

## **POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION THREE**

More factors tend to influence people's belief system, because why the hell not?

### **Current events**

Sometimes a majority of the nation can agree on a controversial issue; for instance; ending involvement in Vietnam was fairly popular, and for good reason. This would naturally lead to some amount of anti-war sentiment, which is in contrast to someone who, say, was involved in one of the world wars.

### **Age/stage in life**

**Lifecycle effects** are the effects of someone changing their beliefs as the issues that become important to their age group change. For instance, people may go from worrying about student debt as college students to the quality of schools as parents. Furthermore, responsibilities can change and inhibit or promote participation.

### **Generations**

Empirically, younger generations tend to vote more liberal; it was found that a majority of ages <45 had voted for Clinton, and the inverse for those over 45. While this is not the deciding factor, data would suggest that generation or age in general can influence voting.

The generally agreed upon generational labels are **Gen Z, Millennials, Gen X, Boomers, and the Silent Generation.**

#### **Silents: <1945**

- Raised under a hatred of Communism
- Last ones to remember times before countercultural movements of the 1960s and watched their values fade away and new ones be put in place (and are in opposition to this)
- Patriotism and especially religion, etc. were a big part of shaping their beliefs
- Tend to lean conservative on many issues, in opposition to change (i.e. on abortion, drugs)
- Tend to vote consistently and are usually very involved in their communities.
- *"bewildered with states' decisions to legalize marijuana"*

Boomers: 1945-1964

Gen X: 1962-1982

#### **Millennials: 1983-1995 (acc. to book: turned 18 around or after 2000)**

- Tech oriented and more accepting of interracial / same sex relations
- More liberal (just like the overall trend) than previous generations
- Empirically more educated
- Connected through the Internet and tech oriented
- Support government action to solve problems
- *"more accepting of... marijuana"*

- Conflicted as to where the government can or cannot step in (i.e. concerned about govt waste but also supportive of regulations)
- Tend to lean conservative on issues such as meritocracy and economy, and liberal on issues such as energy, climate and inequality.

Gen Z: 1995-2010:

- nobody cared about us enough to put us in the nsl book
- also more accepting of marijuana than prior generations