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## Religion and Political Attitudes in South Korea

Junghyoun Kim

*University of Tennessee - Knoxville*

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To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a dissertation written by Junghyoun Kim entitled "Religion and Political Attitudes in South Korea." I have examined the final electronic copy of this dissertation for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, with a major in Political Science.

Yang Zhong, Major Professor

We have read this dissertation and recommend its acceptance:

Robert B. Cunningham, David L. Feldman, David J. Houston, Rachelle M. Jacobs

Accepted for the Council:

Carolyn R. Hodges

Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

(Original signatures are on file with official student records.)

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Accepted for the Council:

Anne Mayhew  
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Vice Chancellor and Dean of Graduate  
Studies

(Original signatures are on file with official student records)

# RELIGION AND POLITICAL ATTITUDES IN SOUTH KOREA

A Dissertation  
Presented for the  
Doctor of Philosophy  
Degree  
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Junghyoun Kim  
May 2006

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## **Dedication**

This dissertation is dedicated to my loving parents Kibong Kim and Oknyu Hwang, my wonderful wife Mijung Park, my loving children Mark and Rachel Kim, my academic advisor and confidant Dr. Yang Zhong, and all of whom have been with me since the beginning of this intellectual journey.

## **Acknowledgements**

I wish to thank all those who helped me to complete my Doctor of Philosophy degree in Political Science. I would like to thank my dissertation director, advisor, and mentor Dr. Zhong for his insight, recommendations, and countless attention throughout these five years. I would like to thank my dissertation committee members: Dr. Feldman, Dr. Cunningham, Dr. Houston, and Dr. Jacobs for their time and considering of my work. I deeply appreciate their incessant encouragement, support, humanitarian insights and penetrating criticism.

## **Abstract**

In order to shed some light on how religion affects the consolidating democracy in South Korea, this research focuses on the relationship between individual's religiosity and their political attitudes, particularly: (1) political tolerance, which is considered a prerequisite for democratic consolidation, and (2) political ideology, which enables us to look at the impact of religion on people's political behavior.

In terms of the research design, this research uses a quasi-experimental design, a survey design for hypothesis testing using statistical procedures (sample size = 994, sample frame = all adults over 20 years old who live in Seoul, the capital of South Korea). In order to analyze a numeric data, Generalized Least Estimation is applied with two types of data transformation (Orthogonalized Data Transformation and Univariate Missing Data Imputation).

In relation to the first dependent variable (people's level of political tolerance), it is confirmed that Buddhists are more likely to be tolerant than Protestants in Korea, and Protestants have the lowest level of political tolerance among the three popular religious groups (Catholicism, Buddhism, and Protestantism). In terms of the culture wars thesis, it is confirmed that religious traditionalists have lower levels of political tolerance than



religious modernists. Thus, religious traditionalists have a negative impact on democratic consolidation due to their low levels of political tolerance.

In relation to the second dependent variable (people's political ideology), it is confirmed that Catholics are more likely to be liberal than other religious groups in Korea, and Protestants are more likely to be conservative than other religious groups due to the theological doctrines of Protestantism (evangelicalism and theological inerrancy). Moreover, the data analysis confirms that Buddhists in Korea are more likely to be conservatives than Catholics. Based on these findings, it is assumed that negotiating between religious groups' political interests or policy preferences will be very difficult, and overcoming this difficulty will be a crucial factor in the process of Korean democratic consolidation.

Finally, in order to suggest a better model for investigating the relationship between religion and politics, this research develops a new model, which enables us to compare the explanatory powers of the two dominant theories (the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses). Given this new model, we can examine the impact of dynamic characteristics of religion (belonging, behaving, and believing) on politics.

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## **Chapter I: Introduction to Religion and Politics in South Korea**

### **Introduction.**

Since the late of 1980s, South Korea has experienced a rapid process of democratization. After the successful transition from authoritarian-military regime to a democratic regime, South Korea entered the next stage of democratization – consolidating democracy. One of the vital prerequisites for consolidating democracy is people's high level of political tolerance (Stepan 2000; Sullivan, Piereson, and Marcus 1982).

During the democratic transition period of the 1990s, most Western media focused on the violent pictures showing that many union laborers and college students fought against armed policemen by using stones, metal-cosh, and flame-bottles in order to proclaim their political demands. Due to these violent pictures, for the eyes of people in Western countries, South Koreans seem not to have a high level of political tolerance. However, since the 2000s, such violent social movements have rarely happened and most social movements have followed more peaceful ways – picketing, on-line social movement via high-speed internet networks, or candle-demonstrations.

Yet, the changes of demonstration methods does not imply that the level of political tolerance have been increased since the early 2000s in South Korea. Rather, many scholars point out that the intolerance of middle and lower class in South Korea is one main obstacle to further democratization (He 1999; Lee 1993; Mo 2001; Shin and Chung 2000). Based on the importance of political tolerance in consolidating Korean democracy, this research will examine not only a proper method for measuring Koreans' tolerance levels but also the relationship between individuals' religiosity and their political tolerance.

With respect to the cultural perspective on political tolerance, the most important variable impacting on individuals' tolerance levels in East Asian countries (including South Korea) is Confucian tradition (Hood 1998; Kim, Helgesen, and Man 2002; Swank 1996). Yet, according to survey data<sup>1</sup>, the percentage of people who follow Confucian tradition in their daily lives is less than 35% (by contrast, over 65% of survey respondents answered that they don't follow Confucian tradition). By simply looking at such a percentage, one can recognize the existence of cultural diversity in Korean society. Moreover, one can avoid the oversimplification problem in analyzing cultural

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<sup>1</sup> A survey was conducted in Seoul, Korea, in 2004. The survey sample was selected via Area Probability Sampling (a multistage sampling method) and a list-assisted approach to random-digit dialing (for the detail of the sampling method, see Fowler 2002:18-25)

impact on political tolerance by focusing on diversity of religious culture in Korea.

Because religion provides fundamental foundation for both individuals' world views and a unique culture of a certain society, focusing on the relationship between religiosity and political tolerance enables us to correctly investigate cultural impact on individual's political tolerance in current Korean society. Therefore, the first research question is: *how does individuals' religiosity influence their levels of political tolerance?*

The answer of such question implies that the long-term influence of religion on consolidating Korean democracy.

However, we can understand the short-term influence of religion on Korean politics when we investigate the relationship between individual's religiosity and political ideology. Political ideology, when defined as people's ideas about the way society should be (Adams 2001; Mott 1993), plays an important role in shaping people's political actions (e.g., policy preferences or voting behaviors). Therefore, analyzing the relationship between individual's religiosity and political ideology enables us to investigate the short-term influence of religion in current Korean politics. The second research question is: *How does individuals' religiosity influence his/her political ideology?*



In order to answer these two research questions based on an empirical, systematic method, plausible hypotheses are generated based on the two dominant theories (the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses) and tested using statistical analysis of a survey data. However, not only does this research provide empirical evidences of direct impacts of individual's religiosity on political tolerance and ideology, but also it suggests a more appropriate method for investigating the relationship between religion and politics by comparing the explanatory power of two dominant theoretical models (the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses). In short, this research argues that there is a statistically significant relationship between individuals' religiosity and political attitudes (both political tolerance and ideology), and a middle range model (between the ethnoreligious and the culture wars models) is a better way of investigation such relationship.

### **The Role of Religion in Korean Democratization.**

Approximately two decades have passed since democratization began in earnest in South Korea (hereafter referred to as Korea) in 1987. During these decades,

there have been a number of prominent changes in Korean politics. First of all, political contestation has become much more fair.<sup>2</sup> Today, there are no longer undemocratic “gymnasium elections” (*ch’eyukkwan son’go*). Under the previous authoritarian regimes, the president was elected indirectly by members of the national electoral-college, who gathered in a large athletic gymnasium and voted nearly unanimously for the designated authoritarian ruler. Since 1987, however, opposition party candidates’ chances of getting elected have increased considerably, which explains in part the election of Kim Dae Jung, a longtime opposition leader who had run for the presidency four times, as president in 1997. The successor of Kim Dae Jung’s regime is President Noh Moo Hyun, elected in 2002; Noh’s regime has focused more on the distributional public policies and “the Sun Shine” policy toward North Korea than on economic developmental policies.

In addition to the changes from authoritarian to democratic regimes, civil liberties have been substantially expanded (for the emphasis of civil liberties for a democracy, see Diamond, Linz, and Lipset 1995:7). The basic Press Law (*Ollon kibonbop*), a sophisticated and comprehensive system of press censorship enacted in 1980 by the Legislative Council for National Security, was abolished. A number of labor

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<sup>2</sup> Holding relatively free, fair, and regular elections is a central element found in numerous definitions of democracy (Dahl 1971:3; Diamond, Linz, and Lipset 1995:6).

laws, which had severely restricted the exercise of labor rights, were overhauled. The intelligence agency (National Intelligence Service, formerly known as the National Security Planning Agency and originally called the Korea Central Intelligence Agency), which had served the past authoritarian regimes by monitoring opposition politicians and suppressing dissident movements, pledged to end domestic surveillance and to shift its focus to intelligence operations related to counterterrorism and foreign criminals who threaten the national security of Korea.

In short, with increased fairness in political contestation and expanded civil liberties, Korea has successfully accomplished its transition from authoritarian rule to democracy and has now moved to the phase of democratic consolidation (Shin 1999:91-94). In terms of consolidations democracy in Korea, many scholars focus on the role of civil society (Cumings 2002; Kim 2000f, 2000g, 2002h; Koo 2002; Shin 1999).<sup>3</sup>

According to Kim, the concept of civil society has three dimensions: organizational, relational, and normative (Kim 2000f:12-15). In terms of the organizational dimension, civil society comprises diverse interacting human collectivities,

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<sup>3</sup> Most analysts agree that civil society is crucial in promoting, protecting, and preserving democracy (Diamond 1992:7-14).

such as groups, organizations, associations, movements, and institutions. What defines civil society in the organizational dimension is the fact that civil society groups are self-organized and operate within the public sphere (Schmitter 1997:240). To a great extent, individuals organize voluntarily or join civil society groups to express their needs and passions, articulate their concerns, and represent their interests.

The relational dimension, involves civil society's external relations with the state, private units of production and reproduction (businesses, families, and clans), and political society. What defines civil society in terms of the relational dimension is civil society's relative autonomy from these three societal spheres (Kim 2000f:12). For instance, in regards to relations with the state, civil society is "outside the state in an increasingly independent social sphere," "engaged primarily in a complex of non-state activities," and it is "not regulated, dominated, or controlled by the ruling regime," often "resisting the incursions of the state" (Fatton 1991:84; Keane 1988:14; Ngo 19933). In other words, civil society is distinctly different from the state and largely autonomous of it. In terms of the relations with private units of production and reproduction in a society, civil society is independent of the profit-making enterprise of individual business forms (Diamond 1994:7). Civil society derives its membership, resources, and support from

the basic units of society – that is, families and clans – in return for representing, defending, and promoting their needs, concerns, and interests. Thus, civil society can be considered an intermediary sphere between the private sphere and the state.

Lastly, civil society is also autonomous from political society. Political society is “the arena where various political actors compete to gain control over public power and the state apparatus” (Stepan 1988:3) and is principally composed of political parties and their affiliated networks, organizations, and campaigns (Diamond 1999:223). Unlike political society, civil society does not seek to replace state agents. Instead, civil society seeks to engage and to influence the state (Schmitter 1997:240). Most scholars argue that this civil society plays a positive roles in democratizations in Southern Europe and Latin America (O'Donnell and Schmitter 1986), Asia (Choi 1993; Gold 1990; Jones 1998), Eastern Europe (Frentzel-Zagorska 1990; Pelczynski 1988; Weigle and Butterfield 1992), and the Middle East (Bellin 1994).

When discussion the positive role of civil society in Korean democratization, it is important to note that religion is one of the important elements that constitute civil society in Korea. In other words, religion has played an important role in the democratic transition period and continues to influence current Korean politics. For instance,

Christian communities in Korea are outstanding examples of civil society. They have always drawn their inspiration and power from impulses that are essentially non-political, at least in the sense of being strongly resistant to state domination (Clark 2002).

During the years of military rule, a significant part of Korea's Christian community, both Protestant and Catholic, began to oppose the undemocratic tactics of the Park regime. They criticized the government's design for economic development, based as it was on a low-wage, export-driven development model that provided little for the human rights of workers and privileged the emerging business class. The emergence of the Catholic politician Kim Dae Jung and his run for the presidency against Park Chung-hee in 1971 identified Catholicism with the political opposition. The Catholic poet Kim Chiha became famous for his satirical attacks on the Park government and its cronies in the military and big business. Catholic clergymen like Bishop Daniel Chi Haksun and Cardinal Stephen Kim Suhwan helped protect demonstrators from the police and began to use their positions in society to speak openly against the military government's use of secret police methods to silence critics (Clark 2002:194-196).

Certain Protestants likewise demanded an end to the government's betrayal of

democracy. Their stand was in the finest tradition of civil society, articulating and insisting on limits for state power and using non-governmental organizations to uphold civil rights. While most of Korea's Christians maintained their attitude of support for the anti-Communist state in Korea and remained preoccupied with the theological issues and controversies that dated back to the Korean War and the colonial period, a more progressive wing of the Protestant Church focused on the contemporary Korean scene. At the center of this group was a liberal sub-denomination of Presbyterians known as *Kijang* (short for *Kidokkyo changnohoe*, "Christian Presbyterians"). The Kijang Presbyterians, led by the Rev. Kim Chejun and headquartered at the Han'guk Theological Seminary in Suwon, had a long liberal tradition of social activism. Many fellows of Kijang - such as Mun Ikhwan and Mun Tonghwan, both of the Han'guk Seminary faculties, who spent time in prison for violating some of the Park regime's national security laws for giving aid and comfort to the enemy (North Korea)- identified Christianity with the cause of social justice and kept alive the church's civil society function as an institution that was fighting to remain free from state dictation (Clark 2002:197).

During these dark years, the dilemmas of Christianity were especially apparent

in the divergence between two forms of Protestantism: the Pentecostal type that was displayed in the First Full Gospel Church on *Youido* Island in Seoul, and the Minjung Theology promoted by Christian intellectuals as they continued to identify with the working people in ways that flirted with the Marxist analyses so long forbidden in South Korea.

In the church on *Youido* (with over 600,000 members), Pastor Cho Yonggi offered an attractive package of success theology that emphasized Christian happiness and God's rewards for the faithful, including material benefits. Anti-Communism was an important component of his message, with the North Korean Communist regime representing the ultimate evil to be conquered in God's own time, by the faithful Christians of South Korea (Clark 1997:203-206).

By contrast, Minjung Theology sought roots in the Korean *minjung*, or "masses" and the Korean history of tribulation expressed in the emotion of *han*.<sup>4</sup> In the 1970s and 1980s, the followers of Minjung Theology responded to government oppression with a claim that the masses should be the subjects (not objects) of history and that Christians should be the instruments of God's will to see justice done in the world. This was a call

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<sup>4</sup> "Han" is an elusive term but is often translated as "bitter resentment," something that smolders after generations of oppression by unjust systems and masters (Suh 1981:16-17).



to activism and involvement in changing the political system that greatly offended the South Korean state and invited trouble for its prophets and catcalls from the sidelines of conventional, conservative Protestantism (Clark 2002:200). These two roots of Korean Protestantism (one for conservative and conventional Protestantism, and the other for liberal Protestantism) are basic components of contemporary Korean Christianity (including pro-democratic Catholicism). In short, Korean Christianity had an important role in the democratic transition in Korea and continues to affect Korean politics.

In addition, the role of Buddhism as a civil society shouldn't be underestimated. In particular, after the democratic transition of Korea in 1987, many Buddhistic orders and monks have influenced Korean politics, especially public policy making. For instance, due to Buddhists' strong emphasis on natural life and environments, they often respond to the economic developmental policies driven by the governmental projects. The story of water-lizards in the *Chungsung* Mountain is a good example of Buddhism's impact on public policy. In 2001, the Korean government began building a high-speed train railroad from Seoul to Pusan (about 250 miles). After two-thirds of the total project was completed, the project was stopped. In order to finish the project, the railroad must be built via a long tunnel under the Chungsung Mountain. But the Buddhist nun *Jinul*,

who belongs to a Buddhist temple in the Chungsung Mountain, protested to stop the project because if a long tunnel is built in the mountain, it will dry the water reservoir under the mountain and thus kill all water-lizards in the mountain. She accused the Department of Transport and Construction of violating environmental protection laws. Even though the Supreme Court decided to allow the government to complete the project, Jinul did not accept the court's decision. Jinul started to perform a fast in front of *Chungwhadae* (the Blue House, the White House in Korea). After 30 days of fasting, many civil organizations and Buddhist leaders asked the government to stop the project. The Korean government finally stopped the project and is now seeking an alternative to the tunnel.

The story of Jinul has an important implication for the democratic consolidation in Korea. For a democracy to function well as a democratic regime in the real world of politics, individual citizens should view themselves as participants, as well as subjects, in the political process. At the same time, they should be willing to accept other participants as political equals and tolerate competition and opposition from their opponents and rivals (Shin 1999:73). Therefore, one of the necessary conditions for democratic consolidation is the extent to which individual citizens embrace the two

fundamental procedural norms of liberal democracy: (1) the mass public able to take part in politics, and (2) political opponents able to freely compete and challenge the actions of government (Gibson and Duch 1993; Held 1987; Sullivan, Piereson, and Marcus 1982). Jinul's participation in politics by challenging the government is a good example for further development of democracy in Korea.

Furthermore, one common element of political participation by both Christians and Buddhists in Korea is that actors of participation were driven by their religious teachings and beliefs: for instance, the anti-Communism and social justice doctrines of Christianity and the emphasis on natural lives of Buddhism. In other words, religion has been an important player in both the democratic transition and the consolidation of Korea as a good example of civil society. Based on the importance of the religious factor in Korean politics (in particular, democratic consolidation), I will shed some light on how individual religiosity influences political attitudes/behavior in contemporary Korea.

## **Religious Factors in Micro-Level Analysis of Political Behavior.**

Despite of the important role of religion in Korean democratization after 1945, only few systematic and empirical study of religion in Korean politics has been done (Clark 1997; Kim 2002b) because of the lack of empirical data. In order to study religious impact on Korean politics in a systematic and empirical way, micro-level analysis is suggested as an appropriate way of study (Goodchild and Janelle 2004; Ramsay 1998). How can we study religion in politics by using micro-level analysis method? The answer is to focus on individual's religiosity and its impact on his/her political attitude/ideology.

Let's focus on individual religiosity as a factor in analyzing Korean politics.

Citizens live simultaneously in a variety of social worlds, any and all of which might have important political consequences, but at the same time they are rooted socially: in neighborhoods, workplaces, churches, temples, clubs, and associations. Indeed, every citizen lives at the center of social experiences produced by a series of interesting, overlapping, and layered environments. Each of these environments has potentially important political consequences because each serves to modify and deflect the opportunities and constraints that circumscribe social interaction – social interaction that

in turn serves as a vehicle for most transmissions of political information and guidance (Huckfeldt 1993). Finding out which environments affect individual (or group) political attitudes and behaviors is a key issue for most political scientists. One such visible factor is religion.

Due to the particular characteristics of religion in a society, religion can be a strong influential factor in determining people's political attitudes and behaviors. There are three characteristics of religion: (1) religion is established as a group phenomenon, (2) religion is concerned with the sacred and supernatural, and (3) religion involves a body of beliefs (Johnstone 2004:8-13). First, in terms of religion as a group phenomenon<sup>5</sup>, a certain religion in any society is composed of two or more people (members) who share certain common goals. Saying that a group has common goals implies that individuals who are confronted with common problems have made contact and have agreed to work together toward the goal of solving those problems.

The second characteristic of religion is its concern with the sacred and supernatural. There is a universal tendency for religion to express awe, reverence, and fear with regard to certain things, beings, or situations, and to distinguish them from the ordinary, the mundane – or, as Durkheim defines it, the “profane” (Durkheim 1961:52).

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<sup>5</sup> The meaning of the Latin word *Religare* is the group or fellowship (Johnstone 2004:8).

For instance, Old Testament Jews removed their sandals upon entering the temple, many Christians make the sign of the cross when praying to God, Hindus give cows the right of way, Muslims undertake pilgrimages to Mecca, and American Indians avoided disturbing holy plots of ground. In each instance, people of a certain religion acknowledge being in the presence of something special – something above and beyond them that demands adopting special attitudes, performing certain actions, and perhaps articulating special words as well.

The third characteristic of religion is that religion involves a body of beliefs (Johnstone 2004:11-12). This characteristic proceeds from the foregoing consideration of the sacred and the supernatural. In order to justify these phenomena and experiences, religious groups develop explanations, work out rationales, and discover facts that are eventually systematized into a body of beliefs. A body of beliefs has two forms – written and unwritten. In terms of written forms, every major religion has its sacred book or books that provide the basis for the beliefs the group holds. In terms of unwritten forms, most religions have an oral tradition in the form of myths, sagas, and proverbs, handed down to each new generation by word of mouth. Without such a body of beliefs, a religion cannot be sustained for a long time.

How do these three characteristics of religion contribute to religion as an important factor in analyzing peoples' political attitudes and behaviors? In thinking about this puzzle, I like to draw an analogy from the way law enforcement officials attempt to solve crimes. As we have learned from watching countless television programs, police focus their investigation on suspects who have a *motive* for wrongdoing, the *means* to carry out the crime, and the *opportunity* to commit it (Wald 2003:26-27). According to Wald, translated into the language of politics, we can better understand why religion enters public life by examining the *incentives* for political activism by religiously committed people and groups, the *resources* that enable the religious to participate effectively, and their *opportunities* for political involvement (2003:27).

The incentives for religious people or groups to enter public life are related to the second and third characteristics of religion – a body of beliefs and the sacred (or supernatural). In particular, a body of beliefs (as a comprehensive system of belief) provides guidance for believers about appropriate behavior in secular realms, such as politics. The features of the sacred realm or supernatural beings' expectations for peoples' behavior dictate believers' attitudes towards controversial issues in the secular realm, such as abortion rights, school prayer, equal rights between males and females,

pornography, and stem-cell research.

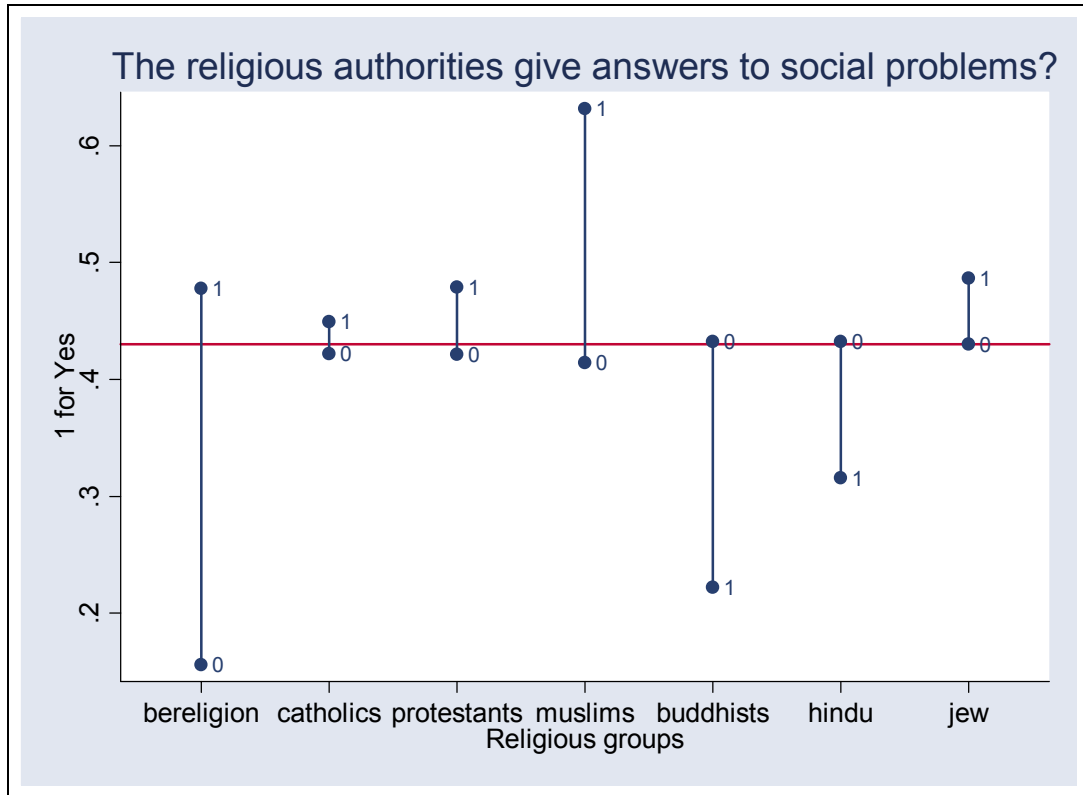
The first characteristic of religion (religion as a group phenomenon) provides a powerful means for religious people (or groups) to influencing public life. Because religion as a group provides a place for believers to share regular social interaction, a common status, and a distinctive way of life, there is a high possibility of shaping believers' political values in a certain way. In other words, adherents of a certain religion may develop and share a similar way of looking at the world, what is sometimes called a "group mind" (Wald 2003:25). In a democratic society, such believers have a great opportunity to express their particular worldview by participating in elections, political campaigns, and street-demonstrations.

In fact, the World Value Survey 2000-2001<sup>6</sup> shows that the existence of group minds in different religions is very salient in the contemporary world. For instance, figure 1-1 shows the variations among different religions' believers' opinions about social problems: "Do you agree or disagree to such statement as churches (or the religious

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<sup>6</sup> The survey was designed to investigate the basic values and attitudes of the peoples (over 120,000) of more than 80 societies around the world. The questionnaires focused on human values and goals concerning politics, economics, religion, sexual behavior, gender roles, family values, communal identities, civic engagement and ethical concerns, and such issues as environmental protection, scientific progress and technological development and human happiness. For more information, see the web site, <http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org>.





Note: The horizontal line is the mean value of answers, “0” for No, “1” for Yes.

“bereligion” : Do you belong to a religious denomination?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“catholics” : Is your religious denomination Catholic?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“protestants” : Is your religious denomination Protestantism?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“muslims” : Is your religious denomination Muslim?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“buddhists” : Is your religious denomination Buddhism?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“orthodoxch” : Is your religious denomination Orthodox Church?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“hindu” : Is your religious denomination Hinduism?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

**Figure 1-1. Opinions about Social Problems.**

authorities for non-Christians) are giving adequate answers to social problems”

(Inglehart et al. 2004:433).

According to Figure 1-1, while Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, and Jews tend to think that religious authorities do provide answers to social problems (including a high probability of intensive group mind), Buddhists and Hindus tend to think that religious authorities do not provide answers. This variation is rooted in the differences of belief systems among religious groups.

For instance, according to the Buddhist doctrine, nothing is absolutely wrong or right because everything is connected in the form of predestination (or acts of providence). Because people cannot know what they were or did in their former existence (a former life), nobody has the freedom to blame other people in the present life. Therefore, unlike Christianity (including both Catholicism and Protestantism), Islam, and Judaism (all of which have sacred books which guide the believers' way of life in the profane realm), Buddhism is concerned more with believers' self-salvation than with the problems of the profane realm. Though there is some variation among Buddhism (for instance, Buddhists in Thailand tend to think that the king of the country must rule his country based on Buddhist doctrine), Buddhism, in general, does not provide solid

guidance for social problems.

Hinduism as the mother's womb for Buddhism (Buddhism was established from one of Hinduist sects) also focuses on believers' self-realization. However, Hinduism is not only a religion, but also a culture (a way of life). While many Hindu holy texts and practices are intended to provide devotees with spiritual paths to liberation from the repeated cycle of life and death, many other aspects of Hindu life and ritual do not lead directly to such transformation, but are perceived to enhance one's quality of life on the Earth. Thus, such activities as tree-planting, singing, dancing, healing, archery, astrology, sculpture, architecture, and building a home might all be considered part of religious domain (Naraynan 2004). However, because Hinduism focuses on enhancing one's quality of life (not social justice, equal rights, etc.), religious authorities of Hinduism do not pay attention to social problems. Rather, Hinduism leads devotees to obligate to hierarchical structure of community (Naraynan 2004:97). In order to enhance one's quality of life on the earth, the stable structure of society is a necessary condition because people cannot concentrate on their quality of life in a chaotic society. This feature of Hinduism is distinctive one comparing other religions.

In short, the variations of religions (based on their particular belief systems and

organizational features) can make religion an important factor worth looking into by political scientists. Given that context, this research will focus on discovering some general patterns of religious influence on politics. In order to study the relationship between individual religiosity and political attitude (political tolerance)/ideology with micro-level analysis, this research uses a survey design and various statistical analyses (factor analysis, multiple regression, orthogonalized regression, and F-test for the significance of coefficients, etc.).

## Chapter II: Methods for Inquiry

### Individuals' Religiosity and Politics in South Korea.

Despite the importance of religion as a visible factor in the field of political science, the study of the relationship between religion and politics has been done primarily in Western countries, such as the United States, Great Britain, and Canada (Bruce 2002; Dillon 1996; Greeley 1997; Guth 1996; Hertel and Hughes 1987; Huntington 1974; Jelen 1998; Kim 2005e; Kotler-berkowitz 2001; McDonald 1969; Nolan 1996; Rozell and Wilcox 1995; Wald 2003; Yamane 1996).<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately, few scholars have devoted themselves to the study of this topic using cases other than Western countries (Forest and Johnson 2005; Karpov 1999; Kim 2005e; Levine and Mainwaring 1986; Naraynan 2004; Stepan 1988).

Scholars who do study the religious factor in politics in non-Western countries tend to focus on the institutional level, but non on the individual level. For instance, they focus on a specific religious group (or denomination) – its institutional characteristics and interaction with the state or society (Clark 1997; Eickelman and Piscatori 1996;

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<sup>1</sup> A small number of scholars began to study the relationship between religion and society in cross-national level (Inglehart 1997; Inglehart et al. 2004; Norris and Inglehart 2004).

Mainwaring 1986); thus, they have methodological limitations in exploring the overall relationship between religion and politics in a given country. In order to contribute to developing a theoretical generalization about religion and politics, it is necessary to study this topic at the micro-levels of analysis, focusing on individuals (Sanders 2002).

However, though micro-level analysis has some advantage in developing theoretical generalizations, it is not appropriate to use such analysis in studying every country. For instance, if a country has one dominant religion among the people, it is better to use macro-level analysis, investigating, for example, the features of the religious group (or denomination) and their impact on politics (Ramsay 1998; Shankland 2003; Smock 2002; Weber 1930). Yet, if we focus only on a certain religion, it is difficult to generalize any result from such case study.

Therefore, a country with religious pluralism (no single dominant religion) and a high percentage of religious believers is the best case for exploring the overall relationship between religion and politics. In this context, Korea provides a natural experimental setting for investigating the relationship between religion and politics in the modern democratic world. Thus, the primary focus of this research is ***how individuals' religiosity relates to their political attitude (in particular, the level of political***

***tolerance) and political ideology.***

In terms of the diversity of individuals' religiosity in Korea, Korea has no "official" religion (like the Anglican Church in England), nor is there one dominant religion. Buddhism, Catholicism, and Protestantism, as well as a whole spectrum of new religious movements, co-exist peacefully in one of the most religiously pluralistic countries in the world (Yun 2000).

In the World Value Survey 2000-2001, about 63% of Korean people answered that they have a religious affiliation.<sup>2</sup> Among those who have a religious affiliation, 13% are Catholic, 23% Protestant, 20% Buddhist, and 2% other religions.<sup>3</sup>

Based on such high levels of Koreans' religiosity, the expansion of religious organizations in Korea is remarkable. For instance, Buddhism, which has made a spectacular comeback since the fall of the Choson Dynasty in 1910, shows every sign of dynamism: in Korea, there are 39 Buddhist orders, more than 11,000 temples, over

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<sup>2</sup> The principal investigator of the survey is Professor Soo Young Auh, Department of Political Science, Ewha Women's University; November 10 to 21, 2001. N=1200., Population 20 years old and over, representative of the Republic of Korea. Selection of 120 clusters with a sample of 10 chosen from the household of each of the selected clusters.

Confucianism is not categorized as a religion because it does not include the second characteristics of religion – the feature of the sacred and supernatural. According to Johnston, if we emphasize the existence of the supernatural in defining religion, several religious forms cannot be a religion, such as Jainism, Ethical Culture, early Buddhism, and Confucianism (2004:10).

<sup>3</sup> "Others" includes any religions other than Catholicism, Protestantism, and Buddhism. It consists of 1.75% Orthodoxy Church Members, 0.17% Muslims, and 0.08% Jews.

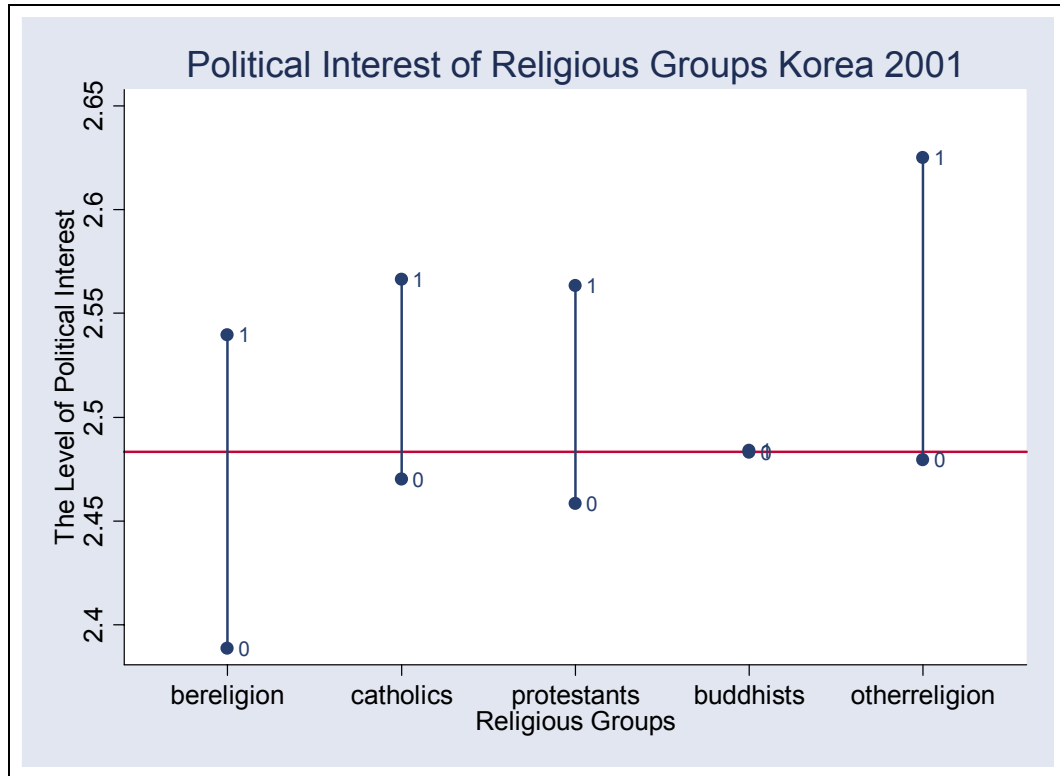
26,000 monks, and a large number of Buddhist-run media outlets, including cable television, a radio network, and newspapers (Kim 2002b:292). There are more than 160 Protestant denominations and nearly 60,000 churches, as well as 1,100 Catholic churches, which supposedly makes Korea “the most Christianized” non-Western country in the world, with the obvious exception of the Philippines (Kim 2002b:293).

By simply looking at the data, we recognize that Korean people have strong religious orientation in their lives. Such strong religious orientation in South Korea is not an abnormal phenomenon if we understand the long tradition of religion in Korean society – Buddhism came from China in AD 372 (*Kyoguryu* dynasty), and Christianity was introduced to the *Chosun* dynasty in the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Grayson 2002).

Not only does the diversity of Korean peoples’ religious affiliation make the Korea case a fine experimental setting, but also the high level of political interest of religious believers implies the importance of religious factors in Korean politics.

According to the data, people who have a religious affiliation are more likely to be interested in political affairs than non-religious people (see figure 2-1). Moreover, most religious groups show a higher level of political interest than Buddhists, which implies the existence of variation among different religious groups in terms of their





Note: The horizontal line shows the mean value of the level of political interest. The mean of “1” for Not at all, “2” for Not very, “3” for Somewhat, “4” for Very Interested.

“bereligion” : Do you belong to a religious denomination?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“catholics” : Is your religious denomination Catholic?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“protestants” : Is your religious denomination Protestantism?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“muslims” : Is your religious denomination Muslim?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“buddhists” : Is your religious denomination Buddhism?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“orthodoxch” : Is your religious denomination Orthodox Church?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

“hindu” : Is your religious denomination Hinduism?, “1” for Yes, “0” for No.

**Figure 2-1. Political Interest of Religious Groups, Korea 2001.**

political interest. This leads us to expect that an *individual's religiosity influences his/her political attitude and ideology.*

This research focuses on the relationship between individual religiosity and the level of political tolerance, which is one of the key cultural features in a democratic society. In order to increase the validity of the independent variable (individual religiosity), this research focuses on denominational differences among various religions as well as differences among believers' religiosity (including religious commitment and belief). Because religion has two aspects at the same time – inner (inside the believer's mind) and outer (outside the believer's mind, such as religious organizations) - it is necessary to investigate the relationship between levels of political tolerance and these two aspects of individual religiosity.

In terms of political ideology, this research focuses on the relationship between believers' (including seculars) religious ideology and their political ideology. By pinpointing believers' religious ideological spectrum (religious traditionalism and modernism)<sup>4</sup> and its relations to the conventional political ideological spectrum (political

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<sup>4</sup> Some scholars focus on political division between as well as within religious traditions. In terms of division within a religious tradition, scholars develop new concepts, such as religious conservatism (or traditionalism, fundamentalism) and religious progressivism (or modernism, non-fundamentalism) (Kellstedt et al. 1996; Kellstedt and Smidt 1991; Layman 2001; Marsden 1980; Miller and Wattenberg 1984).

conservatism and liberalism), this research will discover the visibility of religious factors in analyzing Korean peoples' political behaviors.

### **Two Models for Investigating the Relationship between Religiosity and Politics (“Ethnoreligious” versus “Culture Wars” Theses).**

Over the past two decades, considerable evidence (relating to the U.S. case) has accumulated regarding the political relevance of three dimensions of religiosity – religious tradition (belonging), religious commitment (behaving), and doctrinal orthodoxy (believing) (Fowler, Hertzke, and Olson 1999). From this evidence, it is clear that, although conceptually distinct, belonging, behaving, and believing are closely related to one another. Religious traditions (belonging) are defined in part by distinct beliefs (believing) and practices (behaving); religious commitment (behaving) and doctrinal orthodoxy (believing) are defined within the context of particular religious traditions. So if these aspects of religion are related to politics and to each other, the question is, “How do they matter politically? Do they act independently of each other, or do they act in conjunction?”

In terms of the relationship between the three dimensions of religiosity

(behaving, believing, and belonging) and political attitudes, there are two primary models for investigation: the “ethnoreligious” model and the “culture wars” model. The first was developed by historians (McCormick 1986; Swierenga 1990), and applied in the works of political science (Lipset 1964). The ethnoreligious model emphasizes the effect of religious belonging on politics. In the context of the ethnoreligious model, religion is thought of primarily as a social phenomenon, with membership in a religious tradition being closely linked to other aspects of culture, such as ethnicity, race, and region. Here, religious behaving and believing reinforce belonging to produce distinctive group identifications and distinctive cultural and political values.

So the focus of the ethnoreligious model is on political differences between, and not within, religious traditions, and most analyses of political attitudes are based on the effects of religious tradition, not on the effects of religious commitment and doctrinal orthodoxy. However, religious commitment and doctrinal orthodoxy do matter in this model. They matter in the sense that the most committed and orthodox members of a tradition are the most attuned to the dominant values of the tradition. So they are more likely than the less committed and orthodox members of the tradition to possess the political perspectives characteristic of the tradition (Kleppner 1979), and their political

outlooks should be most different from those members of other traditions with different worldviews and values.

For example, in the United States, the communitarianism of the Jewish faith and the liberation themes prevalent in the African-American church should mean that the most orthodox and committed members of those traditions are the most likely to take liberal positions on social welfare issues and issues of civil rights and liberties and thus the most likely to identify with and vote for the Democratic party (Parenti 1967).

The ethnoreligious model appears to fit well with much of American political history, considering the sharp political differences that have existed between Protestants, Catholics, and Jews and the early work on political behavior that identified religious groups affiliation as a major factor driving voting decisions (Berelson, Lazarsfeld, and McPhee 1954). Even today, scholars recognize that white Protestant are more Republican and conservative than Catholics, black Protestant, Jews, and seculars (Guth and Green 1991; Miller and Shanks 1996).

However, other recent findings in the literature on religion and politics do not square with the ethnoreligious model. For example, Catholic and mainline Protestant clergy and institutions have tended to be committed in recent years to principles such as

economic and social justice, racial equality, and nonmilitary solutions to international conflicts. From the ethnoreligious model, we would expect the most committed members of those traditions to share those perspectives and thus be more likely than their less devout counterparts to support the Democratic party and its candidates. However, recent research shows that the most committed Catholics and mainline Protestants are, in fact, the members of their traditions who are least likely to have liberal political attitudes and to identify with and vote for the Democratic party (Kellstedt et al. 1996).

For these reasons, the ethnoreligious model has appeared to some scholars to be an outdated account of religious influence on politics. Thus, the second model has emerged, the “culture wars” model. This model was developed by sociologists (Hunter 1991; Wuthnow 1988), and applied in the work of political science (Layman and Carmines 1997). The culture wars model emphasizes the relevant political divisions within, rather than between, religious traditions. Instead of reinforcing religious belonging, doctrinal orthodoxy (believing) and religious commitment (behaving) cut across the lines of traditions to create the same kinds of distinctive values among adherents in all religious traditions. Thus, the key political differences are no longer

between members of different faiths, but between religious “traditionalists,” or individuals with high levels of orthodoxy and commitment, and religious “modernists,” or individuals with low levels of orthodoxy and commitment, across the whole range of religious traditions (Layman 2001:66).

In other words, the political effects of believing and behaving are not tradition specific but are consistent across faith traditions. For example, in the U.S., the most orthodox and committed members of all traditions in the U.S. should be the most likely to partake of traditionalist values and thus to take conservative positions on cultural issues such as abortion, homosexuality, and pornography and to support the Republican Party. The least orthodox and committed members of those traditions should be the most likely to partake of modernist values and thus to have liberal cultural views and Democratic partisan loyalties. If the cultural wars model is correct, then commitment and doctrine should have independent effects apart from religious tradition, perhaps even to the extent that religious tradition is no longer relevant politically (Layman 2001:66-67).

### **Statistical Models to Test both Ethnoreligious and Culture Wars Models.**

In contemporary religion and politics, it is likely that the ethnoreligious and culture wars models are ideal types and the reality lies somewhere in between. In other words, doctrinal orthodoxy and religious commitment may be becoming more politically important, and their effects may be growing increasingly independent of religious tradition. But until the reshaping of political alignments along theological and behavioral lines is complete, the political impact of religious traditions will still be important.

There are two specific reasons to believe that the reality of contemporary religion and politics lies somewhere between the ethnoreligious and culture wars models. First, some of the recent research on the political influence of religion in the contemporary U.S. seems to fit with both perspectives. For instance, the strong attachments of committed evangelical Protestants to the Republican party do not run counter to the ethnoreligious viewpoints. However, those attachments are also highlighted in the work of culture wars proponents who see the support of the most orthodox Protestants for the conservative party as evidence of the strong connection between theological conservatism and political conservatism (Wuthnow 1989). In reality, evangelical Republicanism is probably indicative of both ethnoreligious and theological



influences on politics. It is certainly a case of traditionalist religious beliefs translating into conservative political attitudes and attachments, just as the culture wars model suggests (Kellstedt et al. 1994).

Second, the way that religion is connected to politics may depend on the nature of the political issue/agenda, or on the salience of particular issues to individuals or within the context of a campaign. Cultural issues such as abortion and homosexual rights are central to the culture wars thesis. The most orthodox members of all traditions tend to have conservative attitudes toward them, while the most progressive members of all traditions tend to have liberal views on them (Layman and Green 1998). Thus, these issues facilitate a consistent link between theological and political conservatism across a range of religious communities, and when they are salient, culture wars patterns should hold (for example, the strong connection between religious fundamentalist churches and political conservatism toward the abortion issue) (Ammerman 1987; Peshkin 1986).

However, on other issues, such as economic and social welfare issues, the connection between theological orthodoxy and conservative attitudes is not as clear, and the positions of religious people may depend more on the distinctive values and

worldviews of their religious traditions - for instance, evangelical Protestant individualism versus Jewish communitarianism - in addition to their socioeconomic, ethnic, and racial attributes. So when these issues are more salient, religious tradition may have more political impact than doctrinal orthodoxy and religious commitment (Layman and Green 1998).

Therefore, it seems that the most appropriate model of contemporary religion and political attitudes is one that incorporates elements of both the ethnoreligious and culture wars model. In other words, the model, in this research, focuses on accounting for the possibility that religious commitment (behaving) and doctrinal orthodoxy (believing) have effects on political attitudes/ideology independent of religious traditions (belonging), just as the culture wars thesis suggests. However, it also should account for political differences between religious traditions and the possibility that the effects of beliefs (believing) and behaviors (behaving) are dependent on tradition (belonging), just as the ethnoreligious viewpoint contends (Layman 2001:68-69).

To test both the ethnoreligious and culture wars models simultaneously and to capture the possibility that contemporary Korean politics contains elements of both frameworks, I use the following theoretical models in Figure 2-2:

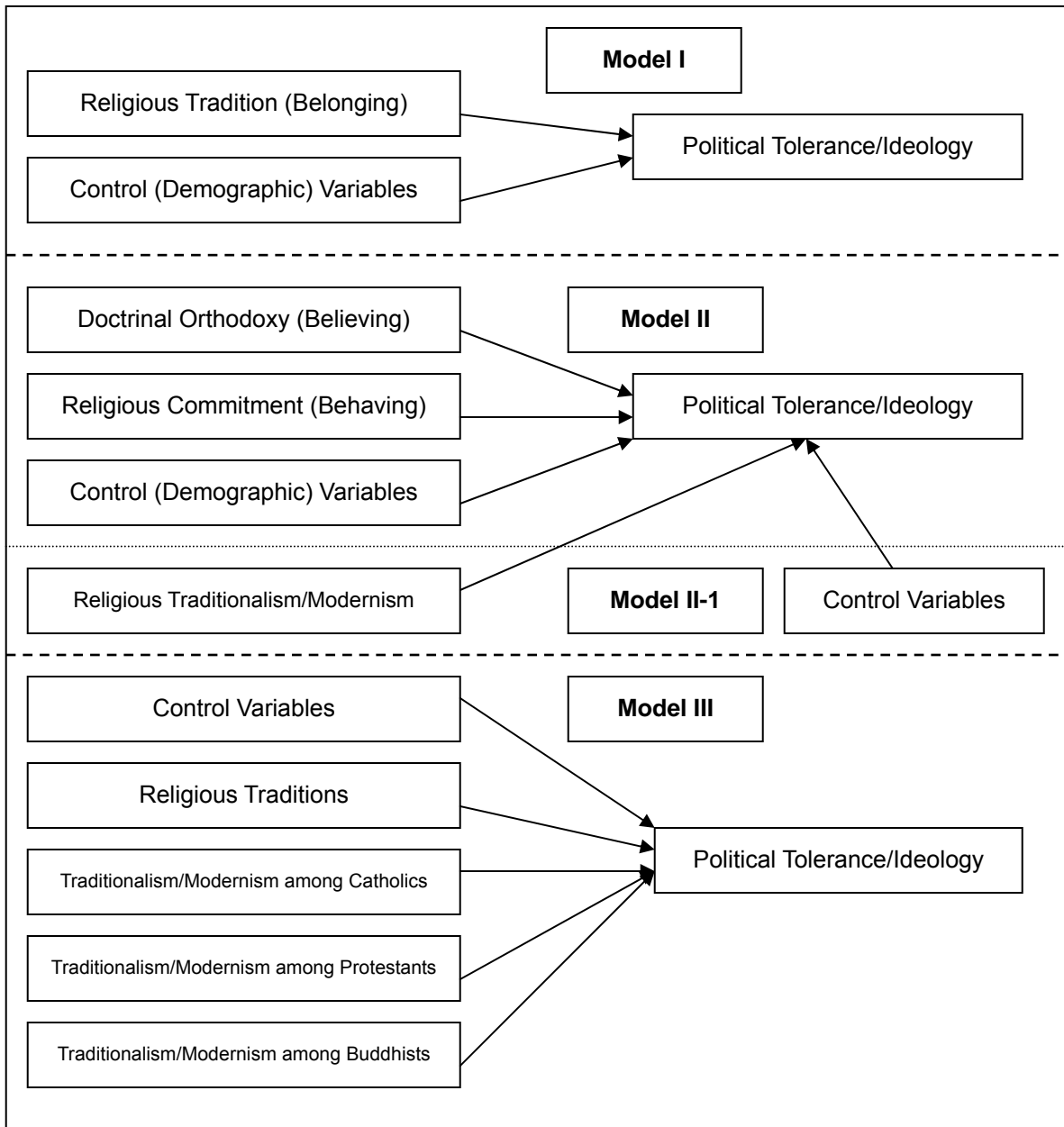


Figure 2-2. Theoretical Models.

Model I is designed to test the ethnoreligious thesis that emphasizes the effect of belonging aspect on politics. Following the ethnoreligious perspective, this model allows religious tradition to exert an independent influence on political attitudes (political tolerance and ideology in this research) by including dummy variables for Catholics, Buddhists, Protestants, and Seculars.<sup>5</sup> Model II is designed to test the culture wars thesis that emphasizes cultural division within religious traditions – religious traditionalism (or conservatism) and religious modernism (or liberalism). Also, in Model II-1, by including a new variable that is generated by combination between doctrinal orthodoxy and religious commitment (high value of this variable refers that a believer is close to religious traditionalist/conservativist), we can test the impact of believers' religious cultural attitudes on their political attitudes. As suggested by the culture wars thesis, the model II and II-1 allow to test the impact of believers' religiosity (the dimension of their religious traditionalism/modernism) on political attitudes.

Model III is designed to test both the ethnoreligious and culture wars theses simultaneously. Following the ethnoreligious assertion that the effects of orthodoxy and commitment are tradition specific, working to reinforce the dominant values within

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<sup>5</sup> Due to the small percentage of total believers (less than 0.1%), Judaism, Islam, and other religious traditions are excluded from the independent variables.

religious traditions, the model allows their effects to vary by tradition. It does so by including a set of new variables that are generated by combinations between religious traditions (Catholics, Protestants, and Buddhists) and the cleavages of religious traditionalism/modernism. The model will investigate the differences both between religious tradition (for example, Catholics are more liberal than Protestants) and within religious tradition based on believers' religious cultural attitudes (for example, more traditionalistic/fundamental Catholics are more conservative than modernistic/liberal Catholics). However, in order to reduce multicollinearity problem (especially, in Model III), some independent variables (based on their Variance Inflation Factors values) will be changed into a new variable by using the Orthogonalizing method and scoring after Factor Analysis. In particular, Model III is highly suspected to have the overspecification problem (due to the high level of multicollinearity among independent variables), Structural Equation Model (Kline 1998) may be used for highlighting some latent effects of independent variables.

All three Models include demographic variables as control variables. By including demographic variables (age, gender, income, education, and marital status), the models can avoid the misspecification problem in developing an unbiased statistical

model. Thus, statistical models for the above theoretical models are as follows:

Model I:

$$Y = a + B_1(\text{Religious Tradition}) + B_2(\text{Controls}) + e$$

Model II:

$$Y = a + B_1(\text{Doctrinal Orthodoxy}) + B_2(\text{Religious Commitment}) + B_3(\text{Controls}) + e$$

Model II-1:

$$Y = a + B_1(\text{Belivers' Religious Cultural Attitudes}) + B_3(\text{Controls}) + e$$

Model III:

$$Y = a + B_1(\text{Religious Tradition}) + B_2(\text{Religious Cultural Attitudes of Catholics}) + B_3(\text{Religious Cultural Attitudes of Protestants}) + B_4(\text{Religious Cultural Attitudes of Buddhists}) + B_5(\text{Controls}) + e$$

Where  $Y$  is the political attitudes (political tolerance and ideology) to be explained and the controls are a set of sociodemographic variables. Because all three models will be analyzed by Multiple Regression (Ordinary Least Squares) method,  $e$  is Residuals for fitted values.  $B_i$  are coefficients for each independent variable and will be tested via  $t$ -test with 95% confidence level.

## **Summary.**

The primary of this research is *how individual's religiosity relates to their political attitude (in particular, the level of political tolerance) and political ideology*. In order to investigating the relationship between religion and politics, this research uses two theoretical models – the ethnoreligious and the culture wars thesis. The focus of the ethnoreligious model is on political differences between religious traditions, and most analyses of political attitudes are based on the effects of religious tradition. In contrast, the culture wars model emphasizes the relevant political divisions within religious tradition. Thus, the key political differences are no longer between members of different faiths, but between religious “traditionalists,” or individuals with high levels of orthodoxy and commitment, and religious “modernists,” or individuals with low levels of orthodoxy and commitment, across the whole range of religious traditions.

Based on these two theses, this research develops four statistical models to shed some light on the relationship between individuals' religiosity and their political attitudes (political tolerance and political ideology). In particular, Model III in Figure 2-2 is designed to compare the explanatory powers of two theses and suggest a better way of investigation.

## **Chapter III: A Quasi-Experimental Design for the Inquiry**

### **Quantitative Method to Study Religion and Politics.**

In order to shed some light on the relationship between individuals' religiosity and their political attitude (their level of political tolerance) and political ideology, it is necessary to choose an appropriate framework for the inquiry the relationship. There are two dominant methods in the field of political science: qualitative and quantitative approaches (Creswell 1994; King, Keohane, and Verba 1994). A researcher can choose one of three strategies of inquiry (i.e., experimental, ethnographic, and narrative design), a choice that is bounded by the researcher's method of approach.

A qualitative approach is one in which the inquirer often makes knowledge claims based primarily on constructivist perspectives (i.e., the multiple meanings of individual experiences, meanings socially and historically constructed, with the intent of developing a theory or pattern), or advocacy/participatory perspectives (i.e., political, issue-oriented, collaborative, or change oriented), or both (Creswell 1994:18). In terms of the constructivist perspective, the researcher seeks to establish the meaning of a phenomenon from the views of participants. This means that the researcher identifies a



culture-sharing group and studies how it developed shared patterns of behavior over time (i.e., ethnography). One of the key elements of collecting data is to observe participants' behaviors by participating in their activities. However, for the participatory perspective, the inquirer seeks to examine an issue related to oppression of individuals. To study this, the researcher collects stories of individual oppression using a narrative approach. Individuals are interviewed at some length to determine how they have personally experienced oppression (Creswell 1994:21).

In terms of the quantitative approach based on a postpositivist perspective, the researcher tests a theory by specifying narrow hypotheses and collecting data to support or refute the hypotheses. An experimental design is used in which attitudes are assessed both before and after an experimental treatment. The data are collected on an instrument that measures attitudes, and the information collected is analyzed using statistical procedures and hypothesis testing (Creswell 1994:20).

Research focusing on the relationship between individuals' religiosity and political attitude/ideology tends to be done by applying the qualitative approach (for instance, Alvis 2005; Armstrong 1993; Clark 2002; Dekmejian 1985; Dillon 1996; Ford 2005; Lewis 1993; Mainwaring 1986; Moore 2000; Smock 2002; Weber 1930; Yun

2000). Though some recent researchers have applied the quantitative approach (for instance, Chaves and Gorski 2001; Jelen 1998; Karpov 1999; McDonald 1969), researchers focusing on religion are less likely to use the quantitative approach because of the difficulty in conceptualizing and operationalizing such obscure concepts, as religiosity, beliefs, faith, or religious creed. Moreover, because individuals' religiosity (for instance, the degree of intensity in believing a certain religion) cannot be articulated to make a researchable condition, the experimental design is difficult to use.

However, in order to take advantage of the quantitative approach (which allows for generalization of the research results), this research will use a quasi-experimental design, or a survey design for hypothesis testing using statistical procedures.

### **Principles and Practices for Designing a Survey.**

To collect numeric data of individuals' religiosity and political attitudes, a telephone survey (central-location interviewing) was conducted in Seoul, in June, 2004. In central-location interviewing, all interviews are conducted and supervised within one office or location, as opposed to decentralized interviewing, which allows each

interviewer to use a private telephone in the home or office. While central-location interviewing is slightly more expensive, it also has several advantages (Downs, Smeyak, and Martin 1980). For instance, highly trained, full-time interviewers can be used on every study. Interviewers can be briefed easily, and supervision is immediate and constant. Complete observation of any pre-testing can be achieved. Furthermore, all completed interviews are immediately available for supervisors to check for consistency, completeness, and neatness. Finally, with central-location interviewing, information can be quickly passed on to all interviewers doing the fieldwork (Downs, Smeyak, and Martin 1980:374-375).

In order to take advantage of central-location interviewing, 20 interviewers were hired and trained for two days. They are all college students majoring in political science at Kyung-Hee University, Seoul. The survey was conducted for three days, from 9:00AM to 9:00PM. The survey was conducted until 9:00PM in order to reach people who work outside the home (most people return home from work after 6:00PM).

During the training days,<sup>1</sup> two basic objectives of training were completed: (1) to familiarize all interviewers with the questionnaire or interview outline and the sampling

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<sup>1</sup> The two-day training program consisted of two parts: (1) a two-hour lecture on interviewing techniques and a demonstration interview, and (2) supervised practice interviewing (The training program was designed based on previous research about interviewing. Fowler and Mangione 1990).

procedures, and (2) to motivate the interviewers by explaining the purpose of the project and by making them feel that what they were doing was very important (see the objectives of training interviewers in Downs, Smeyak, and Martin 1980:362-363). According to Fowler and Mangione, two-day training programs result in 78% of respondents providing “exact” answers, as opposed to only 70% in one-day training programs. Thus, putting interviewers through two days of training yields more precise and useful results (1990:116-117).

In terms of the sample frame of the survey itself, the survey was conducted in Seoul (the capital of Korea). Seoul was selected in order to reduce the strong impact of regionalism in Korean politics. Regionalism refers to the impact of regional loyalty on individuals’ political behavior, especially voting behavior (Kollman, Lee, and Park 2003). For instance, the former president, Kim Dae Jung, won over 90% of the total votes in the Jula province, the southwestern part of Korea in which Kim’s hometown is located. Similarly, his opponent, Lee Heo Chang, whose hometown is in the Kyungnam province (the southeastern part of the country), won over 80% of the total votes in that area (Kollman, Lee, and Park 2003:4-5). Given the impact of regionalism, if one of two such provinces were selected as a sample frame, the probability of conducting a biased

survey would be high. However, Seoul, as the capital of Korea, with 25% of the total population in South Korea, is a good experimental setting for studying the relationship between religion and politics. Because the population of Seoul consists of people who have various regional origins (from all areas of South Korea, and even areas of North Korea), the impact of regionalism can be minimized (Cho 2000; Lee 1998; Moon 1984).

Furthermore, in order to avoid systematic errors of sampling, the survey sample was selected via Area Probability Sampling (a multistage sampling method) and a list-assisted approach to random-digit dialing (Fowler 2002:18-25). Area probability sampling is one of the most generally useful multistage strategies because of its wide applicability. It can be used to sample any population that can be defined geographically – for example, the people living in a neighborhood, a city, a state, or a country. The basic approach is to divide the total target land area into exhaustive, mutually exclusive sub-areas with identifiable boundaries. These sub-areas are then the clusters.<sup>2</sup> A sample of sub-areas is drawn. A list is then made of housing units in selected sub-areas, and a sample of listed units is drawn. As a final stage, all people in selected housing

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<sup>2</sup> In multistage sampling, a strategy is needed for linking population members to some kind of grouping that can be sampled. These groupings can be sampled as a first stage. Lists then are made of individual members of selected groups, with the possibility of further selection from the created list at the second (or later) stage of sampling. In sampling terminology, the groupings in the last stage of a sample design are usually referred to as “clusters” (Fowler 2002:19).

units may be included in the sample, or they may be listed and sampled as well.

Based on the strategy of area probability sampling, actual sampling was conducted via the following steps:

1<sup>st</sup> Step: People in Seoul selected as a Population.

2<sup>nd</sup> Step: Seoul has 25 sub-areas (Gu); calculate the percentage of Gu population.

3<sup>rd</sup> Step: Calculate allocated sample number for each Gu (sample numbers for each cluster).

4<sup>th</sup> Step: List telephone numbers via Random-digit Dialing method.

In the fourth step, the telephone numbers were selected using random-digit dialing. In particular, a list-assisted approach to random-digit dialing were used to generate random telephone numbers for each Gu. In recent years, with the advancement of computer technology, a communication company (Korea Telecommunication Company, called KT in Korea) has compiled computerized versions of telephone books. These computerized phone books are updated every three months. Once all of these books are in a computer file, a search can yield all clusters [area code (“2” for Seoul) – four digits (different numbers for each Gu) – four digits] that have at least one published residential telephone number. Thus, KT can produce a sample frame of all possible

telephone numbers in clusters (Gu) that have at least one published residential telephone number. The survey was conducted by using a sample frame that KT produced in 2004.

The target population for the study were people over 20 years old, the minimum age for voting. The total population of Seoul (over 20 years old) has 7,600,368, as of April, 2004 (Male: 3,774,576, Female: 3,825,792).<sup>3</sup> Based on the population size of each Gu, the necessary sampling numbers were calculated for each Gu (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> steps above).<sup>4</sup> For instance, the total population of *Gongro-Gu* (one of 25 Gu in Seoul) was 181,441, or 2% of the total population of Seoul in 2003. In order to get the desired sample size (1,037, which is the sample size with 99% confidence level for the total population, 7,600,368), a telephone interviewer stopped calling *Gongro-Gu's* telephone numbers when he/she had 21 respondents (2% of 1,037 = 20.74).

The actual sample size of the survey data is 994 (3.1% error level with 95% confidence level). Although the actual sample size (994) is smaller than the designed sample size (1037), it is quite large enough to use for analysis because the sample size

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<sup>3</sup> The data was collected from the Korean National Statistical Office in 2004. Available at website: [http://kosis.nso.go.kr/cgi-bin/sws\\_999.cgi](http://kosis.nso.go.kr/cgi-bin/sws_999.cgi), and accessed in May 2003.

<sup>4</sup> The population of each Gu was provided by the Seoul Regional Statistical Office in 2004. Available at website [http://webseoul.metro.seoul.kr:6600/cgi-bin/sws\\_999.cgi](http://webseoul.metro.seoul.kr:6600/cgi-bin/sws_999.cgi), and accessed in May 2004.

with 95% confidence for the total population, 7,600,368, is just over 600. In terms of the questionnaires, the survey consisted of three parts: (1) political attitudes/behaviors, (2) religious affiliation/behaving/believing, and (3) sociodemographic questions (see Appendix for the actual questionnaires).

To ensure that the questions are reliable measures, the questionnaire was drafted based on three principles: (1) the questions must be fully scripted, so that the questions as written fully prepare a respondent to provide the answer, (2) questions mean the same thing to every respondent, and (3) the kinds of answers that constitute an appropriate response to the questions are communicated to all respondents (Fowler and Mangione 1990:136-137). A closed-question format was used to reduce the disadvantages of open questions; for instance, open questions inevitably elicit a great deal of repetitious, irrelevant material, and there is significant interviewer variability in the handling of open questions (Sheatsley 1983:206-207).

In terms of response categories, a six-scale category was used for respondents to answer questions regarding their political attitudes or policy orientations: “Strongly Disagree, Quite Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, Somewhat Agree, Quite Agree, and Strongly Agree.” In order to reduce the effect of social desirability on answers, a middle



point was not included in the response categories. Studies of response accuracy suggest that respondents tend to distort answers in ways that will make them look better or will avoid making them look bad (Anderson, Silver, and Abramson 1988; Bradburn and Sudman 1979; Fowler 1995; Locander, Sudman, and Bradburn 1976). Due to the emphasis on “moderation (emphasizing balance and harmony by taking the-middle-of-the-road)” in Confucian culture (Juntao 2003:81; Yao 2000), Koreans tend to select the middle point when they are asked about ideological spectrums or policy evaluations. In addition, without thinking what “the left” and “the right” represent (Shin and Jhee 2005), Koreans tend to choose the middle point when they are asked about their ideological position. Thus, a middle point was not included in the response categories in the survey.

### **Validity and Reliability of the Survey Design.**

In any survey design, validity and reliability are two key components for accuracy of measurement. First, reliability refers to measurement error in any survey research (Litwin 1995:5-6). In survey research, error comprises two components: random error and measurement error. Random error is unpredictable error that occurs

in all research; to lower the chance of random error, researchers can select a larger and more representative sample (Litwin 1995). Measurement error refers to how well or poorly a particular instrument (for instance, the interviewing method in survey research) performs in a given population. Thus, the lower the measurement error, the closer the data is to the truth. Reliability is a statistical measure of the reproducibility of the survey instrument's data (Litwin 1995:6).

For assessing reliability of a survey, two forms of testing are commonly used: test-retest reliability and alternate-form reliability (Litwin 1995:8-31). Test-retest reliability is measured by having the same set of respondents complete a survey at two different points in time to see how stable the responses are. Correlations coefficients are then calculated to compare the two sets of responses (Fink 1995). In practice, such tests increase the cost of a study and are commonly used in medical or health science (because survey respondents – patients – can be controlled with the purpose of the survey), not in social science (because such tests increase the practice effect).<sup>5</sup>

Alternative-form reliability provides one way to escape the problem of the practice effect. It involves using differently worded items to measure the same attribute.

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<sup>5</sup> When measuring test-retest reliability, you must consider that individuals may become familiar with the items and simply answer based on their memory of what they answered the last time. This is called the practice effect (Litwin 1995:13)

Questions and responses are reworded or their order changed to produce two items that are similar but not identical (Litwin 1995:13-21). Then, Cronbach's  $r$  is calculated between the two items' responses to assess reliability (Cronbach 1951; Gliner and Morgan 2000:313-317).

In this survey, three similar but not identical questions were asked to measure individuals' religiosity: (1) Do you believe that God (or any kind of god) exists, (2) Do you agree that God controls world affairs, including personal life, and (3) Do you agree that the Bible (or your religious book) is the word of God (or the god you believe in)?

According to the result of the Cronbach Alpha test, the value of the scale reliability coefficient is 0.6939. The formula of Cronbach Alpha is  $\alpha = \frac{N - \bar{r}}{1 + (N - 1) - \bar{r}}$ ; here  $N$  is equal to the number of items, and  $\bar{r}$  is the average inter-item correlation among the items. By convention, alpha should be 0.70 or higher to retain an item in a scale.

However, some researchers allow a lenient cut-off of 0.60, while others insist on a stringent cut-off of 0.80 (Ebel 1951 ; Litwin 1995; McGraw and Wong 1996). Because the Alpha of this survey is close to 0.70, the survey used in this research possesses an acceptable reliability scale.

In addition to determining a survey item's or scale's reliability, it is necessary to

assess its validity - how well it measures what it sets out to measure. There are two kinds of validity: theoretical and empirical. The former refers to the correlation between the underlying, latent construct and the observed measure, whereas the latter refers to a correlation between the observed measure and some other observed criterion (Bohrnstedt 1983:97-98).

In terms of empirical validity, concurrent validity is used for assessing a survey data's empirical validity. Concurrent validity is assessed by correlating a measure and a criterion of interest at the same point in time (Bohrnstedt 1983:97). A measure of the concurrent validity of an attitude measure of religiosity with respect to church attendance could be assessed in a single interview, for example. It is important to note that there are as many concurrent validities as there are criteria one may want to explain; in other words, there is no single concurrent validity for any given measure.

According to Bohrnstedt, one can rather easily assess the concurrent validity of a measure of political conservatism by correlating it with reported voting behavior (e.g., the coefficient between political conservativeness and votes for the Republican Party) (1983:98). In a similar context, the concurrent validity of a measure of religious orthodoxy can be checked by correlating it with reported attendance at religious

services.

One type of concurrent validity uses the *known group technique* (Bohrnstedt 1983). If one knows that certain groups vary on a variable of interest, then those groups can be used to validate a new measure of it. For example, one would expect those who report that they have no religious identification to score substantially lower on a measure of religious orthodoxy than those who belong to established religious groups. Based on the known group technique, a validity test of the survey data was conducted by calculating *sensitivity and specificity* values. (Reichenheim 2002).

To calculate sensitivity and specificity of two criteria in variables, the following formula was used (Byvad, Machiulskiene, and Baelum 2003; Christacapoulos 1972; Gardner and Altman 1989:28-33):<sup>6</sup>

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{p\_alpha \times p\_n^1}{(1 - p\_n^1) \times (1 - p\_delta) + p\_alpha \times p\_n^1}$$
$$\text{Specificity} = \frac{p\_delta \times (1 - p\_n^1)}{P\_n^1 + P\_delta - P\_n^1 \times P\_delta - (p\_n^1 \times P\_alpha)}$$

In order to test the survey data's sensitivity and specificity,<sup>7</sup> two groups of people were

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<sup>6</sup> Where p-n1 is the proportion of positive subjects detected in the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the study according to the NT (New Test), p-alpha is the proportion of positive subjects detected by the RT(Reference Test) among the NT +previously sampled, p-delta is the proportion of negative subjects detected by the RT among the NT -previously sampled.

<sup>7</sup> The calculation was conducted by using STATA 8.2 program. In STATA program, *valides* estimates sensitivity and specificity arising from a multi-stage design whereby a new test (NT)

selected (people who support a conservative party and people who believe in God's [or god's] existence). For the first group (supporting a conservative party in Korea), sensitivity and specificity tests were calculated based on their voting behaviors (they were predicted to vote for a conservative candidate in the 2002 presidential election). For the second group (believing in God's existence), the same tests were calculated based on their religious orthodoxy (whether or not they believe that God controls world affairs, including their personal lives). Table 3-1 shows that the values of specificity for the two groups are over 90.0%, which confirms that the survey data has a high level of concurrent validity.

In terms of theoretical validity, a construct validity test is used to check data's theoretical validity. The notion of a construct implies hypotheses of two types. First, it implies that items from one stratum within the domain of meaning correlate together because they all reflect the same underlying construct or "true" score. Second, while items from one domain may correlate with items from another domain, the implication is that they do so only because the constructs themselves are correlated

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under scrutiny for its concurrent validity is applied first to all subjects and the reference test (RT) thereafter on only a sub-sample of those.

**Table 3-1. Validity Tests for a Survey Data.**

Test Group	Test Value		Confidence Intevals
1 <sup>st</sup> Group (for testing variables of political attitude/behavior)	Sensitivity Pr(+/D)	83.0%	76.9%-89.0% (standard error=3.1)
	Specificity Pr(-/~D)	95.6%	93.9%-97.3% (standard error=0.9)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Group (for testing variables of religious attitudes)	Sensitivity Pr(+/D)	42.8%	39.0%-46.7% (standard error=2.0)
	Specificity Pr(-/~D)	98.8%	97.7%-100% (standard error=0.6%)

Note: True D for 1<sup>st</sup> group is people who support a conservative party in Korea.

True D for 2<sup>nd</sup> group is people who believe in God's existence.

(Bohrnstedt 1983:100-101).

In other words, construct validation involves two types of validation. The first is theoretical validity – an assessment of the relationship between the items and an underlying latent unobserved construct. The second involves confirming that the latent variables themselves correlate as hypothesized (Bohrnstedt 1983:101). If either or both sets of hypotheses fail, then construct validation is absent. Factor analysis is commonly used for testing construct validity. Because factor analysis is used for generating two dependent variables (political tolerance and individual religiosity) in the following chapters, the test results are not presented here. For now, let it be known that according to the factor analysis, the survey data used in this research has construct validation.

### **Measuring Three Dimensions of Peoples' Religiosity.**

Scholars have long understood religion to be a multidimensional phenomenon (Stark and Glock 1968; Wilcox 1990). Thus, the starting point for determining how religion affects political tolerance/ideology (political attitudes hereafter) is to identify the major dimensions of individual religiosity. The literature identifies three major components of religion that are potentially important for politics: believing, behaving, and belonging (Layman 2001:55-94).

First, believing provides the substantive content of religion, capturing the basic worldview and values of religious people, and thus serves as the central motivation for religious belonging and behaving. Because believing (in other words, religious beliefs) provides the core of a certain religion – for instance, the sanctity of human life, the point at which life begins, the proper purposes of the sex act, and the appropriate ordering of familial relationships, believing serves as the central motivation to influence political attitudes. Particularly, when it comes to issues surrounding the cultural conflicts (for instance, abortion, women's rights, and homosexual rights), beliefs give clear guideline for believers to judge such issues. In a similar context, Kellstedt and his colleagues argue, "At its core, religion is a set of beliefs about the divine, humankind's relationship



to it, and the consequences of that relationship” (Kellstedt et al. 1996:175).

Although it certainly does not capture the whole range of relevant religious beliefs (believing), a common conceptualization of believing employed in studies of religion and politics is doctrinal orthodoxy: the combination of beliefs traditionally regarded as central to the acceptance of faith (Layman 2001:56). Considerable research has shown doctrine to be a potent source of political values and attitudes (Jelen 1991; Kellstedt and Green 1993; Wilcox 1990); doctrinal orthodoxy is typically defined as some combination of beliefs about the sources of religious authority (such as the authority of Scripture) and the appropriate relationship of individuals to the divine (such as the necessity of adult conversion experiences).

Therefore, in order to measure individual beliefs, respondents were asked to answer the following questions: Do you agree with the following statements: (1) God controls world affairs, including my personal life - about 28% of respondents agreed, and 69% disagreed; (2) The Bible (or your religious book) is the word of God - about 46% of respondents agreed, and 44% disagreed.

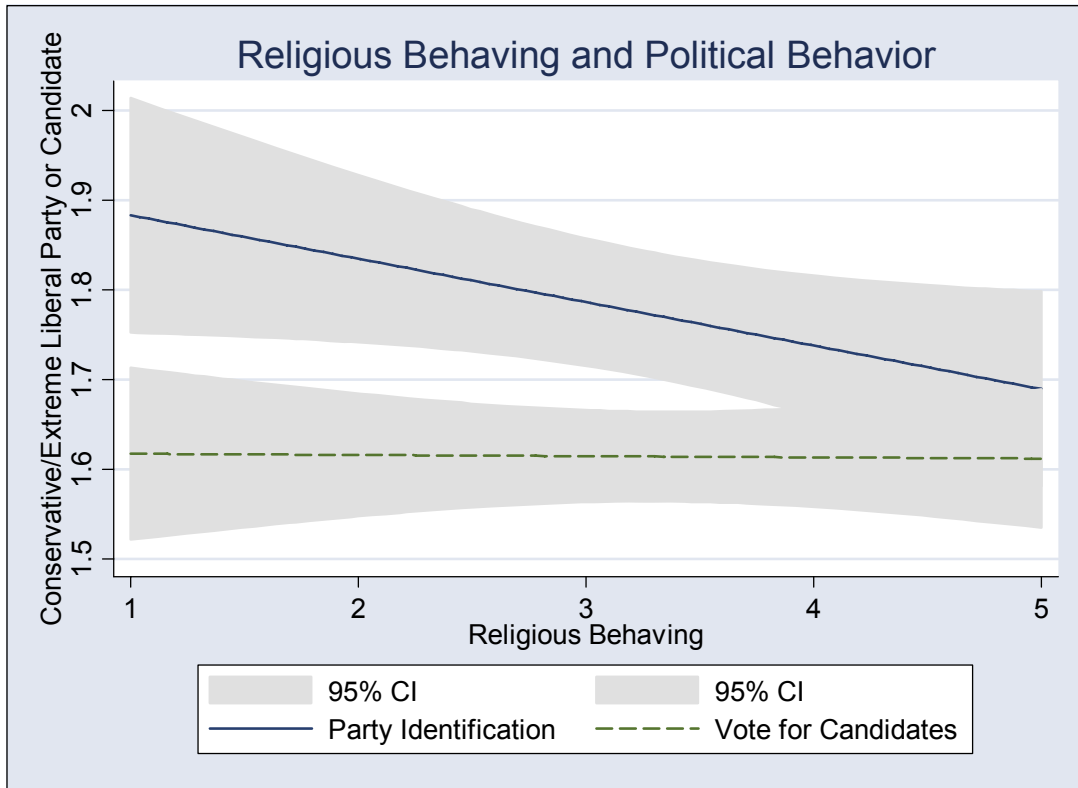
In terms of the second dimension of religiosity, religious behaving refers to the actual practice of religious faith. In studies of political attitudes, religious behaving is

often viewed as a conditional variable, affecting the impact that religious beliefs and affiliations have on political attitudes and decisions. Individuals who are more active in the church are more likely to pick up political cues from clergy and fellow parishioners, thus providing a closer link between religious belonging and beliefs on the one hand and political behavior on the other hand (Wald, Owen, and Hill 1988, 1990; Welch et al. 1993). However, such a hypothesis (behaving as a conditional variable) is not quite applicable in the case of Korea. According to the survey data, only 38% of believers (who have a religious affiliation) answered that their religious leaders/clergies talk often about political/social issues in religious services. About 60% of believers answered that their religious leaders/clergies do not talk too much about political/social issues in religious services. One reason for such a result lies in Korean Buddhists. Because Buddhism in Korea does not have any regular religious services to attend (unlike Christians' Sunday worship/service), Buddhists' religious behaving is not quite related to the level of their religious believing.

However, numerous studies show that religious behavior does have a direct impact on political orientation, with religious individuals being more likely than their less religious counterparts to take conservative attitudes on political issues, particularly

cultural ones, and to support a conservative party (Republican Party in the U.S.) and its candidates (Cook, Jelen, and Wilcox 1992; Green, Guth, and Fraser 1991; Layman 1997; Sherkat and Ellison 1997). In the case of Korea, Figure 3-1 shows that there is a negative relationship between believers' religious behaving and their party identification (toward an extreme liberal party); in other words, individuals who are more active in religious activities are less likely to support an extreme liberal party (*Democratic Labor Party* in Korea). However, in the case of voting choice in the 2002 Presidential election, there is no variation based on believers' religious behaving patterns.

In terms of the conceptualization of religious behaving, scholars distinguish between two types of religious behaviors: ritual activity, such as attending worship services, and private devotionism, such as personal prayer (Leege, Wald, and Kellstedt 1993). Because the concept of private devotionism (or religious salience for other scholars) (Guth and Green 1993) is difficult to measure, a question was designed to measure the frequency of worship attendance as a religious behaving variable. In the survey, respondents were asked to answer the following question: How often do you participate in religious activities, beyond funerals or wedding ceremonies?



Note: - Y axis represents believers' Party Identification ("1" for a Conservative Party, *Hannara Party*, "2" for a Liberal Party, *Yulin Woori Party*, "3" for a Extreme Liberal Party, *Democratic and Labor Party*) and believers' voting choice in 2002 Presidential Election ("1" for a conservative candidate, *Lee Heo Chang*, "2" for a liberal candidate, *Noh Moo Hyun*, "3" for a extreme liberal candidate, *Kwon Young Gil*).

- "Religious Behaving" for believers' participation in religious activities: "1" for less than twice a year, "2" for several times a year, "3" once or twice a week, "4" for once a week, "5" for more than twice a week

**Figure 3-1. Religious Behaving and Political Behavior.**

The third dimension of religiosity is individuals' religious belong. Religious belonging refers to an individual's affiliation with a religious community (or group). There are, at least, two aspects of religious group membership that may act to facilitate the link between religious beliefs and political attitudes. The first is the influence of religious leaders. Messages delivered from the pulpit often have a profound effect not only on the religious outlooks of church members, but also on their political attitudes and actions (Welch et al. 1993). Furthermore, even if clerical discussions of politics and clerical political activism do not directly shape political orientations, they may play an important role in making faith relevant for political decisions (Guth and Green 1996; Welch et al. 1993). Religious leaders also play a significant role in encouraging individuals of like religious beliefs to become involved in the political process (Verba, Schlozman, and Brady 1995).

The second influential aspect is the general importance of social context and group membership in filtering the flow of political information to individuals and in shaping individual political attitudes (Huckfeldt, Plutzer, and Sprague 1989; Huckfeldt and Sprague 1987). For many individuals, congregations and other religious group memberships are a major source of primary group friendships and social interactions

(Ammerman 1987; Huckfeldt 1993; Wald, Owen, and Hill 1988). Through this interaction and the resulting perceptions of shared interest, religious as well as political and social beliefs are shaped and reinforced (Huckfeldt 1993; Wald, Owen, and Hill 1988, 1990). In order to measure individuals' religious affiliation (belonging), respondents were asked to answer the following question: Which religious denominations are you affiliated with now? Circle one among Protestantism (about 32%), Catholic (about 13%), Buddhism (about 20%), Islam (about 0.1%), *Chun Do Kyo* (about 0.1%), Unified Church (*Moon Sun Myung* as leader), Others, No-Religion (about 13%) and Refuse to Answer (23%).

### **Summary.**

This research uses a quasi-experimental design or a survey design for hypothesis testing using statistical procedures. A telephone survey (central-location interviewing) was conducted in Seoul, in June, 2004. Seoul (the capital of South Korea) was selected for the sample frame of the survey in order to reduce the strong impact of regionalism in Korean politics. Moreover, in order to avoid systematic errors of sampling, the survey sample was selected via Area Probability Sampling (a multistage sampling

method) and a list assisted approach to random-digit dialing. The survey questionnaire was designed to measure individual's religiosity, the level of political tolerance, and political ideology. In particular, because of the unique characteristic of religion (a multidimensional phenomenon), the survey questionnaire was designed to measure three dimensions of religiosity (believing, behaving, and belonging). The sample size of the survey was 994.

## **Chapter IV: Hypotheses of Political Tolerance and Religiosity**

### **Political Tolerance and Democracy.**

Democracy is an institutional arrangement for making political decisions that are based on allowing the people to decide the issues and elect those who will carry out their will (Schumpeter 1950). This political system requires competition among individuals and groups, participation in the form of regular elections, and civil liberties that guarantee political rights. Under a democratic institutional arrangement people are free to decide and pursue their own ideologies. Moreover, a democracy should not exclude any group from the rights to shape a country's political life (Sorenson 1993). In this context, political tolerance is usually understood as the willingness to extend basic political rights to extreme groups holding ideologies and engaging in practices that the general public may oppose (Finkel, Singleman, and Humphries 1999). Thus, political tolerance is a necessary condition for establishing a democratic institutional arrangement in a society.

There are four main theoretical approaches that focus on different aspects of the role tolerance plays in a democracy. The democratic consensus approach (Cutler and Kaufman 1975; Stouffer 1955; Wilson 1994) deems mass support for civil liberties



indispensable for democratic stability (see Sullivan, Piereson, and Marcus 1982, for a critique of this approach). The elitist theory (McClosky and Brill 1983) suggests that tolerant elites rather than tolerant masses are crucial for protection of political freedom (see Sniderman et al. 1991, for a critique of this approach). According to the pluralistic intolerance thesis (Sullivan, Piereson, and Marcus 1982), intolerance threatens democracy only if directed against some commonly disliked group(s), so as long as different segments of society are intolerant of different outgroups, democracy is safe (see Sniderman et al. 1989, for a critique of this approach). Finally, according to the cultural conformity approach (Gibson 1992), mass political intolerance shapes a culture of conformity that limits individual political liberty and consequently undermines democracy by delegitimizing political opposition.

For the purposes of exploring the influence of religion on mass political attitudes, the democratic consensus approach appears to be particularly relevant. In other words, individuals' religiosity may have indirect impact on Korean democratic stability since the late 1980s. If this research discover some causal relationship between individuals' religiosity and political tolerance, it will point to a future research agenda, that of religion and democratic development in Korea.

## **Political Tolerance and Individual's Religiosity**

Political tolerance is not an inherent human trait; rather, it is learned through political socialization (McClosky and Brill 1983). Political socialization operates, in part, through religion because every religious group develops its own distinctive orientations toward various aspects of life, including politics. Thus, religious beliefs become incorporated into individuals' self-identity and can influence their political opinions and actions (Lenski 1963).

How does individuals' religiosity influence their political tolerance? As discussed in Chapter II, studies dealing with this topic have focused on two aspects of religious influence. The first aspect is religious affiliation (the ethnoreligious model); in particular, researchers have tried to establish and explain the interdenominational differences in tolerance levels. The second aspect deals with the differential effects that various facets of religiosity (e.g., religious commitment and religious involvement) have on tolerance (the culture wars model). In this context, researchers tried to establish intradenominational differences [so called, differences between religious traditionalists (or conservativists, fundamentalists) and religious modernists (or progressivists,

liberals)]<sup>1</sup> in tolerance levels. However, most studies have focused on the case of the United States because of the ease of accessing empirical data, as compared to other countries.

In terms of the ethnoreligious model, studies have shown that the effects of denominational affiliations (belonging aspect) on tolerance are complex and may fade if structural factors and general religious orientations are accounted for. Initially, Stouffer found that northern Protestants were more tolerant than Catholics, and that the latter were more tolerant than southern Protestants (1955:151). Nunn, Crocket, and Williams found Catholics to be less tolerant than Jews and nonbelievers but more tolerant than Protestants (1978). However, Sullivan, Pierson, and Marcus later argued that when targets of intolerance are controlled, these interdenominational differences would disappear (1982:137-139). Beatty and Walter found that, regardless of the object of intolerance, Catholics were less tolerant than Episcopalians, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians, but far more tolerant than 10 other Protestant denominations (1984). In short, Figure 4-1 shows the tolerance levels of different religious denominations in previous study.

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<sup>1</sup> In this research, I use “religious traditionalists” and “religious modernists” as the terms for two different groups within denominations.

Nonbelievers ≥ (Jews or Episcopalians, Congregationalists, Presbyterian) > Catholics > Protestants (10 other Protestant denominations)
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**Figure 4-1. Denominational Differences on the Tolerance Levels in the United States.**

One reason for the higher level of political tolerance of Catholics than other religious denominations is the different doctrinal and ethical codes of each denomination. For instance, Catholics and Protestants view the world differently because of their different doctrinal codes and different church structures (Greeley 1989). In particular, Catholics are less individualistic than Protestants, and they value equality more highly. Conversely, Protestants place a high value on individual thought and expression, and they define their own ideas about morality. Protestants (except for Episcopalians, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians) see the world as “sinful and Godforsaken,” causing individuals to stand against society rather than immerse themselves within it (Greeley 1989). In general, previous studies of the relations between religious denominational differences and the tolerance levels show that Catholics are more likely to have a high level of political tolerance than Protestants.

I expect the same patterns in the case of Korea. In fact, in addition to the difference between Catholic and Protestant doctrines, the unique historical experience

of the two religious groups has also influenced each group's level of political tolerance. Since the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, Catholicism has not opposed Korean cultural tradition. For instance, the Catholic church in Korea still allows its members to perform ancestral sacrifices and to smoke and drink alcohol. Catholicism has tried to acknowledge the traditions of Korean culture rather than try to transform them.

In contrast, Protestantism in Korea never allowed its members to perform such rituals and to drink or smoke. In fact, most Protestant missionaries in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century regarded such bad habits as drinking/smoking as the primary reason for Koreans living in the poverty. Thus, once a person becomes a member of the Protestant church and accepts such teachings, he/she is generally intolerant of other peoples' bad habits. Thus, in terms of cultural diversity, Catholics are close to cultural pluralism, while Protestants are not compatible with cultural pluralism in Korea.

However, the second (after Protestantism) largest religious group in Korea is Buddhism.<sup>2</sup> According to Buddhist doctrine, nothing is absolutely wrong or right because everything is connected in the form of predestination (or acts of providence<sup>3</sup>). Because nobody can know what he/she was or did in his/her former existence (a former

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<sup>2</sup> Because there is a very small number of Jews and Muslims, less than 0.1% of total population, these two religious denominations were not included in this research.

<sup>3</sup> "acts of providence" means some plan or guideline that Buddha (or any god in Buddhism) made for the world and people.

life), nobody has the freedom to blame other people in the present life.

In addition to such a general Buddhist doctrine, there is a unique doctrinal feature of Korean Buddhism: pursuit of harmonization and unification. The pursuit of harmony and unification is a constant focal point of Korean Buddhism, originating from *Shilla* Master *Wonhyo's* Buddhist thought. His whole philosophy was centered on the idea of reconciliation. Through his creative theory, he harmonized the two different Buddhist values of reality and ordinary categories. Also, he brought together the concept of the "void" (of *Madhyamika* philosophy) and that of "existence" (of *Vijnanamatravad* philosophy) – a subject of argument in Indian and Chinese studies – in the structure of his concept of the "One Mind" (Dae 2002:56-57). Because Korean Buddhism emphasizes harmonization between individuals' reality (outside) and mind (inside), Korean Buddhism is characterized as an individualistic (not communal) form of religion. Thus, Korean Buddhists tend to focus not on other people's opinion or behavior but on individual meditation and study (for unification of outside-reality and inside-mind). These doctrinal features of Korean Buddhism may help Korean Buddhists be more tolerant people than those who belong to other religious denominations.

In addition to such doctrinal characteristics, historically, Buddhists have been

excluded from the governing class since the establishment of the *Chosun* dynasty (from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in the Korean peninsular). Because the ideological foundation of the *Chosun* dynasty was Confucianism, all other religious or cultural groups were shunned or persecuted by the dynasty (Joe 2000:497-512). Thus, many Buddhists, including monks themselves, have been politically passive, avoiding active participation in political campaigns or expression of their dislike of certain social or political groups. In short, Buddhists in Korea tend to be more tolerant than other religious groups because of their unique historical experiences and doctrinal characteristics.

In this research, I will put Buddhists in the place of Jews (or three denominations of Protestantism) in Figure 4-1. Because of the lack of sufficient previous studies about Buddhism and tolerance levels in Korea, it is not easy to make a plausible expectation about the tolerance levels between Buddhists and nonbelievers. However, because most previous studies (with the case of the United States) show that nonbelievers express the highest level of tolerance, Figure 4-2 shows the expectations of different denominations' impact on political tolerance levels in Korea.

Nonbelievers ≥ Buddhists > Catholics > Protestants

**Figure 4-2. Denominational Differences on the Tolerance Levels in Korea.**

However, research has found that the patterns of tolerance and intolerance often transcend traditional denominational boundaries. Jelen and Wilcox argue that, when controlling for the effects of education, there is an interdenominational consensus among Christians on the circumstances in which tolerance is justified (1990). Gay and Ellison focused on the heterogeneity of attitudes within denominations and suggested that “religious families” (liberal, moderate, and fundamentalist) rather than denominations is a more useful concept for explaining political tolerance (1993:312-314). The trans-denominational evangelical movement in the United States was linked to multiple manifestations of intolerance. In particular, Wilcox and Jelen found evangelicals less tolerant than other Americans, even after multivariate controls (1990:42). These studies show the possibility of intradenominational (not interdenominational) differences on political tolerance levels. In this context, the culture wars model focuses on the differences within (not between) denominations based on believers’ religious commitment (behaving aspect) and belief system (believing aspect).



In terms of the culture wars model, some previous studies show that various aspects of religiosity (in particular, believing and behaving aspects) have differential effects on political tolerance. Since Stouffer (1955), research has described church attendance as a strong predictor of intolerance (demonstrating the negative impact of behaving aspect on tolerance levels). Fislinger found that both church attendance and religious preference (the level of religious preference-believing aspect) were related to tolerance (1976). According to Steiber (1980), personal piety has a negative impact on tolerance (negative impact of believing aspect on tolerance levels). Smidt and Penning (1982) say that religious commitment may be negatively related to political tolerance, but this relation varies by political issues and is mediated by political attitudes. Ellison and Musick (1993) found that, controlling for contextual variables, religious attendance does not significantly influence tolerance, while theological conservatism does (in other words, believing aspect only [negative impact of strong belief in conservatism theology on tolerance levels]). In a similar context, Wilcox and Jelen (1990) showed that strong links exist between political intolerance and adherence to evangelical doctrinal orthodoxy.

In summary, previous studies about the links between religious commitment

(behaving) and tolerance levels, and between religious orthodoxy (believing) and tolerance levels show that there are negative relations between them. Therefore, in this research, I expect that there are negative relations between believing, behaving and tolerance levels in Korea. Moreover, by generating a new variable via the combination of believing and behaving aspects, I can test the culture wars thesis, which claims that there is intradenominational difference between religious traditionalists and modernists in terms of their political tolerance levels.

### **Operational Definition of Political Tolerance as a Dependent Variable.**

Sullivan, et al. (1979:785) define political tolerance as “a willingness to ‘put up with’ those things that one rejects.” In adopting this definition of the concept, we also agree that “one is tolerant to the extent one is prepared to extend freedoms to those whose ideas one rejects, whatever these might be” (Sullivan, Piereson, and Marcus 1979:784). Also, recent conceptual discussions distinguish carefully between tolerance, or the willingness to extend civil liberties to groups with which one disagrees, and liberalism (Sullivan, Piereson, and Marcus 1982). It is important to note that this is not a

definition of liberalism and conservatism.

How can we measure individuals' political tolerance levels? There are two ways of measuring tolerance levels that are widely used in recent studies: including target groups that respondents can pick up as dislike groups, or asking general questions about political rights to express any opinions. In terms of the first method, including target groups, survey respondents should be presented with a variety of different types of groups toward which they can express intolerance; their choices should not be limited to a few left-leaning groups. For instance, a recent research (Bobo and Licari 1989) includes a total of fifteen items gauging the willingness of respondents to extend civil liberties to five target groups: homosexuals, atheists, communists, people believing that blacks are inferior, and people who think the military should run the country. For each target group, respondents are asked (1) whether they would support the removal of a book authored by such a person from the public library in their community, (2) whether they would permit such a person to give a public speech in their community, and (3) whether they would allow such a person to be employed as a college instructor.

However, this method has two critical problems of measurement. First, respondents have limitations of choosing their own dislike groups. Because researchers

present a list of target groups (related to their research topics), respondents whose dislike group is not on the list cannot reveal their tolerance levels correctly (Sullivan and Marcus 1988). Second, researchers assume that all respondents have similar tolerance levels on the other four target groups (in the example above) except for the most disliked group. Without this assumption, any statistical combinations for measuring tolerance levels may have a reliability problem. In other words, respondents' political tolerance levels may be flexible depending on the researchers' selection of sample frames and the timing of survey conducting.

Therefore, I use, in this research, the second method of measuring political tolerance – asking general questions about political rights to express any opinions. In the survey, respondents were asked to express their opinions about the following two statements: (1) Regardless of one's views, people should have the right to express themselves, and (2) We should not tolerate minority opinions in Korean society. Respondents chose one number out of six-scale numbers (from "1" for Strongly Disagree to "6" for Strongly Agree). Thus, if a person chose "6" for the first question and "1" for the second question, he/she is regarded as having the highest level of political

tolerance.<sup>4</sup>

According to Principle Component Factor Analysis (factor analysis, hereafter), the two questions have almost equal explanatory power to express respondents' tolerance levels. Table 4-1 shows the result of factor analysis and scoring after the analysis.

When we simply compare the mean values (based on the newly generated dependent variable above) of each religious group, we may know that different religious groups have different tolerance levels. Figure 4-3 shows the variations of mean values among different religious groups.

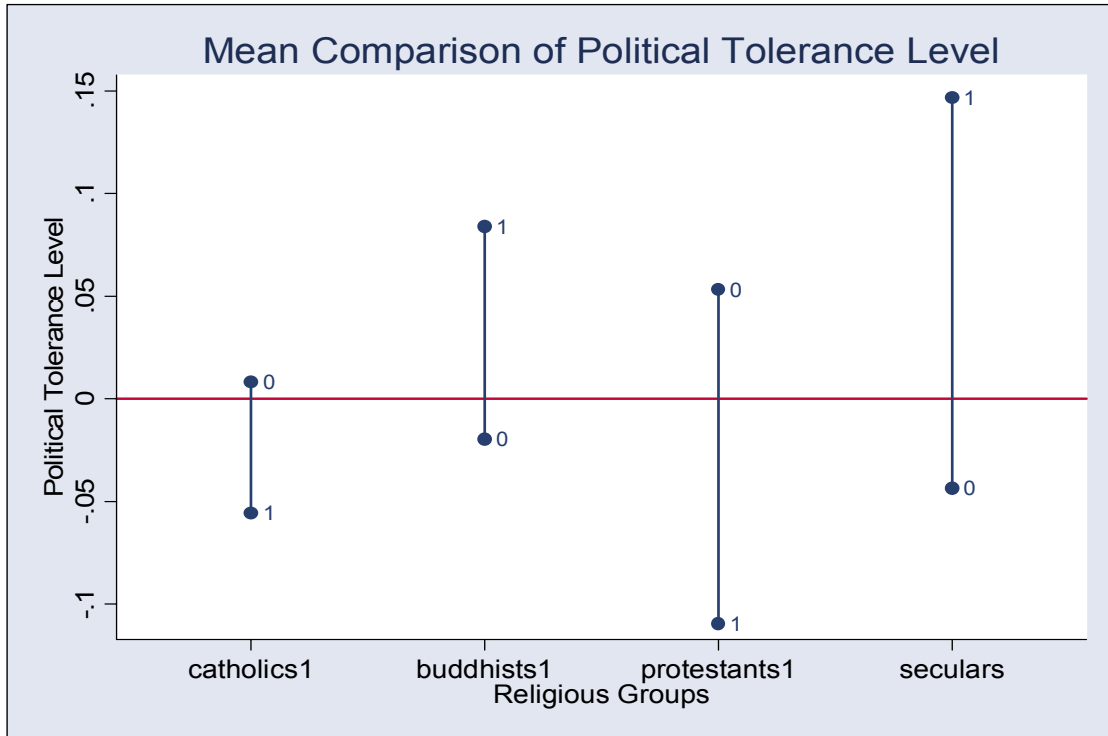
**Table 4-1. Factor Analysis for Measuring Political Tolerance Levels.**

Factor	Eigenvalue	Proportion	Variable (in Factor1)	Factor Loading
1	1.05817	0.5291	Question 1	0.72738
2	0.94183	0.4709	Question 2	0.72738

Note: Because Eigenvalue is less than 1.0, Factor 2 is not retained in this analysis. After the factor analysis, a new variable (indicating individual tolerance levels) is generated by scoring after the factor analysis: minimum value of the variable is -3.432367 and maximum value 1.395996 with 1 as standard deviation.

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<sup>4</sup> The answer for the second question will be reversed before the actual analysis is proceeded in order to generate a new dependent variable by using factor analysis.



Note: Horizontal line represents of the mean value of total respondents (it is close to 0 because of scoring after factor analysis). “•” represents the mean value of each group. The length of each line is the size of mean difference between two groups.

“catholics1”: “1” for Catholic, and “0” for non-Catholic

“buddhists1”: “1” for Buddhist, and “0” for non-Buddhist

“protestants1”: “1” for Protestants, and “0” for non-Protestant

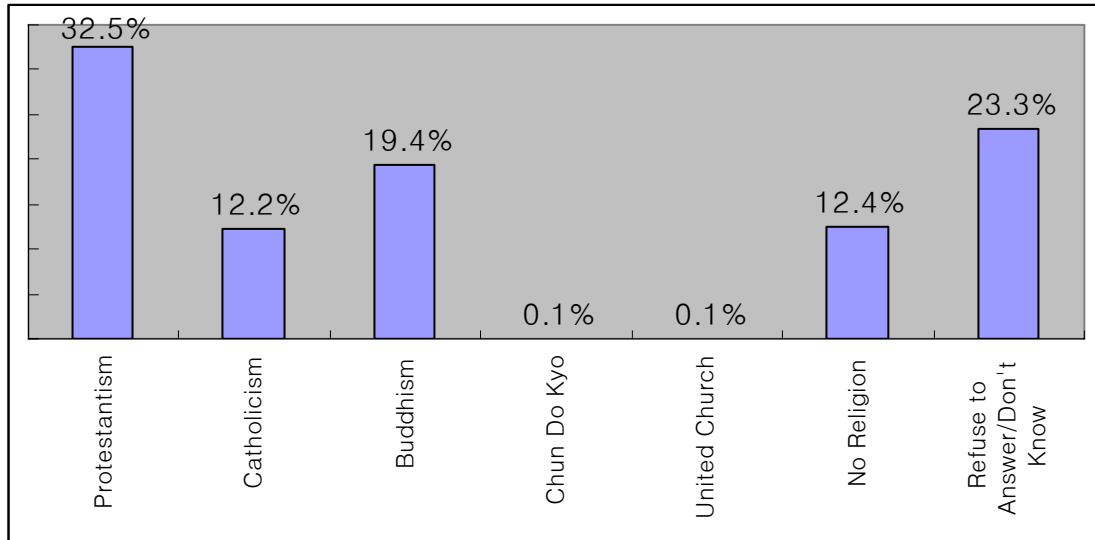
“seculars”: “1” for non-believers, and “0” for whom has a religion.

**Figure 4-3. Mean Comparison of Political Tolerance Level.**

Figure 4-3 shows that theoretical expectations from previous studies are not quite wrong. It shows that non-believers have the highest level of political tolerance, Buddhists the second, Catholics the third, and Protestants the fourth in Korea.

### **Measuring Religiosity as Independent Variable.**

Two groups of independent variables are used to test both the ethnoreligious model and the culture wars model: respondents' religious affiliations (belonging aspect) for testing the ethnoreligious model, and respondents' (those with religious affiliation) doctrinal orthodoxy (believing) and religious commitment (behaving) for the culture wars model. In terms of religious tradition, respondents were asked to answer the following question: Which religious denominations are you affiliated with now? Please circle one from the following – Protestantism, Catholicism, Buddhism, Islam, *Chun-Do-Kyo*, United Church, Others, No Religion, and Refuse to Answer/Don't Know. Figure 4-4 shows the distribution of religious traditions in Seoul, Korea.



**Figure 4-4. The Distribution of Religious Tradition in Seoul, Korea.**

Within respondents of Protestantism, Presbyterian is 22.4%, Baptist 2.3%, Methodist 4.7%, Pentecostal 1.3%, Unity Church 0.2%, Jehovah’s Witness 0.3%, and Not a Protestant 68.7%.

Based on the survey data, I construct four dummy variables: Catholic (“0” for non-Catholics, “1” for Catholics), Protestant (“0” for non-Protestants, “1” for Protestants), Buddhist (“0” for non-Buddhists, “1” for Buddhists), and Secular (“0” for believers of any religion, “1” for Non-believers).<sup>5</sup> Also, in order to conduct mean difference test that is designed to check the variance differences among different religious groups (preliminary test), one multi-nominal variable is generated (“0” for seculars, “1” for Catholics, “2” for

<sup>5</sup> Two items (believers of either United Church or *Chun-Do-Kyo*) were dropped from the analysis due to the low percentage of believers.



Protestants, “3” for Buddhists).

Table 4-2 shows the results of mean difference tests (based on political tolerance levels)<sup>6</sup> for each religious tradition. According to Table 4-2, the mean differences of two religious groups (Catholics and Buddhists) are not different from that of total respondents. In other words, Catholics and Buddhists do not have different political tolerance levels from other groups. However,

**Table 4-2. t-Test for Mean Difference Among Different Religious Groups.**

Null Hypothesis (Ho) : Group Mean of Political Tolerance = 0			
Religious Group	Ha : Mean < 0	Ha : Mean =0	Ha : Mean >0
Catholics (N=119)	T = -0.5798 P>t = 0.2816	t = -0.5798 P>t = 0.5631	t = -0.5798 P>t = 0.7184
Buddhists (N=178)	t = 1.1054 P>t = 0.8647	t = 1.1054 P>t = 0.2705	t = 1.1054 P>t = 0.1353
Protestants (N=306)	T = -1.8770 P>t = 0.0307	t = -1.8770 P>t = 0.0615	t = -1.8770 P>t = 0.9693
Seculars (N=120)	t = 1.7424 P>t = 0.9580	t = 1.7424 P>t = 0.0840	t = 1.7424 P>t = 0.0420
Missing (Refuse to Answer) (N=212)	t = 0.5395 P>t = 0.7049	t = 0.5395 P>t = 0.5901	t = 0.5395 P>t = 0.2951

Note: N represents the actual observations (the number of respondents). Ha represents for Alternative Hypothesis. If P>t value is greater than 0.1, Ha cannot be rejected.

<sup>6</sup> Because the mean value of political tolerance is close to 0 (Factor Analysis generated a new variable as a dependent variable, its mean value is -0.000000007), the hypothesized mean value for the t test is 0.

the mean value of Protestants is lower than those of other groups: the probability of accepting  $H_a$  (Mean value of Protestants' political tolerance  $\leq 0$ ) is high. Thus, people who belong to Protestantism tend to show lower level of political tolerance, as compared to religious groups. In terms of seculars who don't have any religious affiliation, their political tolerance level tends to be higher than other groups: the probability of accepting  $H_a$  (Mean value of seculars' political tolerance  $\geq 0$ ). In short, as independent variables (belonging aspect), the differences of variations based on people's political tolerance exist at a statistical significant level ( $P > 0.1$ ). Thus, it is reasonable to use religious belonging as an independent variable to analyze people's political tolerance.

In order to test the culture wars model, it is necessary to measure the two aspects of religion (religious commitment as behaving aspect and orthodoxy as believing aspect). First, in terms of the believing aspect, people's level of religious orthodoxy is measured by asking their extent of agreement with the following statements: (1) "God controls world affairs, including my personal life" (a dummy variable, "1" for "Agree", "2" for "Disagree")<sup>7</sup>; (2) "The Bible (or your religious book) is the word of God" (four scales of agreement, "1" for "Strongly Agree" through "4" for "Strongly

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<sup>7</sup> Unlike Catholicism's and Protestantism's monotheistic feature, Buddhism is based on polytheism. Thus, it is not appropriate to make the answers in continuous scale.

Disagree”).<sup>8</sup> Thus, I generate religious orthodoxy as an independent variable by combining these two variables. In order to give more weighted proportion to people who believe that God controls world affairs, I used the following function to generate a religious orthodoxy variable.

*Religious Orthodoxy = The level of beliefs in the religious book of the first group (who don't believe that God controls world affairs) + 2\*[The level of beliefs of the second group (who do believe that God controls world affairs)]*

Based on the functional calculation, a high level of religious orthodoxy represents that the individual has strong beliefs in God's world and book.

For measuring people's behaving aspect of religion, I used the religious participation as religious commitment because religious behaving refers to actual practice of religious faith (Karpov 2002). Religious commitment was measured by the frequency of attendance of religious services. Respondents were asked to answer the question: How often do you participate in religious activities, beyond funerals or wedding ceremonies? Thus, a high religious commitment variable represents that the individual actively participates in religious services.

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<sup>8</sup> Because of strong Confucian cultural influence on Korean society, most Koreans have a tendency to choose the middle point for any kind of opinion questions. Thus, I dropped the middle point from the questionnaire scale.

According to the culture wars model, religious orthodoxy (believing) and religious commitment (behaving) cut across the lines of traditions to create the same kinds of distinctive values among adherents in all religious traditions (Layman 2001:66). By combining these two variables, I generate an ordinal continuous variable (high number refers to religious traditionalist or conservativist and low number refers to religious modernist or liberal) as an independent variable. Based on the expectations of the culture wars model, those who are close to religious traditionalism have different levels of political tolerance from those who are close to religious modernism.

In summary, I use two independent variables that represent people's religiosity: their religious affiliation (believing aspect for testing the ethnoreligious model) and religious commitment/beliefs (behaving and believing aspects for testing the culture wars model).

### **Control Variables.**

To avoid the misspecification problem of statistical models, it is necessary to include all potential variables (as control variables) that may impact people's political

tolerance level. Previous studies about the relations between political tolerance and people's social and demographic status indicate four important factors that impinge on tolerance level: education level, age, gender, and income level. By using these four factors as control variables, we can extract the levels of impact of religiosity on tolerance.

How do these four factors relate to political tolerance levels? First, education level should have a positive relationship with political tolerance (Nunn, Crockett, and Williams 1978:chapter4), for three reasons. First, the greater the schooling, the greater the likelihood of gaining specific knowledge about civil liberties (fundamental freedoms of democratic citizens) and the democratic process (Bobo and Licari 1989). A second reason is that with increased education comes increased awareness of the varieties of human experience that legitimize wide variation in beliefs, values, and behavior (Borhek 1965:91). Finally, the greater the schooling, the more likely that one's cognitive development will be characterized by the flexible, rational strategies of thinking which encourage democratic restraint. Based on these three reasons, Lippmann argues: "And so, if we truly wish to understand why freedom is necessary in a civilized society, we must begin by realizing that, because freedom of discussion improves our own opinions,

the liberties of other men are our own vital necessity” (Lippmann 1951:401). In short, people can understand other peoples’ fundamental freedom in a democratic society by increasing their knowledge of the democratic process and civil liberties with the help of schooling.

In terms of the age factor, younger people are more likely to have a higher level of political tolerance than older people (Borhek 1965:chapter 5; Wilson 1994). When we consider age as a control variable, we must acknowledge that age is not the simple variable it appears to be. Age may be a measure of “lifecycle” or “aging” as such. It may also be a measure of the “generation” in which an individual came to political maturity and acquired his or her political values (McClosky and Brill 1983:398). Age may also reflect the historical period or *Zeitgeist* through which an individual has lived, the events of which have presumably affected and perhaps significantly altered his or her attitudes toward various social issues (McClosky and Brill 1983:399). Despite these vexing considerations, it is appropriate to believe that all three influences – aging, generational, and *Zeitgeist* effects – help to account for the variations in attitudes toward political tolerance.

A persistent notion among scholars is that people become more dogmatic and

rigid in behavior and attitude as they grow older. The “fixation” model presented by Karlsson and Carlsson states the position directly: “With increasing age, people become less likely to change; in its later life, each birth cohort reflects, therefore, largely that conditions prevailing during its formative years” (1970:71). Similarly, Lambert reasoned that “as the cumulation of experience, passing of time, and deterioration of brain, aging produces an increasingly stratified consciousness (more layers, elaboration, and rigidity or hardening of categories) and decelerating rate of socialization” (1972:40).

In other words, these assertions proclaim that as an individual becomes older, he/she is not able to relinquish familiar, long-held values and to replace them with new, unfamiliar ones. In a similar context, McClosky and Brill argue that the norms acquired by individuals over the course of a lifetime tend to resist change and to persist (1983:chapter 8). It is obvious that as people grow older they become less willing to experiment and to try out new ideas and lifestyles. They have long become accustomed to seeing and comprehending the world in certain patterns, and they find it extremely difficult to embrace novel standards that depart radically from those with which they are intimately familiar; it is, at any rate, more difficult for them to do so than it is for younger adults, who have had less time or occasion to become habituated to, or dependent upon,

firmly settled patterns of thought and behavior. Therefore, political tolerance - the willingness to extend basic political rights to extreme groups holding ideologies and engaging in practices that the general public may oppose (Finkel, Singleman, and Humphries 1999) – diminishes as an individual becomes older.

In terms of gender, men are, in general, more tolerant than women (McClosky and Brill 1983:384-386). Despite the growing equality of men and women, men, on the average, continue to occupy more of the high-status positions in society, take more interest in public affairs, hold more positions of public leadership and influence, and, in general, are more involved in the formulation and dissemination of opinions affecting such matters as freedom and control. As is well known, more women than men are still confined to domestic roles (or to menial roles) and enter the public arena less frequently to engage in the community debate over the values and norms that govern, or should govern, the state. In short, the difference between men and women in relation to political tolerance levels results from the positions of men and women in society – for instance, men are more likely to be exposed to norms of toleration because of their higher status (McClosky and Brill 1983).

Finally, in terms of the impact of income level on political tolerance level, it is



expected that there is a positive relationship between them (Karpov 2002:275).

According to McClosky and Brill, people's socioeconomic status (measured by occupational prestige and income) is positively related to their political tolerance level (1983). If we expect a positive relationship between education level and tolerance level, and between men and tolerance level, it is logically true that the higher the income level, the higher the political tolerance level. Because there is a high probability for more educated men to earn more money in any society, people with a high income level are likely to be more tolerant than those with a low income level. Because women with a high income level tend to have professional jobs (for instance, lawyers, academics, doctors, scientists, journalists, intellectuals, leaders of citizen organizations, and CEOs in private companies), they have more chance to be close to the national mainstreams of articulate opinion and are more likely to exhibit an interest in public affairs than do the women of other jobs (for instance, farmers or housewives). In other words, women with high income levels are exposed to the intellectual exchanges and public debates about diverse opinions of society; thus, they are more likely to be tolerant than those with low income levels who are rather parochial in their interests and relatively insulated from such public debates. As the following figure shows, income and education levels have a

positive relationship with political tolerance, and age has a negative relationship. Figure 4-5 shows that there are positive relationships between income/education and tolerance levels and a negative relationship between age and tolerance levels.

### **Hypotheses for The Relationship between Individual's Religiosity and Political Tolerance.**

Based on previous studies and theoretical expectations (from both the ethnoreligious and culture wars theses), the following hypotheses will be tested in this research.

***Hypothesis I:*** *Buddhists and Catholics, in Korea, are more likely to be tolerant than Protestants.*

***Hypothesis II:*** *Seculars (who have no religious affiliation) are more likely to be tolerant than people who have a religious affiliation.*

***Hypothesis III:*** *People who have strong beliefs (doctrinal orthodoxy) in their religious tradition are less likely to be tolerant than those who have weak beliefs.*

***Hypothesis IV:*** *People who are active participants in religious services (religious commitment) are less likely to be tolerant than those who are inactive.*

***Hypothesis V:*** *Believers who are close to religious traditionalism/fundamentalism are less likely to be tolerant than those who are close to religious modernism/liberalism.*

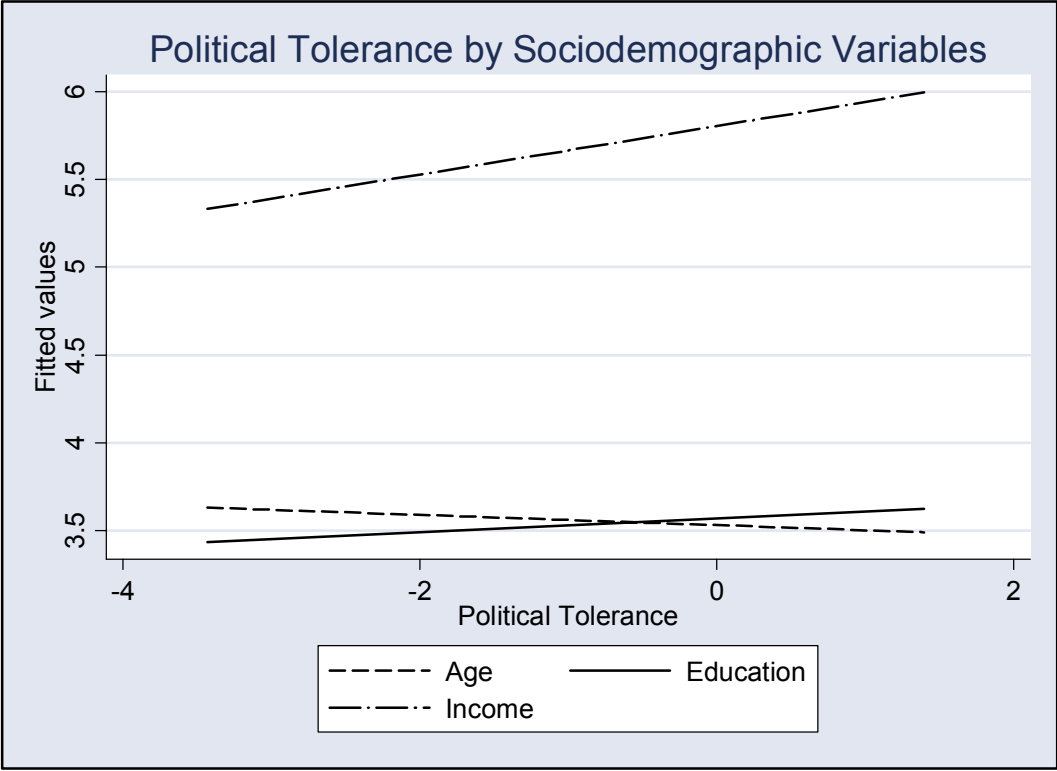


Figure 4-5. Linear Fitted Graph of Political Tolerance by Sociodemographic Variables.

Hypotheses I and II are designed to test the ethnoreligious model, and the others are designed to test the culture wars model. Moreover, we can examine which model has more explanatory power in analyzing the relationship between religion and politics in Korea by comparing the results of two groups of hypotheses-tests.

### **Summary.**

In terms of political tolerance as the first dependent variable in this research, the respondents of the survey were asked to express their opinions about the following two statements: (1) Regardless of one's views, people should have the right to express themselves, and (2) We should not tolerate minority opinions in Korean society. The first dependent variable is generated by scoring after factor analysis of these two variables. In order to test two theses (the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses), two groups of independent variables are used to measure respondents' religious traditions (belonging aspect) for testing the ethnoreligious thesis, and respondents' doctrinal orthodoxy (believing) and religious commitment (behaving) for the culture wars thesis.

Based on previous studies and theoretical expectations, five hypotheses are

formulated in this chapter: (1) Buddhists and Catholics in Korea are more likely to be tolerant than Protestants, (2) Seculars are more likely to be tolerant than people who have a religious affiliation, (3) People who have strong beliefs (doctrinal orthodoxy) in their religious tradition are less likely to be tolerant than those who have weak beliefs, (4) People who are active participants in religious services are less likely to be tolerant than those who are inactive, and (5) Believers who are close to religious traditionalism are less likely to be tolerant than those with religious modernism.

## Chapter V: Data Analysis of Political Tolerance

### **Variances of the Parameters (Variables).**

In order to test the hypotheses (generated based on ethnoreligious and the culture wars thesis), thirteen variables are measured and used. Table 5-1 shows the summary of the variables.

The first four variables (age, income, gender, and education) are control (demographic) variables and the next three (Catholic, Buddhist, and Protestant) are variables of religious belonging. The religious commitment variable represents religious behaving, and orthodoxy refers to religious believing. Religious culture represents people's religious values (traditional or modern), which are calculated using two religious variables (behaving and believing).

In order to generate the last three variables (CRT, BRT, and PRT), each religious tradition (dummy variables for each group) was multiplied by the "Religious culture" variable. Therefore, CRT refers to the variations of religious culture within people who belong to Catholicism. A simple comparison of these three mean values shows that PRT has the largest mean value, which means that Protestants are more likely to be religious traditionalists than members of the other two groups. Also, even

**Table 5-1. Variances of the Parameters.**

Variable	Observations	Mean	Standard Deviation	Label of the variable
Tolerance	935	0	1	Level of political tolerance
Age	992	36.39	13.11	Age of respondents (19 to 88)
Gender	990	0.5	0.5	"1" for female, "2" for male
Income	860	5.74	2.8	Category 1 to 11 (high income level)
Education	985	3.54	0.79	Category 1 to 5 (high education level)
Catholic	762	1.16	0.37	"1" for non-Catholic, "2" for Catholic
Buddhist	762	1.25	0.43	"1" for non-Buddhist, "2" for Buddhist
Protestant	762	1.42	0.49	"1" for non-Protestant, "2" for Protestant
Secular	762	1.63	0.37	"0" for whom has religion, "1" for secular
(Religious) Commitment	649	3.29	1.44	The number of participation in religious services. Category 1 to 5.
Orthodoxy	879	3.51	2.37	Respondents' levels of religious orthodoxy. Category 0 to 5.
(Religious) Culture	994	3.17	0.11	Combining commitment and orthodoxy. Religious Modernist ("2") to Religious Traditionalist ("13").
CRT	607	1.39	3.14	Religious traditionalist within Catholics
BRT	607	1.31	1.31	Religious traditionalist within Buddhists
PRT	607	4.67	5.17	Religious traditionalist within Protestants

though two groups (CRT and BRT) have similar mean values, the standard deviation value of CRT is larger than that of BRT, which indicates that all Catholics are not religious modernists (some Catholics may have more traditional/fundamental religious values than Protestants).

However, these variables cannot be used for OLS (Ordinary Least Squares) regression to test hypotheses until it is guaranteed that the variances of each parameter do not violate any statistical assumptions (e.g., Gauss-Markov assumptions for obtaining Best Linear Unbiased Estimates).

### **Gauss-Markov Theory Tests and Data Transformation.**

In order to avoid all possible biases that may invalidate the results of data analysis, it is necessary to look into the variances of each parameter and the results of some tests after the initial OLS (Ordinary Least Squares) regression. According to the well-known Gauss-Markov theory, three key assumptions must not be violated to get the best linear unbiased estimate of the regression parameters: (1) the error term in the model has a probability distribution that is the same for each observation and does not



depend on the predictor variables (i.e., independence and homoscedasticity); (2) the predictor variables are observed without error; and (3) the error term has a finite variance (Chernick 1999:70-71; Gauss 1995).

Under these three assumptions, the strongest case for least squares estimation can be made when the error term has a Gaussian or approximately Gaussian distribution. Only after achieving Gaussian distribution of the error term can hypothesis tests for the parameters be applied. When the error distribution is non-Gaussian, regardless of what estimation procedure is used, it is difficult to determine confidence intervals for the parameters or to obtain prediction intervals for the response variable (in this case, hypothesis tests cannot be used). This is where the Generalized-least-estimators can help (Chernick 1999; Efron and Tibshirani 1985, 1993).

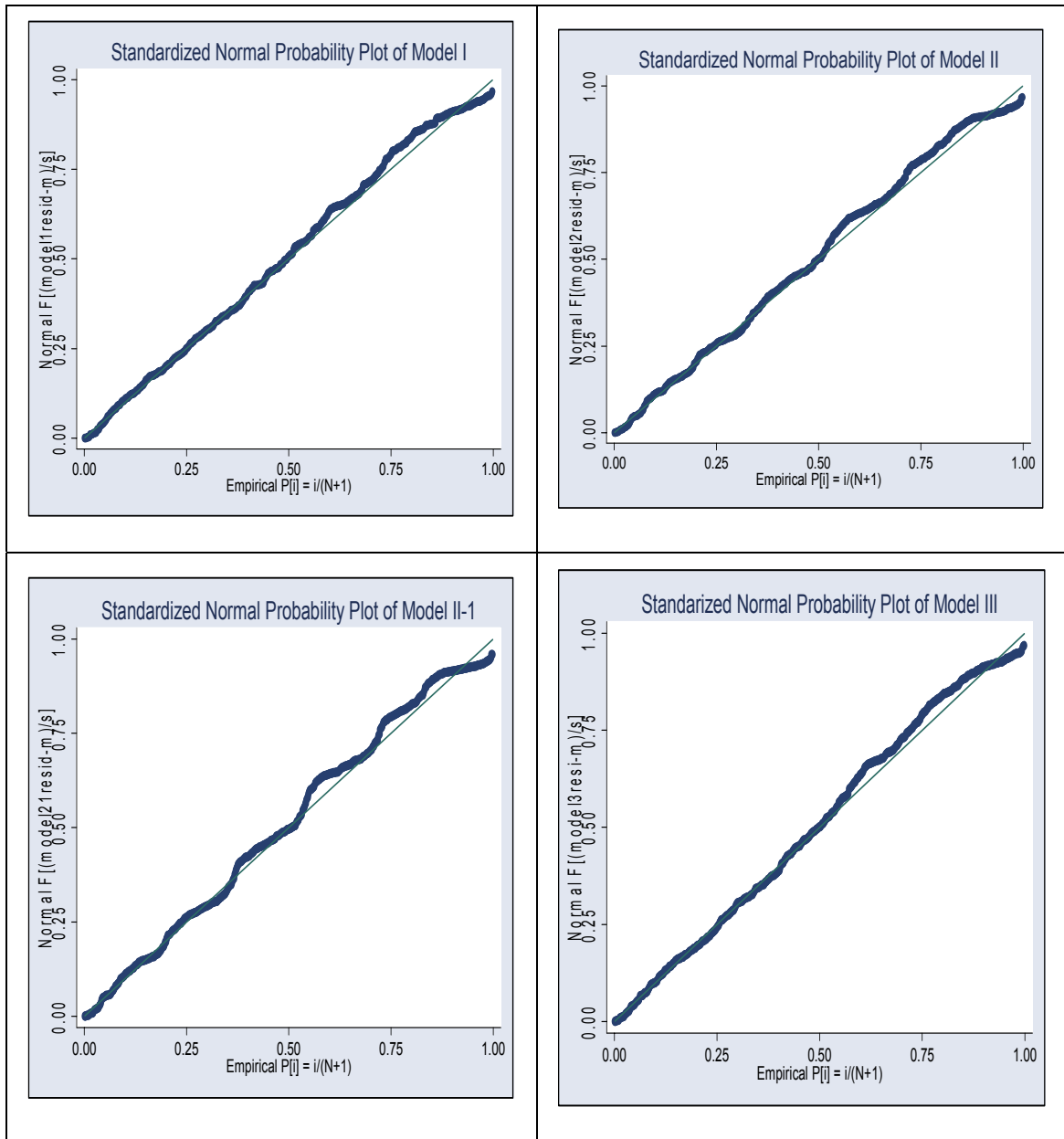
Four residuals (errors) for each model in Figure 2-2 are obtained to check the error distribution. Three basic tests are performed for the residuals: Independence (the errors associated with one observation are not correlated with the errors of any other observation), Homoscedasticity (the error variance should be constant), and Normality (the errors should be normally distributed).

First, in order to look into the normality assumption of the errors, normal

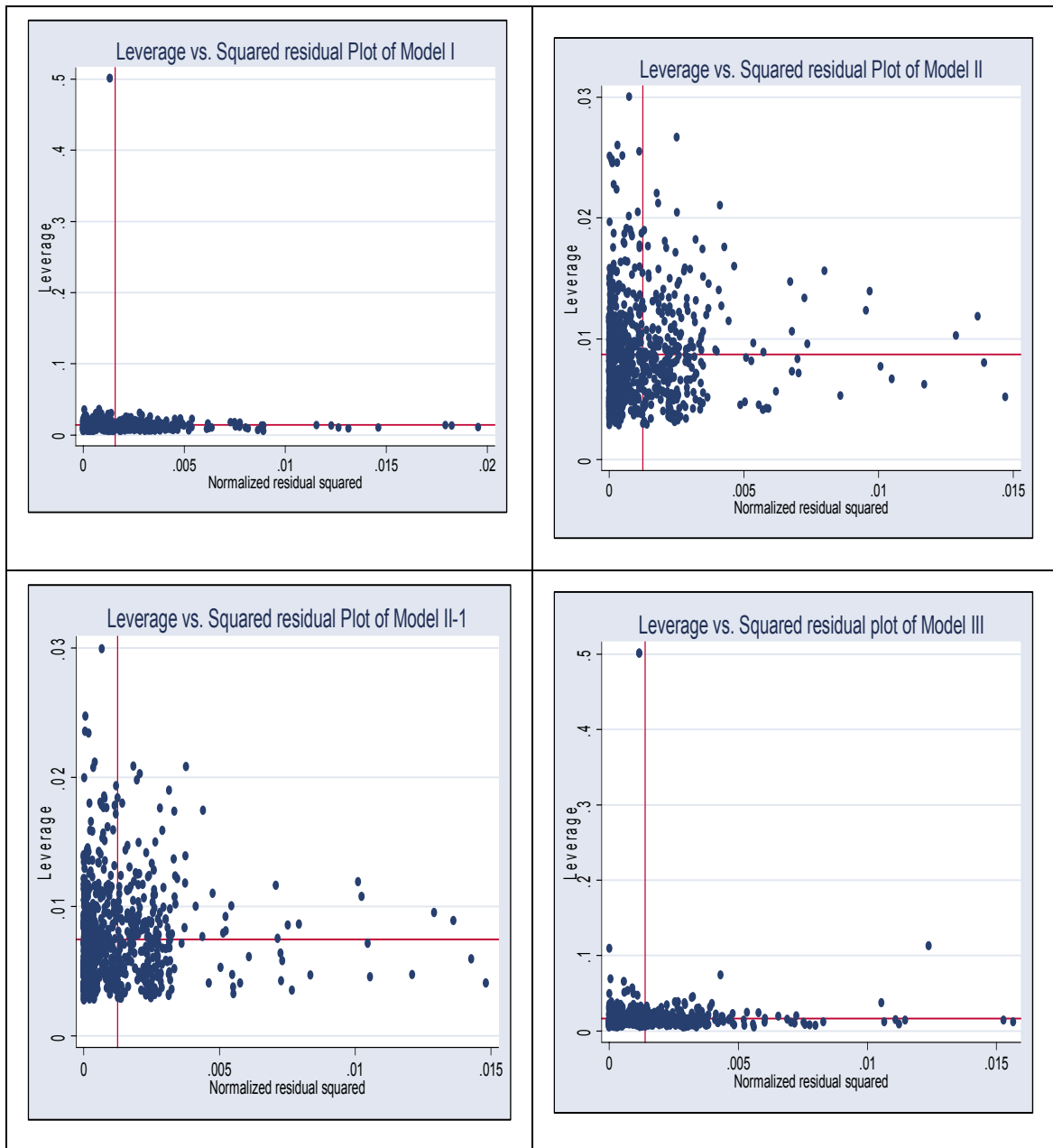
probability plots are described. Figure 5-1 shows that there is no significant violation of normality assumptions for each model's error term (the errors of each OLS estimator have constant normal variance).

Second, the assumption of homoscedasticity is tested by drawing one of the most useful diagnostic graphs (Leverage-versus-Residual squared plot), a graph of leverage against the (normalized) residuals squared. According to Figure 5-2, four OLS models have heteroskedasticity problem and may not provide unbiased estimates of coefficients (Baum, Cox, and Wiggins 2000; Bollen and Jackman 1990; Breusch and Pagan 1979; White 1980). Therefore, instead of testing the hypotheses with the results of OLS regression, I conduct the Generalized-Least Squares (GLS) estimates as an alternative estimate (McCullagh and Nelder 1989; Wooldridge 2000:261-263).

Finally, in terms of the assumption of Independence (multicollinearity problem in general), VIF (Variation Inflation Factors) is calculated after OLS regression of each model. Table 5-2 shows the results of VIF calculation. According to Table 5-2, there is a serious multicollinearity problem in Model III (in general, any observation with over 10 of VIF is supposed to have collinearity problem in



**Figure 5-1. Normal Probability Plots for the Residuals.**



Note: The lines on the chart show the average values of leverage and the (normalized) residuals squared. Points above the horizontal line have higher-than average leverage; points to the right of the vertical line have larger-than-average residuals.

**Figure 5-2. Leverage-versus-Residual Squared Plots.**

**Table 5-2. VIFs After OLS Regressions.**

Variables	Model I	Model II	Model II-1	Model III
	VIFs	VIFs	VIFs	VIFs
Age	1.22(1.22)	1.20	1.19	1.24(1.24)
Gender	1.05(1.05)	1.04	1.03	1.07(1.06)
Income	1.09(1.09)	1.08	1.06	1.09(1.08)
Education	1.29(1.29)	1.26	1.26	1.29(1.30)
Catholic	43.40(1.02)			44.09(7.43)
Buddhist	58.41(1.02)			59.54(7.28)
Protestant	78.04(1.04)			79.04(3.73)
Secular	45.59(1.01)			46.38(1.01)
(Religious) Commitment		1.32		
Orthodoxy		1.34		
(Religious) Culture			1,01	
CRT				150.38(6.42)
BRT				46.15(5.53)
PRT				55.84(6.52)

Note: The values in parentheses are VIFs after Orthogonalization Transformation of the original data.

OLS estimators) (Wooldridge 2000:95-96). In order to correct multicollinearity problems in all models, Orthogonalization Transformation was conducted (Abramowitz and Stegun 1968; Golub and Loan 1996; Sribney 1995), and new sets of orthogonalized variables for the three variables (CRT, BRT, and PRT) were generated.

### **Hypotheses Testing: Ethnoreligious Thesis.**

For the ethnoreligious thesis, two hypotheses were formulated and tested: (1) Buddhists and Catholics are more likely to be tolerant than Protestants in Korea, and (2) Seculars are more likely to be tolerant than people who have a religious affiliation. Table 5-3 shows the summary of data analysis for testing the ethnoreligious thesis.

In terms of the effects of control variables on political tolerance, three variables (age, gender, income) have statistically significant coefficients. As expected based on previous studies, the old and men have lower level of political tolerance than the young and women. Moreover, people with high income level have higher level of political tolerance than people with low income.

**Table 5-3. Effects of Religious Denominational Differences on Political Tolerance (Model I).**

Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimators	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age(↑)	-	-0.01(0.01)*	-	-0.01(0.01)***
Gender("1" for man, "0" for woman)	-	-0.15(0.08)*	-	-0.16(0.05)**
Income(↑)	+	0.02(0.01)	+	0.02(0.01)*
Education(↑)	+	0.01(0.06)	+	0.01(0.06)
Catholic	+	-0.03(0.04)	+	-0.03(0.04)
<b>Buddhist</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0.09(0.04)*</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0.09(0.02)***</b>
<b>Protestant</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-0.08(0.04)*</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-0.08(0.03)*</b>
Secular	+	0.04(0.04)	+	0.04(0.03)
Constant.	0.24(0.28)		0.24(0.18)	
Observations	631		631	
<i>F</i>	2.76**			
Log pseudolikelihood			-888.09	
AIC			2.84	

Note: \* significant,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significant,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*,  $p < 0.001$ . Standard Errors of coefficients are in parentheses.

However, the results of data analysis in Table 5-3 partially confirm the ethnoreligious thesis in terms of the effects of differences in religious traditions (denominations) on people's level of political tolerance. The initial hypotheses expected negative coefficients of Protestants and positive coefficients of the other groups (Buddhists, Catholics, and Seculars).

According to the results of GLS in Table 5-3, there is a negative relationship between Protestants and political tolerance. Also, there is positive relationship between Buddhists and political tolerance. This result confirms the first hypothesis, – i.e., Buddhists are more likely to be tolerant than Protestants in Korea. However, there is no statistically significant relationship between Catholics and political tolerance. Even though Catholics were expected to have a high level of political tolerance due to their emphasis on social equality and adaptation of local culture, Catholics in Korea do not have a high level of political tolerance (moreover, they seem to have a lower level of tolerance than other religious groups – the coefficient in GLS is a negative value).

One reason for Catholics' low level of political tolerance is probably the characteristic of the Catholic ethic – a community-centered pattern of values (Tropman 2002). According to Tropman, based on Catholic's community-centered ethic, the



community of individuals is at least as important as – and perhaps more important than – any one individual (2002:15). Thus, the Catholic ethic emphasizes connectivity (with others in a community), loyalty (toward authority/leaders of a community), and involvement (in the collective works of a community) (Tropman 2002).

The effect of Catholicism's community-centered ethic on political tolerance is Catholics' exclusiveness of other communities or groups in a society based on clear distinctive lines between communities. In other words, while Catholics may have a high level of tolerance within a community (in general, social groups within Catholicism), they have a low level of tolerance toward people/groups outside their own communities (e.g., homosexuals, Moon Sun-Myoung's United Church and Buddhists in Korea).

This tendency of Catholic exclusiveness of other communities in a society is well represented in the Catholic ecumenism. In August 1964, Pope Paul VI issued the encyclical *Ecclesiam suam* in which he distinguished three different domains: (1) humanity, (2) people who believe in any religion, and (3) the Christian world (Catholics and their 'separated brethren') (Flis 2000:46). According to *Ecclesiam suam*, the main dividing line is between those who believe in the existence of God and those who deny such existence. While sanctioning the co-operation of Catholics with all other people,

the encyclical differentiates the scope of such co-operation according to the attitudes of specific groups to Catholicism (Flis 2000:46-47). In short, Catholics' community-centered ethic is one reason for the lower level of political tolerance in Catholics than other religious groups.

Protestants, as expected, have a low level of political tolerance. One reason for Protestants' low level of tolerance is the Puritan pietist ethic that was brought by missionaries in the late nineteenth century (Park 2003). Following the theology of their home church, they viewed the Bible as the word of God revealed to man, an immutable law by which to steer one's faith and life. Faith was an exclusively personal experience, and life with faith was to be achieved through direct communion with God. Typical American fundamentalists at the time looked inward toward personal salvation and were quite unconcerned about making the world over or building the kingdom of heaven on earth (Park 2003:54).

The early Protestant church's doctrine and theology made Korean Protestants more hostile toward Confucian ethics and practices. The Protestant missionaries made no attempt to compromise with the Confucian tradition. Unlike Catholic missionaries, who allowed their members to keep Confucian traditions and activities, rather, the

Protestant missionaries aggressively denounced Confucianism as a form of paganism (Jones 1989). Thus, they insisted on the abolition of ancestor worship and Korean Protestants followed the missionaries' teachings. Such uncompromising Puritan pietist demands, whether or not they contained a Western bias, had a singular appeal for those who were eager to change. To be a Protestant meant to reject Confucian values and practices. The minimum requirement for church membership was abandonment of everything Confucian. Therefore, every action by the pietist Protestant community was a direct challenge to the Confucian establishment in Korea, in a way that it could never be in the United States and most other Western countries (Park 2003:55-57).

The uncompromising Puritan pietist ethic of early Korean Protestants became an unchangeable tradition in Korean Protestant churches. The effect of such a rigid tradition on political tolerance is the negative relationship between members of Protestant churches and their levels of political tolerance. However, there is no statistically significant relationship between seculars and their political tolerance levels.

In order to test the ethnoreligious thesis, I conducted the F-test (Wald test) for the statistical significance of joint coefficients (Wooldridge 2000:147-150). The null hypothesis of F-test is coefficients of four variables (Catholic, Buddhist, Protestant, and

Secular) = 0. The chi-squared value of the test is 96.79 (probability > chi-squared = 0.0000). Thus, the result of F-test supports the assumption of the ethnoreligious thesis, that differences of religious affiliation have a statistically significant impact on levels of political tolerance. In short, denominational differences matter in determining people's level of political tolerance in Korea.

#### **Hypotheses Testing: The Culture Wars Thesis.**

In order to test the culture wars thesis, two hypotheses were formulated: (1) people who have strong beliefs (Orthodoxy) in their religious tradition are less likely to be tolerant than those who have weak beliefs, and (2) people who are active participants in religious services (Religious Commitment) are less likely to be tolerant than those who are inactive. Table 5-4 shows the results of data analysis for testing these hypotheses (Model II in Figure 2-2).

As previous studies suggested (Ellison and Musick 1993; Smidt and Penning 1982; Steiber 1980; Stouffer 1955), people's religious commitment (participation in religious services) has a negative impact on their level of political tolerance. However,

**Table 5-4. Effects of Differences in Orthodoxy and Religious Commitment on the Political Tolerance (Model II).**

Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimators	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age(↑)	-	-0.01(0.01)**	-	-0.01(0.01)**
Gender("1" for man,"0" for woman)	-	-0.07(0.07)	-	-0.07(0.03)**
Income(↑)	+	0.02(0.13)	+	0.02(0.01)
Education(↑)	+	0.01(0.05)	+	0.01(0.05)
Orthodoxy	-	-0.03(0.02)	-	-0.03(0.02)
<b>Religious Commitment</b>	-	<b>-0.06(0.03)*</b>	-	<b>-0.06(0.02)*</b>
Constant.		0.39(0.26)		0.39(0.18)*
Observations	803		803	
<i>F</i>	2.93**			
Log pseudolikelihood			-1124.49	
AIC			2.82	

Note: \* significant,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significant,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*,  $p < 0.001$ . Standard Errors of coefficients are in parentheses.

the believing aspect of religion (the intensity of belief in one's own religious doctrine) does not have any impact on political tolerance, even though previous studies suggested a negative relationship between them (Jelen, Smidt, and Wilcox 1993; Kellstedt and Smidt 1993; Wilcox and Jelen 1990). Why do these two religious aspects (behaving and believing) have different impacts on political tolerance? The answer to this question is located in the specificity of the Korean case (the existence of two competitive and different religions – Christianity and Buddhism). Because much previous research about religion and politics has focused on Western countries – with one dominant religion in the society (Christianity, whether focused on Protestantism, Catholicism, or both),- they examine the differences between two simple distinctive groups (one with a high level of religious participation and strong belief; the other with a low level of participation and weak belief). Yet this is not an appropriate way of approaching the Korean case. In other words, because Buddhism has different historical and organizational characteristics than Christianity in terms of political tolerance, a variable based on such a simple distinction between two religious groups does not seem to have strong explanatory power in the case of Korea.

At first, historically, Korean Buddhism followed one of the two major schools of

Buddhism (Mahayana Buddhism and Theravada Buddhism) (Mitchell 2002). Since Buddhism had been established in the Northeastern area of India, Mahayana (“Great Vehicle”, or literally “The Greater Ox-Cart” in the Indian language) Buddhism was introduced to the Korean peninsula via China (later, it was introduced to Japan from Korea) in the 4<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>1</sup>

In Mahayana Buddhism, there are four theological doctrines: (1) Universalism – everyone will become a Buddha, (2) Enlightened wisdom, as the main focus of realization, (3) Compassion through the transferal of merit, and (4) Liberation (as opposed to Salvation) supported by a rich cosmography, including celestial realms and powers, with a spectrum of Bodhisattvas, both human and seemingly godlike, who can assist followers (Mitchell 2002:chap.4; Schopen 1990; Williams 1989).<sup>2</sup> According to the second doctrine (enlightened wisdom), traditional Buddhism tends to focus on an ascetic, individual approach to attaining Nirvana – suppression of desire, removal from the world, and solitariness (Mitchell 2002:chap.3). On the contrary, the primary focus of Mahayana is Bodhicitta – a mind of great compassion conjoined with wisdom (Prajna)

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<sup>1</sup> The other school of Buddhism (Theravada Buddhism) had been introduced to Southeastern countries (Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, and Cambodia) from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> century. The Mahayana school of Buddhism was also transmitted to Tibet area and became the origin of Tibetan Buddhism.

<sup>2</sup> The way of the Mahayana, in contrast to the more conservative and austere Theravada school of Buddhism, can be described as liberal, with an autonomic discipline style.

realizing emptiness. With this mind, the practitioner will realize the final goal of full enlightenment, or Buddhahood – an omniscient mind completely free from suffering and its causes, able to work tirelessly for the benefit of all living, becoming a Bodhisattva. Six virtues or perfections (Paramitas) are listed for the Bodhisattva: generosity, patience, meditation, morality, energy, and wisdom (Mitchell 2002:112-125).

The implication of this doctrine of enlightened wisdom on believers' political tolerance is two-fold: (1) the theological doctrine of Mahayana Buddhism tends to make its believers more tolerant than other religious groups (this was confirmed by the ethnoreligious thesis in Model 1), and (2) because Mahayana Buddhism emphasizes the practitioner's self-realization for the final goal of full enlightenment (Buddhahood) by fulfillment of six virtues, there are no regularly organized religious services that all practitioners must participate in.

Because of these two characteristics of Korean Buddhism (following the tradition of Mahayana Buddhism), the results of data analysis of the two variables (religious commitment and orthodoxy) show some variation between them – while religious commitment has a statistically significant impact on political tolerance, orthodoxy does not. Even though Korean Buddhists do not go to religious services



regularly, the peculiar tendency of active commitment by Christians (both Protestants and Catholics) makes religious commitment more important than orthodoxy. In addition, the contradiction between the two religious groups' theological doctrines – one for Korean Buddhism (more tolerant toward other religious groups) and the other for Christianity (less tolerant) – makes the second variable (orthodoxy) unimportant.

Thus, given such a contradiction between these two large religious groups' theological doctrines and organizational features, it is necessary to generate a new variable (Religious culture) to test the culture wars thesis by combining the religious commitment and orthodoxy variables. By examining the impact of religious culture on political tolerance, we can investigate the existence of a clear line between religious traditionalists and modernists – the main argument of the culture wars thesis (Layman 2001).

The variable of religious culture indicates the extent of people's religiosity based on religious behaving (religious commitment) and believing (orthodoxy). Therefore, a high value of religious culture represents a person who participates in religious services frequently and has strongly believes in religious doctrine (a religious traditionalist). In contrast, a low value of religious culture represents a religious modernist.

Table 5-5 shows the results of data analysis for Model II-1, which tests whether or not there are intradenominational differences between religious traditionalists and modernists in terms of their political tolerance levels. According to Table 5-5, there is a clear line (intrad denominational difference) between religious traditionalists and modernists in terms of political tolerance. Also, the coefficient of the religious culture variable is a negative value, which confirms the initial hypothesis – believers who are close to religious traditionalism are less likely to be tolerant than those who are close to religious modernism.

The result of the F-test for coefficient significance shows that the religious culture variable has a statistically significant impact on political tolerance ( $\chi^2 = 10.88$  and  $p > \chi^2 = 0.001$ ). This result implies an interesting fact about religious people in Korea. Even though there are huge differences between the two dominant religious groups (Christianity and Buddhism) based on religious commitment and orthodoxy, there are intradenominational differences between religious traditionalists and modernists in relation to political tolerance. And so, because both theses (ethnoreligious and culture wars) have some explanatory power in determining Korean people's political tolerance, it is necessary to compare them for deciding which one is better in analyzing

**Table 5-5. Effects of Differences in Religious Culture (Traditionalist/Modernist) on the Political Tolerance (Model II-1).**

Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimators	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age(↑)	-	-0.01(0.01)*	-	-0.01(0.01)*
Gender("1" for man,"0" for woman)	-	-0.05(0.07)	-	-0.05(0.03)*
Income(↑)	+	0.02(0.01)	+	0.02(0.01)
Education(↑)	+	0.01(0.05)	+	0.01(0.05)
<b>Religious Culture</b>	-	<b>-0.62(0.30)*</b>	-	<b>-0.62(0.19)**</b>
Constant.		2.08(0.99)*		2.08(0.70)**
Observations	803		803	
<i>F</i>	2.24*			
Log pseudolikelihood			-1127.66	
AIC			2.82	

Note: \* significant,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significant,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*,  $p < 0.001$ . Standard Errors of coefficients are in parentheses.

the relationship between religion and politics in Korea.

### **Comparison of Two Theses and a Better Way of Investigation.**

In order to compare the two models (the ethnoreligious and culture wars theses), it is necessary to generate three new variables based on the extent of religious values (religious traditionalism/modernism in religious culture) among three dominant religious groups. Because there is variation between Christianity and Buddhism in terms of religious behaving and believing, we cannot assume that Christian traditionalists have similar religious values (religiosity) as Buddhist traditionalists. By generating three variables based on the extent of religious culture among three religious traditions (i.e., traditionalism/modernism in Catholicism, Protestantism, and Buddhism), we can avoid the oversimplification problem of the culture wars thesis and shed some light on the dynamic relationship between religion and political tolerance in Korea. In addition, Model III in Figure 2-2 allows us to compare the two theses directly by conducting F-test for the statistical significance of group coefficients.

Three variables - Catholic Religious Tradition (CRT), Protestant Religious

Tradition (PRT), and Buddhist Religious Tradition (BRT) - were generated by multiplying dummy variables of religious tradition and religious culture. Thus, CRT represents the variation of religious culture only within Catholics. However, when we use these three variables in analyzing OLS regression with religious tradition variables, it is unquestionable that there is a multicollinearity problem between religious tradition and these three variables (CRT, BRT, and PRT). In order to correct the multicollinearity problem, the original form of the religious tradition variables are transformed into orthogonalized variables by using the Gram-Schmidt process (Arfken 1985; Cohen 1993; Golub and Loan 1996; Sribney 1995). Table 5-6 shows the results of data analysis for testing the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses simultaneously.

According to the result of the F-test of group coefficients,<sup>3</sup> the first null hypothesis of the F-test (the ethnoreligious thesis) is that the three coefficients of religious tradition variables are equal to zero ( $\chi^2 = 13.47$  and  $p > \chi^2 = 0.0037$ ). And the second null hypothesis of the F-test (the culture wars thesis) is that the three coefficients of CRT, BRT, and PRT are equal to zero ( $\chi^2 = 8.15$  and  $p > \chi^2 = 0.0430$ ). The result of these F-tests implies that the ethnoreligious thesis has almost same

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<sup>3</sup> F-tests are conducted based on GLE analysis because OLS regression has both multicollinearity and heteroskedasticity problems.

**Table 5-6. Effects of Religious Tradition and Religious Culture on the Political Tolerance (Model III).**

Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimators	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age(↑)	-	-0.01(0.01)**	-	-0.01(0.01)***
Gender("1" for man,"0" for woman)	-	0.06(0.42)	-	-0.06(0.03)*
Income(↑)	+	0.02(0.14)	+	0.02(0.01)*
Education(↑)	+	0.02(0.05)	+	0.02(0.04)
Catholic	+	-0.07(0.10)	+	-0.07(0.15)
<b>Buddhist</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0.17(0.11)</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0.17(0.09)*</b>
Protestant	-	-0.05(0.07)	-	-0.05(0.08)
Secular	+	0.04(0.04)	+	0.04(0.03)
CRT	-	-0.01(0.03)	-	-0.01(0.04)
<b>BRT</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-0.07(0.04)*</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-0.07(0.03)*</b>
PRT	-	-0.01(0.28)	-	-0.01(0.17)
Constant.		0.25(0.28)		0.25(0.17)
Observations	716		716	
<i>F</i>	2.13*			
Log pseudolikelihood			-1006.45	
AIC			2.84	

Note: \* significant,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significant,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*,  $p < 0.001$ . Standard Errors of coefficients are in parentheses.

explanatory power as the culture wars thesis in analyzing people's religiosity and political tolerance in Korea (even though  $\chi^2$  of the first null hypothesis is bigger than that of the second, the difference between them is small). In other words, in terms of the relations between religiosity and political tolerance in Korea, both interdenominational and intradenominational differences affect peoples' political tolerance levels.

Interestingly, this data analysis reveals that while people who believe in Buddhism have a high level of political tolerance, people who have traditional religious values among Buddhists have a low level of political tolerance. In other words, while most Buddhists in Korea have a high level of political tolerance because of their religious doctrines (the tradition of Mahayana Buddhism), Buddhists with active participation in religious services (only religious commitment has a significant impact on tolerance in Model II) tend to have a low level of political tolerance. This implies that the majority of Korean Buddhists have a high level of political tolerance, but the small number of religious traditionalists within Buddhism has a low level of political tolerance.

Thus, Model III analysis shows the possibility of developing a better way to investigate the relationship between religiosity and political tolerance by focusing on simultaneous effects of interdenominational and intradenominational differences on

political tolerance. Because religion itself impacts on people's political tolerance from two-sides (both inside and outside of believers), it is necessary to investigate religion as a stimulus (an independent variable) for peoples' political attitudes by using both the ethnoreligious (outside effect of believers) and the culture wars (inside effect of believers) theses.

According to Tropman, in looking at the world around us, two perspectives have been popular (Tropman 2002). One is the "social structuralist" perspective, which uses the nature of the concrete reality in which we live as the primary vehicle of cause and explanation. In other words, the structuralist perspective looks at the "hard side" of reality – the places we work, the tools we use, the climate we experience – as life's great shapers (Tropman 2002:3).<sup>4</sup> Historically, this tradition is Aristotelian and materialist (for instance, Marx used this perspective; he looked at the position one had in the division of labor).

On the other hand, there are the Platonic and "pen" traditions (Tropman 2002:3-4). Max Weber fits here; he argued that a set of ideas (for instance, the Protestant ethic) caused/explains the development of capitalism (Weber 1930). On the individual level,

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<sup>4</sup> In this perspective, Skinner believed that our behavior was a product of reinforcing and extinguishing conditions, more or less in the here-and-now (Skinner 1971).



Freud was such a thinker, believing that feelings in our psyche direct our actions.

According to Freud once those feelings are righted or released, better behavior follows

(Adler 1937). These perspectives are espoused by “social values” theorists. Social

values thinkers argue that ideas, values, norms, beliefs, and attitudes are the driving

forces for people, communities, and societies (Tropman 2002:3-5).

In relation to the two theses of religion, the culture wars thesis is closest to the social value perspective (focusing on the inside of believers), and the ethnoreligious thesis is closest to the social structuralist perspective (focusing on the outside of believers). Thus, Model III in this research represents a new way of investigating people’s religiosity by focusing on both inter- and intradenominational effects on political tolerance. In particular, when we look at the role of people’s religiosity on their political attitude (for instance, political tolerance) in a society with religious diversity, we need to explain both inter and intradenominational effects on political attitude. Because we can not assume that all Buddhists have a coherent pattern of a certain political attitude (or that all religious traditionalists would have a coherent pattern) in a society with various religions, it is necessary to investigate people’s religiosity by focusing on believers’ outside effects (the ethnoreligious thesis) and inside effects (the culture wars thesis) at

the same time. Model III suggests a possible means of such investigation.

### **Summary.**

This chapter shows the results of data analysis for the relationship between individuals' religiosity and their political tolerance levels. First, the results of data analysis partially confirms the ethnoreligious thesis: for instance, (1) there is a negative relationship between Protestants and political tolerance, (2) there is positive relationship between Buddhists and political tolerance, and (3) there is no statistically significant relationship between Catholics and political tolerance.

Second, in terms of the culture wars thesis, according to the results of data analysis, there is a clear line (intrad denominational difference) between religious traditionalists and modernists in Korea. In particular, believers who are close to religious traditionalism are less likely to be tolerant than those who are close to religious modernism, which confirms the culture wars thesis.

Finally, in order to compare the explanatory powers of the two theses, this research generates three new variables based on the extent of religious values

(religious traditionalism/modernism in religious culture) among three dominant religious groups (Buddhism, Protestantism, and Catholicism) in Korea. According to the F-test of group coefficients, the ethnoreligious thesis has almost same explanatory power as the culture wars thesis. In other words, in terms of the relationship between religiosity and political tolerance in Korea, both interdenominational and intradenominational difference affect peoples' political tolerance levels.

## **Chapter VI: Hypotheses for Political Ideology and Religiosity**

### **Political Ideology in South Korea.**

Like air and water, politics is something in which everybody has self-interest.

Limits of supply also characterize individuals' concerns; decisions must be made about them (Sheldon 1960:9-11). Individuals' everyday decisions are viewed as their political actions in a broad definition of politics. In order to make a decision, individuals must have a certain type of standards that give them a clue for what is good or bad for their lives.

For instance, people have a desire for public policy that is good by their standards. Public policies give expression to the public's general notion of the kind of society in which they want to live, what things are right and wrong, and what values the government should nurture and protect – whether these values are generosity, self-reliance, or courage. Racism and sexism in employment practices do not rise from market system; rather, they reflect what the employer values, as well as what he or she wants to protect. Ideas of property influence how goods are distributed in the market. Conceptions about what is a fair wage and what rights exist for free education, free

health care, or employment have a similar economic and political influence (Kelman 1988:31,53). Based on these ideas about the way society should be, people either strive to maintain the status quo, or they struggle for change. In this context, ideologies consist of a particularly powerful arrangement of ideas about society.

*Ideology* is the picture of how society should be and how such a society is justified. It is an interconnected set of ideas and beliefs that articulates how the basic values of a group of people apply to the distribution of power in society (Mott 1993:3). An ideology is the vision that gives cohesive shape to social values and the dream of how the social order is to be organized by those values. An ideology is possessed by a group, which uses it in relating to other groups and in dealing with internal conflicts (Adams 1955:72). Values are both determinants of behavior and weapons used by contestants (Lloyd 1971:76). An ideology is not held with disinterestedly. It requires a commitment, even partisanship (Mott 1993:3-4). In short, ideology, when defined as people's ideas about the way society should be, plays an important role in shaping people's political actions.

In South Korea, which has been moving toward democratic consolidation since the late 1980s, Koreans begin to face many social problems arising from the diversity of

political ideology. According to Shin and Jhee's analysis of the Korean democratization process, the democratization of the country's right-wing dictatorship (authoritarian military regimes from the 1960s to the late 1980s) has resulted in the movement of many South Koreans from the right to the left on the ideological spectrum (2005). Shin and Jhee also found that many of the Koreans who have shifted their ideological position on the spectrum have done so without changing their thinking about what "the left" and "the right" represent (2005). The current problem in Korean democratization is rooted in such a rapid change in Koreans' ideology without thinking about what "the left" and "the right" represent. Yet, the rapid change of Koreans' ideological spectrum contributes to expanding the diversity of political ideology in Korea from extreme right wing to extreme left wing.

However, many Koreans don't know clearly about what "the left" and "the right" represent, yet they tend to speak clearly out about where they are in the ideological spectrum (Shin and Jhee 2005). One important factor that impacts on the establishment of Koreans' self-identification of political ideology is religion (Benson and Williams 1982; Dyck 2000; Guth and Green 1986; Layman and Carmines 1997; Leege and Kellstedt 1993; Mott 1993; Walsh 2000).

### **Political Culture as an Adhesive Combining Ideology and Religion.**

How do ideology and religion connect to each other in the political realm? The answer to this question is located in a common factor possessed by both ideology and religion. This common factor is a key element in the foundational definitions of ideology and religion: "oughtness." Because *Ideology* is the picture of how society *should be* and how such a society is justified (Mott 1993:3), people with a certain ideology (for instance, cultural conservatism, economic conservatism, liberalism, Marxism, etc.) proclaim that a society *ought to be* the certain form that their ideology prescribes. Thus, the meaning of ideology obviously has the element of "oughtness."

In the case of religion, because religion is built through stories of origin and destiny and offers both proclamations and explanations of freedom and order, judgment, meaning, and hope (Leege and Kellstedt 1993:216), every religion has the element of "oughtness." Religion is often the source for founding myths that collect a people into a political community and give them purpose. Religion holds up transcendent standards of justice by which a people can measure its collective actions. In prescribing a path to salvation, religion, as Max Weber noted (Gerth and Mills 1946), tells a people not only what it is saved from but what it is saved for. In short, religion offers models *of* and *for*

personal and collective reality (a society).

In a similar context, according to Thomas Aquinas' classic political treatise on government morality, government action involves responsibility and a choice of means, and the means depend on the ends that are moral (Beiner 1984; D'Entreves 1948). The people engaged in politics are moral agents, attracted to both good and evil. They are confronted with challenges that go beyond the categories of technical efficiency. Because people are moral beings and need to integrate their worlds, they will defend their actions with reference to a broader and more abstract conception of reality and will be confronted with an image of what is right ("oughtness"). Such an image is reflected politically as ideology (Mott 1993:5-6) and religiously as worldview.

How exactly does this common factor ("oughtness toward a society") of ideology and religion (in particular, religious world view) play a role in the political realm? In other words, how can ideology and religious worldview be bound together to influence politics? The answer is culture (Leege 1993). The adhesive that binds together religious worldviews and ideology (political ideology hereafter) is culture. Geertz argues that culture is not simply a complex of "*concrete behavior patterns* – customs, usages, traditions, habit clusters – but ... *a set of control mechanisms* – plans, recipes, rules,



instructions – for the governing of behavior” (Geertz 1966, 1973:44). In other words, culture has a regulating function (Geertz 1966). At the heart of culture is a system of sacred symbols that seem “to mediate genuine knowledge, knowledge of the essential condition in which life must, of necessity, be lived.... What a people prizes and what it fears and hates are depicted in its world view, symbolized in its religion, and in turn expressed in the whole quality of life” (Geertz 1966:129-131). Through its religious beliefs, rituals, and worldviews, culture can function as a controller of society.

In the field of such culture, religion becomes collective memory and politics becomes collective action (Leege and Kellstedt 1993:216-217). Religion gives cultural expression to the primary problems of existence perceived by a people. It not only addresses the fundamental problems of human existence, but also prescribes the process of their solution and envisions the outcome. Because politics involves the legitimate use of the means of coercion to achieve societal goals, it can have a peculiar binding way of “enforcing salvation” (Mott 1993:217). Most religious worldviews allow for the possibility of nonconformity through free will; religion offers identity and norms for behavior, but any individual is free to cope with the consequences of a personal decision not to conform. The political order, by its very definition as collective action and

its capacity to use coercion, has the potential to impose swift and often devastating sanctions on nonconformity. In short, due to the cultural function of regulating a society, religious worldviews and ideology together influence both individuals' political choices and governmental public policy – for instance, the political impact of Islamic culture in Middle Eastern countries, Buddhist culture in Southeast Asian countries, Liberation Catholic culture in Latin America, and religious Orthodox culture in Eastern Europe (including Russia).

Therefore, if we know what kind of relationship exists between religion and ideology, we may infer the religious influence on politics. With regard to South Korean politics, because people do not know exactly what “the right” and “the left” represent (Shin and Jhee 2005), a self-identified ideological spectrum cannot predict individuals' political behavior in the long term. In this case, by examining the impact of religion on peoples' ideological spectrum, we can gain a clear picture of the relationship between religion and politics. As mentioned in earlier chapters, two theoretical arguments (the ethnoreligious thesis and the culture wars thesis) will be used to examine the relationship between individual religiosity and political ideology.

## **Measuring Political Ideology as a Dependent Variable in South Korea.**

In order to measure Koreans' ideological spectrum, it is necessary to uncover the meaning of "liberal" and "conservative" labels for Korean people. In this regard, there are two assumptions: (1) that the meaning of ideological labels is structured in dimensional terms; and (2) that the content of such meaning is largely issue oriented (Conover and Feldman 1981:618-619).

First, in terms of the structure of meaning, it is assumed that the liberal perspective is simply the opposite of the conservative one. In effect, liberals and conservatives are depicted as sharing the same perceptual framework(s); the only difference is that their view is from opposite sides of the field (Conover and Feldman 1981:619). In other words, based on individuals' own perceptions of the meaning of conservatism, conservatives simply think of liberals as people who have the opposite ideology of conservatism. Thus, voters in any election ought to be able to compare candidates, issues, and parties, and subsequently evaluate such objects using their own identification as an anchoring point.

Second, in terms of the content of meaning, the meaning of ideological labels is largely issue oriented (Levitin and Miller 1979). For instance, in regard to social and

economic issues, cultural conservatives are concerned with maintaining discipline in people's lives, especially within the family (e.g., by making divorce difficult and by tightening controls over abortion and euthanasia), and are in favor of a strict upbringing and traditional sex-roles (Witte and Scheepers 1999). Economic conservatives are concerned with the desirable level of economic equality among people as well as the desirability of trade unions and governmental intervention in economics. In general, economic conservatives oppose economic equality, trade unions and governmental intervention in the economic sphere (Witte and Scheepers 1999).<sup>1</sup> People tend to identify their ideologies based on such clear issue-oriented distinction.

However, neither meaning of ideological labels (the structured or issue-oriented) is entirely correct and useful when we try to measure peoples' ideological spectrum in a society. For instance, recent works reveal that many voters are unable to make accurate comparisons of candidates and issues in liberal/conservative terms (Erikson, Luttbeg, and Tedin 1980; Levitin and Miller 1979). This means that people cannot clearly identify candidates as either on their own side or the opposite. This tendency is especially pronounced in the case of issues, where, based on traditional conceptualizations, one

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<sup>1</sup> The distinction between social and economic conservatism is similar to the distinction between cultural and economic conservatism (Lipset 1981) and between social traditionalism and economic conservatism (Johnson and Tamney 2001).

might logically expect to find the clearest liberal/conservative distinctions. For example, Erikson et al. note a Harris poll which revealed that only 50 percent of the electorate was able to “correctly identify the liberal and conservative sides of major political issues” (1980:57). Similarly, Levitin and Miller found that on some issues even so-called ideologues had difficulty distinguishing the liberal position from the conservative one (1979).

One interpretation of such findings is that researchers may have incorrect data when they measure peoples’ ideological labels based on peoples’ issue-oriented perceptions. In other words, even a person who shows very conservative ideas in economic issues (e.g., supporting a limited government and opposing economic equality based on free market principles) may hold some liberal ideas on social issues (e.g., abortion or divorce cases). More generally, several studies have found that people organize their beliefs in a multidimensional fashion (for instance, cultural, social, economic, or religious dimensions), with the nature and number of dimensions often varying from individual to individual (Conover and Feldman 1981; Herzon 1980; Jackson and Marcus 1975).

This tendency is readily apparent in current Korean politics due to the peoples’

lack of clear understanding of what “the right” or “left” represents in public policy issues (Shin and Jhee 2005). According to the survey data, people in Korea do not have a clear understanding about how conservatives and liberals differ in terms of their policy orientations. The survey respondents were asked to answer 17 policy-oriented questions and to point to their political ideological position (self-identification ideology spectrum). According to economic conservatives’ policy preferences, they tend to oppose economic equality, trade unions and governmental intervention in economics (Johnson and Tamney 2001). According to Cronbach’s alpha test for those three questions,<sup>2</sup> the alpha value is less than 0.16 (16%). Most statistical researchers argue that only alpha values greater than 70% can be acceptable in terms of the consistency of questionnaires and answers for them (Cronbach 1951; Hatcher 1994; Nunnally 1978). In other words, the Cronbach’s test result shows that there is no pattern or correlation among the three answers. Thus, the survey data shows that even though some people identified themselves as conservatives, their policy preferences about economic issues were not exactly correspondent with what true economic conservatives stands for. In

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<sup>2</sup> The respondents were asked to answer how strongly they agree/disagree the following statements: (1) The federal government should not interfere in operating private companies, and (2) The federal government should provide sufficient social welfare benefits even though it raises individual taxes. The Cronbach’s alpha was calculated by comparing answers of these two questions and respondents’ self-identification of ideological spectrum (extremely liberal to extremely conservative).

order to increase the reliability of this test, the same test was conducted with different survey data - a survey data collected by Inglehart and his colleagues in 2002 (Inglehart et al. 2004). According to the test of Inglehart's data set, the Cronbach's alpha is 0.0221 (less than 3%).<sup>3</sup> This test strongly supports the claim that Koreans do not have a clear understanding of what "right" or "left" mean in terms of policy orientation.

However, if policy or issue-oriented measurement is not reliable for measuring Koreans' ideological positions, what alternatives are possible? Many researchers argue that individuals' party identification is more stable than other political attitudes and can be used to measure their ideological spectrum (Abramson and Ostrom 1991; Converse and Markus 1979; Fiorina 1981; Jennings and Niemi 1981). Both Levitin and Miller (1979) and Holm and Robinson (1978) note a substantial relationship between partisan and ideological self-identifications; as the former explains, "when people describe themselves as having an ideological position, they also seem to be saying something about their positions on the parties, quite apart from their issue or policy stands" (Levitin and Miller 1979:768).

In addition, because party identification is far more stable than attitudes toward

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<sup>3</sup> The questionnaires asked how strongly they agree/disagree the following statements: (1) The state should give more freedom to firms, and (2) Incomes should be made more equal (Inglehart et al. 2004:465).

issues and candidates in any elections (Campbell et al. 1960), it exerts a strong influence on individual voting decisions both directly and indirectly, through its influence on attitudes toward candidates and issues (Abramowitz and Saunders 1998). Given such a stable tendency of individuals' party identification, it is possible to measure Koreans' ideological spectrum based on their party identification. According to Lee and Glasure, Koreans tend to identify their party preferences based on parties' policy-orientations (1995). For instance, during the 1990s, the DLP (Democratic Liberty Party, now Han Na Ra Party since 1997) supporters blamed workers for economic recession while their DP (Democratic Party, now Yul Lin Woo Ri Party) counterparts accused the government; 29% of DLP identifiers named workers' laziness and 46% of DP identifiers named government policy as the reason for the 1990s economic downturn (Lee and Glasure 1995:375).

Since the establishment of an extremely liberal party (the Democratic Labor Party) in 1999 the National Congress has been divided by three dominant parties: the Yul Lin Woo Ri Party (Woori Party hereafter, 37.8% in the 2004 election), the Han Na Ra Party (35.2%), and the Democratic Labor Party (their total vote in National Congressional election in 2004 was 12.9% of the total electorate) (Park 2004). The



ideological spectrum of the three parties varies from conservative (Han Na Ra Party), to liberal (Woori Party), to extreme liberal (Democratic Labor Party).<sup>4</sup>

Many scholars argue that the distribution of party identification remains a key influence on the outcomes of elections, particularly in the United States (Fiorina 1981; Green and Palmquist 1994; Jennings and Niemi 1981). Contemporary Korean politics has the same tendency (a supporter of a certain party tends to vote for the same party in general elections). According to preference tests for the survey data, the probability of accordance between peoples' preference of party and their actual voting behavior is over 72%.<sup>5</sup>

Thus, in this research, people's ideological positions are measured by using individuals' party identification and their voting behavior in the 2002 presidential election. According to Lanoue and Bowler, voters' voting behavior is strongly influenced by their party identification, and this impact is stable regardless whether of their party has a chance of winning the seat (1992). Moreover, party identification is more closely

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<sup>4</sup> The Democratic Labor Party is not a socialist party even though they pursue economic equality in Korean society as its party's long-term objective. DLP does not support or prefer any socialist revolution, yet they try to make Korean society as like a welfare state of Western Europe. Its policy orientation is the following: Increase employment rate, Increase taxes from the rich and large conglomerates, Free medical service with government's expenses, and Free education for all ages including college levels (see election pledges of DLP, Party 2005: website, [www.kdip.org](http://www.kdip.org)).

<sup>5</sup> For people who support Han Na Ra Party, 73.3% and for people who support Woori Party, 71.8%. The preference tests are calculated via sensitivity tests of two questionnaires: (1) Which party do you support? And (2) Which political party did you vote for in the 2004 general election?

connected to voting behavior than any other variables, such as mass media and political campaigns (Bryunin and Newton 2003). In short, because of strong and stable linkage among the three variables (political ideology, party identification, and voting choice), we can measure Koreans' ideological spectrum based on their party identification and voting choice in the 2002 presidential election.<sup>6</sup> By doing so, the probability of systemic error arising from Koreans' inaccurate understanding of political ideology can be avoided.

In order to measure political ideology, factor analysis is used, based on two variables - party identification and voting choice in the presidential election. The eigenvalue of the first factor is 1.22 (usually over 1.0 is acceptable), and factor loadings of the two variables are 0.783. After conducting factor analysis, a new variable (people's political ideology) is generated by scoring for the estimates of the factors produced by the analysis (Gorsuch 1983). The new variable (political ideology) has -1.023 for its minimum value, indicating extreme conservatism, and 1.742 for its maximum value, indicating extreme liberalism, with 0.846 as its standard deviation.

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<sup>6</sup> In the 2002 presidential election, the winning votes of each candidate were the following: Lee Heo-chang (a candidate of Han Na Ra party) got 46.6%, Noh Moo-hyun (Woori Party) 48.9%, and Kyun Young-gil (Democratic Labor Party) 3.9% (Dong A Ilbo, Newspaper, 12/19/2002).

## **Traditional Conservatism vs. Modern Liberalism in Contemporary Korea.**

Before getting into the details of the relationship between religiosity and political ideology, it is necessary to define the meaning of “conservatism” and “liberalism” in Korea in order to avoid oversimplification problem in conceptualization. In general, the Korean understanding of conservatism amounts to the so called “traditional conservatism.”<sup>7</sup> This type of conservatism is committed to the preservation of the ancient moral traditions of humanity. The stress is on traditions, not moral values in themselves, for traditional conservatism sees values as embedded in the traditional patterns of life. Thus, traditional conservatism has a great respect for the variety and mysteries of traditional life (Kirk 1960:7).

For traditional conservatism, civilized society needs orders and classes. People are unequal in most qualities of mind, body, and spirit. If people destroy natural distinctions, despair will result. Democracy is given only grudging acceptance (Rossiter 1962:61-62). Change must be worked out in slow and careful stages because society is a living organism. Society must alter, but the change must be in tune with the order that is already in things rather than an order imposed upon them (Rossiter 1962:27).

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<sup>7</sup> Edmund Burke is considered the father of traditional conservatism (Mannheim 1936:120; Rossiter 1962:17)

Conservatism at its best is not opposed to change; rather, it seeks continuity or identity within development (Wills 1979:64). Careful consideration must be given to the long-term consequences of proposed changes. Conservatism is cautious not to fall into worse forms of injustice in the effort to eliminate old ones (Guroian 1981:191-192).

In addition to the emphasis of old traditions, traditional conservatism in Korea also strongly rejects Marxian communism because Korean conservatives regard the North Korean regime as a core form of the communist state (even though the North Korean regime has its own characteristics that are far from the origins of Marxism – for instance, *Ju-Cheism* and transmission of political power by heredity) (Prey 2005).

Traditional conservatives in South Korea view the North Korean regime as a government of unitary totalitarianism and flagrant denial of human rights. In contrast, they regard the South Korean regime as a democratic regime with emphasis on freedom, human rights, and pluralism. Thus, conservatives in South Korea tend to be opposed to Marxian communism. Survey data in South Korea supports the tendency of conservatives' anti-communism. The probability for conservatives to choose military attack for solving the problems rooted in North Korea is over 0.73; the value of the specificity test for the two variables (self-identification of political ideology and opinions

about military attack to solve the North Korean problem) is 73.4%, with 2.0% as the standard error.

In short, conservatives in Korea employ traditional conservatism as their political ideology, which emphasizes tradition and anti-communism. This is a unique feature of Korean conservatives that is different from most western countries (conservatism in most western countries, especially in the United States, includes both traditional and laissez-faire conservatism).<sup>8</sup>

In terms of liberalism, liberals in Korea have “modern liberalism – not classical liberalism”<sup>9</sup> as their own political ideology. In the second half of the nineteenth century, modern liberalism emerged from the critics of classical liberalism. The mainstream of liberal thinking began to shift in the direction of abandoning the minimal state in favor of justifying state intervention (Adams 2001:29). Modern liberals advocate more and more state intervention with collectivist social policies to make up for the deficiencies of the capitalist system (Mill 1910).

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<sup>8</sup> Laissez-faire conservatism is a theory of government adopted for capitalism, which is an economic theory. For the laissez-faire political philosophy, the self-regulating interplay of price values in the market solely determines the allocation of prices and productive resources as well as the distribution of social goods for the needs of people and the environment. This proceeds without governmental assistance – limited role of government in economy (Demant 1952:179-180)

<sup>9</sup> Classical liberalism is close to what laissez-faire conservatism represents. For instance, classical liberalism is based on Adam Smith’s laissez-faire economic policy (the government policy of non-intervention in economy) and Jeremy Bentham’s utilitarianism (the greatest happiness of the greatest number) (Adams 2001:20-23).

After the Second World War, the comprehensive welfare state was designed by two modern liberals – John M. Keynes (1883-1946) and William Beveridge (1879-1963) – based on the new concept of freedom (“positive freedom”) (Adams 2001:29-30).

People may appear to be free, with a whole array of civil liberties, but if they are uneducated, live in squalor and are overworked for starvation wages, in what real sense are they free? People can only truly be said to be free when they have a genuine opportunity to participate fully in the life of their society. Therefore, collectivist intervention is justified in liberal terms if it enables people to so participate; or to put it another way, if it removes obstacles to people’s freedom to fully develop their individuality. In practical terms, the argument points towards a program of welfare legislation, providing such things as education, decent housing and a system of social security (Adams 2001:29).

The survey data supports that liberals in Korea are close in thought to modern liberals. According to the sensitivity test for the two variables (self-identification of political ideology and opinions about welfare policy), the probability for liberals in Korea to support the government’s welfare policies is over 0.68, with 0.02 as standard error. In addition to approving collectivist intervention, liberals in Korea tend to be less opposed

to communist regimes, in particular, the North Korean regime - than their opponents, conservatives. Because modern liberals seek communitarian features of social life, preferring community happiness to private happiness (Mott 1993:145-146), they are likely to support foreign assistance (Benson and Williams 1982:154-156). Due to this pro-foreign assistance stance, liberals in Korea are less antagonistic to North Korea than conservatives. In short, liberals in Korea hold modern liberalism as their political ideology, which emphasizes collective intervention (welfare state policy) and sympathetic to communist regimes, in particular, the North Korean regime.

### **The Relations between Individuals' Religiosity and Political Ideology:**

#### **Ethnoreligious vs. Culture Wars Thesis.**

According to the ethnoreligious thesis, religion is thought of primarily as a social group phenomenon, with membership in a religious tradition being closely linked to other aspects of culture, such as ethnicity, race, and region. So the focus of the ethnoreligious thesis is on political differences between, not within, religious traditions, and most analyses of political behavior (including attitudes and ideology) based on it focus on the effects of religious tradition and not on the effects of beliefs or behaviors

(Layman 2001:64). In other words, we can expect that a person in a certain religious tradition is more conservative (or liberal) than one in a different religious tradition.

Because there are three dominant religions in Korea (over 99% of religious people are Catholic, Protestantism, and Buddhism), this research focuses on the implications of these three religions on their adherents' ideological spectrums.

What relationship can we expect between these three religious traditions and their adherents' political ideology in Korea? First, in terms of the relationship between Catholicism and its members' political ideology, *Catholics are more likely to be conservative than people who belong to other religious traditions (including seculars) in Korea.* Because of the hierarchical structure of the Roman Catholic Church, members of Catholic churches tend to emphasize established traditions and prefer to keep them rather than change.

In terms of the historical background of the Roman Catholic Church, this Church is literally the oldest institution in the world; it is a truly global church with a distinct hierarchical structure headquartered at the Vatican in Rome. The structure of the Church hierarchy is rooted in two millennia of history. Priests belong to a diocese or archdiocese (a geographic area) headed by a bishop or archbishop, who receives his



appointment from the pope. A few of these archdiocese leaders around the world become cardinals, the top elites of the Church responsible for electing a new pope each time the “Bishop of Rome” dies (Fowler, Hertzke, and Olson 1999:44-45). At the heart of Church structure is the doctrine of apostolic succession, the idea that the pope is literally the successor of the Apostle Peter.

Because of this hierarchical structure and deeply rooted tradition, the Roman Catholic Church has a unique feature of organizational rigidity (the members of the Catholic churches have extreme difficulty in changing or reforming the Church). Moreover, the members of Catholic churches get used to such traditions and don't have any strong incentive to change. Their preference of old tradition makes them oppose any rapid changes in the society that they live in. Thus, Catholics in Korea tend to exhibit traditional conservatism in the political arena. In addition to the Catholic churches' stress on tradition, anti-communism (arising from Maxim's atheism) by all Christianity, including Catholicism, pushes Korean Catholics to move to the right (traditional conservatism).

Second, with regard to Protestants and their political ideology, *Protestants are more likely to be conservatives than people with other religious traditions in Korea.*

Unlike the diversity of Protestantism in western countries - for instance, the division between mainline Protestants and evangelical Protestants in the United States (Fowler, Hertzke, and Olson 1999; Guth 1996; Guth and Green 1991; Smidt 1989; Wilcox 1990; Wilcox 2000) - most Protestants in Korea are very close to evangelical Protestantism (Clark 2002; Freston 2004; Kim 2001a).

Many scholars argue that there is strong linkage between evangelical Protestants (Protestants hereafter) and political conservatism (Green et al. 1996; Kellstedt et al. 1996; Oldfield 1996; Wilcox 2000). Unlike the structural conservatism of Catholics, it is the theological backgrounds of Protestants, that push the laity closer to conservatism than liberalism. In other words, Protestants generally adhere to particular beliefs that move them toward conservatism as their political ideology.

For instance, Hunter (1984; 1996) and Marsden (1980), in their analyses of religious conservatives, emphasize orthodox belief in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Christ's sinless perfection and deity, the substitutionary atonement accomplished by his death, and the inerrancy or authority of the Bible. Evangelical Protestants view scripture as the authoritative word of God, place an emphasis on evangelism/missions, believe that Jesus is the only way to salvation, and have had a

conversion/"born-again" experience (Kellstedt et al. 1996). Fundamentalists (Jehovah's Witnesses in Korea) generally hold very similar beliefs, but they are more likely to adhere to biblical literalism and are generally more independent of their surrounding culture (Hood and Smith 2002; Marsden 1980). Charismatic Christians (Pentecostal churches in Korea), on the other hand, also embrace proselytism and biblical authority, but they emphasize the third member of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, and they are more likely to engage in "spirit-filled" activities such as healing and speaking in tongues (Hood and Smith 2002:700). Even though fundamentalists and charismatic Christians have some differences from evangelical Protestants, all three Christians have one thing in common – emphasis on evangelical missionary works in society and the authority of the Bible and God's word (Hong 2001; Kim 2004d).

How does this Protestant theological basis connect with political conservatism (traditional conservatism in Korea)? Although this assumption has not been tested with empirical data, there is a solid theoretical reason for Protestants to be ideologically conservative. The religiously orthodox (Protestants' emphasis on the Bible and God's word as literal) are often described as "otherworldly" (Green et al. 1998). They often see policy problems as spiritual rather than political. According to Protestantism, teen

pregnancy, poverty, and crime cannot be solved through policy intervention alone, for spiritual transformation must precede any personal or societal solutions (Belcher, Fandetti, and Cole 2004; Hood and Smith 2002).

Although governments and social groups attempt to correct social problems, those attempts would not be successful without individuals' (for instance, criminals or people in extreme poverty) spiritual transformation. In short, all problems of society are, for Protestants, individually made and solved. Therefore, Protestants tend to focus on individual lives, not on societal traditions or customs. They generally try to change individuals' lifestyles in the boundary of old traditions, which is a feature of traditional conservatives.

Furthermore, when we compare the two Christian groups (Catholics and Protestants), *Protestants are more conservative than Catholics in Korea*. Because of the influence of Liberation Theology in Latin American Catholicism (see the detail of Liberation Theology in Levine 1988), Catholicism in Korea is linked with a liberal theology of Korea, called Minjung theology (Clark 1997). Minjung Theology sought roots in the Korean Minjung, or "masses," and the Korean history of tribulation expressed in

the emotion of *han*.<sup>10</sup>

According to Minjung theology, Christians should be the instruments of God's own will to see justice done in the world. This was a call to activism and involvement in changing the political system that greatly offended the South Korean state and invited trouble for its prophets and catcalls from the sidelines of conventional, conservative Protestantism (Clark 2002:200). It was a potent criticism of the pietistic Christianity (mostly conservative Protestantism) that avoids tangling with the brutal realities of Korean life in the twentieth century and simply awaits a better world in the next life. The impact of Minjung theology on traditional Roman Catholicism in Korea pushed Catholics to move toward the center of the ideological spectrum (less conservative than Protestants).

Finally, *Buddhists are more likely than seculars to be conservatives in Korea.*

Even though Buddhists are more tolerant than other religious peoples (see Chapter V), such a high level of political tolerance is not directly linked to political liberalism. Because Buddhism has emphasized the rule of law since the era of Buddha, some scholars tend to regard Buddhism as compatible with liberal democracy (based on

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<sup>10</sup> "Han" is an elusive term but is often translated as "bitter resentment," something that smolders after generations of oppression by unjust systems and masters. (Suh 1981:16-17).

modern liberalism) (Changkwanyoon 1993; Promta 1993).

For instance, the Buddha told Ananda, a principal disciple, that if he passed away, the Dhamma-Vinaya (teaching-precepts) would be their teacher (King 1964:188-201). The Buddha did not appoint anyone to be the leader of the Sangha; The Dhamma, or law, would rule instead. Thus, Buddha emphasized the Law rather than the person. He once said, "He who sees Dhamma sees me" (King 1964:200-201) The Sangha, the community of monks, is to be ruled by law, not by personal decree of its leader. There is in fact no leader in Buddhism. The law is its leader. A society ruled by law is in complete accord with the spirit of Buddhism.

However, although the Buddha emphasized the rule of law in a society, the ideal form of political system for the Buddha was kingly rule by a Buddhist ruler. A number of texts outline an ideal for a Buddhist ruler to follow so as to ensure a peaceful and harmonious society, free of poverty (Saddhatissa 1970:149-164). Nothing is said on the duty of subjects towards their ruler, but Buddhism has generally not encouraged rebellions, on account of its emphasis on non-violence (Harvey 2000:113).

In particular, the Buddha admired some of the tribal republics of his day. At one time, he said that the Vajjian republic would flourish if the people continued to:

- i) 'hold regular and frequent assemblies'
- ii) 'meet in harmony, break up in harmony, and carry out business in harmony'
- iii) **'not authorize what has not been authorized, but proceed according to what has been authorized by their ancient tradition'**
- iv) 'honour, respect, revere and salute the elders among them, and consider them worth listening to'
- v) 'not forcibly abduct others' wives and daughters and compel them to live with them'
- vi) 'honour, respect, revere and salute the Vajjian shrines at home and abroad, not withdrawing the proper support made and given before'
- vii) 'make proper provision for the safety of *Arahats*, so that such *Arahats* may come in future to live there, and those already there may dwell in comfort' (*Nikaya* 1987:74-75)

One can see these as the principles of respecting collective decision-making, concord, tradition, elders, women, religion, and holy men and women (*Arahats*). This emphasis on tradition is directly linked with Koreans' traditional conservatism.

In addition to the emphasis of the old tradition by Buddhists, Buddhists in Korea are strongly influenced by traditional shamanistic rites, which meet the need for a longevity cult and ancestor worship, guaranteeing and securing secular desires. This type of Buddhism is called *Kibok Pulgyo*, Buddhism which deals with worldly fortune (Shim 2000:542).<sup>11</sup> In other words, for Korean Buddhists, keeping a traditional way of

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<sup>11</sup> Korean Buddhist monastic compounds have two subsidiary shrines near the main worship hall: one dedicated to the tutelary mountain spirit on whose land the temple stands, and the other to the Taoist god of the Seven Stars (Ursa Major). Underlying this syncretism is the fact that the other-worldly, transcendent elements of Buddhism have often been compromised to accommodate themselves to worldly elements, affirming Shamanism, Taoism and Confucianism (Shim 2000:548).

life is an essential element for a peaceful and happy life in the mundane world. Thus, based on the Buddha's ideal type of politics and a unique characteristic of Korean Buddhism, *Buddhists in Korea are more likely be conservative than seculars.*

However, in terms of the culture wars thesis, many academics argue that people in a society are divided along the cultural line between religious traditionalists and modernists (Benson and Williams 1982; Green et al. 1996; Jelen and Chandler 2000; Layman 2001; Layman and Carmines 1997; Miller and Shanks 1996; Shafer and Claggett 1995; Sobnosky 1993; Wald 2003). First, in relation to religious traditionalists, traditionalism means "a deliberate effort to regenerate tradition and make it socially significant again... [It] is a form of engagement with the modern world" (Lechner 1993:23). In the process, religious traditionalists may support important social changes. What religious traditionalists seek to preserve is valuing the group more than the individual (Tamney 2002:8). In addition, religious traditionalism means not only the superiority of the religious group over the individual, but also the dominance of the religious group over all the other institutions of society. Therefore, in the traditionalist worldview, there is no separation of church and state, and traditionalist religious values are hegemonic (Tamney 2002:9-10).



In contrast, religious modernists accept individuals' freedom and values based on cultural pluralism, but also advocate sovereignty based on the separation of church (religious authority) and state (Tamney 2002:18-20). For instance, religious modernists imply their acceptance of a pluralist society with their sympathetic comments about Islam. Moreover, the religious modernist's commitment to individualism is at least to some extent applied within the religious group – religious leaders who accept religious modernism did not demand acceptance of their judgments, but simply presented arguments for them.

However, in terms of the relationship between people's religious identity (traditionalist/modernist) and their political ideology (conservative/liberal), *religious traditionalists are more likely to be politically conservative than religious modernists*. Many scholars have elucidated the link between religious traditionalism and conservatism, as well as between religious modernism and liberalism (Ammerman 1987; Flake 1984; Hunter 1991; Klatch 1992; Wuthnow 1988). Robert Wuthnow argues that the symbolic boundaries of American religion have changed since World War II, as rising levels of higher education have split the major religious denominations along educational lines into conservative (traditionalist) and liberal (modernist) camps

(1988:71-99, 155-168). In Wuthnow's view, the "symbolic warfare" (1988:138) between religious conservatives and liberals has supplanted earlier denominational antagonisms between Protestants and Catholics, Christians and Jews. According to Wuthnow, religious liberals (modernists) take politically liberal positions on a wide array of contemporary issues, including abortion, homosexuality, prayer in school, gender roles, racial equality, and economic justice, while religious conservatives (traditionalists) take politically conservative stances (1988: 132, 219-223).

James Hunter, in an argument with metaphors of war (e.g., "battles," "skirmishes," "stories from the front," "trenches") (1991:50, 64, 288, 319), maintains that the "culture war" over contemporary social and economic issues is intractable because it is ultimately based in "fundamentally different conceptions of moral order" (1991:49). On one side are the religiously orthodox (traditionalists), who believe that God is the ultimate moral arbiter of right and wrong, that the revealed word of God as recorded in sacred texts is inerrant and of timeless relevance, and that God is a real and active presence in people's daily lives.

On the other side are progressives, who include religious modernists as well as atheists and agnostics. They assert that humans are the ultimate judge of what

constitutes moral action, that morality is an evolving, open quest that must be judged in its cultural context, and that humans are responsible for their own fates (Hunter 1991:44-45). These battling moral camps, Hunter writes, cross-cut faith communities and have replaced traditional antagonisms along denominational lines (the ethnoreligious thesis) (1991:67-106).

In terms of theoretical reasons for the religious traditionalist to be politically conservative, the religiously orthodox (traditionalists) are often described as “otherworldly” (Green et al. 1998). They often see policy problems as spiritual rather than political. According to the orthodox (traditionalist), teen pregnancy, poverty, and crime cannot be solved through policy intervention alone, for spiritual transformation must precede any personal or societal solutions. While government should be used to protect people, it will fail if it attempts to solve what are spiritual, as opposed to physical, crises (placing higher authority on religious communities than government). Then, the tendency is for religious traditionalists to see these problems as individually made and solved. Emerson and Smith found this tendency (in the United States) when they examined evangelicals’ attitudes toward race relations (2000). Evangelicals (who are categorized as religious orthodox) (Jelen, Smidt, and Wilcox 1993) see racism as an

individual sin and not as a systematic or institutional problem, so they are lukewarm toward public policies that address race relations on an institutional scale. These findings suggest that religious traditionalists (orthodox) are positively related to politically conservatives.

In the context of the culture war thesis, it is expected that *religious traditionalists are more likely to be politically conservative than religious modernists in Korea*. In summary, peoples' ideological spectrums based on their religious traditions and cultural characteristics can be represented in Figure 6-1.



**Figure 6-1. Ideological Spectrums for Each Religious Tradition and Two Culturally Divided Groups.**

### **Control Variables (Sociodemographic Variables).**

In order to avoid the misspecification problem of statistical models, I include four demographic factors as control variables: gender, income, age, and education. First, in terms of gender, women are more likely to be liberal (left-wing). According to Edlund and Pande, since the early 1970s, US women have favored the Democrats over the Republicans (2001). Conversely, in most European countries, men were more left-wing than women from the 1970s until the mid-1990s. However, Edlund and Pande identify a common trend on both sides of the Atlantic: since the 1970s, US and European women have steadily become more left-wing (liberal) (2001). Thus, it is expected that Korean women are more likely to be liberals than men.

Second, in terms of income, there is a positive relationship between income and political conservatism (Jackman 2003). Because most left-wing or liberal parties in the United States and the Europe have pro-poor policy orientations, the poor are more likely to support liberal parties and become liberals than the rich (Stonecash and Mariani 2000). Therefore, it is expected that the rich in Korea are more likely to be conservatives than the poor.

In terms of age and education, due to the strong impact of students' movements

on Korean democratization, educated (usually with college education experience) younger people tended to support opposition parties (liberal parties) until the 1997 presidential election. However, after Noh Moo-hyun (who was nominated as a candidate from the Democratic Party, a liberal party) was elected as president in the 2002 election, less-educated and older people (usually over 40) became strong supporters of the opposition party (the Han Na Ra Party, a conservative party) (Lee and Glasure 1995). It is expected that younger people with a high level of education are more likely to be political liberals than older people with low level of education in Korea.

### **Hypotheses for the Relationship Between Individual's Religiosity and Political Ideology.**

Based on previous studies and theoretical expectations (from both the ethnoreligious and culture wars theses), the following hypotheses will be tested in this research.

***Hypothesis 1.*** *Catholics are more likely to be conservatives than people who belong to Buddhists or seculars in Korea.*

**Hypothesis II.** Protestants are more likely to be conservatives than people who belong to Catholics, Buddhists, or seculars in Korea.

**Hypothesis III.** Protestants are more conservative than Catholics in Korea.

**Hypothesis IV.** Buddhists are more likely to be conservatives than seculars in Korea.

**Hypothesis V.** People who have strong beliefs (Orthodoxy) in their religious tradition are more likely to be conservatives than those who have weak beliefs.

**Hypothesis VI.** People who are active participants in religious services (Religious Commitment) are more likely to be conservative than those who are inactive.

**Hypothesis VII.** religious traditionalists are more likely to be politically conservative than religious modernists.

Hypotheses I to IV are designed to test the ethnoreligious thesis, and Hypothesis V to VII are designed to test the culture wars thesis. In addition, we can examine which model has more explanatory power in analyzing the relationship between religion and politics in Korea by comparing the results of two groups (one group based on the ethnoreligious thesis and another groups based on the culture wars thesis) of hypotheses-tests (F test for the significance of group coefficients) in model III.

## **Summary.**

This chapter examines political culture as an adhesive that combines individuals' religiosity and their political ideology. In terms of the second dependent variable in this research, people's ideological positions are measured by using individuals' party identification and their voting behavior in the 2002 Korean presidential election. The variable of political ideology is generated by scoring after factor analysis of these two variables.

However, in relations to the meanings of two concepts (conservatism and liberalism), conservatives in Korea employ traditional conservatism as their political ideology, which emphasizes tradition and anti-communism. For the concept of liberalism, liberals in Korea hold modern liberalism as their political ideology, which emphasizes collective intervention (welfare state policy) and sympathetic to communist regimes, in particular, the North Korean regime.

In terms of the relationship between individuals' religiosity and political ideology, this research formulates 7 hypotheses: Hypotheses 1 to 4 are designed to test the ethnoreligious thesis, and Hypotheses 5 to 7 are designed to test the culture wars thesis. The hypotheses are: (1) Catholics are more likely to be conservatives than Buddhists



and seculars in Korea, (2) Protestants are more likely to be conservatives than Catholics, Buddhists, and seculars in Korea, (3) Protestants are more conservatives than Catholics, (4) Buddhists are more likely to be conservatives than seculars, (5) People who have strong beliefs (orthodoxy) in their religious affiliation are more likely to be conservatives than those who have weak beliefs, (6) People who are active participants in religious services (religious commitment) are more likely to be conservative than those who are inactive, and (7) Religious traditionalists are more likely to be politically conservative than religious modernists in Korea.

## Chapter VII: Data Analysis of Political Ideology

### Measuring and Imputation of Dependent Variable (Political Ideology).

In order to obtain a systematically unbiased dependent variable (in this case, the political ideology of Koreans), two methods are used, scoring after factor analysis and imputation of missing values. For the first method, because of the Korean peoples' lack of clear understanding of what "the right (or conservatism)" or "left (or liberalism)" represents in public policy issues (Shin and Jhee 2005:89), this research generated a dependent variable by scoring after factor analysis with two variables (Party Identification and Voting Choice in the 2002 presidential election in Korea). Based on the result of factor analysis, one factor was retained (Eigenvalue of the first factor is 1.23), and the factor loadings of the two variables are equal to 0.78.

These two variables have a high level of concurrent validity (The Average Interitem Covariance = 0.32, and Cronbach's alpha = 0.82). This high level of concurrent validity implies that Koreans show very consistent patterns in identifying their political party support and voting behavior in the presidential election (e.g., people who support a conservative party are more likely to vote for a candidate from the conservative party

**Table 7-1. Two-way Tabulation of Party Identification (Column) and Voting Choice (Row).**

Frequency, Percentage	1=Lee Heo Chang	2=Noh Moo Hyun	3=Kwon Young Gil	Total
1=Han Na Ra	183, 88.41%	20, 6.87%	2, 5.88%	205, 38.53%
2=Yulin Woori	12, 5.80%	202, 69.42%	2, 5.88	216, 40.60%
3=Democratic Labor	12, 5.80%	69, 23.71%	30, 88.24	111, 20.86%
Total	207, 100%	292, 100%	34, 100%	532, 100%
Pearson $\chi^2$	447.6369***			

Note: \*\*\* Significant,  $P > 0.001$ .

in the presidential election). Table 7-1 shows the result of the Pearson  $\chi^2$  test and the percentage of column frequency.

Based on these two variables, a dependent variable (which indicates people's political ideology; the high value of the variable = extreme liberalism) was generated by scoring after the factor analysis. However, the dependent variable has 462 missing values (47% of total respondents) with 1.74 as the maximum value (extreme liberals) and -1.02 as the minimum value (extreme conservatives).<sup>1</sup> Some problems arise from a large number of missing values in the analysis of data. For instance, the sample size is reduced, the representativeness of the sample decreases, and the information offered

<sup>1</sup> Another dependent variable used in Chapter V and VI (Political tolerance) has 59 missing values (5.9% of total respondents), which does not influence the representativeness of the sample.

by the respondents by answering other items is lost<sup>2</sup> (Rubin 1976).

In order to avoid those problems of missing data, the missing values within the dependent variable were imputed by using the Univariate Imputation Sampling (UVIS) method, which is one of multiple imputation methods (Buuren, Boshuizen, and Knook 1999; Gelman, King, and Liu 1998; Rubin 1976, 1987, 1996; Schafer and Olsen 1998). UVIS imputes missing values in the single variable *y-variable* based on multiple regression on the *x-variable list*.<sup>3</sup> Because Model III in Figure 2-2 includes both the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses, the independent variables in Model III (including control variables) were used as the *x-variable list* of the UVIS. Thus, the *x-variable list* of the UVIS is Age, Gender, Income, Education, Catholic, Buddhist, Protestant, Secular, Religious Traditionalist/Modernist within Catholic (CRT), Religious

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<sup>2</sup> For any statistical analysis that contains a variable for which there are missing data, the cases with missing data have to be excluded from analysis if the data are not imputed.

<sup>3</sup> UVIS imputes *yvar* from *xvarlist* according to the following algorithm.

1. Estimate the vector of coefficients ( $\hat{\beta}$ ) and the residual variance by regressing the nonmissing values of *yvar* on *xvarlist*.
2. Draw at random a value ( $\sigma_*$ ) from the posterior distribution of the residual standard deviation.
3. Draw at random a value ( $\beta_*$ ) from the posterior distribution of  $\hat{\beta}$ , allowing, through  $\sigma_*$ , for uncertainty in  $\hat{\beta}$ .
4. Use  $\beta_*$  to predict the fitted values *etamis* at the missing observations of *yvar*.
5. (Prediction matching) For each missing observation of *yvar* with prediction *etamis*, find the nonmissing observation of *yvar* whose prediction (*etaobs*) on observed data is closest to *etamis*. This closest nonmissing observation is used to impute the missing value of *yvar*. (see the detail of the UVIS in Buuren, Boshuizen, and Knook 1999:689-690).

Traditionalist/Modernist within Buddhist (BRT), and Religious Traditionalist/Modernist within Protestant (PRT). Figure 7-1 shows the patterns of missing values within the original data and imputed data (*y-variable* = Political Ideology). 192 missing values were imputed based on 322 complete cases. Thus, the actual observation numbers in OLS (Ordinary Least Square) regression increased from 322 to 518.

Because the variance and measurement for each independent variable are described in Table 5-1, this chapter does not include the details of the independent variables (the same independent variables are used for analyzing political ideology). After the initial estimation of political ideology by OLS regression, three post-estimation tests were conducted (multicollinearity among independent variables, normality test of residuals, and heteroscedasticity test). The reason for performing three tests is to obtain the best linear unbiased estimates of the regression parameters based on the Gauss-Markov assumptions.<sup>4</sup> Under the Gauss-Markov assumptions, the strongest case for OLS estimation can be made when the error term (residuals) has a Gaussian distribution. Only after achieving Gaussian distribution of the error term can hypotheses tests for the parameters be applied.

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<sup>4</sup> Three key assumptions must not be violated to get the unbiased estimations: (1) the error term in the model has a probability distribution that is the same for each observation and does not depend on the predictor variables; (2) the predictor variables are observed without error; and (3) the error term has a finite variance (Chernick 1999:70-71)

Political Ideology (Scoring after Factor Analysis)			Political Ideology (Univariate Imputation Sampling Method)		
Patterns of MVs.	MVs	Frequency	Patterns of MVs	MVs	Frequency
+++++	0	322	+++++	0	518
/++++	1	196	/++++	8	178
/++++	8	97	/++++	4	140
++++	7	81	/++/++++	2	66
++++	3	71	/++/	9	34
/++++	4	69	/++/++++	5	29
/++/++++	2	44	/++++	5	12
/++/	9	27	/+++/++++	2	5
+++/++++	1	22	/++/	6	3
/++/++++	5	16	/+++	9	2
+++/++++	4	13	/+/++++	2	1
+++/	8	7	//++++	2	1
++++	4	6	/+/++++	3	1
/++++	5	6	/+//++++	6	1
++++/++++	1	3	/+/+	9	1
/+++/++++	2	2	//+++	9	1
/++/	6	2	/++	10	1
++++	8	2			
++/++++	1	1			
++/	2	1			
//++++	2	1			
+++/	5	1			
++//++++	5	1			
++/	8	1			
//+++	9	1			
/++	10	1			

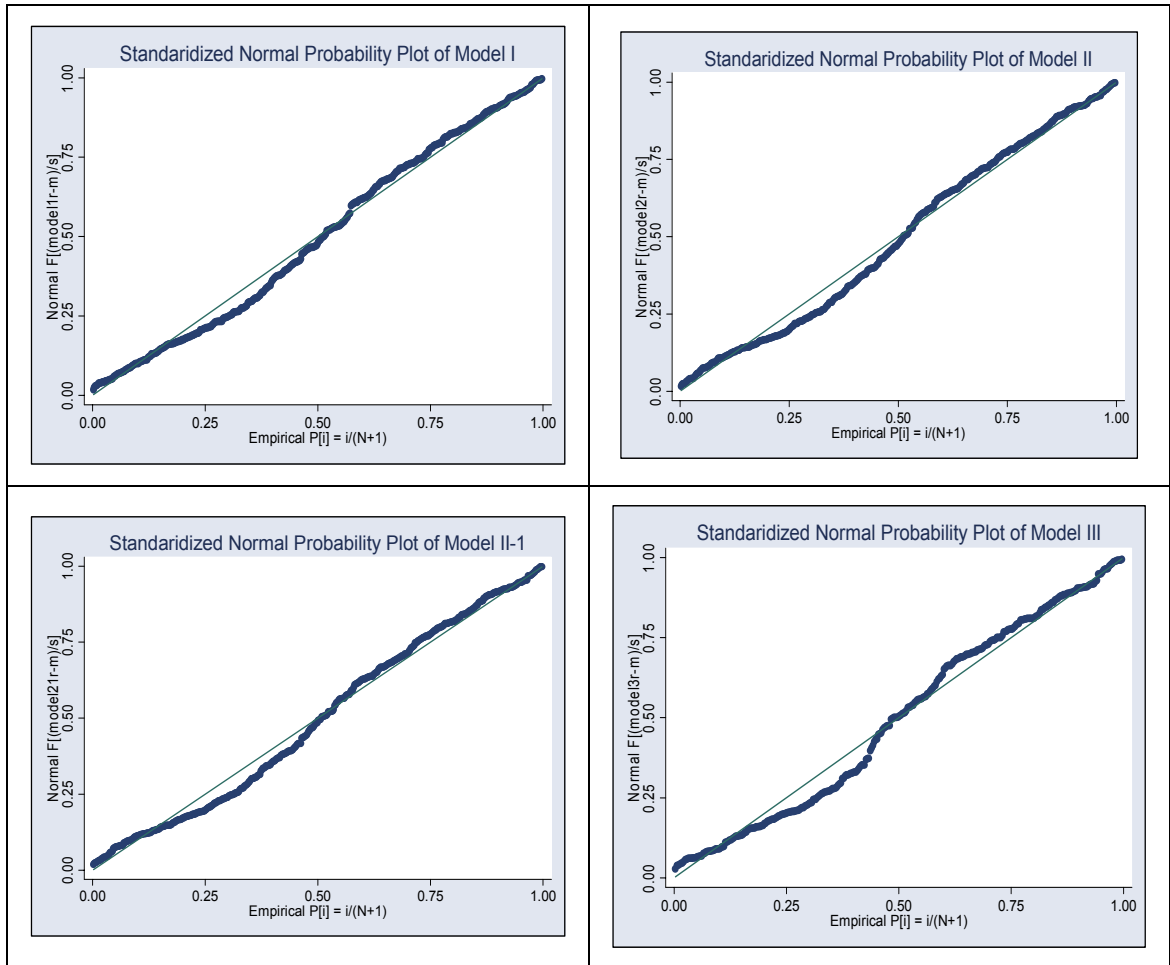
Note: MVs=Missing Values; + = nonmissing; / = missing values. The sequence of variables is political ideology, age, gender, income, education, Catholic, Buddhist, Protestant, seculars, CRT, BRT, and PRT.

**Figure 7-1. Patterns of Missing Values in the Sequence of Variables.**

When the error distribution is non-Gaussian, regardless of what estimation procedure is used, it is difficult to determine confidence intervals for the parameters or to obtain prediction intervals for the response variable. This is where the Generalized-Least-Estimators (GLM) can help (Chernick 1999; Efron and Tibshirani 1993).

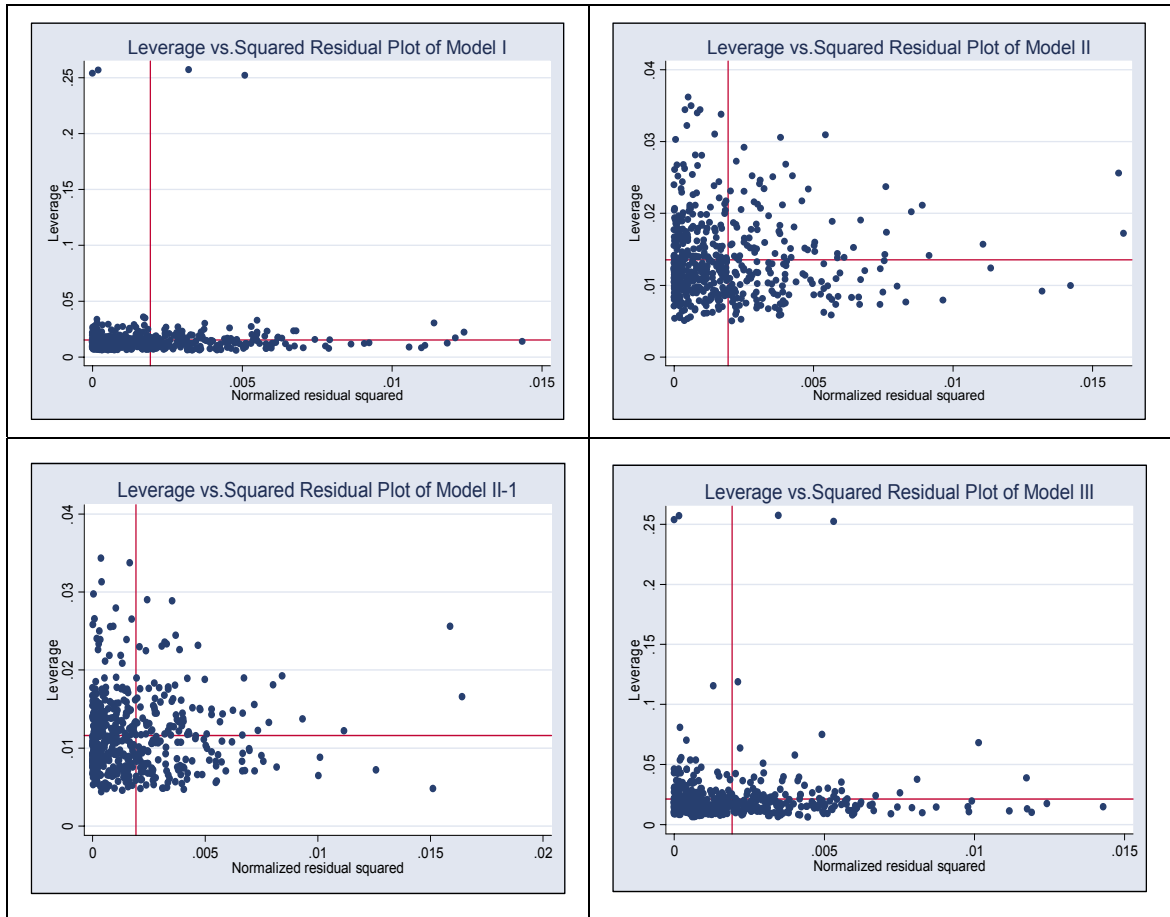
In order to check the error distribution (whether or not it is close to Gaussian distribution), four residuals for each model in Figure 2-2 are obtained. In relation to the normality assumption of the error terms, normal probability plots are described. According to Figure 7-2, there are some violations of normality assumptions for each model's error term (most significantly, the error term of Model III is especially deviated from the normal distribution line).

In relation to the assumption of homoscedasticity for the error term, Leverage-versus-Residual Squared plots for each estimation are described. According to Figure 7-3, four OLS estimations have heteroskedasticity problem and cannot provide unbiased estimates of coefficients (which makes it difficult to test hypotheses of the theoretical models) (Baum, Cox, and Wiggins 2000; Bollen and Jackman 1990; Breusch and Pagan 1979; White 1980).



**Figure 7-2. Normal Probability Plots for the Residuals.**





Note: The lines on the chart show the average values of leverage and the (normalized) residuals squared. Points above the horizontal line have higher-than average leverage; points to the right of the vertical line have larger-than average residuals. Both points indicate the existence of outliers in the data.

**Figure 7-3. Leverage vs. Squared Residual Plots.**

The problems are rooted in the violations of normal distribution and heteroskedasticity in OLS estimation can be reduced by conducting Generalized-Least Squares (GLS) estimates as an alternative method (McCullagh and Nelder 1989; Wooldridge 2000:261-263). GLS can reduce such problems by implying robust standard errors (instead of standard errors for the model). (Stock and Watson 2003; Street, Carroll, and Ruppert 1988). Figure 7-4 shows the proper selection of robust standard error transformation among various methods. According to Figure 7-4, “identity” transformation is appropriate for obtaining robust standard errors in GLS estimation.

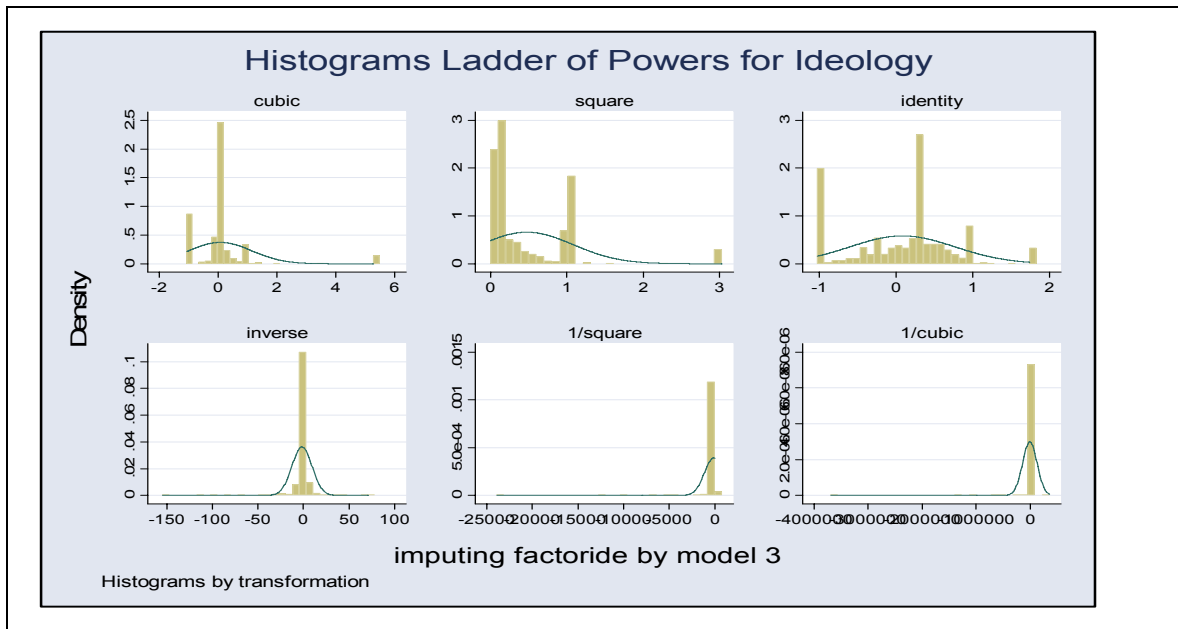


Figure 7-4. Histograms Ladder of Powers for Political Ideology.

Finally, in relation to the assumption of Independence (multicollinearity problem), VIFs (Variation Inflation Factors) are calculated after OLS estimation of each model.

Table 7-2 shows the results of VIF calculation.

According to Table 7-2, there are serious multicollinearity problems in Model I and III (in general, any observation with a VIF over 10 is supposed to have a collinearity problem in OLS estimation) (Wooldridge 2000:95-96). In order to correct the multicollinearity problems in the models, Orthogonalization Transformation was conducted (Abramowitz and Stegun 1968; Golub and Loan 1996; Sribney 1995), and new sets of orthogonalized variables for the six variables (Catholic, Buddhist, Protestant, Secular, CRT, BRT, and PRT) were generated and used for the estimations.

In particular, even though the VIFs of Model III were reduced after the first orthogonalization (CRT, BRT, and PRT), moderate collinearity problems existed between these three orthogonalized variables and other independent variables (Catholic, Buddhist, and Protestant: VIFs ranges from 5 to 11). Thus, the second orthogonalization process was performed, and all VIFs of independent variables in Model III became less than 2.

**Table 7-2. VIFs After OLS Regressions.**

Variables	Model I	Model II	Model II-1	Model III
	VIFs	VIFs	VIFs	VIFs
Age	1.24(1.24)	1.26	1.22	1.26 (1.26) (1.26)
Gender	1.06(1.06)	1.06	1.06	1.03 (1.07) (1.07)
Income	1.14(1.14)	1.13	1.09	1.38 (1.10) (1.10)
Education	1.39(1.39)	1.34	1.34	1.38 (1.38) (1.38)
Catholic	56.72(1.02)			58.59 (8.57) (1.03)
Buddhist	72.11(1.02)			69.33 (10.71) (1.03)
Protestant	97.46(1.06)			85.80 (7.92) (1.95)
Secular	53.59(1.01)			2.02 (1.96) (1.96)
Religious Commitment		1.65		
Orthodoxy		1.64		
Religious Culture			1.04	
CRT				5.80 (5.80) (1.02)
BRT				5.25 (5.25) (1.00)
PRT				5.04 (5.04) (1.04)

Note: The values in parentheses are VIFs after Orthogonalization Transformation of the original data. The values in the second parentheses in Model III indicate the VIFs after the two steps of orthogonalization transformation.

In Table 7-2, the first four variables (Age, Gender, Income, and Education) are control variables (demographic variables), and the next four (Catholic, Buddhist, Protestant, and Secular) are variables of respondents' religious belonging (or religious affiliation). The religious commitment variable represents respondents' level of religious behaving (a high number of the variable = frequently participation in religious activities), and orthodoxy refers to religious believing (a high number of the variable = possession of strong belief in religion). Religious culture represents respondents' religious values (religious traditionalist/modernist), which are calculated by combining two religious variables (behaving and believing).

In order to generate the last three variables (CRT, BRT, and PRT), each religious affiliation (dummy variable for each religious group) was multiplied by the "Religious Culture" variable. Thus, CRT (Catholic Religious Culture) refers to the variations of religious culture within people who belong to Catholicism (a high number of CRT = religious traditionalists among Catholics). These three variables (CRT, BRT, and PRT) allow us to look into the possibility of the third way of investigation (combining the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses).

### **Hypotheses Testing: Ethnoreligious Thesis.**

For the ethnoreligious thesis, four hypotheses were formulated and tested: (1) Catholics are more likely to be conservatives than Buddhists and seculars in Korea, (2) Protestants are more likely to be conservatives than Catholics, Buddhists, and seculars in Korea, (3) Protestants are more conservative than Catholics in Korea, and (4) Buddhists are more likely to be conservative than seculars in Korea. Table 7-3 shows the summary of data analysis for testing hypotheses based on the ethnoreligious thesis.

In terms of the four control variables, the coefficients of two variables (Age and Gender) are negative values for the age variable and positive values for the gender variable. In other words, women and young people are more likely to be liberal than men and old people in Korea. These findings are not different from those of Western countries, particularly the United States and western European countries (Edlund and Pande 2001).

For the income variable, the result of data analysis shows that there is a positive relationship between income and political conservatism. According to Stonecash and Mariani, because most left-wing or liberal parties in the U.S. and the Europe have pro-poor policy orientations, the poor are more likely to support liberal

**Table 7-3. Effects of Religious Denominational Differences on Political Ideology (Model I).**

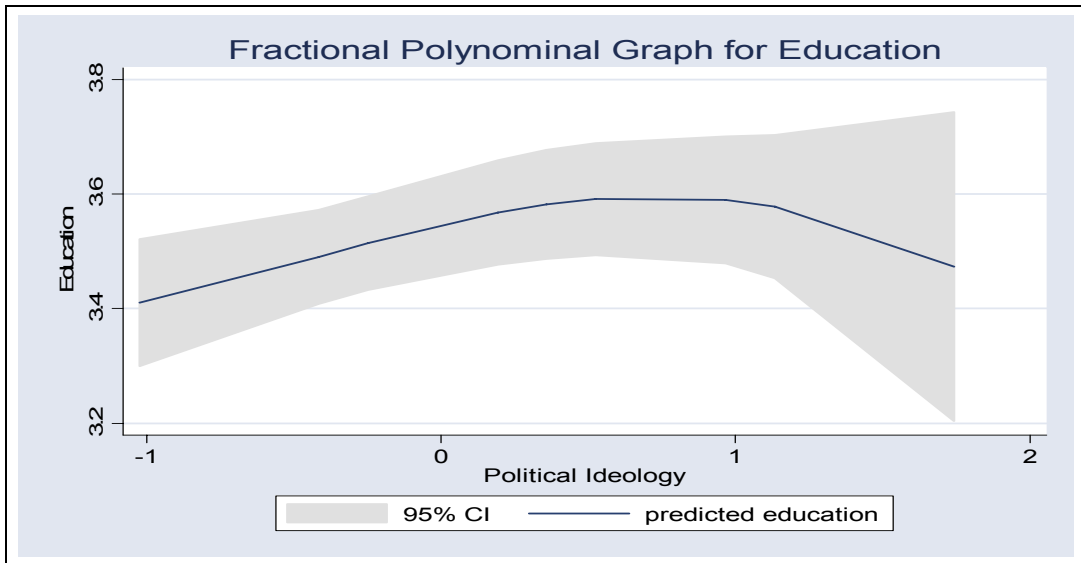
Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimation	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age (↑)	-	<b>-1.19(0.11)***</b>	-	<b>-1.19(0.07)***</b>
Gender (“1” for man, “0” for woman)	-	0.13(0.07)*	-	<b>0.13(0.04)**</b>
Income (↑)	-	-0.01(0.01)	-	-0.01(0.01)
Education (↑)	+	<b>-0.14(0.05)**</b>	+	<b>-0.14(0.03)***</b>
Catholic	-	<b>0.08(0.04)*</b>	-	<b>0.08(0.03)*</b>
Buddhist	-	<b>-0.14(0.06)*</b>	-	<b>-0.14(0.04)***</b>
Protestant	-	<b>-0.25(0.15)*</b>	-	<b>-0.25(0.11)*</b>
Secular	+	<b>0.08(0.47)*</b>	+	<b>0.08(0.01)***</b>
Constant	4.85(0.47)***		4.85(0.31)***	
Observations	518		518	
<i>F</i>	<b>19.91***</b>			
Log Pseudolikelihood			-574.86	
BIC			-2902.12	

Note: \* significance,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significance,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* significance,  $p < 0.001$ . The numbers in parentheses are standard errors (OLS) and robust standard errors (GLE)..

parties and become liberals than the rich (2000). As in Western countries, Korea now enters into the process of social division based on economic cleavage between the poor and the rich. According to Lee, since early 2000, the income gap between the poor and the rich has been dramatically increased in Korea, and the competition between the rich and the poor in policy-making process has intensified (2005). In short, the poor in Korea became a strong support group for the liberal party (the Democratic Labor Party).

For the education variable, unlike the Western countries' cases (in which people with high levels of education are more likely to be liberals) (Feldman and Huddy 2004; Leo 2005; Perry 2003), the result of data analysis shows that there is a negative relationship between people's education level and political ideology (people with high levels of education are less likely to be liberal in Korea). However, according to Figure 7-5, the relationship between political ideology and education is not a linear relationship, but rather a curve linear relationship. This implies that a certain point of education level indicates the highest level of liberalism (optimal point of the curve line). After passing the optimal point, the level of education has a negative relationship with liberalism. This implies that education level is not a solid variable in influencing people's political ideology. Because Korea is entering into the democratic consolidation stage (with its





**Figure 7-5. Fractional Polynomial Graph for Education.**

high level of education compared to other countries), people’s level of education does not influence their ideological position in a solid and predictable way.

In terms of the ethnoreligious thesis, the first hypothesis expected that Catholics are more likely to be conservative than Buddhists or seculars.<sup>5</sup> However, the coefficient of the dummy variable (“1” for Catholic) is a positive value (0.08), which implies that *Catholics are more likely to be liberals than other religious groups in Korea.*

Historically, the Roman Catholic Church saw liberalism as a potential threat, if not indeed a direct challenge, to its authority in temporal affairs. Because it supported a

<sup>5</sup> The main reason for the hypothesis was the hierarchical structure of the Roman Catholic Church and its emphasis on established traditions.

secular (or lay) state and the free market, liberalism was thought to support a new political and economic order free of ecclesiastical oversight or intervention (Baxter 1998:743-744). With the structural rigidity of the Roman Catholic Church, such hostility toward liberalism made Catholics politically conservative.

However, since the second Vatican council, the Church's attitude toward political liberalism has changed. The promulgation of *Gaudium et Spes* (the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World) and *Dignitatis Humanae* (the Declaration on Religious Freedom) at Vatican II is widely seen as an official endorsement of Western political liberalism, and the publication of *Centesimus Annus* by John Paul II in 1991 is interpreted by many as an endorsement of economic liberalism (Baxter 1998).

In terms of GS (*Gaudium et Spes*), the novelty of this document consists in its not being a discussion of the general theme, "Church and World," but of the Church in the modern world, the world of today. This explains its methodology of "reading the signs of the times and of interpreting them in the light of the Gospel" (Council 1965:GS4). The GS identified "the world of today" as: the rapidity and depth of social and cultural transformations; the impact of the natural and social sciences and

technology; modernization, industrialization, urbanization, mass media; a dynamic sense of nature; calls for greater freedom of self-realization and human rights; the spread of democracy; and the changed relationship between church and state (Council 1965:GS54).

In opposition to anti-modern Catholicism,<sup>6</sup> the Council had a positive appreciation of the driving principles of modernity. The distinctive forces and principles of the modern achievement could be acknowledged, not simply as an unfortunate present condition, but as ways in which the human race has begun to more effectively assume its God-given self-responsibility: “Far from considering the conquests of man’s genius and courage to be opposed to God’s power as if he set himself up as a rival to the Creator God, Christians ought to be convinced that the achievements of the human race are a sign of God’s greatness and the fulfillment of his mysterious design” (Council 1965:GS34). This changed appreciation of the modern world resulted from the Council’s clear declaration about the relationship between church and state, calling as the separation of church and state. In this regard, the GS announced: “The political community and the Church are autonomous and independent of each other in their own

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<sup>6</sup> Anti-modern Catholicism was expressed in Feuerbach’s famous cry, “To enrich man, one must impoverish God” (Komonchak 1994:82). For the anti-modern Catholicism, “Enlightenment” was considered by some to require emancipation from religion and modernity was thought by other to be nothing but “apostasy” (Komonchak 1994).

fields” (Council 1965:GS76).

Based on this separation of church and state, the Roman Catholic Church acknowledged that one could enjoy the political freedom and autonomy (based on responsibility) of citizens in the political community. To cooperate with the political community to make “perfect societies,” the Church must “preach the truth of the Gospel and clarify all the spheres of human activity through its teaching and the witness of the faithful” (Regan 1967:24-26). To enhance the possibility of cooperation between the Church and the political community, the Roman Catholic Church began to embrace the political liberalism.

Liberals in Korea have “modern liberalism – not classical liberalism.” Modern liberals advocate more and more state intervention with collectivist social policies to make up for the deficiencies of the capitalist system (Mill 1910). In this regard, the Church’s promulgation of *Dignitatis Humane* (DH) indicated that the Roman Catholic Church supported modern liberal ideas. The DH formally committed the Catholic church to the principle of religious freedom in modern society. It defined this freedom negatively as “freedom from coercion in civil society” (Council 1965:DH1). Civil rights were then said to rest on the dignity of human persons who, if they are obliged to pursue truth

(especially religious truth), cannot do so if they do not enjoy both “psychological freedom and immunity from external coercion” (Council 1965:DH2). The truth can only be discovered by free inquiry and only acknowledged by free acts of faith.

Thus, the search for human dignity drew the Roman Catholic Church closer to modern liberalism (which argues that people can only truly be said to be free when they have a genuine opportunity to participate fully in the life of their society) (Adams 2001). For the Roman Catholic Church, the state’s intervention with collectivist social policies (to solve social and economic problems) can be justified only when such intervention is performed to preserve human dignity and to expand religious freedom.

In terms of Korean democratic development, the declaration of GS and DH by the Roman Catholic Church helped Korean Catholics play an important role in the democratic transition period (under the authoritative military regimes) and made them embrace modern liberalism as their political ideology in the democratic consolidation period (from the late 1980s to the present).

In terms of Korean Protestantism, the second and third hypotheses expected that Protestants in Korea are more likely to be conservatives than other religious groups. According to the data analysis, the coefficient of the dummy variable (“1” for Protestant)

is a negative value (-0.25) and is statistically significant, with  $P < 0.01$  level. This means that Protestants in Korea are more likely to be conservative than other religious groups.

The most important reason for Korean Protestants' conservatism is their theological background – evangelicalism. As Clark and other scholars argue, most Protestantism in Korea is very close to evangelical Protestantism (Clark 2002; Freston 2004; Kim 2001a). Theological *Inerrancy* is the key linkage between evangelical Protestantism and political conservatism. In terms of inerrancy, evangelical Protestants claim that the only sure path to salvation is through a faith in Jesus Christ that is grounded in unwavering faith in an inerrant Bible. For evangelical Protestants, if one error of fact or principle is admitted in Scripture, nothing – not even the redemptive work of Christ – is certain. They insist that true Christians must believe the whole Bible, the parts they like along with the parts they dislike, the hard parts and the easy ones. The Bible can be trusted to provide an accurate description of science and history, as well as morality and religion.

Due to this theological inerrancy (strong belief in the Bible as the Word of God), evangelical Protestants in Korea are suspicious about the rapid modernization (or industrialization) and are hostile toward the Communist regime in North Korea (even

though they have provided many relief supplies for North Koreans since the 1990s). Because evangelical Protestants believe that the rapid industrialization of Korea has contributed to the secularization of the Korean people since the 1960s, Korean Protestants try to maintain the Biblical tradition in their daily lives in order to hold in mind their faith in Jesus Christ and in an inerrant Bible. For instance, many Protestants regularly fast for a couple of days and go to daybreak service every day.

These characteristics of Korean Protestantism are compatible with Koreans' traditional conservatism (preferring to keep the old traditions rather than change them and being strongly against Communism).

With regard to Korean Buddhism, the fourth hypothesis assumed that Korean Buddhists are more likely to be conservatives than other religious groups because of their emphasis on the old tradition (keeping a traditional way of life is an essential element for a peaceful and happy life in the mundane world) (*Nikaya* 1987) and the unique feature of Korean Buddhism (*Kibok Pulgyo*, which deals with worldly fortune) (Shim 2000).

According to the findings, the coefficient of the dummy variable ("1" for Buddhist) is a negative value (-0.14), with  $p < 0.001$  significance level. Given the result,

Korean Buddhists are indeed more likely to be conservatives than other religious groups. However, in addition to the aforementioned characteristics of Korean Buddhism (emphasis on tradition and *Kibok Bulgyo*), there is an unique feature of modern Korean Buddhism – the establishment and expanding of *Won* Buddhism.

Like that of Japan and China, Korean Buddhism is mainly of the Mahayana school, emphasizing attainment of eternity through faith (MacDonald and Clark 1996). Some scholars argue that believers of Mahayana Buddhism are more likely to be liberals than believers of Theravada Buddhism (Keyes 1978; McCargo 2004; Miyamoto 1952; Queen and King 1996). However, even though Eastern Asian countries (Tibet, China, Korea, and Japan) were initiated into Mahayana Buddhism, these countries developed their own Buddhism -, Pure Land Buddhism in Tibet, Chan Buddhism in China, Won Buddhism in Korea, and Zen Buddhism in Japan (Robinson, Johnson, and Bhikkhu 2005).

Because Won Buddhism in Korea is viewed as “clearly an orthodox Buddhist movement” (Grayson 1989:254), Won Buddhism seems to have contributed to making Korean Buddhists politically more conservative than they were before the early 19<sup>th</sup>



century.<sup>7</sup> In Won Buddhism, Won means “circle” in Korean language, a symbol of Buddha’s cosmic body (*Dharmakaya*), the enlightened nature of all sentient beings, and the noumenal nature of all beings in the universe. Buddhism is a religion of enlightenment. Won Buddhism defines enlightenment as awakening to the truth that the whole universe is none other than the manifestation of Buddha’s cosmic body, the enlightened nature of all sentient beings and the noumenal nature of all beings in the universe (Kim 1997c:89-90).

Among the four fundamental principles of Won Buddhism – Correct enlightenment and right practice, Awareness and requital of beneficence, Practical application of Buddha-dharma, and Selfless service for the public - Practical application of Buddha-dharma means that the follower of Buddha-dharma should not be shackled to or disabled from managing worldly affairs as in the past, but be able to manage worldly affairs better by being a Buddhist (Chung 2003:117-118). In other words, one should not become useless to the world by being a Buddhist; to make a lively application of Buddha-dharma, one should be a valuable person to oneself, one’s family,

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<sup>7</sup> Won Buddhism was established by *Sotaesan*. Pak, Chungbin is his full name and Sotaesan is his Dharma name. He was born on May 5, 1891, accomplished the great awakening at the age of twenty-six after twenty years’ incessant search for Truth, founded the Won Buddhist order in order to deliver people of the contemporary world enslaved by materialism due to the loss of spiritual power, and passed away at the age of fifty-three on June 1, 1943, after a twenty-eight year mission (Kim 1997c:89).

one's society, and one's country.

This emphasis on self-training for being a better Buddhist in managing worldly affairs pushes its devotees to be ascetic believers. Thus, Won Buddhists in Korea became Buddhists who are likely to keep the old tradition and follow what Won Buddhist Dharma taught. This unique feature of Won Buddhism in Korea has an important role to play in making Korean Buddhists more conservatives. Even though Won Buddhism is just one of eighteen Buddhist sects in Korea (MacDonald and Clark 1996:99), its influence on Korean Buddhism has been quite impressive and consistent since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Pye 2002).

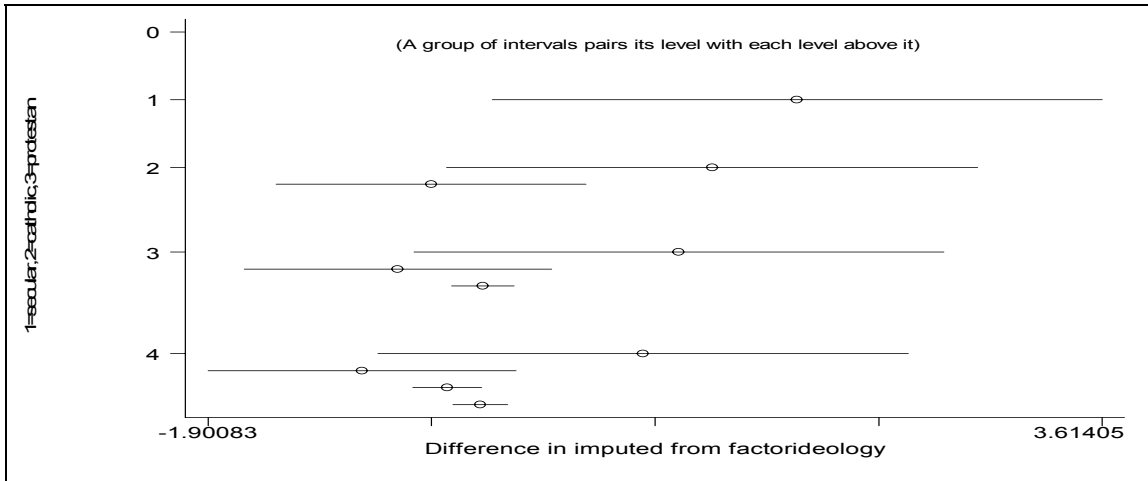
To compare the different religious groups' ideological scores (which group has more liberal ideas than others?), the ANOVA test for the mean values was performed. According to the result of the ANOVA test, the mean differences between groups are statistically significant ( $F=6.18$ ,  $prob.>F=0.0004$ ). Table 7-4 shows the mean values (a high number indicates closeness to liberalism) of each religious groups and standard errors. According to t-tests for pairwise comparison among four religious groups (secular, Catholic, Protestant, and Buddhist), the differences of mean values are statistically significant, with a 95% confidence level.

**Table 7-4. Mean Difference Tests for Political Ideology.**

Religious Group	Mean Score of Ideology	Standard Errors
Seculars	0.71	0.52
Catholics	0.19	0.09
Protestants	-0.02	0.05
Buddhists	-0.24	0.07
F-test (Between groups)	F = 6.18, Prob.>F = 0.0004	
t-test for Mean Difference (Pairwise groups)	Catholics – Seculars = (-0.52) Protestants – Catholics = (-0.21)* Buddhists – Seculars = (-0.95)* Buddhists – Catholics = (-0.43)* Buddhists – Protestants = (-0.22)*	

Note: Numbers in parentheses are mean difference. \* = Statistically Significant in 95% Confidence Level.

According to Table 7-4, seculars (people with no religion) have the highest mean value (closest to extreme liberalism), and Buddhists have the lowest mean value (closest to extreme conservatism). Based on the comparison between Catholics and Protestants, Catholics are closer to liberalism than Protestants (which confirms the third hypothesis), and Buddhists are closer to conservatism than seculars (which confirms the fourth hypothesis). However, the first hypothesis is disconfirmed because Catholics are closer to liberalism than Protestants and Buddhists. Figure 7-6 shows the difference of mean values for each religious group and confidence intervals. It also visualizes the



Note: in X axis, 1=Seculars, 2=Catholics, 3=Protestants, 4=Buddhist. o=Mean value. Y axis=Ideology score (High value=Extreme liberalism). "o" represents the mean value of the category.

**Figure 7-6. Mean Comparison Graph between Different Religious Groups.**

comparison of mean values between religious groups.

### **Hypothesis Testing: The Culture Wars Thesis.**

For the culture wars thesis, three hypotheses were formulated: (1) People who have strong beliefs (Orthodoxy) in their religious tradition are more likely to be conservatives than those who have weak beliefs, (2) People who are active participants in religious services (Religious Commitment) are more likely to be conservative than those who are inactive, and (3) Religious traditionalists are more likely to be politically

conservative than religious modernists. Table 7-5 shows the results of data analysis for testing these hypotheses (Model II in Figure 2-2). In terms of the Orthodoxy variable (the level of belief in religious doctrine), the coefficient value is a negative one and statistically significant. This confirms the initial hypothesis. However, in terms of the Religious Commitment variable (the level of participation in religious services), its coefficient value is not statistically significant. In other words, only the Orthodoxy variable has a negative relationship with political liberalism.

Why do these two religious aspects – Orthodoxy (believing aspect) and Commitment (behaving aspect) – have different impacts on political ideology? The answer to this question is located in the psychological feature of believers' intrinsic religiousness. In his classic book, *The Individual and His Religion*, Gordon Allport illustrates how people may use religion in different ways (1950). He makes a distinction between "Mature religion" and "Immature religion." Mature religious sentiment is how Allport characterizes the person whose approach to religion is dynamic, open-minded, and able to maintain links between inconsistencies. In contrast, immature religion is self-serving and generally represents the negative stereotypes that people have about religion (Allport 1950). More recently, this distinction has been encapsulated in the

**Table 7-5. Effects of Differences in Orthodoxy and Religious Commitment on the Political Tolerance (Model II).**

Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimators	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age (↑)	-	<b>-1.19(0.11)***</b>	-	<b>-0.19(0.11)***</b>
Gender ("1"for man,"0"for woman)	-	0.10(0.07)	-	0.10(0.07)
Income (↑)	-	-0.11(0.01)	-	-0.01(0.01)
Education (↑)	+	<b>-0.12(0.05)*</b>	+	<b>-0.12(0.05)*</b>
Orthodoxy	-	<b>-0.03(0.02)*</b>	-	<b>-0.03(0.02)*</b>
Religious Commitment	-	0.01(0.03)	-	0.02(0.03)
Constant		<b>4.77(0.50)***</b>		<b>4.77(0.50)***</b>
Observations	518		518	
<i>F</i>	22.02***			
Log Pseudolikelihood			-585.82	
AIC			2.29	

Note: \* significance,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significance,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* significance,  $p < 0.001$ . The numbers in parentheses are standard errors (OLS) and robust standard errors (GLE)..

terms “intrinsic religion,” referring to a genuine, heartfelt devout faith, and “extrinsic religions,” referring to a more utilitarian use of religion as a means to an end, such as church attendance to gain social status (Allport and Ross 1967). In short, while intrinsic (or mature) believers tend to consider their religion as the end of life, extrinsic (or immature) believers tend to consider their religion as the means of life.

With regard to religious orthodoxy, intrinsic believers are positively related with high level of orthodoxy, and extrinsic believers are negatively related with it (Kirkpatrick 1993). The closeness between religious orthodoxy and intrinsic believers implies that religiously orthodox believers tend to consider their religion as the end of their lives. Thus, they are more willing to follow their religious doctrine and teachings than extrinsic believers (less orthodox believers).

However, the common factor of political ideology and religion is that both emphasize “oughtness toward a society” (Leege 1993). Given the common factor, intrinsic (or mature) believers seem to have a clearer and more fortified vision of society than extrinsic (or immature) believers. Based on logical inference (the psychological similarity between people with a fortified ideological position and intrinsic believers), it seems that the orthodoxy variable (a key measurement in differentiating intrinsic and

extrinsic believers) (Batson and Ventis 1982; Donahue 1985; Fullerton and Hunsberger 1982; Putney and Middleton 1961) has more power to influence people's political ideology than the religious commitment variable. Moreover, some scholars argue that intrinsic believers are considered as religious conservatives or traditionalists (Hunsberger 1989; Kahoe 1975, 1977; Meadow and Kahoe 1984), and the results of data analysis are not incompatible with the previous studies – more orthodox believers (intrinsic or mature believers) are likely to be more politically conservative.

In terms of the last hypothesis, the result of data analysis (Model II-1 in Figure 2-2) confirms the initial expectation of the hypothesis – religious traditionalists are more likely to be politically conservative than religious modernists. As illustrated in Chapter IV, the Religious Culture variable was developed by combining two variables – Religious Orthodoxy and Religious Commitment; thus, a high value of Religious Culture indicates people with a high level of religious orthodoxy and active participation in religious service. Based on this calculation, the Religious Culture variable indicates people's religious identity (religious traditionalists or modernists). This variable has 2 as its minimum value (extreme modernist) and 13 as its maximum value (extreme traditionalist). Table 7-6 shows the results of data analysis for Model II-1, which tests



**Table 7-6. Effects of Differences in Religious Culture on the Political Ideology (Model II-1).**

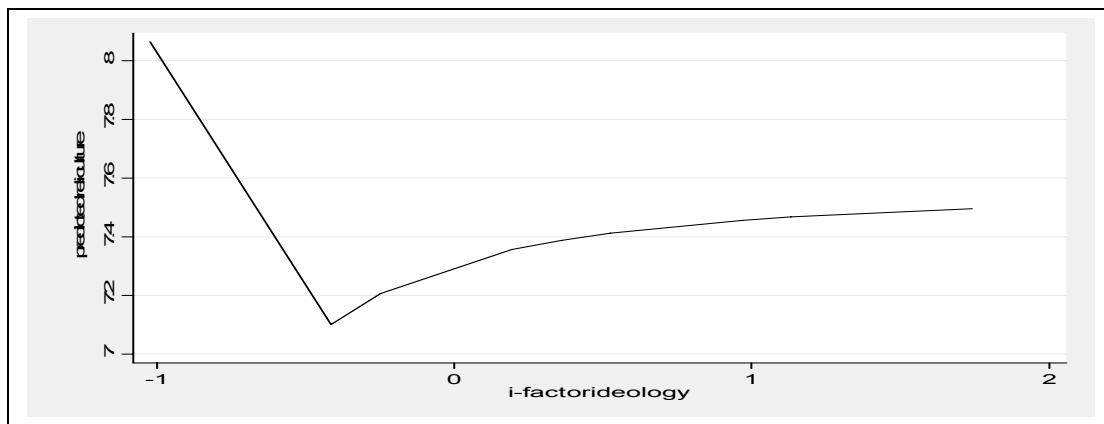
Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimators	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age (↑)	-	<b>-1.17(0.11)***</b>	-	<b>-0.17(0.11)***</b>
Gender ("1" for man, "0" for woman)	-	0.10(0.07)	-	<b>0.10(0.07)*</b>
Income (↑)	-	-0.01(0.01)	-	-0.01(0.01)
Education (↑)	+	<b>-0.12(0.05)*</b>	+	<b>-0.12(0.03)***</b>
Religious Culture	-	-0.01(0.01)	-	<b>-0.01(0.01)*</b>
Constant		<b>4.77(0.50)***</b>		<b>4.77(0.50)***</b>
Observations	518	518		
<i>F</i>	26.08***			
Log Pseudolikelihood			-586.61	
AIC			2.29	

Note: \* significance,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significance,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* significance,  $p < 0.001$ . The numbers in parentheses are standard errors (OLS) and robust standard errors (GLE)..

whether or not there are intradenominational differences between religious traditionalists and modernists in terms of their political tolerance levels. According to Table 7-6, the Religious Culture variable has a negative relationship with political liberalism. In other words, there is an intradenominational difference between religious traditionalists and religious modernists, as the initial hypothesis expected (while religious traditionalists are close to conservatives, religious modernists are close to liberals). This result implies an interesting truth about religious people in Korea: Even though there are huge differences between the two dominant religious groups (Christianity and Buddhism) based on religious commitment and orthodoxy, there are intradenominational

differences (regardless of whether a believer is a Christian or Buddhist) between religious traditionalists and modernists in relation to political ideology.

Figure 7-7 visualizes the point that distinguishes between religious traditionalists and modernists based on their ideological positions. According to Figure 7-7, there is a dividing point (about 7.1 in religious culture variable) that discerns the two groups. Based on the data analysis for testing the ethnoreligious thesis, Catholics in Korea are more likely to be liberals than other religious groups (the coefficient = 0.08 and  $p < 0.01$ ). However, the graph in Figure 7-7 shows that any Catholics who are located between 7.1 and 13 (the maximum value of Religious Culture variable) are likely to be conservative. About 45% of total Catholics are located in this range. Because both theses (the ethnoreligious and the cultural wars theses) have some



**Figure 7-7. Fractional Polynomial Graph of Religious Culture and Ideology.**

explanatory power in determining Korean people's political ideology, it is necessary to compare them to decide which one is better in analyzing the relationship between religion and politics in Korea.

### **Comparison of Two Theses and a Better Way of Investigation.**

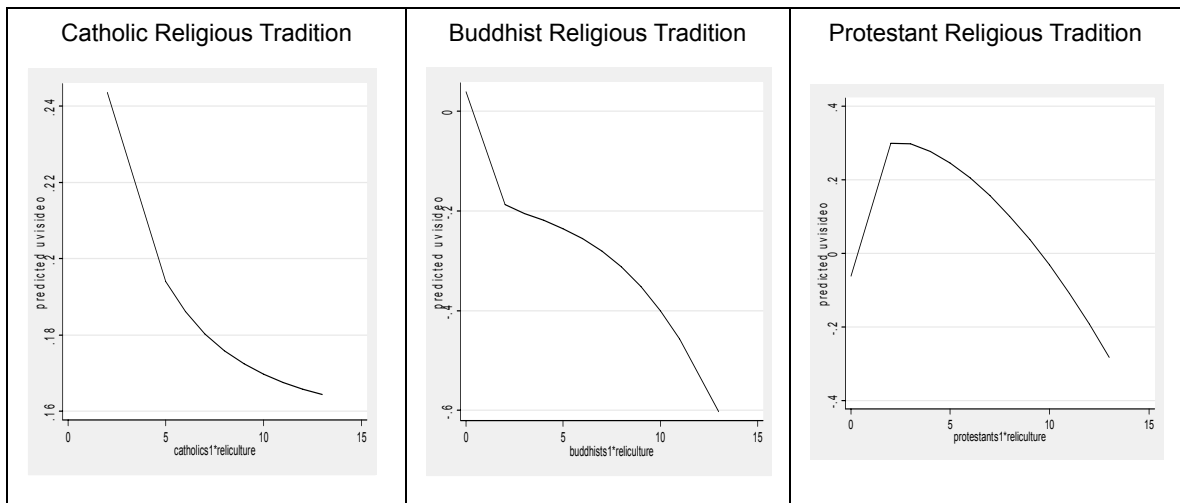
In order to compare the two models (the ethnoreligious and culture wars theses), it is necessary to generate three new variables based on the extent of religious values (religious traditionalism/modernism in religious culture) among the three dominant religious groups. Three variables – Catholic Religious Tradition (CRT), Protestant Religious Tradition (PRT), and Buddhist Religious Tradition (BRT) – were generated by multiplying the dummy variables of religious tradition and religious culture. Therefore, CRT represents the variation of religious culture only within Catholics.

By including these three variables in Model I in Figure 2-2 (which is Model III), we can directly compare the two theses (the ethnoreligious thesis in Model I and the culture wars thesis in Model II) by performing the F-test for the statistical significance of group coefficients. However, when we use these three variables in regression estimation

with religious tradition variables, there is unquestionable a multicollinearity problem among the independent variables. In order to correct the multicollinearity problem, the original form of the religious tradition variables are transformed into orthogonalized variables by using the Gram-Schmidt process (Arfken 1985; Golub and Loan 1996; Sribney 1995).

Before getting into the details of data analysis, Figure 7-8 shows that there are variations among the three new variables (CRT, BRT, and PRT) in terms of political ideology. According to Figure 7-8, both CRT and BRT have a consistent negative effect on liberalism, yet PRT has an optimal point of political liberalism.

Table 7-7 shows the results of data analysis for comparing the explanatory



Note: Y-axis represents political ideology (low = conservatism to high = liberalism).

**Figure 7-8. Fractional Polynominal Graph for CRT, BRT, and PRT based on Ideology.**

**Table 7-7. Effects of Religious Tradition and Religious Culture on the Political Ideology (Model III).**

Explanatory Variables	Ordinary Least Squares		Generalized Least Estimators	
	Expectation	Coefficient	Expectation	Coefficient
Age (↑)	-	<b>-1.16(0.11)***</b>	-	<b>-0.16(0.01)***</b>
Gender ("1" for man, "0" for woman)	-	0.11(0.07)	-	<b>0.11(0.03)**</b>
Income (↑)	-	-0.01(0.01)	-	-0.01(0.01)
Education (↑)	+	<b>-0.14(0.05)**</b>	+	<b>-0.14(0.03)***</b>
<b>Catholic</b>	-	<b>0.14(0.03)***</b>	-	<b>0.14(0.03)***</b>
<b>Buddhist</b>	-	<b>-0.07(0.03)*</b>	-	<b>-0.10(0.02)**</b>
<b>Protestant</b>	-	<b>-0.07(0.04)*</b>	-	<b>-0.10(0.03)*</b>
<b>Secular</b>	+	<b>0.08(0.04)*</b>	+	<b>0.10(0.02)***</b>
CRT	-	0.03(0.03)	-	0.03(0.02)
BRT	-	-0.02(0.03)	-	-0.02(0.02)
<b>PRT</b>	-	<b>-0.11(0.03)**</b>	-	<b>-0.11(0.04)**</b>
Constant		<b>4.66(0.50)***</b>		<b>4.66(0.27)***</b>
Observations	518	518		
<i>F</i>	15.92***			
Log Pseudolikelihood			-568.40	
AIC			2.24	

Note: \* significance,  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significance,  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* significance,  $p < 0.001$ . The numbers in parentheses are standard errors (OLS) and robust standard errors (GLE)..

power of the two theses (the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses).

According to Table 7-8, while the three religious tradition variables (the ethnoreligious thesis) all have statistically significant coefficients on ideology, only one of the three religious culture variables – PRT – (the culture wars thesis) has a statistically significant coefficient. However, the F-test of group coefficients<sup>8</sup> for the ethnoreligious thesis results in  $\chi^2 = 29.46$  and  $p > \chi^2 = 0.0000$ . And the F-test of group coefficients for the culture wars thesis results in  $\chi^2 = 11.36$  and  $p > \chi^2 = 0.0100$ . These results demonstrate that the ethnoreligious thesis has more explanatory power in analyzing Korean people's political ideology than the culture wars thesis. In other words, the effects of interdenominational differences on political ideology are stronger than those of intradenominational differences in Korea.

In order to find out which religious tradition has a cultural conflict line inside the tradition, F-tests for equal coefficients were conducted. Table 7-8 shows the results of F-tests for equal coefficients. According to Table 7-8, only the first group of coefficient (coefficients of Catholic and

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<sup>8</sup> F-tests are conducted based on GLE estimation because OLS regression model has heteroskedasticity problem. The null hypothesis of the F-tests is that the all three coefficients for each group are equal to zero.

**Table 7-8. F-tests for Equal Coefficients for Two Models.**

Null Hypothesis	-Catholic+CRT=0	-Buddhist+BRT=0	-Protestant+PRT=0
$\chi^2$	14.96	2.40	0.56
$\rho > \chi^2$	0.0001	0.1216	0.4524

CRT) are different from each other. In other words, there is a clear cultural divided line between religious traditionalists and modernists only in Catholicism. In contrast, Buddhists and Protestants do not have any clear division in terms of religious cultural conflict in Korea. It seems that Buddhists and Protestants have a higher probability of uniformly voicing their policy demand in a unitary voice than Catholics.

**Summary.**

This chapter shows the results of data analysis for the relationship between individuals' religiosity and political ideology based on testing 7 hypotheses formulated in the previous chapter. The first hypothesis expected that Catholics are more likely to be conservative than Buddhists or seculars. The result of data analysis suggests that Catholics are more likely to be liberals than other religious groups in Korea. This

research suggests that the declaration of GS and DH by the Roman Catholic Church helped Korean Catholics be liberals.

With regard to Korean Protestantism, the second and third hypotheses expected that Protestants in Korea are more likely to be conservatives than other religious groups. The result of data analysis confirms the expectation of initial hypotheses. This research suggests theological backgrounds of Protestantism (evangelicalism and Biblical inerrancy) as the main reason for Korean Protestants' conservatism.

With regard to Korean Buddhism, the fourth hypotheses assumed that Korean Buddhists are more likely to be conservatives than other religious groups because of their emphasis on the old tradition and the unique feature of Korean Buddhism (*Kibok Pulgyo*, which deals with worldly fortune). The results of data analysis confirms the initial hypothesis. However, in addition to the aforementioned characteristics of Korean Buddhism, this research examines the impact of *Won* Buddhism on Korean Buddhists' conservatism. According to the mean difference tests (ANOVA) for political ideology, seculars have the highest mean value (closest to extreme liberalism), and Buddhists have the lowest mean value (closest to extreme conservatism).



With regard to the culture wars thesis, the results of data analysis suggests that the religious culture variable has a negative relationship with political liberalism. In other words, there is an intradenominational difference between religious traditionalists and religious modernists, as the initial hypothesis expected (while religious traditionalists are close to conservatives, religious modernists are close to liberals).

By using three new variables (Catholic Religious Tradition, Protestant Religious Tradition, and Buddhist Religious Tradition), this research compares the explanatory powers of two theses (the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses). According to the F-test of group coefficients, the ethnoreligious thesis has more explanatory power in analyzing Korean people's political ideology than the culture wars thesis.

## Chapter VIII: Conclusions

Many scholars have pointed to the importance of the religious factor in developing democracy since WWII. For instance, Huntington gives primacy to Christianity as the distinctive positive influence in the making of Western civilization: “Western Christianity ... is historically the single most important characteristic of Western civilization” (1996:70). For Huntington, Western culture’s key contribution has been the separation of church and state, something that he sees as foreign to the world’s other major religious systems. “In Islam, God is Caesar; in Confucianism, Caesar is God; in Orthodoxy, God is Caesar’s junior partner” (Huntington 1996:28,70,217,238). Across the board, religion has played an important role in world politics since the beginning of human history.

In Korean history, religion has played an important role since the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, including support of independent movements in the Japanese occupation period, civil rights movements under authoritarian-military regimes, social movements for democratic transition, and reunification movements for North and South Korea (Grayson 1989, 2002).

Since the late 1980s, South Korea has experienced a rapid democratization process. After the successful transition from an authoritarian-military regime to a democratic regime, Korea entered the next stage of democratization-democratic consolidation. One important factor that influences the process of consolidating democracy is religion (people's religiosity) (Stepan 2000). In order to shed some light on how religion affects the consolidating Korean democracy, this research focuses on the relationship between individuals' religiosity and their political attitudes, particularly: (1) political tolerance, which is considered as a prerequisite for the democratic consolidation, and (2) political ideology, which enables us to look at the impact of religion on people's political behavior.

The hypotheses formulated and tested in this research are logically inferred from the two dominant theories about religion and politics – the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses. In regards to the impact of individual religiosity on politics, the former theory focuses on interdenominational differences (the “belonging” aspect of religion), and the latter focuses on intradenominational differences (the “behaving and believing” aspects of religion). By comparing the explanatory power of these two theses, this research suggests a better way (combining both theses into a multivariate model) of

investigating the relationship between religion and politics.

First, given people's level of political tolerance as a dependent variable, it is confirmed that Buddhists are more likely to be tolerant than Protestants in Korea, and Protestants have the lowest level of political tolerance among the three popular religious groups in Korea (Catholicism, Buddhism, and Protestantism). This finding implies that even though Protestantism has played a positive role in Korean democratization since 1945 (for instance, Christian communities in Korea are outstanding examples of civil society) (Clark 2002), Protestants in Korea will not strongly promote Korean democratic consolidation in the near future due to their low levels of political tolerance. According to Sullivan and Transue, the expanding of political tolerance ("norms of reciprocity" in their terms) has a positive relationship with democratic development because of its contribution to enhancing civil liberty (1999). In short, because of Protestants' low level of political tolerance, they won't be a active group in consolidating Korean democracy.

In terms of the culture wars thesis, it is confirmed that religious traditionalists have lower levels of political tolerance than religious modernists. In particular, people with a high level of religious commitment (the behaving aspect of religion) have a lower level of political tolerance than people with a low level of religious commitment. In other

words, people who frequently participate in religious services or activities tend to have a low level of political tolerance regardless of which religious denomination they belong to. This finding highlights the difference between Korean religious people and religious people in Western countries. For instance, while believers in Western countries are divided by their levels of religious orthodoxy (the believing aspect of religion - the extent of belief in a religious doctrine) (Kellstedt and Smidt 1991, 1993), Korean believers are divided by their level of religious commitment (the extent of participation in religious services).

In Korean democracy, religious traditionalists have a negative impact on democratic consolidation due to their low levels of political tolerance. Because religious traditionalists (fundamentalists in general) have a negative relationship with democratic development in most countries (Bader 1999; Bufacchi 2001; Giroux 2005; Macedo 2000; Tibi 2002), the finding of this research is not contradictory to other countries' cases.

The second dependent variable in this research is Koreans' political ideology (from conservatism to liberalism). In contrast to the analysis of religious impact on political tolerance, which gives us a look at the long term effects of religion in Korean

politics, the analysis of political ideology allows us to shed some light on the short-term effect of religion in Korean politics. According to Kim, one of the key factors in “civic society” (the development of which is a crucial factor in promoting further democratic development) is that “civil society groups respect pluralism and self-governance” (2002h:11-15). Examining the religious impact on ideological cleavage in Korean society, allows insight into political stability in the near future and the possibility of developing a civil society in Korea (based on the positive relationship between religious modernism and the level of respecting pluralism) (Bader 1999, 2003; Woodberry and Smith 1998).

In terms of the ethnoreligious thesis, the data analysis suggests that Catholics are more likely to be liberal than other religious groups in Korea. The main reason for Korean Catholics’ politically liberal attitude is that they follow a new theological doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church – Vatican II’s promulgation of *Gaudium et Spes* (GS) and *Dignitatis Humanae* (DH). Based on these declarations, the Roman Catholic Church tends to acknowledge religious freedom and human rights. Thus, in Korean democratic development, the declaration of GS and DH helped Korean Catholics play an important role in the democratic transition period (under the authoritarian military regimes) and makes them embrace political liberalism as their ideology in the democratic

consolidation period (from the late 1980s to the present).

In regards to the Korean Protestantism, my findings confirm the initial hypothesis - Protestants in Korea are more likely to be conservative than other religious groups. The theological doctrines of Protestantism – evangelicalism and theological inerrancy – are the basis for Protestants' general political conservatism. The findings also confirm that Korean Buddhists are more likely to be conservatives than other religious groups because of the development of Won Buddhism in Korea, (a unique feature of Korean Buddhism).

According to the F-test for mean difference of political ideology scores, seculars have the highest value of ideology (close to extreme liberalism), and Buddhists have the lowest value of ideology (close to extreme conservatism) in Korea. Such ideological polarization based on people's religious background suggests that religious groups in Korea may represent their political interests and policy preferences in a direct and unitary way. This implies that there will be a high level of political participation by religious groups in a variety of political issues in Korean politics. Yet, negotiating between religious groups' political interests or policy preferences will be difficult. Overcoming this difficulty will be a crucial factor in the process of Korean democratic

consolidation. However, the path of Korean democratic consolidation is not so pessimistic because religion is only one factor among many factors that influence Korean politics.

With regard to the culture wars thesis, the data analysis shows that there are intradenominational differences (a culturally dividing line) between religious traditionalists and modernists. As the initial hypothesis expects, religious traditionalists are more likely to be conservative than religious modernists in Korea. However, this dividing line is not as clear in Korea as in Western countries. This suggests that the ideological polarization process in Korea tends to be affected more by interdenominational differences than by intradenominational differences.

Finally, in terms of comparing the explanatory powers of the two theses (the ethnoreligious and the culture wars theses), while the two theses have similar explanatory power in analyzing the relationship between individual religiosity and political tolerance, the ethnoreligious thesis has more explanatory power than the culture wars thesis in analyzing the relationship between individual religiosity and political ideology in Korea. This suggests that when we look at the relationship between religion and politics, it is necessary to examine the relationship between all aspects of



religion (belonging, behaving, and believing) and politics. By doing so, we can avoid the problem of oversimplification in analyzing the relationship between religion and politics.

For instance, since we cannot assume that all Buddhists have a coherent pattern in responding to a certain political events or in their political attitudes, it is necessary to investigate people's religiosity by focusing on the outside effects of religion (the ethnoreligious thesis) and the inside effects of religion (the culture wars thesis) at the same time. Model III in Figure 2-2 shows the possibility of such an investigation method.

In order to find out a generalized pattern of the relationship between religion and politics, future research is necessary to investigate this relationship in many countries and to compare the findings to build a coherent model. If we find that the relationship between religion and politics conforms, we can shed some light on how religion influences the final goal of political science – “To make our World a better place to live.”

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## **Appendix**

**Survey Questionnaire**

<b>Part I. Political Attitudes</b>		Strongly Disagree	.....				Strongly Agree	Missing (Don't Know)
Please circle one that best describes your thoughts		1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P1	Are you interested in political events/elections.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P2	The federal government should not interfere in operating private companies.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P3	The federal government should provide sufficient social welfare benefits even though it raises individual taxes.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P4	We should develop the national economy even though it causes environmental problems.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P5	We should provide economic aid to North Korea, even though the North Korean government keeps developing nuclear weapons.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P6	My electoral participation will have an impact on the federal government's policy-making process.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P7	Regionalism plays an important role in elections (both Presidential and Congressional elections).	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P8	Democratization is more important than economic developments in South Korea.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9

Please circle one that best describes your thoughts		Strongly Disagree	.....	Strongly Agree	Missing (Don't Know)			
P9	The freedom of speech should be protected in every situation.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P10	Strong labor unions are necessary for political development in South Korea.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P11	It is necessary to use military force to change the North Korean government.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P12	Individual freedoms can be reduced for developing community life.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P13	Regardless of one's views, people should have the right to express themselves.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P14	We <u>should not</u> tolerate minority's opinions in Korean society.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9
P15	The federal government should increase the military budget for national defense.	1	2	3	4	5	6	-9

P16. What is your ideological preference? Circle one.

- (1) Extremely Liberal
- (2) Moderate Liberal
- (3) Moderate Conservative
- (4) Extremely Conservative
- (5) Don't Know (Not Answer, N/A)



P17. Among the following political parties, which party do you support? Circle one

- (1) Democratic Labor Party (*Min Joo Noh Dong Dang*)
- (2) *Yul-lin Woori* Party
- (3) *Han Na Ra* Party
- (4) Others
- (5) Don't Know (N/A)

P18. Who did you vote for in the 16<sup>th</sup> Presidential election in 2002? Circle one

- (1) Kwon Young Gil from Democratic Labor Party
- (2) Noh Moo Hyun from *Yul-lin Woori* Party
- (3) Lee Heo Chang from *Han Na Ra* Party
- (4) Others
- (5) Don't Know (N/A)

P19. Which political party did you vote for in the 2004, 17<sup>th</sup> Congressional election?

- (1) Democratic Labor Party
- (2) *Yul-lin Woori* Party
- (3) *Han Na Ra* Party
- (4) Others
- (5) Don't Know (N/A)

## **Part II. Religious Orientations**

R1. Which religious denominations are you affiliated with now? Circle one

- (1) Christianity (Protestantism)
- (2) Catholic
- (3) Buddhism
- (4) Moslim
- (5) Chun-Do-Kyo
- (6) Unified Church (Moon Sun Myung)
- (7) Others
- (8) No Religion
- (9) Refuse to answer (Don't Know)

R2. If you are a Christian (if not, go to the next question), which denomination are you affiliated with now? Circle one

- (1) Presbyterian
- (2) Baptist
- (3) Methodist
- (4) Unity Church
- (5) Witness of Jehovah
- (6) Others
- (7) Refuse to answer (Don't Know)

R3. How often do you participate in religious activities, beyond funerals or wedding Ceremonies? Circle one

- (1) Never even though you have a religious affiliation
- (2) Several times a year
- (3) Once or twice a month
- (4) Once a weak
- (5) More than twice a week
- (6) No Religion or Refuse to answer

R4. Do you believe that God (any kind of god) exists?

- (1) No      (2) Yes      (3) Don't Know (N/A)

**Do you agree the following? Circle one**

R5. God controls world affairs, including my personally life.

- (1) Strongly agree  
(2) Agree  
(3) Disagree  
(4) Strongly Disagree  
(5) Don't Know (N/A)

R6. The Bible (or your religious book) is the word of God.

- (1) Strongly agree  
(2) Agree  
(3) Disagree  
(4) Strongly disagree  
(5) Don't Know (N/A)

R7. How often do your religious leaders/clergies talk about political/social issues in Religious services? Circle one

- (1) Not at all

- (2) A few (once a month)
- (3) Often (once a week)
- (4) Quite often (more than twice a week)
- (5) Don't Know (N/A)

**Part III. Demographic questions.**

D1. Gender

- (1) Male
- (2) Female

D2. Age (Please write \_\_\_\_\_)

D3. Education.

- (1) Primary school
- (2) Middle/High school
- (3) College/University
- (4) Over graduate level
- (5) Refuse to answer

D4. Income per month (total amount of your family) (10000won)

- (1) Under 100
- (2) 100 to 199
- (3) 200 to 299
- (4) 300 to 399
- (5) 400 to 499
- (6) 500 to 999
- (7) over 1000
- (8) Refuse to answer

D5. Marriage status now.

- (1) Married
- (2) Single
- (3) Divorced (or death of spouse)
- (4) Refuse to answer (N/A)

D6. Are you a member of labor union (in your factories or companies)?

- (1) Yes
- (2) No
- (3) Refuse to answer

D7. Your original hometown.

- (1) Seoul
- (2) Kyung ki do
- (3) Kang won do
- (4) Choong chung do
- (5) Jul la do
- (6) Kyung sang do

- (7) Je joo do
- (8) North Korea
- (9) Immigrants from other countries
- (10) Refuse to answer

\*\*\* Thank you for your answering \*\*\*

## **Vita**

Junghyoun Kim was born and grew up in Suwon, South Korea. After completing his Bachelor of Art degree in Political Science in Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea, he came to the United States and completed another Bachelor of Arts in Government in Campbell University, North Carolina. After completing his Master of Arts degree in Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 2001, he attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville to pursue his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Political Science. He received Ph.D. degree in Political Science in May, 2006.