representing people, well then that is what she is about."

Mr Cornes said he had thought about running for office in the past, but felt the moment had passed.

"I had always voted Liberal until the last two elections but my allegiances have swung dramatically," he said.

"This won't be easy on our home life but it won't be impossible, and we have great support from family and friends.

"It is always a concern about how intrusive or aggressive people become in politics, but Nicole is certainly strong.

"She has had issues in her life to prepare her for challenges that life can throw at her."

Meanwhile, it has been predicted Mrs Cornes' blonde good looks may boost her chances of political success.

Reseachers from the University of SA and the Australian National University found good-looking political candidates have an edge over their less attractive opponents. Their study, released last year, found attractiveness can garner up to an extra 2 per cent of the vote.

In the study, every candidate from the major parties at the last federal election was ranked based on their campaign photographs by people, including US citizens who had no prior knowledge of the individuals.

UniSA researcher Amy King concluded good looks meant the difference between winning and losing in 10 per cent of the seats contested.

However, ANU researcher Andrew Leigh said that while beauty was an asset, it might help men more than women because "female beauty carries connotations in the minds of some voters".

While style may help Mrs Cornes' campaign, the good news for Mr Southcott is he was rated SA's fourth best looking politician, behind Kate Ellis, Chloe Fox and Trish Draper.

' Strong player – with coach in her corner

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NICOLE CORNES will stand as a Labor candidate in this year's federal election. Would you vote for her? Use the online poll below to cast your vote and get live results.

Vote Now!

Would you vote for Nicole Cornes as a Labor candidate in the federal election?

Add your vote!

YES NO VOTE NOW

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Pretty plain that we prefer our pollies to be crackers

Misha Schubert
December 8, 2006

MEMO: all spunkrats. Ever thought of making a
run for political office?

New research has found that beautiful political candidates win more votes, giving them an edge that could make the difference between winning or losing a marginal seat.

Using a group of independent "beauty raters" to assess the looks of 286 major party candidates from the 2004 federal election, researchers found a distinct boost in the vote for more attractive contenders.

Compared to an "average-looking" candidate, someone ranked more attractive than 84 per cent of other contenders won an extra 1 to 2 per cent of the vote.

But the effect is most profound with challengers rather than incumbents, explaining why Prime Minister John Howard has been so successful despite being ranked less attractive than 95 per cent of candidates.

University of South Australia lecturer Amy King and Australian National University economist Andrew Leigh found a pattern that suggested the effect was more than random luck.

Using how-to-vote cards, they concluded the more beautiful aspirants generally had a higher vote than might otherwise be expected for their party in that seat.

"Our results show that Australian voters are systematically choosing more handsome candidates to represent them in Canberra," Dr Leigh said.

According to the raters, the top 10 most beautiful candidates at the 2004 poll included Education Minister Julie Bishop, Labor's Kate Ellis, Liberal backbenchers Andrew Laming and Michael Keenan, and Liberal parliamentary secretaries Pat Farmer and Sussan Ley.

The most beautiful contender of all was the Labor candidate who ran against Mr Howard in the seat of Bennelong, Nicole Campbell.

Among the other party leaders, new Opposition Leader Kevin Rudd was judged to be less attractive than 85 per cent of candidates.

His predecessor, Kim Beazley, was less attractive than 53 per cent, and Mark Latham less attractive than 66 per cent.

Others marked above average for attractiveness included new Labor deputy leader Julia Gillard, Labor frontbencher Tanya Plibersek, and Liberal MPs Judi Moylan and Sophie Mirabella.

Male MPs who also rated well included Liberal parliamentary secretary Malcolm Turnbull, Defence Minister Brendan Nelson, Liberal MPs Dennis Jensen and Andrew Southcott, and Labor frontbencher Joel Fitzgibbon.

But the researchers declined to produce a list of the 10 least attractive MPs, declaring that to be "too unkind".

The study found that the beauty of candidates had a bigger impact in electorates with higher proportions of poor, less educated and older voters.

And it was more profound for male candidates than for female ones.

"This may be because female beauty carries negative connotations in the minds of some voters," said Dr Leigh.

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First impressions count

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By Jane Fynes-Clinton
November 22, 2007 12:04am

DON'T judge a book by its cover, the adage goes _ it may not be what it seems.

Just ask Melbourne school teacher Michael Chalk. Reading a book called The Unknown Terrorist got him kicked out of a pub in Cairns last week _ nothing else, just being in possession of a book with a title that made people a bit twitchy in these uncertain times.

How quickly we judge people on appearances; how much we like right-looking faces, predictable behaviour and want everything as we deem it should be.

We often select and consume on appearances: a slightly wonky-looking but wholesome health food wrap is thrown over for a meal of empty calories from a major burger chain because it looks solidly picture-perfect; drought or no drought, fruit with a mark on the skin will always be picked last; the cosmetics and surgery industries have never done so well as tiny imperfections and character lines are smoothed, covered and removed.

Despite years of multiculturalism and massive immigration, at first glance we still expect that a person with an Asian-looking face and Asian-sounding name will have an accent from Asia; we presume if a person is of Lebanese appearance, they will know a lot about kebabs and other Middle Eastern food. We do not seem to understand that, increasingly, racial appearance offers no hint about the life experience of the person inside the skin.

A glance at the evening news would lead viewers to think that all school leavers celebrating the end of their school days this week are drunken yobbos with no self-control or self-respect. That police and youth workers have reported most schoolies are well behaved seems to get edited out of most reports.

Teenagers behaving well do not make interesting vision, and images of teenagers getting arrested reinforces the negative, destructive stereotype.

At election time, how happy we are to give jobs to people we often know little about except what we see grinning out at us from the how-to-vote card or the high-gloss pamphlets that fill our letterboxes. How many candidates find themselves with well-paying jobs just because they are the most pleasant-looking offerings in a very ordinary-looking bunch?

Lots. The proof is not found in urban myth but in science.

A study of the 2004 federal election found that, while no candidate has been proven to be elected on looks alone, people who are pleasing at first appearance do have the upper hand at the ballot box.

The study, by Rhodes scholar Amy King of the University of South Australia and the Australian National University's Andrew Leigh, was released early this year. It found that beautiful candidates were more likely to get votes, with one standard deviation increase in beauty linked to a 1.5-2 percentage point increase in vote share.

The study was rigorous and multifaceted, and found that the higher the proportion of apathetic voters in the electorate, the more likely they were to vote for someone they did not know but considered good-looking _ in other words, the less the voters care, the more likely they are to go for a candidate who is simply easy on the eye. The study considered only candidates who were not immediately recognisable to voters.

Interestingly, the scholars found that the marginal effect for beauty was larger for male than female candidates. It seems voters are more tempted by male eye candy than female.

This is not to suggest that those elected to our Houses of Parliament are by any stretch handsome or pretty _ but some will have experienced a little swing in their favour because they got the votes of uncaring people who thought they were OK in the looks stakes.

Perhaps, if first appearances are not particularly impressive, it is best to get on the front foot. Senator Ron Boswell defeated Pauline Hanson for a Senate seat in 2001 under the banner quot;He's not pretty, but he's pretty effective". Voters gave him full marks for honesty, perhaps, about his lack of looks and for not overstating the reach of his influence.

In all matters of importance, ideally, looking below the surface is sure to give the most important information.

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Looks a bigger issue for male pollies: study

December 07, 2006 02:58pm

Article from: AAP

POLITICS might be Hollywood for ugly people, but film star good looks are a definite asset at the hustings.

A university study has shown attractive features – especially for men – could be the difference between winning and losing for aspiring pollies.

The study by Australian National University economist Dr Andrew Leigh and South Australia University student Amy King found that positive first impressions count.

Voters tend to opt for better-looking candidates, especially if they were challenging a sitting member.

"Compared to the average-looking political candidate, a candidate at the 84th percentile of the beauty description, as judged by our independent raters, receives an extra 1.5 to two per cent of the vote," Dr Leigh said in a statement.

"In some seats, this is the difference between winning and losing."

The researchers used how-to-vote card photographs scored by four independent raters chosen to be representative of the electorate.

"There was strong agreement across our raters as to who were the most beautiful candidates," Dr Leigh said.

Ms King and Dr Leigh also analysed the impact of beauty separately for male and female candidates – for both incumbents and challengers.

"For both male and female candidates, it helps to be better looking, but we find some evidence that beauty benefits male candidates more than female candidates," Dr Leigh said.

"This may be because female beauty carries negative connotations in the minds of some voters."

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THE Daily Telegraph

You beauty! You've my vote

December 07, 2006 12:00

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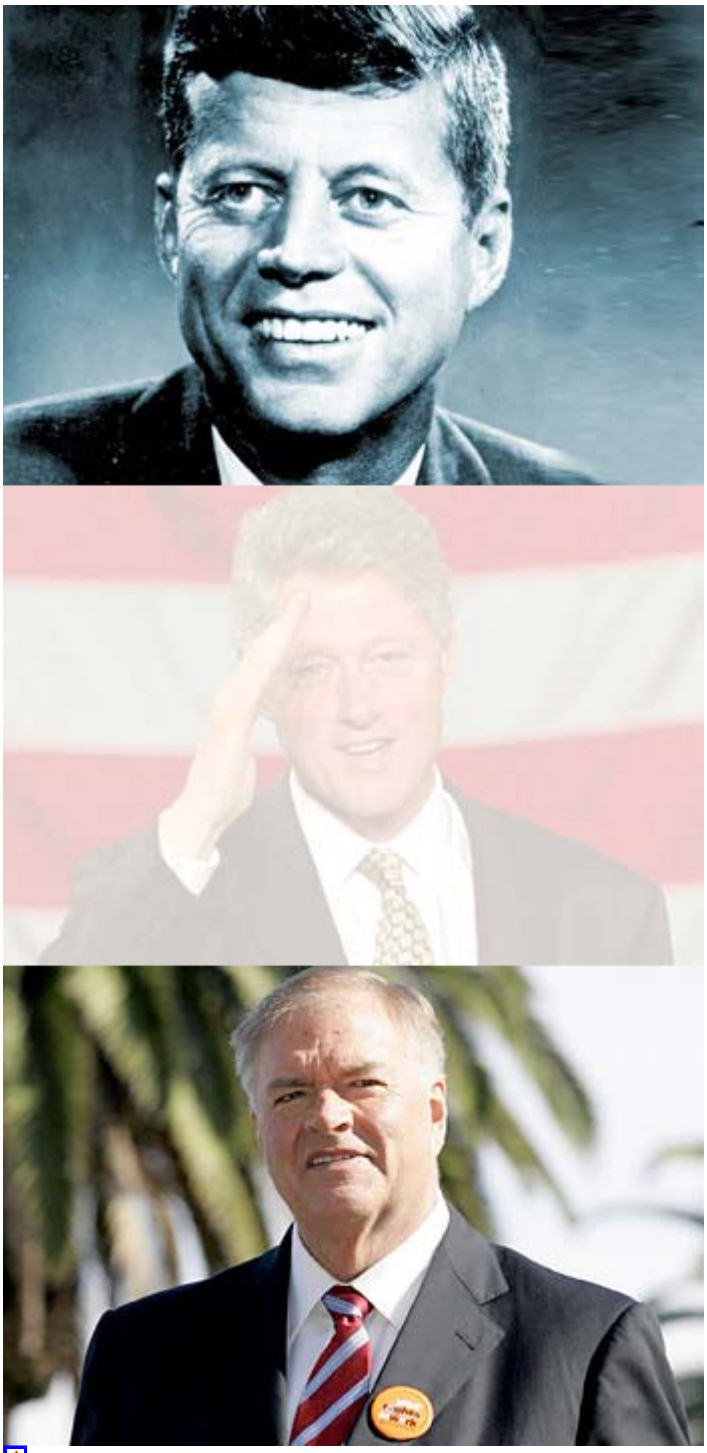

Image 2 of 3

John F Kennedy was known for his dapper good looks / The Daily Telegraph

When President, William Jefferson Clinton was known for his dalliance with an intern / The Daily Telegraph

Kim Beazley has been attacked for being too fat to be leader / The Daily Telegraph

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Herald Sun
Australia's biggest selling daily newspaper

Sexiest politicians get vote

Ben Packham
December 08, 2006 12:00am

Article from: Herald Sun

OUR best-looking politician is not even in Parliament Â¿ and John Howard can thank his lucky stars for that.

Nicole Campbell, who stood against the Prime Minister, was rated the most attractive candidate at the 2004 election.

The Australian National University rated politicians using how-to-vote cards.

It wasn't good news for Mr Howard – or Labor leader Kevin Rudd.

Proving looks aren't everything, the PM came in 279 out of 286. Mr Rudd did marginally better at 244.

But Julie Bishop can take a bow. She has the beauty to match her brainy portfolio.

The Education Minister was the most attractive sitting female MP, at fifth overall.

Victoria's best looker was newly crowned deputy Labor leader Julia Gillard at No. 12.

Rising Liberal star Malcolm Turnbull ran a dapper 18th.

Leadership rival Peter Costello (169) has plenty of ground to make up. He wouldn't even beat Kim Beazley (152) in a beauty contest. Health Minister Tony Abbott was rated not too shabby at 96 and Workplace Relations Minister Kevin Andrews was a respectable 114.

Labor childcare spokeswoman Tanya Plibersek was looking good at 21, while Victoria's best-looking bloke was Flinders Lib MP Greg Hunt (55).

Other highly rated Victorians included Labor member for Ballarat Catherine King (24), and member for Indi Sophie Mirabella (29).

ANU's Andrew Leigh, who conducted the study, did not reveal who ran last because it would be unfair.

But he said attractive candidates could swing an extra 1.5-2 per cent of votes – enough to win a marginal seat.

Dr Leigh used a panel of five to rate candidates, including a 59-year-old US woman who had no knowledge of Australian politics and could not recognise John Howard.

Dr Leigh said good looks could be as important as getting top spot on a ballot paper.

But not everyone believes beauty is a political asset.

Labor's Kate Ellis (6) so feared her model good looks would cost her she deliberately used a less attractive photo – with hair pulled up – on election material.

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THE AUSTRALIAN

Print this page

Benefit of beauty marginal for MPs

Samantha Maiden, Political correspondent
08dec06

JOHN Howard has been hit with the ugly stick, according to new research on why pretty politicians get ahead, but his success proves looks are not everything.

University researchers used how-to-vote cards to explore the relationship between beauty and voting behaviour, ranking Education Minister Julie Bishop, parliamentary secretary Malcolm Turnbull, Deputy Labor leader Julia Gillard and Defence Minister Brendan Nelson as the best of a bad-looking bunch.

But despite the study's finding that good looks can swing elections in marginal seats, politicians - including Mr Howard, Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, Attorney-General Philip Ruddock and Labor leader Kevin Rudd - rated the ugliest by participants are also the most successful.

For the record, Mr Ruddock's spokesman said last night that photographs of him as a youngster demonstrated the frontbencher to be quite "dashing". Voters can just be so incredibly cruel.

While it is said that politics is Hollywood for ugly people, the research suggests that good looks can help.

This is demonstrated with the how-to-vote cards issued by Chloe Fox, a Gwyneth Paltrow lookalike in South Australia who secured the state seat of Bright with a stunning 15 per cent swing.

NSW Labor MP Joel Fitzgibbon, Liberal MP Pat Farmer, Queensland's Steve Ciobo and confessed philanderer Ross Cameron, who ultimately lost his NSW seat, were also out of the ugly zone, according to the study participants.

However, Treasurer Peter Costello was sitting right on the border with his good mate, Liberal MP Tony Smith - despite the pair being ranked as far better looking than the majority of their senior cabinet colleagues.

Newcomer Kate Ellis, elected in the South Australian seat of Adelaide, was ranked good looking in the research. The honour was also bestowed on Liberal MP Judi Moylan, Labor MP Tanya Plibersek and Liberal MP Sophie Mirabella.

The study by Australian National University economist Andrew Leigh and South Australia University student Amy King found that good looks were even more important for men.

"Compared to the average-looking political candidate, a candidate at the 84th percentile of the beauty description, as judged by our independent raters, receives an extra 1.5 to 2 per cent of the vote," Dr Leigh said.

"In some seats, this is the difference between winning and losing. For both male and female candidates, it helps to be better looking. But we find some evidence that beauty benefits male candidates more than female candidates."

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You little beauty: the ugly truth about how we vote

John Garnaut
December 8, 2006

IS KEVIN RUDD pretty enough to become prime minister?

Researchers have found good looks go a long way in politics. Unfortunately for Mr Rudd, he has been judged less "beautiful" than 85 per cent of candidates in the 2004 federal election.

Amy King, of the University of South Australia, and Andrew Leigh, at the Australian National University, estimate a politician of Mr Rudd's beauty ranking would receive 1.5-2 per cent more votes if they were of "median" beauty.

In Mr Rudd's favour, however, John Howard fares even worse. He was judged to be in the least beautiful 5 per cent of candidates.

Perhaps he has overcome underwhelming looks by presiding over a beautiful party? At the last election the average Liberal politician was likely to be more beautiful than 57 per cent of candidates, compared with Labor (44) and Nationals (43).

Or perhaps Mr Howard is reaping the benefits of incumbency? "Once voters come to know a politician, their physical appearance does not matter as much," says the paper, *Beautiful Politicians*. Whatever the reason, Mr Howard defeated the most beautiful candidate: Labor's Nicole Campbell.

To construct the beauty ranking, Ms King and Dr Leigh asked four people to assess 286 photos of candidates distributed with how-to-vote cards. Two women and two men, of ages that are statistically representative of the population, ranked the candidates from zero to 100. Their judgements closely correlated, suggesting assessments of beauty are not as subjective as commonly thought.

Ms King and Dr Leigh then analysed the beauty rankings against primary votes in each electorate. They checked their results for extraneous influences such as race, age and across-the-board swings to the Liberal Party.

Whatever way they looked at the data, the researchers found: "Beautiful candidates are indeed more likely to be elected." The "beauty effect" was more evident in votes for men than women.

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Who's a pretty pollie then?

John Garnaut
December 7, 2006

Is Kevin Rudd pretty enough to become prime minister?

In a detailed study, researchers have found unexpectedly that good looks go a long way in politics.

Unfortunately for Mr Rudd, he has been judged less "beautiful" than 85 per cent of candidates at the 2004 federal election.

Researchers Amy King, of the University of South Australia, and Andrew Leigh, at the Australian National University, estimate a politician of Rudd's beauty ranking would receive between 1.5 and 2 per cent more votes if they were of "median" beauty.

In Rudd's favour, however, is that Prime Minister John Howard fares even worse.

A panel of four, which appraised candidate photos from how-to-vote cards, judged Mr Howard to be less beautiful than 95 per cent of candidates. Mr Howard has overcome his appearance to win four elections.

Researchers have found unexpectedly that good looks go a long way in politics

Who's the fairest of them all ... Julie Bishop and, top left, Julia Gillard fare well, but not so Kevin Rudd and John Howard.

Julia Gillard and Julie Bishop, who are each sometimes considered most likely to be Australia's first female prime ministers, are off to a flying genetic start.

Ms Gillard, Labor's new deputy leader, was judged to be in the top 2 per cent of the politicians' beauty pageant.

And Ms Bishop, the Minister for Education, was considered to be in the top 1 per cent.

"Beautiful candidates are indeed more likely to be elected," the researchers say.

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Short Memories and Longing Looks Win Votes
John Garnaut
The Sydney Morning Herald
15 December 2006

THE great Aztec king Montezuma reputedly handed his empire to 550 visiting Spaniards because a comet with a great flaming tail appeared in the western sky.

Floods, famines and earthquakes caused Chinese emperors to lose their heavenly mandates, and Javanese kings their divine lights.

And despite the Canberra press gallery's endless quest for the rational causes of democratic death, the reality of politics has not changed all that much in the 500 years since Captain Cortes was given the keys to Mexico.

The more we learn about why we vote the way we do, the more we discover that the substance of government is trumped by all manner of happy or unhappy accidents.

In the 1916 US presidential election, local vote counts showed a curious loss of support for the incumbent in coastal counties.

After sifting through a mountain of statistics, two political analysts at Princeton University, Christopher Achen and Larry Bartels, concluded that President Woodrow Wilson lost his job in part because of a spate of shocking shark attacks in New Jersey. Support for him collapsed in towns nearest the attacks.

The researchers also found incumbent presidents were more likely to lose during times of drought, floods and flu epidemics.

And while people tended to vote for strong economies - which might bear some relationship to government policy - they were influenced only by their experiences of the very recent past.

"They reward and punish for events no administration can control," say Achen and Bartels. "Moreover, while they know how they feel at the moment, they lose all track of how they have felt over the course of the administration's term in office."

Presumably, that's why presidents routinely borrow from future taxpayers to pump-prime their economies in their last year of office (and why voters are better off with independent central banks).

Now a growing body of "appearance" literature shows a tight relationship between physical attributes and political performance. Wikipedia's presidential height charts, for example, show the taller candidate won 63 per cent of the past 46 American presidential elections.

Standing above them all is Abraham Lincoln, at nearly 193 centimetres.

We already know that more attractive people win higher wages. Less attractive people commit more crime. Now we are discovering that attractive people win more elections.

The latest contribution to the politics of beauty has been made by Amy King, of the University of South Australia, and Andrew Leigh, of the Australian National University. Their panel of judges ranked the beauty of nearly 300 candidates at the 2004 federal election, assessed by the photos on how-to-vote cards.

The study produced all kinds of tabloid trivia. Julie Bishop is the most beautiful person in cabinet. On the other side of the political aisle, Julia Gillard is only a haircut behind her. The average Liberal Party candidate is much better looking than the typical Labor Party candidate.

While voters tell pollsters that they don't care what their politicians look like, the study shows they are willing to pay a large premium for physical beauty at the ballot box. King and Leigh calculate Kevin Rudd would improve his vote by between 3 and 4 percentage points if he happened to be among the most beautiful 15 per cent of political candidates, rather than the least beautiful 15 per cent.

Rudd has little cause to curse his genes, however, because John Howard's beauty disadvantage is even greater.

Presumably, the aesthetics of politics has grown more important with the advent of photography and television.

Given that we vote for beauty, election-eve pork-barrelling, sharks that don't eat humans and good weather, it is not difficult to see why democracy and good governance are not always synonymous. It is a wonder that politicians come up with any good policy at all.

Then again, if we were driven by reason alone we might not vote at all. Since Federation in 1901, only one seat has been decided by one vote (Ballarat in 1919). None has been tied. The probability of your individual ballot paper influencing the outcome of next year's federal election is roughly one in 4478.

Who's a pretty pollie then?

7th December 2006, 13:00 WST

Good looks go a long way in politics, researchers have found.

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FAIRFAX

In politics, good looks can help: study

Advertisement

Reuters
Thursday, December 7, 2006; 3:24 AM

CANBERRA (Reuters) - Good looks really do matter when it comes to politics, Australian researchers have found, and can add an extra 1.5 percent to 2 percent to a candidate's vote.

But the research by economist Andrew Leigh, from the Australian National University, shows some of Australia's most successful male politicians are rated among the ugliest and looks are less important once a politician becomes well known.

"Beauty matters more for challengers than for incumbents. This suggests that looks affect first impressions. Once voters come to know a politician, their physical appearance does not matter as much," Leigh said on Thursday.

Leigh's study analyzed the results of Australia's 2004 national election, with an independent group used to rate the looks of 286 candidates from photographs on election pamphlets handed to people when they arrive to vote.

Voting is compulsory in Australia, allowing Leigh to compare average voting results against the beauty rating of each candidate.

"For both male and female candidates, it helps to be better looking," Leigh said, adding that one in 10 seats in Australia's 150-seat parliament have been decided on margins of less than 1.4 percent over the past decade.

But good looks aren't everything.

Leigh's study found conservative Prime Minister John Howard, the nation's second-longest serving prime minister after a decade in power, to be the fourth ugliest man in Australian Parliament.

"Voters in the electorate of Prime Minister John Howard most likely have a good knowledge of Howard as a politician, making it largely irrelevant that his physical beauty rating is lower than 95 percent of all candidates," Leigh's study diplomatically said.

He was just ahead of Attorney-General Philip Ruddock, rated third ugliest, and Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, rated the second least attractive.

Center-left Labor Party lawmaker Dick Adams, who has won his seat in five consecutive elections and who once served in a state legislature, was rated the least attractive on Leigh's beauty-rating scale.

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