Ohio Survey Results Analyzed by Faculty

Faculty members of the Department of Political Science are busy analyzing data from the first of four surveys of Ohio voters, collectively known as The Ohio Political Survey. The overall research program, funded by the University Grants Program and the Regents’ Research Challenge Program, is expected to study topics of interest to scholars of political parties, state legislatures, Congress, and judicial politics, according to Professor Aage Clausen, director of the Polimetrics Laboratory, which is overseeing the project.

"We are hoping these surveys will increase knowledge of state-level elections which are important in our lives but are not very visible to either voters or scholars; for example, the supreme court elections in Ohio which is being examined closely by Professor Lawrence Baum," said Clausen.

As a matter of fact, one of the reasons the state of Ohio is a rich laboratory for studying elections is because its voters select supreme court justices from non-partisan ballots, even though the candidates themselves are usually endorsed by political parties. It is hoped that analysis of the results of the first study will indicate how this situation ultimately affects voter decision.

The first study, with a design probably unparalleled in the study of state-level elections, measured the change in voter attitudes over time. About 500 registered voters were asked questions, which related to such things as their perceptions of the various races, timing of voting decisions, and candidate choice, between September 29 and October 8. Then, another set of about 500 registered voters were asked identical questions between October 23 and November 3. Finally, about 600 respondents, drawn from the two previous groups, were surveyed after the election.

"The Ohio survey is a great thing for our department to do," said Professor Samuel Patterson. "We have our own survey and we won’t have to import the data. Faculty can ask its own questions and make a direct assault on the questions that are important."

**SOME FINDINGS**

The first Ohio poll has yielded some interesting findings, including the following:

- In early October, 38 percent of the respondents approved of the way Governor Celeste was doing his job. 10 percent felt neutral, 26 percent disapproved, and 26 percent had no feeling either way. By early November, Celeste’s job rating increased to 45 percent, while 7 percent were neutral, 23 percent felt negatively toward him, and 25 had no opinion.

- In early October, 38 percent of the respondents received campaign literature. By early November, that figure had risen to 63 percent.

- Only 27 percent of the respondents in early October felt there was enough information on the race for Chief Justice. By early November, 40 percent felt there was enough information.

- In contrast, 50 percent of those polled in early October felt there was enough information on the race for Governor, and by early November, almost 60 percent felt there was enough information.

- Sixty-three percent of the respondents had already decided for whom to vote in the gubernatorial race soon after the primaries. Only 7 percent made up their minds on the election day itself.

- In contrast, only 15 percent of those polled decided for whom to vote in the associate justice race between Francis Sweeney and Robert Holmes after the primaries. A full 57 percent decided between the last few days of the campaign and the election day itself.

**From the State House to Hubei**

In 1979, Paul Schroeder was a state house reporter for the Youngstown Vindicator. Then, his life changed forever. The newspaper sent him to cover Governor James Rhodes’ three-week trip to the Far East, and within minutes of landing at the Peking Airport, the China bug claimed another victim. "There was a great deal of excitement for all of us on that trip, and I was fascinated," Schroeder recalls. "All my life, the image of China was one of mystery. It was the unseen enemy — the great bugaboo. And at that point in my life, I was ready for a change in careers. So on the ride from the airport to our hotel, I was trying to figure out how I could come back." Eight years later, Schroeder has earned a doctorate on Chinese trade patterns, is Ohio’s trade representative in China, and is a full-time resident of a country with which he has fallen in love.

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Schroeder in China
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The road to China included a career as a graduate student under the tutelage of Professor Mike Lampson, to whom Schroeder credits much of his interest in that country. Before his 1979 China experience, Schroeder had been pursuing a master's degree in American Politics. However, after he returned from China, Schroeder added a Comparative Politics component to his studies, and in March, 1981, emerged with a hybrid master's degree with concentration in both areas. He started work on his dissertation on Hubei province trade in the fall of 1981.

In February, 1986, Governor Richard Celeste appointed Schroeder to his current China post, and last September, the Schroeder family — wife Rosemary Palmer, 10-year-old daughter Amanda and 5-year-old son Augie — moved to quarters at Wuhan University.

Schroeder's job is challenging. He must gather information on trade opportunities for the Buckeye state in the Orient, while at the same time negotiating the labyrinthine complexities that accompany deal-making with a communist regime. Moreover, Schroeder has found that much of his time is spent doing battle with the great linguistic and cultural wall that separates the East and West. "American business people often view the Chinese as very slow and patient, and feel that it's difficult to communicate with people who are often vague and talk in circles. But some American business people are the same way — they beat around the bush and don't get to the point. When the Americans and Chinese get together to talk business, they tend to talk past each other. Neither side has a deep understanding of the other, and it's my job to bridge that gap," Schroeder observed.

In fact, the entire Schroeder family is working toward bridging the gap between cultures. Rosemary, who has a master's degree in English as a second language, teaches English to Chinese students. Amanda, a fifth-grader in a Chinese school, is rapidly becoming fluent in the native tongue, and Augie will soon start kindergarten. Schroeder said his children have encountered "no major problem" in adjusting to China, though acclimation to the Chinese way of thinking has been challenging. Of course, in communist regimes, individuality is not emphasized, and Schroeder feels that this has been one of the most challenging problems his children have faced. For example, one day, Amanda's art teacher asked her class to reproduce

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Kruzel Studies Neutrality Across Nations

Neutrality in international politics. At first glance, it seems like an easy term to conceptualize. Being neutral, according to Webster's, means "not engaged on either side; specifically, not being aligned with a political or ideological grouping." But, according to Professor Joseph Kruzel, who has recently returned from a trip to Scandinavia, neutrality is a much more complicated phenomenon than that of simply staying out of conflict.

Joseph Kruzel

Kruzel is studying four European "neutrals" — Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, and Austria — in an attempt to uncover the different colorations of the concept of neutrality. First, says Kruzel, there's a difference between what a nation says (declaratory neutrality) and what a nation does (operational neutrality). "For example," said Kruzel, "one main tenant of declaratory neutrality is that a nation should not engage in economic relations in peacetime that will compromise its neutrality in wartime. But each of these countries is a member of the Organization for European Cooperation and Development. Thus, they are increasingly interdependent economically with 'non-neutral' states." Kruzel calls this situation the difference between "the lofty rhetoric" and "the grubby reality" of world politics.

Secondly, each of the four nations Kruzel is studying represents neutrality in a different way. "Sweden is an active neutral, because it has consistently maintained a high profile in world politics. Switzerland is a passive neutral. With a few exceptions, foreign policy is largely trade policy for the Swiss. Austria might be called a nominal neutral, because though formally declared 'neutralized' after World War II, and recognized as such by the four occupying powers, it has political, economic, and military interests that lie squarely with the West. Finland, on the other hand, is a bounded neutral whose autonomy in foreign policy is seriously limited by its special obligation to the Soviet Union, out of its proximity and relative size."

It is these colorations in an otherwise simple concept that Kruzel has devoted much of his time to revealing. Earlier this summer, he spent one month in Sweden and Finland conducting interviews, collecting data, and studying case studies. He will next visit Switzerland and Austria to study their versions of neutrality. The final product of his analysis will be a book to be published next summer, Kruzel said.

Kruzel comes to this project as an experienced observer of international politics. He was a member of the U.S. Delegation to SALT I talks in the early 1970s, shuttling between Helsinki and Vienna. He has travelled extensively to the four countries since then, and has a wide array of contacts with academics, journalists, military officers, and government officials in each nation. In 1985, he presented a paper on "The European Neutrals in the East-West Military Balance" at the International Studies Association convention.
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Schroeder

a picture of a train that was hanging on the classroom wall. Amanda's Chinese classmates copied the train almost exactly as it appeared in the picture, but Amanda portrayed the train in a much more different light. The teacher was not amused.

However, Schroeder said that such difficulties are a small price to pay for the exposure to a larger world, and he is confident that his children will reap benefits from their China experience. "At ten years old, Amanda has got a world view greatly different from other kids her age," he observed.

Doing without Western goods was a nuisance at first, but Schroeder said that "the longer we are in China the less we miss Western products. In 1984, when we spent our first year in China, we greeted each care package from home as if it were heaven-sent. But now it's no big deal."

To hear Schroeder describe it, his connection with China has had a air of fatalism about it since that 1979 taxi ride into Peking. "Here in China, in terms of my career and my life in general, I have not overtly tried to make things happen," he observed. "Everything has just fallen into place. I've never been happier."

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1935

Ruth Sargent Potts (B.A.) of San Diego, California, taught junior high school social studies for 14 years. She has two sons, both of whom graduated from Ohio State University and live in the San Diego area.

1939

Ralph C. Behling (B.A.) retired from the construction business in 1973 and has since worked for the United States Census and the New Akron Art Museum, and served as Director of the Akron Canton Subcontractors Association. He resides in Akron.

1948

Nicholas A. Natsios (B.A.) is a retired Foreign Service Officer who is now Chairman of a fundraiser for the Hellenic Cultural Center in Lowell, Massachusetts.

1949

Elbert P. Crary (B.A.) of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, retired in 1985 after a 30-year teaching career in social studies.

1972

Frank Macke (B.A.), an attorney, lives in Bexley with wife Marianne, sons Jay and Alex, and daughter Katie.

Reginald A. Wilkenson (B.A.) was appointed Superintendent of the Dayton Correctional Institution in 1986. He resides in Cincinnati.

1977

Edward I. Sidlow (M.A., Ph.D., 1979), Assistant Professor of Political Science at Northwestern University, received the Northwestern University College of Arts and Sciences Award for Outstanding Teaching for the 1986-87 academic year.

1979

Craig Hubler (M.P.A.) has taken a new job as City Manager of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. He had been City Manager of Wellington, Kansas for three years.

1983

Perry M. Chappano (B.A.) of Mingo Junction, Ohio, recently graduated with an L.L.M. in Business and Taxation/Transnational Practice from the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law.