

1. What are some explanations for why the American public clearly wants some things, but government policy is very much directed in the opposite direction?
2. What evidence do we have that political socialization takes place in families? What do we know about recent trends in the ability of the family to socialize its members?
3. Explain what the “gender gap” refers to and observe what the authors see as the causes of what we see with respect to men and women in voting and public opinion polls.
4. How have education and political viewpoint been related to each other historically? What might explain current trends with respect to this relationship?
5. Summarize what we know about the role of social class in American politics and recent trends in class voting in America and in Europe.
6. Explain the two ways that political scientists measure political ideology.
7. Why are political scientists increasingly skeptical of polls which ask Americans to identify themselves as liberal or conservative?