

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

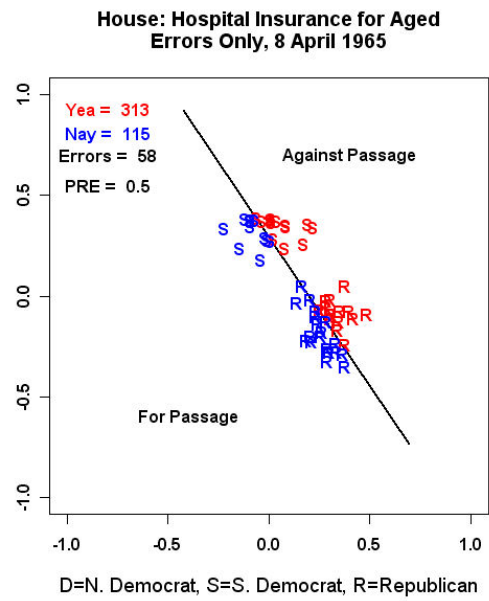
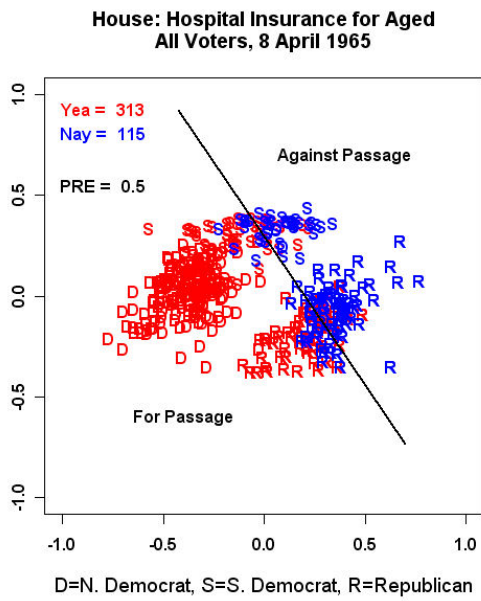
**7 December 2016**

Professor Poole

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

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE**

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



2. What does this figure from the essay by Bond, Fleisher, and Cohen tell us about modern American politics?

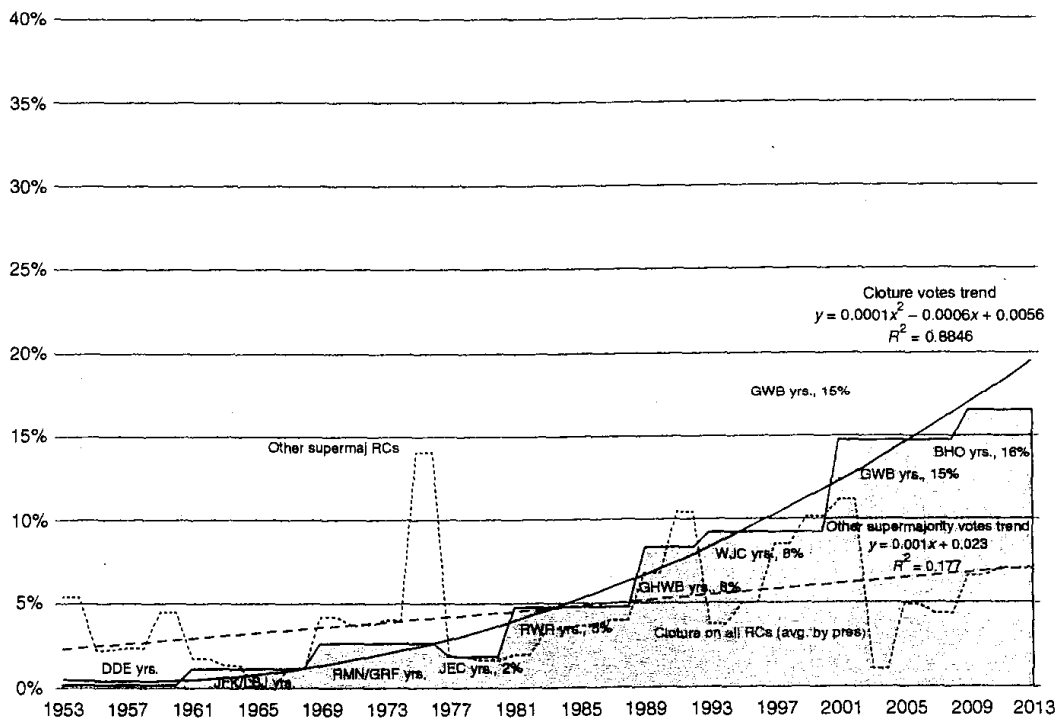


FIGURE 2. Mean Percentage of Cloture Votes by Presidential Administration

**3. Where do people get their political information? Contrast 2016 with, for example, 1980.**

4. Below is Figure 1 from Hayes & Lawless' essay in *American Gridlock*. What is meaning of this figure?

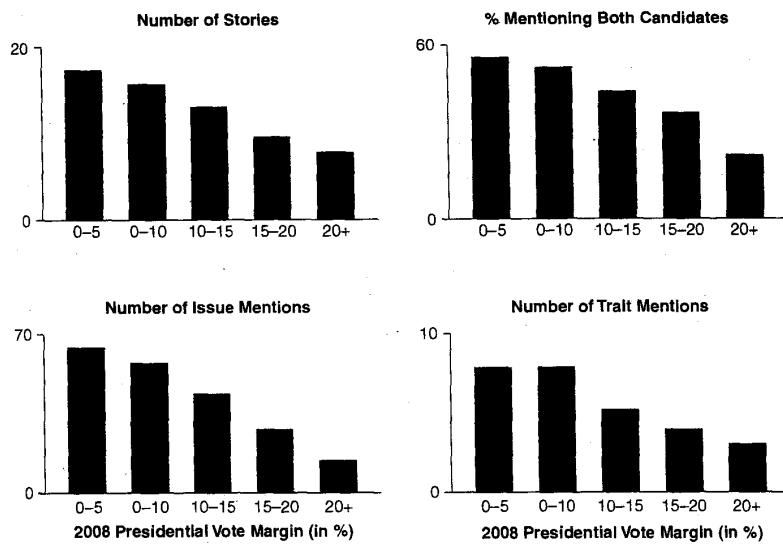


FIGURE 1. District Polarization and Campaign News Coverage  
 Note: News data come from a content analysis of local newspaper campaign coverage (6,003 stories overall) in all 435 House districts from October 2–November 2, 2010. Data for percentage of stories mentioning both candidates include only contested districts.

5. This is Figure 1 from Stroud & Curry in *American Gridlock*. What is meaning of this figure?

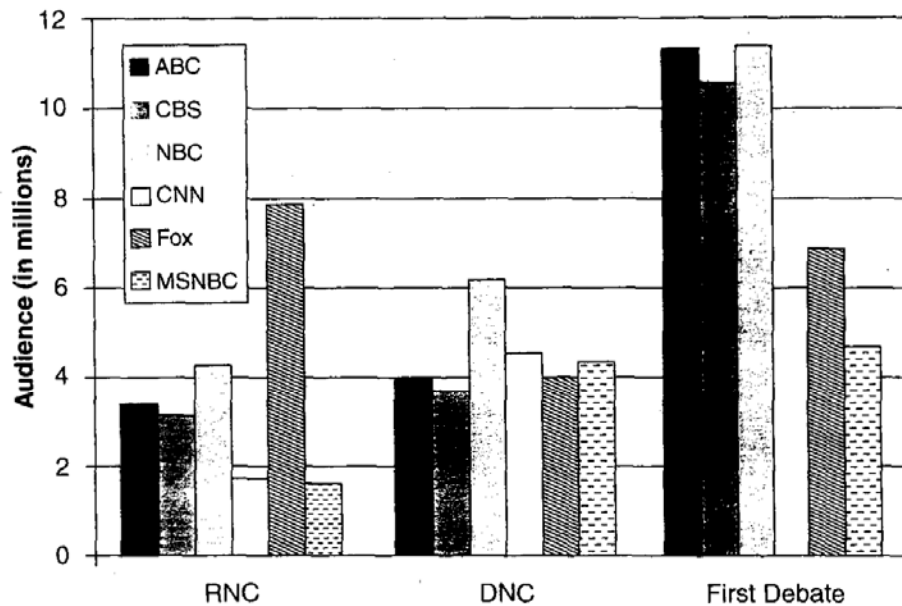


FIGURE 1. Nielsen Ratings for 2012 Presidential Campaign Events

Source: Data from the University of Virginia's Center for Politics (<http://www.centerforpolitics.org/crystalball/articles/reviewing-the-convention-ratings/>) and the *New York Times* (<http://mediadecoder.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/10/04/presidential-debate-drew-more-than-70-million-viewers/>).

6. According to Jeff Stonecash, what are the two key factors behind our polarized politics?



7. This is figure 10 from Bonica, McCarty, Poole and Rosenthal in *American Gridlock*. What does this figure tell us about American Politics?

