

The Influence of Parenting Styles on Political Views of First-time Voters

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Abstract: *The main aim of this study is to determine the influence of parenting styles on political views of first-time voters. To achieve this aim, the researchers utilized the descriptive-correlational method and used a standardized questionnaire for the primary data gathering tool. The parenting style focused on four styles namely authoritative, authoritarian, permissive and negligent. Meanwhile, the questionnaire for first-time voters concentrated on its level of political views. The findings reveal that the relationship between the two variables is weak as evidenced by 0.2415 correlation coefficient. Simply saying that first-time voters choose for themselves rather than being influenced by their own parents.*

Keywords—Parental Influence, first time voters, Descriptive-correlational Study

1. INTRODUCTION

In an ever-changing world where youth participation is rapidly expanding, various exchanges of discourse are conventional. However, in political ideologies such as the right way of voting politicians, how can a first-time voter vote for themselves, their positions, and their beliefs? Learning the proper way of exercising the right to vote is an enormous responsibility that even youth, legally 18-years of age, must take part in, as stated in Article V of the 1987 Philippine Constitution [1]. In casting votes, people decide democratically by electing a leader or representative through enacting legislation. This allows people to speak up and choose who they want to lead their government, consequently, voting is a vital part of performing responsibilities as a citizen of a country.

Mostly, the age range of the first-time voter is 17-18 years old. This age is believed to be uninterested in political discussions for a reason that politics, voting specifically, is an unusual thing for them. As a result, first-time voters are ignorant and uneducated, yet, they gain expertise through their parents' influence which eventually fueled their interest in politics [2].

In various researches, parental influence has been one of the factors in making youth well-informed about politics. It is undeniable that parents are highly influential for their child's turnout. Some first-time voters only based their ideologies and pattern in voting through their parent's view and stand in politics [3]. In addition, in 1961, the Bobo Doll experiment, conducted by professor Albert Bandura, proved that children learn through observing adult behavior [4]. All in all, children are more likely to imitate their parents. Though some parents tend to impose and inflict beliefs that are different from their children. Hence, children can outgrow their parent's beliefs and habits in politics when they learn to stand independently [5].

The purpose of this study was to determine how parents influence their children's voting patterns and political perceptions via their political beliefs and positions and to further seek answers to the blank spot of the previous study.

This study can be used to educate the younger generation on the topic, educating them how voting works and why it is vital for individuals to participate and engage in such activities. Additionally, this can help future researchers who will require reference/related works to support their research.

2. RELATED WORKS

This study examined theoretical insights on changes in political resources and interest of parenthood partnership as a dynamic feature. These findings state girls are more likely to be influenced by their mothers' interest in politics, political knowledge, and participation in both elections [6][7]. The outcome approaches causality and investigates the relationship of parent's encouragement to young adults to vote and affect their voting behaviors. First time voters show that their party choice and their political self was most often family influence as their basis of reflection. An important stage in which parental socialization and life cycle events affect the growth of a child's political interest during adolescence and young adulthood [8]. Parent's influence is a large factor in their offspring's curiosity about politics during their teenage years [9] [10] [11] [12].

Research findings showed that family forms are changing insights in political socialization and affect the transmission and development of citizens' political ideology. This shows a large and stable influence of the parents on a child's political ideology. [13] [14] [15]. Results show that both family relations and parental ideology are important to determine a child's ideology. Some family controlled firms take a hold to support their political ideology. However, the overall conclusion shows that a large and stable scale of parents' influence shows that it is important in shaping voter's political ideology until adulthood not only in terms of intergenerational transmission, but also in terms of direct effects of the

experience and structure of the family. The similarities of parental ideology favors this process [16].

It was found out in a study that the impact of a parent's attitude on an adolescent's attitude is remarkably comparable across all subjects and party identification [17]. This research examines the nation-as-family metaphor's role in facilitating the translation of family beliefs into societal beliefs and, ultimately, political attitudes [18]. Research findings that adults still affect the growth of mindset including the process of learning. The findings point to the continuing relevance of political factors as traditionally associated with the relevance of attitudinal variables [19].

People who attend college already know the differences in political sophistication even before they set foot in college. This elaborates that the relationship of education to political sophistication is not a big factor. The strong association between parental voting and the turnout of their adult children shows the effect of parental education [20] [21]. However, the parent's influence and civic engagement shows a strong pattern from their children [22] [23]. Students as first-time voters primarily characterized themselves as matching a party, which this study sees as steps forward a political identity [24]. The results showed the significance of identity to political elites that will win over the most supporters and identify the ever-changing demographic world today [25]. A survey data states that the effect of a simple attribute is varying through the levels of political interest and strength of support between households [26]. Both parents can equally influence their child's ideology irrespective of their gender [27]. Therefore, a child tends to identify his parents' view about political parties and adopt their outlook towards the political system [28].

Clear perception of persuasive intent is therefore associated with perceived influence on self [29]. The young voters' attitude towards political parties becomes positive if it reinforces their inner self and social self. This helps them shape young voter's trust and preference [30]. When young adults leave home the influence of their parent's strong habits in voting become weaker compared to their voting pattern [31]. In some cases, no response nor interview were done, applying the correction data of the U.S that some responses are still inaccurate about youngsters leaving home [32].

3. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The main problem of this study was to determine the Influence of parenting style to the political views of the first-time voters. Specifically, this study was able to answer the following question:

1. How may parenting style be described?
2. What is the level of political views of first-time voters?
3. Does the parenting style significantly influence political views of first-time voters?

4. What implications may be derived from the findings of the study?

4. METHODOLOGY

The researchers used the descriptive correlational research method. A correlational research is a type of research technique that includes the observation of two variables in order to establish a statistically corresponding relationship between them. The objective of this research was to identify the variables that have some kind of relationship to the extent that the change in one creates some change in the other since it concerns the description of independent and dependent variables. Particularly, the aim of this research was to study the influence of parenting style on political views of first-time voters.

The respondents of the study were 20 first time voters during the election of 2022. The researchers used snowball sampling techniques in determining the sample from the population.

To gather the necessary data for this study the researchers adopted a standardized questionnaire and utilized a questionnaire. On the other hand, the adopted standardized questionnaires are entitled "Parenting style" and "Political Participation". The questionnaires are a 5-point likert scale type and highly reliable as evidenced by .84 Cronbach alpha for the IV and .78 for the DV. Meanwhile, these questionnaires are used to determine the relationship between parenting style and first-time voters.

In gathering the data, the researchers followed the following procedures: With a careful approval of the Research Coordinator of the Marcelo H. del Pilar National High School after implementing all the comments, suggestions and recommendations during the proposal defense, a letter will be sent to the school principal to ask permission to conduct the study. With their approval, the researchers will prepare the google forms link indicating the consent form on the first part of the survey and then distribute them to the respondents with the assistance of the researcher's contact person per strand/section.

The data were tabulated and processed using Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS). To analyze and interpret the data gathered, the following statistical measures will be used: mean procedures, frequency counts, and pearson correlation coefficient/regression analysis.

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Parenting Style

Table 1. Parenting Style

Indicators	Mean	Interpretation
1.) My parents do whatever I tell	2.5	To a moderate extent
2.) My parents spend time with me	3.2	To a moderate extent

3.) My parents point out my mistakes in the manner that I understand	3.9	To a great extent	26.) My parents gave me freedom to select the subject for study	4.3	To a great extent
4.) My parents give money for my needs	4.2	To a great extent	27.) My parents organize time for my play	2.2	To a less extent
5.) My parents discuss the benefits and detriments of my learning topics	3.15	To a moderate extent	28.) My parents give priorities to my preferences in studies	3.85	To a great extent
6.) My parents consider my likes in food	4.1	To a great extent	29.) My parents demand me to be systematic in studies	2.75	To a moderate extent
7.) My parents control my game when in excess	2.7	To a moderate extent	30.) My parents emphasize my successes	3.7	To a great extent
8.) My parents show love to me	4.15	To a great extent	31.) My parents give me advices	3.55	To a great extent
9.) My parents enquire the reason for my failure	2.75	To a moderate extent	32.) My parents celebrate any of my successes with me	3.35	To a moderate extent
10.) My parents help me in my studying	2.4	To a less extent	33.) My parents discourage unhealthy foods	3.25	To a moderate extent
11.) My parents confer responsibilities in accordance with my growth	3.6	To a great extent	34.) My parents get anxious when I am late to reach home	3.75	To a great extent
12.) My parents have faith in me	4	To a great extent	35.) My parents inquire how I spend money	3.4	To a moderate extent
13.) My parents enquire the reasons for reaching home late	3.6	To a great extent	36.) My parents buy dresses for me according to the latest trends	2.45	To a less extent
14.) My parents accept my privacy	4.05	To a great extent	37.) My parents enquire how I spend my free time	2.8	To a moderate extent
15.) My parents take care of my dressing	3.05	To a moderate extent	38.) My parents give me timely advices	3.45	To a less extent
16.) My parents fulfill my desires with available means	3.4	To a moderate extent	Average	3.3	To a moderate extent
17.) My parents make me aware that the responsibility of what I do is mine itself	4.2	To a great extent			
18.) My parents accept when I say no to what I dislike	3.5	To a great extent			
19.) My parents tell me how I should behave with their friends	3.05	To a moderate extent			
20.) My parents talk to me praising about their friends	2.95	To a moderate extent			
21.) My parent try to frame my likes and dislikes	2.65	To a moderate extent			
22.) My parents appreciates when I try to become independent	3.25	To a moderate extent			
23.) My parents punish me for my mistakes	3.2	To a moderate extent			
24.) My parents show love when I do any mistake	2.65	To a moderate extent			
25.) My parent inquires who my friends are	2.35	Very Rarely			

It may be seen in Table 1 that the influence of parenting styles on first-time voters has an average of 3.3 which corresponds to the researchers' interpretation as "moderate extent" influence to the child. Statement 8 got the highest mean score of 4.15 with a corresponding interpretation of "to a great extent" parents showing affection, while statement 27 got the lowest mean score of 2.2, which translates to "to less extent" parents organizing quality time.

Political Views

Table 2. Political View

Indicators	Mean	Interpretation
1.) I work for a political party or candidates during elections	1.7	To less extent
2.) I attend political meetings	1.75	To less extent
3.) I am/was a member of a political party	1.2	To a very less extent
4.) I always vote in elections	2.05	To less extent
5.) I attend political rallies	2.25	To less extent

6.) I discuss about Politics with my friends, relatives and Colleagues	3.4	To a moderate extent
7.) I participate actively to solve the community problems	2.7	To a moderate extent
8.) I take part in strikes to influence government	2.4	To less extent
9.) I file petitions against the government	2.05	To less extent
10.) I refuse to pay government rent and taxes to influence government decisions	1.15	To a very less extent
11.) I take part in blockades to influence government	1.06	To a very less extent
12.) I take part in demonstrations to influence government	1.9	To less extent
13.) I take part in boycotts to influence government	1.55	To less extent
14.) I use electronic media (TV/Radio) to know about politics	3.5	To a moderate extent
15.) I search on internet about politics	3.8	To a moderate extent
16.) I read about politics in Print Media (Newspapers/Magazines etc.)	2.8	To a moderate extent
17.) I try to influence my friends, relatives and colleagues on formation of political opinion	3.45	To a moderate extent
18.) I try to convince my friends, relatives and colleagues to vote	3.5	To a moderate extent
Average	2.35	To less extent

In Table 2, the results showed “to less extent” participated in political views, as shown by the average of 2.35. Statement 15 got the highest mean score of 3.8 with a corresponding interpretation of “to great extent” interested in politics, while statement 3 got the lowest mean score of 1.2, which translates to “to a very less extent” take part in any political party.

In regard to the results the researchers constructed, the parenting style has an average of 3.3, resulting in an interpretation of neutrality. This result was supported by a study which stated that young voters reflect considerably on their choices, but the influence of family environment was surprisingly strong. It means that the parenting style may or may not particularly affect the first-time voters. On the other hand, for the level of political views of first-time voters, the researchers’ interpretation of it was low with an average of 2.35. This result was supported by a study that produced

replicable findings that indicate clear perceptions of persuasive intent associated with both types of satire, and horatian satire ranking lower than traditional opinion-editorials in perceived message strength and perceived influence on self. Simply saying that first-time voters are not very knowledgeable about politics.

Influence of Parenting Style on Political Views of First-time Voters

The parenting style does not significantly influence political views of first-time voters because based on the calculation of Pearson, the relationship between the two variables is weak with a value of 0.2415. As a result, first-time voters choose for themselves rather than being influenced by their parents.

Implications

The study implies that despite parents being influential through the days of their children, it can still outgrow and their children, first-time voters, can choose for themselves specially that they’re in the age of 18-21 years old.

6. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the researchers drew the following conclusion: first, the parenting style on first-time voters were described as related to moderate extent; second, the political views of the first-time voters were shown as not related to any extent ; third, the influence of parenting style do not particularly affect the political views of first-time voters; fourth, the parenting style and political views of first-time voters vary in their environment.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

From the findings and conclusion, the researchers offer the following scope for the future: (1) conduct various webinars that focus on the different types of parenting styles to educate respondents about it (2) to require a voter’s education in every senior highschool students as part of their curriculum (3) Furthermore, researchers propose that the political views of first-time voters be assessed through mock elections.

The population sample is the study's first limitation. Instead of focusing solely on students from the Humanities and Social Sciences strand, the researchers propose that a different population sample be considered. First, the researchers suggest looking for other parenting styles that will appeal to first-time voters from the same strand, because students' values and perspectives vary depending on their environment. The study's second limitation is that it is based on foreign parenting styles research rather than Filipino parenting styles. The researchers propose conducting research on Filipino parents' parenting styles toward their children. Additional questions about how Filipinos can be good parents to their children were also proposed by the researchers.

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