

PS 200, Summer 2019
Assignment #4
Due 7/23 In Class

Please type responses, 12 point, double spaced.

1. Visit: <http://www.people-press.org/2011/11/03/section-8-domestic-and-foreign-policy-views/> Identify the biggest differences in opinion between Millennials and older generations. Then, explain what role each of the following may play in contributing to these differences: political socialization, priming, and opinion leaders.
2. Should political leaders be responsive to public opinion? Why or why not? Is there a general rule for when they should be responsive?
3. Research the voting rates of young adults in the 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 2016, and 2018 elections compared to other age groups. Based on this, does the free-rider problem affect voting rates across generations equally or does it seem to affect some ages more than others? What could be done to help counteract this? Then, assess how big of a problem age gaps in voting might pose by identifying some political issues on which opinions tend to differ based on age. How might elections and policies change if those age groups that currently vote at lower rates voted at higher rates?
4. Using either news.gallup.com, people-press.org, or polling report.com, pick an issue and find polling evidence that supports a position on the issue and polling evidence that contradicts the same position on the issue. What do you make of this? How would you explain this apparent contradiction? Is it possible for people to support both sides of the argument? How might interested groups try to use poll questions to push an issue? (Be sure to include links or citations to the poll questions you use)