

5 characteristics of CA political landscape

- liberal/blue state - immigration
- large population, large economy
- diverse population - social + economic (age, race, income)
- direct democracy - proposition
- many legislators because of large population - interest groups
- East/West Divide - self-segregation
- patch work state, trendsetters (gay marriage), earthquakes
- don't know your legislators

Inland CA

- more homogeneous: Caucasian + Latino
- lower income
- more agricultural/rural - water issues
- less education
- Republican/conservative
- less civic engagement = lower voter turnout
- more Evangelicals

Coastal CA

- more diverse
- densely populated/urban

- more educated
- diversity of jobs - not just agriculture
- Democrat/liberal
- higher voter turnout
- immigration

Balkanization

- the process of fragmentation or division of a region or state into smaller regions with similar people.

- diffusion of power into localized independent agents - have a voice (+)
- segregate and protect own interests
- state vs local power, who should handle specific issue

ex: Prop 13 - prop tax from local to state

- limited resources = special interests + fighting over allocation of funds (-)
- education - how to distribute state funds to local (ex: systemwide v. campus v.

department)

Demographic data points in understanding political positions

- age
- gender
- location - east or west
- religion

- education
- job
- income
- race/ethnicity - Latino are Democrats, ex: Prop 187
- (all of these interact with one another to tell a story)

What led to the Democratic trend in CA?

- influx in immigrants
- change in industry - from agricultural + production to services
- Hollywood
- immigrants settle in west
- Younger pop?

East/West divide

- CA once North/South political divide
- now more Democrats on West and more conservatives on East
- conflict over resources
- as state becomes more diverse = people self-segregate
- division between race, religion, age, income, party are facilitated

Prop 187

- 1994 Nov general election

- state statute - approved but never enforced
- make illegal immigrants ineligible for public benefits/social services - schools, health

care

- come in deep recession - popular because told that it would save state \$200 million per

year

- first legislation related to immigration passed in US
- Gov. Pete Wilson support = Latinos against Republicans

4 types of population growth

- 1st = natural growth - births or deaths in the state
- 2nd = domestic migration - come to CA from another state
- 3rd = documented immigration
- 4th = undocumented immigration
- Trend today = CA still largest state, because of natural births increase - more

homegrown citizens

- implication = more \$ for education, + also future economic simulators for CA

How has immigration shaped CA's growth and politics?

- 1965 Immigration Act - legal immigration through skills/visas - increase Asian, African,

Middle East, + Latino immigration to US + CA - LA destination

- Chinese rail road in CA = increase in Chinese population in CA
- Gold Rush = increase migration to CA

- increase immigration from Mexico = increase in Latinos - change politics because typically Democrat because of

- Proposition 187 = made Latino go against Republican because of Gov. Wilson

How is electorate similar or different to population?

- similar = CA population mostly Democrat, + in federal presidential election CA goes to Democrat = similar in presidential election

- different = electorate typically older, more white, more wealthy, more suburban, and more conservative than CA population

- with heavy Latino, but some not US citizens

Recall

- Progressive reform allows voters to remove elected officials by petition and then majority vote

- recall petition need 12% of signatures of voters in last gubernatorial election (need 12% with in 160 days to be on ballot)

- Governor Davis 2003 - first governor recalled in CA, 2nd in US after Gov. Frazier

- Pro = accountability

- Used more at local level = average 12 recall per year

Prop 13

- 1978

- Lowered prop tax to 1976 levels, so decrease property tax
- Then capped increase of property tax to 2% per year
- Prop tax cannot be more than 1% of total assessed value
- Required 2/3 vote for any future tax increase

Prop 11

- 2008
- Independent citizens commission does redistricting every 10 years after census, not the legislature
- 14 members = 5 Democrats, 5 Republicans, 4 Independents, lines need approval from 3 of each
- Power away from legislature
- Prevent gerrymandering that decrease minority power, Voting Rights Act
- Better voter voice/representation

Prop 140

- 1990 establish term limits
- Term limit on assembly to three 2 year terms or
- Term limits on senators to two 4 year terms
- Can do both for total of 14 years, then life time ban

Prop 28

- 2012

- Reduces total from 14 yrs to 12 yrs in CA congress
- Can now stay in senate for all 12 years, or assembly for all 12 years
- Before only stay in senate max 8 yrs in assembly max 6 yrs

Lobbying tactics

- Gut and amend - budget bill
- Grassroots - NRA members show up at office for lenient guns laws (ex: ferrets Lempert)
- Managing media = mobilize public opinion through ads
- Barry(provision) in budget bill = has to be passed
- Initiative - gets signature + go around legislature
- Give \$ contribution to legislator for favorable bills

Prop 9

- 1974
- Some restriction on campaign finance
- Created disclosure, lobbyist reform - 1st time restriction on campaign finance
- Fair Political Practices Commission
- Only \$10 per month lobbyist - but no politician spending limits
- Form 700 for disclosure

Prop 208

- 1996

- Strict contribution + spending limits
- Max \$250 check to legislator, \$500 for Gov.
- No fundraising in non-election yr
- No \$ from lobbyists, only individuals

OVERRULED BY FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGE

REPLACED BY PROP 34 IN 2000

PACs

- Organization of individuals who gather sources to support or oppose candidate or initiative
- Allowed to donate to campaign, raise \$ + spend \$
- Not allowed to give uncapped amount of \$ by becoming independent to candidate or initiative

Role of Media

- CA big state so media is vital
- Can't go door to door
- Importance of name recognition
- Many forms of media - Diversity
- Californians move a lot
- new city = new media

