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RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE COLOSSAL WORD 'POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION' AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY

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ABSTRACT

Political socialization is the process by which individuals come to comprehend their political selves, ideologies, and actions. The lifelong experiences of political socialization play a crucial part in the development of the qualities of patriotism and good citizenship through various agents of socialization, such as parents, peers, and schools. Through the process of political socialization, people are initiated into the political culture of their country.

Key words:

Education,
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INTRODUCTION

Political socialisation is a specific form of political education in which individuals acquire the attitudes, values, beliefs, opinions, and behaviours necessary to excel as good citizens in their nation. It is a lifelong process by which people form their ideas about politics and acquire political values. While family and school are important early in life and what we read in the newspaper and see on television has more influence on our political attitudes as adults. Political socialization describes the process by which citizens crystalize political identities that remain relatively persistent throughout life. Young people are thought to be less politically firmly entrenched and therefore more susceptible to outside influences. However, there is still no consensus regarding the durability of these early socialising experiences. As a result, the notion of socialisation as a process of learning and personal political development has received more attention in research than attitude stability. A key idea in the study of political science is party identification, which functioned as the major arena for the defenders of various viewpoints. The focus on performance-based evaluations of government and their impact on party identification have diminished the importance of early political socialization.

DISCUSSION

Socializing agents either directly or indirectly teach children about politics but also have a mobilizing function as they influence strength, encourage or discourage young people's political preferences and

political action. Political knowledge, interest, voter turnout, and other types of political activity are all strongly connected with education itself. Even more, uncertainty exists in terms of civic education's impact. Knowledge, attitudes, and values are connected to political behaviour. Studies show an attitude of efficacy (which is the extent to which one feels that his/her involvement is political participation). High efficacy is associated with education in a democratic political system; along with trust in the system, it is essential to popular involvement in political processes. In an increasingly interconnected world, the media—particularly television and the general trend toward using information technology like the Internet, instant messaging, and other forms of electronic communication—are unquestionably changing not only families but also individuals, groups, and entire nations. Political generations are groups of people with a similar age distribution who have gone through specific political experiences and have come to have a particular worldview. Certain groups and, such citizens with higher levels of education and income, are socialized to take an active part in politics, while others are marginalized. Analysing how political socialisation occurs in society is comparable to shooting at a moving target. For academics and educators, predicting the type of citizen that will emerge from the actions of socialising agents is an ongoing issue. To more effectively explain political socialisation in the 20th century and its implications for citizenship, socialisation scholarship needs to innovate in two ways: by developing theory and by using more accurate empirical referents.

Socialization into party politics: Political socialisation is the process by which people pick up political behaviour and then continue to exhibit it (Hyman 1959). The majority of explanations for political socialisation stress the significance of the connection between an

individual and the system of government. According to Easton and Dennis (1969), it is a process that teaches people how to be a part of their community and political structure. Political socialisation is described as "the process through which the individual acquires attitudes, ideas, and values relevant to the political system of which he is a part and to his function as a citizen within that political system" by Greenberg (1970: 3). According to Arnett (1995), political socialisation is the process that ensures that norms and traditions are passed down from one generation to the next. Additionally, Greenberg (1970:4) asserts that "individual political attitudes and aggregates of individual attitudes have an impact on the operation of a nation's political life" and that "childhood political learning is related to later adult orientations."

The early field of political socialization: Early on, the hypothesis that people's political ideas and behaviors may be permanently shaped by their early political experiences first surfaced. Karl Mannheim first put forth his well-known theory of political generations in the 1920s. Mannheim contends that exposure to comparable significant historical events throughout adolescence shapes political generations. Being exposed to the social and intellectual symptoms of a process of dynamic destabilization results in "a concrete relationship being forged between members of a generation" (Mannheim 1952: 303). Major historical occurrences that take place in the same sociopolitical environment have a lasting impact on a group of kids and shape the political aspirations of a whole generation.

Today's field of political socialization: The current wave of research, in contrast to earlier research that concentrated on very young people, focuses on political socialization in later life stages, such as late adolescence and early adulthood. It pays particular attention to the role of socializing agents that are more appropriate for these life phases, such as peers, schools, media, etc. The transitional phase between late adolescence and early adulthood appears to be crucial for political socialization. The transition from late adolescence to early adulthood, from people's scholastic careers to the start of their working life, is allegedly the most crucial period for the study of political socialization, according to McLeod and Shah (2009: 8). Most young people will experience a loss of social capital that supports civic involvement as a result of this transformation. Family, friends, and community support are lessening, and the pressures of the new occupational environment are delaying reintegration. "While people may encounter significant life transitions like immigration, college, and they're first political or military experiences, all of these dramatic events typically occur during the stage of life that we might refer to as young adulthood. Even so, it has been demonstrated that these experiences have only a modest impact on political attitudes and behavior (Sigel 1989; Jennings and Markus 1977).

Conclusion

This paper's main takeaway is that social movement scholars can expand on the knowledge already provided by the study of political socialization. The notion that one's political orientations and participation patterns are to be established from early childhood may have been unduly hopeful in early political socialization efforts, but the idea that prior political experiences have a forming influence on later political activity has persisted. The study of political socialization reemerged during the 1990s and is looking for a more nuanced understanding of the permanence of prior influences and the potential for change in later stages of life. It is a field that investigates a wide range of subjects, many of which are fascinating to social movement scholars as well.

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