

## HKU Student Research Team

### Project DC03 Pre-election Fieldwork Report Form

This form can be downloaded from the project webpage. It should be completed on the day of each fieldwork session and submitted to the project organizer by email to [hkusrt@hkupop.hku.hk](mailto:hkusrt@hkupop.hku.hk), or by uploading to the project website directly.

Name of person(s) submitting these fieldwork notes : Liu Sau Wai, Wong Ho Yee

Name of constituency visited (please use one form for each constituency) : Tung Wah

Field trip details –

Date : 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2003 Time : 1445-1530 Venue : Eastern Street

Description of the process (whether alone, accompanied by teammates, friends, campaign workers... etc.)

- a team of two people
- started from HKU, Bonham Road and then walked down High St., Eastern St.
- sat in a HK-styled café (茶餐廳) located in Eastern St. and chatted with workers there (2 females and 1 male)
- after staying for about 30 minutes, we left

Record the main purpose of your field trip by ticking on one or more of the following objectives:

- To count, record, and analyze the content of campaign posters, banners, leaflets, etc.
- To observe campaign activities, like forums, door-to-door visits, open petitions, on-street broadcast, etc.
- To interview candidates and campaign workers.
- To interview electors and ordinary residents.***
- To take pictures, or collect campaign material for scanning.
- Other purposes (please specify) : \_\_\_\_\_

Recording basic figures – like how many posters and where, how many people attended the forum during different time period...etc

N.A.

Description of findings – could be in the form simple narrations, or in the form of

questions and answer...

- 2 banners of each candidate (Mr. Ho Chun Kei- Democratic Party; Mr. Li Wing Fai -DBA) were found near the junction point of High St. & Eastern St.; banners of Democratic Party were destroyed that pictures of the candidate were torn off
- a poster of Mr. Ho was found outside a HK-styled café → we entered the shop
- after ordering food, we first chatted with a female shopkeeper, aged about 35 yrs old. We asked if she was an elector. She answered “No.” and asked us when the Election Day was.
- We further questioned why she did not register. She explained that she’s too busy and her husband was a voter
- She added that her husband’s vote would be equal to hers (我老公 o 個票即係我 o 個票)
- After awhile, we chatted with a male cook, aged about 35 yrs old. We asked if he knew how many candidates there were in that constituency. He was surprised by our question and said “I don’t know”. We queried if he was an elector and again, he said “No.” He went back to the kitchen that we could not ask anymore
- After about 30 minutes, we paid that bill and chatted with the female cashier, aged about 35 yrs old.
- In the chat, we asked how many candidates there were and she said she was not sure.
- She was not an elector but a resident in the constituency. We asked why she did not register
- She did not answer directly but proposed that all (candidates) were incompetent (選個個都有用).
- In response to her answer, we accounted for the reason of voting was to find a capable person and improve the situation
- We then asked if they/ residents did not bother the election. She said “No” but claimed that there were discussions near the market but it’s too far away from the café.
- We questioned if they/the residents would vote based on the political background (e.g. Democratic Party or DAB) or the candidates themselves.
- The cashier exclaimed and criticized Democratic Party by saying that it’s the most disgusting party (最乞人憎就係民主黨!)
- We were surprised and wondered why there was a poster of Democratic Party outside her shop.

- She said “they stuck it there. We were playing mahjong and of course we said “yes” no matter what they asked” (佢地貼 ga 囉; 我地打緊牌鴉嘛, 佢地問乜都答好好好 ga la.)
- We also asked if there were any election activities, like door-to-door campaign(洗樓). She answered “no” and questioned if there were any in other constituencies.
- We said “yes” and she questioned if it was because we lived in public estates
- We explained that similar functions were held in private building area, too
- She reconfirmed that there were no special election activities in that area and we said thank you and goodbye.

#### Conclusions drawn from your observation

- Some people do not know what is the real meaning/rationale of election. The wife’s vote is definitely different from the husband’s one even though their preference is the same.
- Some people are not concerned about election (e.g. interviewees could not quote a name of candidates even though posters were found outside the shop)
- it may be because they do not find election helpful in improving social situations or they are just indifferent to politics

#### New questions generated from your observations or findings

- The cashier showed hatred towards Democratic Party but failed to provide concrete reasons. Did the answer really reflect her own thoughts or did she just follow the herd (e.g. she may have heard people in the area criticized Democratic Party)?
- It’s ironic to find Democratic Party’s poster when the shop (based on the chat) does not show support to the candidate. What’s the effectiveness and meaning of posting advertising products?
- It seems to us that all three interviewees are quite apathetic towards election. Government has been putting resources on production but how successful are the propaganda? What are the reasons for the results (success/failure)?

#### Open questions for discussion by all team members

Same as above