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Integration of political science and economics by J. A. M. Klaver and J. G. Siccama

The purpose of this paper is to review the kind of theory formation in political science that has received its impulses from economics. A common name for this direction in political science is 'new political economy'. Within this branch of theories four clusters are distinguished. Firstly, 'spatial models of party competition'. Of outstanding importance in this field is Downs 'An economic Theory of Democracy' (1957). Secondly, theories of collective action, leaning heavily on Olson's 'The Logic of Collective Action' (1965). Thirdly, theories of allocation of values, under specific assumptions of the distribution of power, i.e. coalition theories, bargaining theories and re-interpretations of duopoly theories. Some leading theorists in this field are Coddington, Buchanan and McGuire. Fourthly, theories of administrative behavior. Distinguished contributions in this field come from Cyert, March, Simon, Downs and Niskanen.

The four clusters of theories mentioned are seen as the results of the integration of political science and economics. The first part of the article contains a rather general discussion of the relation between disciplines in general, and political science and economics in particular. In this part the integration of disciplines is defined as the similarity in structure between theories belonging to two or more disciplines. In the ideal type of *integration* the theories in different disciplines are completely isomorphic, in the sense that they have the same structure and mode of explanation of a phenomenon. The single difference regards the empirical content of the theories. This theory-oriented definition of integration is distinguished from *multidisciplinary* research and results in the observation that a distinction between political science and economics along the lines of differences in subject matter is not very helpful.

The similarity in theoretical structure of the four categories in political science with the corresponding theories in micro-economics, welfare economics and public economics consists of the following elements: in the first place, the preponderance of a deductive (versus an inductive) strategy of theory building; in the second place, the two premises of individualism and goal-directed behavior, resulting in the explanation of group behavior as the outcome of the interaction between individuals, who try to maximize their preference functions subject to certain restraints; in the third place, preoccupation with various corresponding amendments on assumptions in the economic theory of perfect competition. All four categories of theories can be seen as amendments of traditional assumptions in price theory resulting in the fact that in these circumstances the market mechanism no longer yields Pareto-optimal results. Specifically, the spatial models of party competition try to define conditions for Pareto-optimal strategies in elections. They are closely interrelated with corresponding oligopoly theories. The theory of collective action is based in the economic theory of collective goods. This economic theory is a reaction to the fact that the assumption of perfect divisibility does not apply to all goods and services. The political theories of the allocation of values, given assumptions regarding the distribution of power, can be seen in connection with the introduction of *economic power* in price theory. Lastly, the theory of administrative behavior is based on the amendment of the assumption of perfect and costless information and the holistic conception ('unitary actor') of decision-making in the theory of the firm.

In the second part of the paper the four clusters of theories are presented. The exposition is primarily a review of the main content of the theories. For the sake

of space a critical discussion of the theories is omitted.

Development - cooperation: Knowledge and attitudes in the Netherlands. A secondary analysis, by J. Kleynen

This paper reports about a secondary analysis of survey data collected by the N.I.P.O. (Nederlands Instituut voor Publieke Opinie en het Marktonderzoek) in charge of the National Commission for Development Strategy 1970-1980. It intends to study the attitudes towards and the knowledge about development cooperation in the Netherlands.

Operationalization of this problem should include an examination of the aims of development cooperation strategy, in this case the aims of resolution 2626 (XXV), accepted at the 25th. General Assembly of the United Nations. Furthermore it should include a study of a concrete policy or some alternative for it for achieving these ends. In such a way we might examine knowledge about and attitudes towards concrete items of development policy.

Starting this study the author had to consider that the questionnaire was not designed for this kind of problem. Attitudes as well as knowledge were not directed at concrete items of a coherent policy or an alternative for it.

Nevertheless in this study the author succeeded to find two clusters of attitudes to development cooperation: a cosmopolitan orientation and a charitable one, the first of which proved to be positively related with knowledge. However, this positive relation is only a stochastic one. It indicates a probability and not a causality.

So the author was compelled to examine the influence of some back-ground variables upon the clusters of attitudes, in order to throw some light upon the remaining necessary conditions which make for a cosmopolitan orientation.

The paper is ending with a few fundamental conclusions for further research.

Vooruitzichten

In de komende nummers van Acta Politica zullen onder meer worden gepubliceerd:

- 'Het conflict', bijdragen aan het politikogenetmaal 1974 van de Nederlandse Kring voor Wetenschap der Politiek.
- J. H. Leurdijk, Van internationale naar transnationale politiek.
- H. Slomp, Elites in de Sowjet-Unie.
- I. Th. M. Snellen, Macht en onmacht van het parlement.
- J. J. A. Thomassen, De betrouwbaarheid van vragen over het kiesgedrag.
- Literatuur: M. P. C. M. van Schendelen: Parlementologie.
- Boekrecensies.