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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Terry Nichols Clark

1

KARAOKE TOGETHER VS. BOWLING ALONE: SCENES ILLUMINATE HOW WESTERN RULES CAN BE TRANSFORMED TO DRIVE DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY

Terry Nichols Clark with Chad D. Anderson, Miree Byun, Wonho Jang, Seokho Kim, Yoshiaki Kobayashi, Jong Youl Lee, Clemente J. Navarro Yáñez, Daniel Silver and Di Wu

15

SECTION I: TOCQUEVILLE IN CONTEXT: GLOBAL STUDIES IN CIVIC PARTICIPATION

INTRODUCTION TO SECTION I

33

VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS, SOCIAL INEQUALITY, AND PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES AND KOREA

Seokho Kim

37

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN SEOUL, TOKYO, AND CHICAGO

Wonho Jang, Terry Nichols Clark and Miree Byun

67

FROM BOWLING ALONE TO KARATE TOGETHER (USA TO ASIA): PRELIMINARY CLAIMS AND FINDINGS

Joseph E. Yi

79

CIVIC AND ARTS ACTIVITIES CAN ENERGIZE POLITICS, FRANCE AND EUROPE <i>Daniel J. DellaPosta and Terry Nichols Clark with Stephen Sawyer and Arkaida Dini</i>	91
SECTION II: CREATIVITY AND DEVELOPMENT: CONTEXTUALIZING THE LINK BETWEEN BOHEMIA, THE “CREATIVE CLASS,” AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	
INTRODUCTION TO SECTION II	117
CULTURAL STRATEGIES, CREATIVITY, AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN SPAIN <i>María Jesús Rodríguez-García, Cristina Mateos Mora and Clemente J. Navarro Yáñez</i>	121
(RE)DEFINING BOHEMIA IN SEOUL, TOKYO, AND CHICAGO <i>Wonho Jang, Terry Nichols Clark and Miree Byun</i>	135
SECTION III: THE POWER OF BUZZ: HOW THE ARTS AND CULTURE CAN ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT	
INTRODUCTION TO SECTION III	151
WAS TOCQUEVILLE WRONG? BUZZ AS CHARISMA, CREATIVITY, AND GLAMOUR; NEW SOURCES OF POLITICAL LEGITIMACY SUPPLEMENTING VOTING, AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION <i>Terry Nichols Clark and Filipe Carreira da Silva</i>	157
BUZZ: A THEORY, ILLUSTRATED IN TORONTO AND CHICAGO <i>Daniel Silver and Terry Nichols Clark</i>	175

CULTURE IS ON THE RISE – WHY? THEORIES OF CULTURAL PARTICIPATION AND EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE <i>Terry Nichols Clark and Peter Achterberg</i>	221
HOW CONTEXT TRANSFORMS CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: PROPOSITIONS <i>Filipe Carreira da Silva and Terry Nichols Clark</i>	237
THE CONTEXTUAL EFFECT OF LOCAL SCENES ON CULTURAL PRACTICES: THE CASE OF SPAIN <i>Clemente J. Navarro Yáñez and María Jesús Rodríguez-García</i>	251
GLOBAL CONTEXTS OF POLITICS AND ARTS PARTICIPATION <i>Terry Nichols Clark, Filipe Carreira da Silva and Susana L. Farinha Cabaço</i>	269
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	305
ABOUT THE AUTHORS	307
INDEX	313

GLOBAL CONTEXTS OF POLITICS AND ARTS PARTICIPATION

Terry Nichols Clark, Filipe Carreira da Silva and
Susana L. Farinha Cabaço

ABSTRACT

Does civic participation, especially in the arts, increase democracy? This chapter extends this neo-Tocquevillian question in three ways. First, to capture broader political and economic transformations, we consider different types of participation; results change by separate participation arenas. Some are declining, but a dramatic finding is the rise of arts and culture. Second, to assess impacts of participation, we include multiple dimensions of democratic politics, including distinct norms of citizenship and their associated political repertoires. Third, by analyzing global International Social Survey Program and World Values Survey data, we identify dramatic subcultural differences: the Tocquevillian model is positive, negative, or zero in seven different subcultures and contexts that we explicate, from class politics and clientelism to Protestant and Orthodox Christian civilizational traditions.

Keywords: Participation; arts; culture; subcultures; politics