



From Government to governance And from Analysis to Intervention: developing policy strategies for the near future

Wieger Bakker, Brno November 19 2009

- 1. Introduction:
From government to governance**
- 2. The rational dimension of policymaking**
- 3. The social dimension of policy making**
- 4. Exercise. Subgroup assignment
problems, causes, goals and instruments**



1. Introduction

Three pillars of classic government

I 18th century

enlightenment and the direction of action
reason and the end of predestination; modernisation;
improving the world

II 19th century

State formation and the location of action
the unitary state, centralisation of power and
safeguarding the public interest

III 20th century

Bureaucracy and the organisation of action
Effective structures for dealing with complex problems:
trust through predictability, procedures and rules



Characteristics of Government centred steering

- hierarchy (command and control)
- loyal civil servants
- defined territory
- all encompassing
- knowledge as Archimedean point
- plan orientation
- faces of / cycles in policy making



Government perspective: developments over time 1

- institutionalisation of state power (in different forms)
- extension and differentiation of governments activities and spheres of intervention
(from protecting borders and developing economic infrastructure to safeguarding social and democratic rights and liberties)
- differentiation in forms and systems
(liberal democracy, totalitarian systems)



Government perspective: developments over time 2

Late 20th century:

- collapse of totalitarian systems
- secularisation, individualisation
- growing demands, increasing plurality in society
- decreasing trust in government institutions, state and bureaucracy
- relative autonomous position of government



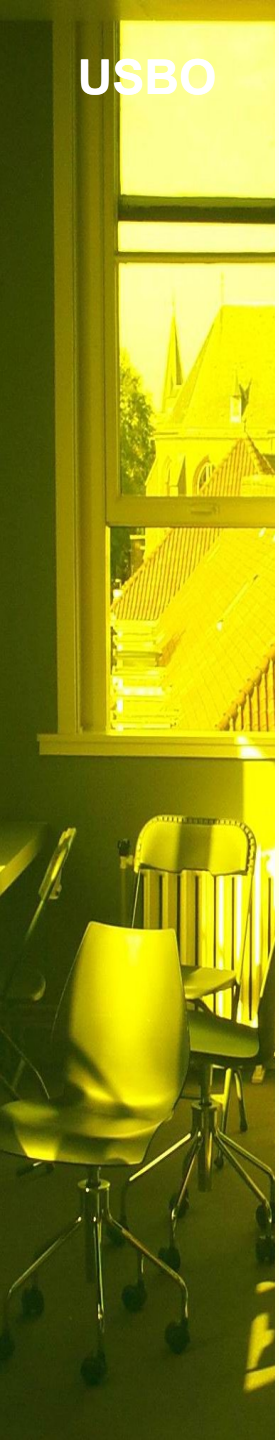
Governance perspective

- Not only the state actors and institutions are relevant in the authoritative allocation of values. Civil society institutions are too.
- Governance includes all systems of rule at all levels human activity –from the family to the international organization – that influence the pursuit of public goals. (free after Rosenau)



Multi-level governance

- Local, regional, national, supra national government
- Civil society
- Private cooperation's
- International bodies





2. The rational model of policymaking

cause and effect (causal relations)

Cause A \longrightarrow *Effect B*
 leads to
 low level of education \longrightarrow high unemployment rate

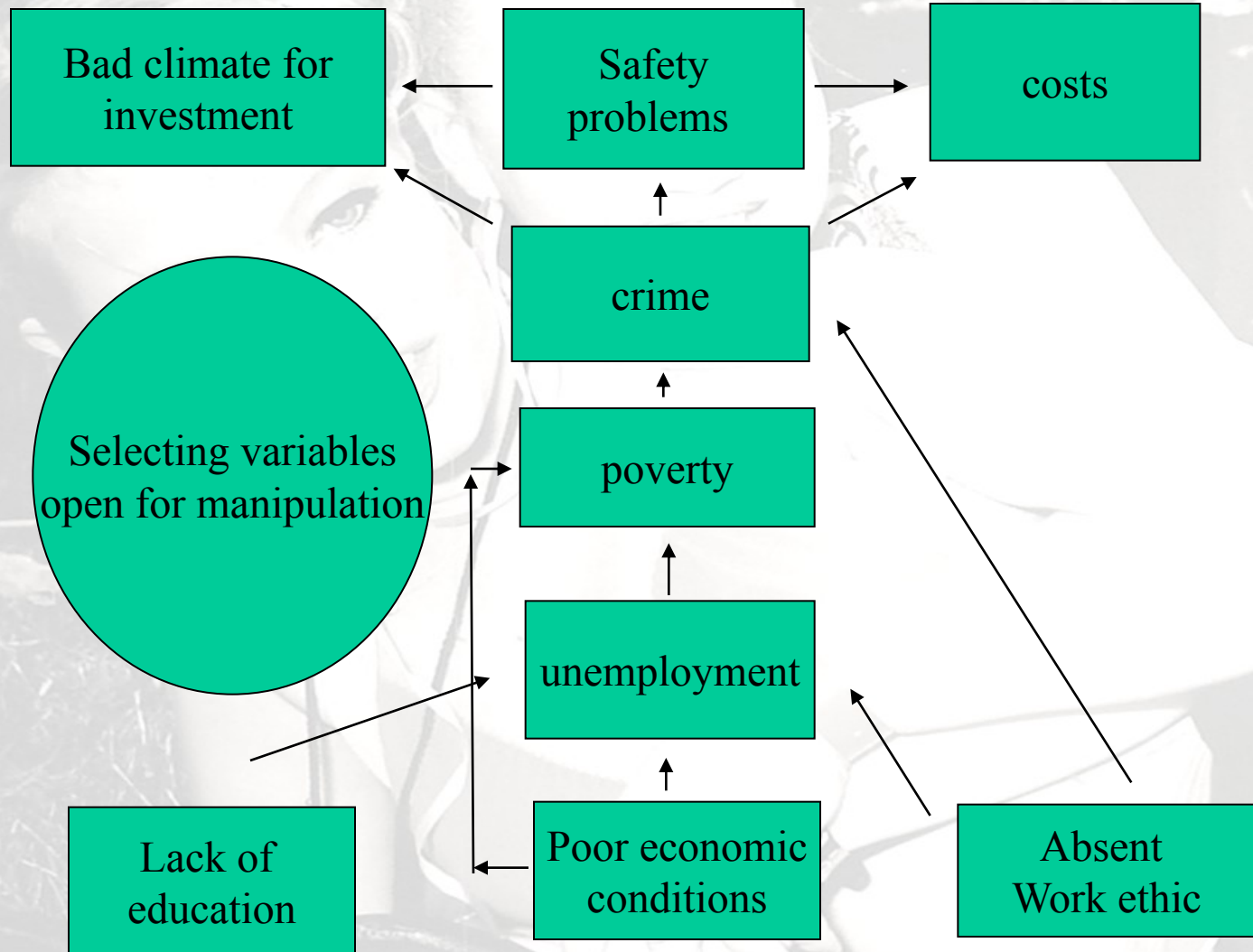
intentional manipulation of causes in order to reach an intended effect

(explanatory versus manipulative variables)
 means and ends (final relations)

through instrument X \longrightarrow goal Y is reached
 investing in education \longrightarrow higher employment rate



Cause and effect scheme





2. b Assumptions related to the rational model of policymaking

- a) Knowledge is the prime basis for intervention
- b) Man is a Homo Economicus (rational strive to maximise benefits)
- c) Bureaucrats are loyal
- d) Central rule / central steering is possible



2. c *The process of rational policy making*
the stage model of policy making - the policy cycle

- Policy Agenda
- Policy Preparation
- Policy Decision
- Policy Implementation
- 1. - Policy Evaluation
- Policy Adjustment

Agenda setting

Public Agenda

Political Agenda

Policy Agenda

Windows of opportunity

The meeting of a sense of (public and political) urgency, political support and the availability of means and instruments

3. *The social dimension of policy making*

reason versus (political) power

society is a political community in which different parties try to get their particular interests acknowledged as matters of public interest

changing (European) context for policymaking

pluralist / multiform societies through cultural changes (individualisation), informatisation, migration internationalisation of economy and policy

from government to (multi level) governance

networks of governmental and non governmental parties on a sub national, national and supra national level



multiple actors and multiple interests

citizens/electorate; (multi national) corporations; interest groups; (international) pressure groups; states

broader domains, declining sovereignty

-widening of the policy domains (from securing the integrity of the state to the relations between husbands and wives)

-temporary support for policies by electorate and interest groups for only certain specific issues

-dependency on support of and compromise with other states within supra national bodies

-(normative and imperative) regimes for structure and functioning of political institutions and governance: the case of the new member states: (e.g. Copenhagen criteria)



responses: interactive policy making & negotiating and lobbying

Interactive policy making: bringing citizens into the process (sub national)

Negotiating with interest groups (national)

Lobbying as a policy strategy (both national and supra national)



4. **Exercise: subgroup assignment**

Problems, causes, solutions and goals

- Describe in one sentence an actual social problem in your country/city
- Describe in one sentence a (plausible) cause for this problem
- Describe in one sentence (or two sentences) a concrete policy goal to address this problem
- Describe in one sentence an instrument by which this goal can be realised (the solution for the problem)

(25 minutes preparation in 4 subgroups, 20 minutes presentation and discussion)