

5.7 Groups Influencing Policy Outcomes

Explain how various political actors influence public policy outcomes.

1. Interest groups come in all shapes and sizes. The AARP represents a vast number of
 - a. Elderly
 - b. Youth
 - c. Small business owners
 - d. Defense contractors
2. Interest groups come in all shapes and sizes. EMILY'S List advocates for this single issue
 - a. Pro-Choice
 - b. Pro-Life
 - c. Pro-Gun
 - d. Pro-Charter School
3. Interest groups come in all shapes and sizes. *Black Lives Matter* is a protest movement that
 - a. Attracts attention to unparalleled deficiencies and inequalities in public education
 - b. Attracts attention to prenatal health issues in poor communities
 - c. Attracts attention to excessive use of state violence against black youth
 - d. Attracts attention to inequalities in the admission process at leading graduate schools
4. In our Declaration of Independence Thomas Jefferson wrote,

That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.

Jefferson seems to be saying

- a. Interest groups should be careful before they act
 - b. Interest groups have been empowered to incite foreign revolutions
 - c. Protest politics in American society is found in our DNA
 - d. Protest politics in American society is subject to strict scrutiny
5. All of the following constitutional provisions empower influence peddlers in the public policy process EXCEPT
- a. First Amendment's free speech clause
 - b. First Amendment's free press clause
 - c. First Amendment's petition clause
 - d. Fourth Amendment's exclusionary rule

6. All of the following legal interest group techniques appear to have helped advance the civil rights movement in America EXCEPT
- Mass demonstrations
 - Written petitions
 - Engaging in acts of terror
 - Litigation
7. It can be said that the public policy process is influenced greatly by all of the following EXCEPT
- Elections
 - Public opinion
 - Interest groups
 - Third party candidates
8. Critical elections, often called realignments, are rare occurrences in American politics. Which of the following would be an example of a critical election?
- Turnout rates in a presidential election drop below 50%
 - A leading candidate drops out of a race just prior to the election
 - A third-party candidate receives the endorsement of a major party
 - African Americans switch from being Republican to being Democrat
9. If political parties primarily want to win elections what do interest groups primarily want to do?
- Raise money for campaigns
 - Influence public policy
 - Choose candidates
 - Also win elections
10. All of the following would be seen as critical players in the federal budget process EXCEPT
- Professional organizations
 - Foreign ambassadors
 - Bureaucratic agencies
 - Military leaders