

The Public



What are our unalienable
rights as stated in the
Declaration of Independence?

**Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of
Happiness**

Brainstorm Activity



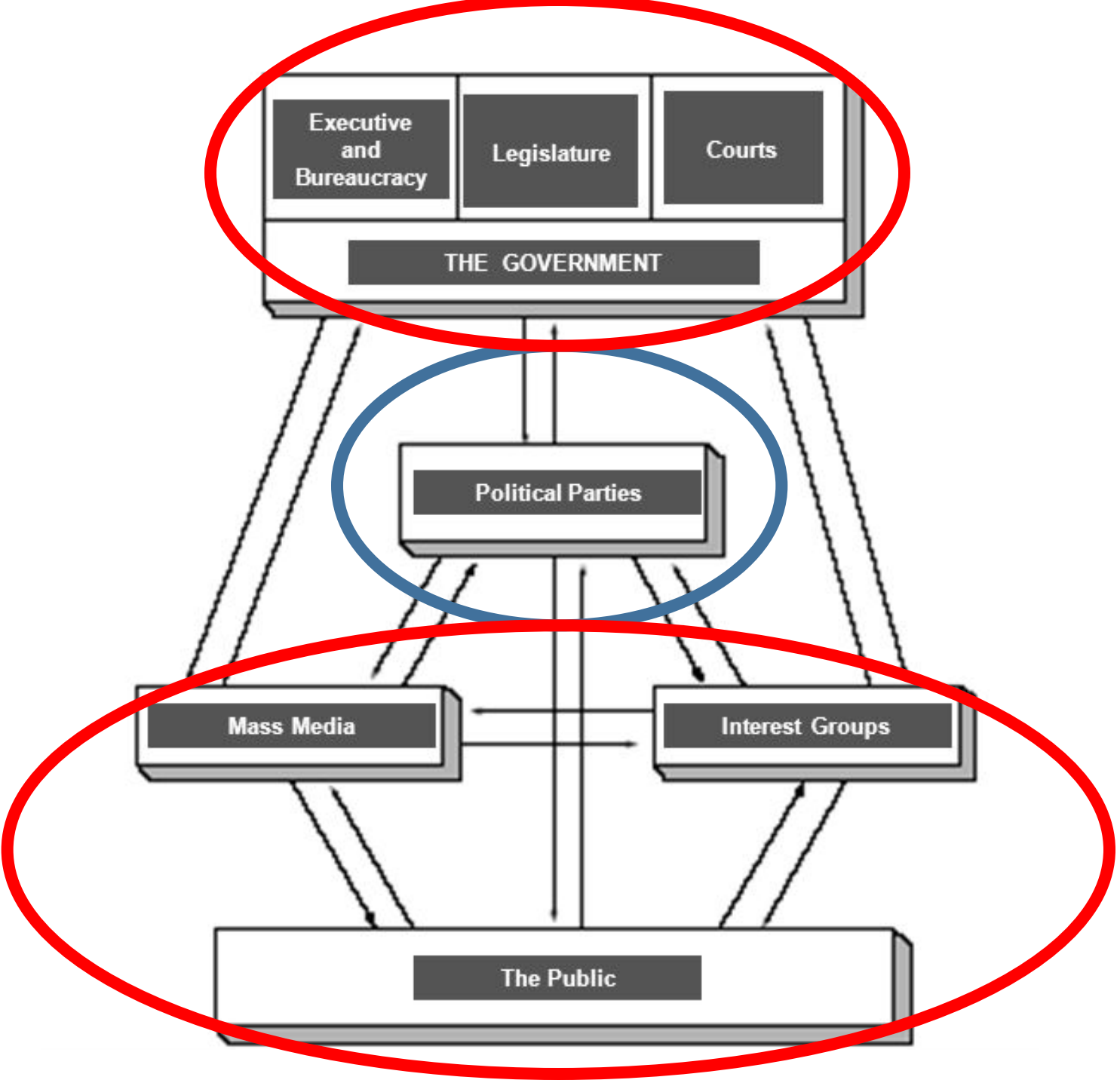
Think of two words that come to mind when you hear the word “**public.**”

Prepare to share out.

Functions of Political Parties

1. **Nominate Candidates for Public Office**
2. **Inform and Activate Supporters**
3. **Act as Bonding Agent**
4. **Governing**
5. **Watchdog**

- **What does that mean to you as a future voter?**
- **How do you influence political parties?**



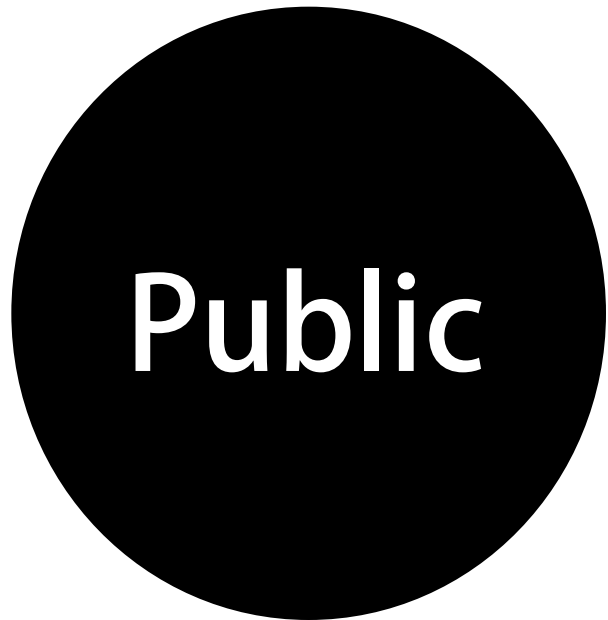
Journal #7



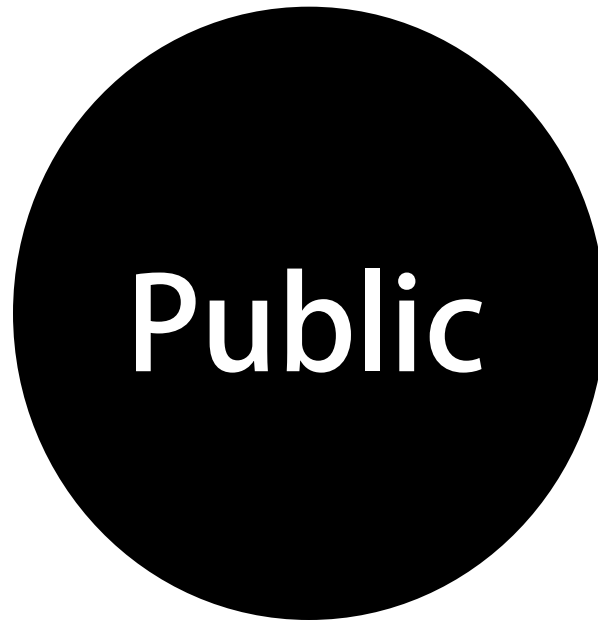
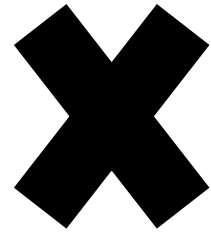
What do you think the following quote means? Interpret it.

The state “instead of being all absorbing and inclusive, is under some circumstances the most idle and empty of social arrangements.”

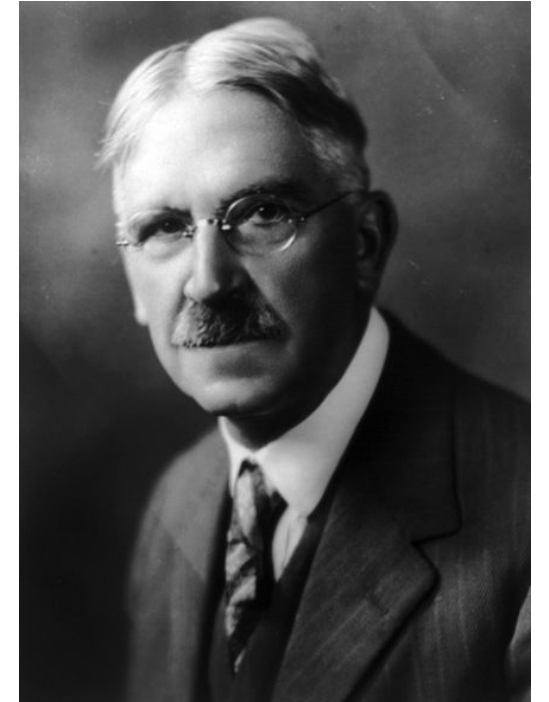
“In no two ages or places is there the same public.”



1980s

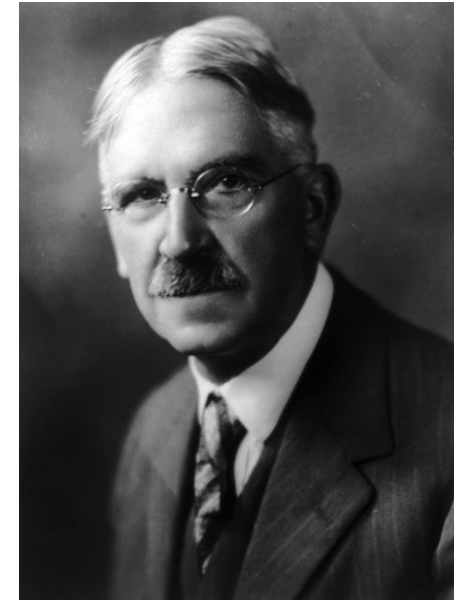
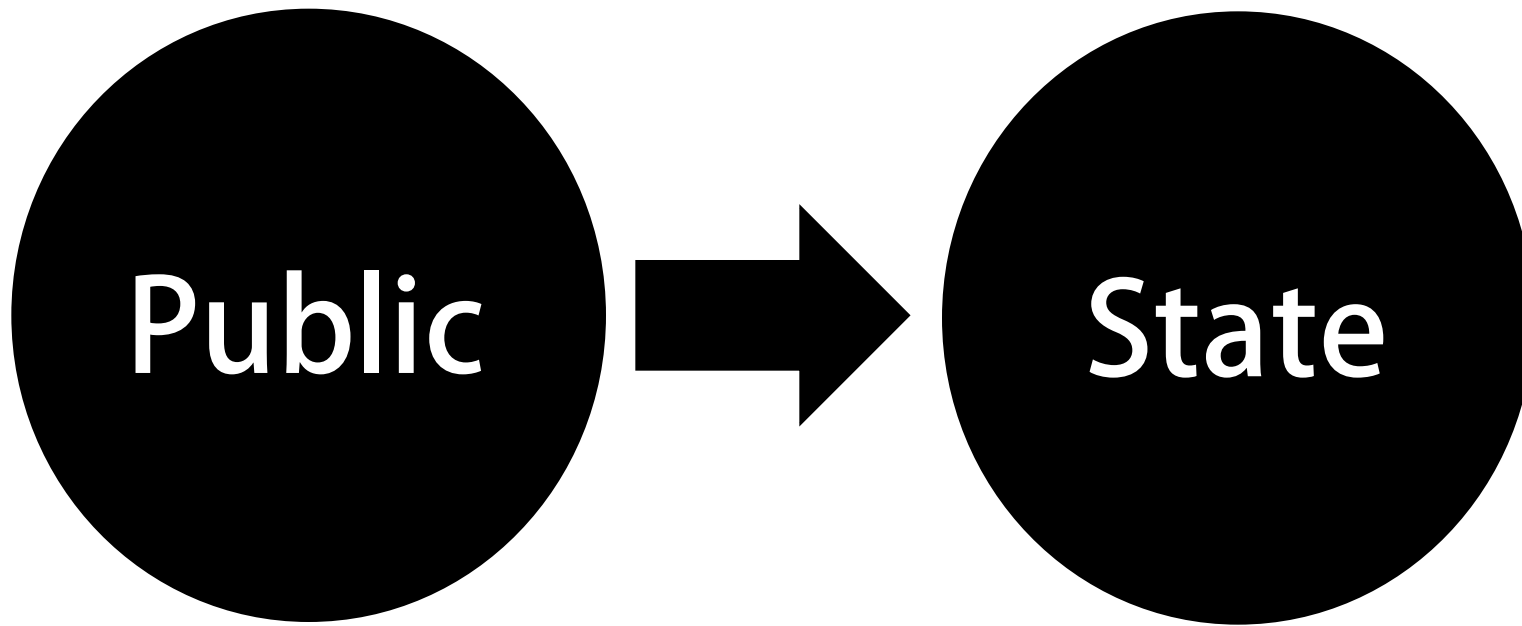


2000s



- John Dewey
(1859-1952)

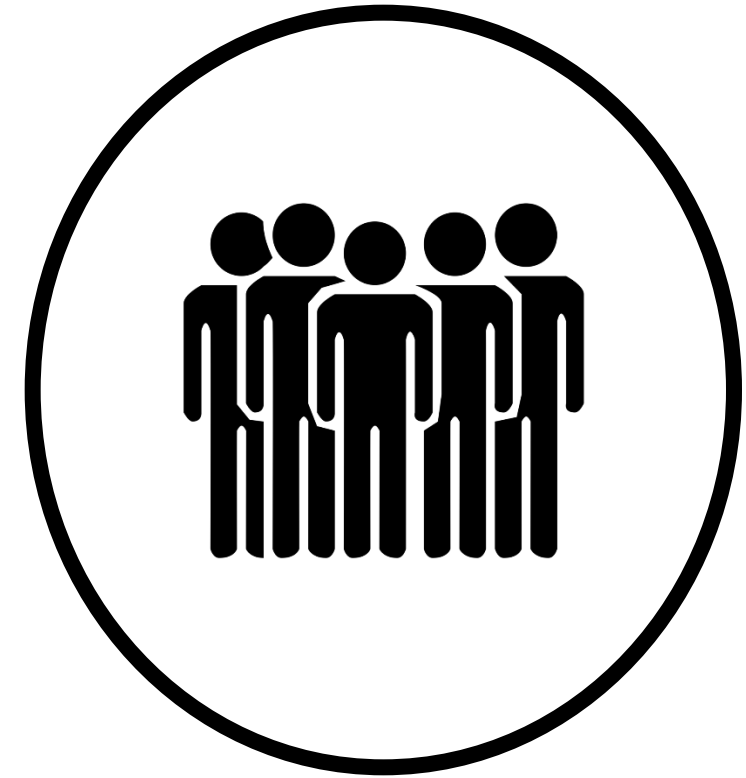
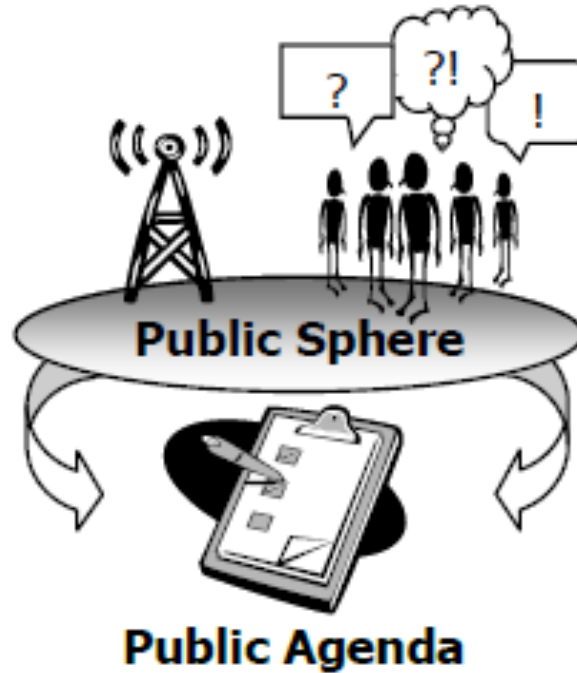
“The public has no hands except those of individual human beings.”



- John Dewey
(1859-1952)

Public Sphere

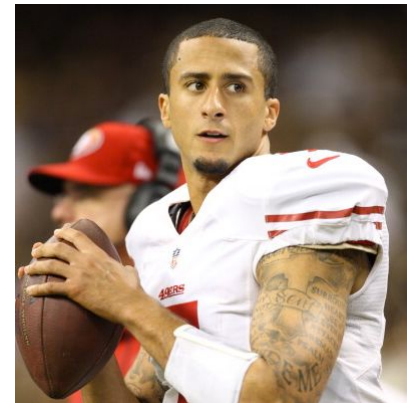
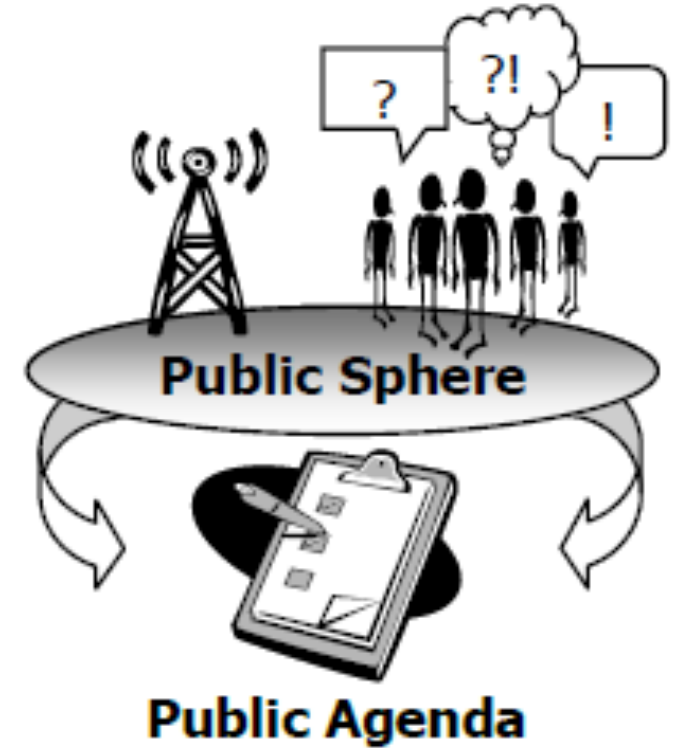
- Space where society discusses its issues
 - Community
 - *Private sphere*
 - Home
- Multiple levels
 - Local
 - National
 - Global



Public Agenda

Public Agenda

- To-do list of issues that the public agrees are a priority
 - Depends on the discussions within the public sphere
- *Public Spotlight*
 - Could be about useless things
 - But can call attention to issues
 - Celebrity using their status to bring attention



 **Public Opinion**

Public Opinion

- View that a significant part of the public/population has about an issue
- Polls
 - Sample pool
 - “2/3s of Americans...”
 - Should be critical of sources.

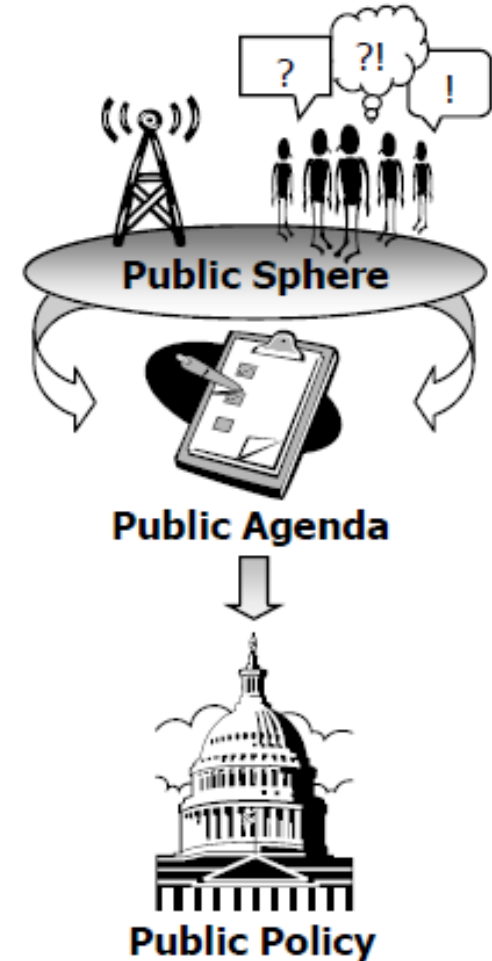
Influencing Factors

- Family/Home
- Culture
- School
- Environment
- Media
- Etc.



Public Policy

- Position government takes on an issue
 - Becomes guide for action
 - Laws
- Government officials *should* be reflective of constituents' opinion
- Public opinion does not solely dictate public policy



Public
Sphere

Public
Agenda

Public
Opinion

Public
Policy

Video Reflection #4



Watch the video and reflect. What kind of public opinion is this trying to create? What kind of public agenda do you think it is trying to set? Suggest a public policy for this video.

How are people, or the
public, influenced and
informed?