The public in public policy

The *public* in public policy

Activists

Attentive public: follow issues, have views

Mobilizable public: don't follow, can draw attent'n

Disinterested public

Non-participatory public

Changing composition of the *public*

Activists

Attentive public: follow issues, have views

Mobilizable public: don't follow, can draw attent'n

Disinterested public

Non-participatory public

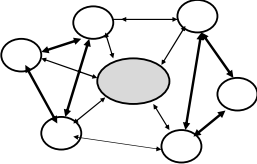- Can we also think about changes in the way the public is organized?

4
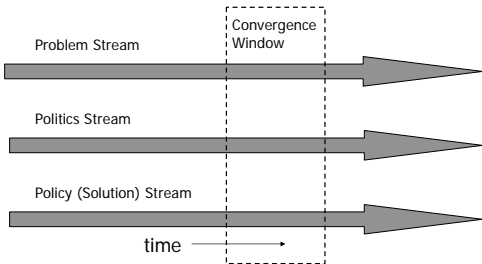
Can protest open a policy window?

Problem Stream

Politics Stream

Policy (Solution) Stream

Convergence Window

time

5

Create lasting imagery.

6

Outline a new view of the problem

.

7

Oriented to specific ends that can swim in politics stream.

Attachment to
Memo from
John. J. Sweeney
To AFL-CIO
Executive Council
July 26, 1999

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Distinguish claims from institutional changes?

- Institutional Developments
- Emergence of network of locally organized groups.
- Global civil society?
- Are these traditional interest groups?
- What makes them effective?

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What institutional changes do we see?

- Connected pattern of action directed at public policy and global institutions
- New imagery of globalization.

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Examine the policy claims

- What does it mean to ask of trade, wages, production practices, "Is this fair?"
- What kind of legitimating values do we invoke?
- What has the effect been?

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Global scrutiny of labor practices

Global networks track production practices and hold accountable. Use publicity to create market pressure. Introduce moral/ethical dimension to consumption.

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Living wage

- Domestic effort to address insecurity and low levels of welfare
- Poses question, "Are wages fair?"
- Introduces a tradeoff between efficiency of open markets and justice/equity

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Are my wages fair?

- No restrictions on ability to seek work or change jobs.
- Free to negotiate wages and benefits.
- Free to organize.

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Positive vs. negative liberty

Negative	Positive
Free from restraint	Affirmative obligations to provide conditions that give negative liberties "fair value"
No one can infringe on your enjoyment	
Enjoy your property	Entitlement programs: nutrition, housing, level of welfare
Freedom of speech or movement	
Bargaining for employment	

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There's more to needing than wanting:

What is it that is being distributed? What kinds of things create stronger claims for fairness/equity?

- John Rawls
- Primary Goods
- Things we would want whatever else we want
- Things we would deem as essential.
- Things we might choose to distribute equitably if we didn't know who we would be.

- Amartya Sen
- Freedoms & unfreedoms
- Functioning and Capabilities
- Focus of development should be enhancing human freedoms and functioning
- Effort to develop policy-oriented terms.

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Introduction to Environmental Policy

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- "Some river! Chocolate-brown, oily, bubbling with subsurface gases, it oozes rather than flows. 'Anyone who falls into the Cuyahoga does not drown,' Cleveland's citizens joke grimily. 'He decays.' The Federal Water Pollution Control Administration dryly notes: 'The lower Cuyahoga has no visible life, not even low forms such as leeches and sludge worms that usually thrive on wastes.' It is also--literally--a fire hazard. A few weeks ago, the oil-slicked river burst into flames and burned with such intensity that two railroad bridges spanning it were nearly destroyed. 'What a terrible reflection on our city,' said Cleveland Mayor Carl Stokes sadly "
- ("The Cities: the price of Optimism; Cleveland's polluted Cuyahoga." *Time Magazine* . 1 August 1969: 41-43.)

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- When President Nixon and his staff walked into the White House on January 20, 1969, we were totally unprepared for the tidal wave of public opinion in favor of cleaning the nation's environment that was about to engulf us. If Hubert Humphrey had become President, the result would have been the same." " (Earth Day Recollections: What It Was Like When The Movement Took Off by John C. Whitaker [EPA Journal - July/Aug. 1988]   Whitaker was Nixon's Cabinet Secretary

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National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 1969):

- *"[I]t is the continuing policy of the Federal government, in cooperation with State and local governments and other concerned public and private organizations to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans."*

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NEPA- Look before you leap

- Goals: think about environmental quality and act on what you learn
- Specify overall environmental goals and require federal agencies to act in accordance
- Procedural focus
- Main practice is the preparation of environmental impact assessments
- Includes requirements for public participation

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Environmental Impact Assessment

- Consider preferred course of action and alternatives
- Assess the impacts of each through processes of modeling and analysis
- Examine extent to which can mitigate impacts
- Includes requirements for public particiation: information, scoping, and comment
- Purely procedural

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Clean Air (1970) and Clean Water (1972) Acts

- Provide basic framework for federal environmental law
- Strong federal leadership and oversight of states: uniform rules
- Control actions of the regulated entities by setting and enforcing standards
- Standards supposed to be based in human and environmental health
- End-of the-pipe focus

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Regulation by Command and Control

- Set goals.
- Develop criteria based on human and environmental health.
- Set regulatory standards.
  - Environmental quality.
  - Emissions.
  - Historically based on available control technologies.
- Enforce standards through monitoring and sanctions.

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Criticisms

- Uniform rules are inefficient
- Produces lock in; stifles innovation
- Agencies are asked to know too much
- Difficult to incorporate knowledge of practitioners
- Does not address diffuse problems well
- Does not adapt

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