

Election Issues

Big Question : Evaluate information related to elections (e.g., policy positions and debates among candidates, campaign financing, campaign advertising, influence of news media and social media, and data relating to voter turnout in elections).

Policy Positions and Debate among candidates

- A policy is a course of action that is proposed by a government, an individual, business firm, or any party.
- A politician is a person active in party politics, or holding or seeking office in government. Politicians propose, support and create laws or policies that govern the land and its people.

[VoteSmart.org](#) [OnTheIssues.org](#) [where-the-2020-candidates-stand](#)
[NBC history of Debates](#) [CBSN Memorial Debate Clips](#) [History.com Why do we have debates?](#)
[JFK TV Debates](#) [PBS Democrats 2020 Policy Plans](#) [2020 Possible Candidates](#)
[Fox: Will Trump get challenge from within the Republican Party in 2020?](#)

Campaign Finance refers to all funds raised in order to promote candidates, political parties, or policies in elections, referendums, initiatives, party activities, and party organizations. The funds could also detract from the opponents of the above.

Resources

[Crash Course Campaigns](#) [Khan Academy](#) [CNN](#) [Britannica](#)
[Bill of Rights Institute](#) [Campaign reform letter](#) [ACLU letter to McGovern](#)

Campaign Advertising

In politics, campaign advertising is the use of an advertising campaign through the media to influence political debate, and ultimately, voters. These ads are designed by political consultants and political campaign staff. Many countries restrict the use of broadcast media to broadcast political messaging.

[The science of political advertising](#) <https://politicaladarchive.org/> [How Stuff Works](#)
[Campaign Ads](#) [History of Political Advertising](#) [YouTube Campaign Videos](#)
[Video: How Political Campaigns Use Data to target Audiences](#) [Crash Course Media](#)
[Crash Course: Shaping Public Opinion](#)

Influence of News Media and Social Media

[Social-media-influence-politics-participation](#) [Change over time](#) [Crash Course: Media](#)

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www.washingtonpost.com [Six-ways-media-influences-elections](#)
[Business Insider: Bias in Sources](#) [The impact of social media in political debate | TEDx](#)
[CBS NEWS](#) [Crash Course: Shaping Public Opinion](#) [Bloomberg](#) [FOX News](#)

Functions of Interest Groups	Description of Functions
inside lobbying direct contact with policy makers	⇒ legislative testimony ⇒ assistance in bill writing ⇒ direct contact of executive agencies
outside lobbying indirect methods to influence decisions	⇒ educate members on key issues ⇒ increase general public awareness on key issues through media efforts ⇒ organize and coordinate "grassroots lobbying" efforts to contact policy makers to influence decision making ⇒ engage in political process to elect supportive candidates; donate
monitor government programs	⇒ evaluate effectiveness ⇒ suggest changes

Public and Private Interest Groups

[Interest-groups-defined](#) [Crash Course: Interest Groups](#) [Khan Academy](#)
[What is an Interest Group?](#) [Crash Course: Interest Group Formation](#) [Lobbying & Interest Groups Summary](#)

Pew Research Center- is a nonpartisan fact tank that informs the public about the issues, attitudes and trends shaping the world. They conduct public opinion polling, demographic research, content analysis and other data-driven social science research. They do not take policy positions.

<https://www.pewresearch.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/PewResearchCenter>

The Brookings Institution is an American research group on Think Tank Row in Washington, D.C. It conducts research and education in the social sciences, mostly in economics, policy, and global economy and development. ... Brookings was founded in 1916 as the Institute for Government Research (IGR), with the mission of becoming "the first private organization devoted to analyzing public policy issues at the national level.

<https://www.brookings.edu/about-us/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/BrookingsInstitution>

The Heritage Foundation (abbreviated to Heritage) is an American conservative think tank based in Washington, D.C. primarily geared towards public policy. The foundation took a leading role in the conservative movement during the presidency of Ronald Reagan, whose policies were taken from Heritage's policy study Mandate for Leadership. Heritage has since continued to have a significant influence in U.S. public policy making, and is considered to be one of the most influential conservative research organizations in the United States.

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<https://www.heritage.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/HeritageFoundation>