

Normative and Empirical Study Assignment

By: Student AP Comparative Government 01/09/18

1. I believe the first passage by Petersen, Roger Dale, is a normative study as in the passage it is always posing questions as to be neutral. For example, in the last few sentences of the passage he asks questions such as "...does one model explain ethnic conflict best in the interest years but have little predictive or descriptive power in the post-Communism era?" and "Do certain models lose their explanatory power with modernization?"
2. The second passage by Young, Iris Marion, is an empirical study as it blatantly states that "the above-named groups are not oppressed to the same extent or in the same ways" which doesn't raise any questions on whether or not this is how the world should be but how the world is right now.
3. The third passage by Wood, Elisabeth Jean, is a normative study. It is a normative study as in the passage it poses many questions asking the possibility and plausibility of many things such as how and why it should be. For example, "What accounts for the emergence of a powerful insurgent movement in an area where quiescence had long been the response of the rural poor to social injustice? Why did many poor people run extraordinarily high risks to support the insurgency?" This study doesn't show us the facts straight up but they ask us.
4. I believe the fourth passage by Du Bois, W. E. B., and Donald B. Gibson, is an empirical study as it shows us how the world was in that time. It doesn't elaborate on how the world should be, but it instead directly describes the situation of the nation and its inhabitants. It states, "The Nation has not yet found peace from its sins; the freedman has not yet found in freedom his promised land."
5. The fifth passage by Petersen, Roger Dale, is an empirical study. I believe that this passage is an empirical study based on the find statement. "For this phenomenon, I argue that emotional mechanisms, rather than norms, help explain variation in target and timing." This study tells us directly that from the author's statistics, he has concluded that this is how this phenomenon functions and now how it should.
6. I believe the sixth passage by Wilkinson, Steven, is a normative study. It is a normative study seeing as how in the second sentence it states, "First, we know that national-level differences in political institutions, important though they are, cannot explain why different regions and provinces within the same national institutional framework have such different levels of ethnic violence." This statement questions the emptiness of studies and discusses the norms and how these different regions have such different calibers of violence existing in their regions.
7. In the seventh passage by Nussbaum, Martha, it is a normative study as it suggests a way to view America. It is giving us a "how the world should be" outlook with its proposals, inferences, and observations about America and its internal divisions and complexities. Its application to India and how India should be. For example, "This book about India also suggests a way to see America both America as it faces outward, relating to a world in which cultures are complex, not simple; and America in relation to itself."