

Investigating the Relationship between Social Capital and Political Participation of Students in Ilam

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Abstract

Social capital is one of the new concepts that has received attention in various fields of social sciences, sociology and economics and has an interdisciplinary nature. This concept of social sciences has entered political sciences and as a bridge between economics, sociology and political sciences, it plays an important role in the scene of political relations between society and the government, especially in the discussion of political participation, social cohesion, security and national harmony. Social capital is one of the most important indicators of growth and development. As political activists of societies who are sensitive to their fate and the society, students have an important role and a high position in society. The benefit of the society from the capabilities of this stratum is one of the conditions of political and social development. In this regard, the present article has investigated the relationship between social capital and political participation of students in Ilam using a descriptive-correlation method.

The statistical population of the research is made up of the students of Ilam, 384 of whom were selected as the sample size using Cochran's formula. The samples were selected by simple random sampling method. The tool for collecting data and information was a researcher-made questionnaire, whose validity was obtained through the formal method and its reliability through Cronbach's alpha. Data were also analyzed through SPSS software. The research findings show that there is a significant relationship between social capital and political participation. The relationship of social trust, social norms and social networks is also significant with all dimensions of participation.

Keywords: social capital, political participation, students, Ilam.

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