**Sears et al. 1979**

* Downs and other theorists assume citizens adopt policy preferences tat further interests. Many models are based on self-interest and utility. Assume that people adopt political orientations because of the benefits they receive, “instrumental” or “utilitarian”.
* Definition of self-interested: an attitude which is directed toward maximizing gains or minimizing losses to the individual’s tangible private well-being. Does NOT include expressive, affiliative, moral or other forms of non-material satisfaction (like sense of belonging)
* Examples: the youths most opposed to the Vietnam war were not the most vulnerable to the draft, but were women and men who were exempt for educational reasons – hence, don’t want to look merely at demographic characteristics like “youth” or “woman,” want measures of self-interest to be as direct as possible
* Example: pocketbook economic status doesn’t have that much impact on voting patterns, personal victimization does not affect attitude toward law enforcement and criminal justice, whole list on pg. 370.
* Symbolic politics: people acquire in early life standing predispositions which influence their adult perceptions and attitudes. In adulthood, then, they respond in a highly affective way to symbols which resemble the attitude objects to which similar emotional responses were conditioned or associated in early life. Whether or not the Issue has some tangible consequence for the adult voter’s personal life is irrelevant. One’s relevant personal “stake: in the issue is an emotional, symbolic one; it triggers long-held, habitual responses. Evidence:
  + Stability of attitudes from pre-adult years; filter how we process new information
* Re busing: the manifest content of the political debate may not focus centrally on race, but as long as racially related symbols permeate the dialogue, and the fantasies of the citizenry, they will tend to evoke long-held racial prejudices.
* Second hypothesis: issue contributes more to voting decision when self-interested versus contributes regardless of self-interest
* Self interest index questions: (1) did busing occur or threaten the respondent’s neighborhood, (2) children attending public schools (3) racial integration of nearest school. Symbolic politics: racial intolerance had an eight question battery. Did factor analysis to determine that preference reflected a single underlying dimension of racial intolerance; also included ideology
* DV: support for or opposition to busing
* Metrics: looked at each R^2 run individually, found that symbolic predictors were significant and self-interest were not. Then tried adding non-linear terms
* Then did sub-group analysis for robustness checks, including particularly among those expected to be effected most directly
* Demographic factors included: education, age, southern residence (for socialization measures)
* Examples: falling personal financial fortunes had little influence on policy attitudes regarding government-guaranteed employment, not being covered or being inadequately covered by private health insurance only slightly enhanced support for a nationalized health insurance plan
* Hence it is not necessary that today's white adults have been socialized to oppose "busing" as children. The racial imagery surrounding the concept of "busing" is enough to evoke racial attitudes. The clearest cases of "symbolic politics," will be, therefore, those which present the symbols which are most similar to those of original socialization, and which elicit the strongest responses.
* But here it is important to return to our main point, that it is apparently the symbolism evoked by the prospect of any white children's forced intimate contact with blacks, rather than the reality of one's own children's contact, that triggers opposition to busing
* All analysis subset to only white respondents

**Sears et al. 1980**

* Subsetting:
  + Issue importance: Split off those who indicated that education was one of the top three issues, evaluate them separately (AFB3)
  + Perceived government responsiveness:
    - How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven’t you heard enough about them to say? Addressing educational needs. (AFB3)
  + Efficacy:
    - Politics and government too complicated (AFB3)
    - Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?. As far as politics is concerned, friends and neighbors do not listen to you. (AFB3)
    - How often do MPs listen to what you have to say (AFB3)
    - How often do local councilors listen to what you have to say (AFB3)
  + Sophistication
    - Self-reported interest in public affairs (AFB3)
    - Identify MP (AFB3)
    - Identify local government councilor (AFB3)
    - Identify deputy president (AFB3)
    - Know political party with most seats (AFB3)
    - Know how many times a person can be elected president (AFB3)
    - know who is responsible of determining if a law is constitutional or not? (AFB3)
    - Issue specific: Can you tell me whether the government of [country] has a policy to provide: Free primary education, that is, parents do not have to pay school fees? (AFB3)
    - Interest in politics (WVS)

**Education – Countries for inclusion**

* NO ONE AGREES. Maybe we just drop ones where there’s definite bias?
* Benin – K&P no bias, F&R bias on some primary education ONLY (both models at 5%)
* Botswana – NO DHS
* Cape Verde – NO DHS
* Ghana – no K&P, F&R bias on some primary education (both models, 5%), one model of women’s literacy at only 10%
* Kenya – definitely biased (F&R, K&P, lots of other papers)
* Lesotho – NO DHS
* Madagascar – NO DHS
* Malawi – F&R no bias, bias in K&P
* Mali – Negative bias in K&P, Negative bias on completed primary for one model only at 10% for F&R – INCLUDE
* Mozambique – NO DHS
* Namibia – NO DHS
* Nigeria – bias in multiple F&R models and outcomes
* Senegal – F&R no bias, negative bias K&P – INCLUDE, maybe subset out ruling group?
* South Africa – NO DHS
* Tanzania – NO DHS
* Uganda – one model only significant at 1% for male literacy in F&R
* Zambia – no bias in K&P, not included in F&R
* Zimbabwe – NO DHS

Death penalty in Ghana

<https://www.deathpenaltyworldwide.org/country-search-post.cfm?country=Ghana>

<http://www.ghana.gov.gh/index.php/media-center/news/1361-scrap-death-penalty-justice-yaw-appau>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/islamethics/capitalpunishment.shtml>