

**PUBLIC POLICY EVALUATION AND ITS  
CONSTRAINTS ON DECISION-MAKING PROCESS:  
A Study of  
Manipulative Models and American Experiences**

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Abstract

This article is concerned with both the framework and practices of public policy evaluation. It attempts to analyze some conceptual models and manipulative patterns now generally accepted in the U.S. government and academic community. My central intention is not to break new ground, or to present great theory in an emerging scientific discipline, but rather to introduce most useful idea and experiences in evaluation research and practices over the past twenty years in the United States. It is my belief that the ideas and experiences gained by the U.S. through the ongoing iterative and corrective process may be taken advantage of by the Republic of China, which is now engaging in a variety of multipurpose public programs and projects unprecedented in scope, and which lack a meaningful program to evaluate their impacts. Evidently, public policy evaluation is important in the decision-making process, which is also a source of controversy in the American political process. This article will analyze and explain the constraint resulted from the political pressures in the American government system. A case study on the Head Start program of 1969 will be observed and examined in this context.