

INSTITUTIONS: POLITICS

What is Politics?

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

*“Power relations wherever
they exist.”*



Micro and Macro Politics

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Micropolitics
 - Exercise of Power in Everyday Life
- Macropolitics
 - Exercise of Power Over a Large Group

Power, Authority and Violence

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Authority is Legitimate Power
 - Illegitimate Power is Coercion
- Authority and Legitimate Violence
 - Governments Have Exclusive Rights to Violence
- The Collapse of Authority
 - Revolution



Power, Authority and Violence

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Traditional Authority
 - Authority Based on Tradition
- Rational-Legal Authority
 - Authority Based on Written Rules
- Charismatic Authority
 - Authority Freely and Graciously Given
 - Threat Posed by Charismatic Leaders

Power, Authority and Violence

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Authority as an Ideal Type
 - Traditional, Rational-Legal, Charismatic
 - Not Ideal or Desirable Necessarily
- Transfer of Authority
 - Orderly from One Leader to Another

Types of Governments

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Monarchies
- Democracies
 - Direct
 - Representative
 - Universal Citizenship
- Dictatorships and Oligarchies
 - Totalitarianism



US Political System

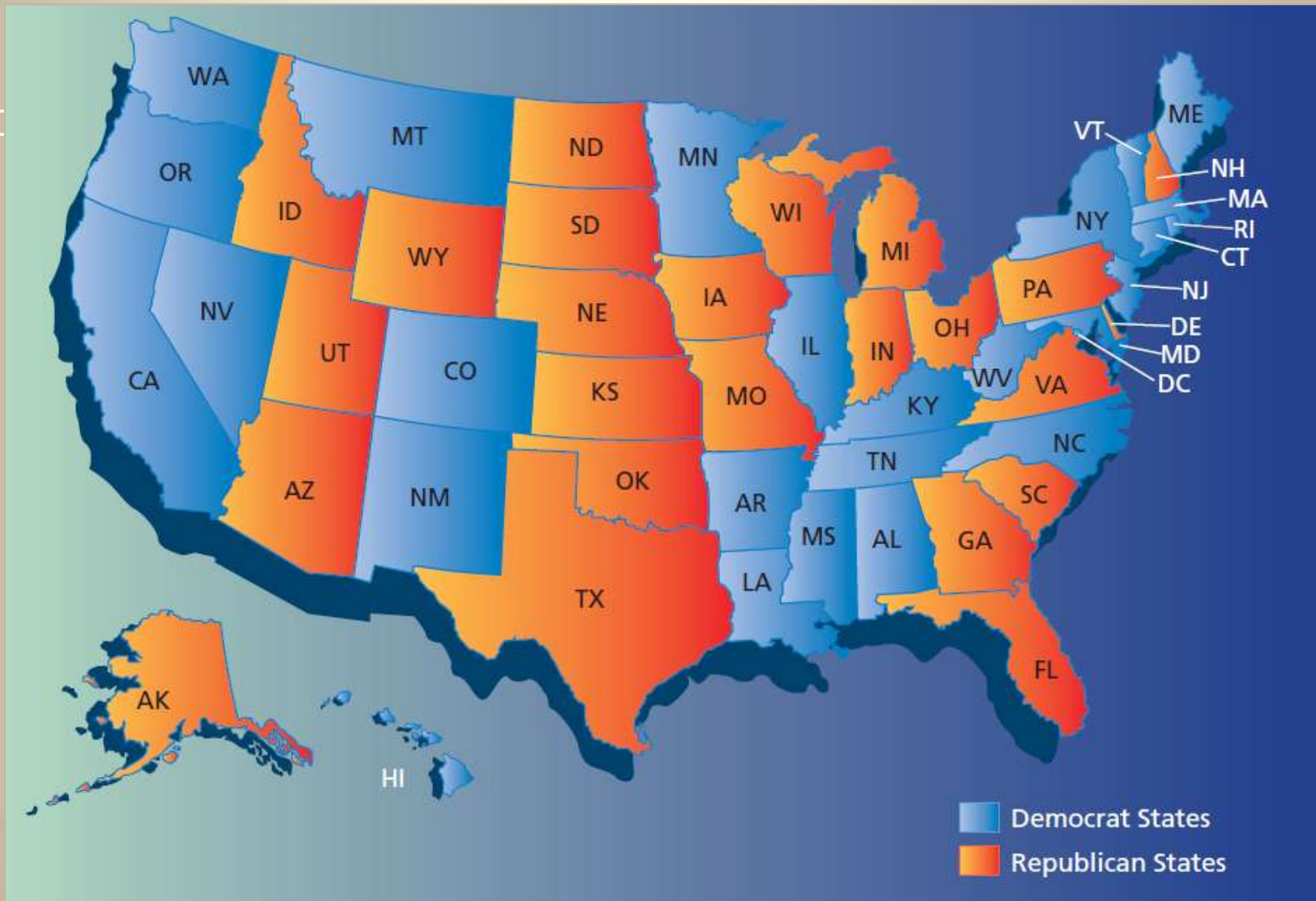
0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

Political Parties and Elections

- Democrats, Republicans, and Third Parties
- Primaries and Elections
- Centrism and Extremes



Which Political Party Dominates?



Democratic Systems in Europe

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Elections are Not Winner-Take-All
- Based on System of Proportional Representation
- Encourages Non-Centrist Parties
- Coalition Governments

Voting Patterns

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Non-Hispanic Whites Most Likely to Vote
- African-Americans Next Most Likely
- Latinos Least Likely to Vote

Voting Patterns

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Social Integration
- Alienation and Apathy
- Gender and Racial-Ethnic Gap in

Voting

How the Two-Party Presidential Vote Is Split

	1988	1992	1996	2000	2004
Women					
Democrat	50%	61%	65%	56%	53%
Republican	50%	39%	35%	44%	47%
Men					
Democrat	44%	55%	51%	47%	46%
Republican	56%	45%	49%	53%	54%
African Americans					
Democrat	92%	94%	99%	92%	90%
Republican	8%	6%	1%	8%	10%
Whites					
Democrat	41%	53%	54%	46%	42%
Republican	59%	47%	46%	54%	58%
Latinos					
Democrat	NA	NA	NA	61%	58%
Republican	NA	NA	NA	39%	42%
Asian Americans					
Democrat	NA	NA	NA	62%	77%
Republican	NA	NA	NA	38%	23%

Lobbyists and Special Interests

- Special Interest Groups are People Who Think Alike on a Particular Issue and Mobilize for Political Action
- Lobbyists are People Paid to Influence Legislation

PACs in US Elections

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Elections are Expensive
 - Senate Campaign about \$5,000,000
 - House Campaign about \$1,000,000
- PACs Contribute and are Owed
- Criticisms of Lobbyists and PACs

Who Rules the US?

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

Functionalist Perspective: Pluralism

- Diffusion of Power Among Many
- Checks and Balances

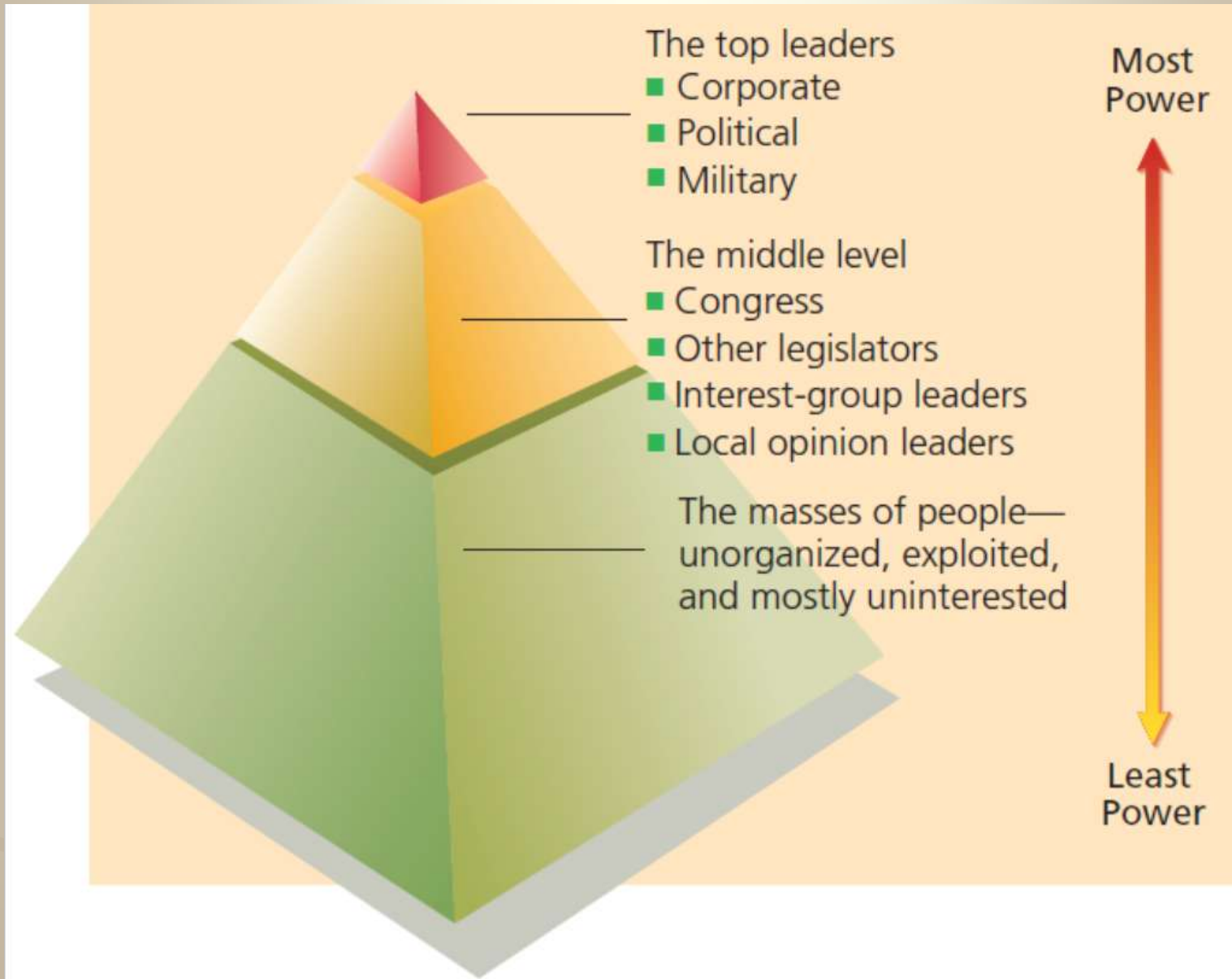
Who Rules the US?

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

Conflict Perspective: The Power Elite

- Top Business, Political, and Military Leaders
- Ruling Class
- Not a Secret Group, Just Similar Backgrounds and Orientations

Mills' Model of Power in the US



War and Terrorism

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Is War Universal?
 - Human Aggression and Killing, Yes
 - War, No
- How Common is War?
 - Humans Long for Peace but Glorify War
 - War is Very Common and Frequent

War and Terrorism

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Why do Nations go to War?
 - Revenge
 - Power
 - Prestige
 - Unity
 - Positions
 - Ethnicity
 - Beliefs

War and Terrorism

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Cost of War
- Toll in Lives
- Toll in Dollars



Dehumanization

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Increased Emotional Distance
- Emphasis on Following Orders
- Inability to Resist Pressures
- Diminished Sense of Responsibility

Dehumanization

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Blaming the Victim
- Struggle Between Good and Evil
- Success and Failure of
Dehumanization



War and Terrorism

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Terrorism
 - “The use of violence to create fear in an effort to bring about political objectives.”
- Suicide Terrorism

Sowing the Seeds

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Selling War Technology
- Making Alignments
- Protecting Interests
- Child Soldiers



New World Order?

0011 0010 1010 1101 0001 0100 1011

- Major Trends
- Obstacles to Unity
- Domination by the Elite

