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475 Riverside Drive · Suite 1274 · New York, New York 10115-1274
(212) 870-2500 · FAX: (212) 870-2202 · aps@psqonline.org · <http://www.psqonline.org>

POLITICAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY

Volume 127 · Number 4 · Winter 2012-13

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Political Science Quarterly

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Democratic Deficit: Critical Citizens Revisited by Pippa Norris.
New York, Cambridge University Press, 2011. 350 pp. Paper, \$34.99.

This is an important study in what is already a large and expanding body of public opinion research on the nature, causes, and consequences of democratic orientations. The book begins by reaffirming the Easton-inspired, multidimensional conceptualization of political support first presented more than a decade earlier by Pippa Norris in *Critical Citizens*. The second part of the book comprises a series of longitudinal and cross-sectional analyses of data related to key dimensions of political support. The book's analytic center of gravity follows with the presentation and testing of what Norris describes as "a loose market model" (p. 8) for understanding political support. The book ends with an examination of some possible effects of democratic orientations on citizens' compliance with the law and on broad processes of democratization.

The book's core analyses focus on explaining three political orientations: democratic aspirations, including "enlightened" knowledge of democracy; citizens' level of satisfaction with their respective countries' everyday democratic performance; and the gap between these two—namely, the democratic deficit between aspiration and reality. The analyses are guided by the theory that "deficits may arise from complex interactions involving rising democratic hopes, negative political news, and perceptions of failing performance" (p. 8). Testing this theory, using individual-level data mainly from the fourth wave of the World Values Survey combined with socioeconomic and politico-institutional contextual data for 40 or so countries, produces several noteworthy findings. First, there is some but fairly limited support for the thesis that micro and macro processes associated with socioeconomic modernization produce democratic deficits by boosting democratic aspirations while dampening satisfaction. Second, the study shows that citizens in old, new, and non-democracies vary in how they understand or misunderstand democracy. In doing so, the book gives pause to those who might view widespread public support for democracy as a potential driver of meaningful gains in democratic proceduralism in new democracies, low-income democracies, or autocratic regimes. Third, Norris's analyses strongly challenge the commonplace idea that negative news reporting and people's exposure to it are to blame for democratic dissatisfaction. Fourth, the book broadly supports a rationalist, performance-based understanding of democratic satisfaction. Evaluations of democracy are shaped by a range of individual and contextual material conditions as well as by broad measures of the non-material, such as the quality of political accountability, fairness, and voice.

By using hierarchical modeling techniques to analyze data for countries that vary greatly in terms of their socioeconomic development and domestic political arrangements, Norris addresses two key weaknesses of existing research in this area. The study's findings point, however, to ways in which future research can further exploit these strengths, especially through individual- and cross-level interactions, in order to advance our understanding of democratic orientations. The following are some questions that future scholarship could usefully examine by building upon *Democratic Deficit*, the answers to which might, however, well refine the findings of Norris's analyses: Does the direction or magnitude of the effects of income, education, and news media use on democratic aspirations and satisfaction vary depending on how old or established a democracy is or how socioeconomically developed one's society is? Do citizens who (mis) understand democracy in instrumental terms respond differently to material, output-oriented performance from those who understand democracy procedurally? Are higher-educated citizens or those with a predominantly process-oriented understanding of democracy more responsive to good governance? Are the effects of certain, perhaps narrower, measures of output performance only observable among population subgroups, for example, the young or the old or citizens on the political left or right rather than citizenries as a whole?

QUINTON MAYNE
Harvard Kennedy School

Fighting for Our Health: The Epic Battle to Make Health Care a Right in the United States by Richard Kirsch. Albany, NY, The Rockefeller Institute Press, 2012. 418 pp. Paper, \$19.95.

Nothing highlights the long-standing political, philosophical, and ideological divisions in the United States more manifestly than the century-long battle for health care reform. Passed in 1965, the Medicare and Medicaid programs were the first major steps along the path toward government-financed universal health care. But it was not until the second year of Barack Obama's presidency that Congress enacted legislation intended to cover almost all U.S. citizens, no matter their age, employment status, or income level. Considering the intense political divide and the concerns that many raised over the legislation's potential costs, the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was a monumental result.

Richard Kirsch's bruising account of his involvement in the PPACA's passage is lively, informative, and entertaining. As the national campaign