

POLI 100C: Political Parties

Agenda: 12 February 2008

Topic 3: Sundquist's Model of Party Realignment

1. Basic Model
2. Types of Realignments: No Realignment; Neither Party is Replaced; One Party is Replaced; Both Parties are Replaced
3. The Essential Dynamic – *The Center Does Not Hold*
4. Five Variables That Affect Realignment: Breadth and Depth of the Underlying Grievance; Capacity to Provoke Resistance; Leadership; Division of Polar Blocs Between the Parties; Strength of Existing Party Attachments

Topic 4: The First Political Party System: 1829 – 1852

1. The Founders Tried to Duck The Issue of Slavery
2. The Invention of the Cotton Gin by Eli Whitney in 1793 made Cotton Production and therefore *Slavery* highly profitable
3. General Features of the Whig-Democrat Political Party System – 1826 – 1852 (Whigs collapsed after the Compromise of 1850)
4. The Economy Before the Civil War – How it Interacted with the Democrat-Whig Political Party System
5. The Crisis Over the Extension of Slavery to the Territories – 1820 – 1850
6. The Compromise of 1850

7. The Crisis Over the Extension of Slavery to the Territories – the
1850s