

How to improve the voter turnout among young generation

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1. Introduction

Voter turnout is very low among young generation in Japan and the UK. My research focuses on how to improve the turnout among young people. I had interviews with the experts of politics at the University of Cambridge.

2. Fundamental

At 2018.7 House of Commons election, the turnout was lower than 50%. In addition, in the UK and Japan, the turnout among young generation is much lower than older generation's.



3. Methodology

Interview at the University of Cambridge
Professor John Dunn, King's college, Political theory
Research Questions.

1. People do not think their votes can bring about change. What can be done to change this misconception?
2. How can the government help engage young people in politics?
3. Why do you think the voter turnout is so low among young people, and they're so apathetic or hostile to political engagement?
4. Politicians tend to make policies that advantageous to older generations. How can we ensure "one person, one vote" and that young people are heard?

4. Results, Answers

A.1

Education in school. If people haven't enough knowledge about politics, you could even make voting compulsory, you may have fine if you do not vote.

A.2

- It is thought that Parliament is stuffy, old, and boring so they need to try make the whole process modern.
- We can see what's going on and recent work in parliament on TV, smart phone, and website. But ordinary people feel like there is no productive policy making there. It's just looks like children's fighting while politicians do their debates.

A.3

- Because they think Parliament is composed of white, male and quite old, so they think their voices aren't heard.
- Most of politicians are graduates of public school (schools for wealthy class in the UK), so young people feel like politicians' sense is a little different from ordinary people.

A.3

- Lack of education in terms of how we should be good citizens and how should we participate in democracy.
- Process of election is complicated, not clear. We cannot vote politicians directly.

A.4

- EU has strict regulations on finance, so we really are "one person, one vote".
But in the world such as the US, there are a lot of voting lobbying by companies so "one dollar, one vote".
We're lucky in this country so we just need to encourage people to vote here.
- If politicians don't have older people's vote, they can be voted out. By the people who do vote, who are not elderly, this circumstances can be change. So young people just need turnout. Simple that.



5. Discussion

- Why the turnout among young generation is so low?

- Lack of education
- Parliament is not close to ordinary people
- Politicians' debates are not complicated
- Voting systems are complicated

- How to improve the voter turnout?

- Change the educational system, if people have responsibilities of voting, you could even make voting compulsory.
- Reconsider the voting system, Parliament systems and politicians' attitudes.



6. Conclusion

Considering these interviews, I think young people have to vote to just make politics close to them. Also I could have interviews with great experts at Cambridge University and real young generation's opinion. I feel the opinion that parliament is just like children's fighting is really interesting. I feel like young people in the UK have more aggressive opinions than Japanese.

7. Acknowledgements

I am indebted to Professor John Dunn (King's College, Cambridge University), Mr Luke Belman-Jones (graduate of Cambridge University), Ms Maggie Lin (graduate of Cambridge University)

Prof. John Dunn and I



Maggie, Luke and I



John and I

