



Analysis of power and policy making

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ABSTRACT

In this research, we can try to analyze policy making process from politic point of view, and we treated with define politics, operational principle of politics, politic parties, power and it is resources, beneficiary groups, origin of nominee group's formation and it's concluded that policy making is a political process. And in another words, policy making before being a weighty and logical choosing, is result of power action and political business.

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Beneficiary groups,
Marxism,
Pluralism,
Iron triangle,
Complicated society.

Introduction

In past, it was considered to policy making as a rational process that decisions and channels were result of logical choices, which had maximum efficiency. Basic hypothesis in this process is policy maker's rational behavior, politicians in this process rationally choice a policy making process and make all choices with rationality, but is the policy making a rational choice and a logical. Experiences give negative answer, because although policy rationality is one important perspective in policy making, it is introduced, but all channel don't follow a rational and logical format. Political process in general channel making, is a basic process and has a definitive role, this process is collection of power and dominance in society in which political players with purposes and different goals try to achieve specific goals by dominating on others. Political process is mobilization to achieve goals, which aren't achieved lonely, but is the result of assisting group. Political groups in society with using different tools in define general channel consider to policy making, which a named it general political channel process.

What is politics?

Harold Lasky, England universities professor, insist that politic subject is study of country's institution. Also he believes politics is science that teach us, who win, where, how and why. MorisDorroje, Frenchman, in the book politics principles believes basic core of politics is power and politics matter is power and has 2 aspect, like Janus, Greek god which has two face) one, array of all society individuals in direction of general interest and other conflict and fight of community individuals in the conflict time in internal and external aspects.

Politics is unobvious phenomena, which isn't observable. Researchers of "Gantz and Mary" and study (Allan, Madison, Portz). Show that political activity is common is organizations. Upper classes of management carpet bag more than down classes.

Authors and researchers point of view is focused on this politics means power in action. When workers gathered and

provide power resources to reach their goals, we say these workers could achieve their power and provide political skills. Examples from action based on power function in organization include malversation, training submissive individuals, beneficiary group formation, association formation, organization decision barrier making, providing confusion and tensionless versus organization goals. Another definition of politics is as follows:

Politics means power in action (Moshabaky, 1383, p.181)
Politics is knowledge and art and dominate on operations (Alvani, 1380, p.88)

Organization politics are involved activities inside organization which is done to achieve, develop and use of power and other sources to achieve desired results (Danaiee, 1385, p.451)

Some believe politics are synonymous using cheat and allurements in order to provide personal needs (Freez and Kakmer, 93:1992). This definition focus on Makyal behavior and view it negatively. Some other believe it that politics is rational discussion, conference to solve conflict of individual and groups.

Organizational politics imply some of organization member activities to achieve enforcement and apply power to achieve goals. (Phifer, 70:1981) The meaning of political behavior is sum of activities, which aren't aspect of organization activities but are done to distribute advantages in organization. (Pharel and Piterson 405:1982)

Operational legislation policy:

The relationship between politics and management is as a interactive relation, in fact politics as a power apply, in addition to other resources, to enhance weak goals, meeting order or general interest, can influence operational decisions. When politics is considered two fold relation (means isolation politics from management), it can replaced by efficiency of management decisions and deviate political results, politics also can operate as a positive resource to increase decision making. From

distinction between politics and management in government (Gonado 1900) and (Viloby 1936), but at present it intended that many of courses are mixed.

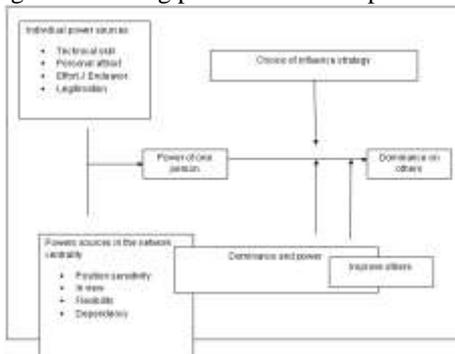
Power and its role in political policy

In stating and describing power, different authors have defined it as different from. In one definition, power in one social relationship, position is assigned that individual could approbate their look to others. In other definition, they know power, ability to influence on possibilities and resources toward to goals that are opposite on other goals. Based on this definition, when power is achieved that goals are in conflict is some part and one could operate his own goal and leave all other goals. In one of definitions, power is ability, which make able person (A) to dominate on person (B). It can considered that power is ability to provide changes in other’s behavior. Although it be noted that power concept is related to authority concept, but they aren’t the same, thus power has general aspect and authority is type of lawful power.

Thus power is a type of a relationship, which are formed between individuals and cause changes. From channel point of view, Applying power is meant dominance on decisions, give direction to decisions and finally influence on channel positions. Power analysis

Power is a tool, which by it, we can solve “interest conflict” power, are influenced by achievement cause, how to achieve and those who achieve it. in recent years, authors found power importance in organizational affair description but it still have a vague concept. Some of authors in order to power description in organization, divided it to two branch: individual power and group power. Some other authors divided power to personal power (power core is the person) and relation power (power core is social relations) (Greenburg and Baron 465:1995). In the analyzing power is power resources in the organization. The important of these is 14 sources which are following:

- 1- official authorities
- 2- rare resources control
- 3- use of organization constructor, laws
- 4- decision process control
- 5- knowledge and information control
- 6- border control
- 7- correspondence ability to uncertainty
- 8- technology control
- 9- agreement between individuals, networks and unofficial organization control
- 10- organizational opponent groups control
- 11- sambolization and meaning management
- 12- ?
- 13- action restricting agent
- 14- using power to achieve power.



The type of power

One of recent philosopher meantime historical studies, viewed to types of power from another viewpoint and considered to religious power, king power, naked power, revolution power, economic power, ideas power and ideological power.

In other classification, power resources are based on 5 classes: power resulted from values and tradition, power resulted from individual characteristic, power resulted from expert and knowledge, reward power and punish power. Authors have

studied the types of power with relation type and concluded that if individual relation with authors was an alienism, authority power and punishment would dominated. But if relation with power man was interest based, reward power would dominated. Based on this view that power is analyzed in relation with conditions and positions, power is applied when would be proportional with applied situation. One of other divide of powers is considered to three type enforcement, domination and persuasion. Enforcement power is applied through applying coercion. Dominance power are realized through dominance and ordering others and persuasion power is applied through publicity and encouragement, in total if individual accept power, power become logical, and officials can interestly to apply power. (Alvani, 91,92:1384)

Decision making forms based on power

1- decision making ultrarational based on individual power

One of types of power, individual power resulted from natural attributes and extra ordinary abilities, which considered God gift. This method hasn’t predetermined thews. In this method of decision making based on intuition, illumination, individual genius and mental comprehension are performed, without doing rational decision making, decision is made.

B) Powerful elits’ opinions or man of influence

In this point of view, society is divided to elits, intermediate and poor. The powerful class or politician are the same elits, who have high power. This class are very rare and of upper level. From this point, policy in the society by elits are performed and other classes, don’t play any role. Other classes are indifferent respect to problems and their behaviors and opinions are formed under elits influence. Powerful elits group identify their different problems and express their own policy.

Compound society point of view (group model)

In this opinion unlike previous theory, it isn’t provided specific classification for social classes. In other words in this theory, a specific class isn’t dominant on other classes and mair role in policy isn’t played by one group. Compound society is one that all the classes and groups are effective in policy and from this view, no class is dominant on other. In group model, different group are interact with each other and policy is made based on stresses and forces provided from these groups. (Alvani, 1380, p.93)

D) Influential groups

These groups are the groups which follow goals and common ideas. Although they every organization and groups may take specific position, but it means, groups are one at in policy have definitive effects.

Influential groups in different societies perform different tasks. For example, it may take a symbolic task or being a symbol or specific philosophy, or responsible for an economic task. It try to provide member’s physical interests. Influential groups may have special goals and give technical and special information.

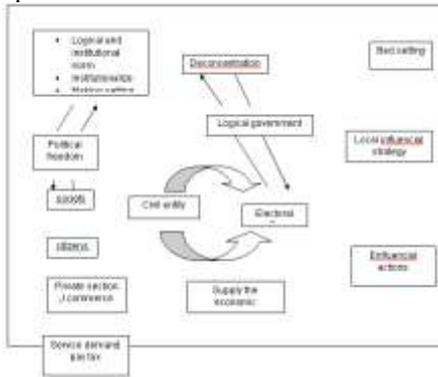
Also, influential groups might follow goals like freedom and liberality, regard to human law and so increase their influence on general policy. (Alvani, 1380, p.96) So it can be said that the meaning of their activities are all communication which includes individuals and groups who haven’t logical authorities, but directly influence governmental authorities. And demonstrate their opinions, which dictated to society.

In the case of influential groups, dividedness are done: In one of classification, it has divided mentioned groups as mere and relative. Mere groups only are active in politics domain while relative groups are active in many groups.

Another classification is internal and external groups. Internal groups' activity is in the country while external groups' activities are outside, like international organizations. In other classification, they are classified as community and specials. Community groups are one which members are very important and follow quantity, special groups are groups including individuals important in society.

Although influential groups are analyzed with negative view, but in policy process and society play positive role. These groups consider to illuminate needs and expectations of citizens. Work order for policy with designing problem and analyzing it, influential groups can perform control and supervision role, and when they encounter with a problem, they notify to all people. These groups, when bureaucrics couldn't analyze general problems, they could have an effective role. With regard to new ideas in management domain, which desired dominance pattern is one of new paradigm, introduce ruling, a pattern. In this pattern of values, policies and institution, using system, society can manage economic – politics and social problems through 3 part, government, private section and civil section. The collection of these sections, are government, private and civil section. In the system, it often focused on interaction and hence ruling are understood as a system in which interaction between 3 part, private, civil and government must be available. Nevertheless, rulling is an efficient management, which are accepted with the goal of growth and reinforcement social values by individuals and groups. Strategy in rulling framework is decantation and under it, economic and political freedom are done. In this field, it's considered to democratic government and incorporative government, local interest people are local government and civil society.

These electional offices encourage parties to election activities in different domains. In this pattern, it considered to relation between government, people and civil society. The role of these groups are clear and distinct.



Influential groups in this model contribute in process and decisions as a leverer.

Although influential groups activities provide necessary cooperation for policy, it also has problem as follow.

- 1- Influential groups provide political inequality. For example one wealthy person, one powerful group, one newspaper could influence on political issues, which a great organization with weak financial power couldn't have this influence.
- 2- Influential groups are seeking more their interest rather group interests. Usually influential groups after achieving power, sacrifices mass interests to their own interests.
- 3- Influential groups by using veto law when battle with other groups, delay from policy, mean that before to treat with mass interests, they are following their points of view.

Influential group theory in the government

This theory assumes that there are many stress groups in the society and extent power that these groups apply on government

and designation extent of resources are dependant on construct and agency method. This theory are originated from some processes and theoric tradition, which are included:

- 1- Marxism
- 2- Unionism
- 3- Pluralism
- 4- Policy systems and government autonomy

Marxism

The basis of Marx philosophy isdialectic materialism and historical materialism. Historical material comment are based on this basis that historical development is result of development of product instrument. And physical need providing and social relations are formed “infrastructure” of society construction and other social entity, religion mortality, government and politics, belief principle, family, etc) are formed based on this infrastructure and form social superstructure and every society based on economic structure and method of removal physical needs (hunt, agriculture, industry and commerce have a typical superstructure which by changing infrastructure (like shift from agriculture to industry) change with developing technic, economic system changes. Wealth again are distributed and new classes are formed and society come into historical stage. In every society, there are two main class, one is owner of product appliances and exploiter and other one is provider of workforce and exploiter. Interest conflict of these classes cause creating a constant dispute. In believe of Max, human history had been history of classes battle.

This school have many values for equality. However it don't focused on using groups and individual in policy, but it necessitate group contributions in social process and their main challenge is how bourgeoisie government could be able to provide long-lived interests with regard to conflict between desires and interests of labor and capitalist.

Unionism

Corporatism is theory that was developed in fascist Italian and based on economic organization must be under control of corporativism.

In this process industrial society complexity with power focus among special groups stand government to contribute influential group in the policy making to avoid conflict between classes and also economic growth. The unionism philosophy is based on 2 principles:

- 1- Individual shouldn't only government national but be considered based on tasks in the society.
- 2- Only members of an small class, which influence on society are aware and suitable for government and politics.

In the new unionism model, governments give preemption to power groups and in turn attract cooperation in the policy. Hence organizations, workers and government are involved in determination of economic policy, especially income amount policy as an inflation control tool.

Pluralism

Pluralism might be called multiplicity. The main nurse of this theory is United State of America and today in this country, it defence against government interference in social affairs. Some antagonist convict any government interference in social relations as a socialism. This term have many ideas, which believe to factors and society nature and in the politics means belief in multiplicity and independence of political, cultural and social groups in any systems. This a American theory and focus on advantages and disadvantages of forming coalition and assert that different influential groups to attract wealth flow from government, with help of democratic from works based on representation and it's parts are in competition.

Policy networks and government autonomy

The concepts of policy networks and government autonomy, by Martin J. Smith from Sheffield University, are described as a method to understand government bidirectional relations with other groups. He focuses on influential groups' performance, considered as relations between government and groups. He also studied how results can change government policy. In this process, government autonomy is the extent that governmental actors are able to follow their request (Lobina et al., 2003). The meaning of policy network is the concept that describes parts of government behavior. In this concept, nature of relations between government and influential groups isn't favored. This doesn't mean that government should be imagined as a section before coherent and accrete. Policy network can be considered as a mechanism, which could evaluate different opponent institutions and by using policy network, power is the relation based on mutual association, not zero-sum versus game with zero-sum (win-loss).

In this section we considered the definition and describe the words like policy community (subject systems, steely triangle, proponents coalition and player net)

A) Policy community, subject networks

Policy networks generally include different relations types. Subject networks and policy community are considered two opposite roles. Based on the definition of Rodez J. Marsh, the characteristic of a policy community, members number, consciously prevention from arrival of some groups, having common view about "game principles" interaction between members, bargain on resources, and leaders' ability in giving decision to members. Totally, they believe that policy has a relative stability (Robinson, 1997). Keinz J. Shneider believes that policy communities are formed based on policy problems which require technical, complicated, political, economic tasks and resources dependency. They contribute in providing policy options, these players interact with each other strategically, while involved in exchange, which requires sharing information, speciality, and political support (Coleman and Perl, 1999). Subject networks originate from Helko's idea; he believes in examples like steely triangle, which could achieve many independences.

Helko's view point is a subject network organized of members, who have relations. And identifying continues or where it begins, is very difficult. The characteristic of these systems, instability, many members number, and free arrival. (Kim, 2001, p.8) In such system, no group has dominance on other. Policy process in these mobile systems are influenced on some groups and aren't influential relative to out factors. (Robinson, 1997)

B) Steely triangle

Some ago decade, one of the researchers in government policy, applied the concept "steely triangle" to describe how to adopt agricultural policy. Based on this model, 3 power parts are included:

- 1- Performance managers: agriculture manager, agriculture ministry manager, budget manager.
- 2- Congress: agricultural committee master.
- 3- Agriculture consultation: main organization leaders and agricultural product groups.

From view of Rink, another attribute of this steely triangle is that this system contributes different actors in policy and through this provide their own skills and resources. For example government brings in power, organizations and not governmental, legitimation and private section bring in financial resources. (Reinicke et al., 1997)

C) Opponent coalition

Site Pizpero defined this concept as a group of organizations, which associate in a coherent manner and hypothesis is by providing and join to opponent coalition, one opponent can achieve its own goal. (Bizpro, 1997) Sabatir and Jankniz believe that for knowing the changes, it requires long time. If one change occurs, we can study how and why by using policy small systems. These analyses must involve all players, whether private or governmental. Finally they believe common beliefs are glues that support members of coalition against changing of basic values. These researchers believe that only one method is for identifying network. The effects between members and constructor are remained with shorter study.

This term was declared in 1991 with researchers of Kalon J. It's analysis is formed of sum the discussion about during discussion between agents. In this view (agency) is defined as a process to submission authority. This process focuses on actors/ members effort to achieve and attain power. And analyze the strategy and tactic applied by scientist to change society.

Conclusion

It can be concluded that, there are power and influence in different ways. From the same stage of policy, till dissolve and choice of authority and gain of transaction, policy making as process based on power and influence "result of coalition, transaction, studies and ensure with feeling". The policies in fact influential authorities and elites in society are resulted to general policies. And so policy isn't done individually and are formed by a sum of choices, the role of power and political influence and interacting between powers the policy are cleared. In simple express, general policies aren't the result of mere rational process, relation between authorities in the society. Policy is good that authorities and actors in politics achieve adaptation, without existing assurance, that mentioned decision is the best way to achieve goal.

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