

CJVA302: Week 4 N. America, pt. 2





Weekly readings

- US gun culture/rights
 - 2nd Amendment
 - Originalism/textualism
 - 2 bills recently passed House
- Antifa vs. the far-right
- Defund the Police?



- What are the three key national agencies dealing with enviro policy?
- Who is in charge of these agencies? What is their professional background? What are their views on climate change?



- Three key national agencies:
 - Environmental Protection Agency
 - Department of Energy
 - Department of Interior
- Trump administration:
 - Andrew Wheeler, head of EPA, former energy lobbyist
 - Rick Perry, Secretary of Energy, climate change sceptic
 - Mike Pompeo, Secretary of State, climate change sceptic



Andrew Wheeler, head of EPA, former energy lobbyist

"I believe that man has an impact on the climate but what's not completely understood is what the impact is."

Rick Perry, Secretary of Energy, climate change sceptic

Natural causes as main driver of CC

• Mike Pompeo, Secretary of State, climate change sceptic

"There are scientists who think lots of different things about climate change. There's some who think we're warming, there's some who think we're cooling, there's some who think that the last 16 years have shown a pretty stable climate environment."



- Attack on "climate change":
 - Removal of climate change language from gov't websites
 - Defunding of key agencies & scientific institutions
 - Attack on Obama's "Clean Power Plan"
 - Trump: climate change a hoax created by Chinese
 - Withdrawal from Paris Agreement



Canadian Environmental Policy

- Trudeau: says all the right things, but is there substance?
 - Climate agenda vs. Alberta tar sands
 - Indigenous rights vs. oil industry
- "No country would find 173bn barrels of oil in the ground and just leave them there."
 - Justin Trudeau, March 2017



Video & discussion

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQhfIH4alO0 (short)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rqw99rJYq8Q (long)

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/apr/17/st op-swooning-justin-trudeau-man-disaster-planet



"The Stone Age came to an end, not because we had a lack of stones, and the oil age will come to an end not because we have a lack of oil."

Is Trudeau a hypocrite? What should Canada do with its O&G resources?

Was there any upside to the U.S. withdrawal from Paris Agreement (e.g. response from individual states)? What is the process for rejoining the PA?

Is capitalism compatible with efforts to combat climate change? (Guardian video: 3 options)



U.S. Immigration Policy

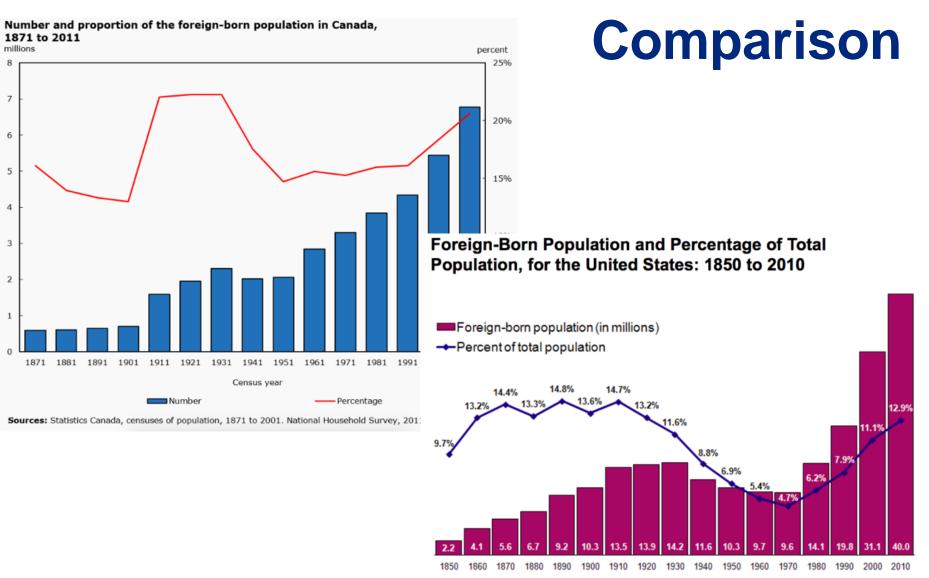
- Travel bans & border walls: are these effective policy measures? Are they necessary?
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6W6FzcMjJ0
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sCyzdD0vYOw



Canadian Immigration Policy

- <u>"...softer-hearted... harder-headed..."</u>
- "To those fleeing persecution, terror & war, Canadians will welcome you, regardless of your faith. Diversity is our strength #WelcomeToCanada."
 - Justin Trudeau via Twitter, 28 January 2017







Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1850 to 2000, and the American Community Survey, 2010.