

A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE INFLUENCE
OF CAMPUS POLITICS AMONG COLLEGE
STUDENTS IN ERNAKULAM DISTRICT



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PROJECT REPORT

Submitted to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam in fulfillment
of the requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Sociology.

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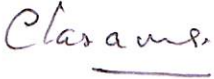
ERNAKULAM


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This is to Certify that the dissertation entitled "SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF INFLUENCE OF CAMPUS POLITICS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS IN ERNAKULAM DISTRICT done by Miss.Lini Jolly as a part of for completing the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam,during 2010-2013at the Department of Sociology,St.Teresa's college,Ernakulam,was carried out under my guidance and supervision.


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LINI JOLLY

BA SOCIOLOGY

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ERNAKULAM.

INDEX

SI. NO	CONTENT
CHAPTER 1	: INTRODUCTION
CHAPTER 2	: REVIEW OF LITERATURE
CHAPTER 3	: METHODOLOGY
CHAPTER 4	: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION
CHAPTER 5	: FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRE

BIBLIOGRAPHY

LIST OF TABLES

Sl.no	Table no.	Title of the table	Page no.
1	4.1	Distribution based on age.	20
2	4.2	Distribution based on sex.	20
3	4.3	Distribution based on college.	20
4	4.4	Distribution based on course of study.	21
5	4.5	Distribution based on parties in college.	21
6	4.6	Distribution based on participation to activities of campus politics.	22
7	4.7	Distribution based on purpose of participation to activities of campus politics.(a)	23
8	4.8	Distribution based on member of political party.	23
9	4.8(a)	Distribution based on party membership.	24
9	4.9	Distribution based on years of membership to the party.	24
10	4.10	Distribution based on family member in politics.	25
11	4.11	Distribution based on family support for participation in campus politics.	25
12	4.12	Distribution based on role model.	
13	4.13	Distribution based on the opinion that campus politics help solve problems.	26
14	4.14	Distribution based on teacher support.	27
15	4.15	Distribution based on campus politics build leadership quality.	27
16	4.15(a)	Distribution based on skills that are developed.	28
16	4.16	Distribution based on that campus politics promotes participation in co-curricular activities.	28
17	4.17	Distribution based on welfare schemes availed by students.	28
18	4.18	Distribution based on party promises fulfilled after election.	29
19	4.19	Distribution based on awareness of social problem.	30
20	4.20	Distribution based on awareness of current	30

		political situation.	
21	4.21	Distribution based on awareness of current economic scenario.	31
22	4.22	Distribution based on interest in making further political participation after college.	32
	4.22(a)	Distribution based on reasons for interest.	32
23	4.23	Distribution based on opinion about role of campus politics in making future political leaders.	33
24	4.24	Distribution based on opinion on violence in college due to campus politics.	33
	4.24(a)	Distribution based on reasons for violence campus politics.	33
25	4.25	Distribution based on opinion that teaching hours are missed due to campus politics.	34
	4.25(a)	Distribution based on reasons for missing out teaching hours.	35
26	4.26	Distribution based on affect of campus politics on academics.	36
	4.26(a)	Distribution based on the reasons that affect academic performance.	36
27	4.27	Distribution based on respondents work for raising fund for the activities of campus politics.	37
28	4.28	Distribution based on awareness on laws on campus politics.	37
29	4.29	Distribution based on opinion about girls participation in campus politics.	37
30	4.30	Distribution based on opinion whether girls are willing to contest in election.	37
31	4.31	Distribution based on opinion about girls leader elected to unreserved seats.	38
32	4.32	Distribution based on the opinion that campus politics is necessary in college	39
	4.32(a)	Distribution based on the reasons why campus politics is considered necessary	40
33	4.33	Distribution based on affects of campus politics on personality.	40
	4.33(a)	Distribution based on the reasons that has affected the personality.	

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	TITLE	PAGE NO.
1	Bar diagram showing parties in college	22
2	Pie diagram showing parties to which the respondents are members	24
3	Pie diagram showing roles of campus politics in problem solving	26
4	Bar diagram showing the facilities that are availed by students	29
5	Bar diagram showing awareness programmes conducted by campus politics	31
6	Pie diagram showing the reasons for violence	34
7	Bar diagram showing reasons for missing out teaching hours	35
8	Pie diagram showing girls elected to unreserved seat	38
9	Pie diagram showing the opinion on is campus politics is necessary in college.	39
10	Bar diagram showing the merits of campus politics	41

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION

Politics is something which is present in our society from the very old days. In India, politics and political leaders has a very significant role in the process of nation making .we can see a multitude of parties, big and small, as well as leaders and activists all over the society. From grass root level onwards politics has its own role our society.

India is a land of young people. As per the 2011 census data ,more than 53% of the Indian population is constituted by the youth. In this context it is relevant to study the influence and impact of politics on youth. In many cases educational institution is a nurturing ground of politics for youth. It is from there ,the young people are inculcated with various political views and ideas. Campus politics in this way mould the future political leaders of a country. At the same time, there are a lot of cases where campuses became bleeding grounds because of politics. In Kerala there are only a very few campuses where there is no politics. In all major college campuses there are political parties and their affiliations. Even though high court had banned campus politics, it is still dominating in all major campuses in Kerala.

Campus politics, can be explained as, is the prevalence of political activities by students union or political parties inside the campus .

Robert E. Scott, in 'Student Political Activism in Latin America', reports that student politics is simply an extension of the politics of the adult world and therefore one must understand that there is no student subculture as can be said about a subculture. Political activities of the society would reflect in colleges with campus politics and usually held that those who prove their qualities in campuses would graduate to senior political activities. Student organizations in the form of student unions in colleges and universities have grown as centers of power and are important pressure groups which other centers of power in society like to capture.

Factionalism is another important feature of the student movement here. Inevitable in any social movement. It is most common in student movements because student movements tend to be idealistic and puritanical and cling to ideological principles. It is an established fact that strong organizations require professional leaders and an element of formalism.

IN her book, "Youth in India" S. Saraswathi..Observes that political parties emerged in kerala campuses with aim of channelizing student power towards the important task of national reconstruction which was concerned with the development of education. The first half of the 20th century was a period when students supported the anticolonial struggle and actively participated in it. Then comes the 1950's when students

had demanded for educational reforms. But the political activities of students on an organizational basis became challengingly prominent only during the 1960's. The late 1950's and the 1960's witnessed the birth of several student organisations of different political shades. *Then* on we read about the active involvement of students in the field of higher education, demanding concessions, confronting authorities, leading agitations, engaging in pitched battles with the police and finally gaining representation on the various university bodies.

In kerala campus politics has an age old history, The year 1922 is important in the student political history of Kerala. It was in that year that students had come forward to oppose a fee hike. The agitation was strongly supported by the 'Swarad' paper of A.K. Pillai. For The Salt Sathyagraha in 1930, student movements in kerala expressed support. . It was during this period that the 'Kerala Vidyarthi Sangam' was born. In 1931, the students had led a demonstration in Payannur town to protest against the killing of Sardar Bhagath Singh.. The students participated actively in the Quit India struggle of 1942. The final struggle for freedom in Travancore had its beginnings in the form of a student agitation. At that time political parties in campuses where formed with the following interests:

- (a). anticolonial activities
- (b). imparting of political education, and
- (c). public relations activities.

From the above analysis it becomes clear that student organizations became prominent in Kerala only after 1967. They have become in a way the recruiting centers of political parties. If in the former days political leadership evolved through labor union activities today it mainly comes into being through student organisational activities. Student organizations were once considered to be a corrective force in society. But with the emergence of College Unions and the University Unions these organisations courted the evils of party politics. It is interesting to note that there are "professional" student leaders who continue to be students even after discontinuing studies.

Kerala's educational system is also another important factor which contributes towards political activism of the students. The student community is drawn from the diverse sections of the society. Education is no more having an elitist bias. There is high rate of unemployment. High student faculty ratios, an archaic examination system, generally inadequate facilities, financial difficulties all cause student unrest. The overall levels of student political activity are affected by the general level of literacy, the encouragement and sponsorship of political parties and the socio-economic conditions .

In Kerala the following are the important student organisations.

1. Students Federation of India (SFI), supporting the Communist Party of India (Marxist).

SFI is one of the major student organizations in India. Founded in 1970. As of 2012, it claims a membership strength of nearly 40 lakhs school and university students.^[1] SFI is currently led at by All India level by Ritabrata Banerjee.

2. The Kerala Students Union (KSU), supporting the Indian National Congress. KSU is the second largest student organization in Kerala. KSU proposes the idea of student activism based on a Progressive Thought, Secular Vision and Democratic Action. Many of its founder leaders like A.K. Antony, Vayalar Ravi, Oommen Chandy, etc went up the stairs of INC . Right from its inception in 1957, KSU played a leading role in giving the student community of the state a new vision, outlook and a platform for creative academic and social interventions

3. The Akhila Bharathiya Vidyarthi Parishath (ABVP), supporting the Old Jana Sang and now the Bharathiya Janatha Party. Most of its members are also members of the RSS. founded on 9th July 1949 an all India student organisation. for channelizing student power towards the important task of national reconstruction which was concerned with the development of education and had given a blue print of an Indian pattern of education.

4. The All India Students Federation (AISF), supporting the Communist Party of India.

5. The Muslim Students Federation (MSF), supporting the Muslim League.

6.All India Democratic Students Organisation (AIDSO), supporting the Socialist Unity Centre of India who claim that they are the real communists.

7.Kerala Vidyarthi Janatha (KVJ), supporting the Janatha Party.

8.Democratic Students Organisation (DSO), supporting the National Democratic Party, a strong supporter of Nair Service Society.

9.Progressive Students Union (PSU), supporting the Revolutionary Socialist Party.

GIRLS AND CAMPUS POLITICS.

Even though ministers across the country are debating over the Women's Reservation Bill, girls in the same country are wary of entering the political scene in college level. Many girls choose not be associated with such organizations due to various reasons such as conservative family, due to violence that may rise from campus politics, campus politics is seen as unsafe for girls, also as girls are more academically oriented they generally take a back seat. one can find just a few countable girl student leaders in campuses compared to the mass army of boys in the same category also its seen that Girls from a non-political background, even with potential, find it extremely hard to earn recognition .

From this its understood that the impact campus politics makes on the youth is not small,if a student is active in campus politics undoubtedly his behaviour is influenced in a different way when compared to those who are not involved. The influence can be either in a positive way OR in a negative manner. Positively

campus politics can give a student opportunity to talk politics, to read politics, to discuss politics in an association, to argue politics with his fellow students, to be more socially and politically responsible citizen, improve his leadership qualities, offer constructive and alternate solutions to solve the problems facing the educational arena. Many of the student leaders of late 1950's in kerala are today top leaders of state and nation including the the present defense minister of the country A.K. Antony, union minister Vayalar Ravi, present chief minster of the state Oommen Chandy, other leaders A.C.Jose and V.M.Sudheeran ,and the list goes on. Overall in the country MORE than 80% of the ministers were influenced by politics in their academic life,or were involved in campus politics. Many of them were leaders of various campus union s.It can be argued here that today if WE deny youth from political participation, tomorrow how are we going to run this country without leaders. student politics and party allurements mix the oxygen of socialism, secularism and democracy which are nothing but the quintessence of our constitutional culture.

V.R.Krishna lyr in his 'A case of campus politics'.

It is a gravamen of injustice and goofy understanding of public affairs to command that political science shall be anathema in a college campus since, in the last analysis, such allergy amounts to an advocacy of political illiteracy, social insensitivity and cultural philistinism. Indeed, the right to vote vested in everyone at the age of 18 becomes a meaningful operation if only the exercise of franchise is an expression of

political wisdom. To banish politics for an 18-year-old student is to deny him the fundamental opportunity of becoming a good citizen to vote. It is anti-democratic to refuse a student a campus opportunity to talk politics, to read politics, to discuss politics in an association, to argue politics with his fellow students, subject, of course, to a peaceful atmosphere, disciplined behavior and obedience to public health and morality. Every young mind passing through colleges must be trained to be sensitive to social problems with campus politics.

On the other side of coin is its negative impact. The harm According to it dose when in young age students are brainwashed with wrong political ideology, leading to student unrest. Weaponry and violence in the name of politics break every law. There are colleges in kerala where even 25 % from the total working days are wasted in the name of campus politics either with dharnas, strikes, gheraos and demonstrations by student organizations .These affecting their academic performance poorly, Leading to low attendance., added to this use of campus politics as a weaponry against the teachers and management. This causes loss of focus on studies and degenerates the students into goondas. Also money is collected from students and outsiders in the name of campus politics. Collection for elections, youth festivals etc

Murderous Politics of Kerala Campus.

Campus has become a violent fiction in Kerala . Weaponry and violence in the name of politics break every law. Those who are pledged to grow as a model of future citizens, fight and threaten each other. Students are brainwashed by political leading to leaders leading to blood battles. . Since 1970 some 43 students have died due to violence instigated by campus politics in Kerala alone and in the national level this number is even higher. For SFI lost 30 activists, Kerala Students' Union lost 10 and the Akhila Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad lost 3 students.

Few of the recent incidents include:

- 1 Sachin gopalan. (21) on sept 6th 2012 AVBP leader.
2. ABVP leader , murder of their student wing leader vishal(19) on 17 July 2012.
3. Aneesh Rajan , Vice President of SFI Idukki district committee. was brutally killed by Congress goondas on 18 th March 2012.
- 4..One police officer beaten to death at Changanassery N.S.S Hindu by students involved in campus politics on 11.10.2007 . He was beaten to death by an angry mob of students at the college who miss took him for an RSS sympathizer.

The following are the important judgments passed by the high court of Kerala regarding campus politics :

- 1.KERALA STUENTS UNION V/S SOJAN FRANCIS on 20 February, 2004

2. S.N.M college V/S S.I of police on 15 december, 2006. institutions were looked into. The judgment by judges K Padmanabhan Nair and KS Radhakrishnan.

CODE OF CONDUCT OF MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY.

Mahatma Gandhi University has framed Mahatma Gandhi University Students' Code of Conduct Rules 2005 in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 10(17) of the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985. Rule 5 of the said Rules reads as follows:

Prohibition on political activity inside the campus.

What is interesting to note is that despite the two high court judgment and the code of conduct given by the Mahatma Gandhi university, campus politics is still active in colleges in kerala. Infact two colleges in ernakulam are really famous just for its campus politics ,in front these colleges its a usual seen premises with police protection. The political linkage of the parties in college are this strong that a legal ban doesn't matter. The impact it makes on students is manifold.

This study is undertaken to understand the real impact of campus politics on students,

REVIEW
OF
LITERATURE

CHAPTER -2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1.CITATION :2007 (1)KLT 282..S.N.M college V/S S.I of police on 15 december, 2006. Division Bench of the Kerala High Court banned all forms of campus politics, ruled that students unions have no place at all in academic campuses, and held the police responsible for ensuring that complaints in this regard from heads of academic institutions were looked into. The judgement by judges K Padmanabhan Nair and KS Radhakrishnan is bound to have a big impact on Kerala campuses. A major part of the state's academic campuses remain politically volatile even two years after the same HC bench had empowered college managements to ban students unions, and directed the State Government and universities to frame rules for curbing dharnas, strikes, gheraos and demonstrations by student organizations

2.CITATION :2004 (2) KLT 378 KERALA STUENTS UNION V/S SOJAN FRANCIS on 20 February, 2004. HC bench had empowered college managements to ban students unions, and directed the State Government and universities to frame rules for curbing dharnas,strikes,gheraos and demonstrations by student organisation HC bench had observed that collective bargaining, strikes and dharnas were no part of the academic domain. It had asserted that strikes were "weapons used by labour force for establishing their demands under the labour laws. They are not academic tools to be used against the teaching faculty or against the management to vindicate the rights of the students."

3.Mahatma Gandhi University has framed Mahatma Gandhi University Students' Code of Conduct Rules 2005 in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 10(17) of the Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985. Rule 5 of the said Rules reads as follows:

5. Prohibition on political activity inside the campus.

- (a) No student of a college shall get himself involved in any political activity by himself or abet the said activity to be carried on by fellow students inside the campus in any manner whatsoever and any such activity is hereby banned inside the campus.
- (b) Taking part in any political activity by organizing students or to cause gatherings inside the college campus for the purpose of doing any activities as defined in Rule 4(6) shall constitute serious indiscipline. Every member of such a gathering shall be individually liable and responsible for the gross indiscipline in this regard and the Principal shall have the power to take disciplinary action against students who indulge in the aforesaid activities.
- (c) It shall constitute gross indiscipline to call for and appeal to strike based on policies and ideologies that may be preached by the political parties or their sister organizations or students wings. The participants in the strike as aforesaid shall be dealt with by the disciplinary authority and they shall be imposed appropriate punishment as provided in these rules.
- (d) No student of a college shall stage or indulge in any activity like Dharna, Gherao, obstructing entry to and from any class room, office, hall or other places inside the campus and such activities shall be treated as misconduct.
- (e) No student shall shout slogans inside the class rooms, office or any other place inside the campus and obstruct and interfere or to cause disturbance and nuisance to the ordinary functioning of the institution.

These activities shall be treated as misconduct.

4.. Mathew, M.M(2010) in his book, " Student political activism in Kerala" (chapter 3) writes that, to understand student political activism in Kerala, it is important to consider both historical and attitudinal data. In his book he clearly mentions the causes for the emergence of various students political parties in Kerala. The findings give an idea about the pattern and characteristics of student political activism in Kerala. Student participation in politics has received much attention. Also when compared with students of other countries, he opines that students in Kerala are less politicised and more conservative in their political orientation.

5. A study titled "Sociological analysis of the perspectives of the college union members with regards to campus politics" by Smt. Mekha .K.A in 2008, says about the factors that influences the respondents to join the campus politics even though its banned by law. Study revealed that majority of the respondents are influenced by political parties at the personal level and many students consider it as a stepping stone to national politics, and a great deal of students opined that campus politics is necessary for campus life.

6. "The Times of India" dated sep 29 2005, article by viny mishra reports that Increasingly, student politics on Indian campuses has more to do with politics and very little with students. Advocates of politics on campus usually quote instances from history, of how student politics spawned great leaders, a deeper understanding of democracy and awareness of human rights. Campus politics should be excellent breeding grounds for tomorrow's leaders but today what happens in the various campuses is different. campus politics has only been in the news for all the wrong reasons expensive campaigning, violence, nepotism, threatening and intimidating professors, and strikes. True, there are benefits of a students' body on campus. But its role should be limited to addressing grievances.

campus politics has only been in the news for all the wrong reasons expensive campaigning, violence, nepotism, threatening and intimidating professors, and strikes. True, there are benefits of a students' body on campus. But its role should be limited to addressing grievances.

7. In her book, "Youth in India" S. Saraswathi, observes: "Student wings of political organisations, even when engaged in purely academic or social service activities are in a way different from the nonpartisan and non-governmental organisations engaged in youth service. And when they are involved in issues over which antagonistic opinions prevail and when they are engaged in a struggle for power, the significance of youth power in India comes to be felt in the larger society. Student organisations in the form of student unions in colleges and universities have grown as centres of power wielding power themselves and are important pressure groups which other centres of power in society like to capture.

8. The Times of india dated jul 23 2009, Ludhiana ,reported that youngsters find a way to defy the rule and insist upon elections student leaders despite the law and the management against it. student unions say that teachers and authorities do not listen to them so they need their

union and leader , many groups of student leaders had gotten down to forming their own associations at colleges without any prior permission from the management. This led to bad blood battle between the students and authorities. According to a thorites, "Students must focus on their studies and not get distracted by campus politics. Punjab government does not approve of student College president and student unions,. Gone are the days when teachers and principals were not accessible. But now, anybody can come to us anytime and share their problems. So a campus president really does not find place in the current scheme of things.

9.In 'Dreams of Plenitude, Nightmares of scarcity' published in may 1969 by Edward shills says that eventhough political instability has affected adversely the birth of a unified student movement and has been the main reason behind the large number of student agitations, but its equally true that student agitations were also for reasons peculiar to a developing country as Students claims for more educational facilities, more concessions, education for all sections, etc. These claims are made on the scarce resources of a developing country. Educational institutions are looked upon as centres of social change and not selective institutions in a world of scarcity .

10.Cherian Philip in his book " Kal Noottandu, Political History - of Kerala" 1984, states that The liberation struggle or the Vimochana Samaram was highly significant for student political activism since students very actively participated in it. The Kerala Students Union was born during this period and for a decade it could control the activities of the students .

11.. The Hindu " newspaper on jan18th 2008 ,reports that ,college campuses in kerala are turning into battlefields by citing many incidents of violence in colleges due to politics. many writers and academicians proposed different views on campus politics . some said that outsiders and goonda gangs are responsible for the problems. While some others opines that political leaders are the real culprits who instigates the students to become violent. But the ministers said that , it is a social process. Political activity of society would reflect in campuses and similarly those who prove their qualities in campuses would graduate to senior political activities.

12.The Times of india" dated jun 18 2009, by kritika banerjee, jaipur edition, cited that eventhough ministers across the country are debating over the Women's Reservation

Bill, girls in the state are wary of entering the political scene in college level. girls choose not be associated with such organizations due to various reasons such us conservative family, due to violence, seen as unsafe for girls also Girls from a non-political background, even with potential, find it extremely hard to earn recognition. Whereas boys participate in large numbers.

13.V.R Krishna iyer in his article 'A case of campus politics says in support of campus politics, according To banish politics for an 18-year-old student is to deny him the fundamental opportunity of becoming a good citizen to vote. It is anti-democratic to refuse a student a campus opportunity to talk politics, to read politics, to discuss politics in an association, to argue politics with his fellow students, subject, of course, to a peaceful atmosphere.

METHODOLOGY

CHAPTER -3

METHODOLOGY

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A Sociological study of the influence of campus politics among college students in Ernakulam district.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY.

Political activities of the society would reflect in colleges with campus politics and usually held that those who prove their qualities in campuses would graduate to senior political activities. Student organisations in the form of student unions in colleges and universities have grown as centres of power and are important pressure groups which other centres of power in society like to capture. In majority of Kerala campuses politics is in a full fledged form. Even with the barring of political activity in colleges, strong political activities, which often turns into violence and cause deaths, haunt in our campuses. Today this is a very hot debate topic in Kerala. In most private colleges the ban is exercised but almost all government colleges irrespective of whether Arts, Technical or Medical college and to few aided college the ban has nothing to do. Since 1970 some 43 students have died due to violence instigated by campus politics in Kerala alone and in the national level this number is even higher. for SFI lost 30 activists, Kerala Students' Union lost 10 and the Akhila Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad lost 3 students. This puts a very important question in front of us, the society, what might be the reason for this blood shed? . Added to this is the poor academic performance . Is student politics a reason ?Despite this, large section of student community supports campus politics ,enjoy being part of it on the grounds that, this builds leadership qualities in them, makes them politically and socially responsible citizens and so on. Through this study we are aiming to understand the real impact and effects of campus politics on college students.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To study the influence of campus politics among college students in Ernakulam.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

1. To understand college students political participation in campus.
2. To study the positive impact of campus politics on students.
3. To understand about the awareness among college students about laws on campus politics.
4. To know whether there is any negative impact of campus politics on students.

HYPOTHESES

1. Campus politics develops leadership qualities among students.
2. Campus politics leads to lower performance in academics.
3. More elected boys leaders than girls.

DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

CAMPUS POLITICS According to Wikipedia , the prevalence of political activities by students union or political parties inside the campus is what is meant by the term campus politics.

IDENTIFICATION OF VARIABLES

In the study independent variables are Age and college, and dependent variables are sex and performance in academics.

PILOT STUDY

The researcher conducted pilot study to get insight about the topic. For this purpose we conducted study in 2 different colleges where campus politics is active.

POPULATION

Population of this study constitute the students from 4 colleges with campus politics in Ernakulam city.

SAMPLE AND SAMPLING METHOD

Sample of this study consisted of 50 college students from four colleges situated in Ernakulam, where campus politics is still active. The sampling technique used here is convenience sampling.

PRE-TEST

A pre-test was conducted in which ten students were given questionnaire. This was conducted to know whether the questionnaire was adequate to conduct the study and to find out the area of further modifications. After the pre-test necessary modifications were made on the questionnaire

TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION

In this study questionnaire was used for collection of data. The tool was constructed up on, the basis of secondary source ,discussion with guide and interaction with college students. Both open ended and close ended questions were included in the questionnaire.

FIELD WORK

The actual field work began on 22-12-2012 and was completed by 20-01-2013. The respondents were co-operative by filling the questionnaire on time. Care was taken to ensure that the respondents understood each question clearly and that all questions were answered and completed.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Collected data were arranged according to similarities and dissimilarities, it facilitates comparison and makes data easily understandable. The data was classified and tabulated in the prescribed manner for analysis with the variables in consideration.



ANALYSIS AND
INTERPRETATION

CHAPTER 4
ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

TABLE NO 4.1

Age of the respondents

Class interval	Frequency	Percentage
17-20	25	50%
21-24	25	50%
Toal	50	100

Table no.1 shows the ages of the respondent ,who are college going students. Ages were classified into 2 classes. There is equal distribution 50% in both the classes.

TABLE NO 4.2

Sex of the respondents.

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	30	60%
Female	20	40%
Total	50	100

Table no.2 shows that there were more male respondents than girls.60% were male whereas and 40% girls.

TABLE NO 4.3

Colleges of the respondents.

College	Frequency	Percentage
1.S.H	12	24%
2.LAW	13	26%
3.MAHARAJAS	15	30%
4.COCHIN	10	20%
Total	50	100

Table no.3 shows the various colleges from where samples were collected. In ernakulam these are 4 prominent colleges with campus politics. Sample collected from Maharajas college was the highest 30% ,followed by government law college 26%, then from S.H college a total of 24%, the lowest 20% from cochin college.

TABLE NO -4.4

Course of study of respondents

Course of study	Frequency	Percentage
B.A	14	28%
BSC	11	22%
B.COM	12	24%
LAW	13	26%
Total	50	100

Table no.4 shows the various courses of the respondents which they are currently doing.28% of the respondents for the survey are doing their degree in various branches of Arts, followed by 26% of law students,24% and 22% doing their B.com and B.sc respectively

TABLE NO 4.5

Year of study of the respondents.

Year of study	Frequency	Percentage
1'st year	15	30%
2'nd year	7	14%
3'rd year	10	20%
4'th year	5	10%
5'th year	3	6%
Total	50	100

TABLE no.5 shows that 30 % majority of the respondents are in their 1st year of college getting exposed to college campus politics for the first year.10 % of them are doing their 3rd, year.7%,5%,3% respectively from 2nd,4th,and 5th year.

TABLE NO 4.6

Parties in college.

NAMES	Percentage
SFI	32%
KSU	28%
ABVP	22%
MSF	9.%
AIDSO	3%
OTHERS	6%
TOTAL	100

Table no.6 tells us that SFI and KSU are the two most prominent parties in campuses with 32% and 28% respectively. Followed by ABVP party with 22% whereas other parties such as MSF, AIDSO have a minority say of 9 and 3%, also other small parties with 6% respectively.

FIGURE NO.1

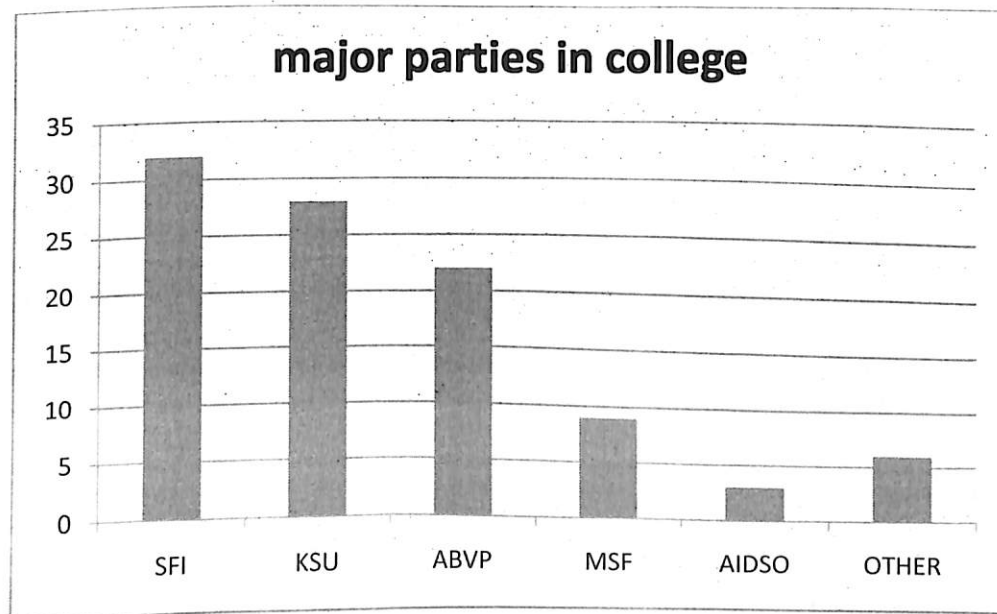


TABLE NO.4.7

Do you participate in the activities of campus politics

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	31	62%
No	19	38%
Total	50	100

Table no.9 shows that 62% of respondents make some or the other kind of participation in campus politics. Where as, 38% don't.

Table no 4.7(a)

Purpose of participation for the respondents.

Which are they	Frequency	Percentage
For Election	7	22.58%
For co-curricular activities.	13	41.0%
For Strikes	11	35.48%

Table no.9(a) shows the various kinds of participation that the respondents make in campus politics. It is interesting to note that of 35.48% make their participation in campus politics through strikes, either by joining the party with support, voluntarily cutting class for activities of campus politics.

TABLE NO 4.8

Are you member of any political party in college.

Answer	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	31	62%
No	19	38%
Total	50	100

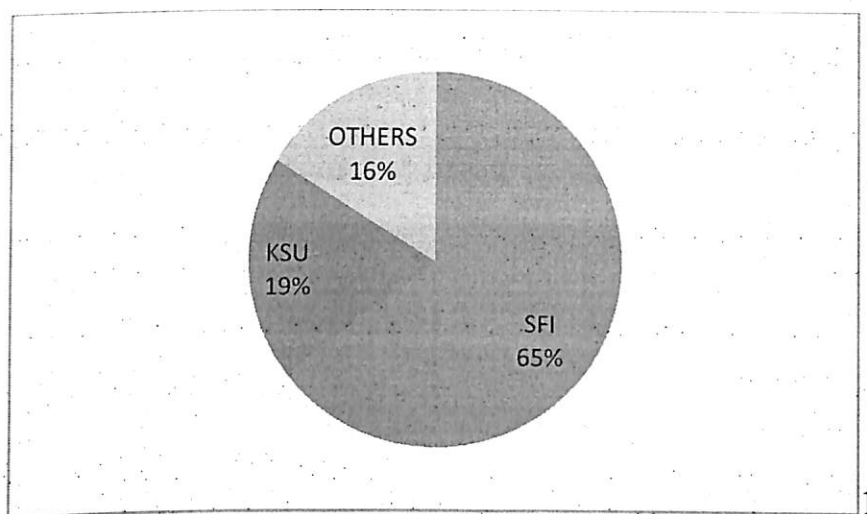
Table no.7 shows us that 62% majority of the respondents were members of one or the other party in college whereas 38% weren't

TABLE NO 4.8(A)**Parties to which the respondents are members.**

Name of party	Frequency	Percentage
SFI	20	65%
KSU	6	19%
Others	5	16%
TOTAL	31	100

FIGURE NO.2

showing the parties to which the respondents are members.

**TABLE NO 4.9****For how long are you member of any of the above mentioned party.**

Year	Frequency	Percentage
1	4	13%
2	13	42%
3	7	22%
4	3	10%
5	4	13%
TOTAL	31	100

Table no.8 clearly shows that campus politics is playing a vital role in the lives of students.62% of the respondents are members of some or the other political party. Out of which 13%of respondents are members of a party for 5 long years years.10 % of respondents for 4 years,22% of respondents are having an association lasting 3 years, and the majority group is the 2 year membership of respondents with 42% and at last are the 13% 1st,year members who have recently joined and are looking forward for further participation.

TABLE NO 4.10

Do you have any family member in politics.

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	12	24%
No	38	76%
Total	50	100

Table no.10 clerly shows that 76% more than half of the respondents don't have any family member in politics,where as 24% do have a close family member in politics.

TABLE NO 4.11

Does your family support you for participation in campus politics.

Answer	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	18	36%
No	32	64%

Table no.11 parents largely disagree to politics in campus . 64% of the respondent's parents don't support their them for it. only a marginal 36% of respondents agree to it.

TABLE NO 4.12

Do you have any political figure as role model.

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	21	42%
No	29	58%
Total	50	100

Table no.12 shows that 58% respondents don't have any political figure as role model whereas 42 % have a political figure as role model.

TABLE NO 4.13

Campus politics helps to solve problems between management and students.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	43	86%
No	7	14%
Total	50	100%

Table no13,shows that 86% of the respondents says that campus politics help to solve the problems between management and students, soul reason for why campus politics is still supported is this. and 14%says no for them campus politics has no such role.

FIGURE NO.3

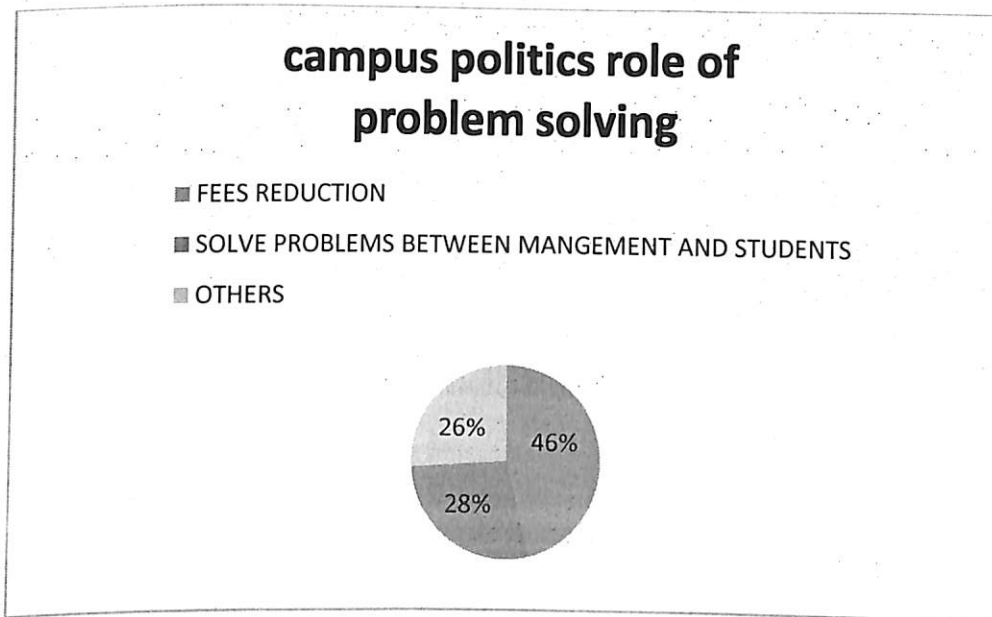


Figure shows that, campus politics helps in solve the problems,47% says that it helps to solve the problem related to fees.28% says that it helps to solve problems between management and students, and the 25% says other reason where campus politics takes the lead to solve problems.

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FIGURE NO.3

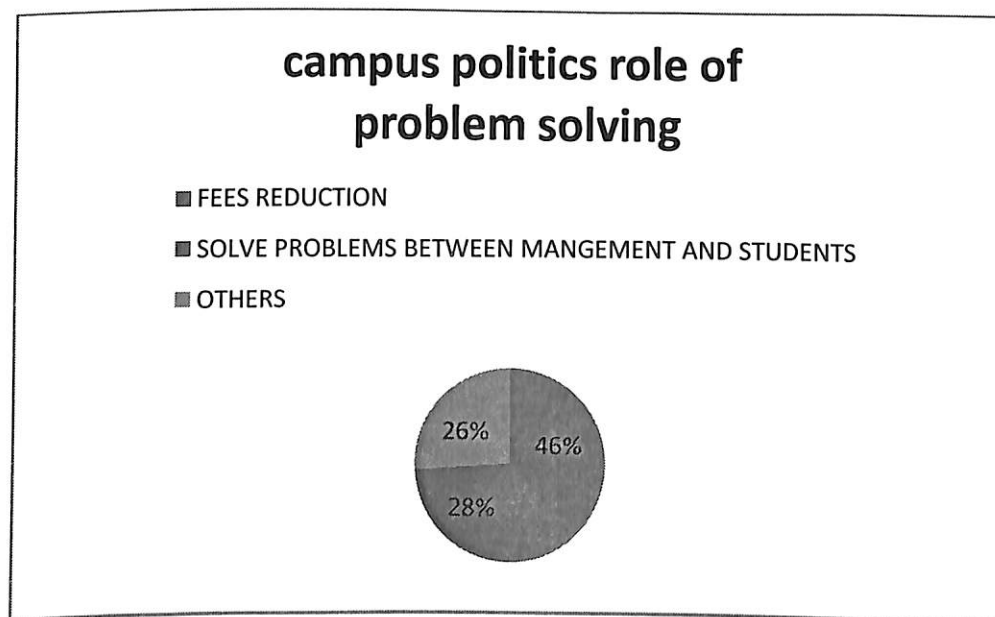


Figure shows that, campus politics helps in solve the problems,47% says that it helps to solve the problem related to fees.28% says that it helps to solve problems between management and students, and the 25% says other reason where campus politics takes the lead to solve problems.

TABLE NO 4.14**Do teachers in your college support you for political participation in campus**

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	33	66%
No	17	34
Total	50	100

Table no. 14 shows that a majority of respondents do get support for their political participation in campus from teacher which is a shocking finding contrary to the myth that teacher's don't support students .66% of teachers support them whereas 34 %wont.

TABLE NO 4.15**Campus politics help build leadership quality in you.**

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	33	66%
No	17	34%
Total	50	100

Table no .15 shows that 66 % of respondents from colleges where campus politics is active opined that activities and functions of campus politics helps to develop leadership qualities in students,positive impact of campus politics .34 % didn't agree to it .

TABLE NO 4.15(a)**The skills that are developed in students**

Skills developed	Frequency	Percentage
Organising power	25	76%
Over came stage fear	5	15%
Other	3	9%
Total	33	100

Table no 15(a), shows that 76% of the students says that it help to increase organising power,15% says it help to lose stage fear, while the others says it help to solve problems.

TABLE NO 4.16**Campus Promotes participation in co-curricular activities .**

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	46	92%
No	4	8%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no .16 tells us that 92 % of respondents do feel that campus politics in their college promotes them to participate in co -curricular activities, Showing us the larger positive impact of campus politics . Only a minority of 8% disagree to it .

TABLE NO 4.17**Weather you avail addition Welfare schemes through campus politics.**

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	20	40%
No	30	60%
TOTAL	50	100

In table no.17 it is reported that 40 % of respondents avail extra facilities or welfare schemes due to campus politics.60 % of respondents don't avail any such facilities.

Different types of welfare schemes that the respondents avail.

FIGURENO.4

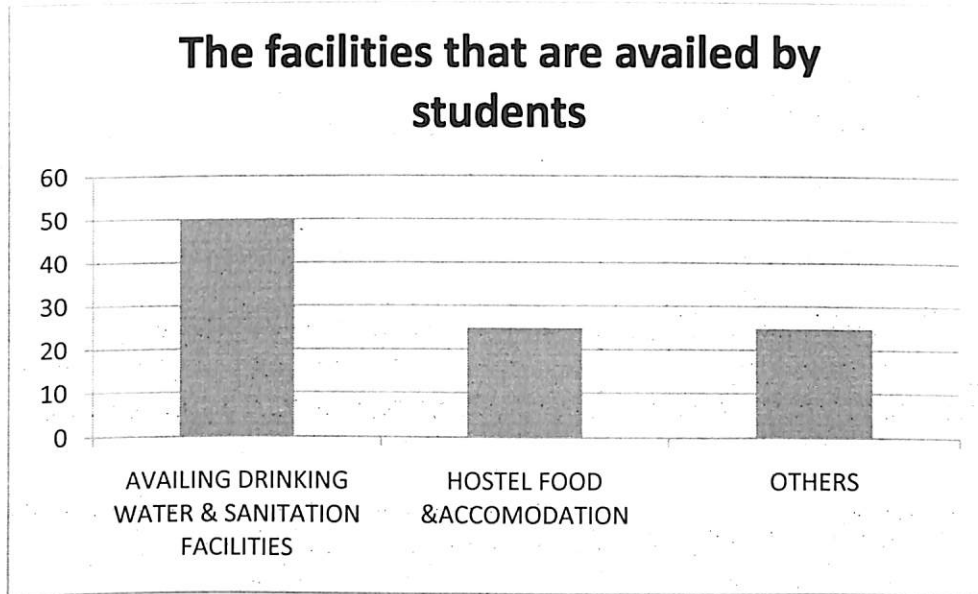


FIGURE NO.4 shows that in colleges at times few facilities are provided by the elected union.20 respondents avail these facilities . from them 50% that drinking water facility in college was provided by elected college union.25% avail hostel and accommodation facility, and 25% avail other facilities provided by college unions elected from campus politics.

TABLE NO 4.18

Are the Promises made during election in college fulfilled.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	35	70%
No	15	30%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no .18 shows us that most of the political parties in college i.e.70% fulfil the promises that they make during elections ,contrary to the usual assumption that political parties in campuses make false promises .Only 30 % feel that promises are not fulfilled .

TABLE NO 4.19**Helps you to be aware of social problems.**

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	44	88%
No	6	12%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.19 explains that a vast majority of 88% opined that campus politics help them keep themselves updated of the current social issues in their locality /state. This pointing to another important positive impact that campus politics makes on youth. Only a minority of 12 % disagree to it .

TABLE NO 4.20**Make you aware of current political situation.**

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	43	86%
No	7	14%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.20 shows that 86% of respondents opined that campus politics in their college helps them to understand current political issues and situation of the state/country .Again pointing to the positive impact of campus politics on youth. Only a minority of 7% disagree to it. Campus politics conducts the following events in their colleges to make students aware of the current political situation.

FIGURE NO 5

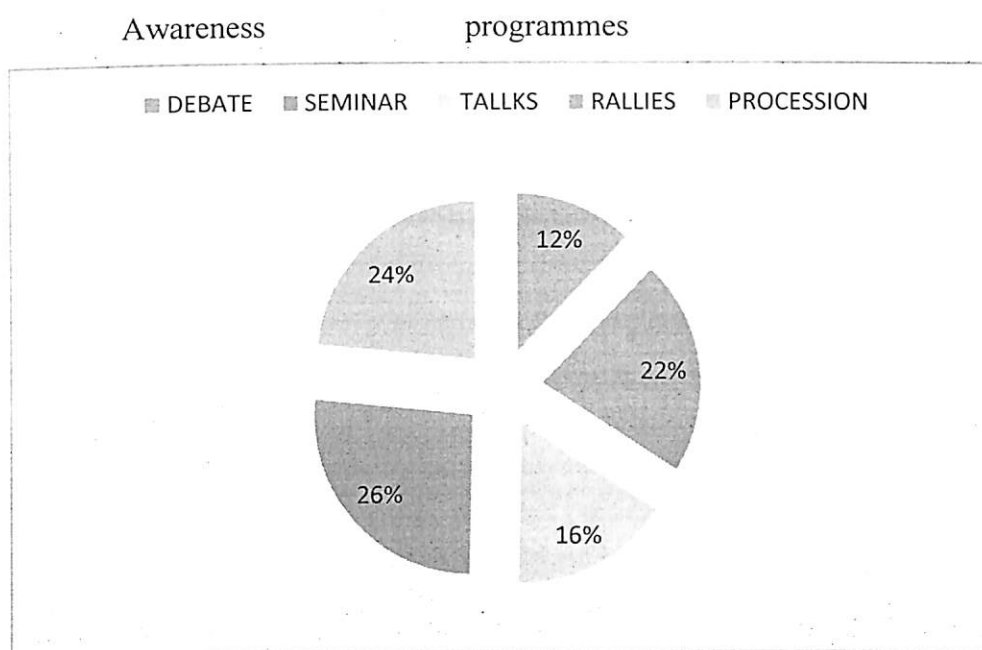


Figure shows that 26% of the respondents says that campus politics in their college conducts rallies to make them aware of current social issues, 24% say procession are held, 22% says that seminars are conducted. Also debate and talks are held in college on topics of current social issues. pointing to one of the major merits of campus politics.

TABLE NO 4.21

Campus politics make you aware of current economic scenario.

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	39	78%
No	11	22%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no 20, shows that 78% of the respondents agreed that campus politics help them to be aware of current economic scenario, while the other 22% of respondents don't think so.

TABLE NO 4.22

Are you interested in making further political participation after college.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	15	30%
No	35	70%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.22 shows that with the impact of campus politics in their lives,30% of respondents are interested in making further political participation after college this is the main reason to say that ultimately campus politics benefits the nation, today top leaders of various political parties were once leaders of campus politics in their college , where as 70% of don't want to.

Table no 4.22(a)

Reasons for why they are interested in making further political participation.

Reason	Frequency	Percentage
Due to political interest	8	53%
For the welfare of society	7	47%
TOTAL	15	100

Table no.22(a) shows that from the 15 who are interested in making further participation 53% wish so due to their political interest and 47%of respondents because they wish to provide social welfare to the society. Although a small fraction but still there students ,who don't see politics as a dirty word.

TABLE NO 4.23**Campus politics has a role in making political leaders**

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	47	94%
No	3	6%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.23,shows that 94% of respondents believe that campus politics plays an important role in making political leaders, where as just 6% disagree for them campus politics is just for student agitation.

TABLE NO 4.24**Campus politics leads to violence in college.**

Response.	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	29	58%
No	21	42%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.24 shows an important aspect of campus politics in colleges. The negative aspect of campus politics is the violence is leads.58% of respondents agree to it, where as 42% disagree to it.

Table no 4.24 (a)**What leads to violence in colleges?**

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Due to Individual conflicts	13	45%
Due to party difference	16	55%
TOTAL	29	100

FIGURE NO.6



Figure no.6 shows the reasons that leads to campus politics,one major reason is party conflict that erupts mostly during the election time 55% of respondents give this as reason and 45 % say that individual conflicts on the basis of party support might lead to large conflict.

TABLE NO 4.25

Do you miss out teaching hours in college due to the activites of campus politics.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	41	82%
No	9	18%
TOTAL	50	100

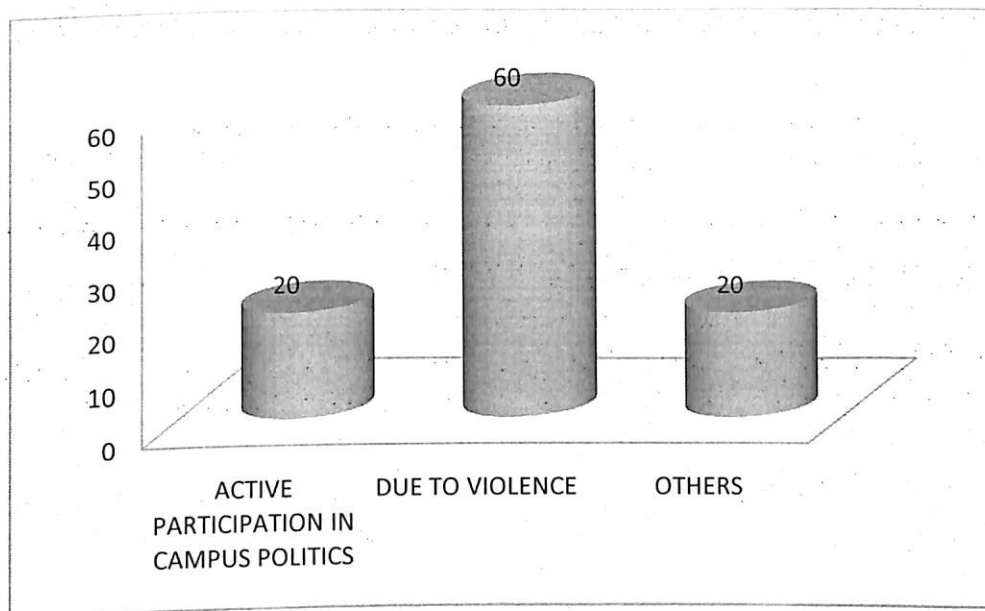
Table no.25 shows the one long lasting stigma with campus politics is that with its strong activities within campus disturbs academic setup, interrupts classes, forces students to cut classes as such 82 % of students agree to this just 18% say that they don't miss out any teaching hour.

TABLE NO 4.25(a)**Reasons for missing out teaching hours**

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Active participation	10	20%
Strikes/violence	30	60%
Others	10	20%
TOTAL	50	100

FIGURE NO.7

Reasons for missing out teaching hours in college.

**TABLE NO 4.26****Campus politics affects your academic performance poorly.**

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	16	32%
No	34	68%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.26 shows that 68 % of respondents don't think that campus politics in their college affects their academic performance. Strikes or violence nothing affects their studies, where as 32% say their participation in campus politics indirectly affects their academic performance.

TABLE NO 4.26(a)

The different ways through which campus politics can affect academic performance.

Reason	Frequency	Percentage
Strikes	12	75%
Other's	4	25%
TOTAL	16	100

Table no.26(a) shows the various reasons through which studies can be affected in colleges. From the 16 who say their studies are affected, 75% from them optioned that its due to strikes that they lose their teaching classes, that affects their studies.,and rest 25 % gave other reasons such as active participation.

TABLE NO 4.27

Do you work for raising funds for the act ivies of campus politics outside campus.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	16	32%
No	34	68%
TOTAL	50	100

TABLE no.27 shows that 32% of respondents do work to raise funds for their party works or for various college functions in the form of collecting donations ,collecting sponrship.

TABLE NO 4.28

Are you aware of any laws on campus politics.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	27	54%
No	23	46%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.28 makes it clear that despite there are laws made, kerala high court judgements on campus politics, Mahathma Gandhi university to which all the colleges where research was undertaken are affiliated, gives its code of content which bans campus politics in colleges but not all students are made aware of this. 46 % of respondents are not aware of any such laws, where as 54 % know it.

TABLE NO 4.29

Do girls in your college actively participate in campus politics

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	27	54%
No	23	46%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.29 respondents opined that girls do participate in election. Right from party election, for party collection, for various functions related to campus politics girls also give their participation. 54% of respondents opined that girls participate where as 46 % say a no.

TABLE NO 4.30

Are girls willing to contest in election in your college.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	35	70
No	15	30
Total	50	100

Table no.30 shows that largely girls are willing to contest for college election. At least 2 to 3 seats are mandatory posts for girls, hence many girls are ready at any point of the year to become elected as a member of the union. 70 % of respondents opined that girls in their college are willing where as 30% don't think so.

TABLE NO 4.31.

DO you think that girls can be elected to unreserved(seats other than reserved for girls) seats also on your college.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
YES	7	14
No	43	86
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.31 clearly shows that girls still hold a minority position in campus politics. There are reserved seats for girls, only to those seats are girls elected, other than that even if girls are willing they hardly get elected, there is strong party support for boys than girls. Only 14% respondents opined that girls can be elected to unreserved seats, where as a large majority of 86 % say a no.

FIGURE NO .8

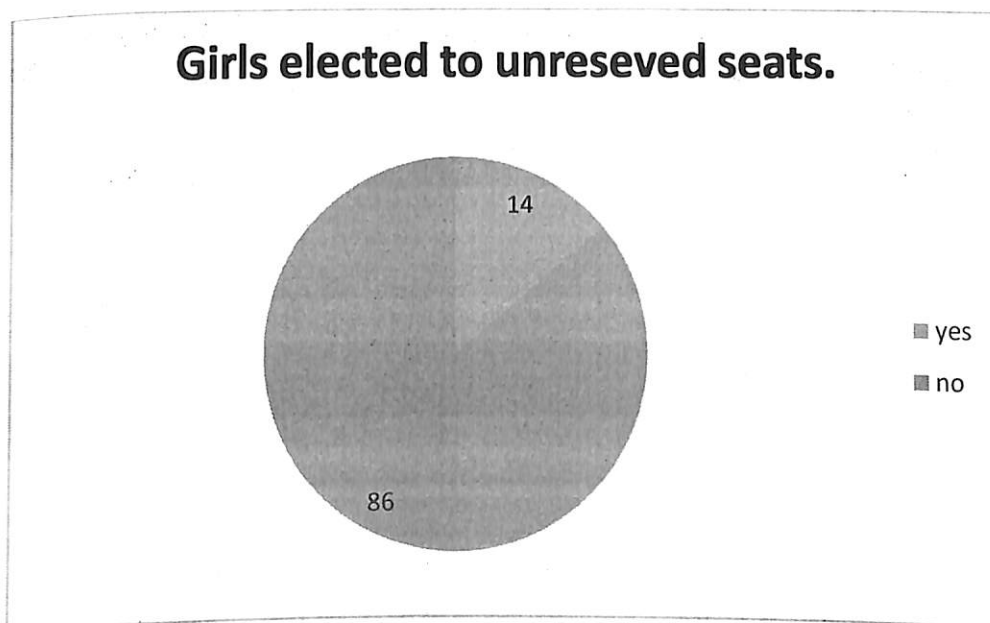


TABLE NO 4.32

Do you think campus politics is necessary in colleges.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	37	74%
No	13	26%
TOTAL	50	100

FIGURENO. 9

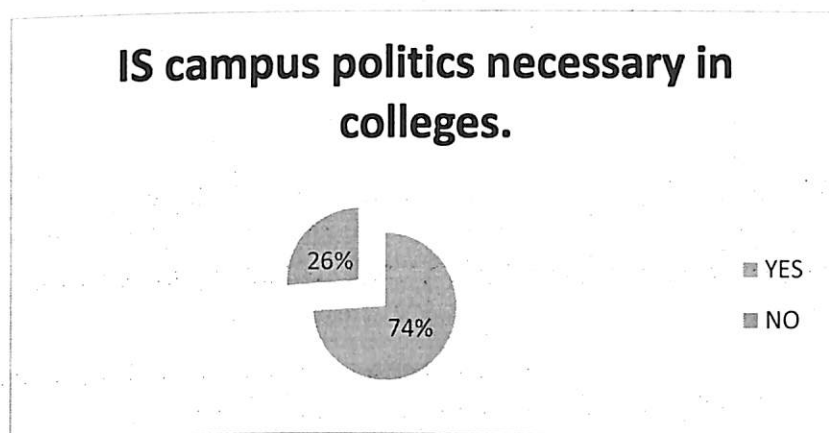


Table no.32. shows that 74% of respondents opined that campus politics is necessary in college despite its drawbacks and harmful effects on students. Suggesting reasons in support of it they think campus politics is very much essential within a academic setup, where as 26 % disagree giving reasons of violence mainly.

Table no 4.32(a)

Reasons for why campus politics is considered necessary by respondents .

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Student -management problem solving	22	59.5%
Overall development of students.	5	13.5%
Others	10	27%
TOTAL	37	100

Table no 32(a) show that students in colleges where campus politics exists consider it very much essential. They consider campus politics as a platform from which students can rise their voice to the management. 59.5 % of respondents give this reason to support campus politics in colleges. 13.5% of students think that for an overall development of students which can't be acquired through books, campus politics is essential, and another 27 % give other reasons for why they consider campus politics necessary

TABLE NO 4.33

Campus politics helped you to grow to a better person.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	35	70%
No	15	30%
TOTAL	50	100

Table no.33 shows a very important aspect of campus politics, what can be the ultimate benefit of campus politics to an individual. If it helps to modify one's personality for better we can largely say that campus politics is for good. 70% of respondents opined so, they have had a positive growth in them due to campus politics, whereas 30 % don't feel so.

Table no 4.33(a)

How has campus politics helped you.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Improve leadership quality	10	29%
Personality development	7	20%
Make aware of socio-political condition	17	49%
Others	1	2%
TOTAL	35	100

FIGURENO..10

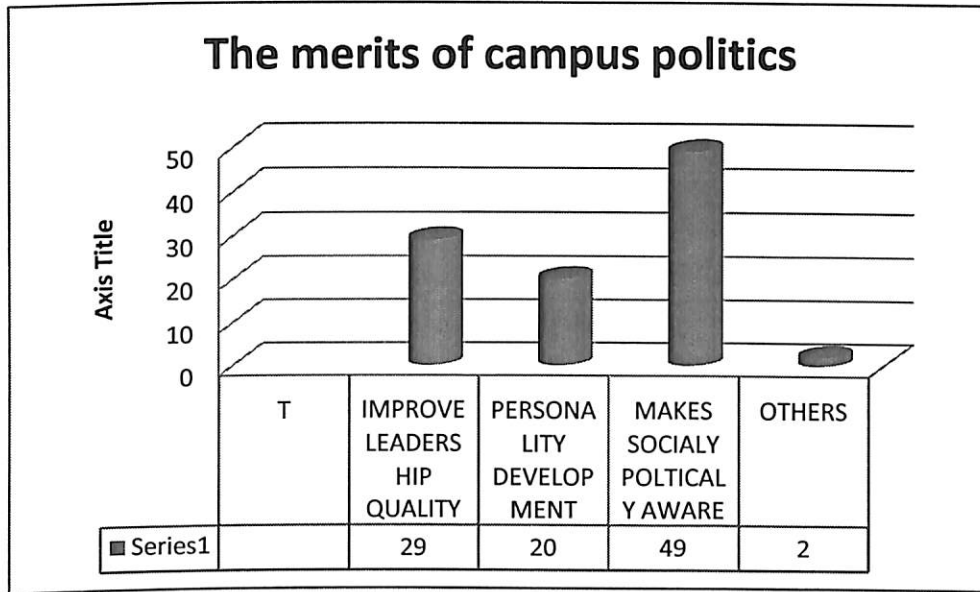


Table no.33(a) shows the various aspects that the respondents feel are developed with campus politics in college. Various programmes organised by campus politics infill's qualities of leadership in them.29% of respondents feel that their leadership skills are improved ,20% say it has modified their personality for better. Where as a large number of our respondents ,49% think that campus politics offers them the best platform to discuss politics, makes them aware of current political, economic and social problems and rest 2% give other reasons to say that campus politics has only benefited them.



FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

CHAPTER-5

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The study titled "Sociological Study of Influence of Campus Politics Among College Students in Eranakulam District." was undertaken mainly to analyse the impact of campus politics on students as well as to know the extend of awareness about the laws related to it among the students. Throughout the study the respondents were very co-operative. The major findings of the study are as follows.

The study shows that campus politics holds an important role in the lives of students. They saw campus elections with the same seriousness which they show in university exams, winning elections was very important to them. Surprisingly there are even students who took admissions to these particular colleges in Ernakulam famous for campus politics to be just part of it. 62% of the respondents were members of one or the other party in college. These are students who talk, discuss and debate on various political topics unlike those who view politics as a taboo. This shows a new distinction of present day society, that is, two different sects of students. One who live in politics, and other who just stays away from the world of politics. In majority of Kerala campuses politics is in full fledged form. Even with the barring of political activity in colleges, strong political activities, which often turns into violence and cause deaths is still persisting in our campuses. Today this is a very hot debate topic in Kerala. In most private colleges the ban is exercised but almost all government colleges irrespective of whether Arts, Technical or Medical college and to few aided college the ban has nothing to do.

It was found out that two very prominent parties in almost all colleges are KSU and SFI followed by AVBP, MSF and AIDS. Students have been members of these parties for several years. Some are having 4 or 5 years long association where as few with 2 or 3 years, also a few who have just recently joined. Students are active in campus politics despite lack of family support, as from the research it was clear that only a few are getting family support, majority of the students don't have a political figure as role model and are lacking proper political orientation but still are attracted to campus politics. In most government colleges students do get support for their political participation in campus from teachers.

Students consider campus politics has a platform from where they can voice their needs to the management 86% of the respondents feel so . Various political parties contest in election offering many promises, respondents reported that most of the promises are fulfilled, students at times even acquire various facilities through the elected union, such as drinking water facility, hostel etc.

74% of respondents consider campus politics as necessary in colleges. Giving various reasons, students are of the view that they should be student organisation for their true representation.

FROM the research the following understanding could be made.

Positive impact of campus politics

- **Leadership**

66% of our respondents opined that , through participation in campus politics students can develop leadership qualities. Various functions are organised in college under the banner of parties through which students can organise and lead them. Youth festival of the university of each year being one major event to which participation of the college is made with the leadership of unions elected from campus politics.

- **Campus politics helps to solve problems between management and students.**
86% of the respondents says that campus politics help to solve the problems between management and students, soul reason for why campus politics is still supported is this.

- **Promotes participation in co-curricular activities.**

Almost all respondents were of the view that campus politics enhanced participation of students to various co-curricular activities.

- **Helps students to be aware of the political/social/economic situation of the state/nation.**

Large number of students responded that various programmes are conducted by various parties in campus such as debate, seminar,talks and rallies to make students aware of various issues.

- **Role in making future political leaders and attitudinal change in youth.**

Campus politics from the early 90's is associated with making leaders for the nation. 30% of the respondents are interested in making further political participation after college. For this they consider campus politics has given them the foundation.

- **Girls actively participate in the activities of campus politics**

Unlike previous times, today girls too participate in campus politics, there are reserved seats for girls.

- **Personality development.**

70% of the respondents have opined that campus politics has helped them to grow to a better person by inculcating them with leadership qualities, and modifies their personality much better

Negative impacts of campus politics on students.

- **Violence**

58% of respondents reported that campus politics leads to fights/violence in campuses. Rival parties of college are constantly engaged in fights. Election in campus is one such event that doesn't go without violence every year.

- **Miss out teaching hours**

82% of our respondents reported that they miss out teaching hours in college due to the activities of campus politics. Activities such as strikes or due to violence general students miss out teaching hours in college. Also active participation in the activities of politics is another important reason for this.

- **Poor representation of girls in the elected union.**

Girls largely are elected to reserved seats only, only a minority of girls get elected to unreserved seats. Also those who want to get elected they need strong party support than their individual merit or will.

Another major objective of the research was to understand the awareness among college students about laws on campus politics. It was found that their awareness in this regard was poor. Students know about the law regarding election, but are largely unaware of the high court bans or the Mahatma Gandhi university code of conduct. But to this there is an exception as law students are aware of these above mentioned laws, and one of the colleges taken for study was Ernakulam law college.

Among the three hypotheses selected for the study, the first hypothesis, that is, campus politics develops leadership qualities among students, and the third one that is,

Elected leaders are more boys than girls was found true .66% of our respondents opined through participation in campus politics students can develop leadership qualities. And it was found that majority of the girls are elected to reserved seats, only a minority of girls get elected to unreserved seats. Also those who want to get elected need strong party support than their individual merit or will. The second hypothesis

campus politics leads to lower performance in academics was to a great extent found false. From the responses, what we understood is that, this is a usual myth associated with campus politics. But students don't feel so, they opined that they can balance both. 68 % of respondents don't think that campus politics in their college affects their academic performance.

The two main limitations faced during the study were the lack of appropriate literature and the biased responses of some of the students.

To conclude ,campus politics is something which has a enormous impact on youth. Politically active campuses and students shows its relevance and the impact which it makes in them.

APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRE

SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF INFLUENCE OF CAMPUS POLITICS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS IN ERNAKULAM DISTRICT

1. Name:
2. Age :
3. Sex
4. College
5. Course of study: BA/BSC/B.COM/OTHERS
6. Year of study:
7. Parties in college:
8. Are you member of any political party: Yes/No
If yes name the party:
9. For how many years are you member of any political party:
10. Do you participate in activities of campus politics:
Yes/No
If yes please mention a few
11. Do you have any family member in politics: Yes/No
12. Does your family support you for participation in campus politics: Yes/No If yes explain why?
13. Do you have any political figure as role model: Yes/No
If yes who?

14. Does campus politics in your college help in solving problems between students: Yes/No
15. Does campus politics in your college help in solving problems between management(authority of college) and students: Yes/No ;Explain:
16. Do teachers in your college support you for your political participation in campus: Yes/No
17. Does campus politics in your college help to build leadership quality in you; Yes/No, Explain
18. Does campus politics in your college promote you to participate in co-curricular activities: Yes/No
19. Is there any additional welfare scheme in the campus that you are availing as a result of campus politics: Yes/No
Mention if any;
20. Do political parties in your campus fulfill the promises that they make: Yes/No
21. Does campus politic help you to understand current social issues of the society: Yes/No
22. Does campus politics helps you to understand current political situation of your city/state: Yes/No
23. Does campus politics helps you to understand current economic scenario of your city/state: Yes/No

24. To make you aware of the current issues, does campus politics in your college conduct any of the events:

A)Debate B)Seminar C) Talks D)Rallies E)Procession

25. Are you interested in making further political participation after completing your college course: Yes/No If yes why?

26. Do you think that campus politics has a role in making future political leaders: Yes/No

If yes how?

If no why?

27. In your opinion does campus politics leads to violence in campus: Yes/ No ,Explain why?

28. Does campus politics in your college follow strict rules and regulation regarding election: Yes/No

29. Do you miss out teaching hours in college due to the activities of campus politics: Yes/No

30. What may be the reasons due to which you may miss out teaching hours?

(mark in the given space to indicate your answer)

A) Active participation in campus politics ()

B) Due to strikes/ violence raising out of campus politics ()

C) Due to other reasons related to campus politics ()

31. Does campus politics affect your academic performance:
Yes/No

If yes how?

32. Do you work for raising funds for the activities of campus politics outside campus: yes/No

33. Are you aware of any laws on campus politics: yes/No

If yes, which are they?

34. Do girls in your college actively participate in campus politics; yes/No

35. Are girls willing to conduct in elections in your college:
yes/No

Explain your answer?

36. Do you think that girls can be elected to unreserved (seats other than reserved for girls) seats also in your college? yes/No. explain yours.



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