

Feb. 20, 2006 ~~97~~

Ch. 2 Models of Politics

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What is the Energy Deregulation controversy in Delaware, all about?

- DE deregulated electrical utilities in 1999
- Students research this, read newspaper.

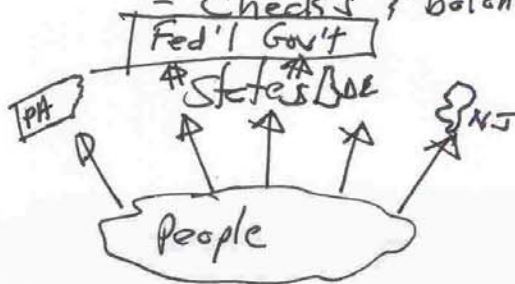
Models of Politics

- Institutional
- Process
- Rational
- Incremental
- Group
- Elite
- Public Choice
- Game Theory

① Institutional - U.S. Government is supreme law of the land.

- Federalism

- Checks & balances by 3 branches of gov't



② Process

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- ① Identify problem - citizen complaint
- ② Set Agenda - columns in mass media
- ③ Formulate policy - White House
- ④ Policy legitimization - Congress
- ⑤ Implementation - Cabinet Departments
- ⑥ Policy evaluation - At budget time

Policy is evaluated annually during the budget process

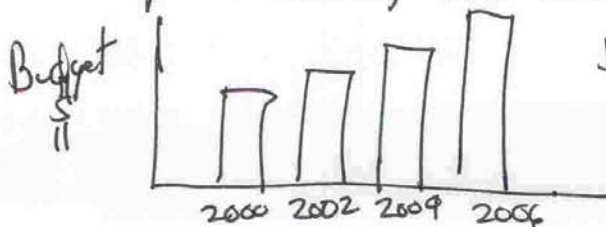
③ Rationalism - Policies are set for maximum social gain.

④ Economic - Policies are set when programs are cost-effective.

$$\text{Benefit} > \text{Cost}$$

$$B/C > 1$$

⑤ Incremental - Quite simply, gov't programs expand annually and incrementally



DE Budget increases 3% annually.

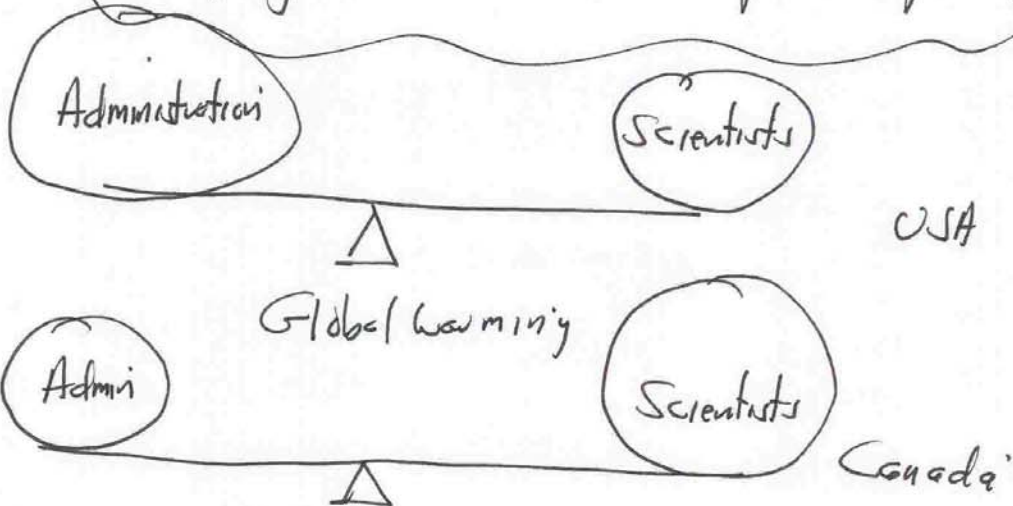
⑤ Group Theory - public interest ^{12/1} groups

A shared attitude group that makes certain claims upon other groups in society.

Name special interest groups.....

- NRA
- NAACP
- Sierra Club
- Consumer Union

Politics is nothing more than a struggle among groups to influence public policy.



Democrats and Republicans represent different interest groups. (What issue decided last election?)

Democrats - who do they represent?

Republicans - "

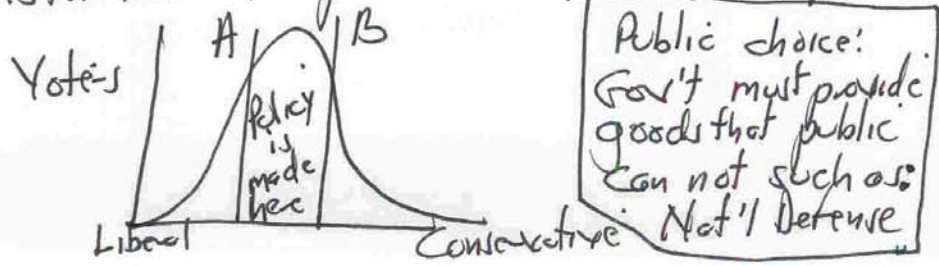
⑥ Elite Model - Preferences of ^{13/}the governing elite

Concepts

- People are apathetic and ill-informed.
- Few should have power, the many should not have power.
- Best example - Monarchy

⑦ Public Choice Theory - Individuals come together in the political arena and the marketplace for their own benefit; to pursue their own self interest. But they can mutually benefit from collective decision-making.

Good example: Thomas Jefferson believed in enlightened self-interest, written in Declaration of Independence. This led to a U.S. Constitution to protect life, liberty, and property



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⑧ Game Theory - two or more people make choices and outcome depends on choices

Consider the game of chicken



		Driver A	
		Stay on course	Veer
Driver B	Stay on course	A: -10 B: -10	A: -5 B: 5
	Veer	A: +5 B: -5	A: -1 B: -1

Assumes that opponents make rational choices

Examples: Brinkmanship: • one ~~long~~ bridge
• Nuclear Deterrence

• Saddam WMD Iraq

Since most opponents are rational, this explains while terrorism not more widespread.

Terrorism: opponents are irrational, do not consider costs, no deterrence

Summary of Ch. 2 Policy Models 15/

Institution Match Game Iraq

Process Maximum Social Gain

Rational

Incremental King of England

Group

Elite

DE Budget

U.S. Constitution

Public Choice

Declaration of Independence

Game Theory

Political Science Course

NRA