

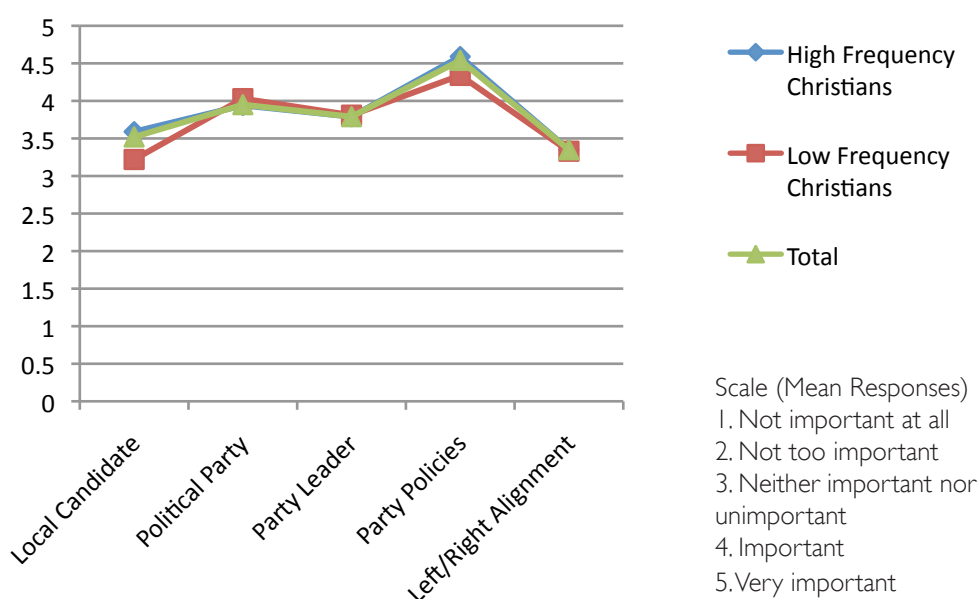
# The Effect of Australian Political Party Leaders' Religiosity on the Voting Intentions of Australian Christians

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**1,109 Australian Christians were surveyed about the effects of political party leader's religiosity on their voting intentions.**

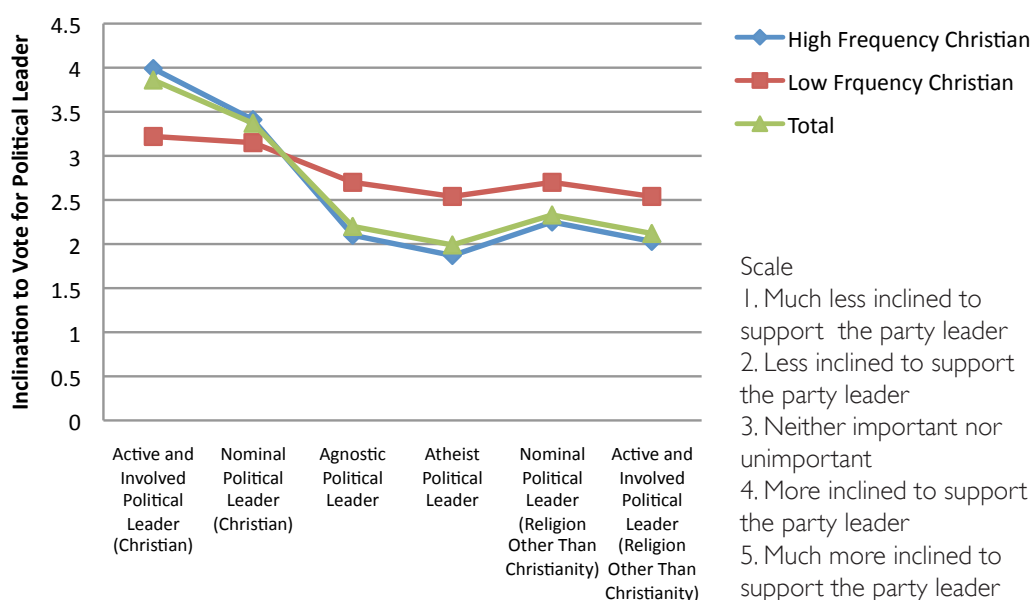
## Key Findings

Table 1: Factors Affecting The Respondent's Voting Intention



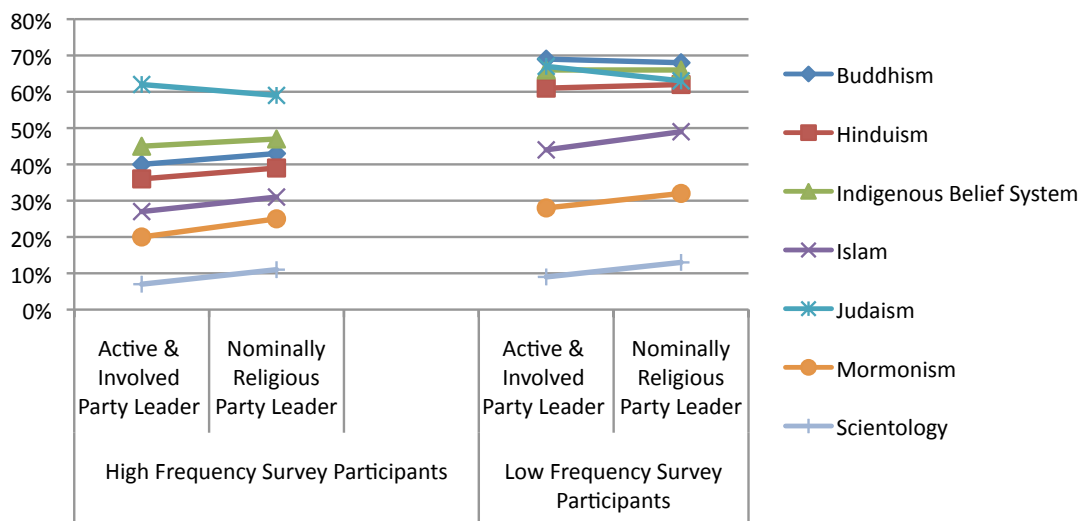
The political party leader is an important factor that influences the voting intention of high and low frequency Australian Christians.

Table 2: Respondent's Inclination to Support Christian, Non-Christian and Religious Political Party Leaders (mean responses)



Religiocentrism affects Australian Christians – there is in-group favouritism for Christian political party leaders and a bias against non-Christian and non-religious political party leaders. The frequency of the respondent's religious attendance (either high or low frequency), and the religiosity (either active and involved or nominally religious) of the political party leader are important variables.

TABLE 3: Percentage of Respondents (High and Low Frequency Christians) that are Prepared to Support Active and Involved and Nominally Religious Non-Christian Political Party Leaders



A greater proportion of Australian Christians are prepared to support political party leaders belonging to some religions, rather than others. Australian Christians would rather support nominally religious non-Christian political party leaders (in the majority of instances).

Note: The X-axis illustrates the percentage of respondents (illustrated as either high or low frequency Christian on the Y-axis) that are prepared to vote for active and involved and nominally religious non-Christian political party leaders.

## Definitions

**High frequency Christians:** Australian Christians attending a religious service once a week or more.

**Low frequency Christians:** Australian Christians attending a religious service less than weekly.

**Religiously active and involved party leaders:** Political party leaders that attend religious services regularly, identify with their faith membership and outwardly talk about their belief system.

**Nominally religious party leaders:** Political party leaders who attend religious services irregularly, speak little about their religious beliefs, and yet identify with their faith system.

## Method

An online survey was undertaken for the purposes of this exploratory research. 1,461 Christian Churches were contacted, requesting that congregants participate in the survey. Potential participants were also contacted through online, social media. The results have been compiled from a quantitative analysis of 1,109 responses. The findings have been complemented with additional research. This is a descriptive study of the 1,109 participants, rather than inferring characteristics on the entire Australian Christian population.

## Additional Data

Additional data and statistics were collected within the survey, but were not utilised within this analysis. This includes:

- Breakdown of responses, by participant's Christian denomination.
- The effect of party leader's Christian denomination on high and low frequency Christian's voting intention.
- Survey participant's policy issues of interest.

**The additional data and statistics are available upon request.**

**If you would like additional data or have any enquiries, please contact me at [grantpower@hotmail.com](mailto:grantpower@hotmail.com)**