

Comparative Politics Public Policy Research Paper

Final Draft due March 19

Assignment: Compare how two countries have approached a public policy issue. As part of your comparison, discuss whether or not the resulting policy was effective in reaching the governments' goals.

Requirements

- Describe the policies in 2-3 paragraphs. Write a thesis comparing the effectiveness of the policies in each country. The thesis should be the last sentence of the introduction.
- Cite all material both parenthetically and in a works cited page. Your paper should be typed and double spaced and a minimum of 6 pages

Consider the questions below as you research your topic. You need do not need to address all of these questions. Focus on those questions that are the most relevant to the topic and will create a coherent structure for your essay.

- 1) How did institutions of government in each country play a role in the formation of this policy? Or how did the unitary or federal structure of government impact the policy?
- 2) How did civil society (interest groups) in the country play a role in the formation of the policy?
- 3) What was the role of citizens in influencing the formation of the policy?
- 4) What is the impact of the policy on citizens?
- 5) How did global pressures or involvement impact the policy? or What unique factors about each country played a role (if applicable)?
- 6) How has the policy changed over time? What caused the state to change these policies? Is there current pressure to change the policy? From whom?

Countries: UK, Russia, China, Mexico, Nigeria, Iran

Policy Choices & Suggested Countries (Notes: You may need to narrow these topics.

Let me know if you would like to research a policy not on this list)

AIDS policy

Anticorruption/Transparency

Antipoverty Programs

Policies toward church and state

Family Planning

Minority Rights

Death penalty

Devolution

Drugs

Education (literacy targets)

Environmental policy

Foreign policy

Gay rights

Health Care

Human Trafficking/Prostitution

Immigration

Internet Regulation

Labor

Marriage/divorce laws

Microcredit

National Security

NGOs

Oil dependence/rentier state

Olympics

Organized Crime

Public spending to create jobs

Privatization

Protest/demonstration requirements

Reaction to recession

Relationship with supranational organization

Structural adjustment

Transportation

Welfare state

Women's rights