

The purpose of this research project is to study the pattern of voting behavior of a group of Sino-Thai population, living in Bangkok Chainatown area, in the by-election campaign of November 25, 1990. The relationships between the decision to vote and the influence of such factors, such as racial orientations, Chinese folkways, the Chinese professional associations, the changing political environment are thoroughly discussed. The aim is to find out whether the decisions to vote for any candidates are considerably based on which kind of factors i.e. racial, professional or political.

The research findings are as follows:

1. The Sino-Thais who have strongly identified themselves with being Chinese, i.e. practicing Chinese folkways and having the ability to speak, read and write the Chinese language, tend to vote for the candidates represented Chinese race.
2. As far as the age difference is concerned, the Sino-Thais who are over 51 years of age, mostly identified themselves with the Chinese way of life and who also have strong connection with The Chinese professional associations, tend to vote according to the racial as well as professional considerations. On the contrary, the Sino-Thais, aging between 41-50 years and 20-40 years who do not identify themselves strongly with the Chinese way of life, tend to vote for any candidates politically qualified no matter what race or profession do they belong.
3. The study of the relationship between the decision to vote and their political orientations reveals that a group of Sino-Thais with high level of socioeconomic and educational status also have strong affiliations with the various political groups and well oriented with political climate tend to vote according to their political consideration rather than subscribing to the influence of Chinese folkways or following the advice of some Chinese professional associations.