

# FREEDOM RISING

Human Empowerment and the  
Quest for Emancipation

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CAMBRIDGE

## Book Presentation

(Higher School of  
Economics, Moscow,  
April 03, 2014)

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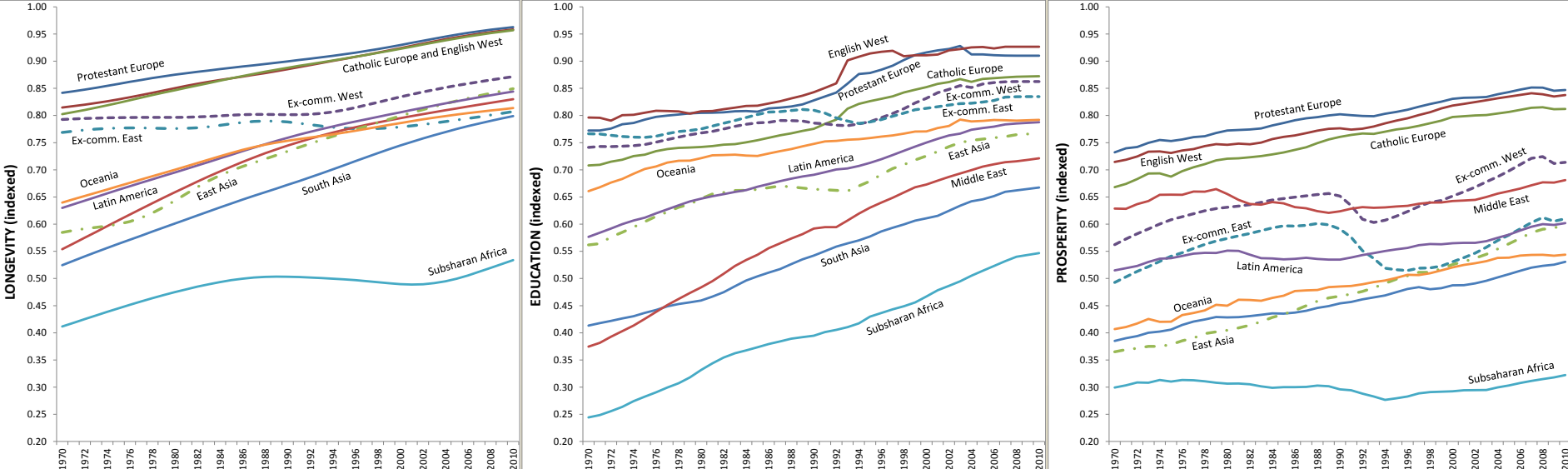
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Figure I.1: Improving Quality of Life Trends by Global Culture Zones (1970 to 2010)



Note: Trends are based on my own calculations from the data for 136 countries published by the United Nations Development Program (2011). To see which society has been arranged into which culture zone, see Appendix I. Note that upward trends prevail throughout the last thirty years all over the world, with two exceptions: (1) longevity and prosperity in Subsharan Africa only rise since recently; (2) after the collapse of communism, ex-communist societies experienced a drop in quality of life, especially prosperity, but are on their way of recovery.

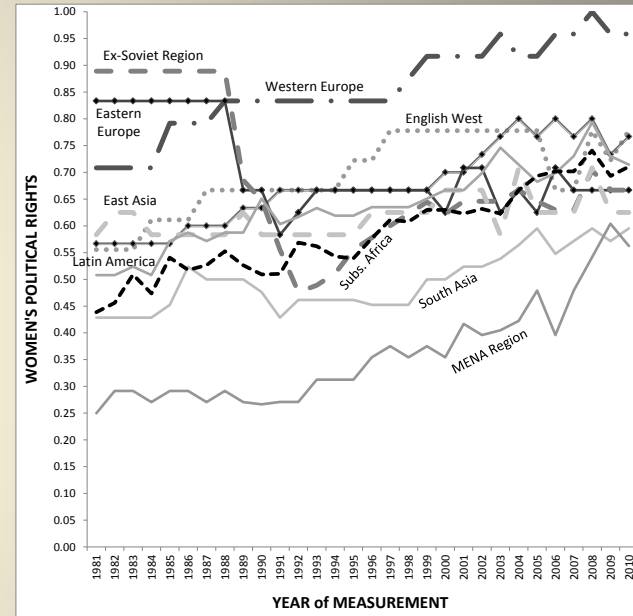
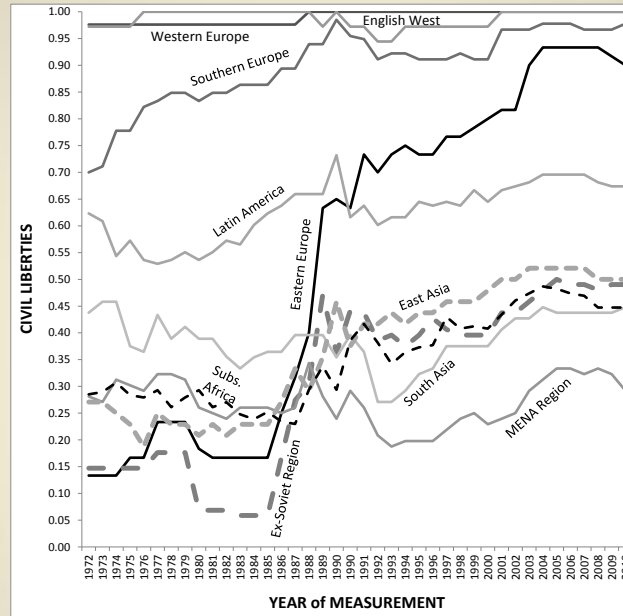
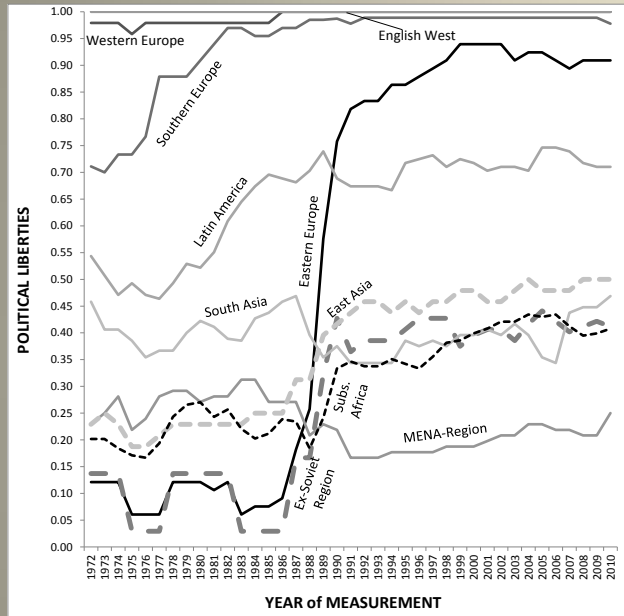
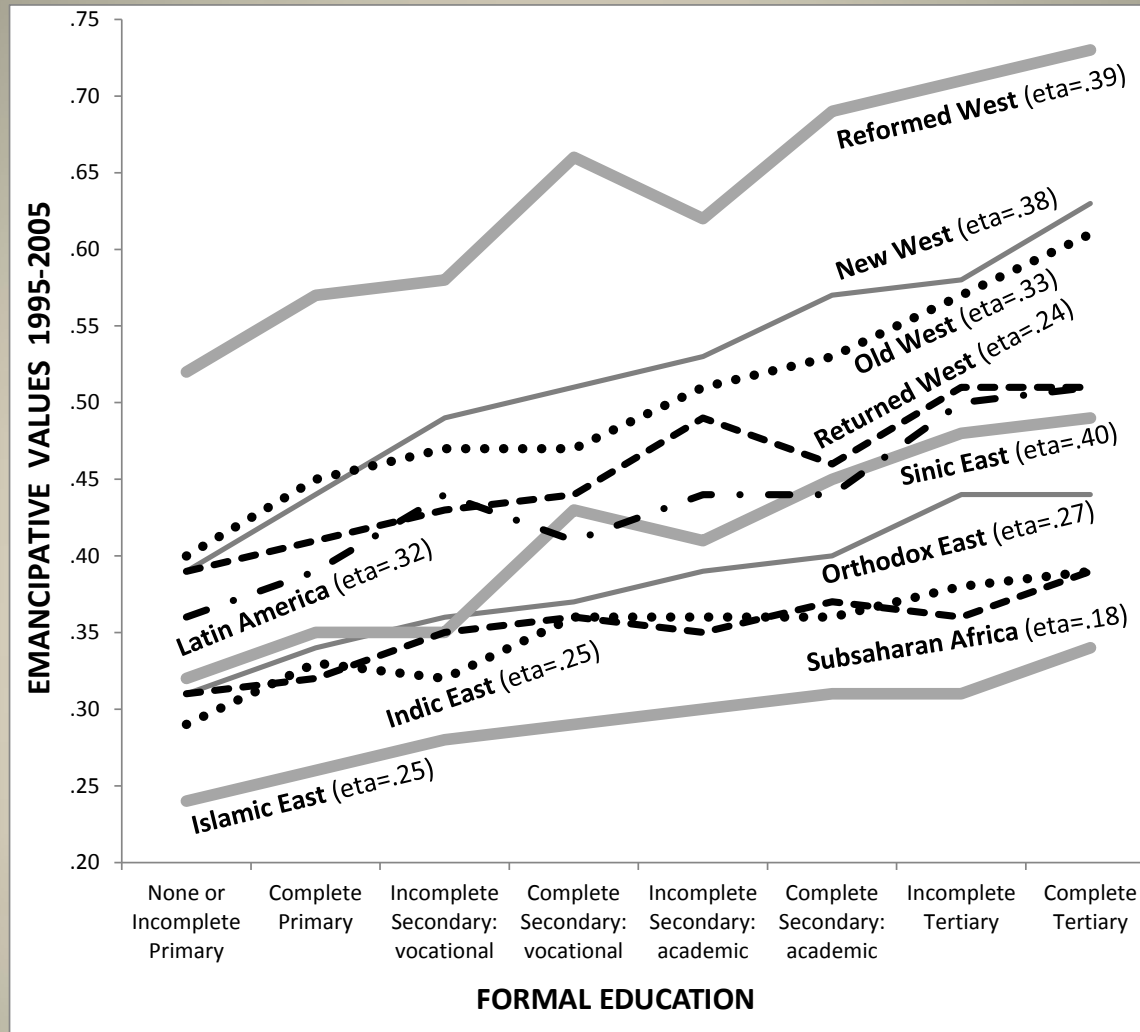
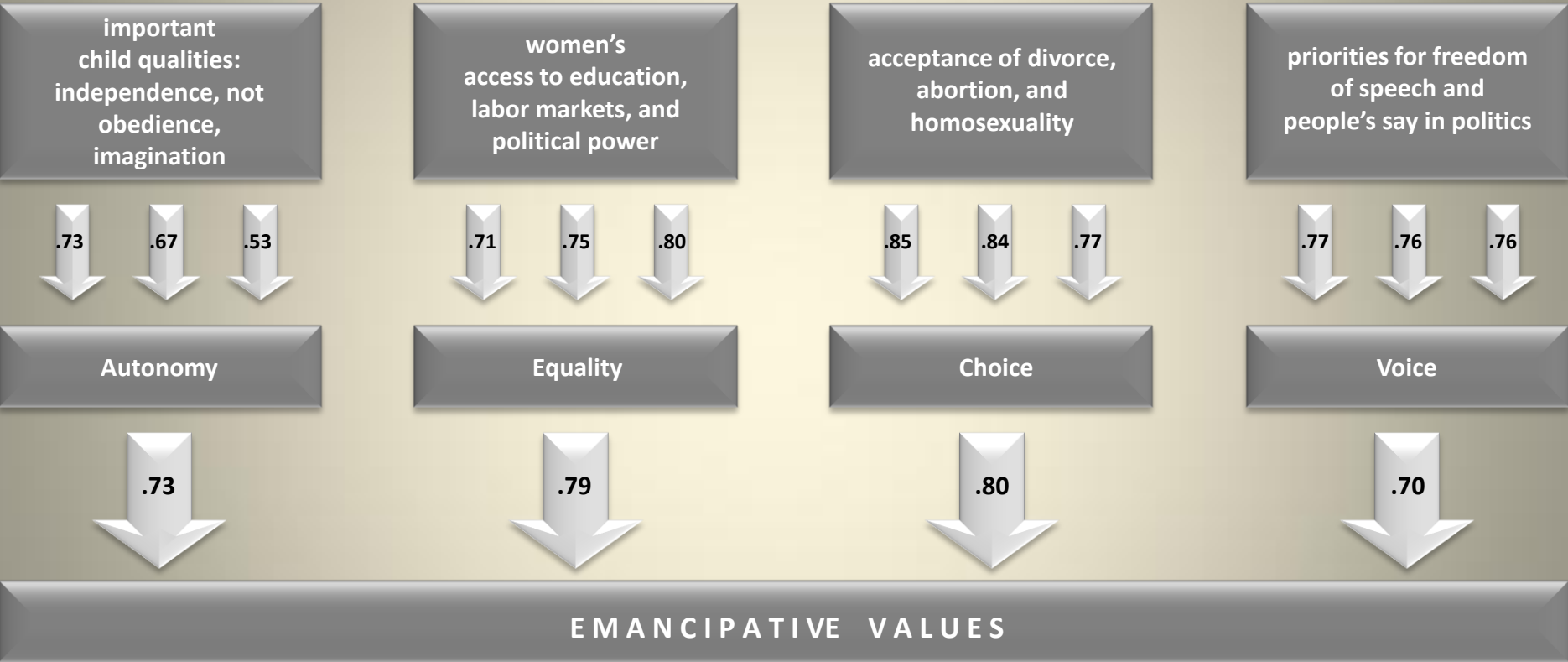


Figure 3.4: The Effect of Education on Emancipative Values by Culture Zone



*Data Coverage:* Respondents with valid data from all 95 societies surveyed at least once by the WVS/EVS, using the latest available survey from each society, with samples weighted to equal size. Number of respondents (*N*): 25,951 – Islamic East; 16,988 – Indic East; 8,887 – Sinic East; 20,269 – Orthodox East; 13,471 – Old West; 8,047 – Reformed West; 8,466 – New West; 11,585 – Returned West; 17,007 – Subsaharan Africa; 19,155 – Latin America. The mean standard deviation for each educational category is .20 scale points on emancipative values.

# Measuring Emancipative Values with WVS-Data



*Note:* Numbers on arrows indicate factor loadings in order of items mentioned. Results are from a hierarchical factor analysis over the country-pooled Individual-level dataset of WVS II-V (N=106,609). First-level factor analysis over 12 items with oblimin-rotation (delta=.25) creates a 4-dimensional solution under the Kaiser-criterion, with a KMO of .77 (Cronbach's alpha for the 12 items is .68). Second-level factor analysis with the four extracted factors from the first-level analysis produces a one-dimensional solution under the Kaiser-criterion, with a KMO of .76.

**EXISTENTIAL CONDITIONS**

Intellectual Resources

Material Resources

Connective Resources

**PSYCHOLOGICAL ORIENTATIONS**

Valuation of Independent Choice

Valuation of Equal Opportunities

**INSTITUTIONAL REGULATIONS**

Personal Autonomy Rights

Political Participation Rights

**Action RESOURCES:**  
**Capabilities** to exercise universal freedoms  
(EXISTENTIAL Empowerment)

**Emancipative VALUES:**  
**Motivations** to exercise universal freedoms  
(PSYCHOLOGICAL Empowerment)

**Civic ENTITLEMENTS:**  
**Guarantees** to exercise universal freedoms  
(INSTITUTIONAL Empowerment)

The **UTILITY** of Freedoms

UTILITY VALUATION

The **VALUE** of Freedoms

VALUE CODIFICATION

The **LICENCE** to Freedoms

**H U M A N E M P O W E R M E N T :**

Extent to which people are *capable, motivated, and entitled* to exercise universal freedoms (CIVIC AGENCY)

# The Concept of Human Empowerment (short version)

HARDWARE

SOFTWARE

LICENCE

Action  
RESOURCES

Emancipative  
VALUES

Civic  
ENTITLEMENTS

The UTILITY  
of Freedom

UTILITY  
VALUATION

The VALUE  
of Freedom

VALUE  
CODIFICATION

The RIGHT  
to Freedom

H U M A N   E M P O W E R M E N T



## INTRODUCTION

### PART A: UNDERSTANDING EMANCIPATIVE VALUES

#### Chapter 1

A Theory of Freedoms

#### Chapter 2

Mapping Differences

#### Chapter 3

Multi-Level Drivers

#### Chapter 4

Tracing Change

### PART B: EMANCIPATIVE VALUES AS A CIVIC FORCE

#### Chapter 5

Intrinsic Wellbeing

#### Chapter 6

Benign individualism

#### Chapter 7

Collective Action

### PART C: DEMOCRATIZING IMPULSES OF EMANCIPATIVE VALUES

#### Chapter 8

Entitling People

#### Chapter 9

The Rights Revolution

#### Chapter 10

The Paradox of Democracy

### PART D: EMANCIPATIVE VALUES IN CIVILIZATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

#### Chapter 11

The Redirection of Civilization

#### Chapter 12

The Sustainability Challenge

## CONCLUSION

# THE GENERAL THEORY OF EMANCIPATION

## ONE ROOT IDEA:

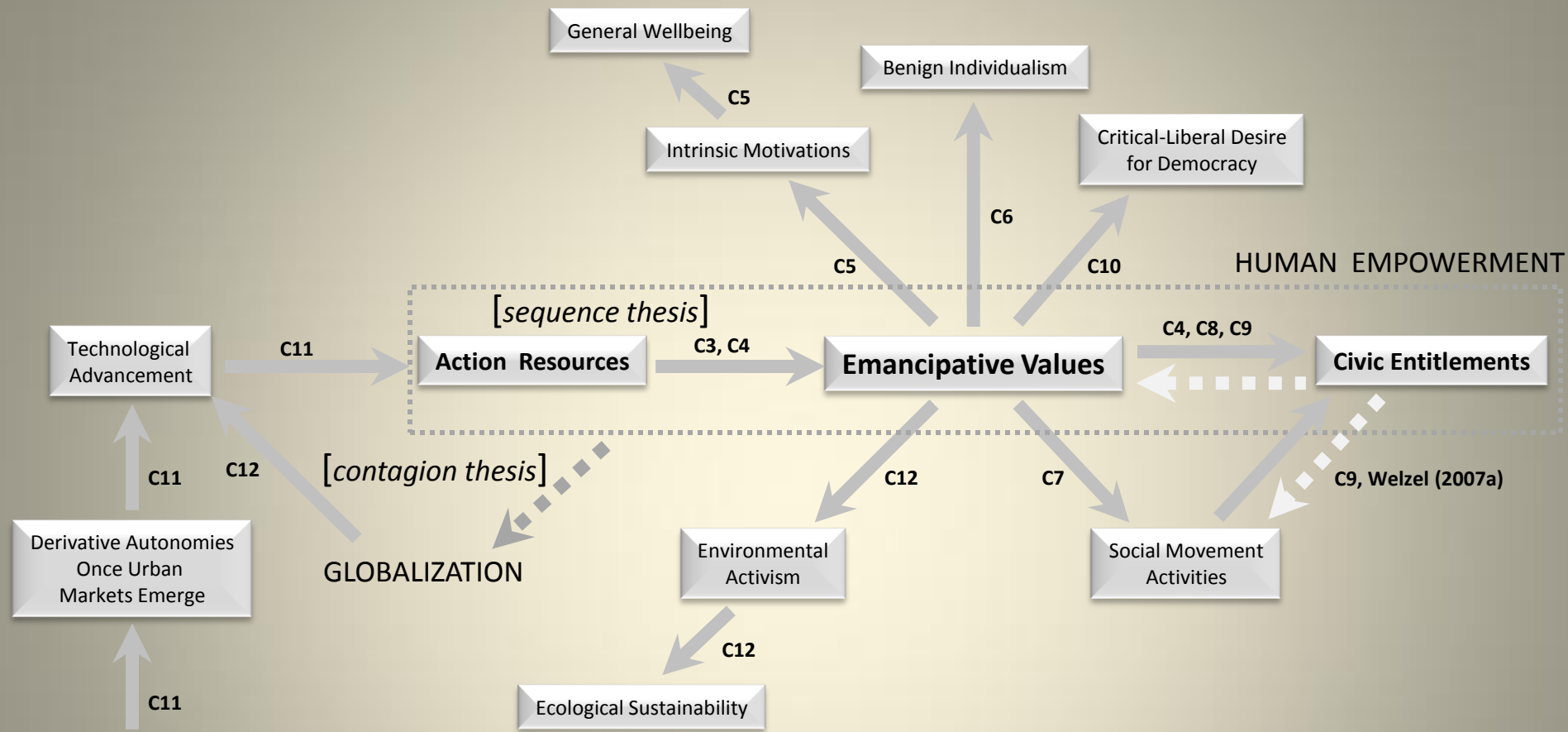
### *THE UTILITY LADDER OF FREEDOMS*

## THREE PREMISES:

<i>VARIABILITY IN FREEDOMS' UTILITY:</i>	<i>THE UTILITY-VALUE-LINK:</i>	<i>UPWARD DIRECTION:</i>
Guarantees of universal freedoms have varying utility for people in how to master their lives: the utility of guarantees grows when people's existential conditions embody more options for intentional action. Then, guarantees are needed more to protect the safe use of available options.	Human life strategies are shaped by a utility-value link: people value what is useful for mastering life under given circumstances. This utility-value link is vital to keep human existence in touch with reality. Hence, if rising opportunities enhance the utility of freedoms in an <i>objective</i> sense, <i>subjective</i> values adjust in the same direction, towards supporting freedoms.	Evolution favors reality-controlling features, and mastering freedoms is a reality-controlling feature. Thus, humans are evolutionary programmed to work upward the utility ladder, standing on a given rung as long as necessary but moving on as soon as possible.

## SIX THESES:

<i>SYNDROME THESIS:</i>	<i>SEQUENCE THESIS:</i>	<i>SOLIDARITY THESIS:</i>	<i>SOURCE THESIS:</i>	<i>FERTILITY THESIS:</i>	<i>CONTAGION THESIS:</i>
Action resources, emancipative values and civic entitlements merge into a syndrome of human empowerment.	The syndrome emerges through sequential growth from resources to values to entitlements.	The resources that people have in common with most others in their society strengthen their emancipative values much more than what they have on top of others. Likewise, it is the emancipative values that people share which encourage joint actions in pursuit of freedoms.	When NW Europe and Japan reached the pre-industrial stage of civilization (15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> centuries), an accelerating dynamic began in which emancipatory gains concentrate increasingly on societies with strong CW-features.	The CW-features' emancipatory impetus is mediated by these features' tendency to diminish fertilities--as part of a general turn in life strategies from quantity-breeding to quality-building: people divert energies from growing the size of the population to growing its skill.	Worldwide, the turn of development towards emancipatory outcomes shows clear signs of diffusion beyond areas with strong CW-features since the era of globalization.

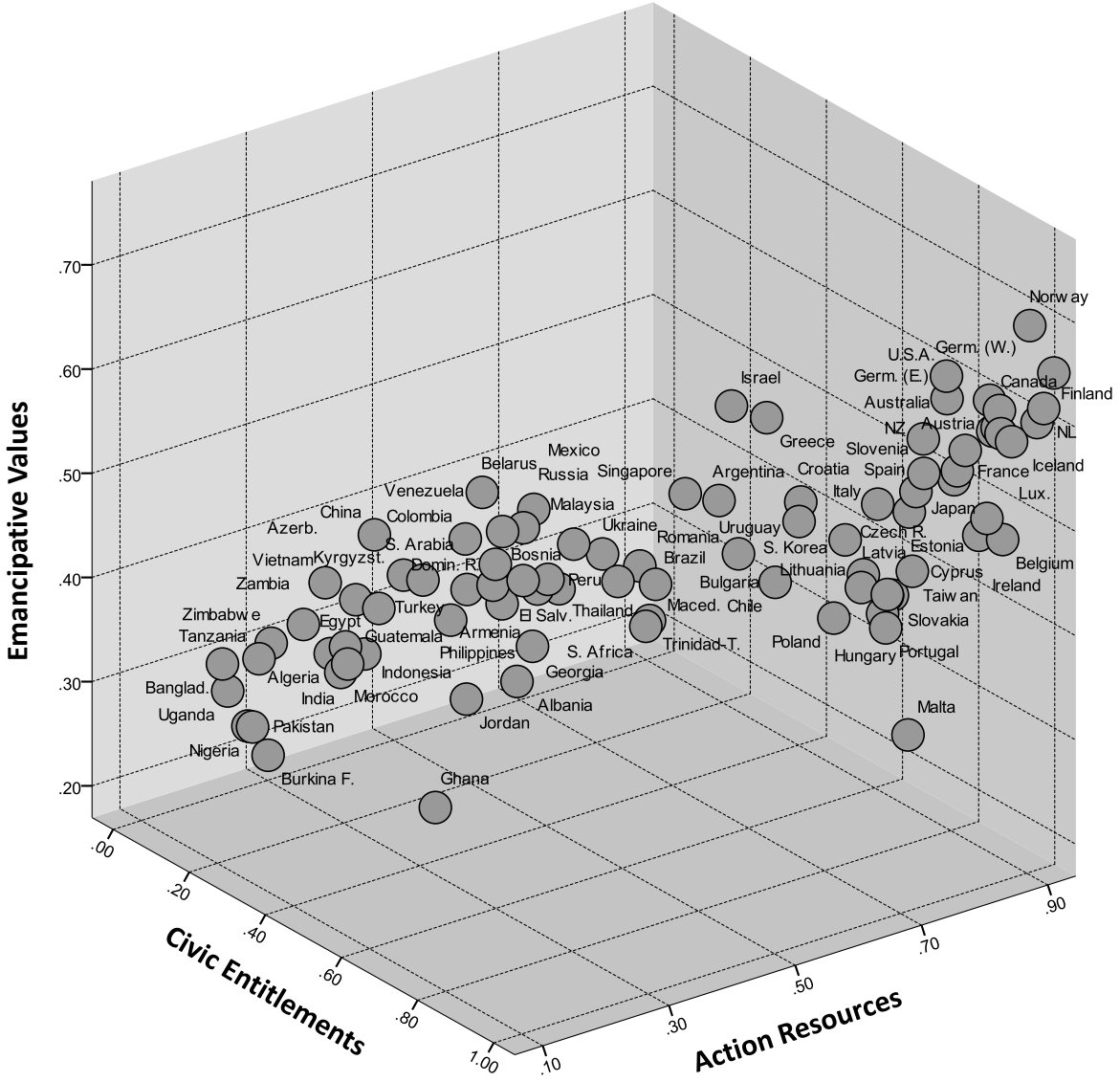


Note: Capital letter 'C' and its respective number indicate in which chapter of this book the evidence for the effect depicted by an arrow is provided.

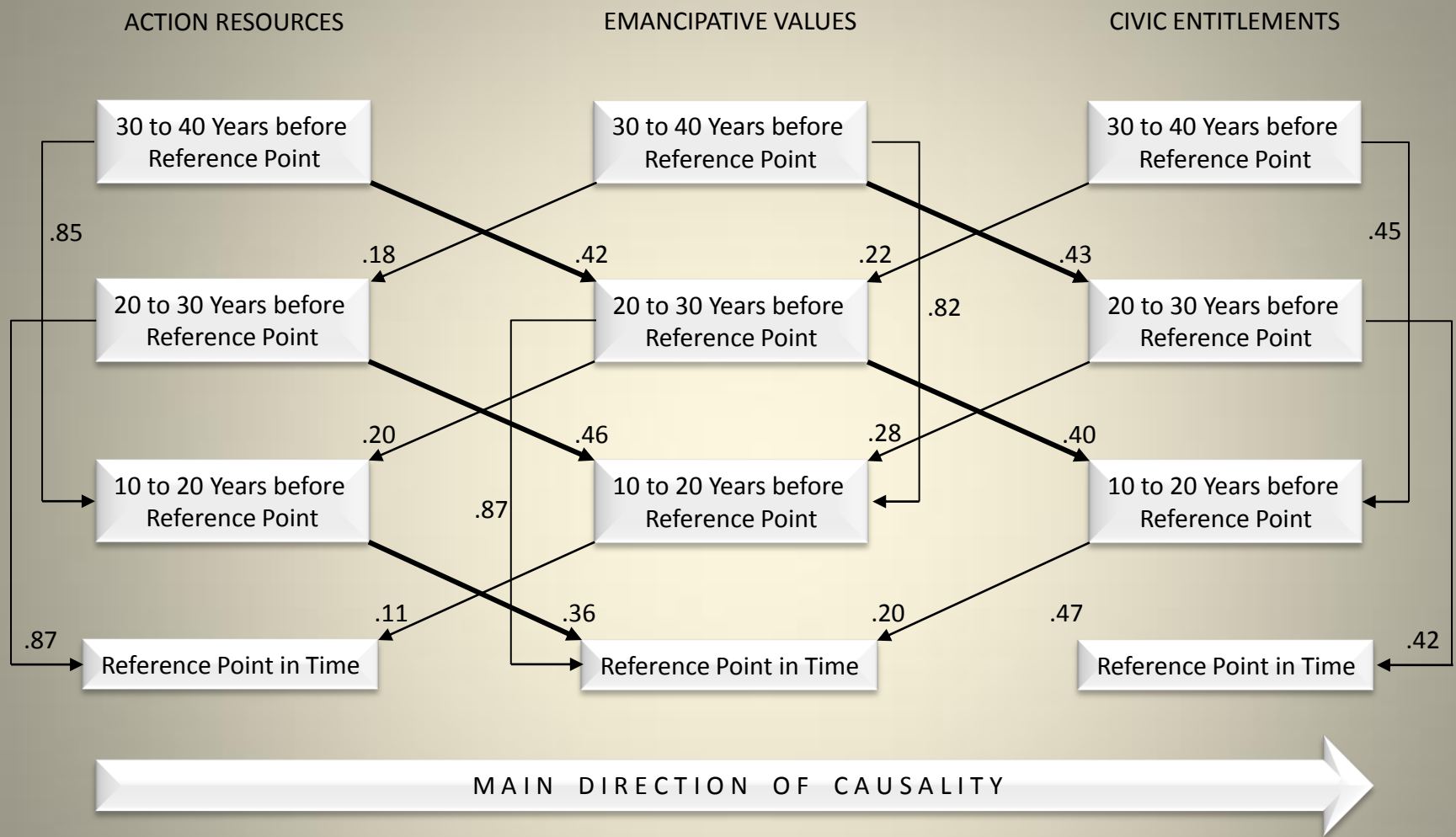
The evolutionary theory of emancipation consists of the source thesis, the sequence thesis, and the contagion thesis, each of which derive from a single root principle: the utility ladder of freedoms.

[source thesis]

# Development as a Threefold of Human Empowerment

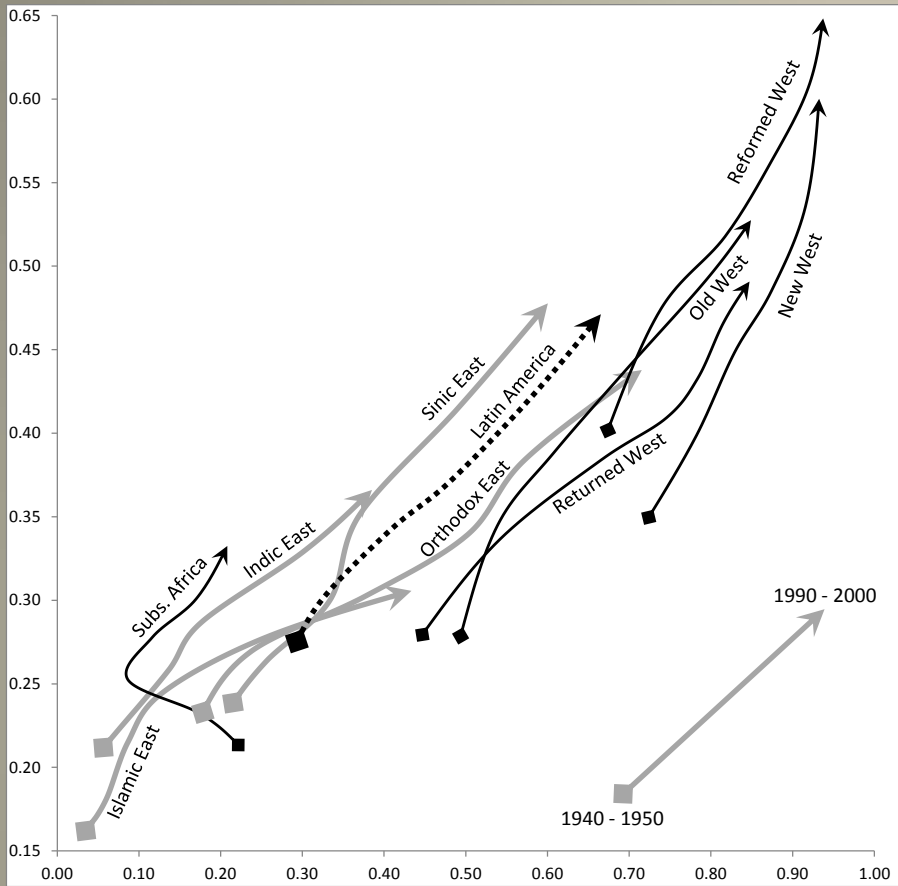


# The Endogenous Flow of Causality within the Human Empowerment Syndrome



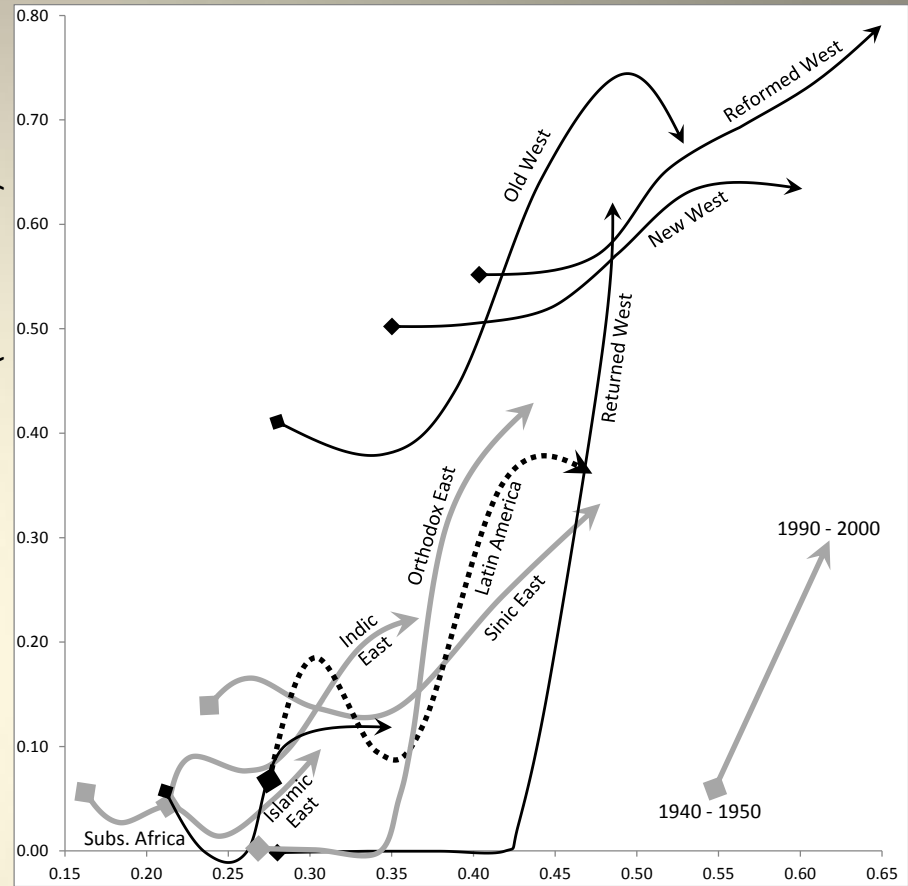
*Note:* Entries are partial correlation coefficients, resulting from a sequence of cross-lagged multi-variate regressions with 357 country-cohorts as units of analyses (5 cohorts by 80 countries).

Emancipative Values (1940-2000)



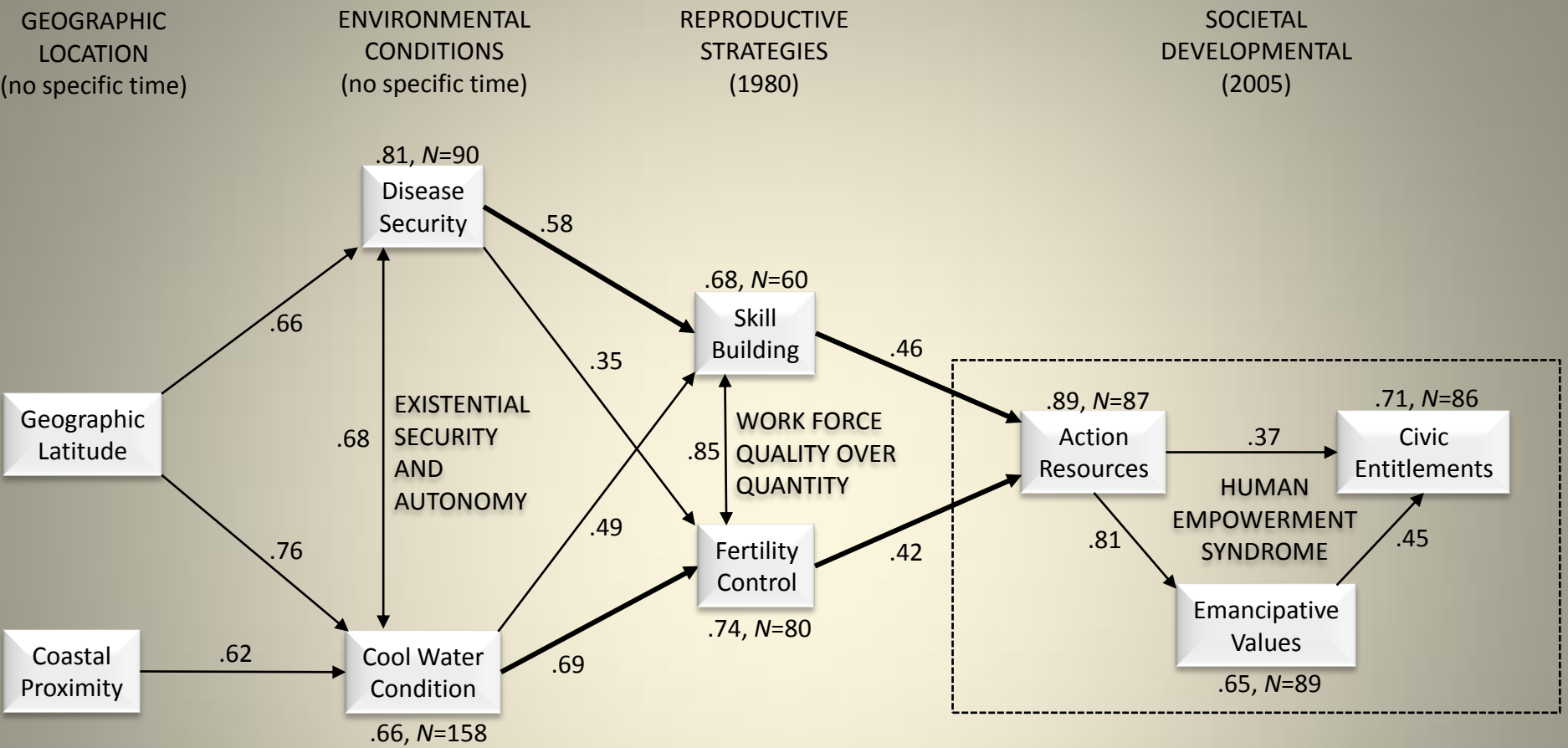
Action Resources (1940-2000)

Civic Entitlements (1940-2000)



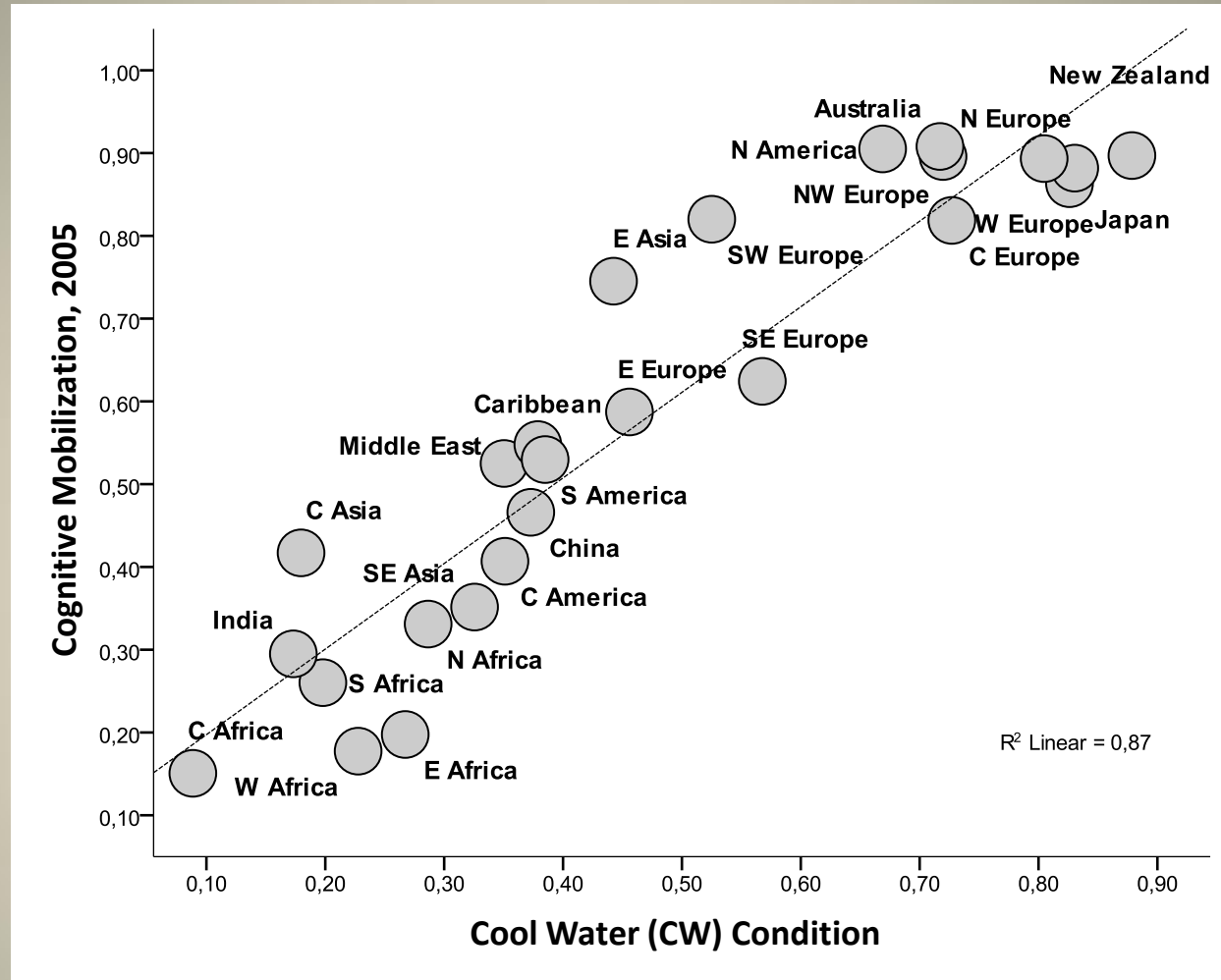
Emancipative Values (1940-2000)

# The Exogenous Causation of the Human Empowerment Syndrome



*Note:* Entries are partial correlation coefficients. Path diagram summarizes information of a sequence of multi-variate, temporally ordered regressions, with left-hand side variables measured before and used as predictors of right-hand side variables. Units of observation are national societies. Number of units varies by regression from 70 to 180 (each regression including all societies with available Data).

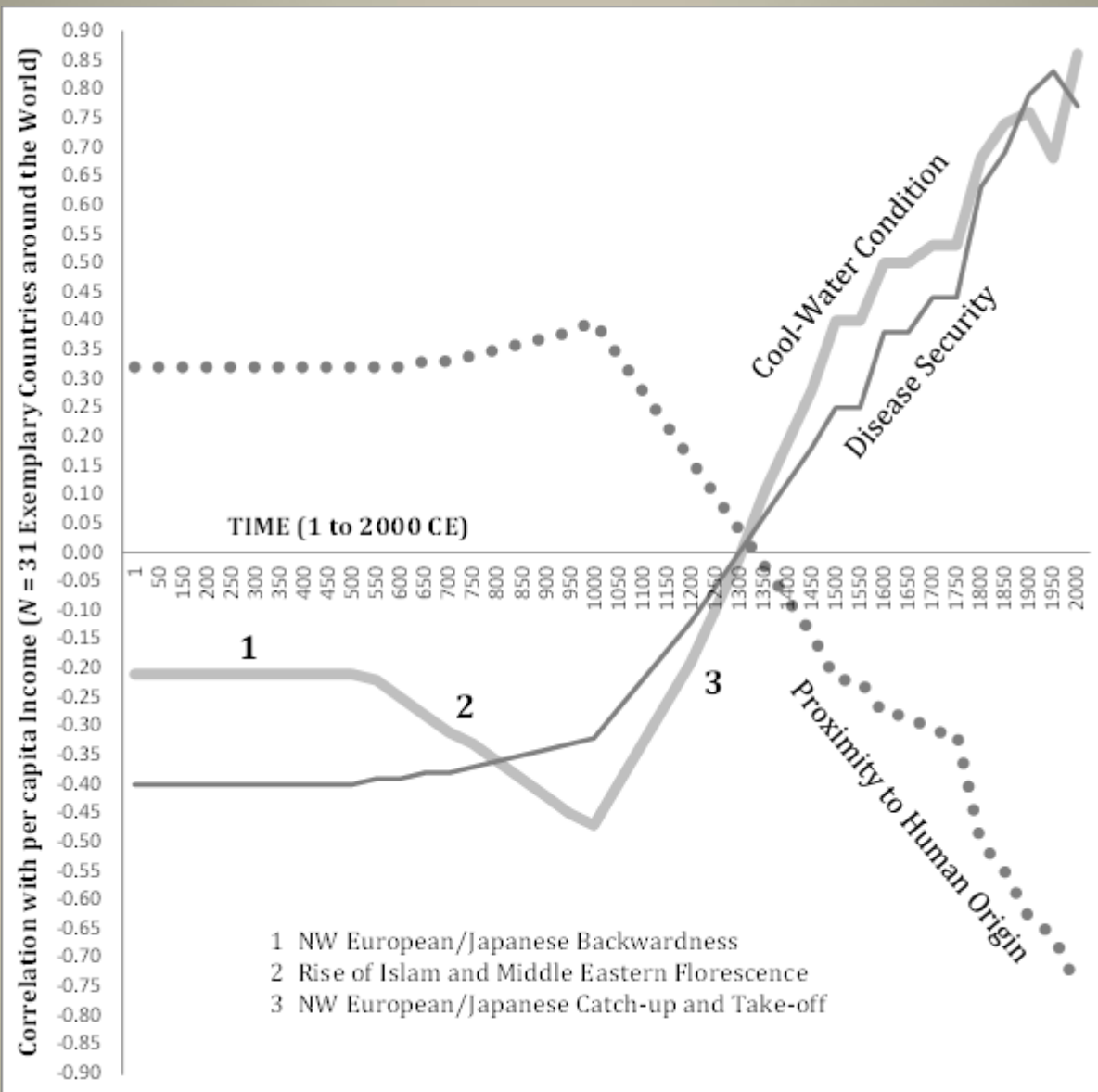
Figure 11.1: The Impact of the Cool Water Condition on Cognitive Mobilization



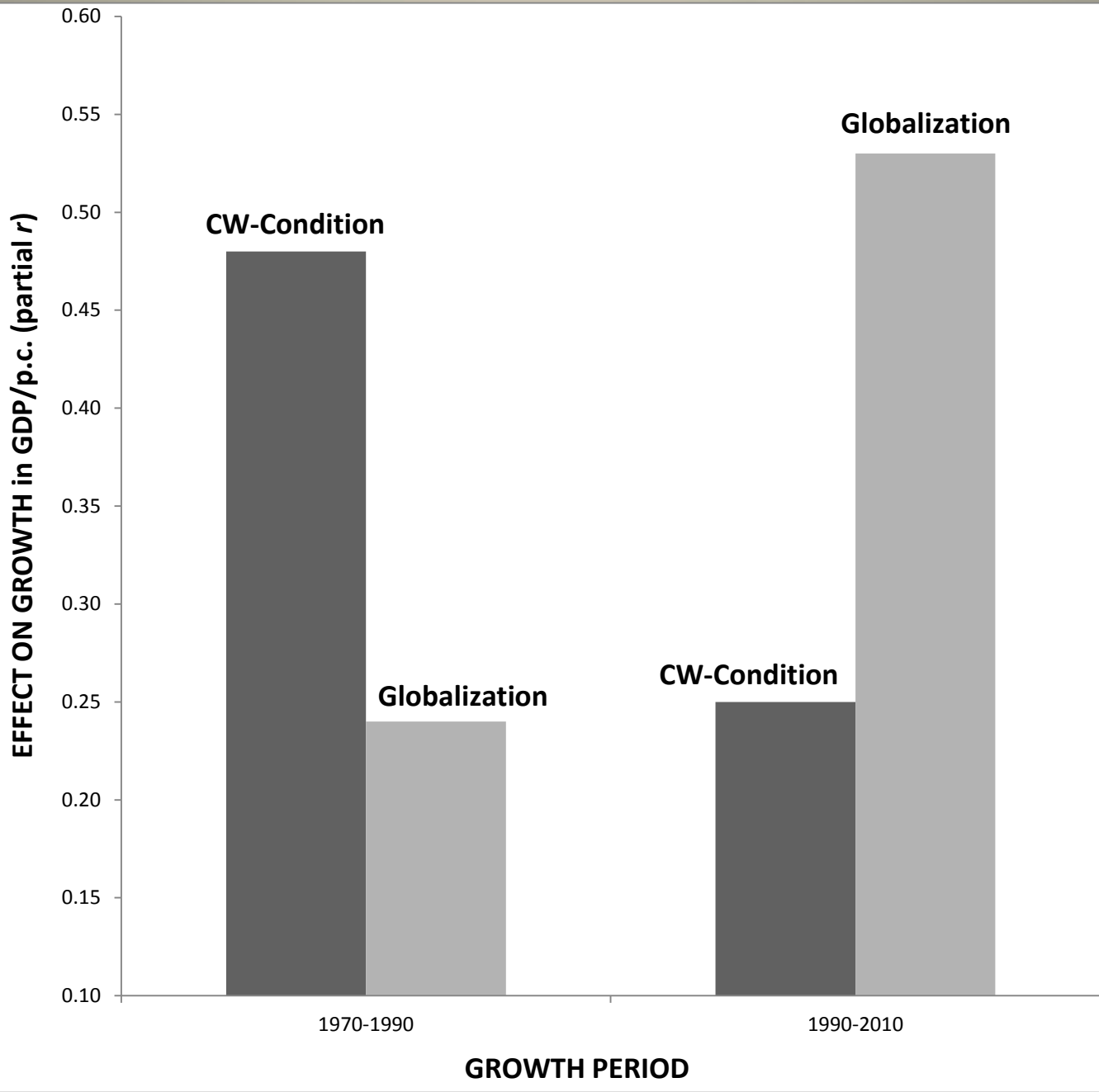
Note:

Data are available for 133 societies. For better readability, they are summarized into twenty-five global regions. Note that the global cross-regional variation accounts for 72 percent of the cross-national variance in water autonomy and 81 percent of the cross-national variance in technological advancement. Across all 133 societies, water autonomy accounts for 67 percent of the variation in technological advancement. For more descriptive details and data documentation, see Appendix 11.









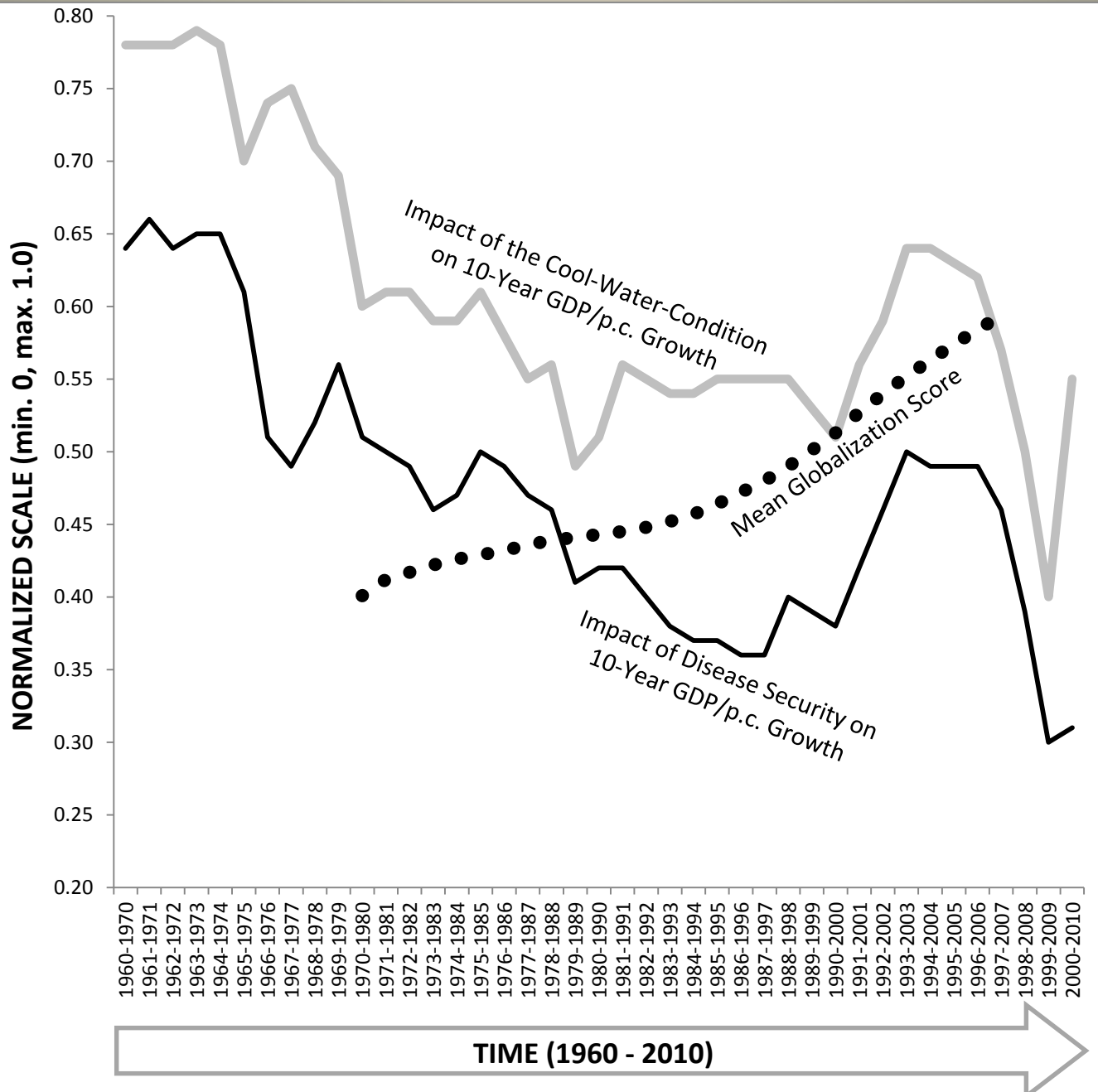
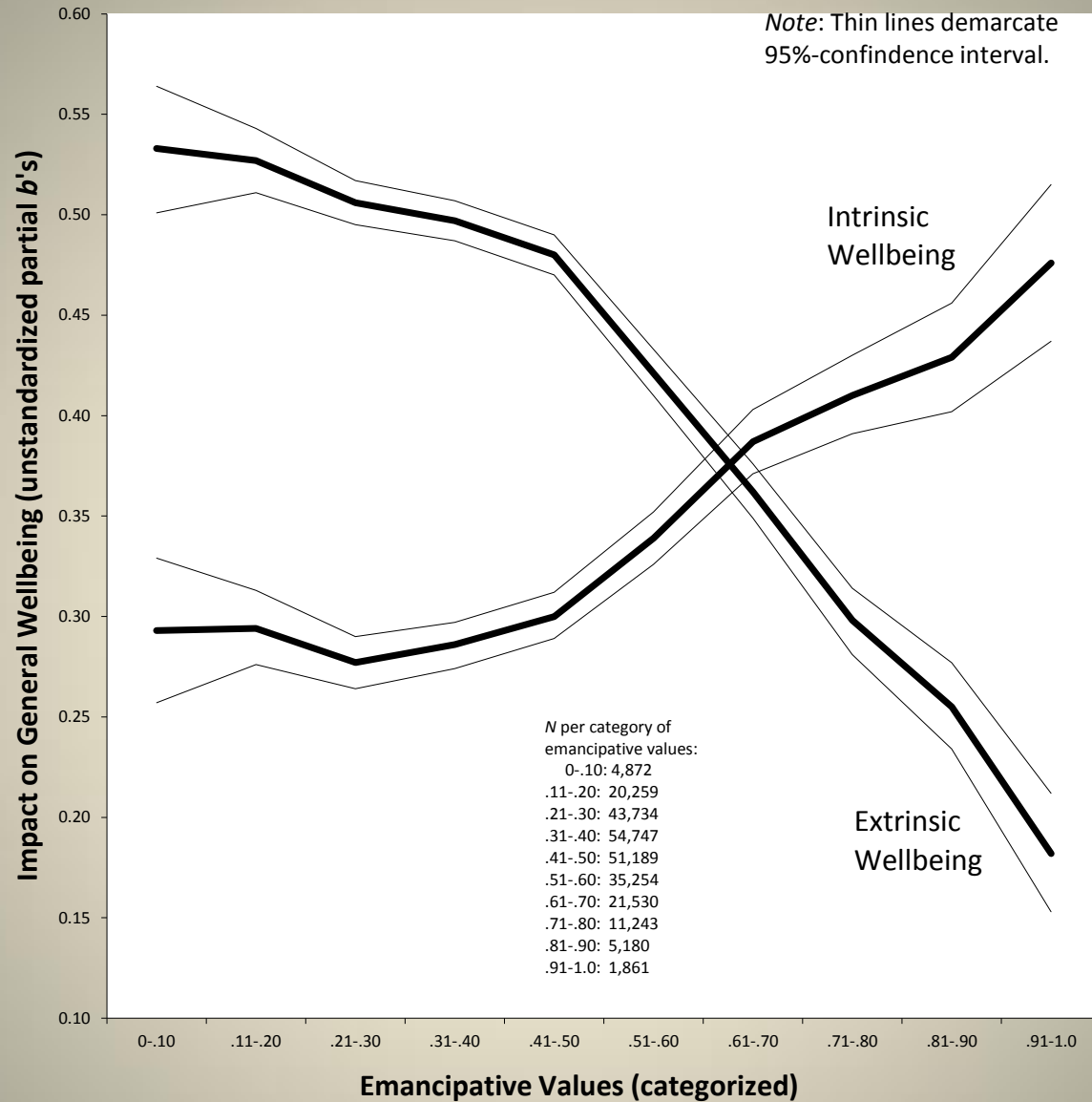
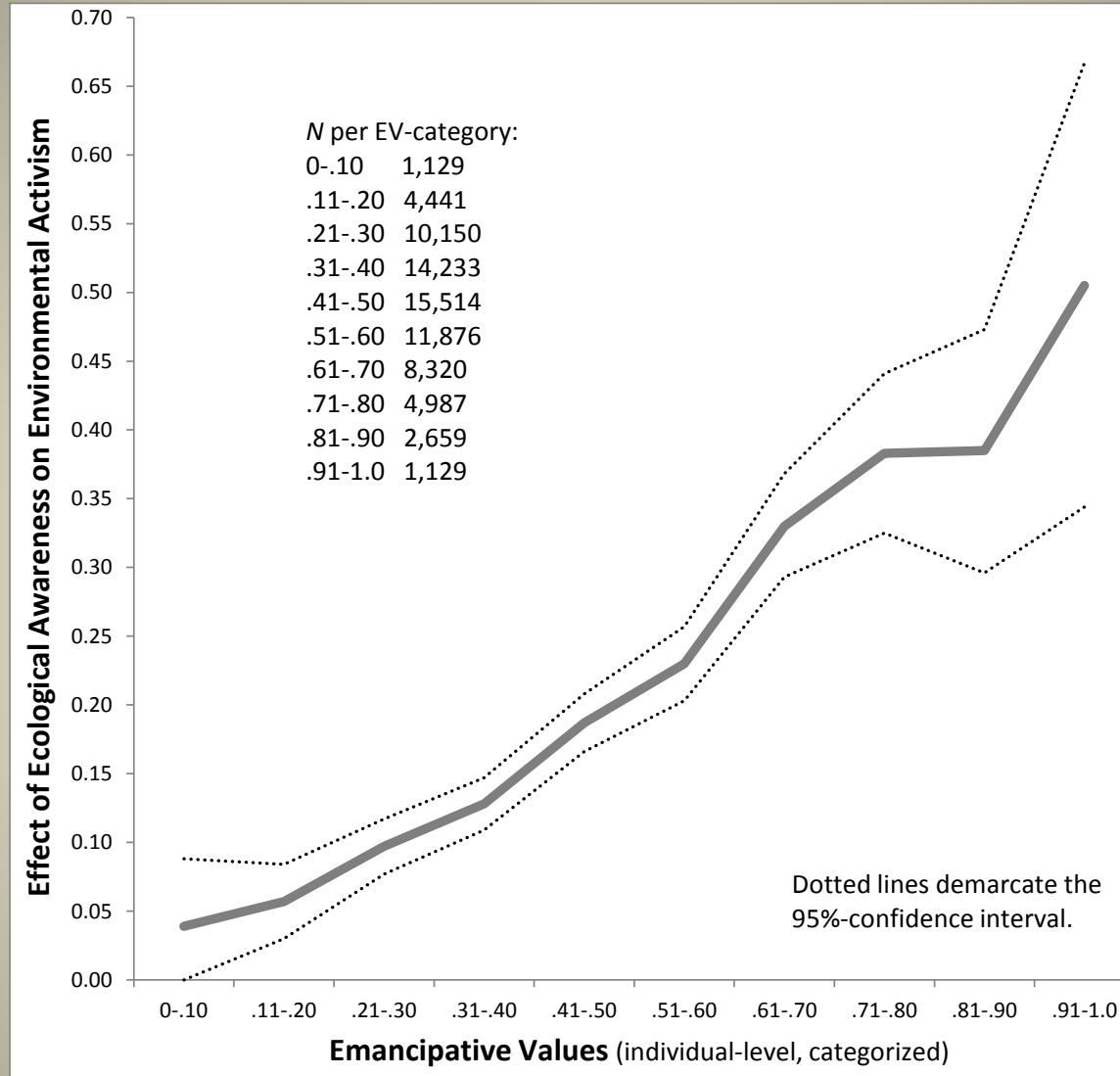


Figure 5.1: The Effect of Emancipative Values on Wellbeing Priorities



*Data Coverage:* Respondents with valid data from all societies surveyed at least once by the WVS/EVS, using the most recent survey. National samples are weighted to equal sample size without changing the overall *N*.

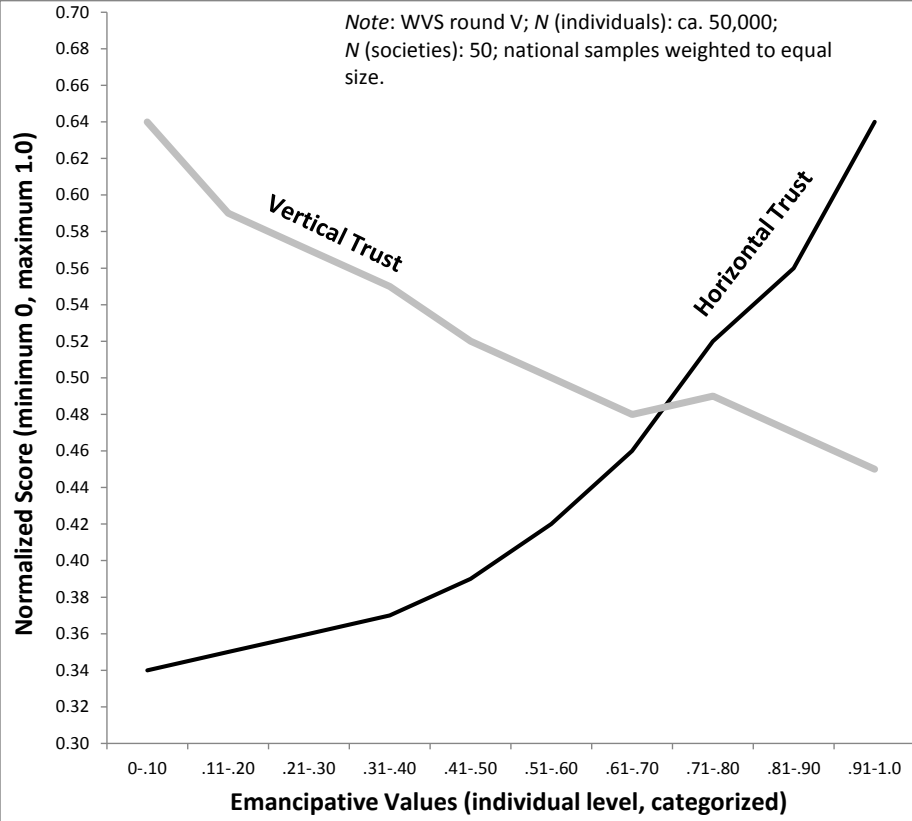
Figure 12.4: Emancipative Values as an Amplifier of the Impact of Ecological Awareness on Environmental Activism



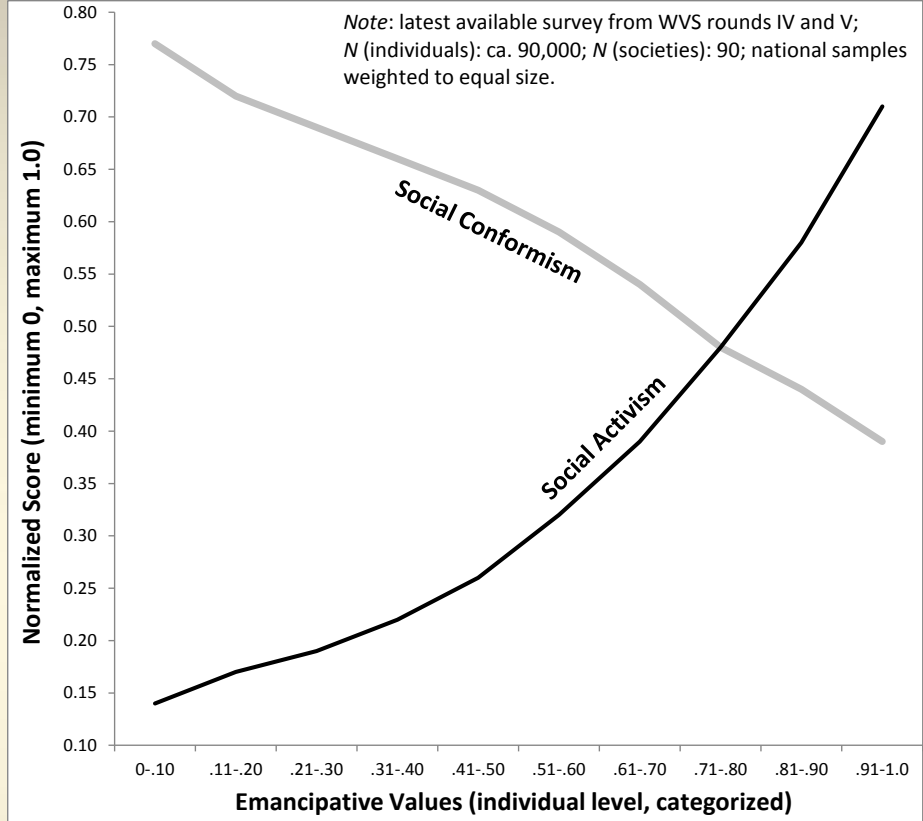
**Note:** Vertical axis shows the magnitude of the unstandardized regression coefficient of ecological awareness on environmental activism.

**Data Coverage:** Respondents with valid data from all of the 50 societies surveyed in WVS-round five. National samples are weighted to equal size.

Note: WVS round V; N (individuals): ca. 50,000;  
N (societies): 50; national samples weighted to equal size.



Note: latest available survey from WVS rounds IV and V;  
N (individuals): ca. 90,000; N (societies): 90; national samples weighted to equal size.



# The Escalator of Enlightenment

Cognitive  
Mobilization



Emancipative  
Values



Evaluative  
Criticalness



Hopefully this was at least a little enlightening!

