

Popular Protest And Political Culture In Modern China

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the years 2008 to 2013 saw a new generation of political protestors take to the streets riots disrupted many western cities and new protest movements emerged keen to address a bleak context of economic collapse and austerity politics in this groundbreaking new study winlow hall briggs and treadwell push past the unworldly optimism of the liberal left to offer an illuminating account of the enclosure and vacuity of contemporary politics focusing on the english riots of 2011 the ongoing crisis in greece the indignados 15m and podemos in spain the occupy movement in new york and london and the english defence league in northern england this book uses original empirical data to inform a strident theoretical critique of our post political present it asks what are these protest groups fighting for and what are the chances of success written by leading criminological theorists and researchers this book makes a major contribution to contemporary debates on social order politics and cultural capitalism it illuminates the epochal problems we face today riots and political protest is essential reading for academics and students engaged in the study of political sociology criminological theory political theory sociological theory and the sociology of deviance

this book offers a fresh analysis of third wave popular protests in africa shedding light on the complex dynamics between political change and continuity in contemporary africa the book argues that protests are simultaneously products and generators of change in that they are triggered by micro and macrosocial changes but they also have the capacity to transform the nature of politics by examining the triggers actors political opportunities resources and framing strategies the contributors shed light onto tangible e g policy implementation liberal reforms political alternation and intangible e g perceptions imagination awareness forms of change elicited by protests it reveals the relevant role of african protests as engines of democracy accountability and collective knowledge bringing popular protests in authoritarian and democratic settings into discussion this book will be of interest to scholars of african politics democracy and protest movements

at the close of the twentieth century political protests have erupted throughout the world while the collapse of communism was

certainly one of the most spectacular protest related events smaller protests have become ubiquitous in los angeles labor activists campaign against commercial real estate owners to unionize janitors mainly latina immigrants in the people s republic of china peasants revolt against tax collectors amazonian indians protest public and economic policies that destroy their culture and rainforest habitat this book analyzes the reciprocal impact of cultural beliefs sociopolitical structures and individual behaviors on protests throughout the world why do individuals participate in protest activities how do cultural beliefs personal attitudes and subjective perception influence the potential protester addressing the issue of agency in protest the authors also examine why protestors enlist different tactics to achieve their goals why are some protests violent and others nonviolent when and why do activists conclude that it is better to accommodate than confront finally and crucially what are the consequences of protest movements

roger karapin examines protest movements of all shades to understand why they became influential also why different forms of protest come to be used in different circumstances

this book analyzes the individual and contextual determinants of protest politics in western europe building on different theoretical perspectives from social movements theory to political behavior approaches the author provides new empirical evidence on the patterns of protest politics readers will discover why some citizens are more likely to get involved in protests than others and why levels of protest differ from country to country the author illustrates that engagement in political protest is often rooted in the interplay of the protester s individual characteristics and their home country s contextual characteristics

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this book demonstrates the direct influence that political protest behavior has on congress the presidency and the supreme court illustrating that protest is a form of democratic responsiveness that government officials have used and continue to draw on to implement federal policies focusing on racial and ethnic minority concerns this book shows that the context of political protest has served as a signal for political preferences as pro minority rights behavior grew and anti minority rights actions declined politicians learned from minority protest and responded when they felt emboldened by stronger informational cues stemming from citizens behavior a theory referred to as the information continuum given the influence that minority protest actions have wielded over national government the book offers a powerful implication although the shift from protest to politics as a political strategy has opened the door for institutionalized political opportunity racial and ethnic minorities have neglected a powerful tool to illustrate the inequalities that exist in contemporary society

a critical comparative analysis of the political reforms taking place in africa

eight years after the arab spring there is still much debate over the link between internet technology and protest against authoritarian regimes while the debate has advanced beyond the simple question of whether the internet is a tool of liberation or one of surveillance and propaganda theory and empirical data attesting to the circumstances under which technology benefits autocratic governments versus opposition activists is scarce in this book nils b weidmann and espen geelmuyden r d offer a broad theory about why and when digital technology is used for one end or another drawing on detailed empirical analyses of the relationship between the use of internet technology and protest in autocracies by leveraging new sub national data on political protest and internet penetration they present analyses at the level of cities in more than 60 autocratic countries the book also introduces a new methodology for estimating internet use developed in collaboration with computer scientists and drawing on large scale observations of internet traffic at the local level through this data the authors analyze political protest as a process that unfolds over time and space where the effect of internet technology varies at different stages of protest they show that violent repression and government institutions affect whether internet technology empowers autocrats

or activists and that the effect of internet technology on protest varies across different national environments the authors systematically apply rational choice theory in order to suggest hypotheses about political protest they test these hypotheses by means of surveys and compare their rational choice hypotheses with competing hypotheses

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