

The Public Opinions on the Political Parties in Hong Kong

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This article aims to clarify the public opinions on the democrats. The result reported here from a telephone poll conducted by the author in February 1996. It was found that the support for the political parties of the democratic camp was relatively low in spite of a tendency for supporting democratization. In order to analyse the apparent ambivalence, the author also compiled previous data from telephone surveys conducted in Hong Kong and found that there was little significant difference between the author's poll and previous ones. It may be shown that political leaders enjoyed rather higher degrees of trust from the people than political parties. We may draw a hypothesis that political party per se are distrusted by residents of Hong Kong. The people trusted political institutions directly connected with the Hong Kong government more than those that are outside the government political arena such as political institutions under the control of the Chinese government or demonstrators. At the same time, the people accepted the consultative government rather than the elective government as a democratic government.