

Public Abstract

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The political climate in East Asia is of emerging importance in the world. Democracy in this region has had mixed levels of success in the past decades leading to a significant debate on how democracy and cultural values interact. This thesis works to provide information to clarify the relationship between Confucian values and citizens' satisfaction with the way democracy works in Confucian societies with a democratic government. The analysis utilizes individual level survey data using probit analysis to explore this relationship. Perceptions of economic performance among other important influences of attitudes towards democracy are also tested. The findings provide evidence that in Confucian democracies cultural values and perceptions of national economic performance can have a positive influence on how individuals evaluate democracy.