
POLITICAL INTERESTS OF PUBLIC IN PAKISTAN

*Shah Nawaz Mangi
Dr Naimatullah Shah
Dr Shuja Ahmed Mahesar*

ABSTRACT

To enhance public political participation, it is mandatory to examine individual psychological involvement in political affairs. The current study is an effort to investigate public political interest (psychological involvement) in Pakistan. For this purpose, a survey instrument was adopted from the existing literature. By using that instrument data was collected from the urban areas of the country. After that, it was analyzed by using SPSS version 24.0 for windows. Results of the study suggest that people living in the urban areas are comparatively more interested in the political affairs than the people, living in the rural areas of the country. Additionally, a significant effect of explanatory variables such as; age, gender, education, efficacy and performance evolution on public political interest was also found.

Keywords: Political Interest, Demographic Attributes, Political Attitudes.

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan has completed her seventy years of independence but none of her prime ministers has completed his/her five years constitutional tenure. Since the first decade of Pakistan, a precedent has been set by abolishing democratic governments on the charges of mal-governance or corruption. Political history is plethoric that every time non-political elements played a major role in these undemocratic acts. For the first time in the history of Pakistan, a democratic government completed its tenure and transferred the powers to another in 2013. The public was optimistic that malpractices, rule of law and economic misappropriation would be sanctified by the civilian government but these trends remained persistent and country's economy desolated mercilessly.

Is public still interested in political affairs after almost two consecutive civilian government failed to protect democratic values? If masses are, then how much and why are they interested when even democratic regime is not delivering in a democratic method? To find out the answers to these questions, it is mandatory to explore that motivation which is the cause behind public political participation and political interest.

Existing literature of the domain acknowledges the importance of political interest as *psychological* engagement in political affairs in Europe

(Frail & Gomez, 2017; Marsh, 2016), America (Valenzuela *et.al.*, 2016), Africa (Chabal, 2016), and also in Asia (Yoon, 2017). Additionally, the importance of political interest in political participation is also examined (Bahry & Silver, 1990). According to this study, people having a more political interest are more engaged in conventional as well as unconventional political activities. It is apparent in the extant findings of the political activism's studies that paying attention to political affairs is the most important factor which enhances political participation in any country (Armingeon, 2014; Quintelier & Van Deth, 2014). Although public psychological involvement in politics is universally examined factor but social scientists have ignored the investigation of public political interest as an independent variable in Pakistan (Mahmood, Sohail, Mushtaq, & Rizvi, 2014). Beside the theoretical justification that will be described in the upcoming section of this paper, investigation of political interest is justified by the sociopolitical realities of the country. The free and fair election, demonstration, political activity, freedom of speech and public right to choose their leader is still restricted in Pakistan (Von Vorys, 2015) when it is compared to the developed societies. It's another fact that democratic ideology has lost its originality during military rule but the controlled democratic era of Musharraf and revival of democracy after the general election of 2008 could not control the *psychological* involvement of (political interest) public as effectively as it was controlled during military rule.

Summarily, in the context of *psychological* involvement, people in Pakistan have freedom as their counterpart's have in the western countries, while they are not much free in the context of political participation even today (Roll & Talbott, 2003). Thus, it can be concluded that people having more political interest can find different ways to participate in political activities (Pennock, 2015) and those who are less interested may find limited opportunities to participate (Rogowski, 2014). Therefore, when someone is investigating political participation he/she cannot ignore the treatment of political interest first. As Pakistan has not seen extolment voter turnout throughout the history, therefore, public psychological involvement in politics is needed to be examined.

Current study is examining public political interest in Pakistan to understand its relations to sociopolitical variables. Particularly, this study focuses:

- To measure different dimension as well as level of political interests.
- Determine the sociopolitical variables that influence public *psychological* involvement in politics.
- Discuss the relationship between the dependent and independent variables after conducting the multivariate analysis.

In order to meet these objectives, data was collected from the urban areas through a random sample survey.

Measurement of Political Interest

Prior studies of the domain have surely played a major role to understand public psychological involvement in political affairs. Majority of those studies ignored the empirical approach and followed the qualitative one. Acknowledging the importance of these studies, this study is different from them in methodological perspective (i.e. current study was done on the data that was collected through a survey questionnaire. while the prior studies were conducted on personal observation). Nathan and Shi (1993:95-96) acknowledged the strength of observation based research studies in this way “the ability to attend both to broad themes in a culture and to nuance, contradiction, levels of meanings, and dialectical relationships”. In addition, these studies are not free from the weaknesses “the inability to describe with precision the distribution of attitudes among the population, and the inability to carry out analytical procedures to distinguish the effects of socio-demographic attributes on attitudes or the effects of attitudes on behavior” (Nathan & Shi, 1993). To overcome these kinds of weaknesses, a quantitative study based on survey method seems authentic and up to the mark because it possesses advantages like specified referents, results’ empirical reliability, measurement of attitudinal variation and performance of statistical analysis (Creswell, 2013). To examine the current level of political interest by applying survey design method is one of the major objectives of this study. Gabriel Almond and Sydney Verba’s (2015) study is the only inspiration behind the measurement and operationalization of public political interest. They explain political interest as public attention and follow-ups to the affairs related to the government and politics. Public cognition has been investigated by Almond and Verba (2015) by adopting two profound indicators (1) general attention to the affairs related to politics and government, (2) public attention/psychological involvement in the major political activities such as, sit-in, demonstration and campaign against the government or social evils. By following the same definition, we have also defined political interest as individual level of interest in political as well as governmental issues. It is worth mentioning here that the current study has utilized the concept of political interest which is completely distinct from the idea of political participation. According to the published literature, individual psychological involvement in any political affair is defined as political interest, while physical involvement and political activities pattern are considered as an individual’s political participation (Almond & Verba, 2015). It seems that people having more political interest also participate more in politics than those who are less interested in the politics but it is far

from the fact; because it is not always necessary that high level of psychological involvement results in high level of political participation. Sometimes, those who are more interested in politics do not participate in politics due to economic, social, institutional and political restrictions.

Political interest is comparatively easier because it needs merely 'passive participation' not 'active' and it does not demand heavy cost of money, time, energy and physical presence (Dahl, 1961). In sum, political interest is not a dependent but independent variable and in this study, political interest is measured as an independent variable. In order to examine the level of political interest in Pakistan, respondents were asked following questions:

1. How much are you interested in politics?
2. How much do you care for national affairs?
3. How much do you care for major issues in Pakistan?
4. How often do you talk about politics with friends and family members?

First three questions (1-3) of our survey instrument were related to participants' general interest in national as well as local issues while question No.4 was asked to supplement the prior questions. It is suggested (Inglehart, 1997) that whether political affairs are discussed among the public or not is a good indicator to measure public interest in politics. In this study four-point Likert scales were used. After combining all these questions, an additive index was designed to obtain participants' psychological involvement in political affairs. The index was ranging from 4 which highlights "quite disinterest" to 16 which refers quite high interest. Multivariate analysis was done by using this index. To measure the reliability of the questionnaire, reliability coefficient and inter-item correlation was used. Result finds moderate inter-item correlation (0.461 to 0.662). The overall alpha was found 0.82. Table-1 indicates that there is a moderate correlation among the items and high reliability.

TABLE-1
INTER-ITEM CORRELATIONS FOR POLITICAL INTEREST

Items	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4
1. General interest in politics	1.00			
2. Interest in national affairs	0.662	1.00		
3. Interest in local affairs	0.575	0.610	1.00	
4. Frequency of political discussion	0.620	0.530	0.461	1.00
<i>Overall alpha for four items</i> 0.82				

Result of the current study finds some contradiction in the prevailing view of political interest in Pakistani public. Study finds that in the first three areas of political interest (1-3) two third of the total participants were either

“quite interested” or “somewhat interested”. Furthermore, it was found even more dramatic when the data for the last question (question-4) was analyzed. Over 90% of the participants revealed that they discuss political affairs with their family members or friends either ‘often’ or ‘always’. Table 2 below shows the distribution of data scale wise.

TABLE-2
DISTRIBUTION OF DATA SCALE WISE

Items	Quite not interested % (n)	Not very interested % (n)	Somewhat interested % (n)	Quite interested % (n)	Mean Score	Total % (N)
Interest in politics in general	2.1 (13)	31.7 (223)	50.4 (350)	12.5 (13)	2.74	100 (678)
Interest in national affairs	2.1 (13)	26.2 (185)	55.8 (387)	12.7 (93)	2.79	100 (678)
Interest in local affairs	1.3 (8)	16.5 (119)	57.4 (398)	21.7 (153)	3.01	100 (678)
	Never	Occasionally	Often	Always		
Frequency of political discussion	3.5 (22)	50.8 (338)	41.2 (273)	2.5 (16)	2.40	100 (678)

Result shows that people from urban areas were highly interested in political affairs in Pakistan. Beside fundamental factors those were the reason behind such results, some circumstantial factors were also found. Out of these circumstantial factors one is that data for the present study was collected from the urban areas of the country. Due to the easy access to electronic as well as print media, respondents were fully aware of political and governmental affairs. Most believably, the second reason was survey timing. The government was facing the Panama papers case, Joint Investigation Team (JIT) was investigating against the then prime minister of the country on the instructions of Supreme Court of Pakistan at the time of data collection. No doubt it was the biggest corruption scandal in the history of Pakistan, as such almost every aware citizen was talking about that case.

Factors Describing Public Political Interest

Prior studies have extensively and systematically examined sociopolitical elements of political interest (Loader, Vromen, & Xenos, 2014; Toye, 2014). Nonetheless, existing literature is lacking about those elements that could affect public political interest in Pakistan. The present study is an effort to specify and identify explanatory factors for public psychological involvement in politics in a country which is highly ignored by the political scientist. These factors have been divided into two categories: demographic attribute and political attitudes. How these factors are affecting public interest in politics is examined and described in this section.

Demographic Attributes: There is a theoretical consensus among the studies of democratic and non-democratic attitudes that individual’s political interest is highly influenced by the demographic attributes such as; age, gender, religion, education, profession and income (Ardehaly & Culotta,

2017). In this study, the influence of three demographic attributes (age, gender, and education) on respondents' interest in politics has been examined.

Age: As compared to the old, young are more interested in politics most probably they want to establish their career in it (Chrona & Capelos, 2017; Ekström, 2016). Literature also suggests that young married women, having children are least interested (Beck & Jennings, 1982). The degree of political interest considerably increases in the middle-aged respondents and it declines speedily in the old-aged or retired (Jennings & Niemi, 2014). Political interest varies from age to age due to the respondent's energy, time and resources. Middle-aged are more energetic and have free time after establishing a career and forming families while old-aged have not such energy to shift. Self-disengagement from the society is another factor behind their least interest in politics (Russo & Stattin, 2017). Based on literature, we hypothesize that middle-aged are more interested in politics as compared to the younger unmarried and older in Pakistan. For this curvilinear pattern two age factors were developed (absolute age and age squared). The latter accommodates the expected parabolic pattern of the relationship.

Gender: It is a universally accepted truth that men are substantially more active in politics than women but in some advanced countries, this gap may be narrower (Kunovich & Kunovich, 2016). The gender difference and its influence on political interest is present mainly due to the traditional views and social trends in which women's political capacity is badly ignored in almost every non-democratic, developing and under developing societies (Hinojosa, Fridkin, & Kittilson, 2017). In this modern age, it is still accepted truth that politics is the only men's business and women have nothing to do with it (Dolan, Deckman, & Swers, 2017). Although various steps have been taken by the government of Pakistan for gender equality yet some differences in gender such as; social status, treatment in workplaces, family role and jobs opportunities still exist in the country. In Asia, gender gap is larger than west, most believably social restrictions and traditional values encourage women not to use their capacities and be passive in every arena of life (E. Dalton, 2015). Due to the larger gender gap in Pakistan, we hypothesize that women are less interested in political affairs as compared to the men. Before analyzing the data, gender was coded (male= 0 & female= 1).

Education: Published literature of the domain indicates that more educated are more interested in public and political affairs than less educated or uneducated (Claes & Hooghe, 2017; Hillygus, 2005). Political behavior examiners suggest three major reasons for the role of education in developing public psychological involvement in politics. First, people became familiar with political knowledge through education. Second, individual ability to comprehend self-political implications is also increased by education. Third, it is the source of confidence building in utilizing one's political capabilities (Croke, Grossman, Larreguy, & Marshall, 2016). Traditionally, education has been measured through the number of years in educational institutions.

Year of education is most probably the surest tool to measure the role of education in one's psychological involvement in political affairs (Meyer, 2017). According to Jennings (2014), more educated people are more actively interested in public and political affairs. Based on previous literature, it is hypothesized that education is positively correlated with the interest in politics.

Political Attitudes: In addition to demographic attribute, this study links public interest in politics with socio-psychological variables also. These factors are; public satisfaction with the performance of government and political efficacy. The relationship between these factors and political interest has been examined in the prior studies conducted in western democracies (Diemer & Rapa, 2016; Stoyan, Niedzwiecki, Morgan, Hartlyn & Espinal, 2016 and Wolak, 2017). For the first time in Pakistan, this study examines these relationships extensively along with demographic attributes.

Political Efficacy: According to Wolak (2017), political efficacy is the feeling which prevails in the political action of an individual that affect the political process. Political scientists agree that it is one of the powerful casual elements which involves people in political affairs (Velasquez & LaRose, 2015) while the absence of political efficacy compels individual to withdraw from politics (Moeller, de Vreese, Esser, & Kunz, 2014). Based on the finds of the previous studies, it is hypothesized that people having self-trust that they can do something for political change are more interested in politics. In order to measure the political efficacy participants were requested to answer two simple statements on four-point Likert scales.

TABLE-3
DISTRIBUTION OF POLITICAL EFFICACY

Item	Strongly Agree % (n)	Agree % (n)	Disagree % (n)	Strongly Disagree % (n)
1) The well-being of the country is mainly dependent upon state leaders, not the masses	36.5 (249)	33.5(231)	21.4 (146)	7.6 (45)
2) In general, I don't think I should argue with the authority even though I believe my idea is correct	21.8 (151)	42.1 (276)	27.9 (193)	8.1 (52)

Result in Table 3 shows inadequate political efficacy was found in most of the participants. Almost 60% of the participants were found strongly agree and agree over the statement 1. Out of these respondents, two-third agree and strongly agree that even for a genuine cause they don't find themselves able to challenge the power or authority. Despite the fact, that majority of the Pakistan's population favors democratic system; this reveals

that consciously or even subconsciously most of our respondents support the authoritarianism.

Satisfaction with Government Performance: Public satisfaction and dissatisfaction from the performance of the government is another fundamental factor that influences political interest. It is apparent in the existing literature that people who are dissatisfied with the government performance are considerably more interested in the affairs of politics as well as government (Schofield & Reeves, 2015; Torcal, 2014), it is because they want explanations about the flaws in the policy making and they seek reasons behind the poor governance. In this way, they seek solutions to the problems faced by them in the social, economic and political arena (André & Depauw, 2017). In a country like Pakistan where resources are not equally distributed, education and health facilities are badly ignored, provision of job opportunities on unequal basis, discrimination in infrastructure and social development are dominant characters of the state, people substantially pay more attention to the actions and affairs of the government (Jan & Raza, 2015). Therefore, it can be hypothesized that more dissatisfied people are more interested in politics. In order to measure public satisfaction and dissatisfaction with the performance of government eight items were adopted from the previous studies (Table-4). Respondents were given five points Likert scale. An additive index was developed after combining these items was to obtain the collective profile of the participants.

TABLE-4
GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE EVOLUTION

Item	Very dissatisfied % (n)	Dissatisfied % (n)	So-So % (n)	Satisfied % (n)	Very Satisfied % (n)	Total % (n)	Mean Score
Controlling inflation	12.2 (76)	36.5 (250)	37.5 (261)	9.4 (63)	3.9 (22)	100 (672)	2.571
Providing job security	5.9 (37)	27.1 (178)	53.6 (357)	9.8 (67)	4.1 (22)	100 (661)	2.877
Minimizing the gap between rich and poor	17.1 (111)	43.9 (295)	29.1 (192)	6.7 (41)	3.4 (28)	100 (667)	2.573
Improving housing condition for all people	9.1 (58)	30.1 (200)	43.1 (285)	13.9 (91)	5.1 (32)	100 (666)	2.670
Maintaining order in society	7.1 (58)	29.1 (198)	41.2 (270)	13.9 (91)	8.8 (55)	100 (672)	2.383
Providing adequate medical care for all people	8.5 (38)	24.9 (168)	44.9 (304)	17.8 (123)	6.1 (38)	100 (671)	2.393
Providing welfare services to the needy	4.1 (24)	19.1 (123)	48.7 (322)	20.9 (136)	8.1 (51)	100 (656)	3.100
Combating pollution	11.5 (74)	36.1 (242)	32.2 (213)	14.9 (95)	7.9 (49)	100 (673)	2.907
Dissatisfaction/ satisfaction Index							22.1

Results find mean score around point 3 or “so-so” for almost all questions asked about government performance. Additionally, about 22 average score of the total index was found in this study which is near to 24 scales which is the midpoint of the index. Almost every area which was examined in this factor, mediocre evaluation of government performance was found. When asked about the “controlling inflation”, respondents showed their highest distrust in it while “minimizing the gap between rich and poor” was another area in which highest public distrust was observed. Both areas were found most intractable and incessant socio-economic problems.

MULTIVARIATE DATA ANALYSIS

Multiple regressions (ordinary least squares) were used in this study. It was noticed that two categories of the independent variables (demographic attributes and political attitudes) which are used in this study show 23% of the variance in public interest in politics. When examining the demographic attributes, it was found that there is a significant relation between age, gender and political interest. Furthermore, study assures that middle-aged male, young and old females are considerably more interested in political affairs. The finding of the current study was also noticed in the prior studies of the domain (Holt, Shehata, Strömbäck, & Ljungberg, 2013). In addition, it is also apparent that in Pakistan education does not have a significant impact on political interest as it has in the developed countries. Despite that, 0.14 Pearson correlation (number of school year and political interest) indicates that better educated are slightly more interested in the affairs of politics but it can also be argued that there are other socio-economic factors that influence the relation between individual education and political interest.

TABLE-5
PREDICTORS OF PUBLIC POLITICAL INTEREST

Predictors	Political Interest		
	Un-standardized Coefficient	Standard error	Beta weight
<i>Demographic attributes</i>			
Age (18-74)	0.037**	0.017	0.053
Age Squared ($\times 10^{-4}$)	-0.081**	0.037	-0.105
Gender (0-1)	-0.056*	0.025	-0.027
Education	0.006	0.049	0.006
<i>Political attitudes</i>			
Efficacy	0.069***	0.025	0.102
Dissatisfaction/ Satisfaction	-0.118**	0.058	-0.076
Constant	-1.311	0.527	
Multiple R		0.483	
R ²		0.235	
Adjusted R ²		0.212	
Number of cases		0.672	

*** $P < 0.001$; ** $P < 0.01$; * $P < 0.05$

Results of the second category of variables (political efficacy and satisfaction with government performance) show a significant relation between both factors with political interest. The findings of the current study are also supported by the previous studies as well (Dalton, 2013; Torcal, 2014). Based on the obtained results, it can be argued that the relation between political efficacy, public satisfaction and political interest do not vary from society to society and culture to culture.

CONCLUSION

As the data for this study was collected from the urban areas, so the findings cannot be generalized to the entire country. Despite that, the results are instructive (theoretically as well as empirically) for the research of political interest in Pakistan. Findings from the urban areas help us to compare public interest in politics to other areas/ regions of the country. Probably, a duplicate result can be obtained from the rural areas as well. Hence, this study may be a baseline for measuring the level/degree of public political interest in rest of the country. Literature acknowledges political interest as one of the fundamental indicators that an individual involves in public and political affairs. This study finds a significant level of individual psychological involvement in political affairs. Therefore, results may help to increase public political activities and participation. The relation between political interest and some independent variables has been confirmed through this study. In the context of demographic attributes, this study finds middle-aged male and married female more interested in politics, regarding political attitudes those who feel confident to influence political affairs and people who are not satisfied with the performance of government are found more politically interested. Based on these findings, it can be argued that relation between explanatory variables such as; age, gender, political efficacy and evaluation of government performance exist across the country. Additionally, there is need to examine those factors which hinder public psychological as well as physical involvement in public and political affairs. In future, all these hypotheses can be applied to measure public political interest across Pakistan.

REFERENCES

- Almond, G. A., & Verba, S. (2015). *The Civic Culture: Political Attitudes and Democracy in Five Nations*, Princeton University Press.
- André, A., & Depauw, S. (2017). The Quality of Representation and Satisfaction with Democracy: The Consequences of Citizen-Elite Policy and Process Congruence, *Political Behavior*, 39(2):377-397.
- Ardehaly, E. M., & Culotta, A. (2017). Mining the Demographics of Political Sentiment from Twitter Using Learning from Label Proportions. *arXiv Preprint arXiv:1708.08000*.
- Armingeon, K. (2014). Social Inequality in Political Participation: How Individualization Reduces the Chances for Political Representation of Lower Classes. *States, Power, and Societies. Newsletter of the Political*

- Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association*, 2014(Fall): 11-12.
- Bahry, D., & Silver, B. D. (1990). Soviet Citizen Participation on the Eve of Democratization, *American Political Science Review*, 84(3):821-847.
- Beck, P. A., & Jennings, M. K. (1982). Pathways to Participation, *American Political Science Review*, 76(1):94-108.
- Chabal, P. (2016). *Power in Africa: An Essay in Political Interpretation*: Springer.
- Chrona, S., & Capelos, T. (2017). The Political Psychology of Participation in Turkey: Civic Engagement, Basic Values, Political Sophistication and the Young, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 17(1):77-95.
- Claes, E., & Hooghe, M. (2017). The Effect of Political Science Education on Political Trust and Interest: Results from a 5-year Panel Study, *Journal of Political Science Education*, 13(1):33-45.
- Creswell, J. W. (2013). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*: Sage Publications.
- Croke, K., Grossman, G., Larreguy, H. A., & Marshall, J. (2016). Deliberate Disengagement: How Education can Decrease Political Participation in Electoral Authoritarian Regimes, *American Political Science Review*, 110(3):579-600.
- Dahl, R. A. (1961). The Behavioral Approach in Political Science: Epitaph for a Monument to a Successful Protest, *American Political Science Review*, 55(4):763-772.
- Dalton, E. (2015). *Women and Politics in Contemporary Japan*, Routledge.
- Dalton, R. J. (2013). *Citizen Politics: Public Opinion and Political Parties in Advanced Industrial Democracies*: Cq Press.
- Diemer, M. A., & Rapa, L. J. (2016). Unraveling the Complexity of Critical Consciousness, Political Efficacy, and Political Action Among Marginalized Adolescents, *Child Development*, 87(1):221-238.
- Dolan, J., Deckman, M. M., & Swers, M. L. (2017). *Women and Politics: Paths to Power and Political Influence*, Rowman & Littlefield.
- Ekström, M. (2016). Young People's Everyday Political Talk: A Social Achievement of Democratic Engagement, *Journal of Youth Studies*, 19(1): 1-19.
- Frail, M., & Gomez, R. (2017). Bridging the Enduring Gender Gap in Political Interest in Europe: The Relevance of Promoting Gender Equality, *European Journal of Political Research*.
- Hillygus, D. S. (2005). The Missing Link: Exploring the Relationship Between Higher Education and Political Engagement, *Political Behavior*, 27(1):25-47.
- Hinojosa, M., Fridkin, K. L., & Kittilson, M. C. (2017). The Impact of Descriptive Representation on 'Persistent' Gender Gaps: Political Engagement and Political Trust in Uruguay, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, 1-19.

- Holt, K., Shehata, A., Strömbäck, J., & Ljungberg, E. (2013). Age and the Effects of News Media Attention and Social Media use on Political Interest and Participation: Do Social Media Function as Leveller? *European Journal of Communication*, 28(1):19-34.
- Inglehart, R. (1997). *Modernization and Postmodernization: Cultural, Economic, and Political Change in 43 Societies*: Princeton University Press.
- Jan, M. A., & Raza, S. S. (2015). *Socio-Economic and Political Change in the Tribal Society, 'Awami-Khel's Struggle for Equality'Emancipation', and Honour in Batkhela, Malakand, Pakistan Historical Society, Journal of the Pakistan Historical Society*, 63(4):55.
- Jennings, M. K., & Niemi, R. G. (2014). *Generations and Politics: A Panel Study of Young Adults and Their Parents*, Princeton University Press.
- Kunovich, R. M., & Kunovich, S. (2016). The Gender Gap in Political Knowledge in Poland, *Polish Sociological Review* (193):33.
- Loader, B. D., Vromen, A., & Xenos, M. A. (2014). *The Networked Young Citizen: Social Media, Political Participation and Civic Engagement*, Taylor & Francis.
- Mahmood, B., Sohail, M. M., Mushtaq, S. K., & Rizvi, S. A. (2014). Social Factors Hindering Political Participation in Pakistan: A Review Article. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, 5(23):1933.
- Marsh, A. (2016). *Political Action in Europe and the USA*: Springer.
- Meyer, A. G. (2017). The Impact of Education on Political Ideology: Evidence from European Compulsory Education Reforms, *Economics of Education Review*, 56:9-23.
- Moeller, J., de Vreese, C., Esser, F., & Kunz, R. (2014). Pathway to Political Participation: The Influence of Online and Offline News Media on Internal Efficacy and Turnout of First-Time Voters, *American Behavioral Scientist*, 58(5):689-700.
- Nathan, A. J., & Shi, T. (1993). Cultural Requisites for Democracy in China: Findings from a Survey, *Daedalus*, 95-123.
- Pennock, J. R. (2015). *Democratic Political Theory*: Princeton University Press.
- Quintelier, E., & Van Deth, J. W. (2014). Supporting Democracy: Political Participation and Political Attitudes. Exploring Causality Using Panel Data, *Political Studies*, 62(1-suppl):153-171.
- Rogowski, J. C. (2014). Electoral Choice, Ideological Conflict, and Political Participation, *American Journal of Political Science*, 58(2):479-494.
- Roll, R., & Talbott, J. (2003). Political Freedom, Economic Liberty, and Prosperity, *Journal of Democracy*, 14(3):75-89.
- Russo, S., & Stattin, H. (2017). Self-Determination Theory and the Role of Political Interest in Adolescents' Sociopolitical Development, *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 50:71-78.
- Schofield, P., & Reeves, P. (2015). Does the Factor Theory of Satisfaction Explain Political Voting Behaviour? *European Journal of Marketing*, 49(5/6):968-992.

- Stoyan, A. T., Niedzwiecki, S., Morgan, J., Hartlyn, J., & Espinal, R. (2016). Trust in Government Institutions: The Effects of Performance and Participation in the Dominican Republic and Haiti, *International Political Science Review*, 37(1):18-35.
- Torcal, M. (2014). The Decline of Political Trust in Spain and Portugal: Economic Performance or Political Responsiveness? *American Behavioral Scientist*, 58(12):1542-1567.
- Toye, J. (2014). Is There a New Political Economy of Development? *Occasional Paper* (2):160-185.
- Valenzuela, S., Valenzuela, S., Somma, N. M., Somma, N. M., Scherman, A., Scherman, A., Arriagada, A. (2016). Social Media in Latin America: Deepening or Bridging Gaps in Protest Participation? *Online Information Review*, 40(5):695-711.
- Velasquez, A., & LaRose, R. (2015). Social Media For Social Change: Social Media Political Efficacy and Activism in Student Activist Groups, *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 59(3):456-474.
- Von Vorys, K. (2015). *Political Development in Pakistan*, Princeton University Press.
- Wolak, J. (2017). Feelings of Political Efficacy in the Fifty States, *Political Behavior*, 1-22.
- Yoon, K.I. (2017). The Individual-level Implications of Social Capital for Democracy in East Asia, *Journal of International and Area Studies*, 61-84.
-