Conservatism
Introduction

- Viewed as Moderate or Cautious
- Fearful or refusal to change
- First appeared in political language in 19th Century
Origins and Development

- Appeared with the fast paced revolutions
- Industrialization also played a role
- Europeans questioned the amount of change
Origins and Development

- US not influenced much
- 1960’s to today exception
- Africa, Asia, Latin America not influenced either
Origins and Development

- Loyalty, Duty, and Hierarchy are very important
- Intellectually modest but resilient
- Big changes in regards to welfare state and economy in the 1970’s
Origins and Development-New Right

❖ New right appeared in the 1980’s

❖ Free-Market economy is important

❖ Maybe not actually conservative?

❖ Still abide by order, authority, and discipline.
Core Themes

❖ What they oppose rather than what they support

❖ Not negative, just resistance or suspicion to change

❖ People can be conservative, but not political.
Core Themes

- Emphasizes history and experience
- Viewed as “common sense”
- 5 Core Themes
Tradition

- Often based in religion
- World thought of as god given
- New advances seen as man-made
- Free Elections
- Universal Suffrage
Tradition

- Religion isn’t a requirement
- Gives credit to forefathers
- Things survive because they have value
- Tradition provides identity
Human Imperfection

- Humans are imperfect
- People fear isolation and instability
- Order is very important
- Sacrifice Liberty
- World is too complex to grasp
- “Rights of man, equality, etc”—DANGEROUS
Organic Society

- Humans have to have roots in society
- Society is a living thing
- Pieces work together
Organic Society

- Social Conservatism-Fragile Society needing tradition
- Freedom-Doing Ones Duty to Society
- Institutions develop and survive for a reason
Hierarchy and Authority

- Hierarchy is unavoidable and natural
- Inequality is inevitable
- There is a natural aristocracy-talent and leadership are inbred
Hierarchy and Authority

- There has to be leaders and followers
- Authority isn’t agreed upon, it develops naturally
- Authority is necessary and shouldn’t be questioned
- Within limits
Property

- Almost mystic concept
- Has many advantages
- Thrift, possessions and private ownership provide “stake in society”
Authoritarian Conservatism

- Most respect limits to authority

- A strong authority figure provides security and stability

- Autocratic rule began to disappear in 19th century

- Populist-popular instincts provide political action, distrust of elite
Paternalistic Conservatism

“Without means of change, without ability to conserve” - Burke

Values are only safe if applied to circumstance
Paternalistic Cons.-

One Nation

- Reform is sensible to avoid revolution- benefits the wealthy
- Wealth and privilege brings obligations
- Wealthy are expected to be generous
- Plays a MAJOR role as industrialization occurs
- Strikes the balance between individualism and collectivism
Conservatives have latched onto liberal ideas

Free Market

Not converted, liberal economics matches with Conservative ideals

Free market is natural therefore conservative
Libertarian Conservatism

- Take a negative view of human nature
- Market keeps people in check
- Market will bring about social order, gov’t isn’t necessary
Christian Democracy

- Adopted in western and central democracy
- Break in conservatism and authoritarianism
Christian Democracy

- Came to be when Catholic Church had to deal with liberal capitalism

- Protestant - Salvation through individual effort

- Catholic - Salvation through social group
Social Market Economy

- Rejects laissez-faire, but not capitalism

- Social Market - joins market competition and social cohesion

- Capitalism is designed to make wealth for broader social means
Federalism

- Distrusts nationalism, focuses on federalism
  - Division of power between state and local
  - Cooperation and partnership for internal organization
- Brings it inline with Christian Democracy
The New Right

- Emerges during the 1970s
- 1st Element - Neo-liberal, Free Market is good
- 2nd Element - Tradition conservative, order and authority are good
- Attempts to link social libertarianism and social authoritarianism
Neoliberalism

- Shift away from Keynesianism and back to free market
- Private=Good, Public=Bad
- Capitalist society will self regulate
- Government reduces faith by stimulating economy
Neoliberalism

- Public ownership of business is bad
- Fiscal Conservatism- lower taxes and cut gov’t spending, less debt
- Roll back welfare state
- Saps initiative and creates dependency
Neoconservatism

- Emerges in the 1970s
- Pushback after the “free 60’s”
- Stress leadership and authority
- Community strengthens through authority and social discipline
Crime, delinquency, and anti-social is due to a decline in authority

Lack of traditional values is causing societies fall

Pluralism is bad-stops cohesion

Patriotism is good- strengthens cohesion
Neoconservatism

- Tends to be nationalistic

- US Becoming lone superpower

- Dominate the worlds thinking after 9/11, declining now
Conservatism in the Global Age

- Conservatives were able to respond to globalization much faster

- Not fans of welfare state

- Challenge of viability of free market

- World moving towards regulated one

- National Conservatism- backwards thinking?