

# Policy Evaluation – PMAP 4061

## QUIZ 3: SOCIAL SCIENCE THEORY

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1. (1 point) Which one is the rationale behind zero-based budgeting policies?
- A. Budget allocations tend to be fairly stable over time
  - B. Budget allocations tend to increase exponentially over time
  - C. Budget allocations at any time tend to be predicted by prior allocations
  - D. Both A) and C)**

**Solution:** Budget allocations tend to be *fairly stable* or *mildly increasing* over time. Also, they tend to be dictated by allocations at prior time-periods. Both A) and C) are rationales for zero-based accounting.

2. (1 point) Democrats believe that conservative policies often aim at increasing the cost of accessing public welfare via \_\_\_\_\_. Conversely, Republicans believe that progressive policies \_\_\_\_\_ particular populations (e.g., veterans, minorities, etc.) as “needy” to expand their claims on the public welfare.  
Choose the correct fillers.

- A. social constructionism, administratively burden
- B. administrative burden, socially construct**
- C. redistributive politics, adversely select
- D. adverse selection, redistribute

**Solution:** Really only B) makes any sense. By burdening welfare recipients with excessive compliance costs, conservative policies are believed to alleviate the claims on the public purse. Conversely, progressive policies are often believed to play the poor card to back welfare state expansions.

3. (1 point) Support for same-sex marriage was up from 2004’s 19% to 2019’s 44% among Republican voters. Assume that same-sex marriage is a secondary policy belief. Does this statistic counts towards a refutation of the Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF)?
- A. Yes, for sure
  - B. Yes, most likely
  - C. No, not necessarily**
  - D. Too little information to tell

**Solution:** Not necessarily. ACF posits that primary policy beliefs never come to negotiating ways and that secondary policy beliefs often do.

4. (1 point) Agenda setting policy explanations hinge on the \_\_\_\_\_ bias.
- A. Confirmation
  - B. Partisan
  - C. Visibility**
  - D. Conservatism

**Solution:** Agenda setting theory predicts “most visible” policies to be pushed atop of the policy agenda.

5. (1 point) Informational campaigns are highly \_\_\_\_\_(and) \_\_\_\_\_tools of governments.
- A. [Direct, visible]
  - B. [Indirect, visible]**
  - C. [Direct, invisible]
  - D. [Indirect, invisible]

**Solution:** Informational campaigns are highly *visible* although *indirect* tools of governments. The government is not involved in the production of the publicly desired outcome and fully outsources it to the public.

6. (1 point) Charter schools in the United States are an example of:
- A. Public production
  - B. Public provision**
  - C. Private production
  - D. None of the above

**Solution:** Charter schools are funded through the public purse and provide public education to their customers.

7. (1 point) \_\_\_\_\_is one often cited reason for successful best practice implementation.
- A. Administrative burden
  - B. Herd Behavior
  - C. Cultural Dimensions**
  - D. Status quo bias

**Solution:** One could have reasoned her way through the solution by excluding options A), B), and D). Hofstede’s cultural differences are often used in the international management literature to predict successful implementation of non-native practices.

8. (1 point) Political scientists often refers to filibustering as a way to push back on unwanted policy outcomes by way of increasing the cost of passing bills into laws. Filibustering is an example of:
- A. Administrative burden**
  - B. Herd Behavior

- C. Cultural Dimensions
- D. Status quo bias

**Solution:** Filibustering increases the administrative burden of law-making.

9. (1 point) Which one postulates the independence of irrelevant alternatives?

- A. Rational Choice Theory**
- B. Behavioral Economics
- C. Both A) and B)
- D. None of the above

**Solution:** The refutation of the independence of irrelevant alternatives is a landmark objection of behavioral economics to rational choice theory.

10. (1 point) *A value of one dollar today is less than the value of one dollar tomorrow.* If short term bias says anything true about human nature, this is even more true. Imagine that a dollar tomorrow is worth  $\delta\beta$ \$1 of what it is worth today, where  $\delta$  is a parameter for time-discounting and  $\beta$  is a parameter for short-termism.

What values for the parameters define a decision-maker affected by short-termism?

- A. ( $0 < \delta < 1$ ;  $\beta > 1$ )
- B. ( $0 < \delta < 1$ ;  $0 < \beta < 1$ )**
- C. ( $\delta > 1$ ;  $0 < \beta < 1$ )
- D. ( $\delta > 1$ ;  $\beta > 1$ )

**Solution:** The only set of parameters that makes sense is ( $0 < \delta < 1$ ;  $0 < \beta < 1$ ). If both  $\delta$  and  $\beta$  are less than 1, the value of dollar tomorrow is discounted twice. Also, values for the parameters greater than 1 do not really make any sense (they would not deflate but inflate future amounts!)