

Subject/Title	Confucian Belief and Local Effectiveness: Survey analysis on Taiwan Local Elites in Seven Counties and Cities (2001)
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Abstract	<p>This study tries to explore the relationship between Confucianism and the effectiveness of local governance. Two hypotheses are derived: from prior literature On the one hand, Confucianism should exercise no positive impact upon the development of local democracy, but do no harm to that either. On the other hand, it should be positively related to the development of local economy. This positive relationship, however, should be subjected to one condition, as suggested by "congruence-consonance theory of political performance," that local leaders' Confucian belief or other relevant values are consonant among themselves, or congruent with that of their local mass. This study mainly utilizes survey data of Taiwanese local leaders provided by Eldersveld and Dachi Liao in Taiwan's seven counties and cities in 2001. It also uses some mass data from the project of Taiwan's Election and Democracy Survey (TEDS) done in 2001. The findings of this study are: A locality whose leaders hold relatively strong Confucian belief, generally has achieved more, in both the growth rate of its annual per household income and maintaining a low unemployment rate than that with relatively weak one does; but that has no obvious relationship with the growth rate of its civil associations and with the changing ratio of party composition in its council. However, the condition of value congruence-consonance among different elite groups or between elite and mass indeed is a crucial intervening variable between the strength of Confucian belief held by local leaders and the performance of local economy. In sum, the hypothesized relation between Confucian belief and local effectiveness has been primarily verified by this paper. As for the specific leadership style which may make local leaders who bear strong Confucian belief, effective in local governing still demands further research.</p>
Keyword(s)	Confucian belief ; local effectiveness ; Taiwan ; local

elites ； congruence-consonance theory of political performance