Chapter 2
Ideology:
Ideas in Conflict
Ideologies: Liberalism and Conservatism

Ideology: “a consistent and integrated system of ideas, values, and beliefs” (T. Dye, P 43)
Brief Overview of All Types of Ideologies
Americans: Liberal, Moderate, Conservative. 1972-2008

The graph shows the percentage of respondents identifying as Liberal, Moderate, and Conservative from 1972 to 2008. The y-axis represents the percentage of respondents, and the x-axis represents the years from 1972 to 2008. Each year is marked with a grid line for clarity.

- **Liberal**: Represented by a blue line, showing fluctuations over the years.
- **Moderate**: Represented by a green line, maintaining a relatively stable percentage.
- **Conservative**: Represented by a red line, showing trends and shifts from the 1970s to 2008.
Americans: Liberal, Moderate, Conservative. 1992-2013

Source: Gallup Politics, Jan 10 2014
Liberalism

As stated in the text, Modern, or Contemporary Liberalism combines a belief in a strong govt. to provide economic security and protection for civil rites with a belief in freedom from govt. intervention in social conduct.

Liberals look at big govt. as a good and necessary for positively changing people’s lives through the exercise of govtl. Power.

*Source: T. Dye, Politics in America*
Conservatism

According to our text, Modern Conservatism combines a belief in free markets, limited govt., and individual self-reliance in economic affairs w/a belief in the values of tradition, law, and morality in social affairs.

Conservatives generally have a less optimistic sense of human nature and thus generally place their faith in institutions such as law, traditional values, order, family, church, and community.

*Source: T. Dye, Politics in America*
## Conservative versus Liberal on the Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conservative</th>
<th>Liberal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>free markets</td>
<td>business regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>limited government</td>
<td>active government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>individual self-reliance</td>
<td>public services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tradition</td>
<td>civil rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>law</td>
<td>consumer protectionism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>morality</td>
<td>environmental protection</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Libertarianism

libertarian: A person who upholds the principles of individual liberty especially of thought and action. Libertarians believe in, and pursue, personal freedom while maintaining personal responsibility. The Libertarian Party itself serves a much larger pro-liberty community with the specific mission of electing Libertarians to public office.

Libertarians strongly oppose any government interfering in their personal, family and business decisions. Essentially, they believe all Americans should be free to live their lives and pursue their interests as they see fit as long as they do no harm to another.

In a nutshell, they are advocates for a smaller government, lower taxes and more freedom

Source: Webster’s Online dictionary; Libertarian Party website
Socialism
The text defines Democratic Socialism as “an economic system in which basic industries, banks, agricultural systems, and communications networks are owned and controlled by the govt. at either the local or national level”

*Source: T. Dye, Politics in America*
The Left vs. Right Political Spectrum

Left Wing: Anarchism, Communism, Socialism, Liberalism

Right Wing: Conservatism, Monarchism, Nazism, Fascism

Slavery - Freedom - Slavery
The Classic L-R spectrum makes little sense to me...too many contradictions...too hard to place some ideologies...

The next slide contains a spectrum that makes FAR more sense to me...
The True Political Spectrum

LEFT
- Total State Rule
- Fascism
- Communism
- Socialism
- Islam
- Totalitarianism
- Tyranny

U.S.A.

LIMITED GOVERNMENT
- Rule of Law
- Individual Rights
- Free Economy

RIGHT
- No Government
- Anarchy
- Chaos

http://therightplanet.com
Ideological Mapping

Where on this chart would you place…

a) George W. Bush
b) Barack Obama
c) Yourself

Have your views changed over time?
Liberal to Very Conservative by State
Does the ideology of your teachers impact what and how you are taught?

**Ideology in the Classroom**

**Political Ideology of Professors**

- **All**: 51% Liberal, 17% Middle of the Road, 28% Conservative
- **Humanities**: 76% Liberal, 9% Middle of the Road, 15% Conservative
- **Social Sciences**: 72% Liberal, 14% Middle of the Road, 14% Conservative
- **Biological Sciences**: 61% Liberal, 17% Middle of the Road, 23% Conservative
- **Physical Sciences**: 54% Liberal, 19% Middle of the Road, 26% Conservative
- **Engineering**: 40% Liberal, 22% Middle of the Road, 38% Conservative
- **Law**: 36% Liberal, 22% Middle of the Road, 42% Conservative
- **Business**: 31% Liberal, 17% Middle of the Road, 52% Conservative

Colors represent:
- **Liberal**: Blue
- **Middle of the Road**: Green
- **Conservative**: Red
# Age and Ideology

Thinking about social issues, would you say your views on social issues are conservative, moderate, or liberal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
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<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Liberal</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18–24</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–38</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39 plus</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>19</td>
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Thinking about economic issues, would you say your views on economic issues are conservative, moderate, or liberal?

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<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39 plus</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other Ideologies

ANTI-DEMOCRATIC

- Fascism: far right, e.g., Hitler, Mussolini
- Marxism: left, e.g., Marx, Engels
- Leninism: left, e.g., Lenin
- Communism: left, e.g., Stalin, Mao

SOCIALISM

- Egalitarian, state-owned economic system (as opposed to capitalism), left, e.g., Sweden
Ideology Statements

1) “Government is not the solution to our problems, government is the problem”
   a) Conservative
   b) Liberal
   c) Socialist
   d) Libertarian
   e) None of the Above

2) “Two people of the same sex who really love each other should be allowed legally to get married”
   a) Conservative
   b) Liberal
   c) Socialist
   d) Libertarian
   e) None of the Above

3) “So far as poverty is concerned, there has never been a more effective machine for eliminating poverty
   then the free enterprise system and the free market”
   a) Conservative
   b) Liberal
   c) Socialist
   d) Libertarian
   e) None of the Above

4) “Somewhere I read that the greatness of America is the right to protest for rights”
   a) Conservative
   b) Liberal
   c) Socialist
   d) Libertarian
   e) None of the Above

5) “Fatty foods need to be taxed at higher rates to fight obesity and type 2 diabetes”
   a) Conservative
   b) Liberal
   c) Socialist
   d) Libertarian
   e) None of the Above