## **Political Parties**







## The Political Spectrum: Right Wing, Left Wing and Moderates

- How you place yourself on the Political Spectrum is based on your responses to Political issues.
- How do you know what you are?



Particul - lots of change; change everything
Dibert - change is good things, leave others alone Moderate - change somethings, leave others alone
Conservative - change storing & very little
Reactionary - no change, lit's ye backwards



## François Hollande

- President of France May 2012-present
- Switched 50-75% of nuclear energy to renewables
- Passed gay marriage & adoption laws
- Created an apprenticeship work system
- Heavily taxed income over 1 mil. Euros/year 75%!
- Withdrew from Afghanistan

### Social Libertarian/Authoritarian: -3.23



## Political Spectrum to Political Parties

- Where you position yourself on the political spectrum has a direct impact on your choice of political party.
- Question: Would "liberals" vote for the Liberal Party?

#### Leaders of the Major Canadian Political Parties



The Right Honourable Stephen Harper





Mr. Gilles Duceppe





The Honourable Stéphane Dion



The Honourable Jack Layton

## **Political Party Platforms**

- Each political party has their own set of policies on a number of different issues:
- Health Care
- Taxes/Government Spending
- Social Welfare Programs
- Social Issues (e.g.Same Sex Marriage)
- Job Creation/ Trade Initiatives (e.g. Globalization, NAFTA)
- The Military (e.g. the War in Afghanistan)



## **Political Party Platforms**

- When a political party presents their ideas before the electorate on a series of issues, they are said to be presenting their *Political Platform*.
- How do you win an election?
- By presenting a political platform that represents the views of the majority of the electorate (Canadians, Ontarians, Vancouverites, etc)



Who would you vote for?

## **Political Party Platforms**

When you write the Political Platform You want to make sure that the policies enclosed reflect the prevailing interests of the majority of Canadians.

A strong platform can win an election!

Conservative **Conservative Party of Canada** Federal Election Platform

What else do you need for electoral success?

The Conservative Party's Platform

## Who would you vote for? What is Charisma?

- For many, the main ingredient for electoral success is charismatic leadership: the ability to inspire the people to join you in a march towards greater prosperity.
- Who has Charisma?



#### **Barack Obama**



**Hilary Clinton** 

### Who has Charisma?

VOPPOSITION OFFICIELL

Jack Layton 1950–2011

Jack Layton

\* NDP



## Charisma



Stephane Dion

How do you define Charisma? Who has it? Who doesn't? Do you need it to be successful In Politics?



Pierre Elliot Trudeau

## How do Political Parties decide which policies to adopt?

- There are many different issues that Political Parties need to deal with:
- Health Care
- The Environment
- Taxes/Government Spending
- Social Welfare Programs
- Job Creation / Domestic Economy
- Trade / Int'll Economy
- Immigration
- The Military
- Education
- Current Events: anything else you think is important!



Trade issues are a hot topic!

## Political Parties have to Address many issues in their Party Platforms



#### Health Care

The Environment



## Political Parties have to Address many issues



**Legal Issues** 

# Political Parties have to Address many issues



### **Social Welfare issues**



### **Taxiation: Taxes are too high!!!**

# Political Parties have to Address many issues

- Military spending is always an important issue. For some, spending on infrastructure and Healthcare is more important than funding Canada's military.
- For others, Canada's lack of sufficient military spending has been an international embarrassment.



## Canada's Official Federal Political Parties

## Function of a Political Party

Offer choice

• Voters can vote for a party & platform, not an individual

## Official Party Status =

• Have 12 seats in the House of Commons

• Receive funding for government work

• Allowed to participate in debates in the House



## **Conservative Party of Canada**

Creating jobs through training, trade and low taxes.

Supporting families through our Family Tax Cut and more support for seniors and caregivers.

Eliminating the deficit by 2014-2015 by controlling spending and cutting waste.

Making our streets safe through new laws to protect children and the elderly.

strengthening the Canadian Armed Forces.



Stephen Harper – leader and Prime Minister of Canada



## New Democratic Party of Canada

Investing in job creation by developing a green economy

Improving labour laws to make benefits more accessible for workers

Ensuring that large profitable corporations pay a fair share of taxes.

Protecting crown corporations against privatization.

Thomas Mulcair is the leader

## New Democratic Party of Canada



Thomas Mulcair is the leader



Justin Trudeau is the leader

## Liberal Party of Canada

Supports individual freedom and pursuit of equality of opportunity

Favours the expansion of social programs

Strike a balance between tax cuts and the creation of job opportunities



Represents Quebecois and support for French language

Universal Child Care (free Daycare) achieved in Quebec

Supports renewable energies

Daniel Paille is the interim leader

## **Canada's Political Parties**

 Based on their Party Platforms, who would you vote for?



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### Remember: They want your Vote!

- Although you need to be 18 to vote in Canadian Federal elections, the main political parties care about your opinions.
- Why is this so? Why are the "young liberals" so important to the Liberal Party of Canada?
- What role do you want to play in politics? Do you want to join a political party? Explain your answer!





Young Liberals of Canada Jeunes libéraux du Canada

Jeunes liberaux du Canada

The Liberal "Youth Wing"

## What have we learned?

- Key Terms
- The Political Spectrum
- Mainstream Political Issues
- Political Parties in Canada
- Electoral Success
- How to influence the Creation of Policies
- How to become involved in politics.
- Future Directions