

POLITICAL PARTIES

Essential Questions:

- What are the origins of political parties? Did the Founders intend for them to exist?
- What are the functions of political parties?
- Are political parties necessary?
- What are the party platforms of the Democratic and Republican parties?
- Why aren't third parties typically successful?
- How does one gain a political orientation?



By Mr. Cegielski

Objectives

In this section you will

- Discuss a brief history of political parties.
- Understand the role of third parties.
- Explore the characteristics of today's parties.
- Learn about changes in party strength.

Key Terms

precincts
patronage
straight ticket
split ticket
independent voter

Main Idea

The Democratic and Republican parties each have their own particular views. However, a change in government does not result in big changes in policy, since both parties' views are not that far apart.

Warm Up/Do Now: Defend or Attack the Following Quote—4 Minutes

- "I never submitted the whole system of my opinions to the creed of any party of men whatever, in religion, in philosophy, in politics, or in anything else, where I was capable of thinking for myself. Such an addiction is the last degradation of a free and moral agent. If I could not go to heaven but with a party, I would not go there at all." --Thomas Jefferson to Francis Hopkinson, 1789.
ME 7:300



What is a Political Party?

A **political party** is a group of voters, activists, candidates, and office holders who identify with a party label and seek to elect individuals to public office.

Examples of Parties Worldwide

Class 6: Building a Mass Socialist Party
University of Venice
Feb. 19, 2003
Jim Smith

CHART
of
POLITICAL PARTIES

	"Vanguard" Parties	Democratic Socialist	Social Democratic	Center Parties	Right of Center	Far Right
Features	Believe they alone can lead the revolution and socialism. Usually have "democratic centralist" structure.	Emphasize democracy, both internally and in a socialist society.	Want to "reform" capitalism with social welfare programs.	Support capitalism with moderate forms.	Support neo-liberalism. Oppose most social programs.	Support "crack down" on working class. No government interference with business.
Examples	Most Communist Parties (including US, USSR, China), Socialist Workers Party, Workers World, Revolutionary Communist Party	Peace & Freedom (Cal.), New Democrats (Can.), Party of Democratic Socialism (Ger.), Refoundation Communist Party (Italy), Workers Party (Brazil), PRD (Mex.), Japanese Communist Party	Social Democrats (Ger.) Most Labour parties, Most Green parties	Democrats (US), Labour (UK), Liberals (Can.), PRI (Mex.), Most Catholic or Christian Democratic parties	Republicans (US), Most "Conservative" parties, PAN (Mex.), Reform (US), Canadian Alliance	Nazi (Ger.), fascist parties, racist parties, American Independent (Cal.), Most Libertarian parties
Represent which class?	Working class	Working class	Working class, small business	Capitalists	Capitalists	Capitalists

The Evolution of American Party Democracy

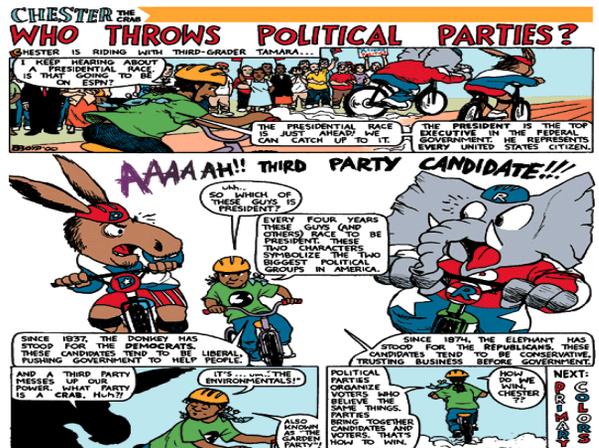
- **Alexander Hamilton** (Federalist) and **Thomas Jefferson** (Anti-Federalist) are often considered 'fathers' of the modern party system.
- Since 1800, the U.S. has had a **two-party system**, in which two political parties have dominated.

Who was the founder of the Democratic-Republican Party?



The Granger Collection

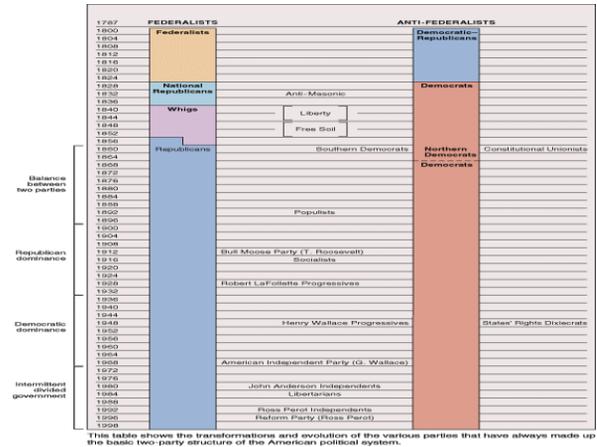
Party Symbols The elephant and the donkey are symbols of the Republicans and the Democrats, respectively.



Research the History of the use of the “Elephant and Donkey”



- **Directions:** Using at least three Internet sources and PowerPoint, write a brief history of the origins and use of the elephant and donkey in political cartoons. Your presentation MUST be at least 8 slides long, including relevant historical information and cartoons from the past.
- In addition, you must draw your own large elephant-donkey cartoon on the 2008 election on a large sheet of paper for the presentation. No stick, bubble or box figures!



The History of Democrats and Republicans

- From the presidential elections of 1860 to the present, the same two major parties have contested elections in the United States: **Democrats and Republicans**.
 - **Civil War and Reconstruction** – Emergence of Republican Party and dominance
 - **1876-1896** -- closely competitive
 - **1896-1929** -- Republican dominance; **Progressive Era** politics with a focus on reforming graft and corruption; Also led to Prohibition (18th Amendment) as well as women’s vote (19th Amendment)
 - **1930s and 1940s** – Democratic dominance under **FDR’s New Deal Alignment or Coalition**—Opposed laissez-faire economics and supported more government intervention in the economy to bring about relief.
 - **1950s and 1960s** -- closely competitive
 - **1970-present** -- neither party dominant. Example: 2000 & 2004 elections. A largely divided government.



Readings

Required Readings

- Introduction—Political Parties: Mobilizing Agents
- Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*: “Parties in the United States”
- Washington, “Letter to Thomas Jefferson”
- Roosevelt, “Bull Moose Speech”
- Pieth, “Selecting Presidential Nominees: The Evolution of the Current System and Prospects for Reform”

Questions

1. What was it that made Tocqueville consider some parties to be great? What distinguished the minor parties?
2. What did Roosevelt believe was the immediate impetus to his attempted assassination?
3. What did Roosevelt assert were the goals of the progressives?
4. What did Washington believe was useful to plant in a wheat field in the years before wheat was planted? What does his attention to the management of land suggest about the importance of self-government in work as well as politics?
5. What was President Washington’s opinion of parties?

The Functions of American Parties

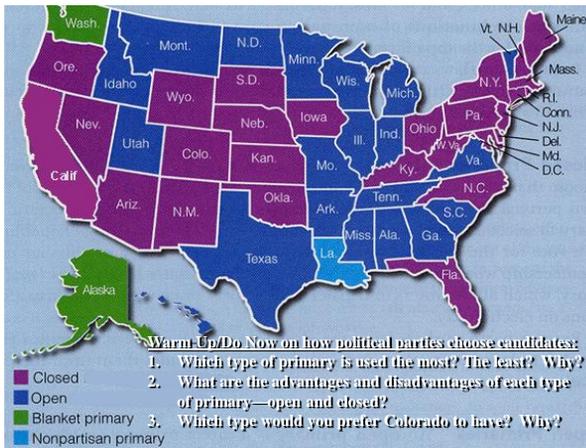
- **Nominate Candidates**—Parties choose candidates to run against each other.
- **Unify the Electorate**—Resolve conflict inside parties and among voters. Structure and simplify voting choice by reducing the number of candidates running for election.
- **Organize the Government**—Example: Congress is organized along party lines. The party that controls the White House gets **patronage**—the ability to appoint officials from own party.
- **Translate Preference into Policy**—The party that wins the election has a chance to enact its policies and implement campaign promises.
- **Provide a Loyal Opposition**—After the winning party enjoys a **honeymoon**—a polite interval following the election—the opposition criticizes the party in control of the White House.

Think!



Mark Kegans, Getty Images, Inc. - Liaison

Strength in Numbers Members of political parties work together to put the candidates they support into office. **Identify Cause And Effect** What purposes do you think political rallies like this one serve?



How do parties nominate candidates?

Different Methods:

- 1) **Caucuses**—A meeting of local party members to choose party officials or candidates for public office and decide a platform. Played an important role in pre-Revolutionary politics.
- 2) **Party Conventions**—A meeting of party delegates to pass on matters of policy and select party members for public office. Began during the 1830's and 1840's to eliminate "secret deals." **National Party Conventions** meet every four years to nominate Presidents and Vice Presidents.
- 3) **Direct Primary**—Election open to all members of the party; voters choose the persons who will be the party's nominees in the general election.
- 4) **Open Primary**—In some states, any voter, regardless of party, may vote for nominee. Often leads to crossover voting.
- 5) **Closed Primary**—In other states, only persons already registered in a party may participate in voting for that party's nominee.
- 6) **Blanket Primary**—the candidates of all the parties are listed on a single ballot; nonbinding primaries, sometimes called "beauty contests," do not require the party to adhere to the result of the primary in choosing its candidates.
- 7) **Nonpartisan Primary**—means no political party is associated with the office or issue on the ballot.

Party Definitions and the Political Spectrum

Directions: In the table below, define each of the terms listed in the left-hand column. You may use either your government book or the online resources to complete the list. Be prepared to use these terms appropriately in classroom discussions and your own writing.

Key Terms	Definition
political party	
major party	
minor party	
partnership	
bipartisan	
plurality	
party in power	
incumbent	
electorate	

What Does Each Party Believe? What Do YOU Believe?

Each of the major political parties has a specific belief on each of the issues listed below. Your assignment is to use the internet or other resources to determine the beliefs of each party. In the appropriate column, write the party's stance and list the source used to determine it. You must use at least five (5) different sources. In the final column, give your beliefs. They may be similar to one of the parties, they may be different than both parties, or they may be a combination of both. This worksheet is a pre-writing assignment designed to help you prepare for your final persuasive paper. Each issue is worth 5 points for a total of 50 points.



Issue	Democrat	Republican	Personal Beliefs
Federal Budget	Source:	Source:	
Social Welfare	Source:	Source:	
Immigration	Source:	Source:	
School Vouchers	Source:	Source:	

Issue	Democrat	Republican	Personal Beliefs
Foreign Aid	Source:	Source:	
Trade v. Human Rights	Source:	Source:	
Environment v. Business	Source:	Source:	
Abortion	Source:	Source:	
Gun Control	Source:	Source:	
Defense Spending	Source:	Source:	

Websites for Research

Summary of All Parties

- www.ontheissues.org

Major Parties

- Democratic National Committee

- www.democrats.org

- Republican National Committee

- www.rnc.org

Third Parties

- Third Party Central

- www.3pc.net/index.html

- Libertarian Party

- www.lp.org

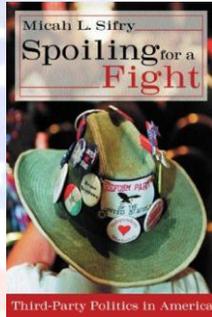
- Reform Party.

- www.reformparty.org

Do Now: Do Third Parties have a Fighting Chance?

Critical Thinking Question:

Is it fair that only two parties have dominated American politics since 1860? Do third parties deserve a more equal opportunity?



Minor Parties: Third-Partyism

- **Minor party or third party**—A small political party that rises and falls with a charismatic candidate or, if composed of ideologies on the right or left, usually persists over a longer period of time.
- Third parties are generally categorized in three ways:
 - **Ideological** (based on ideals that are often radically different from the two major political parties)
 - **Single-issue** (addressing one main concern and avoiding others)
 - **Factional** (parties that have split from a major party)



The History of Third Parties; Success or Failure?

- Minor parties are not a threat to the two major parties.
- Only eight third parties have won any electoral votes in a presidential contest.
- The third parties that have had some success are:
 - 1996 and 1992: Ross Perot's Reform Party
 - 1968: George Wallace's American Independent Party
 - 1924: Robert LaFollette's Progressive Party
 - 1912: Teddy Roosevelt's Bull Moose Party
 - 1856: Millard Fillmore's American Party



Research and Short Presentations on Third Parties

- **Directions:** You will split into cooperative groups of three to five students. Each group will research one of the third parties listed below. Each group will answer the following questions and then prepare a class Powerpoint presentation on the impact and contributions of the party. Visuals and accurate historical facts are required!
 - In what category does your third party belong (ideological, single-issue, factional)? Explain why.
 - Name and describe one of this party's candidates.
 - What factors led to the emergence of this party?
 - List specific party issues or political goals.
 - List any accomplishments or contributions this party has made to society.
 - What obstacles did the party encounter?
 - Does the party still exist? If not, explain why.
- **Third Party Choices:**
 - Free Soil (1848): <http://gi.grolier.com/presidents/ae/side/freesoil.html>
 - Whig-American (1856): <http://gi.grolier.com/presidents/ae/side/whig.html>
 - Southern Democrat (1860): http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jmcrow/stories_org_democratic.html
 - Greenback (1880): <http://www.bartleby.com/65/gz/Greenback.html>
 - Populist (1892): <http://www.bartleby.com/65/pop/Populist.html>
 - Bull Moose (1912): <http://gi.grolier.com/presidents/ae/side/bullmoos.html>
 - Progressive (1924): <http://gi.grolier.com/presidents/ae/side/progress.html>
 - American Independent (1968): <http://www.aipca.org/>
 - Libertarian (1971): <http://www.lp.org/> -> <http://www.lp.org/>
 - Independent (1992): <http://www.usiap.org/> -> <http://www.usiap.org/>
 - Reform (1996): <http://www.reformparty.org/>
 - Green (2000): <http://www.greenpartyus.org/>



Party Platform

A **party platform** is a formal statement of beliefs, opinions, and policy stands tied together by a set of underlying principles based on the party's ideological orientation.



Comparing and Contrasting

As you learn about a subject, you should compare and contrast information to understand similarities and differences. Using a chart helps you organize information so that you can compare and contrast it easily. The statements in the following chart are adapted from the Democratic and Republican party platforms of 2000. As you read the information, look for similarities and differences in the two parties' positions.

Selected Party Platform Statements	
Democratic Party	Republican Party
"We believe in making child care more affordable."	"We advocate choice in child care."
"Democrats believe that in building upon record-breaking prosperity and growth we must not leave any community behind . . ."	"Budget surpluses are the result of over-taxation of the American people. The tax system threatens to slow, and perhaps to reverse, economic expansion."
"America needs public schools that compete with one another, not private school vouchers that drain resources from public schools."	"We endorse the principle of expanding parental choice and encouraging competition . . ."

Learn the Skill
Follow these steps to compare and contrast information:

- 1 Identify the topic. This is the main idea, or the subject of similarities and differences. What is being compared and contrasted?
- 2 Identify similarities. How are the items being compared alike? List these in a chart.
- 3 Identify differences. How are the items different? List these in a chart.
- 4 Analyze the information. Are the items being compared more similar or more different? How might the similarities influence the outcomes? How might the differences create problems?

Practice the Skill
Look at the chart above, and answer these questions:

- 1 What is being compared?
- 2 Identify one important similarity.
- 3 Identify one important difference.
- 4 Make a generalization about the two political parties. Base your generalization on the information in the chart.

Apply the Skill
Look through the front page section of the newspaper. Find an issue on which the Republicans and Democrats in Congress, or any pair of Democratic and Republican candidates running against one another for the same office, disagree. Use a graphic organizer to compare and contrast the two politicians' viewpoints.

The Party-In-The-Electorate

- The **party-in-the-electorate** is the mass of potential voters who identify with specific party.
- **Party identification** is belief that one belongs to a certain party, and the extent to which that belief affects one's political views and actions. It is often a voter's central political reference symbol.
 - Develops from socializing influences such as parents, education, peers, charismatic personalities, cataclysmic events, and intense social issues.

Party Identification in the United States, 1952–2004

Year	Democrats (%)	Independents (%)	Republicans (%)
1952	48.6	23.3	28.1
1956	45.3	24.4	30.3
1960	46.4	23.4	30.2
1964	52.2	23.0	24.8
1968	46.0	29.5	24.5
1972	41.0	35.2	23.8
1976	40.2	36.8	23.0
1980	41.7	35.3	23.0
1984	37.7	34.8	27.6
1988	35.7	36.3	28.0
1992	35.8	38.7	25.5
1996	39.3	32.9	27.8
2000	34.8	41.0	24.2
2004	34.6	25.2	31.8

SOURCES: National Election Studies, University of Michigan; National Annenberg Election Survey 2004, The Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania

Analyze Charts

This chart shows the percentage of voters who identify with the two major parties and the percentage of independents.

- (1) **Analyze** Which group shows the biggest gain of support between 1972 and 1988?
- (2) **Apply** How did this group's share change between 1988 and 2004, and which other group was most likely affected by the change?

Active Citizen

Students Make a Difference



At age ten, Matthew R. Greenfield was asked by a neighbor to pass out literature for the Democratic Party in his hometown of Fair Lawn, New Jersey. He soon found himself attending council meetings.



By age 15, Matthew was interning for the Democratic campaign chairman for New Jersey's state legislature. The following year, Matthew was a page in the U.S. House of Representatives, working daily on the floor of Congress. Today, Matthew serves as the municipal youth liaison of the Fair Lawn Democratic Organization.

▲ Students can make a difference by helping educate voters so they can make informed decisions on election day.

Service Learning

How can you make a difference for your chosen political party?

Which political party do you most identify with?

- In order to determine your political party affiliation, you will complete three steps:
 - Take the quiz at <http://www.quizrocket.com/political-party-quiz/> and record the results.
 - Match your responses with the political platforms of each party (textbook pages 598-599).
 - Do your views most closely match the Democratic or Republican party? Or, do your views resemble those of some third parties, such as the Green party or Libertarian party? **On a separate sheet of paper, explain in a minimum of fifteen complete sentences the following:**
 - Explain the results of the survey. Which party do you most identify with and why?
 - Look at your party's platform in the textbook. Do you agree with all of its ideas? Explain.
 - Would your choices here influence the way you would vote in the 2012 Presidential Election? Make a prediction!



Political Party Identification Worksheet



How well do you know that platforms of the two major American political parties? For each of the ideas listed below, indicate with D or an R which party hold the belief. We'll exchange papers and see how you did.

Score: Number correct times 2 = ___ over 20.

- They favor tax cuts for all levels of society in the hope that increased consumer spending will lead to growth of America's treasury.
- This party is willing to open up the Alaskan National Wildlife Research (ANWR) to oil exploration and drilling to reduce US dependence on foreign oil.
- They rejected the 1994 Health Care Plan, which would have placed a large federal agency in charge of insuring the 50 million Americans who lack any sort of health insurance.
- They believe in supporting the middle class and poor of American society by redistributing wealth through collecting taxes and creating social programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.
- This party opposed the lifting of gun control laws such as the Assault Weapons ban, and they want to place a 30-day waiting period on the purchase of handguns.
- This party opposed large increases in defense spending because they say it hurts domestic spending on programs like public schools, child care, and assistance for America's cities.
- This party supports the use of taxpayer funds in the form of vouchers to allow students who want to transfer to private schools in order to get a better education.
- This party is suspicious of businesses and feels that the government must make rules on issues like labor relations, pollution, and corporate greed.
- This party is more willing to use American forces overseas. In order to make the military stronger, the party supports increased spending on troops and weapons.
- This party wants to reduce America's need for Middle East oil by investing in research for alternative energy sources such as wind, hydroelectric, and geothermal sources.

Political Parties in the United States

Close Print

Democratic Party

- favors government regulation of the economy; supports organized labor
- favors higher taxes for high-income earners and a redistribution of tax revenue to programs for the poor
- favors keeping welfare in place for the poor and disadvantaged
- favors school-funding initiatives that create competitive public schools

Republican Party

- favors less governmental intervention in the economy; supports restricting organized labor
- favors lower taxes and breaks for high-income earners to encourage business investment and economic growth
- favors cutting back welfare benefits in order to foster initiative for welfare recipients to find work
- favors school funding initiatives that allow for parental choice, including school vouchers for private schools

Major Third Parties

Party	Issues
Constitutional Party (1992-present)	anti-gun control; anti-tax; protectionist
Green Party (1985-present)	environmental protection
Labor Party (1996-present)	protecting the rights of workers
Libertarian Party (1971-present)	individual liberty; economic freedom
Reform Party (1995-present)	campaign reform; balanced budgets

Zoom

Loyalty Trends (today)-Who votes Democratic?

- Labor union members tend to vote Democratic
- Democrats have a lead in garnering the women's votes
- Over 80% of African Americans and Hispanics vote 3 to 1 Democratic
- Young people are again more Democratic
- Most blue collar workers and unemployed are Democrats
- Catholics and Jews are mostly Democrats
- The widowed are mostly Democrats
- Liberals tend to be Democrats



Loyalty Trends (today) - Who votes Republican?

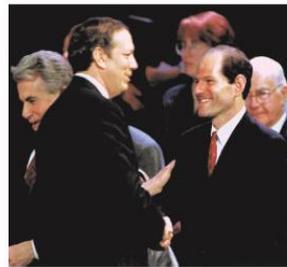
- Chambers of Commerce tend to vote Republican
- The West tends to be more Republican
- Men tend to split fairly evenly between the two parties
- Cuban Americans are generally Republicans (anti-Castro)
- Professionals, executives, and white collar workers tend to be Republican
- High status Protestants tend to be Republican
- Married couples tend to be Republican
- Conservatives tend to be Republican



Declining Party Loyalty?

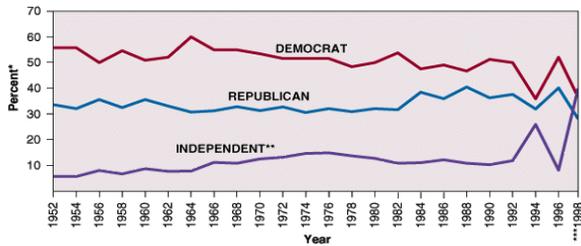
- The number of independents in the U.S. rose from 19% in 1958 to 37% twenty years later.
- Identification with the two major parties today is in the mid 80% range.
- Pollsters often find that many self declared independents often 'lean' quite strongly to either the Democrat or Republican party.
- "Leaners" do feel party affiliations, but choose not to self-identify with a party.

How does split-ticket voting affect candidates for office?



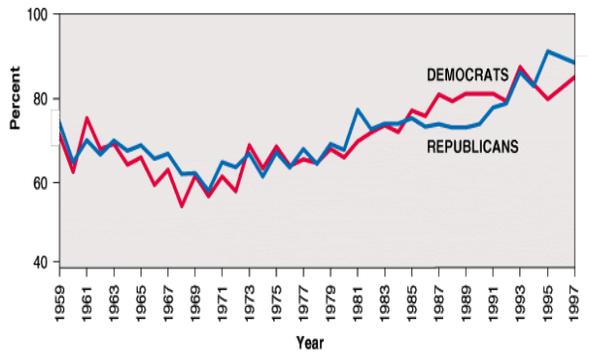
AP/Wide World Photos

Split Tickets New York governor George Pataki (left), a Republican, shakes hands with New York State attorney general Eliot Spitzer (right), a Democrat. **Make Inferences** Why do you think voters are increasingly likely to vote for split tickets?



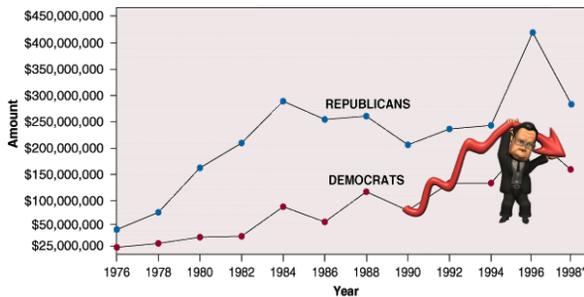
Simply defined, party identification is the response a voter gives to the poll question, "With what political party do you identify?" Notice how, despite the varying party of the president over time, party identification has remained fairly stable from the 1950s to the early 1990s. Not until an era of acute partisan strife in the mid-1990s have the independents made significant gains in party identification.

* Partisan totals do not add to 100% because "apolitical" and "other" responses were deleted. Sample size varied from poll to poll, from a low of 1,130 to a high of 2,850.
 ** Pure Independents only. Independent "leaners" have been added to Democratic and Republican totals.
 *** 1998 figures were provided from a Gallup poll. Due to differences in wording from the Center for Political Studies Poll, the Gallup Poll may overstate the number of Independents.
 SOURCE: Center for Political Studies/Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan, made available through the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research. Also, Leon D. Epstein, *Political Parties in the American Mold* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1986), Table 8.1, p. 257. Data for 1996 provided by election-day exit poll conducted by Voter Research and Surveys.



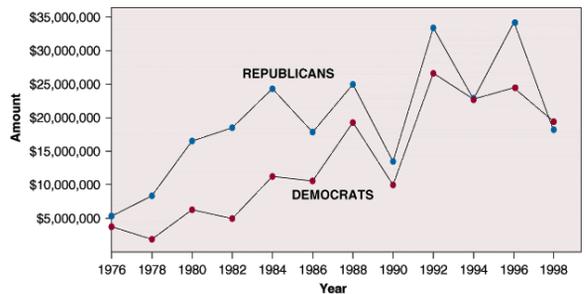
Note how party-based voting has increased conspicuously since the 1970s

SOURCE: *Congressional Quarterly Almanacs* (Washington: Congressional Quarterly, Inc).



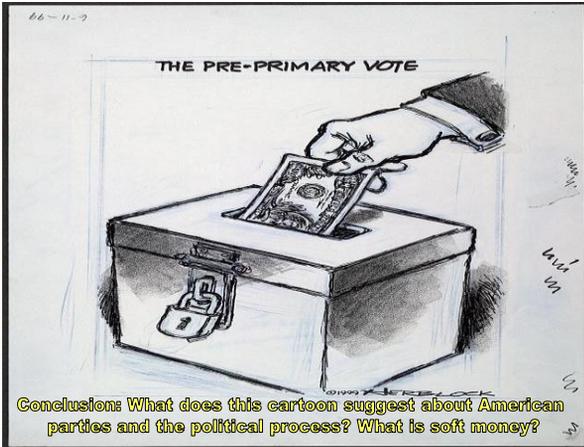
Note how the Republican Party has consistently taken in substantially higher receipts than their Democratic competitors— especially during the 1980s, when the Republican party consolidated and prospered during Ronald Reagan's administration. Not until 1996 did Democrats reach levels long enjoyed by the Republicans.

* Numbers represent total monies raised between January 1, 1997 and December 31, 1998. Includes total for national senatorial and congressional committees as well as all other reported national, state, and local spending.
 SOURCE: Federal Election Commission.

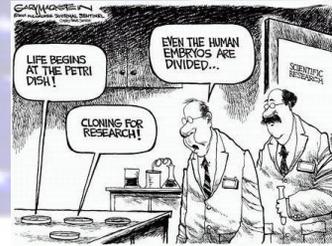


Again, notice how Republicans consistently outspent Democrats through the 1980's, and how recent efforts by the Democratic Party have brought their spending capacity much closer to that of their opponents.

*Numbers represent monies spent between Jan. 1, 1997 and Dec. 31, 1998. Substantial spending took place by both parties after June 30, 1998. Includes total for national senatorial and congressional committees as well as all other reported national, state, and local spending; all presidential, Senate, and House candidates are included. Not included are "soft money" expenditures.
 SOURCE: Federal Election Commission.



Do Now: Introduction to Wilson's article "How Divided Are We?"



- **Question:** How does this cartoon relate to Wilson's thesis?

Preparation for Socratic Seminar on Wilson's "How Divided Are We?"

***Note:** You must have completed Parts I and II in order to participate in the scheduled Seminar. This was homework. Did you complete this?

- **Part I. Answer the following questions:**
 - 1. What is the author's thesis? (Also, annotate/highlight it in text).
 - 2. What evidence is used to support it? Be specific. (paraphrase evidence/arguments so you can refer to it during seminar.)
 - 3. Why did the author write this? Consider the historical context.
 - 4. Is the argument persuasive?
- **Part II. Ticket--Create three Socratic Seminar questions of your own to ask your fellow classmates.**
 - Try to create level 2 and 3 questions. Be prepared to use these questions, especially if you are asked to lead the Seminar.

Unit Test

- **Directions:** Choose the word that best completes the sentence.
 1. An organization of citizens who wish to influence and control government by getting their members elected to office is called a _____. A. platform B. canvass C. political party D. city council
 2. The word that means "to propose someone for public office" is _____. A. nominate B. plank C. canvass D. platform
 3. A statement of the party's official major public issues is called a _____. A. plank B. platform C. canvass D. political party
 4. A position statement on each specific issue in a party's platform is called a _____. A. canvass B. political party C. nominate D. plank
 5. To go door-to-door handing out information and asking people which candidates they support is to _____. A. nominate B. canvass C. plank D. platform
 6. Recall: Which word best describes a major role political parties play in regard to one another? A. watchdog B. elephant C. donkey D. All of the above.
 7. Draw Inferences: Why do you think parties monitor one another's activities?
 8. Explain: Which of these is a way volunteers help political parties? A. canvassing voters B. driving voters to polls C. providing voters with information D. All of the above.
 9. Draw Inferences: How might party activity at the local level affect a party's national policy?
 10. **Writing Activity** Suppose you are going to interview a local politician about a current controversial issue. Choose an issue that is important to you. Then prepare a list of questions to determine how the view of this politician and his or her party is different from the view of the other major party. TIP: Read your local paper or local Web sites to find a controversial issue in your community. Be sure you fully understand both sides of the issue when preparing your list of questions.

- 11. The divisions a community is divided into for voting purposes are called _____. A. patronage B. precincts C. platforms D. planks
- 12. The system in which party leaders perform favors for loyal supporters of the party is called _____. A. platform B. planks C. patronage D. split ticket
- 13. A ballot cast for all the candidates of one party is called _____. A. straight ticket B. split ticket C. patronage D. precinct
- 14. The practice of voting for candidates of more than one party on the same ballot is called _____. A. patronage B. straight ticket C. platform D. split ticket
- 15. People who do not support a particular political party are known as _____. A. watchdogs B. independent voters C. precincts D. planks
- 16. Recall: What event led to a major shift of power to the Democratic party in the early part of the 20th century? A. the depression of the 1930s and the election of Franklin Roosevelt B. World War II C. World War I D. All of the above.
- 17. Recall: What third party did Theodore Roosevelt lead? A. the Independent Party B. the Elephant Party C. the Bull Moose Party D. the Democratic Party 3
- 18. Analyze Information: What disadvantages does a third-party candidate have?
- 19. Draw Conclusions: Which of these is a major reason neither political party adopts extreme positions issues? A. each party is made up of totally reasonable people B. each party needs wide support to win C. each party considers the other's needs D. each party gets money from the exact same donors
- 20. Recall: What are the general beliefs of the Republican and Democratic Parties?
- 21. Recall: Which of these is not one of the three elements parties use to maintain their strength? A. a system of patronage B. a central role in election campaigns C. voter loyalty D. foreign aid 5
- 22. Demonstrate Reasoned Judgment: How would you expect patronage appointments to affect the efficiency of government?
- 23. **Writing Activity** Do your political beliefs align more closely with the Democratic or Republican party? Visit both parties' websites to learn their positions on three issues that are important to you. Determine which party's positions most closely match yours. Then, write a one page flyer to convince others to support that party. Be sure to clearly outline the party's position on your three issues.

TEST: Political Parties-Free Response Questions

- **Directions:** Respond to each request for information below in complete sentences! You must answer 5 out of the eight, so choose carefully!
- 1) Identify the two major political parties of the United States and the key elements of their platforms.
- 2) Identify at least three minor political parties of the United States and the key elements of their platforms.
- 3) Describe party loyalties. Who tends to vote Democratic? Republican? (Hint: Think about demographics!)
- 4) Describe the role of political parties in elections.
- 5) Describe the role of political parties in the U.S. Government.
- 6) Has the Constitution done an adequate job of protecting the minority from political "factions?" Why or why not?
- 7) Do political parties serve an important function in our political system? Why or why not?
- 8) What would politics be like in the United States without political parties? Better or worse? Explain.

Game: Name that Political Party!

- **Warm Up: Study these Rules—The game begins in 1 minute:**
 - 1) Some of the following statements may encompass the beliefs of more than one party!
 - 2) Statements are answered in order, from groups 1 through 6.
 - 3) You may not use your book or notes! Put them away now!
 - 4) One student will serve as scorekeeper.
 - 5) I will serve as a judge along with two other students (you must be very knowledgeable about various political party platforms!). We are the only ones who can use our books as reference tools to determine the correct response.
 - 6) If you feel that the opposing team, answered incorrectly or neglected to mention all of the political parties which the statement applies to, you can issue a challenge by raising your hand immediately. If during the challenge you answer correctly, then you have effectively stolen that potential point away from the opposing team. If you answer incorrectly, you lose a point and the other team retains the point.
 - 7) Every so often, special opportunities will appear, requiring a group to take the "bet" or to "stick it" to another team of their choosing. The team that is "stuck" with the statement must provide the correct answer in order to avoid losing points.

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 1. The United States should maintain/increase military funding to maintain world peace.
- 2. **Bet it or Stick it! Worth 1 point! (Statement will appear after you make a choice)**
- --The United States should not act unilaterally in military actions.
- 3. The United States should not stay committed to the mission of the United Nations or support its decisions
- 4. **Bet it or Stick it! Worth 2 points!**
- --The United States should provide subsidies to foreign democracies
- 5. The United States should deploy a missile defense system.

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 6. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 2 points!**
- --Some currently illegal drugs, such as marijuana, should be legalized.
- 7. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 2 points!**
- --The government should seek longer jail terms and stiffer penalties for those convicted of drug-related offenses.
- 8. Citizens who have not committed felonies have a right to own guns.
- 9. Immigration laws should be strict, not allowing easy entry into the U.S.
- 10. Organized prayer in public schools should be legal.

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 11. The separation of church and state should not exist.
- 12. Income taxes should be lower.
- 13. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 2 points!**
- --Taxes on income should be substituted for taxes on spending.
- 14. Taxes on corporate (business) incomes should be higher
- 15. Higher taxes on gifts and inherited wealth

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 16. Tariffs should be equal between nations.
- 17. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 2 points!**
- --Free trade forces un democratic nations to become more democratic.
- 18. The government should impose regulations to protect the environment.
- 19. Businesses should not pay for environmental damage caused by their products.
- 20. Global warming is not caused by human activities.

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 21. Public schools should be privatized
- 22. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 3 points!**
- --Social security should be privatized
- 23. The minimum wage is beneficial for the poor.
- 24. Business should hire according solely on ability.
- 25. Those who lead alternative lifestyles, such as gays and lesbians, should not have equal legal recognition.

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 26. Abortion rights are a part of women's rights.
- 27. The government should censor radio, TV, press, and internet content.
- 28. Healthcare should be the responsibility of the government
- 29. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 3 points!**
- --The government should provide subsidies for scientific research.
- 30. Human cloning and brain stem research should be made illegal.

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 31. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 4 points!**
- --Regulations should be placed on the use of private property.
- 32. The government should provide subsidies for big businesses and farms.
- 33. The government should never back unions or striking workers.
- 34. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 4 points!**
- --There should be tough regulations on lobbying and campaign financing.
- 35. There should be more federal involvement and funding of public education.

Name that Political Party!

Note: Some statements may encompass the belief of more than one party!

- 36. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 5 points!**
- --Schools and businesses should support affirmative action
- 37. I believe in the violent overthrow of capitalism.
- 38. I believe in a classless society
- 39. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 5 points!**
- --I believe in the use of propaganda to control what people think.
- 40. I believe in collective or cooperative ownership of property.
- 41. I oppose free trade!
- 42. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 8 points!**
- --I would have supported the passage of Colorado's Referendum C & D last year (Using increases in property taxes to fund education).
- 43. **Bet it or stick it! Worth 5 points!**
- --I believe in the idea of, "From each according to his ability, to each according to his need."
- **End of game! Who is the winner with the most points?**