

Understanding Political Participation Among Youth in Thailand: Examining the Role of Political Interest, Efficacy, Knowledge, Partisanship, And Family Influence

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Abstract

This study investigates political participation among Thai youth, focusing on the roles of political interest, efficacy, knowledge, partisanship, and family influence. Through a comprehensive survey employing stratified random sampling, we uncovered critical insights into youth engagement in politics. Findings show that political interest serves as a catalyst for political involvement, while political efficacy emerged as a significant predictor of sustained engagement. Furthermore, informed youth are more likely to participate, underscoring the importance of political knowledge. Party affiliation was identified as an influential factor, with politically aligned youth exhibiting greater activity. Family influence plays a pivotal role, with family backgrounds and discussions shaping young individuals' political perspectives and behaviors. These findings offer valuable insights for policymakers and political actors aiming to enhance youth political participation and foster vibrant and inclusive democratic societies in Thailand.

Keywords: Political efficacy, Political interest, Political participation, Thailand, Youth