

# Ideology (and Public Policy)

- **IDEOLOGY:** an integrated set of that shape a person's views
- A smaller percentage of ideologues exist in our system than can be found in  
European multi-party systems ( in Europe, therefore easier for  
ideologues to find a place to fit in; more easily broad-based parties)

## THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM

- ⊕ Political beliefs can be calculated on two axes:
- ⊕ Liberal/conservative, MORE OR LESS, indicates the degree to which you believe government should be involved in
- ⊕ Libertarian/authoritarian, MORE OR LESS, indicates the degree to which you believe the government should take a stance on
- ⊕ Liberal vs. conservative: generally tend to favor larger, more paternalistic government  
and higher taxes; generally favor lower taxes and more individual responsibility
- ⊕ Authoritarian vs. libertarian: generally believe government should take a  
moral position on right & wrong; generally take a laissez-faire approach to  
social issues among
- ⊕ Political beliefs are often represented on a liberal to conservative
- ⊕ Most Americans fall
- ⊕ voters tend to be closer to the edges than general election voters – leads  
to candidates receiving party nominations
- ⊕ Republicans TEND TO BE
- ⊕ Democrats TEND TO BE

## LIBERALISM

### CLASSIC LIBERALISM OF 18TH CENTURY:

- role of government
- seen as chief threat to
- "Government is best which "
- Primary role of government was to

### MODERN LIBERALISM OF 20TH CENTURY (" "):

- role of government
- seen as chief threat to liberty
- Need for government to "smooth out the rough edges of
- Role of government is to protect ; freedom from government  
control rings hollow when one is
- Strong influence of liberalism
- Backlash against liberalism in – feeling that liberalism had gone too far,  
need to return to , less reliance on
- "
- :"
- Less likely to rely upon as solution to problems
- Government has some role to play, but not as big as desired by New Deal liberals
- Rise of Democratic Leadership Council (Edwards, Bill Clinton)

## CONSERVATISM

- Essentially
- Resurgence since
  - Strength in (“What’s the Matter With Kansas?”) ex-“
  - Strength among
  - Reversal of post-1930s trend to automatically look to as solution to problems
  - Emphasis on to solve problems
  - Strong support for (which occurred under both Clinton and DUBYA)

### “ AND THE :

- Some (Helms, Buchanan, Robertson, Bennett) emphasize (prayer in school, anti-abortion, anti-homosexuality)
  - Support from evangelical Christians; a.k.a.
  - Use of by DUBYA administration
- Some (Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz) more aggressive in dealing with (i.e. terrorism), more supportive of (i.e. Iraq)
- Some (Buchanan) – shy away from intervention, wary of any “new world order” and (UN, WTO, IMF, World Bank), wary of i.e. NAFTA
- CONSERVATISM ; more brand of conservatism

## SOCIALISM

- System in which means of production, distribution, and exchange are
- Strong impact upon
- Weak in U.S.; largely due to:
  - Belief in
  - Belief in
  - Suspicion of
  - Association with

## LIBERTARIANISM

- Extreme emphasis on
- Extreme cutback in ; essentially, government should only provide
- Therefore, support things like:
  - Legalization of
  - Legalization of
  - Dissolution of