

Week 2: Different Ethical Perspectives on PA

1. Corruption

A. Reaction to the Corruption

Spoils System - Jacksonian Bureaucracy –President Jackson (1829-1837)

“To the victors belong the spoils”: patronage, nepotism

Merit System

- 1) Civil Service Act (aka Pendleton Act, 1883)
- 2) Pendleton Act: hired through open competitive examinations and promoted and retained based on merit.
- 3) The bill became law on Jan 16, 1883, only months after Garfield’s death
- 4) This innovation not only supplanted the spoils system with meritocracy but also greatly “depersonalized” public administration.

Wilson: Study of Administration (1887)

B. Discretion

- 1) “No rulebook can anticipate every possible scenario, so bureaucrats must develop substantial decision-making skills.”
- 2) “... they simply delay, holding up a policy change...”- Implementation –Oakland Project
- 3) Make other rules to designate specific discretion?
=> red tape vs green tape

C. Red Tape vs Green Tape

Bad Red Tape: Inflexibility, Goal Displacement (Merton)-> Bureaucratic pathology

Green Tape -Element Mechanism, and Effects DeHart-Davis

2. Other issues in Ethics

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Your Thought and Idea...

I learned a... from this class. However, I think...

Week 3:

Your Thought and Idea...

I learned a... from this class. However, I think...