**Ch. 13 Voting and Elections**

**Summary:** most people think of political participation in terms of voting; however, there are other forms of political participation, and sometimes they are more effective than voting. Political participation includes all the actions people use in seeking to influence or support government and politics.

Participation and Voting

**Forms of Political Participation**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Discussing politics and attending political meetings
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Contacting public officials
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Running for office
* Protesting government decisions

Most of these behaviors would be considered conventional or routine, within the acceptable channels of representative government. Less conventional behaviors have been used when groups have felt powerless and ineffective.

Although Americans are less approving of unconventional behaviors, those tactics are sometimes affected influence in government decisions. The often violent protests against the Vietnam conflict \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1968.

In the modern era of the Internet and other forms of instant news, a single verbal gaffe can cause major problems for candidates; mistakes by candidates are often quickly spread by supporters of the opposing candidate. The most common form of political participation in the United States is voting. However, Americans are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Participation through voting

Democratic government is government by the people. In the United States, participation for elections is the basis of the democratic process. According to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_In practice, however, no nation grants \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; all nations have requirements for voting.

Expansion of suffrage

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is a political right that belongs to all those who meet certain requirements set by the law. The United States was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to provide for general elections of representatives through mass suffrage.

The issue of suffrage \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—the only stipulation found in Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution is that individuals who could vote for “the most numerous branch of the state legislature” could also vote for their Congressional representatives.

The composition of the American\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_has changed throughout history. Two major trends have marked the development of suffrage: the elimination of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Changes in voting requirements have included:

* elimination of religious qualifications, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and tax payments after 1800
* Elimination of race disqualifications with the passage of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Elimination of gender disqualifications with the passage of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Elimination of grandfather clauses, white primaries, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the passage of Federal civil rights legislation and court decisions (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

* Allowing residents of Washington, DC, to vote in presidential elections with the passage of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1961
* Elimination of poll taxes in Federal elections with the passage of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1964 (wolf old taxes were ruled unconstitutional in *Harper v. Virginia State Board of Elections,* 1966)
* Lowering the minimum age for voting in Federal elections to 18 with the passage of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1971

Issue or Policy Voting

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the early 20th century was a philosophy of political reform that fostered the development of mechanisms for increased direct participation. These included:

* A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ allowing citizens to nominate candidates.
* A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is a special election initiated by petition to allow citizens to remove an official from office before a term expires
* A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_allows citizens to vote directly on issues called propositions (proposed laws or state constitutional amendments).
* An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ allows voters to petition to propose issues to be decided by qualified voters.

Although the recall, referendum, and initiative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, several states allow voters to approve or disapprove ballot initiatives on specific issues.

Candidate Voting

Voting for candidates is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It allows citizens to choose candidates they think will best serve their interests and makes public officials accountable for their actions.

In the United States voters only elect two National Office holders—\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. All remaining candidates represent state or local constituencies.

Low voter turnout

Voting has been studied more closely than any other form of political participation in the United States. Studies have shown the voter turnout United States has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and when compared with the United States over time.

Voter turnout is higher if the election is seen as important; voter turnout is higher in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Several reasons might account for the lower voter turnout:

* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*increase in the number of potential voters (Twenty-sixth Amendment)
* *Failure of political parties to mobilize voters—*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, numerous elections, frequent elections, lack of party identification
* *No perceived differences between the candidates or parties—*both parties and their candidates are seen as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Mistrust of government—*a belief that all candidates are untrustworthy or unresponsive, due in part to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*a lack of interest in politics; a belief that voting is not important
* *Satisfaction with the way things are—*a belief that not voting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Lack of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*people do not believe their vote out of millions of votes will make a difference
* *Mobility of electorate—*moving around leads to a lack of social belonging
* *Registration process—*differences in registration procedures from state to state may create barriers; the National Voter Registration Act of 1995 (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) was designed to make voter registration easier by allowing people to register at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* and some public offices.

Who Votes?

Several factors affect the likelihood of voting:

* *Education—*the higher the level of education, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is the most important indicator of voting behavior.
* *Occupation and income—*these often depend on education level. Those with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* and higher levels of income are more likely to vote than those with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were lower levels of income.

* *Age—*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than younger people.
* *Race—*minorities such as African Americans and Hispanics are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than whites, unless they have similar socioeconomic status.
* *Gender—*at one time, gender was not a major predictor, but today \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

* *Religion—*those who are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are more likely to vote than those who did not attend religious services, or rarely attend.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*married people are more likely to vote than those were not married.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*Union’s encourage participation, and union members tend to vote regularly.
* *Community membership—*people who are well integrated into a community life are more likely to vote than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Party identification—*those who have a strong sense of party identification are more likely to vote
* *Geography—* residents of states with inner party competition and close elections may be more likely to vote than those who live in states with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Types of Elections

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are nominated elections in which voters choose \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who will run for office and the general election. There are several major types of primaries:

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **–** only voters who are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ may vote to choose the candidate. Separate primaries are held by each political party, and voters must select a primary in advance.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **–** voters may vote to choose the candidates in either party, whether they belong to that party or not. Voters make the decision of which party to support in the voting.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **–** voters may vote for candidates in either party, choose a republican for one office and a democrat from another often legal used only in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**—**when no candidate from a party receives a majority of the votes, the top two candidates face each other in a runoff.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are elections in which the voters choose from among \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or running as independents.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are held whenever an issue must be decided by voters before a primary or general election is held, for example, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

When Elections are Held

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ determine when elections are held. Congress has established that congressional and presidential elections will be held on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Congressional elections are held every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and presidential elections are held every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Congressional elections

Since congressional elections are held every even numbered year, off year elections **(**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**)** occur during the year when no presidential election is held. Voter turnout in off your elections is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than during presidential election years.

During presidential election years, the popularity of presidential candidate may create a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, allowing lesser-known or weaker candidates from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to win by riding the coattails of the nominee.

Presidential elections

The road to the White House in the presidency begins months and even year’s prior to the election. Some candidates begin the process as soon as the previous election is over. Phases of a candidacy include:

* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*in deciding whether to run for president, individuals must determine whether they have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ against other possible candidates. Often a possible nominee will form an exploratory committee to begin lining up support and finances, as well as to attract media coverage and gain widespread recognition.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*once a candidate has decided to run, an announcement is generally made in a press conference. This announcement is a formal declaration of the candidates seeking the party’s nomination.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*In the past, state party officials would meet in a caucus to endorse the party candidate prior to the presidential primaries. Abuse of the caucus system led to many states abandoning its use. Iowa still uses caucuses to nominate presidential candidates; however, today they are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Most states today use the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to determine whom the state delegates to the national party convention will support. Voters vote in a primary election, and party delegates to the convention support the winner of the primaries election.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*each political party holds a national nominating convention in the summer prior to the general election. The convention is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_with each party turning its method of selecting delegates. The purpose of a nominating convention is to choose the party’s presidential and vice presidential nominees, write the party platform, and bring unity to the party in support of their chosen nominees.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—*after the conventions are over, each candidate begins campaigning for the general election. Generally, candidates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (these in which neither major party has overwhelming support) and often appear more moderate in an effort to win the largest possible number of votes. Since 1960, the candidates have faced each other in televised debates. The general election is held to determine which candidate wins the Electoral College votes for that states.
* *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****—***when voters go to the polls on election day they are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_This vote is actually for electors. Each state has a number of electors equal to its senators and representatives in Congress. Also, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*. The entire group of 538 electors is known as the Electoral College.

After the general election, the electors meet in their respective state capitals on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December. The candidate who wins a majority of popular votes in a state in the general election \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Although the electors are not required to vote for their party’s candidate, only rarely do they cast a vote for someone else.

The votes cast in the Electoral College are then sent to Congress, where they are opened and counted before a joint session. The candidate who receives \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of electoral votes is declared the winner.

If no candidate for president receives a majority of the electoral votes, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. If no candidate for vice president receives a majority of electoral votes, the Senate chooses the vice president from the top two candidates.

Partisanship in Elections

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ occur when the traditional majority power maintains power based on the party loyalty of voters.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ occur when the minority party is able to win with the support of majority party members, independence, and new voters; however, the long-term party preferences of voters do not change.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ indicate sharp changes in existing patterns of party loyalty due to changing social and economic conditions, for example, elections of 1860, 1896, and 1932.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_occur when the minority party wins by building a new coalition of voters that continues over successive elections. This is usually associated with a national crisis such as the great depression, when Franklin D. Roosevelt was able to create a new coalition of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_occur when party loyalty becomes less important to voters, as may be seen with the increase in independents and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Campaign Finance

Campaigning for political office is expensive. For the 2000 elections the Republican and Democratic parties raised more than $1.1 billion.

Prior to the 1970s candidates for public office received donations from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Congress passed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. In 1971, restricting the amount of campaign funds they can be spent on advertising, requiring disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures, and living the announced candidates and their families can donate to their own campaigns. It also allowed taxpayers to designate a donation on their tax return to the major political party candidates, beginning in the 1976 presidential election.

In 1974, after the Watergate scandal, Congress amended the Federal election campaign act to establish the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to enforce the act, and established public financing for presidential candidates in primaries and the general election. The measure also restricted contributions by prohibiting foreign contributions, limiting individual contributions, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and their contributions it was further amended in 1976 and 1979.

In 1976 the Supreme Court ruled in *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*, that spending limits established by the FECA Amendments of 1974 were unconstitutional, ruling that those restrictions were in violation of the First Amendment’s guarantees of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. *Buckley v. Valeo* also declared that the FECA ban on self-financed campaigns was unconstitutional.

In 1996 new questions arose over the use of “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” donation to political parties \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Originally, the money was supposed to be used for voter registration drives, national party conventions, and issue ads.

Political parties were allowed to raise unlimited amounts of money because it was not to be used for campaigning. However, soft money has generally been spent in ways that ultimately help individual candidates. By the 2000 election, soft money donations have exceeded $400,000,000 between the two major parties.

Campaign finance reform has been a major issue in Congress. In 2002 Congress passed the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act (BCRA), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and increasing the 1974 limits on individual and group contributions to candidates.

A result of the BCRA in the campaign of 2004 was the formation of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. A 527 political organization is a largely unregulated interest group that focuses on a single policy and attempts to influence voters. After the 2004 election, new rules governing 527 organizations regulated their use of soft money and allowed the FEC to examine their expenditures.

**Rapid Review**

* Political participation includes all the actions people use in seeking to influence or support government and politics.
* Voting is the most common form of political participation in the United States.
* According to democratic theory, if a rush be allowed to vote.
* Suffrage is the right to vote. The expansion of suffrage is allowed a larger number of voters.
* In the early 20th century the progressive movement out to bring about an increase in direct participation.
* The president and vice president are the only two nationally elected officeholders.
* Voter turnout United States has been decreasing for numerous reasons.
* Various characteristics have been attributed to those were more likely to vote.
* Primary elections are intra party elections held a narrow down the field of candidates.
* General elections are inter-party elections were voters choose the office holders.
* Federal, state, and local laws determine the holding of elections.
* Congressional elections that a place in years when no presidential election is occurring are called off year or midterm elections.
* That presidential election process includes exploration, announcement, primaries, nominating conventions, campaigning, the general election, and the electoral college vote.
* An electoral college elects the president and vice president.
* Partisanship allows for elections to be maintaining, deviating, critical, realigning, or Dealigning in scope.
* The Federal election Campaign Act and its amendments regulate campaign finances. Reforms of campaign financing include the passage of the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act that bans the use of “soft money” in Federal campaigns.

**Key Terms:**

Bicameral Apportionment Reapportionment Congressional Districting

Gerrymandering Incumbency effect Casework Constituents Speaker of the House

Floor Leaders Majority Leader President pro Tempore Seniority System

Standing Committee Select Committee Joint Committee Caucus Trustee

Franking Privilege Oversight Bills Rules Committee Filibuster Cloture

Pork Barrel Legislation Logrolling Riders Amendments Lobbying Legislative Veto