

0 The Study of Political Science and American Government

#Knowledge

Political Science

Politics

The process of resolving conflicts and deciding "*who gets what*".

- "Limited Resources"
- Power underlies politics;
 - Power dynamics (*Manipulate, Changing*)
 - Layered modification of behavior.

Study of Political Science

- Pattern of events
 - Why? How to change / lengthen / shorten specific events?
 - Three goals of political science
 - **Description** 描述
 - **Prediction** 预测
 - **Prescription** 解决方法
 - Research & Methodology
Look to support the theories.
 - Logic
 - Observation
 - Quantitative Methods

Is political science a science?

Standards of Science

According to *John Lewis Gaddis*, Science is **Imagination Versus Replication**.

There are usually five key standards:

- **Parsimony** 简洁
Laws that human behavior follows. *Not exactly strong*.

- **Variables** 变量
 - *Types of Variables:*
 - **Nominal Variables:** Yes / No.
 - **Ordinal Variables:** In scale / order.
 - **Continuous Variables:** Explain change between one another.
 - *How much of the variables could you explain?*
- **Accounting for change** 解释变化
 - Ex. War patterns.
 - Something continuing to occur since a long time ago.
 - *POLS is bad at this.*
- **Commensurability** 可通约性
The definitions are *common* in circumstances.
- **Objectivity** 客观性
 - Orientations are often *subjective*.
 - Only results are objective.
 - *POLS is almost, but not 100%.*

POLS and all other sciences DOES NOT perfectly fit the standards.

The real value of Political Science

To **Predict** and **Prepare**.

Political Science provides **Structural / Systematic** understandings.

It is considered *not essentially science* since it is still at an *early stage of development*.

1 Government Types and Culture

#Knowledge

American Government and Process

US government and American political process

- **Does not** work efficiently;
- **Should not** work efficiently.

Founders of US Government

- Feared **Tyranny**; 惧怕独裁
- Distrust of power (Especially **concentrated** power). 不信任权力

So they:

- **Divided** power; 分权
- Make different parts of government **competitive**; 权力间竞争
- Check and **balances** between parts of government; 平衡权力
- Establish *Federalism*. 联邦制

Government is *Slow, Piecemeal, and Balanced*.

政府是缓慢，逐渐且平衡的。

Types of Government

Government is the **formal** structure that **rules** people.

Classification 政府的分类标准

- Who Governs? 谁统治?
- How much government control is permitted? 政府被容许的控制程度有多少?

Government Types

- **Autocracy 独裁统治**: One individual in control
- **Oligarchy 寡头政治**: Limited number of individual in charge. [Elites](#)
- **Democracy 民主政治**: Ultimately power resting with the people.

Elites: How does it take to become an elite?

Government Control

Authoritarian 威权主义

Legitimate power rest in **1 person / group**.

- **Individuality** does NOT matter; 民众的个人意愿不重要
- Individual power are **suborned**; 个人权力被收买
- **Force** used to maintain legitimacy. 武力用于维持合法性

Totalitarian 极权主义

Transformational authority 威权主义的转型

- **Control** all aspects of life / all portions of society; 控制民众及社会的各个方面
- Can only be **ONE institution**: *The State*; 只允许一个政治制度
 - Use force to dissolve all other structures (which could run counter to the government's direction). 使用武力消除其他所有政治制度
- Often see the **most violence**. 武力滥用最为明显

Constitutional 宪政主义

Power is determined ahead of time.

- Document could be used as **Institution**;
- **Informal institutions** could exist;
- Require **multiple parties** to negotiate;
- Places **limitations** on behaviors of government.

U.S Government is Constitutional Democracy.
美国政府是宪政民主制的。

Political Culture 政治文化

The **values**, **beliefs** and **attitudes** the society has on governments and politics.
社会对政府和政治的价值观，信仰和态度。

- Political systems are the **products** of the **political culture** they serve. 政治系统是政治文化的结果

- The more **reflective**, the better for **long term** viability. 政治系统越能反映政治文化，其长期稳定性越强
 - Political systems *may* change political culture.
- Everyone does not need to be the same, but do need [common connections](#) (for National Governments).
- Needs to be **Organic**.

Three Political Cultures 三种不同的政治文化

Individualistic 个人主义

“Function”, “Service”, “Private Sector”

- Does no more / less than it should.
- No *moral* good / bad of it.

Moralistic 道德主义

- Search a “**good**” society.
 - *Good*: Depending on the people it serves.
- Directing policy for “**good society belief**”
- Doing for “*well-being*”
- Can be *liberal* / *conservative*.
 - Intervene when needed.

Traditionalistic 传统主义

Conservative 保守主义

Government act as an actor **maintaining** a social order or **returning** to a previous social order.

- Importance of **class** and **elites**.
 - Elites: Limited access of entering.

Common American Political Culture 美国共通的政治文化

Liberty 自由

Civil liberty and **Political** liberty.

- **Civil liberty** 公民自由
 - Freedom of action that are **not detrimental** to others.

- "Can have it until it goes too far".
- **Political liberty 政治自由**
 - Ability to **vote**, **participate** and **hold office**.

Political Equality 政治平等

One person, One vote. 一人一票

One person's vote is equal to another person's vote.

Not entirely represented in America.

Gender / Race / Educational Experiences / Income / Religion may affect the actual political equality.

Democracy 民主

The ability to gain information nowadays reduces the impact of democracy.

- People now monitor government in multiple ways rather than solely through voting.

Pluralism 多元主义

More people contribute, more reflective the policy will be.

参与的人更多，政策的代表性更强。

Condition or system where two or more states, groups, or authorities coexist.

- **Essential for democracy considered by the Founding Fathers.**

2 The Constitution I

#Knowledge

"Living Constitution"

The **Constitution** is often referred as **Living**.

- **Board Principles** were set up.
 - Ex. Freedom of Speech / Religion
- **Open Interpretations** are allowed.
 - Living through time.
 - Making it *Long-lasting* and *non-changing*.
 - **Extent of Interpretation** is different and need to be considered.

Necessity of Interpretations:

- Technological changes.
- Issues inconceivable by the founders.

Myths of HS Social Studies and American Politics

Colonies were NEVER a United Group

- Colonies only share **Economical Interests**;
- Highly **competitive** between each other / North and South;
- Separated communities.

Independence of 1776

Year 1776 is NOT the Founding for the Country

- Completely different setup compared to today's. *Have the building, but changed the form of work.*

Resolution of Independence 独立决议

The *Actual Vote* that was sent to the King.

- Has **Legal Significance**.
 - **Natural Rights**: *Life, Freedom and the Pursuit of Happiness.*

- **Social Contracts:**
 - **Voluntary** agreement to be ruled.
 - **Right** to negotiate.
 - **Renegotiation** of social contracts.
- Lead to **Creation of Articles of Confederation** 邦联条例

Confederation 邦联

A loose collection of **sub-national actors** holding majority of power.

- **Primary Purpose** Defeat the British.

Article of Confederation (AoC) 邦联条例

- **Problems**
 1. Lack a **Central Authority**
 2. **Six Key Powers** of it was missing
 - **No Unified Treaty** 无外交和条约权
Couldn't do foreign policies and treaties; Couldn't end war; Only individual states are empowered to sign.
 - **No power to Compel Soldiers** 无征兵权
Couldn't draft soldiers to show up.
 - **No power to Collect Taxes** 无征税权
Underfunded mandate.
 - **No power for States to Compel themselves in Internal Businesses** 无强制州内执行权
Could not compel the states to pay for anything.
 - **No power to regulate interstate / intrastate commerce** 无跨州和州内贸易管制权
Ex. Virginia and New England did not get along, but central government could do nothing.
 - **No power over the Monetary System** 无统一货币制度权
No central authority of money. Different Currency exists in the same country.
- **Results**
 - The existence of AoC did NOT accomplish defeating the British
 - But: No AoC, No Constitution

3 The Constitution and Ratification

#Knowledge

The Constitution was Approved on **September 17, 1787**.

Ratification of Constitution

- **Problems**
 - Public is **unaware** about the content of the Constitution
 - Due to *low literacy*, newspaper system didn't work well.
 - Conflict between **Federalists** and **Republican (Anti-Federalists)**
 - Potential violation of AoC.

Federalist Papers

- Written by **Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison**;
- Include 85 short essays.
- **Purpose**
 - Convince **Republicans** the necessity of having a strong central government.

Federalist #15 by Hamilton

Argument for **The Need of a Strong Central Government**, and why:

- **Enforcement Power**
AoC Failed: Thirteen States are thinking about themselves only.
- **Concerns of the Collective Good**
Force of Collective Good. Forming a nation as a whole.

Federalist #51 by Madison

Need for a **Strong but Fragmented** central government.

- **Ambitions must be made to counter-act ambitions.**
 - **Double Security**
 1. **Separation of power into Institutes**
Watching other institutes' power.
 2. **Federalism**

- Compete between states (Interstate power);
- Regulation toward the central (National power).
- **Protection of the Minority**

Commonalities of Founding Fathers

Proposed by **Michael Kammen**

Both sides (Federalists / Republicans) need to work together.

Proposed 6 commonalities:

- **Republican with People Representing.** 由人民代表的共和政体
- **Protection of Personal Liberty.** 保护个人自由
- **Belief in Science of Politics of finding truth (best government)** 相信政治科学
- **Interest should play a role** 利益应当发挥作用
- **Public opinion is a powerful force** that is becoming more important. 舆论具有强大力量
- **Desire for Happiness.** 对幸福的追求

Bill of Rights

June 1788, nine states ratified the New Constitution.

The ratification of New Constitution with **Compromise: *Bill of Rights***

- Originally only applied to **National Government**;
- 10 of 12 are ratified
 - **Congressional pay rise** became the *27th Amendment*;
 - **House Representation Ratio** was never ratified.

Altering the Constitution

There are **Two** ways to propose an Amendment, **Two** ways to ratify.

Proposition

- A **2/3** vote in each chamber of the Congress.
- **National convention.** (Never used: As representing the give-away of power from Congress)

Ratification

- A **3/4** positive vote of the **State Legislative Institute**
- **Special Convention.** (Used once: repeal of prohibition) (Easier and quicker method)

Usually a time frame of **1 to 2 years** is required.

The difficulty of Amendment **prevented crazy Amendments**

The most recent Amendment is **27th Amendment** in year **1992**.

4 American Federalism

#Knowledge

Government under the Constitution

Various forms of Government could have been chosen.

- **Confederal System** 邦联制
Power is concentrated in lower government.
- **Unitary System** 单一制
National government give states (sub-national entities) power.
- **Federal System** 联邦制
National government CANNOT give / take power.

Why Federal System work well in US?

- **Common Problems** 共同问题
Each state has common problems. Argument for *National Government*.
- **Geographical Size** 地理尺寸
National government couldn't be everywhere. Argument for *State Governors* to play a role.
- **Sectionalism** 地方主义
Different view across the country making applying the *same policy* impossible.

American Federalism

Consists of **National**, **States**, and **Other** powers.

National

- **Enumerated Powers** 列出的权力
 - Coinage of money, declaring war...
- **Implied Power** 隐含的权力
 - *Necessary and proper clause*
 - *Elastic clause*
- **Inherent Powers** 固有权力
 - Treaties, waging war, expanding territory...

States

- **Reserved Power 保留权力**
 - As quoted in the *10th Amendment*

Other powers

- **Concurrent Powers 共同权力**
 - Both National and States gets them.
 - Ex. Taxes, Legal System...
- **Prohibited Powers 禁用权力**
 - State may not raise army.
 - Nations and states cannot place tariffs on outgoing goods.

Article 6

For conflicts between National and State governments, it states that the **National Government** reigns *supreme*.

- Make sure the **Vertical checks and balance**.
 - Competition between the National Government and the State Government.
- All states are created *equal*.
 - System of **Horizontal** federalism.

Article 4

Potential problems between states.

- **Full faith and Credit Clause 完全诚信条款**
 - One state need to recognize the other states' action as legitimate.
 - Ex. Drivers License
- **Privileges and Immunities 特权和豁免**
 - When somebody moves to a new state, they own the same privilege as anyone from that state.
- **Interstate Extradition 洲际引渡**
 - Commit crime and be caught in a different state, the criminal oversees the jurisdiction of the state where the criminal *committed the crime*.
- **Interstate Compacts 洲际协议**
 - Contract between states must be approved by the congress.
 - Ex. **Port management** of New York is in charge of NY, NJ and CT. It needs approvement of the Congress.

Two General Stages since the Civil War

Dual Federalism 双重联邦制

- Year 1829 to 1937;
- Defined by **commerce**;
- Interstate and Intrastate has clear boundary.
- *A Defined Cake*

Cooperative Federalism 合作联邦制

- Year 1937 to 1968
- Expanded role of **National Government**. *Get people back to work*
- FDR and social welfare.
- **Federal funding** but **State administered**.
- *Marble cake with mixed boundary*

Federalism Unclear 联邦制不明

- Around Year 1970
- Failure of federalism.
- **Late 70s**, *President Reagan* led campaign of **Getting National Government out of Individual's Life**.

Shift power back to the States

- Creation of **Block Grants 总体拨款** (*President Reagan*)
 - National government gives money to State government to accomplish *social welfare*.
 - Social defense leads to the expansion of National Government.
 - **Rehnquist Court** (*William H. Rehnquist*) reinforce the *10th Amendment*. **Narrowed** the interpretation of **Commerce Clause 商务条款**.

Future of Federalism

- **Terrorisms** leads returning to *Dual Federalism*
 - **FBI and Counter-terrorism**
- **Devolution 权力下放**
 - The shift in power from the *national government* to the *states government*.
 - Ex. FBI focuses on National Government, while states focus on local crime.
- **Claims of Clarence Thomas** (In favor of State-centered)

- Protects private activity and individual freedom.
-
- In *five* ways:
 1. Bring people **closer** to decision makers.
 2. State controls the policies that **directly impact** people's daily life.
 3. State **tailor** federal policies to **meet the need** of local environments.
 4. States are **protecting** the people's rights.
 5. If people do not like the state with more power, the people can **move their feet** to other countries easily.
- *Conservative viewpoint*
 1. Reducing the size of national government into states.
 2. Create market place for personal liberty. *Effective*
 - **Competition provides best supplier.**

Is Federalism System the Best?

- **Federalism**
 - Allow for State Representation
 - More flexibility, particularly when it comes to individual rights and businesses.
 - Greater cultural diversity.
- **Unitary**
 - Can set uniform policies, same laws and regulations.
 - Normally a more regulated business environment, particularly for large corporations and industries.
 - Less cultural divides, often a more unitary society.
 - Slower to react on changes.

It DEPENDS. On how much *efficiency* and *sameness* you want.

Federal = Less ; Unitary = More.