

POLS 541
Fall 2006
Prof. Baumgartner

Questions for Week 6, Oct 12.

Readings: Quattrone and Tversky; Stone; Schneider and Ingram and exchange w/ Leiberman; Nelson; Gilliam.

1. Quattrone and Tversky show the psychological impact of framing. First, does it matter? That is, do they demonstrate or do you believe that this has important political or policy implications? Second, what's the evidence?
2. Stone's work points to the importance of a "causal story." What is that, exactly? Can it be manipulated? How can it be studied?
3. Schneider and Ingram focus on target populations. Is that the same as a frame? How is it different, and how does that matter? How do frames related to target populations? Can this topic be studied in a more systematic manner?
4. Nelson and colleagues as well as Gilliam and Iyengar focus on a particular event of framing. What do we learn from these case studies?
5. Compare these readings to the previous literature you've read so far. How does framing fit into agenda-setting more broadly?
6. So far, of all you've read this week and in past weeks, it should be clear there are some monumental research difficulties in this area of scholarship. How do we know how important framing is? Does an example suffice? What do you think has been the most convincing research methodology used so far?