



POLS 4600
 Prof. Anthony Madonna
 The University of Georgia
 ajmadonn@uga.edu
 10/31/17

10/31/17 Outline

I. Introduction

- Clip
- News
- sign-in
- Research paper
- Questions?

II. The Nuclear Option in the Senate

- McConnell and Gorsuch
- The Nomination Process
- Gorsuch and the Nuclear Option
- The Nuclear Option in 2013

III. The Supreme Court

- Holds a great deal of power
- Power that did not originate from the Constitution
- Is overrated as an institution
- Historical nomination process rarely contentious
- Failed nominations almost never occur

IV. Moraski and Shipan

- Intro
- Sell
- Theory -- Best "new" median
- Unconstrained
- Semi-Constrained
- Fully Constrained
- Figure 3

V. Measures

- data
- Dependent variable
- Independent variable
- Interest Group scores
- Hypotheses
- Results
- Problems?

VI. Conclusion

- For Thursday



News

Politics - Boehner is a fascinating and paradoxical figure in his own right. He was the brilliant salesman who couldn't get his own members to buy. The back-slapping creature of K Street who never took a single earmark. The gruff chain-smoker who weeps at the mere mention of schoolchildren. The Midwestern everyman who won't be seen in public without a clean shave and an ironed shirt. The bartender's son who became speaker of the House.



Boehner had made the leadership election a referendum on the GOP's ethical lapses—fittingly but ironically, considering he was bludgeoned in 1995 for distributing Big Tobacco's campaign checks on the House floor. Having apologized and pushed to ban that very practice, Boehner preserved his reputation as a reformer and was now working to fulfill a campaign promise nobody thought he could keep: banning earmarks. The funding of pet projects in lawmakers' districts helped leadership to keep members in line, but fueled a culture of venality and waste; boondoggles like the "Bridge to Nowhere," a 2005 project calling for a \$223 million earmark to construct a bridge to a remote, sparsely populated Alaska island, became symbols of congressional excess. Boehner never accepted an earmark in Congress—and he enjoyed railing against those who did. His heckling once provoked Don Young, an Alaskan himself, to pin Boehner against a wall inside the House chamber and hold a 10-inch knife to his throat. Boehner says he stared Young in the eyes and said, "Fudge you." (Young says this account is "mostly true," but notes that the two became good friends, with Boehner later serving as his best man.)



U.S. HOUSE POST OFFICE NAMING
 REP. MARK MEADOWS
 R-North Carolina, 11th District
 Washington, D.C.

News

Lawfare: The first big takeaway from this morning's flurry of charging and plea documents with respect to Paul Manafort Jr., Richard Gates III, and George Papadopoulos is this: The President of the United States had as his campaign chairman a man who had allegedly served for years as an unregistered foreign agent for a puppet government of Vladimir Putin, a man who was allegedly laundering remarkable sums of money even while running the now-president's campaign, a man who allegedly lied about all of this to the FBI and the Justice Department." "The second big takeaway is even starker: A member of President Trump's campaign team now admits that he was working with people he knew to be tied to the Russian government to 'arrange a meeting between the Campaign and the Russian government officials' and to obtain 'dirt' on Hillary Clinton in the form of thousands of hacked emails—and that he lied about these activities to the FBI. He briefed President Trump on at least some them." "And here's the rub: This is only Special Counsel Robert Mueller's opening salvo. As opening salvos go, it's a doozy."



Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) "has privately told allies in Utah that he is planning to retire at the end of his term next year, and if he does, Mitt Romney intends to run for his seat," The Atlantic reports. "Sources close to both men said plans have already been set in motion for Hatch to retire and for Romney to run, but they cautioned that the timing of the announcements has not yet been finalized, and that either man could still change his mind. They spoke on condition of anonymity, because the plans are not yet public, and the subject is sensitive to Hatch."

McConnell and Garland

Washington Post — The history of Supreme Court nominations is dominated by tales of picks the Senate debated and approved with little angst. President Barack Obama's upcoming effort to fill the vacancy created by Antonin Scalia's death on February 13, 2016, doesn't seem to be one of those stories. Senators were returning to Washington Monday from a weeklong recess that saw the 79-year-old justice's unexpected passing inject a blaring new issue into this election year. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's declaration that the vacancy should remain "until we have a new president" infuriated Democrats who want the spot filled promptly, setting up a lengthy fight for which each side is still mapping its moves.



What McConnell would say about blocking a Scalia replacement if he were brutally honest

Andrew Prokop, Vox: My fellow Americans, let me address you frankly about the choice our nation faces. Justice Scalia was a strong, solid conservative. And whoever Barack Obama nominates to replace him is certain to be well to his left — and will likely be very, very, very far to his left.

This would upset a balance of power in the Court that has existed for decades. Instead of a five-vote majority that is generally conservative, a Scalia replacement appointed by President Obama would allow a new majority bloc of five solid liberals to form. On issues affecting free enterprise, the sanctity of human life, and federal power, sweeping new liberal rulings could reshape law and precedent across America.

I believe this would be a disaster for the country. Most members of my party believe this would be a disaster for the country. And most of my party's voters believe it would be a disaster for the country. So I'm going to do my best to stop it from happening. You'll notice that I am very straightforwardly framing this question of Justice Scalia's replacement as an ideological question. And this might strike you as unusual, even though essentially every member of Washington's bipartisan political elite privately understands this is true and has long acted like it's true.

That's because our political norms around Supreme Court nominations are silly, outdated, and inadequate for our modern polarized politics. Members of both parties have to pretend that we really, truly care about each nominee's individual traits and qualifications. So no president these days would ever nominate anyone who'd openly admit to having — gasp — an ideology.



The Nuclear Option in the Senate

The *Washington Post* argued it "change[d] how the nation is governed in a significant way."

The *New York Times* dubbed it "the most fundamental alteration of its rules in more than a generation"

Steven S. Smith listed it as "among the three or four most important events in the procedural history of the Senate."

Why? How does the Senate operate and how has it changed? What does this say about Supreme Court nominations?



10/31/17 Outline

I. Introduction

- Clip
- News
- sign-in
- Research paper
- Questions?

II. Federal Budgeting Basics

III. The Nuclear Option in the Senate

- McConnell and Gorsuch
- The Nomination Process
- Gorsuch and the Nuclear Option
- The Nuclear Option in 2013

IV. The Supreme Court

- Holds a great deal of power
- Power that did not originate from the Constitution
- Is overrated as an institution
- Historical nomination process rarely contentious
- Failed nominations almost never occur

V. Moraski and Shipan

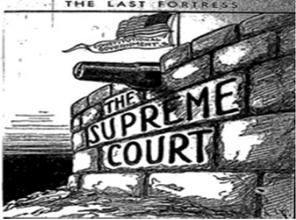
- Intro
- Sell
- Theory -- Best "new" median
- Unconstrained
- Semi-Constrained
- Fully Constrained
- Figure 3

VI. Measures

- data
- Dependent variable
- Independent variable
- Interest Group scores
- Hypotheses
- Results
- Problems?

VII. Conclusion

- For Tuesday



Conclusion



Have a great day.

For Thursday: House Rules
