

**First Examination POLS 4615  
The Polarization of American Politics**

**23 September 2016**

Professor Poole

**PLEASE KEEP YOUR ANSWERS *SHORT AND SPECIFIC* TO ALL  
QUESTIONS**

1. What is the importance of this Figure from the essay by Carsey and Layman?

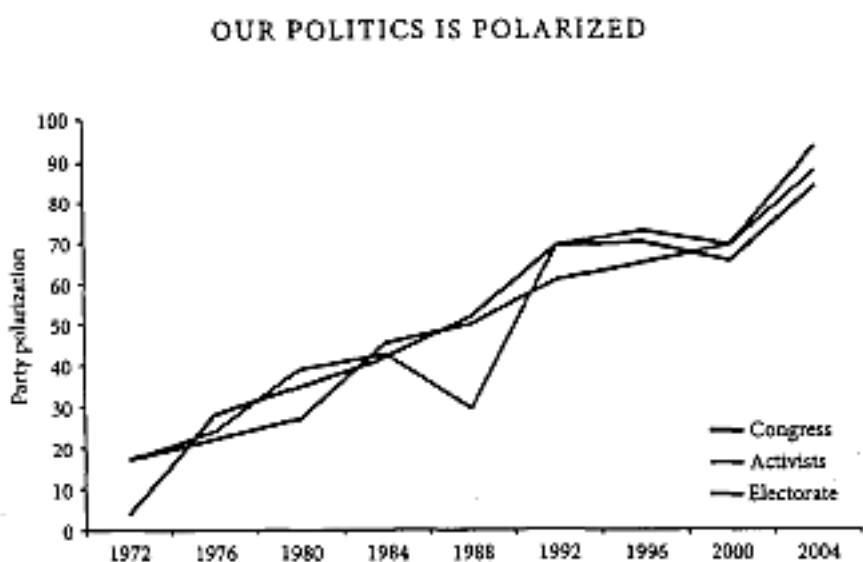


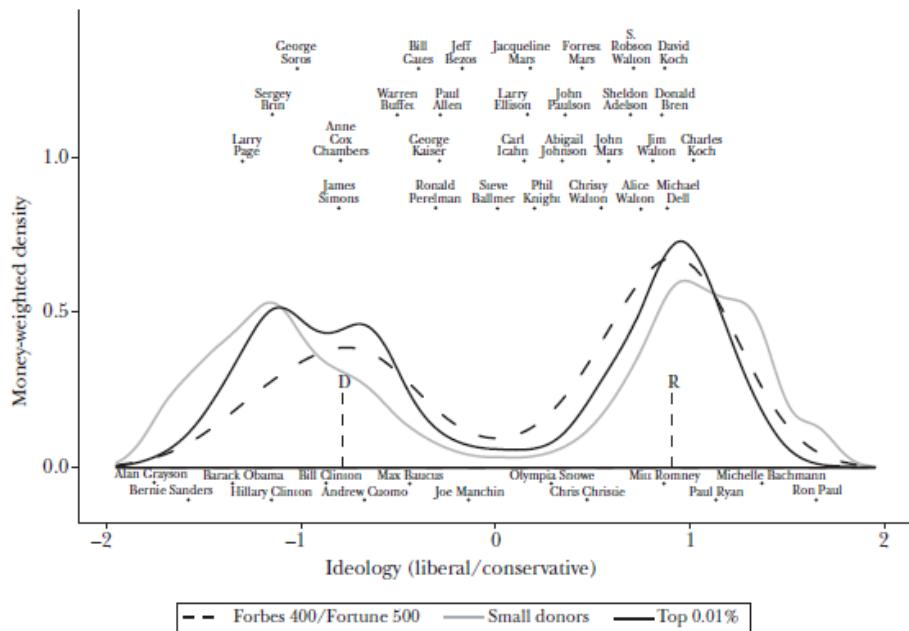
Figure 8 Party polarization on cultural issues.

Note: Levels of party polarization have been standardized to a mean of 50 and a standard deviation of 25.

Source: 1972–2004 Convention Delegate Studies, American National Election Studies, and Congressional Roll Call Votes.

## 2. What is the importance of this Graph?

The Ideological Distribution of Dollars from Small Donors and the Top 0.01 Percent



Source: Authors calculation's using "CF" scores, as described in Bonica (2013b), as measures of candidate and contributor ideology. Data on political contributions are from the Federal Election Commission.

3. Below is Figure from Brookman's essay in *American Gridlock*. What is the importance of this figure? Explain what the dashed and solid lines measure.

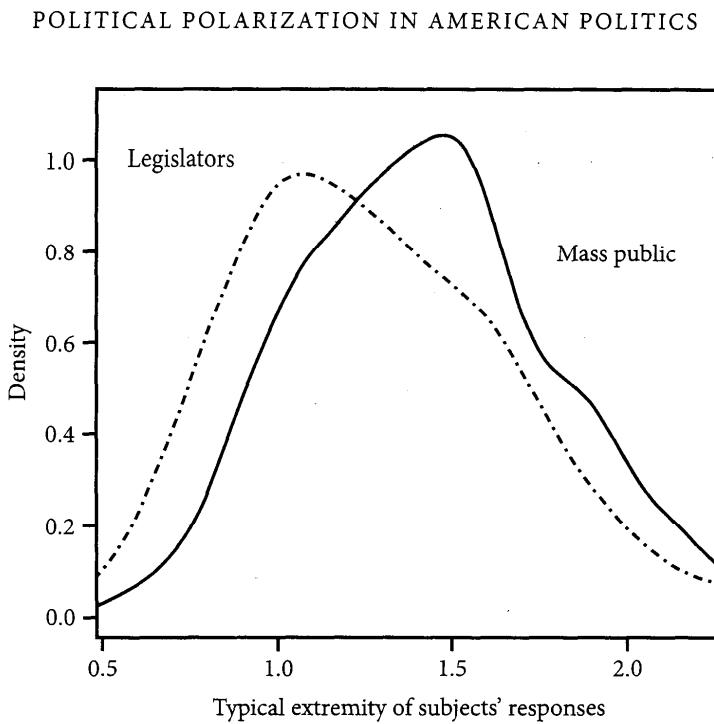
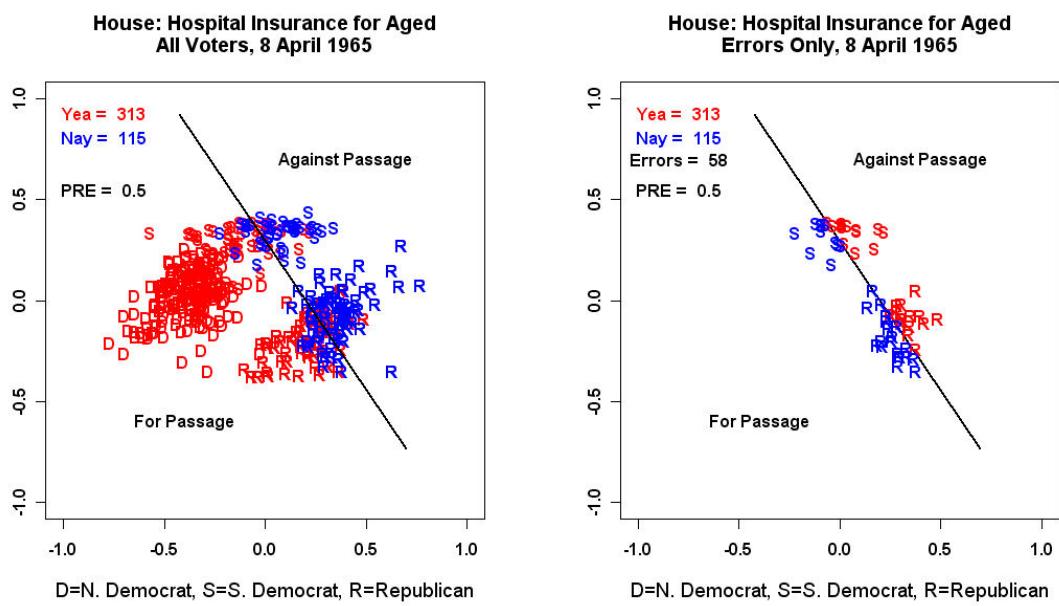


Figure 16 Typical extremity of subjects' responses.

4. Explain the spatial map below. What is shown in the panel on the left and the panel on the right?



5. Below is Figure 1 from Fiorina's essay in *Political Polarization in American Politics* (essentially the same argument in *American Gridlock*). What is Fiorina's basic argument?

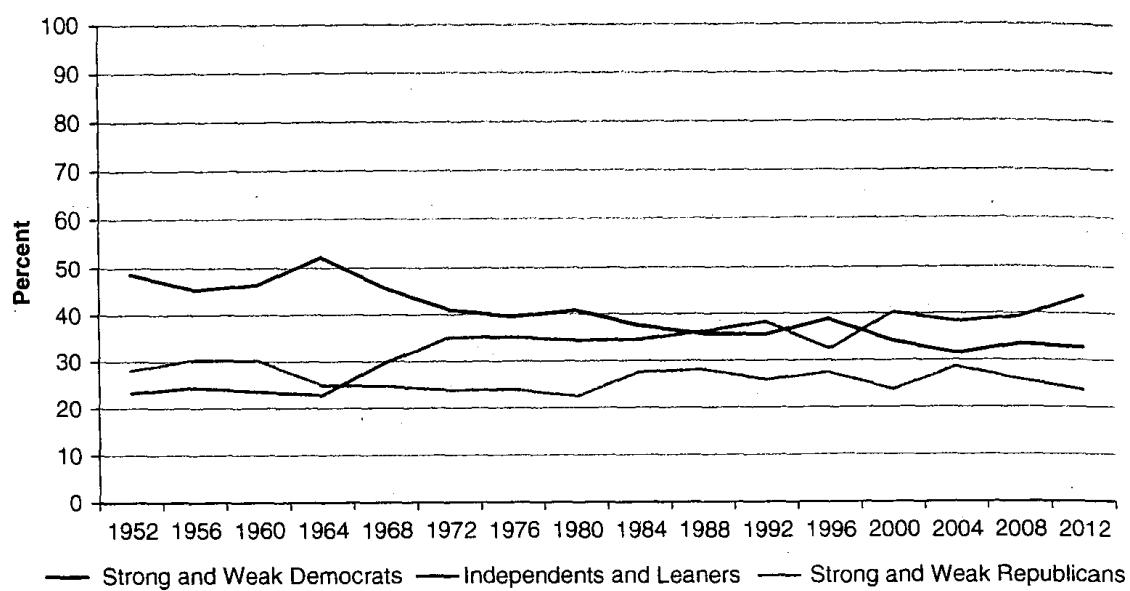


FIGURE 1. Partisanship Has Not Polarized

Source: Individual ANES files; all data has been weighted and uses FTF respondents only

6. Below is Figure 2.23b (Distribution of the 2000 Bush Two-Party Vote by Counties and Districts) from *Polarized America*. Why is the graph important? What cause of polarization does it rule out?

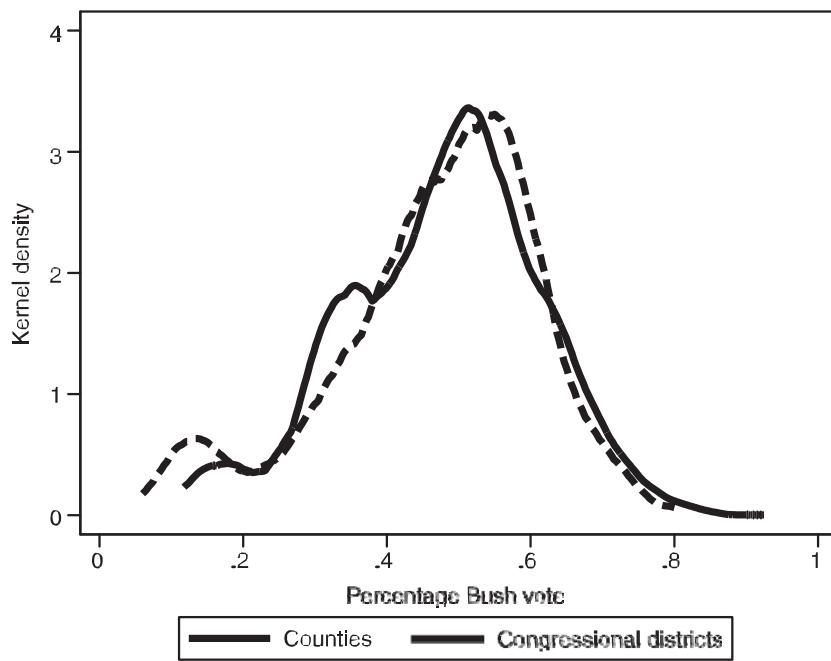


Figure 2.23b

Distribution of the 2000 Bush Two-Party Vote by Counties and Districts

*Note:* Counties are weighted by population. Both densities estimated using bandwidth =.025.