

**(Harold Dwight Lasswell** (February 13, 1902 – December 18, 1978) was a leading American political scientist and communications theorist. He was a PhD student at the University of Chicago, and he was a professor of law at Yale University. He served as president of the American Political Science Association, of the American Society of International Law and of the World Academy of Art and Science. Areas of research in which Lasswell worked included the importance of personality, social structure, and culture in the explanation of political phenomena. Lasswell was associated with the disciplines of political science, psychology, and sociology – however he did not adhere to the distinction between these boundaries but erased the lines drawn to divide these disciplines.

Lasswell is well known for his model of communication, which focuses on "Who (says) What (to) Whom (in) What Channel (with) What Effect".

He is also known for his book on aberrant psychological attributes of leaders in politics and business, *Psychopathology and Politics*, as well as for another book on politics, ***Politics: Who Gets What, When, and How.***)

## **Who gets what; when, where and how: Politics?**

**Source: Penn State University**

The human interaction we call politics is messy, beautiful, crazy, boring, and most of all not going away. As such it is a topic of wide discussion and argumentation. The questions that we ask each other about politics are usually trying to best answer the definition I've placed in the title. The eternal game of who gets the biggest piece of the pie, or should we make it cake?

As mentioned above, politics is not going anywhere and it usually overlaps our lives in some way, whether we like it that way or not. As such, I feel it is best to know what parts effect you and what you can do about them. This gives you an edge in the world on how to articulate an idea in friendly discussions or even knowing your options if you wanted to take that idea across the curtain into reality. I don't pretend to be an expert in here, so my words of course must be taken with several grains of salt. But I believe it's not as complex as we'd like to think. Look back at the title. Who gets what; when where and how: person A gets cake tomorrow at his how from a federal cake company. While this is intentionally a simple example, we can break down anything we want into such simple formula. Use it to find out what you believe in and want out of life. Then use it to make it what you see.

Civil issues abound within politics and this blog might go where the wind takes it. It is very possible that one week we talk about the latest in domestic issues such as marriage equality or legalized marijuana, and the very next talk about foreign policy. I think there's a possibility for comparisons between government and their unique procedures on any number of issues. Additionally, I'd like to start with some history or U.S. politics and draw comparisons, conclusions, and questions about today's politics.

In looking at politics, there is the stew of bureaucracy, the beauty of firemen rescuing cats from a tree, the craziness of the fringe politicians and the boring parliamentary procedures. Together these make our government, and though we may not like it from time to time, it's ours and we can choose to raise it to be strong and articulate or we can neglect it to crumble and burn. These choices are in our hands. So join the adventure as we look at civil issues in politics. Who knows, you just might learn something?

Like my passion blog I'll include questions I invite you to answer in the comments or your heart. Feel free to take a stab at any or all of the below. If you find these to be dull, make your own question and answer it in the comments. Think not that this is one sided either, ask me questions too!

## HOME WORK QUESTIONS

What causes people to like or dislike politics?

***What causes people to dislike politics is they feel as if there is no connection between the politicians and the community and they believe that most politicians are deceiving.***

What political issues make you angry, and why?

***Political issues that make me angry are immigration and prison reform. I think that as a country built on a people seeking refuge, we should be more open and accepting of people trying to seek refuge in the land of the free. I think we should also give lower penalties for nonviolent drug crimes and because we have the most prisoners in the world based on the population, and we also need to see equal sentencing across all races and replace judges.***

If I were president, I would.... ***(If I were president, I would set up a program that targets prison reform and the injustices of immigration)***

Submit your work to the drop box: Who Gets What