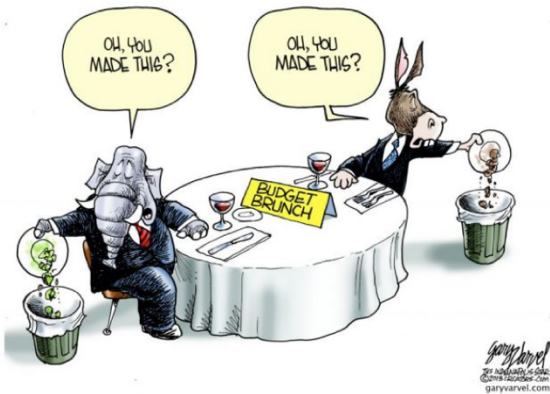


Unit 5 POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

5.3 Political Parties



ESSENTIALS

Linkage institutions are channels that allow individuals to communicate their preferences to policy-makers: Parties/Interest Groups/Elections/Media

The functions and impact of political parties on the electorate and government are represented by: Mobilization and education of voters/Party platforms/Candidate recruitment/Campaign management, including fundraising and media strategy/The committee and party leadership systems in legislatures influence the ability of political parties to carry out citizen preferences in government decision-making.

1. What is the underlying idea of this cartoon? [Write your response like a claim statement]

2. INVESTIGATE: Why have our political parties grown so polarized? Should we be surprised?

Linkage institutions are channels that allow individuals to communicate their preferences to policy-makers:

- Parties
- Interest Groups
- Elections
- Media

Draw a political cartoon depicting each of the linkage institutions above.

Complete the chart below by providing examples.

Function	Democratic Party	Republican Party
Mobilization/Education of voters		
Party Platforms	1. 2. 3. 4.	1. 2. 3. 4.
Candidate recruitment	Characteristics of recent presidential candidates: 1. 2.	Characteristics of recent presidential candidates: 1. 2.
Campaign fundraising	Collect data on this party's ability to fundraise for presidential and midterm elections – assess at both national and state levels:	Collect data on this party's ability to fundraise for presidential and midterm elections – assess at both national and state levels:
Party leaders in Congress	Highlight Congressional leadership and their duties:	Highlight Congressional leadership and their duties:

CONCEPT APPLICATION

The following is from the 2016 Republican Party Platform: “Because the Federal Reserve’s monetary policy decisions affect job creation, upward mobility for workers, and equitable prosperity, they should be transparent. Similarly, the Federal Reserve’s important role as a lender of last resort should also be carried out in a more transparent manner. The Republican Party will advance legislation that brings transparency and accountability to the Federal Reserve, the Federal Open Market Committee, and the Federal Reserve’s dealing with foreign banks.”

After reading the scenario, respond to A, B, and C below.

- A. Describe an action, other than advancing legislation, that members of Congress may take to bring transparency and accountability to the Federal Reserve.
- B. In the context of this section of the Republican Party platform, explain how the proposal to increase transparency and accountability described in part A would affect the Federal Reserve’s ability to make economic policy.
- C. Explain how ideological differences between the parties might affect Democratic Party support of the proposal.