Regression and statistical effects

Management:

Darr, W.A., & Johns, G. (2003). Political climates: Theoretical processes and multi-level antecedents. In Proceedings of the *Annual Conference of the Administrative Sciences Association of Canada, Organizational Behaviour Division*. Halifax, Nova Scotia. 36-50. Retrieved from <http://luxor.acadiau.ca/library/ASAC/v24/Proceedings/OrganizationalBehaviour.pdf>

**Case assignment**

Read this articles, supplemented if you wish with material from the optional readings and perhaps the supplementary background as well, and even other outside reading you might find by yourself to be useful. Then write a 3-5 pages ***critique ofthe use of multiple regression analysis in one of three papers listed above.***

**Case assignment expectations**

A critique is a review and commentary on a particular article or piece of research. It is not necessarily critical in the negative sense, although you may need to comment negatively on some aspects; both positive and negative aspects should be treated. Just because something appears in print, even in an A-list journal, does not make it free from possible errors or beyond criticism; nothing should be necessarily taken at face value. Your informed commentary and analysis is as important as your summary of the material in the article -- simply repeating what the article says does not constitute an adequate critique. You are also expected to use the terminology of regression correctly and clearly.

In this case, your critique should address at least the following issues, as well as any other points that you find relevant and worthy of comment:

* A brief summary of the paper: its purposes, methods, and reported findings
* The use of regression in the data analysis, and its relation (if any) to other kinds of analytical and/or statistical methods
* The nature of the data used, and the degree to which the data met the requirements for regression as described by Garson (n.d.) and Porter *et al (1981)*.
* The appropriateness of the interpretations of coefficients developed in the analysis
* The overall applicability of the Porter *et al*. (1981)'s critique to this study – does their approach call it into question, or does it manage to evade their critique? How, in either case?
* Your overall assessment of the utility of regression as an analytical strategy in the kind of research you are contemplating for your dissertation and beyond, and your ideas for overcoming the problems raised for this strategy by Porter *et al*.

Remember, this is an *applied statistics* course. Thus, explaining the statistical tools, interpreting coefficients, and understanding the properties of the data analysis are particularly important, and need your careful thought and comment, not just general or generic observations.

You are expected to present your critique in appropriate academic form and language, with citations to the readings where needed.