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| Class Notes / PowerPoint Presentation / Textbook Notes  **American Government**  Name:  Class:  Period:  Date:  **Political Behavior: Government By the People** / **Chapter 5 Section 1: Political Parties** | |
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| **Objectives** | 1. Define a *political party*. 2. Describe the major functions of political parties. 3. Identify the reasons why the United States has a two-party system. 4. Understand multiparty and one-party systems and how they affect the functioning of a political system. |
| **Key Terms** |  |
| political party | * a group of persons who seek to control government by winning elections and holding public office |
| political spectrum | * the range of political views, from the so-called left to the right |
| partisanship | * strong support for a specific political party and its policies |
| single-member districts | * a voting district in which only one candidate is elected to each office on the ballot |
| plurality | * the largest number of votes cast for an elected office; this number does not have to be a majority of *all* votes cast |
| bipartisan | * an approach to policy making in which the two major parties find common ground on an issue |
| consensus | * general agreement among different groups on an issue |
| coalition | * a temporary alliance of several groups who join to form a working majority in a multiparty system |
| ***Focus Question*** | **What are political parties, and how do they function in our two-party system?** |
| **What is a Political Party?**  C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\CKU2X4QA\American-Political-Parties[1].jpeg |  |
| ***CHECKPOINT!*** | **What are the three elements that make up a political party?**  1).  2).  3). |
| **What Do Political Parties Do?**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\0FTPS1K9\politico[1].jpg** |  |
| **Roles of Parties**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\INYF9P2A\1200px-John_Edwards_Pittsburgh_2007[1].jpg**  **Roles of Parties (CONT’D)** |  |
| **Parties as “Watchdogs”**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\X06TSLO3\watchdog1[1].png** |  |
| ***CHECKPOINT!*** | **How do parties perform the watchdog function?** |
| **The Two-Party System**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\INYF9P2A\republicans-vs-democrats[1].jpg** |  |
| **Tradition**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\X06TSLO3\350px-Two_party_system_diagram[1].png** |  |
| **Building Consensus**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\0FTPS1K9\strategic-planning[1].gif** |  |
| **Political Spectrum**  **../AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/IE/X06TSLO3/1_qTItfGSsSS_S5OsvyKG7qA%5b1%5d.jpg**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\CKU2X4QA\left-right[1].png** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Radical** |  | | **Liberal** |  | | **Moderate** |  | | **Conservative** | **.** | | **Reactionary** |  | |
| ***CHECKPOINT!*** | **Where do your political beliefs fall on the political spectrum? Provide 3 reasons to justify your answer.** |

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| **Multiparty Systems**  **C:\Users\MMarzolf\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\CKU2X4QA\American-Political-Parties[1].jpeg** |  |
| ***CHECKPOINT!*** | **Does the two-party system help or harm democracy? Explain by providing 3 supporting details to your position?** |