

A Brief Look on Policy, Typology of Policy, and Its Related Affairs

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Abstract

The nature of policy issue relevant not only to scientists and scholars of politics, sociology and public administration but also for scholars and practitioners in institutions and organizations of different governments, businesses and NGOs and civil society in general. This paper aims to study the importance of the policy, typology and its related issues.

Keywords: Policy, policy typology, related affairs in policy

Introduction

A policy is typically described as a principle or rule to guide decisions and achieve rational outcome(s). The term is not normally used to denote what is actually done; this is normally referred to as either procedure or protocol (Anderson, 2005). Whereas a policy will contain the 'what' and the 'why', procedures or protocols contain the 'what', the 'how', the 'where', and the 'when'.

A Policy can be considered as a "Statement of Intent" or a "Commitment". For that reason at least, we can be held accountable for our "Policy".

Policy or policy study may also refer to the process of making important organizational decisions, including the identification of different alternatives such as programs or spending priorities, and choosing among them on the basis of the impact they will have. Policies can be understood as political, management, financial, and administrative mechanisms arranged to reach explicit goals (Wikipedia, 2010).

Policy and its differences with similarities like rules, law and ...

The term may apply to government, private sector organizations and groups, and individuals. Presidential executive orders, corporate privacy policies, and parliamentary rules of order are all examples of policy. Policy differs from rules or law. While law can compel or prohibit behaviors (e.g. a law requiring the payment of taxes on income), policy merely guides actions toward those that are most likely to achieve a desired outcome. (Wikipedia, 2010) We conceive of policy not so much as actively purpose oriented but rather as a fairly cohesive set of responses to a problem that has arisen.

In the sphere of government development activities, governments have policies, plans, programmers and projects, each of these in succession being a little more short-term, more specific in place and timing than the previous and each successively more executive rather than legislative (FAO, 2008). Policies are generally adopted by the Board of or senior governance body within an organization where as procedures or protocols would be developed and adopted by senior executive officers.

Typology of policy

There are different types of policy for example:

- Housing policy
- Education policy
- Tax policy government policy
- Media policy
- Partnership policy
- Foreign policy

But in general there are typology of policy that according to the one in Wikipedia for those who want to study policy in general they can benefit from it, that typology comes as below

Distributive policies

This policy i.e. distributive policy is one which benefits the constituents of one district, but whose costs are borne collectively (Coate, 2005). Distributive policies extend goods and services to members of an organization, as well as distributing the costs of the goods/services amongst the members of the organization. For example in Iran there is a plan that 9th government –Dr. Ahmadinezhad- has started to distribute Yaraneh and it will develop citizen's welfare. Other Examples include government policies that impact spending for welfare, public education, highways, and public safety, or a professional organization's benefits plan.

Regulatory policies

Regulatory policies, or mandates, limit the discretion of individuals and agencies, or otherwise compel certain types of behavior. These policies are generally thought to be best applied when good behavior can be easily defined and bad behavior can be easily regulated and punished through fines or sanctions. An example of a fairly successful public regulatory policy is that of a speed limit. In Iran also regulatory policies are increasing for example in the area of driving. If a driver speeds up more than 20 KM from the authorized speed that driving license will be canceled and that driver should apply for other license and also will be punished.

Constituent policies

Constituent policies create executive power entities, or deal with laws. Constituent policies also deal with Fiscal Policy in some circumstances. For example in Iran Majles, legislature powers the government to do some more activities that are previously has been accepted in the budget protocol.

Miscellaneous policies

Policies are dynamic; they are not just static lists of goals or laws. Policy blueprints have to be implemented, often with unexpected results. Social policies are what happens 'on the ground' when they are implemented, as well as what happens at the decision making or legislative stage.

When the term policy is used, it may also refer to:

- Official government policy (legislation or guidelines that govern how laws should be put into operation)
- Broad ideas and goals in political manifestos and pamphlets
- A company or organization's policy on a particular topic. For example, the equal opportunity policy of a company shows that the company aims to treat all its staff equally (Wikipedia, 2010).

Policy and its roles

The role of policy is important in economic, social and political related issues. The search for coordination and coherence of policies should take into account the fact that ideas about policy and its role in development have changed over time, indicating the difficulty to find clarity on the approaches to social investment, poverty alleviation and equity. The result of the implementation of social policies that have gone through profound changes in its design is alarming in terms of deep social inequalities and the welfare of individuals in society (William, 1988: Spicker, 2000). Thus, social policy is that part of public policy that has to do with social issues. The Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy at Harvard University describes it as "public policy and practice in the areas of health care, human services, criminal justice, inequality, education, and labor." (Rittel & Webber, 1973). Social policy often deals with issues which Rittle & Webber (1973) called wicked problems.

Policy and social policy

Scholars of policy may be advised simply to forget Foucault, Baudrillard and post-classicism and postmodernism. If it is grounded in empiricism of social policy, for any evidence that the founders of the welfare state have been based on any period that you can choose, remain ideas that were not considered benign, even in the eyes of his contemporaries, the as in modern times. Social Policy and Administration is an academic subject concerned with the study of social services and the welfare state. It developed in the early part of the 20th century as a complement to social work studies, aimed at people who would be professionally involved in the administration of welfare. In the course of the last forty years, the range and breadth of the subject has developed. A poor understanding of why and how social policy is not subject developed fine detail, is the traditional concern of social policy count of people with their own facts against the interests of sociologists and political scientists in the broad sense of events or theory, which is not to say that there is a truth that everyone can agree. The history of social policy is as contested as any other. But if the claim is that the welfare development illustrates the limitations of modernist exercise, may be more helpful to recognize the various and different ways that welfare has taken. Moreover, the history and development of social policy now illuminates the modernity and reveals greater complexity and ambiguity of what is often thought (Hernandez & Noruzi & Irani, 2011). Social Policy is a subject area, not a discipline; it borrows from other social science disciplines in order to develop study in the area.

The contributory disciplines include sociology, social work, psychology, economics, political science, management, history, philosophy and law (Spicker, 2007). Policies are operating rules that can be referred to as a way to maintain order, security, consistency, or otherwise force a goal or mission. For example, a town council might have a policy against hiring the relatives of council members for civic positions. Each time that situation arises; council members can refer to the policy, rather than having to make decisions on a case-by-case basis (policy-based management, 2011).

Iran, Islam and History of Social Policy

Islamic republic of Iran is an Islamic country which has a good and comprehensive policy making system with its base and foundation on holy Quran and Islamic roles. Evidence suggesting that policy and policy making is one of the fundamental parts of any government. And there are different types of policy making process in different countries, for example some countries having democratic and some have dictatorship policy making process (Danaee Fard & Noruzi, 2011). Islam is one of the most important proponents of social policy Muslims were always pioneer in helping and giving money for the poor to have good life as the other and the earliest example goes back to Umar ibn al-Khattāb's rule as the second caliph of Islam. He used zakah collections although it is now be used and a lot of Muslim countries use it and also other governmental resources to establish pensions, income support, child benefits, various stipends for people of the non-Muslim community.

In the West, proponents of scientific social planning, such as the sociologist Auguste Comte, and social researchers, such as Charles Booth, contributed to the emergence of social policy in the first industrialized countries. Other significant examples in the development social policy are the Bismarckian welfare state in 19th century Germany; social security policies introduced by the New Deal in the United States between 1933 and 1935, and health reforms in the UK following the Beveridge Report of 1942 (social policy, 2006). Modern government is based on a social contract between citizens and the state in which rights and duties are agreed to by all to further the common interest. Citizens lend their support to a government through taxes and efforts to a country's good; in return, governments acquire legitimacy by protecting the people's rights and through public policies that benefit all. However, policy making is often captured by powerful groups and elites, making government policies biased and unaccountable to the majority of citizens. With half the world's population living below the two-dollar –aday poverty line, ineffective social policies can be the spark for state breakdown (Ortiz, 2007, p. 7).

Why policy is important for us

Policy is very important for us and we should note for this important that policy causes different goals be integrated and this integrations causes government' success. Countries which do not from systematic policy making processes they will not be more success. They do not really know where they want to go. Policy is just like a bulb in the dark it is lightened the way the country wants to go. Also policy helps country in designing the long term planning. Although very long term policies today are not possible because of the very fast environmental changes but this not means omitting the policy making (Rahimi & Noruzi, 2011). focuses on the nature of human interdependency; on the way in which people care for and about each other; on the part the 'welfare state' plays in shaping the nature of caring – and, for example, the gender implications; on ethical questions about principles of care and justice. Also its goal is to maximize people's chances of a good life. Its substance, therefore, lies in the theoretical debate and practical definition of what constitutes the good life and the fundamental nature of human need (dean sample, 2005).

Results and discussions

Beyond being uniform, the field of policy consists of many sub-fields, although often found within the welfare system some social programs any way each area of social policy, health, education, social security, etc. Not only displays a different structure but very different habits enabled and may involve different interests, even though the context is this a similar structure of domination. Therefore, the interface of different policy agencies and beneficiaries also gain a very different character with universal policy programs due to the factors that influence the welfare effort, the mechanisms involved, the task forces that have been developed inside, etc., which determines why social programs are more developed in some countries than others and from one region to another. The contributions of university professors, politicians and elites cannot be considered low. The academic papers are deployed to offer from the major theoretical and methodological approaches and empirical research. To put in their proper context the important contributions of the processes of social policy change in the construction of social development should make some notes theoretical and methodological research into social policy. policy aims to improve human welfare and to meet human needs for education, health, housing and social security. In an academic environment, social policy refers to the study of the welfare state and the range of responses to social need (answers, 2011).

Social policy will help the community much more improvement in different aspects for example some come in the following:

- Quality of life
- Education
- Citizenship
- Culture
- Income
- Economic
- Resident in the rural areas (Hernandez & Noruzi & Irani, 2011).

Also many consumer agencies use information campaigns and marketing to influence people's behavior and reduce the risk of consumer detriment. Such strategies involve messages such as informing teenagers about the impact of excessive debts, encouraging householders to use licensed trades people or informing businesses about ethical processes for conducting real estate auctions.¹ Evaluations of these information campaigns often measure the penetration and accessibility of the information, but not its success in changing behavior. Sometimes, the target audience is aware of the messages being delivered but does not respond by changing its behavior (Cousins, 2006; Irani & Noruzi, 2011). Individuals and groups often attempt to shape public policy through education, advocacy, or mobilization of interest groups. Shaping public policy is obviously different in Western-style democracies than in other forms of government. But it is reasonable to assume that the process always involves efforts by competing interest groups to influence policy makers in their favor (Kilpatrick, 2000).

- It is concerned, in part, with the social policies that governments have in relation to such things as social security, health, education, housing and the personal social services. In the developed countries of the world, the scale of spending on social policies is absolutely massive and generally accounts for a major slice of national income.
- It is both multi- and inter-disciplinary. It is not, however, a subject for butterflies – who flit aimlessly from idea to idea – but for magpies, who purposefully, but imaginatively, pick what they need from across the social sciences in a way that is both pragmatic and creative

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