

GOVERNMENT IN AMERICA

PEOPLE, POLITICS, AND POLICY



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MyPoliSciLab®

2012 ELECTION EDITION

Political Parties

8



Video: The Big Picture

8



http://media.pearsoncmg.com/ph/hss/SSA_SHARED_MEDIA_1/polisci/presidency/Edwards_Ch08_Political_Parties_Seg1_v2.html

Learning Objectives

8.1

Identify the functions that political parties perform in American democracy

8.2

Determine the significance of party identification in America today

Learning Objectives

8.3

Describe how political parties are organized in the United States

8.4

Evaluate how well political parties generally do in carrying out their promises

Learning Objectives

8.5

Differentiate the various party eras in American history

8.6

Assess both the impact of third parties on American politics and their limitations

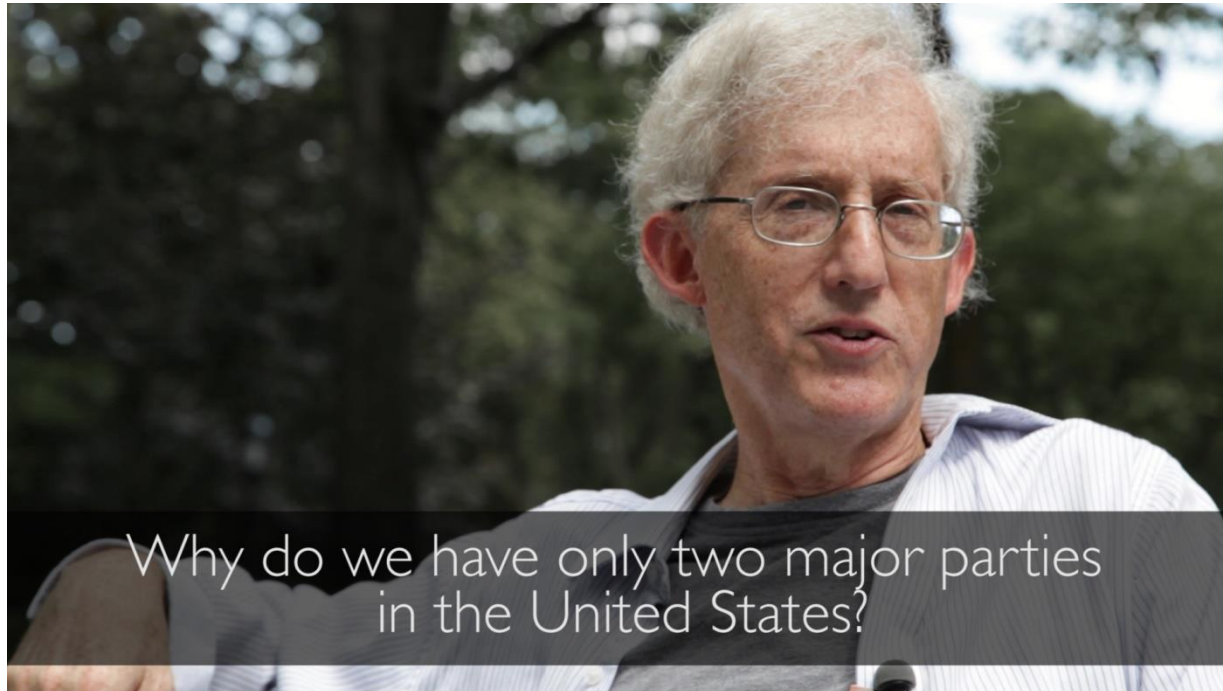
Learning Objectives

8.7

Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of responsible party government

Video: The Basics

8



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Meaning of Party

- ▣ Tasks of the Parties
- ▣ Parties, Voters, and Policy: Downs Model

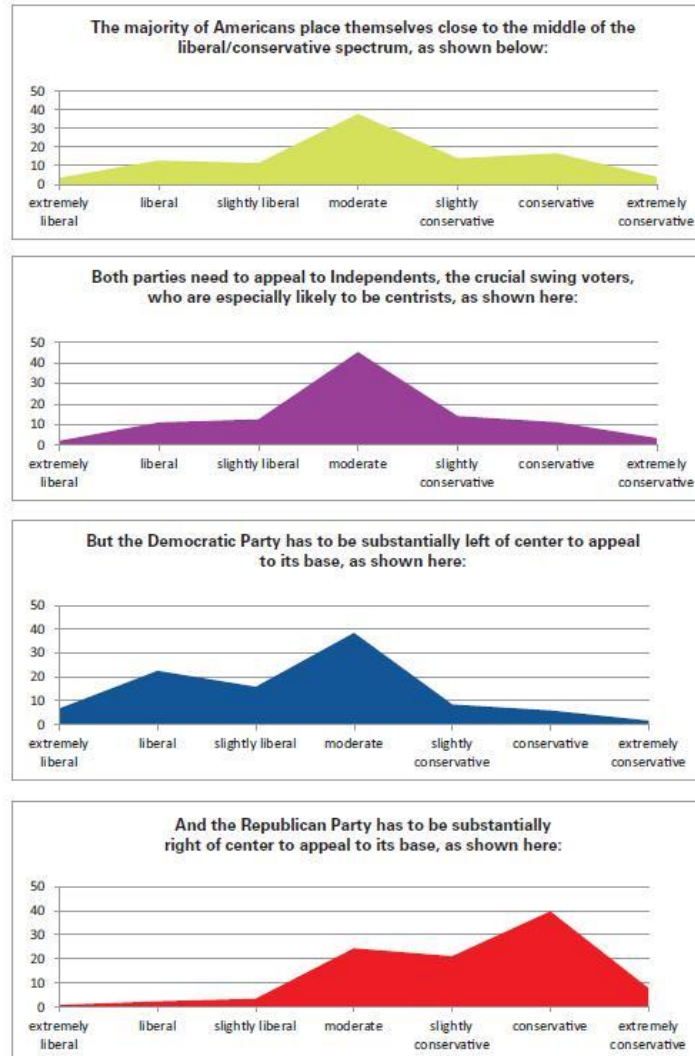
Tasks of the Parties

- ▣ Linkage institutions
 - Parties, elections, interest groups, media
- ▣ Tasks that parties perform
 - Pick candidates
 - Run campaigns
 - Give cues to voters
 - Articulate policies
 - Coordinate policies

Parties, Voters, and Policy: Downs Model

- ▣ Rational choice theory
 - Political scientist Anthony Downs' model
- ▣ Most voters are moderate
 - Center of political spectrum
- ▣ Parties seek voter loyalty
 - Position themselves to left and right of center

FIGURE 8.1: Downs model: How rational parties position themselves near (but not at) the center of public opinion



Tea Party

8.1



8.1 How do parties maximize their appeal to voters?

- a. Position themselves near political center
- b. Lie about their opponents
- c. Stake out clear positions to the left or right
- d. Make party members sign loyalty oaths

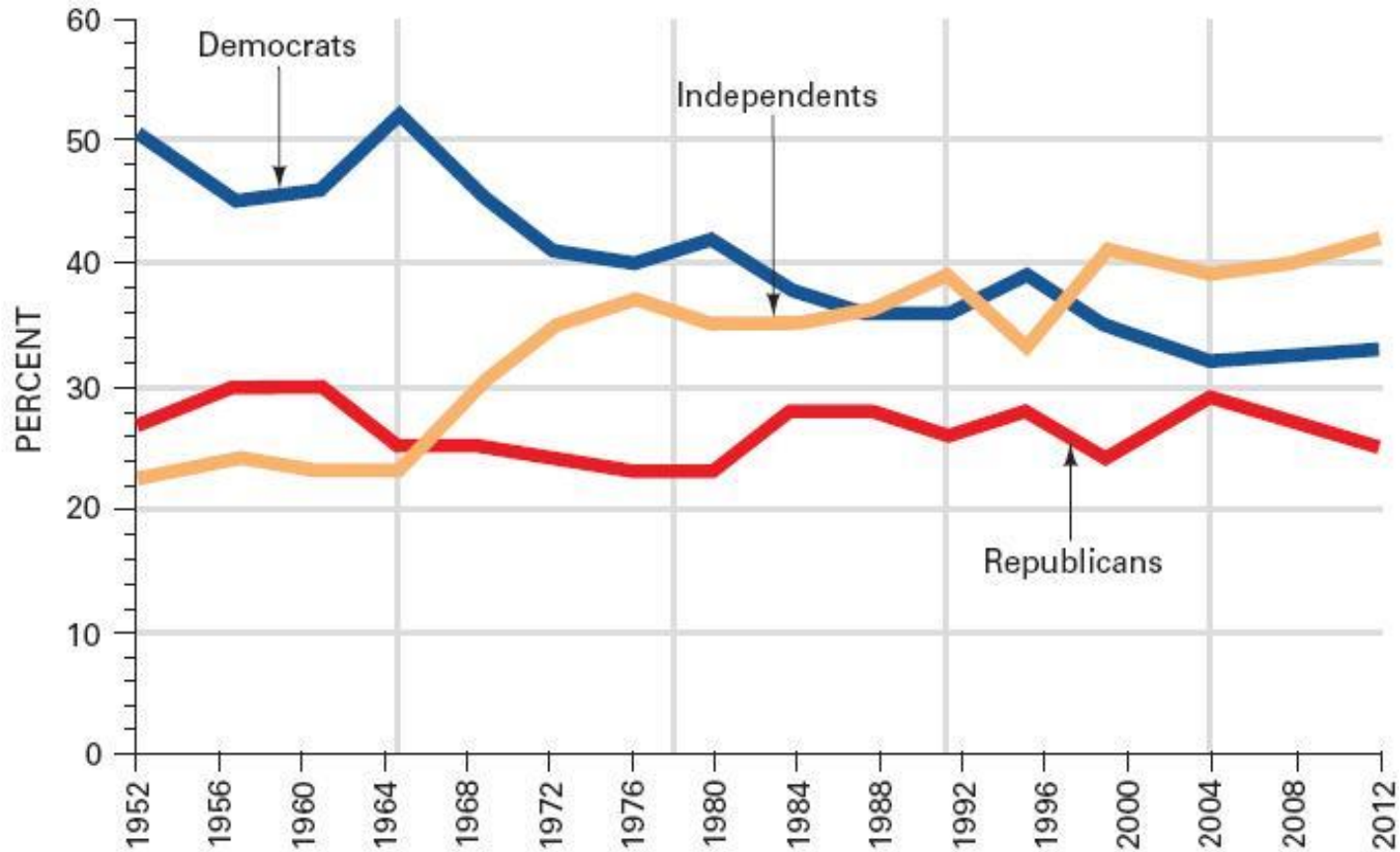
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Party in the Electorate

- Party membership is psychological
- Citizens think they know what parties stand for
- Choose parties based on affinity with personal preferences
- More Americans identify as independents

FIGURE 8.2: Party identification in the United States, 1952–2012



8.2 More Americans are identifying as Independents, especially:

- a. People over 65
- b. Minorities
- c. Young people
- d. Less-educated citizens

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Video: Thinking Like a Political Scientist

8.2



http://media.pearsoncmg.com/ph/hss/SSA_SHARED_MEDIA_1/polisci/presidency/Seg4_PoliticalParties_v2.html

Party Organization: From the Grass Roots to Washington

- ▣ Local Parties
- ▣ 50 State Party Systems
- ▣ National Party Organizations

Local Parties

- ▣ Once main party organization
- ▣ Party machines
 - Rewarded voters
 - New York and Chicago
- ▣ Patronage
 - Jobs for voters and contributors
 - Progressive reforms ended this system

Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley

8.3



50 State Party Systems

- ▣ No two exactly alike
 - Some well-funded, some weak
 - Permanent headquarters
 - Provide technical services
- ▣ Open or closed primaries
- ▣ Straight-ticket voting
- ▣ Single column or random list of candidates

National Party Organizations

- National convention
 - Meets every four years
 - Writes party platform
 - Formal nomination of candidates
- National committee
 - Operates between conventions
 - Led by national chairperson

8.3 What are the functions of the party's national convention?

- a. Write party platform
- b. Nominate candidate for president
- c. Meet every four years to revise rules
- d. All of the above

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Party in Government: Promises and Policy

- ▣ Party in power determines policy
- ▣ Coalitions support parties
- ▣ Most presidents fail to implement campaign promises
- ▣ But they do live up to some of them
- ▣ Party platforms are blueprints

Explore the Simulation: You Are a Voter

8.4

You Are a Voter Introduction

MyPoliSciLab
SIMULATIONS

Political parties play a major role in American government. They solicit candidates to run for elections, develop party platforms, and reach out to citizens both to inform and to involve them in the democratic process. Citizens can get overwhelmed by the vast number of elections they are expected to participate in and the wide array of candidates to choose from. In this simulation, you will learn how parties and party platforms help voters make informed choices. You are a college student involved in Campaign Vote, a group that educates and mobilizes student voters. In order to

Party

Third

REGISTER

Menu Audio Progress Map Previous Next 1 of 16

 http://media.pearsoncmg.com/long/long_longman_media_1/2013_mpsl_sim/simulation.html?simulaURL=17

8.4 Which of the following is a campaign promise kept by President Reagan?

- a. Increase social welfare spending
- b. Increase defense spending
- c. Increase the federal deficit
- d. Increase funding for education

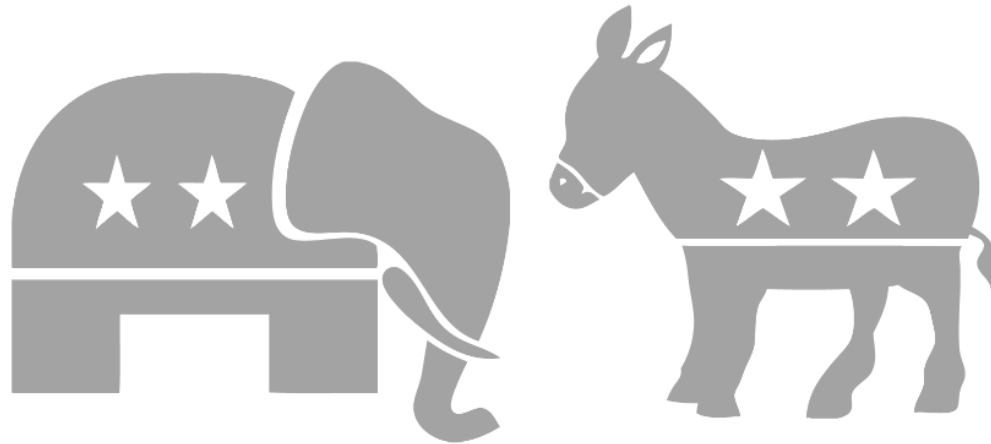
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Explore Political Parties: Which Party Governs Better?

Political Parties

Which Party Governs Better?



 http://media.pearsoncmg.com/long/long_edwards_mpslgi_a_16/pex/pex8.html

Party Eras in American History

- 1796-1824: First Party System
- 1828-1856: Jackson and Democrats Versus the Whigs
- 1860-1928: Two Republican Eras
- 1932-1964: New Deal Coalition
- 1968-Present: Southern Realignment and the Era of Divided Party Government

Party platforms, 2012

8.5

Republicans

The War in Afghanistan

Future decisions by a Republican President will never subordinate military necessity to domestic politics or an artificial timetable. ... We cannot expect others to remain resolute unless we show the same determination ourselves.

Immigration

We oppose any form of amnesty for those who, by intentionally violating the law, disadvantage those who have obeyed it. ... We will create humane procedures to encourage illegal aliens to return home voluntarily, while enforcing the law against those who overstay their visas.

Abortion

We assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution.

Same-Sex Marriage

We reaffirm our support for a Constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

Health Care

Obamacare is falling by the weight of its own confusing, unworkable, budget-busting, and conflicting provisions. ... Republicans are committed to its repeal. ... Then the American people, through the free market, can advance affordable and responsible health care reform.

Taxes

Taxes, by their very nature, reduce a citizen's freedom. ... We propose to extend the 2001 and 2003 tax relief packages—commonly known as the Bush tax cuts.

Rising college costs

New systems of learning are needed to compete with traditional four-year colleges: expanded community colleges and technical institutions, private training schools, online universities, life-long learning, and work-based learning in the private sector. New models for acquiring advanced skills will be ever more important in the rapidly changing economy.

Campaign finance

We support repeal of the remaining sections of McCain-Feingold, support either raising or repealing contribution limits, and oppose passage of the DISCLOSE Act or any similar legislation designed to vitiate the Supreme Court's recent decisions protecting political speech.

Democrats

The War in Afghanistan

We have begun the process of bringing our troops home from Afghanistan, including removing 33,000 by September 2012. And, with the support of our allies, the President has outlined a plan to end the war in Afghanistan in 2014.

Immigration

The country urgently needs comprehensive immigration reform that brings undocumented immigrants out of the shadows and requires them to get right with the law, learn English, and pay taxes in order to get on a path to earn citizenship.

Abortion

The Democratic Party strongly and unequivocally supports *Roe v. Wade* and a woman's right to decisions regarding her pregnancy, including a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay.

Same-Sex Marriage

We support marriage equality and support the movement to secure equal treatment under law for same-sex couples.

Health Care

We believe that accessible, affordable, high quality health care is part of the American promise. ... We refuse to go back to the days when health insurance companies had unchecked power to cancel your health policy, deny you coverage, or charge women more than men.

Taxes

We support allowing the Bush tax cuts for wealthiest to expire and closing loopholes and deductions for the largest corporations and the highest-earning taxpayers.

Rising college costs

President Obama has pledged to encourage colleges to keep their costs down by reducing federal aid for those that do not, investing in colleges that keep tuition affordable and provide good value, doubling the number of work-study jobs available to students, and continuing to ensure that students have access to federal loans at reasonable rates.

Campaign finance

We support campaign finance reform, by constitutional amendment if necessary. We support legislation to close loopholes and require greater disclosure of campaign spending. ... We support requiring groups trying to influence elections to reveal their donors.

1796-1824: First Party System

- ▣ Madison warned against factions
- ▣ Hamilton and the Federalist Party
 - Capitalist support, Northeast
 - Short-lived
 - Ideas of loyal opposition and rotation of power new
- ▣ Jefferson and the Democratic-Republicans
 - Agrarian support, South
 - Torn by factions

1828-1856: Jackson and Democrats Versus the Whigs

- General Andrew Jackson as leader
 - Democratic-Republicans -> Democratic Party
 - New coalition in election of 1828
 - Westerners, Southerners, poor whites
 - Broaden suffrage
- Martin Van Buren
 - Theory of loyal opposition
 - Whig Party

1860-1928: Two Republican Eras

- ▣ 1850s: Slavery dominated politics
 - Split both parties
 - Republicans rose as anti-slavery party
 - Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War
- ▣ Second party realignment
 - Lasted 60 years
 - Democrats controlled the South
- ▣ 1896: Second Republican era
 - Democrats and “free silver”

1932-1964: New Deal Coalition

- ▣ Hoover loses to FDR
 - FDR promises New Deal
 - New coalition formed
- ▣ Elements of New Deal coalition
 - Urban dwellers
 - Labor unions
 - Catholics and Jews
 - The poor
 - Southerners
 - African Americans

The Roosevelt realignment

8.5

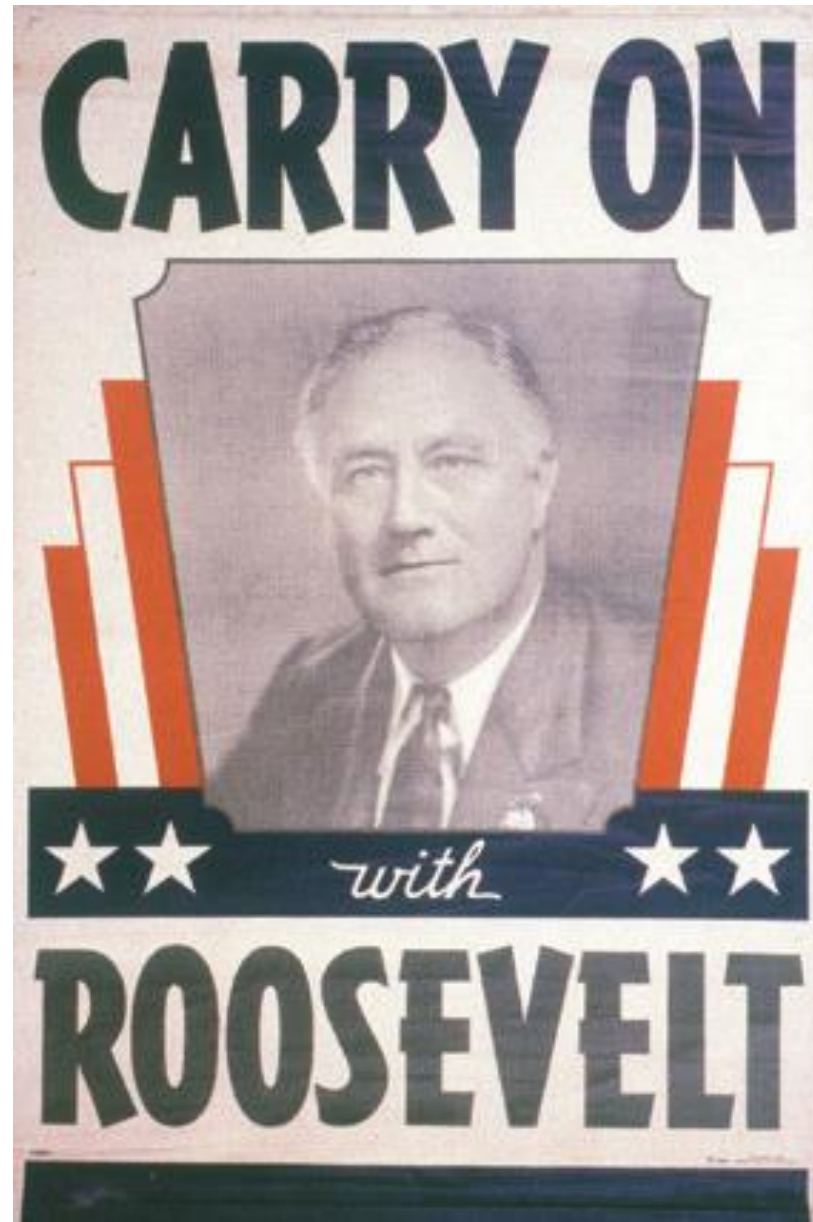
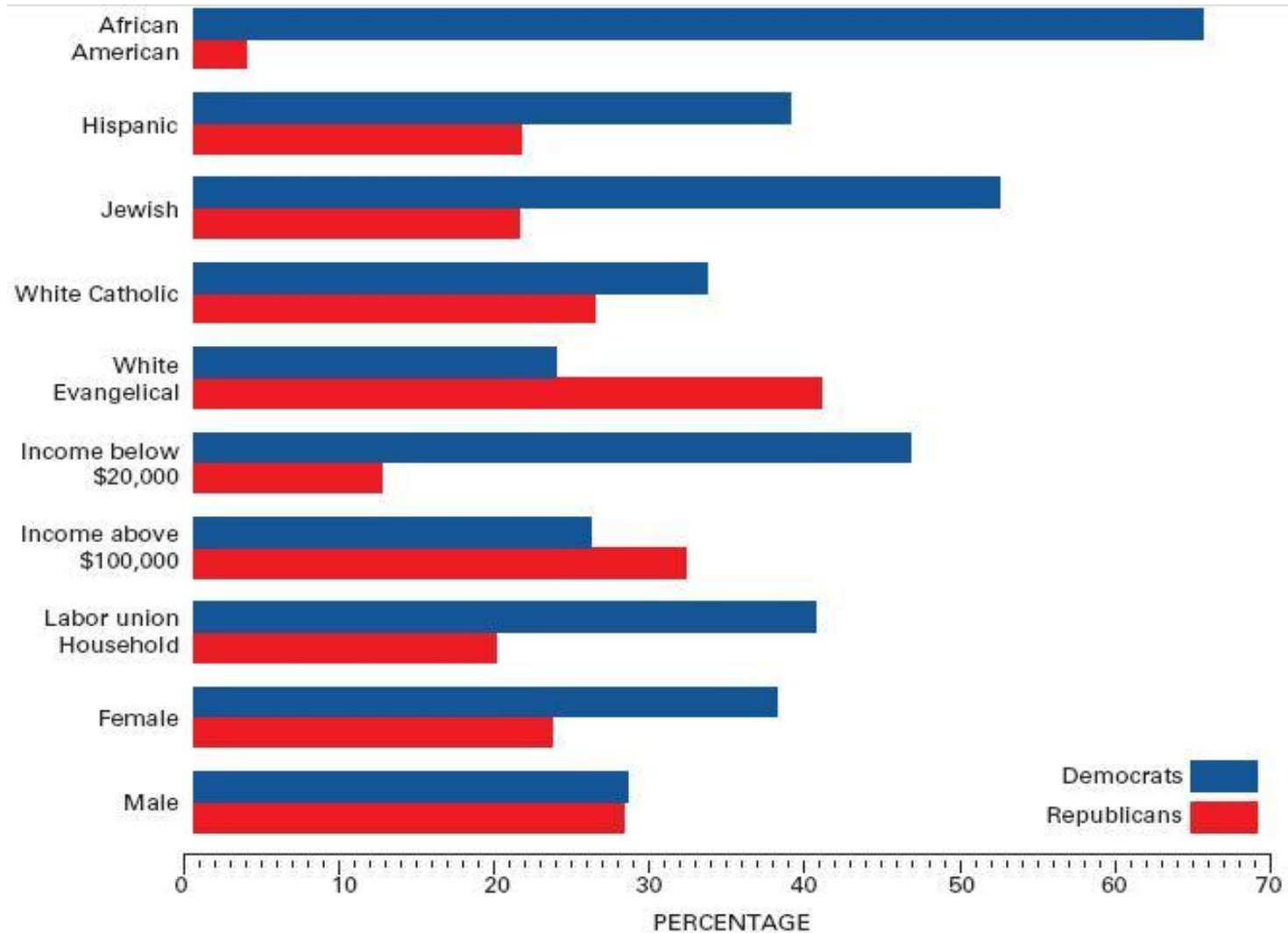


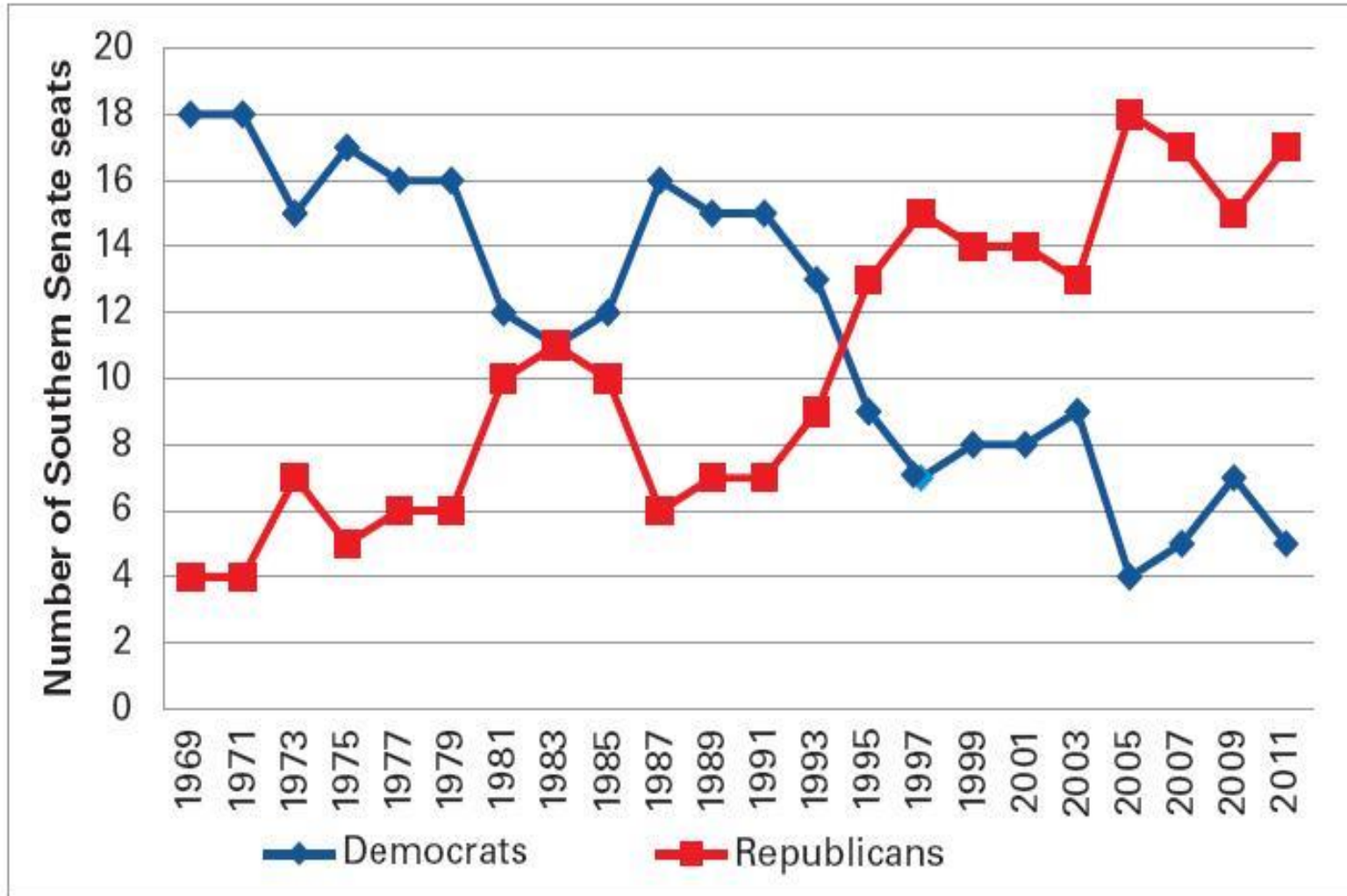
FIGURE 8.3: Party coalitions today



SOURCE: Authors' analysis of two Pew Research Center polls conducted in January 2012.

1968-Present: Southern Realignment and the Era of Divided Party Government

- Nixon's Southern strategy
 - Support for states' rights, law and order, strong military posture
 - Win Southern Democrats

FIGURE 8.4: Realignment in the South

1968-Present: Southern Realignment and the Era of Divided Party Government

- ▣ Republicans did not have Congress
 - New pattern
 - Divided government now normal
- ▣ Dealignment

8.5 Which events sparked party realignments?

- a. Civil War
- b. Great Depression
- c. Nixon's Southern strategy
- d. A and B only

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Video: In Context

8.5



http://media.pearsoncmg.com/ph/hss/SSA_SHARED_MEDIA_1/polisci/presidency/Seg3_PoliticalParties_v2.html

Third Parties: Their Impact on American Politics

- ▣ Three types of third parties
 - Cause parties
 - Offshoots of major parties
 - Vehicles for individual candidacies
- ▣ Rarely win office but can affect elections
- ▣ Why only two parties?

A successful third party candidate

http://www.chafeeforgovernor.com/

Lincoln Chafee - Independent Ca...

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LINCOLN CHAFEE

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE FOR RHODE ISLAND GOVERNOR

ABOUT TRACK RECORD ISSUES MEDIA BLOG GET INVOLVED PLEASE DONATE



1 2 3 4 5

Lincoln Chafee has forged a path of independence and he is now prepared, **with your support**, to bring his unquestioned integrity, proven record of working together for the common good, and ability to represent our state at the highest levels of business and government to the Governor's Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu., Apr. 29, 2010
Institute for Nonviolence Fundraiser

LDC is a co-host for the Institute for Nonviolence FR to benefit the Streetworkers program. Tickets are \$45 in advance and \$55 at the day. Buy your tickets today: <http://bit.ly/cJlOIm>.

Location: Roger Williams Park Botanical Center, 1000 Elmwood Ave. Providence, RI
 When: 6:00 PM
[More Info](#)

Thu., Apr. 29, 2010

MEDIA

Best Future Governor: Lincoln Chafee

Third party rumblings

LINK to LINC

Why I want to serve as your Governor.

This November, Rhode Islanders will make one of the most important

Video: In the Real World

8.6



http://media.pearsoncmg.com/ph/hss/SSA_SHARED_MEDIA_1/polisci/presidency/Seg5_PoliticalParties_v2.html

8.6 Why are there only two major parties in the U.S.?

- a. Only two parties are constitutionally allowed
- b. Two parties fulfill preferences of all voters
- c. No interest in additional parties
- d. Winner-take-all elections

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Understanding Political Parties

- Democracy and Responsible Party Government: How Should We Govern?
- American Political Parties and the Scope of Government

Democracy and Responsible Party Government: How Should We Govern?

- Responsible party model
 - Distinct governing programs
 - Internal cohesion and commitment
 - Major party must implement program
 - Major party must accept responsibility
- Party leadership weak in U.S.
 - “Blue Dog Democrats”
 - Is this good or bad?

TABLE 8.2: Partisan divisions on key roll call votes during George W. Bush's presidency

	Dems For	Dems Against	Reps For	Reps Against
2008 \$700 billion bailout bill	172	63	91	108
2008 \$168 billion tax rebate	216	10	169	25
2007 immigration reform*	33	15	12	37
2005 USA Patriot Act reauthorization	43	156	214	14
2003 prescription drug program	16	190	204	25
2002 Iraq War	82	126	215	6
2001 USA Patriot Act	145	62	211	3
2001 No Child Left Behind	198	6	183	33
2001 tax cut	10	197	219	0

American Politics and the Scope of Government

- ▣ Not as broad as in Europe
 - Health care example
 - Parties not disciplined
- ▣ Hard to cut spending
 - Not disciplined enough to say “no”
 - Get more for own constituents

Discussion Question

How did the modern two-party system develop in the United States? What are party realignments and when have they occurred? What role do parties play in American democracy?

Video: So What?

8



http://media.pearsoncmg.com/ph/hss/SSA_SHARED_MEDIA_1/polisci/presidency/Edwards_Ch08_Political_Parties_Seg6_v2.html

Further Review: On MyPoliSciLab

- ▣ Listen to the Chapter
- ▣ Study and Review the Flashcards
- ▣ Study and Review the Practice Tests