

Assignment 2
Due Session 14

This assignment has two parts. In Part I you need to extract President Bush's and Senator Kerry's position on one domestic policy issue (your choice) from what each candidate said in the second and third presidential debates. You can analyze stories each candidate told, claims each made (and the evidence used), allegations each made about the view's of his opponent (where these served to clarify the candidate's own views) and the plans each offered. The point is to clarify what each candidate thinks is the problem and what he thinks should be done about it. For the latter, you may discuss each candidate's views on who should act and what form action should take. Cite the statements you draw on.

In Part II you need to analyze these policy frames with respect to one of the following:

- How does each candidate draw on legitimizing values—liberty, security, equity, efficiency, and democracy—that we have discussed?
- What model of policy-making—leadership, elite, rational, policy streams—does each candidate employ or endorse?
- How do the views of the candidates on institutional questions—the relationship between the Congress, the Executive, and the Judiciary, between states and the Federal Government, concerns about faction— that shape policy compare?

To complete this assignment successfully you will have to write clearly, concisely, and maintain your focus on the question. Use references to the selections you've chosen and to lectures, recitations, and the course reading assignments to document your argument. (Please keep in mind rules governing proper reference and citations to written materials from which you quote, paraphrase, and extract ideas.) You may cooperate with your classmates on research and discuss the issues with them. Your paper, however, should present your insights and analysis in an original argument.