

Preview of “Theory and Practice?”

Department of Political Science and Government
Aarhus University

November 27, 2013

Overview for next week

Readings for Next Week

- Riker – *Liberalism Against Populism*
- Hibbing and Theiss-Morse – *Stealth Democracy*
- Sniderman et al. – *Paradoxes of Liberal Democracy*

Readings for Next Week

- Riker – *Liberalism Against Populism*

Riker

- Is direct democracy a viable alternative to representative democracy?
- According to Riker, what role is there for public opinion in democracy?

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- Riker – *Liberalism Against Populism*
- Hibbing and Theiss-Morse – *Stealth Democracy*

Hibbing and Theiss-Morse

- What is deliberative democracy? Why would we want?
- What do people (at least Americans) want out of government?
- How well do their results generalize?

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- Sniderman et al. – *Paradoxes of Liberal Democracy*

Sniderman et al.

- Note: You can find this on the website
- What does the Danish cartoon crisis say about public opinion?

Optional readings

- Bachrach and Baratz
- Sullivan et al.
- Huddy et al.
- Fishkin
- Schattschneider
- Urbinati and Warren

Exam preparation

- Form groups of three
- Write a 500-word essay (question on next slide)
- Send the essay to your group members before class
- In class, discuss your essays and provide feedback to each other
- I will meet with each group during class

Exam preparation

Respond to the following:

The readings from the first week of class offered optimistic ideas about the role of citizens and the representation of their opinions in democracies. We have since read more skeptical perspectives about the capacity and motivation of citizens and the opportunities (and normative desirability) for their opinions to shape government action. Given what you've learned from the course as a whole, how can we reconcile these divergent views? And what theories and evidence can we use toward that goal?

