**Chapter 6 – Voters and Voter Behavior**

**Section Four-Voter Behavior**

**Nonvoters (pg. 170-171)**

* Millions of Americans do not vote when elections are held.
* Only \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of eligible voters cast ballots in the 2000 presidential election, and only 46.3 percent of the electorate voted for the members of the House of Representatives.
* Voter turnout significantly decreases in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, congressional elections held in years when there is no presidential election.

**Why People Do Not Vote (pg. 171-173)**

* “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”: can’t vote for various reasons, such as physical or mental illness, unexpected travel, and resident alien citizenship status.
* However, most nonvoters do not vote because
  + voting is in some way inconvenient,
  + **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**: they do not believe that their vote will make a difference, or they have any influence
  + they distrust politics and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Lack of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or lack of knowledge
  + “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”: in presidential elections, polls in the East/Central time zone close an hour earlier than the Mountain/Pacific time zones so they project outcomes… people wont bother to go vote then

**Voters and Voting Behavior (pg. 173-174)**

Voting is studied more than any other form of political participation in the United States. We learn about voting behavior from:

1. **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-information can be gleaned by studying the results of confidential voting compared to the population make-up of a particular sector
2. **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-data can be gathered by conducting polls across specific cross sections of the population, as the Gallup Organization does
3. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-studying **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, the process by which people gain their political attitudes and opinions, can also be useful in predicting voting behavior

**Sociological Factors** **(pg. 174-176)**

Voter preferences can’t be predicted by just one sociological factor. Voter opinion is a combination of all of these factors and more.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 6.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Psychological Factors (pg. 177-178)**

* Voters’ perceptions of their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the candidates, and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ significantly affects their voting.
* The loyalty of people to a particular political party is the single most significant and lasting predictor of how a person will vote.
* Democrats vote Democrats
* Republicans vote Republicans

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Candidates and issues are two short-term factors that can influence even the most loyal Democrat or Republican. People may vote out of their chosen party if they dislike a candidate or the party’s stand on a particular issue.