

Ap govt: chapter 6: public opinion and political actions



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What were 3 great faces of immigration to the united states? 1.) late 19th century, northwestern Europeans constituted the 1st wave of immigration
2.) late 19th and early 20th centuries, southern and eastern Europeans made up the 2nd wave, passed through Ellis Island

3.) recent decades--> 3rd wave, consisted of hispanics and asians. 1980's second largest number of immigrations what was the goal of the Simpson-Mazzoli Act?-it requires that employers document citizenship of their employees

-things to stop illegal immigration from mex and central latin america ONAP

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How have these demographic changes affected political changes? immigration, regional shifts, aging population
immigration: after census, house of reps. are reallocated to the states on the basis of population changes

regional shifts: population growth has been coveted in west and south

aging population: florida population grows from

elderly-social security explain the significance of each of the following as

sources for political learning: family, mass media, schools
family: children

views are usually after their parents

mass media: "new parent"--> TV is main source of info

schools: try to raise children committed to the basic values of the system.

Learned about virtues of capitalism and democracy and will learn positive features of system and be supportive citizens

name 2 ways in which aging affects political behavior

1. political participation--> older the person the more political participation

2. public opinion--> learning to vote, evaluate political events, to pick a
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political party what is the key to the accuracy of opinion polls? random sampling
3 criticism of public opinion polling
1. makes politicians more concerned with following than leading

2. weaken democracy by distressing the election process

3. election day exit polls--> used by major media pollsters to predict electoral winners with speed and precision
what is the "paradox of mass politics" according to Russell Neuman? the American political system works as well as it does given the discomfoting lack of public knowledge about politics
what is the largest impact of declining trust in government since the 1960s
has been the way it has drained public support for polices that address the problems of poverty and racial inequality
Liberals: general beliefs and typical demographic characteristics
general beliefs: wide scope of govt. with polices that promote equality

typical demographic characteristics: under 30, women, minorities (race, religion)
Conservatives: general beliefs and typical demographic

characteristics
general beliefs:

typical demographic characteristics: over 30, white, men
explain how the role of religion influences political ideology in the U. S.-determined more by religiosity

-that is the degree to which religion is important in one's life

-than by religious denomination
Ideologues-people could connect their opinions and beliefs with broad policy positions taken by parties or candidates

-12% group benefits-thought of politics mainly in terms of the group they liked or disliked

-42% nature of the times voters-their handle on positives was limited to
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whether the times seemed good or bad to them

-24%no issue content-voted routinely for a party or judged the candidate
sole by their personalities

-22%what is the public's general attitude about the scope of governmentit
has become too wide ranginghow does minority group status affect political
participationthey tend to be lower class so they don't participate that

muchhow many people vote in presidential electionover 120

millioncommment on how Americans' lack of political knowledge and low
participation rated affect democracy-people are doing other things other
than watching the news

-so when it comes to voting time they don't know who to vote for so they just
don't vote and that affects democracy