

## **ABSTRACT**

**THESIS:** The Effectiveness of Vote Centers and their Implementation in Indiana

**STUDENT:** Max L. Walling

**DEGREE:** Master of Public Administration

**COLLEGE:** Sciences and Humanities

**DATE:** May, 2009

**PAGES:** 74

In the modern political environment in the United States, voting is the most common form of political participation. Many individuals consider voting to be a simple process, but it is a form of political participation that requires various costs from both the individuals casting their ballot and the authority systems organizing and managing elections. In recent years new voting programs have been established to lower costs, increase voter turnout, and add flexibility to the voting process through the use of modern technology. The following research examines the new Vote Center Model of running elections being implemented in Wayne, Tippecanoe, and Cass Counties in Indiana. Elections held in 2007 and 2008 will be studied, attempting to determine the effect of the Vote Center Model on running elections when compared to the traditional Precinct Model.