MODELLING PEER EFFECTS ON UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN STATE OF KUWAIT

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Abstract - Political participation is considered an important role to the political progress of the country. Also, it determines the level of democratization of the country. However, peer group is regarded a crucial role to inspire individuals' political interests and involvements especially in the university students. However, in the context of Kuwait, the empirical studies relating to the causal mechanism of political socialization through the peer effects has remained sparse. The aim of this research was to examine the effect of transmission mechanism by peer effects towards political university-activity participation of university students in the State of Kuwait. Data was collected from 972 undergraduate students who were currently studying in the public or the private universities in the State of Kuwait. The logistic regression finding showed that, after controlling gender and studying year in the model, political discussions among peer group and positive attitudes about the politics of peer group including political interests of peer group all had a positive effect on university-activity participation among university students in the State of Kuwait. Moreover, the result showed that male students were likely to have higher university-activity participation than female students, and the senior students were more likely to have higher level of university-activity participation.

Keywords - Peer, University Activity Participation, Kuwait