The Central Liberal Truth

A Review

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The Central Liberal Truth: How politics can change a culture and save it from itself

Lawrence E. Harrison.

Theme: Culture Matters

Role in Development

Culture Topology (25 categories) (Progressive/resistant prone)
- Worldview
- Values/virtues
- Economic behavior
- Social behavior
Theme: Culture Matters

- Role in Development
- Culture Topology
- Research/Evidence
  - "Case studies"
  - Anecdotal

Critique

- Lack of Empiricism
  - Conjectural analysis
  - Uni-causal
  - Lack of empirical data
  - Cause or effect?

Summary/Conclusion

- Culture is Important
- Needs Quantification
- Remedies Required
Summary/Conclusion

- Culture is Important
  - Issue neglected, but important
  - Foundation laid
  - Additional research required

Culture is Important

- Lack of Quantification
  - Conjecture
  - Lacks empirical analysis
  - Gestalt view need

Culture is Important

- Needs Quantification
- Remedies Required
  - Exogenous remedies!

Cultural change occurs when two factors coincide: (1) leaders with progressive vision, and (2) a time of crisis or unique opportunity. (p. 164)

Summary/Conclusion

- Culture is Important
- Needs Quantification
- Remedies Required
  - Exogenous remedies!
  - Not specific
  - Additional research required

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