

Book Reviews: Political Economy

Geographical coverage is, as usual, not strictly determined by theoretical interest. Thus it is difficult to see why Germany, with its paucity of parties and coalitions, deserves two chapters, whereas the Scandinavian countries collectively get the short shrift of one. The latter chapter (by John Fitzmaurice) is in turn internally uneven. Denmark is covered in a much more satisfactory manner than Sweden or (particularly) Norway. On the latter country, Fitzmaurice commits a multitude of embarrassing factual errors, such as misspelling the names of all but 2 parties (out of 11) in the Appendix (pp. 276-77). A positive feature of the country coverage is the inclusion of Spain, despite the limited history of party coalitions in that new democracy.

In sum, Geoffrey Pridham and his collaborators have made a useful, but hardly indispensable, contribution to our understanding of coalition governments. The book may be read for its juxtaposition of Pridham's and Laver's critiques of deductive coalition theory. Some readers may also value the insight they gain concerning ongoing research projects. Yet it is fair to assume that most will find its main contribution in the rich and relatively systematic country-specific treatment of historical, cultural, and institutional constraints on coalition politics.

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Erratum

Francis A. Beer, Alice F. Healy, Grant P. Sinclair, & Lyle Bourne, Jr. "War Cues and Foreign Policy Acts" (September 1987, 701-55). On page 706, the figures should be titled as follows:

Figure 1. Mean Cooperation–Conflict Scale Score ("Conflict Score") as a Function of Dominance Group and Priming Condition

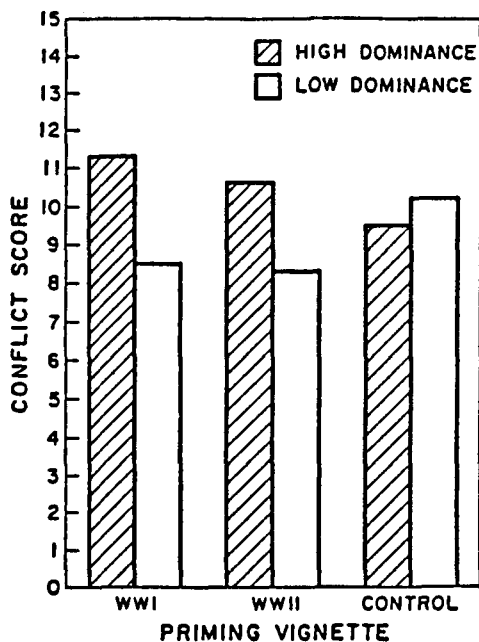


Figure 2. Mean Cooperation–Conflict Scale Score ("Conflict Score") as a Function of Successive Selection

