
Summaries

Influence of Football-clubs on the Local Government

by J.M. Bos and G.P.A. Braam

A broad area for research is how influence in society is distributed. Our research was concerned with the distribution of influence of Dutch professional footballclubs on the local government. Influence may be taken to mean: the extent to which the problems of the clubs have been solved by the local government. The core of our measurement method is the *influenceprocess*. Therefore we have determined the following data:

1. the *problems* of the club. (number of problems = latent anticipation)
2. whether or not for these problems *influence-attempts* have been made with the local government. (ratio influence attempts: problems = manifest anticipation)
3. whether or not these influence-attempts were *successful*. (ratio successes: influence-attempts = tested influence).

We tested four hypotheses more or less based on principles from the exchange theory. The main results are:

- footballclubs in the highest league and footballclubs of which the achievements are increasing during the past years have more tested influence than other clubs.
- footballclubs in big cities do not have more influence than clubs in small cities.
- the higher the general level of governmental support for a club, the higher the influence of a club; this implies a cumulation of relative advantages.

An important result is that the strength of an institutional relation between club and the government has an important impact on the influence of the club.

Ten years of VARA-Ombudsman.

An empirical study on the influence of the TV-Ombudsman and his coalition partners on governmental policy.

by E.A.M.A. Alferink

In 1969 the Dutch Labour Broadcasting Company (VARA) started a television program in which the Ombudsman dealt with collective problems of 'man in the street'. Solutions for these problems were sought by trying to influence governmental institutions. In these influence attempts the Ombudsman always acted in coalition with others e.g. members of Parliament and/or pressure groups. A result of this study is that the influence of the TV-Ombudsman-coalition declined during the period 1969-'79. Possible explanations are the economic recession since 1974 and/or policy changes of the VARA.

Furthermore I examined five conditions which might be significant for the successes that the TV-Ombudsman-coalition gained. These conditions were: 1) the participation of Trade Unions in the coalition; 2) the frequency of TV-broadcasting of the subject; 3) the number of directly concerned people; 4) the financial costs of solving the problem and 5)

the type of policy measure. Only the second and the fifth condition proved to be related with the succesful ending of the influence process.

The personal contacts of technical-assistants

by M.L. van Vlijmen-van de Rhoer

Technical assistants in African countries South of the Sahara usually only meet Africans in formal relationships. They don't succeed in developing personal contacts. This cannot be attributed to the influence of motivational factors on the part of the technical assistant. Differences in cultural background certainly are important in this context, but they cannot explain the problem either. Structural factors should be taken account of. The social position of white development workers in poor countries in many ways determines their contactual possibilities. Being exponents of a rich and powerful country or donor-organization the technical assistants are rich and powerfull as well. Technical assistents tend to underestimate the size and effect of this power-gap. They may take refuge to the community of technical-assistants who were likewise disappointed. As these communities tend to *claim potential members all for themselves they thereby reduce their contactual possibilities vis-a-vis the local population even more.*

Tepoztlán and Staphorst. A comparison of restudies

by R.J. de Jongh

The reliability in the sense of reproducibility is often considered as one of the most important criteria for judging the scientific quality of research. The case of Tepoztlán, a Mexican village studied by Redfield and later by O. Lewis, serves in this view as an illustration of the low reliability of social scientific, especially anthropological research. In this article an anlysis is made of three (patrial) restudies of a Dutch community: Staphorst. It is shown that the results of these studies reasonably harmonize. Some explanations of this finding are discussed. This unexpected fact, however, cannot be seen as a sign of a high quality of the methods that were used. According to other criteria, like the credibility as set forth by Glaser & Strauss, the conclusion must be that the Staphorst-studies are invalidated by about the same weaknesses that can be found in Redfield's Tepoztlán-study. It is argued that an analysis not only of the differences, but also of the resemblances of restudies has a heuristic value for an assesment of the validity of these studies.