

Art & Politics: Public Policy

Social Policy – provide people (especially low-income) with the necessities of life.

- Food, Healthcare, Employment, Education
- Equality of opportunity here!
- Prior to the 1930s: Social Gospel and progressivism – ex. Hull House, Red Cross
- New Deal = new era
- Great Society and Johnson
- “Contributory” programs = Social Security – pay to receive benefits
- “Non-Contributory” programs = eligibility is determined by income/ referred to as: “means-tested” ---- SSI, Medicaid
- “In-Kind” benefits = supply non-cash goods and services that would otherwise have to be paid for in cash

Foreign Policy – position and policies concerning other countries, including diplomatic, military, and commercial (trade).

- President responsible for making and conducting (treaties and military force)
- Congress “War Powers”
- Senate treaty approval
- Secretary of State (also has domestic duties), Secretary of Defense two most important players in helping shape policy
- National Security Council – coordinates foreign policy between departments, Presidents, VP, Sec of State, Sec of Treasury, Sec of Defense, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Good to Know: League of Nations, UN, War Powers Act, Containment, Cuban Missile Crisis

Environmental Policy – controversial b/c winners and losers! Business and citizens --- Do we love the way we live or our environment?! (Mostly entrepreneurial)

- Sometimes scientific uncertainty
- Farmers biggest polluters
- Clean Air Act 1970, Clean Air Act 1990 (acid rain), Clean Streams and Waterways Act
- EPA
- Majoritarian – Clean Air Act 1970 (car emissions)
- Interest Group – Acid Rain
- Client – Pesticides (Silent Spring)

Economic Policy – making and maintaining a market economy and promoting economic growth and prosperity.

- Era marked by New Deal era, but trust-busting of TR was a predecessor
- Social Regulation Era (1970s) – Clean Air Act of 1970, Lead-Based Paint Poison Prevention Act
- OSHA, EPA (regulatory Agencies).... Thus noted that Environmental and Economic Policies are linked!
- Monetary Policy – controls the nation’s money supply and interest rate
- Federal Reserve System – independent central bank that sets the monetary policy – no ratification by the President, but subject to oversight by Congress (remember: power to coin money)
- BUDGET included here, but that is a discussion for a different day☺



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