



## Is social class or religion the prime determinant in the voting behaviour of electors in Western Europe?

By Nia Verdenhalven

GRIN Verlag Nov 2007, 2007. sonst. Bücher. Book Condition: Neu. 209x144x17 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Essay from the year 2007 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Region: Western Europe, grade: A/1.0/1st mark, University of London, 26 entries in the bibliography, language: English, comment: This essay examines the influences of religion and class on traditional and more recent voting behaviour in Germany and France. , abstract: Conventionally, social cleavages have been widely accepted as the prime determinant in the voting behaviour of electors in the western world. In largely religious countries Christianity was seen as main factor of people s voting pattern, whereas in secular western countries social class was regarded as the strongest influence. However, in recent decades the prediction of electoral behaviour has become more and more problematic, as religious faith has declined and the traditional contrast of social classes began to be more difficult to distinguish. This essay will examine the impact of religion and social class as well as the increasing influx of ultra-right parties and influence of the growing number of ethnic minorities on voting behaviour in Germany and France, and will attempt to demonstrate...



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