**Universidade de São Paulo**

**Faculdade de Filosofia, Letras e Ciências Humanas**

**Departamento de Ciência Política**

FLP 6403 and FLS 457

Comparative Politics: Public Opinion, Public Policy and Representation

1st semester / 2018

Lorena G Barberia

Problem Set # 4

Responsiveness and Representation

Due Date: June 21, 2018

*Note: Your grade on this assignment depends on the task described and your discussion of the readings for this topic.*

1. In Degrees of Democracy, Soroka and Weizen argue that “representation may be greatest when a lack of responsiveness is more likely to lead to electoral defeat (143).” Please describe the empirical tests that the authors employ and discuss its validity.
2. In Degrees of Democracy, Soroka and Weizen argue that “differences in responsiveness matter most when preferences differ (166).” Please explain how the authors arrive at this conclusion and assess its validity.
3. This semester, we have focused our lectures on the key methodological challenges that should be addressed in attempting to identify and test for representation between elites and voters. Please summarize these challenges briefly explaining the challenge and some of the approaches that have been utilized to address them.
4. Please discuss to what degree these challenges are effectively addressed in Degrees of Democracy.