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978-1-107-01009-3 - Political Consumerism: Global Responsibility in Action

Dietlind Stolle and Michele Micheletti

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## Political Consumerism

*Political Consumerism* captures the creative ways in which citizens, consumers, and political activists use the market as their arena for politics. This book theorizes, describes, analyzes, compares, and evaluates the phenomenon of political consumerism and how it attempts to use market choice to solve complex globalized problems. It investigates theoretically and empirically how and why consumers practice citizenship and have become important political actors. Dietlind Stolle and Michele Micheletti describe consumers' engagement as an example of individualized responsibility-taking, examining how political consumerism nudges and pressures corporations to change their production practices, and how consumers emerge as a force in global affairs. Unlike other studies, it also evaluates whether and how consumer actions become effective mechanisms of global change. Stolle and Micheletti offer a candid discussion of the limitations of political consumerism as a form of participation and as a problem-solving mechanism.

Dietlind Stolle is a recognized expert on political participation, youth engagement, social capital, and diversity. She currently is the Director of the Quebec Inter-University Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship. Stolle is the principal investigator of the *Canadian Youth Survey* and serves as the principal investigator, co-investigator, or collaborator on eight other national and international funded projects, including the 2011 and 2015 *Canadian Election Studies*. She is also the principal investigator of the *Student Issues and Protest Survey* in Quebec. Stolle is a past co-winner of the American Political Science Association's Award for the best paper on European politics. Her scholarly achievements have been recognized in recent invitations to serve as a senior research partner at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Göttingen, Germany and on the advisory board of the Institute for the Study of Democracy in Aarau, Switzerland. At the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin she has received the prestigious Karl W. Deutsch Professorship.

Michele Micheletti holds the Lars Hierta Chair of Political Science at Stockholm University. She was a member of the SNS Democratic Audit, the scientific boards of the Swedish Consumer Agency and the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation and the Ministry of Finance's Expert Group for Environmental Studies. At present, she is co-coordinator of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Standing Group on Participation and Mobilization. She has contributed to several parliamentary investigations in Sweden and conducted research for and advised Swedish civic associations and political parties. Her scientific network-building activities have been instrumental in putting political consumerism on the scholarly research agenda. Her publications include *The Swedish Farmers' Movement and Government Agricultural Policy* (1990), *Civil Society and State Relations in Sweden* (1995), *Political Virtue and Shopping: Individuals, Consumerism, and Collective Action* (2003, 2010) and co-edited books on political participation and political consumerism (*Creative Participation: Responsibility-taking in the Political World* (2010) and *Politics, Products, and Markets: Exploring Political Consumerism Past and Present* (2004)).

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## *Global Responsibility in Action*

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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>List of Tables</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xiii
1 Reconfiguring Political Responsibility	I
<i>Introduction</i>	I
<i>Limits of and Challenges to the Traditional Model of Political Responsibility</i>	2
<i>Reconfiguring Political Responsibility</i>	11
<i>Corporations as Targets for Political Responsibility-Taking</i>	13
<i>The Role of the Choice Mechanism in Solving Political Problems</i>	19
<i>The Reconfiguration of Citizenship Practice</i>	21
<i>Character and Outline of the Book</i>	26
2 Reconfiguring Political Participation	31
<i>The Rise of Individualized Political Responsibility-Taking</i>	31
<i>Political Participation in the Globalized World</i>	33
<i>Individual Citizens and Political Responsibility-Taking</i>	36
<i>From Citizen to Citizen-Consumer</i>	39
<i>Skepticism about Political Consumerism as Political Participation</i>	43
<i>Rise of Market-Based Political Action</i>	46
<i>Political Action Transformed?</i>	57
3 Who Are Political Consumers?	59
<i>Introduction</i>	59
<i>Addressing Important Debates in the Empirical Study of Political Consumerism</i>	60
	v

	<i>Socioeconomic Predictors and Inequality of Political Consumerism</i>	60
	<i>Political Attitudes, Values, and Practices of Political Consumers</i>	64
	<i>Sociodemographic Profile of Political Consumers</i>	68
	<i>Engendered Shopping</i>	76
	<i>Women and Shopping: A Historical Look</i>	80
	<i>Today's Women and Shopping</i>	81
	<i>Political Consumers' Political Attitudes, Norms, and Behaviors</i>	83
	1) <i>Political Attitudes and Behaviors of Political Consumers</i>	84
	2) <i>Considerations Behind Shopping Choices</i>	87
	3) <i>Citizenship Norms and Efficacy</i>	89
	<i>Conclusion</i>	91
4	<i>Mapping Political Consumerism in Western Democracies With Jean-François Crépault</i>	95
	<i>Introduction</i>	95
	<i>National Variations in Political Consumerism</i>	96
	<i>Explaining Weak and Strong Political Consumerism</i>	102
	1) <i>Socioeconomic Resources and Postmodernization</i>	104
	2) <i>Economic Openness</i>	106
	3) <i>Price Premiums</i>	108
	4) <i>Political Consumer Infrastructure</i>	111
	5) <i>Political and Institutional Factors</i>	117
	6) <i>Social Capital</i>	121
	7) <i>Religion</i>	123
	<i>Political Consumers Across Countries</i>	126
	<i>Appendix</i>	127
5	<i>The Organizational Setting for Political Consumerism</i>	135
	<i>Introduction</i>	135
	<i>Labeling Schemes for Political Consumer Choice</i>	137
	<i>Organic Food Activism and Labeling Schemes for Agricultural Production</i>	137
	<i>Fairtrade Labels for Global Social Justice</i>	143
	<i>Eco-Labeling for Environmental Consumer Choice</i>	146
	<i>Labeling Schemes for Forest and Marine Stewardship Certification</i>	149
	<i>Anti-Sweatshop Political Consumer Activism</i>	153
	<i>Socially Responsible Investing to Push for Corporate Social Responsibility</i>	159
	<i>Organizational Setting for Farm Animal Activism</i>	160
	<i>Lifestyle Political Consumerism</i>	163
	<i>Common Developments and Trends</i>	165

<i>Contents</i>	vii
6 Discursive Political Consumerism	170
<i>Introduction</i>	170
<i>Discursive Turn in Political Consumerism</i>	171
<i>Antibranding as Discursive Political Consumer Activism</i>	172
<i>Popular Brands and Political Consumerism</i>	175
<i>The Case of the Nike E-mail Exchange</i>	179
<i>Investigating Culture Jamming as Individualized</i>	
<i>Responsibility-Taking</i>	181
<i>Who Took Part in the Continued NEE Culture Jam?</i>	182
<i>The NEE's Political Messages</i>	184
<i>The NEE's Mobilizing Potential</i>	187
<i>Long-Term Impact of the NEE</i>	190
<i>The Effectiveness of Targeting the Nike Iconic Brand</i>	193
<i>Concluding Remarks</i>	202
7 Does Political Consumerism Matter? Effectiveness and Limits of Political Consumer Action Repertoires	204
<i>With Jean-François Cr�pault</i>	
<i>Introduction</i>	204
<i>Doubting Effectiveness</i>	205
<i>Consumers Are More Self-Interested than Other-Regarding</i>	205
<i>Political Consumerism Goes Against Core Market Principles</i>	206
<i>Political Consumerism Is Neoliberalism-Friendly</i>	207
<i>Political Consumerism Is a Northern Project with a Northern Agenda</i>	209
<i>Political Consumerism Has Limited Reach</i>	209
<i>Determining Effectiveness</i>	210
<i>How Effective Is Political Consumerism to Date?</i>	211
<i>Political Consumer Activist Effects on Consumers</i>	212
<i>Political Consumer Activist Effects on Corporations</i>	214
1) <i>Is There a Rise in CSR?</i>	216
2) <i>Rise in Corporate Partnerships with NGOs</i>	218
3) <i>The Effects of Consumer Boycotts</i>	219
4) <i>Rise of Ethical Business</i>	222
5) <i>The Adoption of Ethical Lines by Major Retailers</i>	223
<i>The Case of Procter &amp; Gamble</i>	227
<i>The Case of Clas Ohlson</i>	228
<i>Pushing Government into Political Consumerism</i>	229
<i>Political Consumerism – Real-Life Problem Solver?</i>	233
<i>Effects on Wages</i>	233
<i>Child Labor</i>	234
<i>Benefits of Fairtrade for the Farmers in Southern Cooperatives</i>	236
<i>Challenges of Fairtrade Production</i>	239

viii	Contents
	<i>Fairtrade Markets in the North Are Stagnant</i> 239
	<i>Problems with FLO Governance and Monitoring</i> 240
	<i>The Fairtrade Model Does Not Address Structural Problems Faced by the South</i> 241
	<i>Assessing Effectiveness on Balance</i> 242
8	<b>Political Consumerism’s Scope and Challenges</b> 244
	<i>Introduction</i> 244
	<i>Difficulties in the Practice of Political Consumerism</i> 245
	<i>Access/Visibility of the Product or Firm in the Supply Chain</i> 245
	<i>Substitution/Availability of Alternatives</i> 247
	<i>Complexity of Production</i> 248
	<i>Complexity and Scale of Political Consumer Causes</i> 248
	<i>The Maturing of Political Consumerism in the 2000s</i> 255
	<i>Labeling Schemes of the 2000s</i> 255
	<i>Boycotts in the 2000s</i> 257
	<i>Discursive Political Consumerism in the 2000s</i> 258
	<i>Lifestyle Politics in the 2000s</i> 260
	<i>Role of Multi-Stakeholders and Government</i> 261
	<i>Theoretical Implications of Studying Political Consumerism</i> 262
	<i>The Discussion about Defining Political Participation</i> 263
	<i>The Effectiveness of Political Participation</i> 265
	<i>Future Research in Political Consumerism</i> 267
	<i>Rarely Studied Cases of Political Consumerism</i> 267
	<i>Political Consumerism in Developing Countries</i> 270
	<i>Role of the Internet and Social Media for Political Consumerism</i> 272
	<i>New Methodological Approaches in Political Consumerism</i> 273
	<i>The Future of Political Consumerism in a Nutshell</i> 275
	<i>Bibliography</i> 279
	<i>Index</i> 345



List of Figures

2.1	Boycotting	<i>page</i> 52
2.2	Rise in Fair Trade Coffee Sales	54
2.3	Rise in Global Organic Food Sales	55
3.1	Gender Gap in Boycotting	77
3.2	Gender Gaps Over Time	78
3.3	Gender Gap in Boycotting	79
3.4	Frequency of Shopping	82
3.5	Values and Orientations of Political Consumers	87
6.1	Rise and Effect of Anti-Sweatshop Activism against Nike	194

Cambridge University Press

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Dietlind Stolle and Michele Micheletti

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

List of Tables

2.1	Longitudinal Data on Boycotting, 1974–2010	<i>page</i> 50
3.1	Bivariate Results for Political Consumerism in Percentages	69
3.2	Individual-Level Model – Baseline	74
3.3	Individual-Level Model – Trust and Participation	86
3.4	The Socioeconomic and Attitudinal Correlates of Political Consumerism in Sweden	90
4.1	The Cross-National Spread of Political Consumerism	97
4.2	Consumption and Market Share of Labeled Products	99
4.3	The Role of Socioeconomic Resources and Postmodernization for Political Consumerism	104
4.4	Does Economic Openness Foster Political Consumerism?	107
4.5	Do Price Premiums Discourage Political Consumerism?	111
4.6	The International Spread of Market-Based Political Consumer Labeling Schemes	113
4.7	Conducive Political Consumer Infrastructure?	115
4.8	Political and Institutional Factors that Promote Political Consumerism	120
4.9	Social Capital as a Resource for Political Consumerism	122
4.10	Religiosity and Political Consumerism	124
4.11	Religion and Political Consumerism	125
6.1	Who Are the Discursive Political Consumers?	183
6.2	Themes Addressed in E-mail Responses to the Nike E-mail Exchange (percentages)	186
6.3	The NEE’s Political Mobilization Effects	188
6.4	Direct Effects of the NEE	191

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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