

Political Attitude among University Students in Haryana: A Study of State Government and State Private Universities

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Abstract

Political Attitudes are seen as including knowledge and skills about the operation of the political system's positive and negative judgments about the system. The data for the study is collected through structured questionnaires (served randomly among undergraduate, postgraduate, and research students) from 400 students of two-state private universities and two state government universities.

Introduction

Political attitudes and orientations have an enormous impact on societies' political evolution, arrangement, and future. It's the variable that reflects the set of beliefs and values that citizens hold toward the dynamics and structure of the political system and process. Such attitudes seem to be built gradually and likely to be influenced by a wide variety of variables including history, religion, education, family, media, and the social, economic, and political settings that govern a certain society.

University education is an important political socialization tool by which societies educate and train university attendees about politics and "collective action". It intends to teach students the rules of the game and their role in the system, and how to effectively participate in the decision making process and manipulate it. Universities are among the main agents or mechanisms of political socialization which also include family, schools, and media. Yet universities with their rules, norms, and activities whether academic or non-academic, in addition to the age of the students attending them, are probably the most important political socialization institutions.

Review of literature

Peter K. Hetemi and Brad Verhulst in their article "Political attitude develop independently of personality traits. describes that the primary assumption within the recent personality and political orientation literature is that personality traits cause people to develop a political attitude. The traditional psychological and developmental theorist suggests the relationship

between most personality dimensions and political orientations is either not significant or weak.

Patrick James Sturgis in his study, “Political Attitude: The role of information as a determinant of direction, structure, and stability.” has described the measurement of political knowledge and how opinion change is related to the existing level of political awareness and the similarities and difference between predictions made about opinion change under the simulation and deliberative polling methods.

Dr. MarijanaMarkovik in his paper ‘Political attitude and personality in a democratic society’ has explained that the process of establishing a democratic society is very complex and involves subjective and objective factors. It is education that can shape these personality dimensions. Political behavior can be explained and understood only if personality is made a focus when conducting scientific research.

Gabriel A. Almond and Sidney Verba in their book ‘The civic culture political attitude and democracy in five nations’ have described an approach to political culture, pattern of political cognition, feeling towards government and politics, pattern of partnership, the obligation to participate, the sense of civic competence, citizen competence and subject competence the civic culture and democratic stability in five countries: the US, The UK, Germany, Italy, and Mexico.

The objectives of the study

1. To analyze the knowledge about the political system and local government.
2. To analyze the awareness about the political parties and political events.

Research methodology

The data for the research is collected from the students of two state government universities (Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra and Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak) and two state private universities(Baba Mastnath University and O.P. Jindal Global University) through a structured questionnaire from 400 students. A simple statistical central mean method is utilized to analyze the data.

Findings

1. 75 percent students of Kurukshetra University, 72 percent students of maharishi Dayanand University, 70 percent students of Baba Mastnath University, and 80 percent

students of O.P. Jindal Global University are having knowledge about the political system of our country

2. 70 percent of students of Kurukshetra University, 69 percent of students of maharishi Dayanand University, 66 percent of students of Baba Mastnath University, and 65 percent of students of O.P. Jindal Global University are having knowledge about the local government system.

3. 55 percent of students of Kurukshetra University, 52 percent of students of maharishi Dayanand University, 51 percent of students of Baba Mastnath University, and 58 percent of students of O.P. Jindal Global University are having knowledge about the political events of our country.

4. 54 percent of students of Kurukshetra University, 59 percent of students of maharishi Dayanand University, 62 percent of students of Baba Mastnath University, and 72 percent of students of O.P. Jindal Global University are having knowledge about the political parties of our country.

5. 44 percent of students of Kurukshetra University, 47 percent of students of maharishi Dayanand University, 48 percent of students of Baba Mastnath University, and 58 percent of students of O.P. Jindal Global University are having knowledge about the election system of our country.

6. 48 percent of students of Kurukshetra University, 49 percent of students of maharishi Dayanand University, 45 percent of students of Baba Mastnath University, and 55 percent of students of O.P. Jindal Global University are having knowledge about the political ideologies.

7. 65 percent of students of Kurukshetra University, 68 percent of students of maharishi Dayanand University, 62 percent of students of Baba Mastnath University, and 70 percent of students of O.P. Jindal Global University are having knowledge about the functions of the government of our country.

Suggestions

1. There is a need to organize political awareness quizzes and debates at the university level to increase awareness among students about the functions of the political system.

2. There is a need to aware students of the importance of the right to vote in the elections.

3. It is needed to make students aware of the importance of elections at the university level so that they can become good responsible citizens of the country.

4. The scientific and educational knowledge, political education should also be imparted to the students to ensure the political development of the country.
5. The students should be provided a forum to discuss and share their political ideas.

Conclusion

The political attitude among university students is average as find out from the analysis of data. The less number of students have knowledge about the functions of the government and of political ideologies of the political parties.

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