**Unit 4 Chpt. 12 Topic 4.1-4.4 Citizen’s Beliefs and Political Ideology**

**4.1 American Attitudes About Government & Politics**

**Political Culture-** the dominant set of beliefs, customs, traditions, and values that define the relationship between citizens and the government. American core political values include **i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,** **e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, the **f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system**, **rule of l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government**.

**American Political Culture**

1. **Individualism-** the belief that individuals should be responsible for themselves and for the decisions they make. The fundamental worth and importance of the individual. Enshrined in the **Dec of Indep** *… “****they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights” . The Bill of Rights protects individual rights from government.***

* **Manifest Destiny-** the movement west encouraged ***rugged individualism***

1. **Equality of Opportunity-** Dec of Indep …***“all men are created equal”.*** The equal rights of people to pursue life, liberty, and happiness

* ***Teddy Roosevelt’s Square Deal-*** “[E]very man will have a ***f\_\_\_\_\_\_*** chance to make of himself all that in him lies; to reach the highest point to which his capacities . . . can carry him.”
* ***14th amendment equal protection clause-*** guarantees that people in similar conditions in every state will be treated e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ under the law.

Civil Rights legislation were all about equal treatment under the law.

Americans value ***equality of opportunity***, they **do not support equality of result**. The United States **has not** produced **economic equality**, in which everyone makes roughly the same amount of money or has the same amount of wealth. Rather, Americans value the opportunity to be rewarded for innovation, hard work, education, and determination.

1. **Free Enterprise- laissez-faire system-**government plays as s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a role as possible in the economic transactions among citizens and businesses. America has a **m\_\_\_\_\_\_ economy**, in which many economic decisions are left to i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but the federal and state governments shape those decisions through t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. **Rule of Law-** the principle that n\_\_ o\_\_\_\_, including p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ officials, is above the law. ***“A government l\_\_\_\_ and not of m\_\_\_\_\_” –James Harrington***

***Federalist 78-*** role of an independent judiciary in protecting the rule of law.

Judicial process based on **p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, to insure p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Citizens must r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the l\_\_\_\_ and obey it. This is part of the **S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Contract**.

Transparency in government- the F\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Act allows citizens to access documents and information kept by the government.

1. **Limited Government-**authority comes from the consent of the governed and that citizens are “endowed . . . with certain unalienable rights” such as “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness- ***Dec of Indep***

***Checks and Balances***

**All contribute to limiting the power of the government**

***Separation of Powers***

***Federalism***

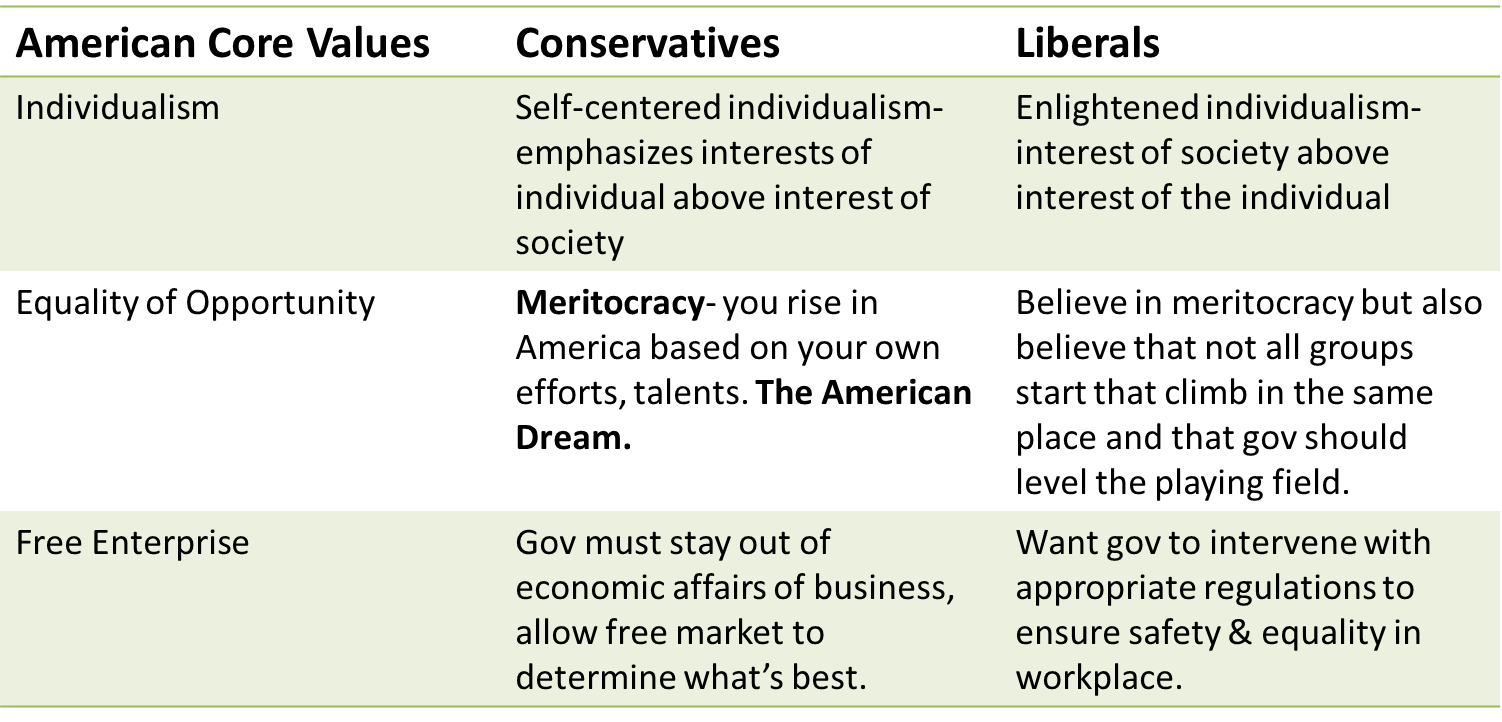
***Const./ Bill of Rights***

**How the Interpretations of these values differ between conservatives and liberals**

**Conservatives-** cherish established institutions and seek to preserve them for the good of society. Emphasis on s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government, l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ services to the public. They want to c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the good things of gov.

**Liberals-** push for new reforms to make society more j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Use g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to promote the greater good.

**Conservatives v. Liberals and how they view American Core Values**



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**4.2 American Attitudes About Government and Politics**

**Explain how cultural factors influence political attitudes and socialization.**

**HOW DO WE GET OUR POLITICAL OPINIONS AND VALUES?**

**THROUGH POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION**

* **Def: Process by which an individual acquires his/her p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ orientations—knowledge, attitudes, opinions**
  + occurs at both the individual and community level
  + lifelong process
  + attitudes & values formed early in life
  + variety of agents contribute to shaping
* **Political socialization is the process by which citizens acquire a sense of p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**HOW DO WE GET OUR POLITICAL OPINIONS AND VALUES?**

**Influences that shape their political identities and opinions:**

* F\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ influences often help shape political party identification. It is strongest when both parents identify with the s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ political party. If mom and dad are Republicans/conservative, chances you will be also and vice versa.
* S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ teach patriotism, basic governmental functions and structure, and encourage political participation. AP Government classes indoctrinate young minds! That was a joke, ok!!! Student government is your first step into politics.
* G\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ affiliations (interest groups, labor unions, professional organizations) provide c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bonds between people which may be expressed through the group or its activities.
* D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ factors (occupation, race, gender, age, religion, region of country (g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_), income, education, ethnicity).
* Mass media i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the public about issues and help set the political and public a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

– Mass Media has been referred to as the “new Parent”

* O\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ leaders, those individuals held in great respect because of their position, expertise, or personality, may informally and unintentionally exercise influence (think church).
* Events may instill positive or negative attitudes. For example, the Watergate scandal created a mistrust of government.

**Social environments:**

* religious institutions F\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/ e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ believe in a literal interpretation of the Holy Bible. Evangelicals promote the Christian faith. Both tend to take c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ positions i.e., anti-abortion and vote Republican. C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have traditionally voted with the D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Party, though their vote is less attached to Democratic (Dems p\_\_\_\_\_\_-abortion) candidates today than in earlier years because the demographics of Catholics have become so diverse. J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ make up a small part of the national electorate and tend to vote for D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* civic institutions with extreme political views bring only likeminded people together, while other civic institutions bring together people from a variety of backgrounds and viewpoints and help them learn how to work around their differences.
* Geography/ Location:

In the Northeast, liberal Democrats dominate, and more liberal policies prevail.

The South is more influenced by conservative Christian values.

Socialization also influences a worldwide scale. Most of the globalization influence flows from the United States to other countries, through globalization and encouraging immigration. The United States also is exposed to values from other parts of the world.

***AMSCO pg. 404-407***

**Why is family the strongest agent of political socialization?**

**Why do demographics play a role in political socialization?**

**4.3 Changes in Ideology**

**Generational and life cycle effects also contribute to the political socialization that influences an individual’s political attitudes**

**Generational and Life-Cycle Effects**

As you go through different stages in life, your voting behavior will change.

* Generational effect- the impact of historical e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ experienced by a generation upon their p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ views.
* life-cycle effect the impact of a person’s a\_\_\_\_\_ and s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in life on his or her political views.

Americans are placed into four generational categories to measure attitudes and compare where they might stand on a political continuum:

* **Silent Generation**
* **Baby Boomers**
* **Generation X**
* **Millennials**

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**4.4 Influence of Political Events on Ideology**

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| Generations | Events | Impact on Political Attitude |
| Silent Generation and Baby Boomers | Great Depression (1929-41) | Advancing trust in gov & support for the role of gov in economy- further eroding laissez faire- New Deal – social safety net  Majority voted Democratic |
|  | World War II | The war brought the nation together against fascism, creating a sense of u\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ purpose and a belief in the r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the government. |

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|  | 1960s social unrest and political violence | Mass protests- V\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_war, C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rights- were features of time, influenced political socialization. C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ gov became political norm, people empowered to bring about change |

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| Generation X (1965-1980) | Cold War, Reagan Revolution, | Conservative, mostly Republican. Younger Xers tend to vote Dem |
| Millennials (1981-96) | 9/11 Attacks | attack on U.S. soil calls for aggressive homeland security and counterterrorism measures. Also, that the event should serve as a wake-up call that the United States should be less involved in the Middle East. |