**Burnell, Randall & Rakner: Politics in the Developing World 4e**

**Study questions**

**Chapter 10**

1. How should civil society relate to the market in a neo-liberal economic environment?
2. In what ways can a strong state and strong civil society be mutually beneficial?
3. How important is it that civil societies in developing countries develop transnational linkages with global civil society if they are to address the international structures that have bearing on the domestic politics?
4. What can the international community do and what should it not do if it wants to help develop associational life appropriate to liberal democracy in developing countries?
5. What different patterns of relationship exist between civil society organizations and political parties and what relationship should exist to increase chances for a successful democratization?
6. Why does everybody seem to agree that civil society is 'a good thing'?
7. Can civil society sometimes be too strong or active? What may some of the consequences of such a civil society be?
8. In developing countries, what problems lie in the way of civil society organizations being genuinely autonomous?
9. Assess, giving examples, the role of civil society organizations in one of the following policy areas in developing countries: human rights, development, the environment.
10. Why has the study of civil society in developing countries burgeoned from the 1990s?
11. Do you agree that too much attention has been given to the role of civil society in the study of democratization and not enough attention to the role of political parties?
12. Is the presence of many different civic associations in a society sufficient for there to be a civil society?
13. To what extent can civil society organizations provide an adequate substitute for political parties?
14. Does a 'vibrant' civil society require a substantial middle class?
15. How useful is the concept of 'civil society' in a developing world context?
16. To what extent can membership of civil society organizations be said to be 'voluntary' in developing societies?
17. Discuss the value of the distinction between 'traditional' and 'modern' forms of civil society in developing countries.
18. Is it less partisan for donors to give financial assistance to a government than to civil society organizations with clear party preferences?
19. Does democracy assistance to donors’ focus areas of human rights, women’s rights, legal and judicial reform, or environmental sustainability address the most fundamental democratic shortcomings in society?
20. When external donors determine the policy agenda of civil society organizations, to what degree are they promoting democratic principles?