

Political Ideologies

A. What is an Ideology?

1. Definition

- no clear view on what is right or wrong
- political system
- ideas of a ruling class
- ideas behind governing system of countries
- ideology plays a role in everything, even defining the term ideology
- ideology is influenced by world view and the individuals situation in the world

2. Origin

- Rooted from religion
- science of new ideas
- ideology is the study of a new idea

3. Carl Marx usage

- Carl Marx was the one who popularized it
- He wrote the communist manifesto
- He believed that the class that does material production has control over the mental production
- They are controlling the ideas that are happening
- Ratio from workers to owners is too great
- that ratio should be flipped

4. Political usage

- all ideologies are a set of ideas, organized political action and want to change something in the current political power, built on worldview of a group, model of a desired future, explain how the change from A to B will occur
- It's embedded in our lives but it extremely low radar
- ideology is like a pair of goggles, when you put them on it changes how you see the world

B. Political Ideologies

1. Liberalism

a. Ideology

- Industrialized West ideology
- Focus on the individual, Freedom, reason, Justice, toleration

1. The individual

- each individual is unique and equal to other individuals, equal does not mean same
- commitment to individual freedom
- there are constraints on what those freedoms are

2. Reason

- faith in reason or use the ability to use intellect to take action in the world

3. Justice and tolerance

- justice in that each person should be given what they are due, can be different but should be in line with the crime
- there is tolerance and pluralism or that different moral, cultural and political cultures can co-exist together

b. Evidence

- there is an encouragement towards those ideals
- Visual representations for diversity
- have the freedom to speak our opinions and have a voice as an individual

2. Conservatism

a. Ideology

- Focus on Tradition, Human imperfection, organic society, hierarchy and authority, property

1. Tradition

- preservation of tradition
- foundation of society
- without tradition society will crumble
- enemy is change!

2. Humans are Imperfect

- not perfectible
- stability and security that is provided by the government
- path involves heavy government security
- depicted as pro law and order

3. Organic Society

- human beings cannot exist outside of society
- social groups that nurture are what makes the society

4. Hierarchy and Authority

- hierarchy and authority comes naturally
- people rise to the top

5. Property

- importance of owning property
- encourage private saving and investment
- individuals should own property
- helps to create a stable world

3. Liberalism vs Conservatism

- stereotypes are evident and there is a classic clash
- Can you be both a conservatist and liberalist?
- originally start as liberal as you want to be progressive, as you collect property and things you want to keep them moving towards conservatism

4. Socialism

- Focuses on Community, Cooperation, equality, class politics and common ownership

a. Community

- “we are all brothers and sisters”
- human nature can be changed and is moulded by life experience
- humans have the capacity to be something greater
- restorative justice

b. Cooperation not Competition

- naturally as humans we want to work together

c. Equality

- committed to equality
- it's a core principal, all are equal

d. Social Class

- social class is the determining factor of society
- you are born into a class and remain in that class

e. Common ownership

- all property is seen as communal
- “from each according to his ability, to each according to his need” Marx
- private ownership leads to competition and then social inequality

5. Socialism vs Communism

- Communism is the classless society, no hierarchy and was seen as the end point of human development
- Socialism is the stepping stone towards communism, the state is helping people to move towards that communist idea.

6. Fascism

- origin was born in the interwar period in Italy and Germany, factor of World War 2
- Mussolini brought fascism to Italy, executed by partisans
- Hitler brought fascism to Germany with Nazi party
- Brought in to drain the swamp, strong man dictator
- doesn't leave room for other voices, one man makes the decisions
- Reaction against rationalism, there is always just one answer
- survival of the fittest mindset in all aspects, eliminate the weak
- not equal, elitism and some born leaders
- extreme belief in nationalism

7. Capitalism

- an economic system, focused on profit and privately owned production
- goods and services are used for more profit
- a. The Market
 - defining mechanism for ordering society
 - market defines social class and all levels of society
 - goods brought to consumers, supply and demand, dictates society
- b. Economic Growth
 - all people increase their material wealth
 - world's richest consume 76% of the world's resources
 - always working to increase material wealth, maintaining order

8. Totalitarianism

- State is in hands of a small group and they control everything
- total system of control
- established through terror and brutality to take over minds of subjects

9. Anarchism

- opposition to authority
- government removes equality from the people
- humans are naturally good and if government left we would fall into a state of cooperation

10. Religious fundamentalism

- rejects distinction between politics and religion
- religion is politics
- maintains commitment to the ideals and values seen as fundamental
- rejects modernity
- militaristic ideology, use violence to achieve its aims

11. Nationalism

- Idea that the nation is the central principle of the political organization

12. Environmentalism

- nature is the focus of social organization

13. Feminism

- politics of the individual
- Power relationship of men and women
- looking at state level of politics and individual for women's rights to power
- use the concept of patriarchy
- distinction between "sex" and "gender", sex is biological term, gender is the cultural term

14. Globalization

- cultures and society further integrated through a global network of communication, trade, politics, transportation.
- idea that influences the way we see the world

15. The political spectrum

- left and right, began by seating arrangement by French groups in parliament

- Left is liberty, equality, fraternity and progress
- Right is authority, hierarchy, privatization
- political compass includes up and down, on social beliefs, authoritarian vs libertarian

A. Nationalism

- a sense of nation, culturally constructed
 - Everyone has to be similar, look the same
1. What is Nationalism?
 - shared sense of belonging of people who identify as a nation
 - expressed in how people live their daily lives and their ways of life
 2. How is it expressed?
 - Celebrations of identity ie. Beavers, Timmies, Maple Syrup, Hockey
 - political actions ie. Health Care, immigration
 - Writing and telling of history
 - Artwork ie. Group of 7
 3. Is nationalism positive?
 - It can be. It can reinforce a sense of belonging
 - lead to a unification of the nation and confirmation of that nations identity
 4. The dark side of Nationalism
 - focus hostility towards other groups
 - define who's in the group and who is not
 - it is known to amplify the differences between people
 - heightened rivalry, xenophobia and conflict
 - can lead to war
 5. Patriotism vs Nationalism
 - patriotism defends in the spirit and principals of the nation, pride in who you are
 - nationalism is "my country first", pride in who you aren't