

Katsuo A. Nishikawa

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Purdue University, expected Spring 2008

Dissertation: "The Role of the State in Strengthening Democratic Dispositions: A Study of the Mexican State of Baja California"

Abstract: *Do government actions have unanticipated "downstream" effects on citizens' democratic dispositions?* I hypothesize that government can do much to "jumpstart" the process by which citizens get involved in politics. I explore this question by comparing the effect that symbolic and substantive government contact has on citizens' attitudes toward democracy. I use an original panel survey, consisting of 1,990 randomly selected individuals from the Mexican State of Baja California. I measure the effects of symbolic government contact via a survey-based randomized experiment in which a subgroup received a letter from the state. I compare these findings to the effect of substantive government contact measured via participation in state development programs. I find that democratic attitudes can be positively affected by government actions. While the positive effect of symbolic contact is mitigated by individuals' trust in government, substantive contact improves attitudes toward democracy, the state, and foments the creation of social capital.

Advisors: James A. McCann (Major Professor), Rosalee A. Clawson, Suzanne L. Parker, Dwayne Woods

Areas of Specialization: comparative politics, international relations, political behavior and institutions, quantitative methodology

M.A., Political Science, Purdue University, 2004

B.A., International Relations, Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, 1997 (Mexico)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Instructor, Department of Political Science, Purdue University, 2003-2005.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science, Purdue University, 2003 and 2006.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Nishikawa, Katsuo A. "The Effects of Symbolic Representation on Democratic Dispositions in New Democracies: Evidence from Mexico." (Under review)

Nishikawa, Katsuo A., Terri L. Towner, Rosalee A. Clawson, and Eric N. Waltenburg, "Interviewing the Interviewers: Journalistic Norms and Racial Diversity in the Newsroom." (Revise and Resubmit at Howard Journal of Communications)

Clawson, Rosalee A., Terri L. Towner, Katsuo A. Nishikawa, and Eric N. Waltenburg, "Elite Framing of the University of Michigan Affirmative Action Cases."

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATIONS

Nishikawa, Katsuo A. 2007. "The Effect of Substantive Government Spending on Democratic Dispositions in New Democracies: Evidence from Mexico." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association International Conference.

Nishikawa, Katsuo A. 2007. "The Effects of Symbolic Representation on Democratic Dispositions in New Democracies: Evidence from Mexico." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

Towner, Terri L., Katsuo A. Nishikawa, Rosalee A. Clawson, and Eric N. Waltenburg. 2006. "Interviewing the Interviewers: Journalistic Norms and Racial Diversity in the Newsroom." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

Clawson, Rosalee A., Katsuo A. Nishikawa, Terri Towner, and Eric N. Waltenburg. 2005. "Elite Framing of the University of Michigan Affirmative Action Cases." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association.

Clawson, Rosalee A., Katsuo Nishikawa, and Eric N. Waltenburg. 2004. "Coverage of the Supreme Court's Rulings in the Michigan Affirmative Action Cases: Comparing the Mainstream, Black, and Latino Media." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Purdue Research Foundation grant for the 2006-2008 academic year (\$28,000).

RESEARCH

Scholarly interests: Latino political participation in the U.S., democracy in Mexico and Latin America, the formation of political capital in new democracies, media framing effects for mainstream, Black and Latino news outlets.

Research skills: statistics (regression analysis, structural equation modeling, propensity score matching), experimental research, survey research, Spanish (fluent), Japanese (intermediate).

TEACHING

Courses Taught at Purdue University:

POL 235, International Relations Among Rich and Poor Nations, Summer 2004; Summer 2005.

POL 300, Introduction to Political Analysis, Lab sessions, Fall 2004; Spring 2005; Fall 2005.

Teaching assistant at Purdue University:

POL 141, Governments of the World, Spring 2003.

POL 300, Introduction to Political Analysis, statistical consultant, Fall 2003; Spring 2004.

POL 101, American Government and Politics, Spring 2006.

Teaching Interests:

Comparative politics, U.S. politics, Latino politics, mass media and politics, international relations, international political economy, research methods.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, American Political Science Association

Member, Midwest Political Science Association

Member, Latin America Studies Association

REFERENCES

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