

Urban Politics
Political Science 102 E
Urban Politics 107

Week 9

Contemporary Approaches to
Urban Governance

Nazita Lajevardi, Ph.D. Candidate

Office Location: SSB 341

Email: nlajevar@ucsd.edu

Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Today's Agenda

- Reading Response Questions
- Lecture – Contemporary Approaches to Urban Governance
 - McGovern Chapters 14.
- Teaching Evaluations
- Powerpoints
- Part 7: overview of the challenges facing the city today



Reading Response Questions

4 students today



- Allison
- Andre
- Brandon
- Dominique

Where are we in the course?

- Today: Week 9: literature on contemporary approaches to urban governance
 - “The Mayor among his peers: interpreting Richard Daley”
 - “The Story of America’s Cities” and “Making a Market” by Stephen Goldsmith
 - “Running government like a business” by Julian Brash
 - “Justice, the public sector, and cities: relegitimizing the activist state” by Thad Williamson
 - Office Hours:
 - Today: 1-2:30 pm in SSB 341
 - Next Tuesday: 1-2:30 pm
 - Next week: Week 10
 - In Class Presentations
 - ~15 minutes per group addressing each of the paper component parts of your city.
 - Each student is given they’re own grade
 - Edits from me:
 - Each group: send me 1 more draft from Nov 23-29 for edits. I will have these back to you by December 2
 - Finals Week:
 - Final Papers can be turned in to **TURNITIN** starting Monday, December 5 – Thursday, December 8 at 11 am PST.
 - Bibliography required.
 - No later papers will be accepted.
 - Students in each group with receive the same grade
- 



McGovern Chapter 14:

Contemporary Approaches to Urban
Governance

Contemporary Approaches to Urban Governance



- This class has examined the myriad of societal and political constraints that limit how mayors and other local officials go about governing their cities.
- Yet most scholars agree that even given these limitations, policymakers have flexibility in charting distinctive political directions.
- This chapter explores some of the approaches that leaders have taken to governance in answering our more fundamental question in a democracy:
 - “Who should govern?”

Contemporary Approaches to Urban Governance



- On the one hand
 - Decision making about the intricacies of administering city government, including the complicated allocation of goods and services, should be **entrusted to those individuals who are most capable.**

- On the other:
 - With respect to decision making, the government should be run like a business, with a clear chain of command and emphasis on public accountability.
 - Such an organizational structure overseen by leaders with experience and expertise will mostly like produce public policy that furthers the public support.

Contemporary Approaches to Urban Governance

- Another key issue addressed by this chapter:
 - **“What is the proper role of government in urban affairs?”**
- On the one hand
 - Some have a preference for limited government (this dates back to the days of Thomas Jefferson).
 - According to this view, society is simply too complex to be analyzed and reformed by even the most enlightened and well-intentioned public officials.
 - Government meddling into societal affairs often results in more harm than good
- On the other hand
 - There are proponents for an expansive role of government
 - These individuals dismiss the proposition that an uncontrolled private sector yields prosperity for the general population.



“The Mayor among his peers:
Interpreting Richard M. Daley

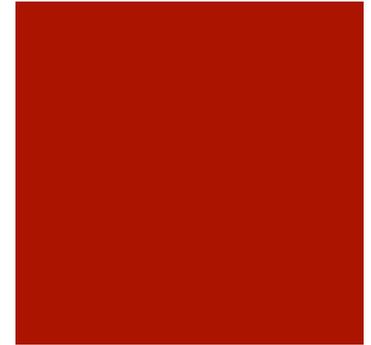


By Larry Bennett

Richard M. Daley

- Richard M Daley served as the 54th Mayor of Chicago, Illinois from 1989 to 2011.
- Daley was elected mayor in 1989 and was re-elected five times until declining to run for a seventh term.
- His father, Richard J. Daley, was also a Chicago mayor.
 - He served as the Mayor of Chicago for a total of 21 years (1955–1976) and chairman of the Cook County Democratic Central Committee for 23 years, holding both positions until his death in office in 1976.
- Richard M. Daley, served 22 years, surpassing his father's tenure

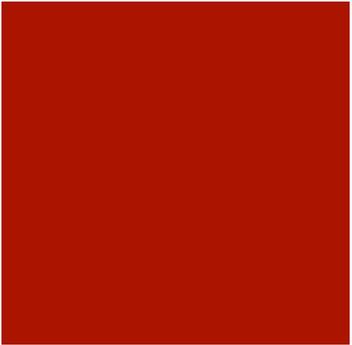
Richard M. Daley



- Mayor Daley :
 - took over the Chicago Public Schools,
 - developed tourism,
 - oversaw the construction of Millennium Park,
 - increased environmental efforts and the rapid development of the city's central business district downtown and adjacent near North, near South and near West sides.
 - expanded employee benefits to same-sex partners of city workers,
 - advocated for gun control,
 - served as a national leader in privatization and the lease and sale of public assets to private corporations

- Faced a lot of criticism, however.
 - His family, personal friends, and political allies seemed to disproportionately benefit from city contracting
 - His budgets ran up the largest deficits in Chicago history.

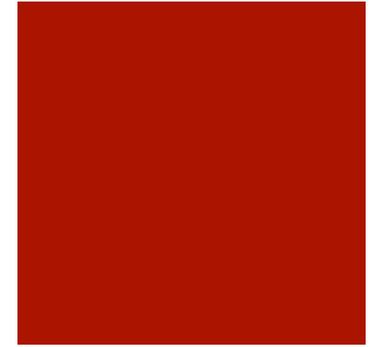
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FO6NVPYetQ>



“The story of America’s cities” and
“making a market”

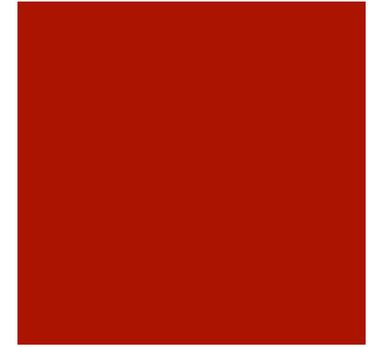
By Stephen Goldsmith

“The story of America’s cities” and “making a market”



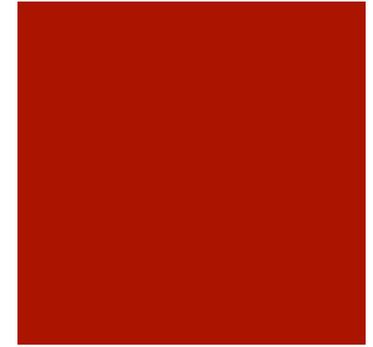
- Stephen Goldsmith:
 - Former mayor of Indianapolis (1992-2000)
 - He later became become Deputy Mayor for Operations under Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York (from 2010-2011).
- Main points of the article:
 - For 200 years, America built great cities → people were flocking to them because they were places of limitless opportunity
 - Today, the American dream for many is to escape the city for the comforts of the suburbs.

“The story of America’s cities” and “making a market”



- Why are people leaving to the suburbs?
- According to Goldsmith:
 - By making teen pregnancy and illegitimacy economically viable through welfare, while abdicating responsible enforcement of child support laws, government has subsidized the breakup of the family, with disastrous consequences.
 - Ineffective urban school systems failed to equip a generation of youths with the skills they needed to succeed in the workplace, while at the same time preserving a monopoly that denied poor families the option to escape that is available to middle-class families.
 - Excessive taxation, crumbling infrastructure, bad schools, and rising crime rates prompted an exodus of those who could afford to leave, robbing poor residents of the benefit of these strong families and weakening stabilizing institutions, such as churches and neighborhood associations.

“The story of America’s cities” and “making a market”



- As mayor of Indianapolis, Goldsmith came into office at a time when the city’s finances were sound.
- They made mistakes and created some adversaries in the process as well.
- But they are optimistic about the city’s growth now:
 - From 1992- 1997, their efforts to move city services into the competitive marketplaces saved \$230 million.



“Running the government like a
business”

By Julian Brash

Running the government like a business



- Michael Bloomberg:
 - American business magnate, politician, and philanthropist.
 - Net worth is estimated at US\$42.7 billion,
 - 6th richest person in the US and the 8th richest person in the world
 - Is the founder, CEO, and owner of Bloomberg L.P.
 - Global financial data and media company
 - Bloomberg served as the 108th Mayor of New York City
 - He held office for three consecutive terms, beginning with his first election in 2001.
 - He was a Democrat before seeking elective office.
 - But he switched his party registration in 2001 to run for Mayor as a Republican.

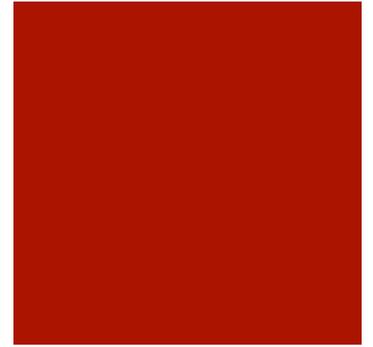
Running the government like a business



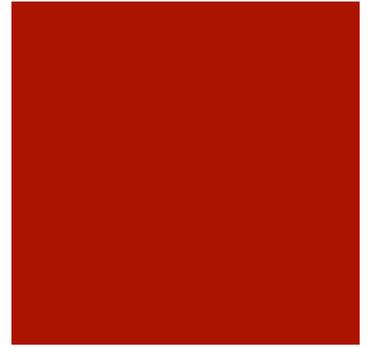
- Michael Bloomberg as Mayor of NYC: CEO or business leader?
- A few months after entering office, Mayor Bloomberg discussed how he had approached staffing his administration
 - “I’m a big believer in picking good people, giving them the tools, removing barriers to cooperation, promoting, and protecting them, and letting the professionals go and do what they do well.”
- Bloomberg’s campaign drew heavily on political outsiders, particularly from the private sector



Teaching Evaluations



Powerpoints



- Spend this chunk of time ~1 hour working on your Powerpoint as a group, IN CLASS, for your talks next week

Discussion: Part 7



- **Provide an overview of the challenges facing the city today**
 - What kinds of quality of life issues face the city today? (i.e. education, crime control, housing)
 - What are the demands of the citizenry with respect to these quality of life issues?
 - How are city leaders responding to the citizenry with respect to these issues?
 - How has immigration affected contemporary urban politics in your city today?

- PLAN TO SEND ME A DRAFT BETWEEN NOV 23 (this wednesday) to NOV 29 (next tuesday).

- I WILL GET BACK TO YOU WITH EDITS BY DECEMBER 2

- REMEMBER TO EDIT AS A GROUP FIRST. IT IS NOT THAT HELPFUL FOR YOU TO HAVE ME COMMENT ON A SUPER ROUGH DRAFT (since I will not be rewriting anything)