

Alienated Government

“Why Americans Hate Politics”

Two moments of Speaking

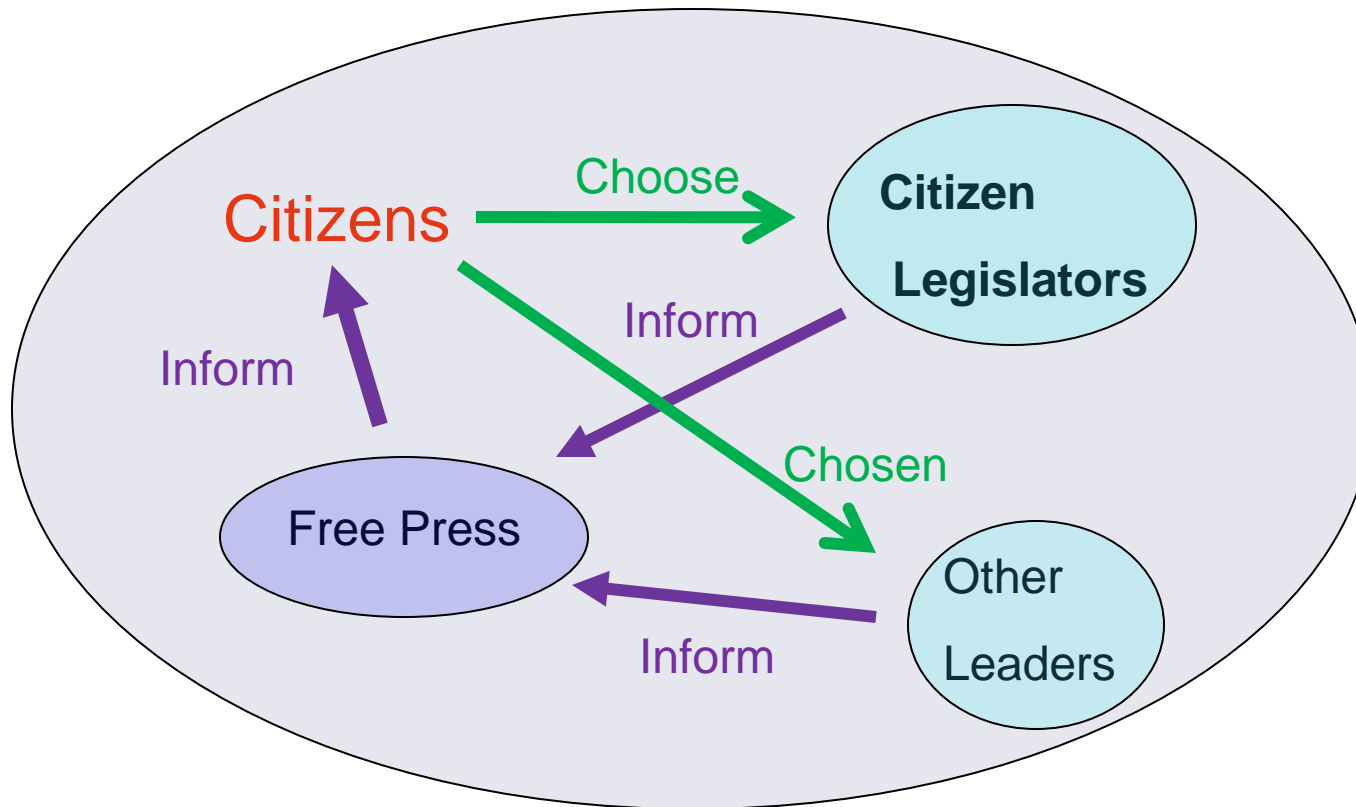
- Bill Clinton, Monticello, January 17, 1993
- Newt Gingrich, Oxford Town Hall Debate on Health Care, March 16, 1994

The Democratic Myth

A fundamental myth of Amer culture

- Education teaches
- Rituals celebrate
- History identifies it as the Amer diff
- National heroes and monuments to it

Chars in Democratic Motive



Story Lines of Demo Motive

- Leg/ture: voice of people
- Elections: citizens chging govt
- Citizens spk w/ a voice
- Dev/ed thru disc
- Resp: to participate

Communicate motive thru:

- **Key vocabulary**
 - <Citizens>
 - <Public Will>
 - <public> and <people>
- **Key strategies**
 - Rituals
 - Day to day activities
 - Slogans & proverbs
 - Identifying deviants

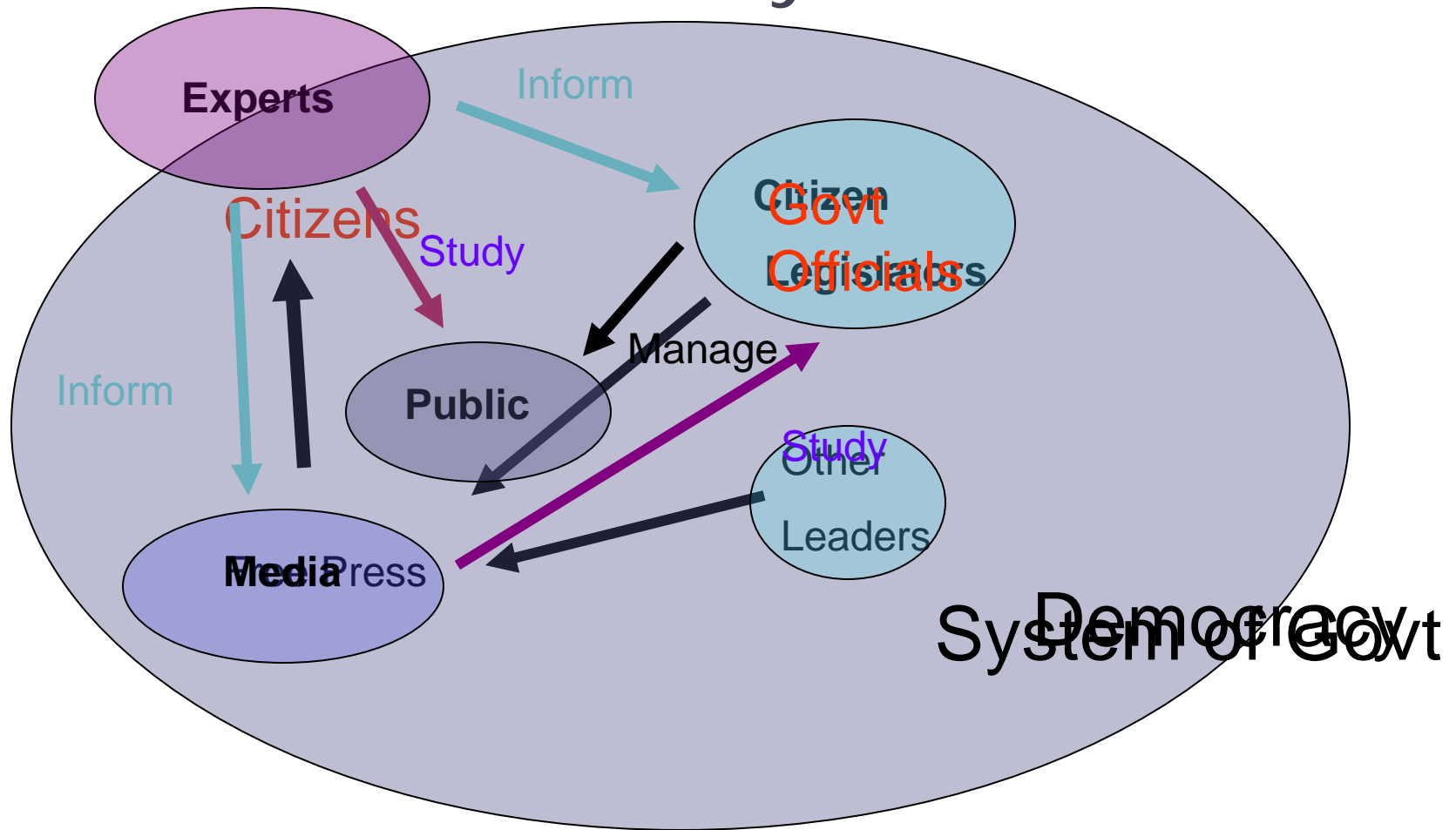
Note that democratic motive

- **Is timeless**
- **Is a lifeworld: All abt connections**

Policy Motive

- Lang i/w govt and media see day-to-day jobs
- Note differences in vocabulary and action

Characters of Policy Motive



Story Lines of Policy Motive

- Probs complex
- So, experts needed
- Public lacks knowledge
- Congress acts on knowledge
- Media passes expertise to public
- Gov a profession
- Polls measure effectiveness

Communicate the motive thru:

- **Key vocabulary**
 - Issues
 - Effective
 - Cause and effect
- **Key strategies**
 - Ritual: bill signing & employee celebration
 - Day to day
 - In Crisis: initiate an investigation
 - Deviance: in terms of laws & regs

Note: Policy motive . . .

- Technical world
- Technical logic
- Chgd vocab
 - Citizens → Public
 - Citizen legislators & leaders → govt officials
 - Free press → media
- Chgd roles

Both are “true”; Diff view of govt

	Democracy	Policy
Basis of . . .	<i>Identity</i> of our govt	<i>Operation</i> of govt
Who governs?	<i>People</i> govern	<i>Voters</i> choose those who govern
	<i>Choices</i> follow free discussion among citizens	<i>Decisions</i> follow gathering of knowledge
Leaders must have . .	<i>wisdom</i>	<i>knowledge</i>
Right thing to do is . . .	the public will	the effective thing
Evidence is . . .	experientially based & evaluated	scientifically based & evaluated

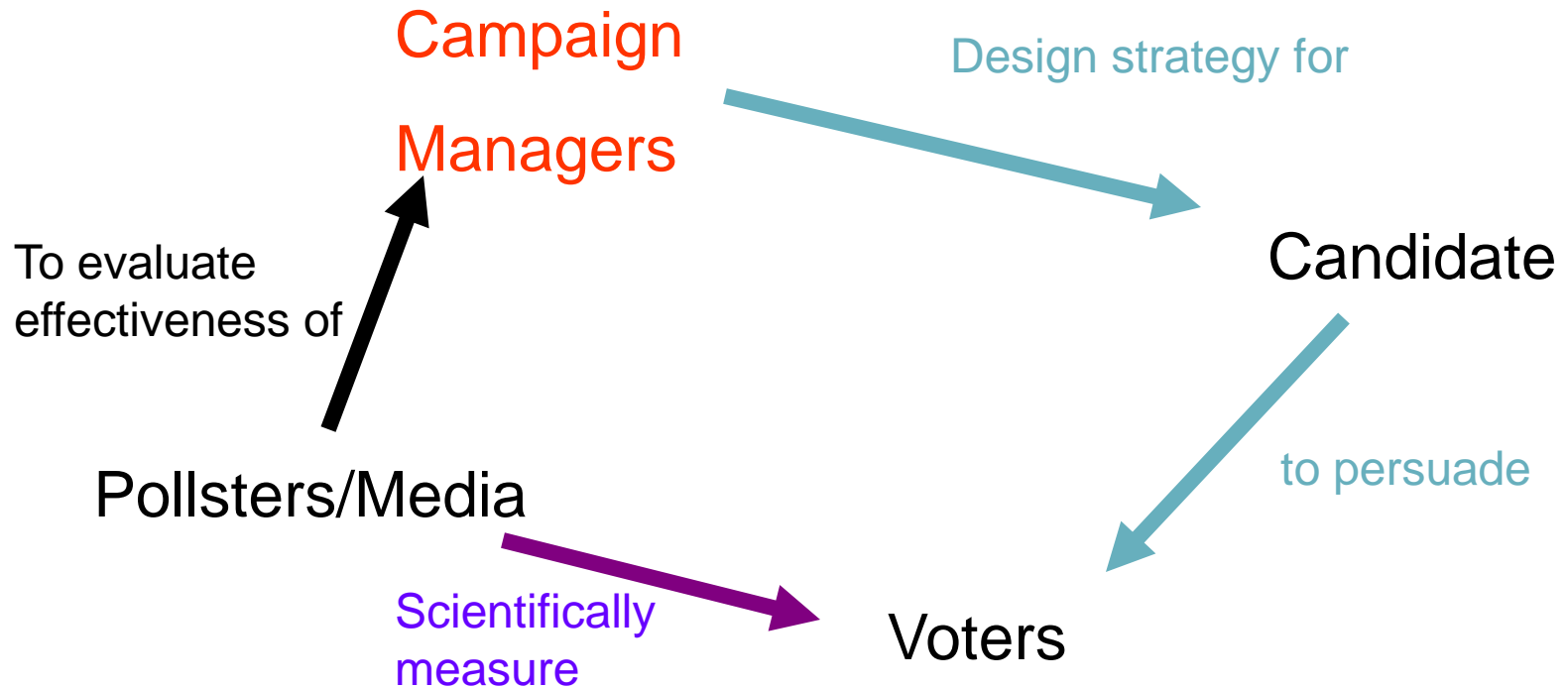
Both are “true”; Diff view of govt

	Democracy	Policy
Anecdotes are . . .	synechdoches	simplications
	Public <i>will</i> dev/d thru discussion amg cits	Public <i>opinion</i> is scientifically meas/d
Political power comes from . . .	understanding of public will	controlling public opinion
	Gd public disc develops clear, simple undg of problems to influence practical govt	Problems are complex & req more knowledge than public can master.

Alienation results

- Alienation defined
- For democrats, alienation in policy motive
- Intensified by election motive

Election motive



Story Lines of Election Motive

- Campaign managers design strategies
- Test: get votes effectively or ineffectively.”
- Gd cand follow strategy; bad cand c/n
- Ignorant voters: no info, don't vote, ruining democracy
- “Voting is your duty in a democracy.”

Key vocabulary of Election Motive

- Demographic
- Target voters
- Opponent's negatives
- Debates
- Polls

Motives in battle

- Motives are aggressive
- Motives must be reconciled
 - If not, political anomy & alienation
- Today
 - Policy motive shows weakness
 - Polls show alienation
 - Obama?
 - Tea Party?