



(Svara, 1998; Dunn and Legge Jr., 2002; Schuh and Miller, 2006). Thus, a good relationship between the two will strengthen the legitimacy of the government"

These statements must match. Should be - some of relations between administration and politics will have a negative

"Simply put, Bourdieu (1983) referred social capital as the benefits that are obtained from the existence of social relations, "
Social capital means social relations which can base for obtain the benefits and on the other pages the authors offers relevant definitions

"Basically, the term social capital refers to the capacity of individuals to obtain valuable material or symbolic goods based on the virtue of social......"

"considered social capital as a whole something that is directed or created to facilitate individual actions in their social structure. Meanwhile, physical capital refers to physical objects and human capital refers to individual property, in which social capital refers to the relationships between individuals, social networks, and the reciprocal norms and beliefs that arise from them (Putnam, 2000)"

Both this statement should be treated as methodogical core and every fragments mentioned "social capital" must match with these definitions.

Simply put, Bourdieu (1983) referred social capital as the benefits that are obtained from the existence of social relations, such as family, office colleagues, colleagues, and relatives in general"

Unacceptable. See above definitions.

"which then grow and provide benefits for the interacting parties. In government, we argue that the **social capital relation** between the regional head and the State Civil Apparatus leads to the growing non-neutrality of the apparatus in regional head elections"

Accordingly to above definitions social capital means relation. And this is tautology - relation of relation.

"This study is interesting to study because the previous literature focused more on identifying forms of non-neutrality of ASN and why this phenomenon happens (Anderson and Martin, 1983; Martin, Knopoff and Beckman, 1998; Myers, 2004; Zhou, 2010), whereas this paper is targeted in a deeper space by arguing that this non-neutrality occurs due to reciprocation and the accumulation of social capital"

This study is interesting to study because - ambigous

"Basically, the term social capital refers to the capacity of individuals to obtain valuable material or symbolic goods based on the virtue of social relations and membership in social groups or the plurality capacity of a person to be favored with the benefits of collective action based on the virtue of social participation, trust in institutions, or commitment to determining the ways in carrying out something"

This is important statement and should be written more clearly. Smething like that:

- 1. benefits by virtue of social relations
- 2. benefits by virtue of own acions
- 3. benefits by virtue of participation in group success
- 4. the crutial premises for social activities is trust

Figure 1.

The box containing Relationships with groups etc. A bit ambigous

"The strong paternalistic and/or nepotism culture that grows from the social capital relations between regional heads and ASN and their relatives is the result of the social relations of information".

Perhaps intensive or frequent communication or intensive social relations?

"culture that grows from the social capital" It not matched with knowledge obout culture. Raher: first culture and nepotism and next special goals for using social capital

In this article, we discussed how incumbents use social capital as a tool to mobilize bureaucrats to increase their opportunities of being re-elected. In relation to social capital, we found that the patterns and behavior of bureaucrats and their relationship to incumbents are historically constructed.

Important and nice statement, but about "historically" there was practically nothing in the paper.

REVIEWER 2: Accept, subject to minor revisions.

Although the article is correctly based on a case study, it also contains a few substantive shortcomings. The author points to the article's contribution to the matter concerning the use of social capital in the context regional head elections. Nevertheless, the contribution of the article is quite limited for methodological reasons due to:

- the description of the research tools used is very general, it was not indicated in what period of time the observations were carried out, and how many interviews were conducted;
- the profile of the interviews was not indicated (how the concept of social capital was operationalized during the interview, what was the scope of the interviews and what was their nature);
- no justification was provided as to why specific groups of informants were covered and observed, and what were the proportions between particular categories of respondents, e.g. political party activists, candidates, local officials, etc.;
- it was not justified why a specific administrative unit was chosen as a case study, the criteria were not indicated;
- no hypotheses were defined that would organize the argumentation made in the work

Chart 1 is incomplete, I recommend to name (define) relationships: incumbents - ASN in relation to relationships and trust.

The article is recommended for publication provided that the above-mentioned issues are completed.

Kind regards
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Thank you for your feedback. Noted with thanks. Thank you for your email.

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