

# CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS ON THEORY OF PUBLIC POLICY

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## ***Abstract***

Public policy is sum of activities which influenced to shape the living style of citizens by the government directly or through agents. Also it is a complex phenomenon which takes long process that differs from country to another. This paper is a conceptual analysis on policy studies as an “applied” science and as an academic discipline. This is a qualitative study which based on secondary data and the main objective of this study is to review the conceptual background and the evolution public policy in the aspect of defining what is a public policy, basic models of public policy, roles of different actors in case of designing a public policy and stages of policy designing (public policy cycle).

Key Words: Public policy, Theoretical background, Actors, Models

## ***Literature Review***

Public policy is a complex theme within the sphere of Political Science. Many conceptualizations have been put forward to describe what constitutes “public policy” and the other essential elements related to public policy. While going through the literature, there are very few books that review in sufficient depth the theoretical matters pertaining to public policy.

Compared with other textbooks, “An Introduction to the Policy Process” by Thomas A. Birkland (2011) presents a more in-depth discussion on the subject of public policy. It offers a critical review of the basic concepts of public policy, policy communities, theories and models of public policies, based on a combination of theory and empirical observation. It shows the unique ability of the author to connect the conceptual and theoretical ideas with contemporary policy problems, thereby bridging the gap between theory and application. This book will be a great inspiration to all public policy students and practitioners