

Are caries linked to political regime?

July 28 2018



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At the 96th General Session of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR), held in conjunction with the IADR Pan European Regional (PER) Congress, John Estrada-Montoya, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, gave a poster presentation titled "Does a Country's Political Regime Influence Its DMTF Index." The IADR/PER General Session & Exhibition is in London, England at the ExCeL London Convention Center from July 25-28, 2018.

Estrada-Montoya and co-author Jesús Erazo Estrada, also from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, sought to determine whether prolonged exposure to a given political regime affected the decay-missing-filled (DMF) Index in various countries according to the political typologies of Social Democratic, Conservative, Liberal and Dictatorial regimes.

This ecological epidemiological was study based on secondary sources from the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, the World Bank and various websites from countries that met the inclusion criteria. A country's assignment to a political typology was determined by the political orientation of its ruling party.

The results from the 62 countries showed that countries categorized as Social Democratic and Liberal had better results in decreasing the DMTF Index (Social Democratic with a decrease of -65.72% and Liberal with a decrease of -53.97%) than did Conservative (with a decrease of -37.62%) and especially Dictatorial regimes (with an increase of +14.53%).

The authors note that the typology they used did not adapt well for Third World politics. They suggest the creation of new interdisciplinary typologies better suited to Third World political realities in order to



further characterize and study the relationship between political regimes and oral healthcare indicators.

More information: www.iadr.org/IADR/Meetings/2018IAGS

Provided by International & American Associations for Dental Research

Citation: Are caries linked to political regime? (2018, July 28) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <u>https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-07-caries-linked-political-regime.html</u>

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