

Political Science 10 – American Politics

Loren Collingwood, Political Science

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Administrative Information

- Green Scantron #882

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- Test next Tuesday

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- Study guide online Wed/Thursday

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- Federal gov't filed more than 400 anti-discrimination lawsuits against restaurants, hotels, etc.

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- **However, did not address housing.**

LBJ & MLK



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- Eventually led to bilingual ballots/oral assistance in regions with relatively high concentration of non-English speakers (e.g., Rio Grande Valley, South Texas)

Effects of Voting Rights Act

Table : Registration by race in the U.S. South pre/post Voting Rights Act

State	Pre-VRA			Post-VRA		
	White %	Black %	Diff %	White %	Black %	Diff %
Alabama	69.2	19.3	49.9	80.7	57.1	23.6
Georgia	62.6	27.4	35.2	70.6	67.8	2.8
Louisiana	80.5	31.6	48.9	80.0	59.1	20.9
Mississippi	69.9	6.7	63.2	71.6	62.2	9.4
North Carolina	96.8	46.8	50.0	62.2	46.3	15.9
South Carolina	75.7	37.3	38.4	51.2	48.0	3.2
Virginia	61.1	38.3	22.8	61.2	54.0	7.2
Total	73.4	29.3	44.1	67.8	56.6	11.2

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- Obama produced long-form certificate. First president "forced" to prove his citizenship publicly. Why?

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- **Public opinion basis of how American politics operates in society**

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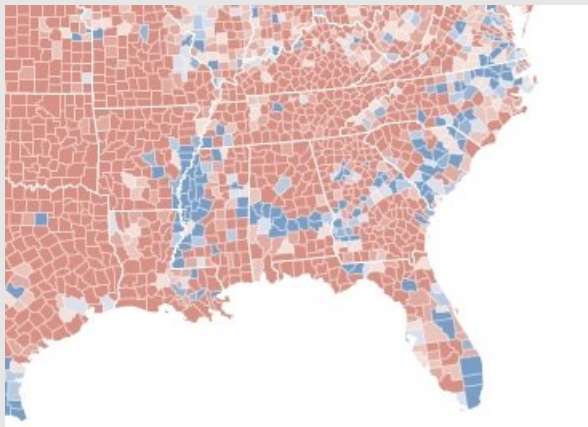
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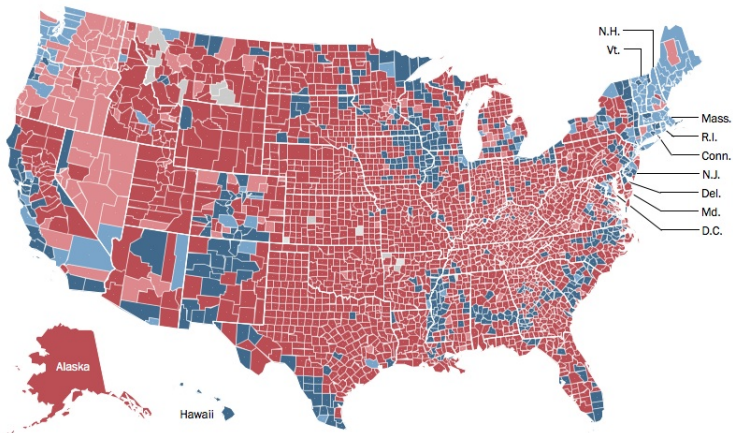
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- Hence, the liberal-conservative polarization in American politics

2008 County Vote and Bales of Cotton in 1860



2012 U.S. County Vote Map



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- **Women more concerned with dangers of war compared to men**

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- However, principles are now always lived up to – as we've seen.

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 - Example: Gender gap: Agree that torture of terrorism suspects is acceptable; 50% men; 31% women

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- Political Environment: Conditions under which individuals and groups are recruited into and become involved in political life. Example: Baby-boom generation exposed to Vietnam War/social protest of 1960s/hippy movement/social revolution

Education and Public Opinion

Table : Percentage who agree to statement, by education level

Issue	Grades	High	Some	College
	1-8	School	College	Grad
Women and men should have equal roles	38	75	83	86
Abortion should never be allowed	21	10	7	4
The U.S. should not concern itself with other nations' problems	45	26	20	8

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- Most Americans are moderates mixing a little conservatism with liberalism. Someone may oppose abortion (conservative) but support social security