

Great Britain: Representation and Participation

I. Political Parties

A. Labour



B. Conservative



C. Liberal Democrats

D. Nationalist Parties

E. Minor Parties

II. Elections

III. Identity and Culture



A. Labour Party

- Political arm of organized labor
- Socialist principles
- ‘Looney Left’ in 1980s
- Transformation of Party Structure
 - Neil Kinnock and John Smith
- Tony Blair and ‘New Labour’
 - The Granita meeting
 - Third Way politics in practice



B. Conservative Party ('Tories')

- ❑ 'One Nation Tories' (paternalistic)
- ❑ Thatcher and Neoliberalism
- ❑ Core Conservative Principles
- ❑ Electoral Collapse
- ❑ Problems for Tories:
 - Europe
 - The Parade of Leaders
 - Labour stole policies!
- ❑ Cameron and 'Moderization'

Margaret Thatcher



Spiritual leader or
crazy old aunt in the attic?

A new package...but is anyone buying it?



Old
Tory
Logo

New
Tory
Logo



Dave cycles to work...



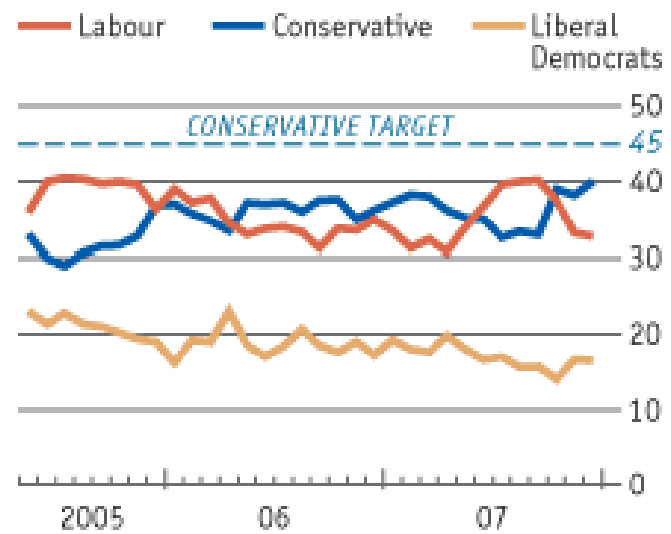
Dave protects the NHS....



Dave cares about global warming...

Thin blue line

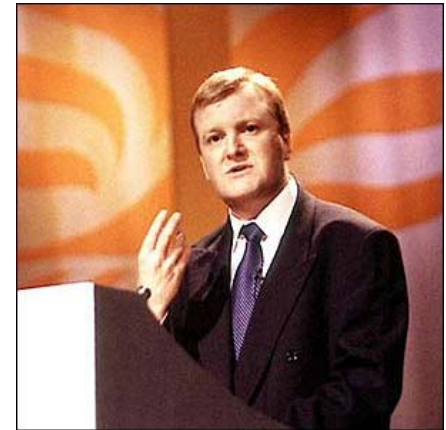
Voting intention, poll of polls, %



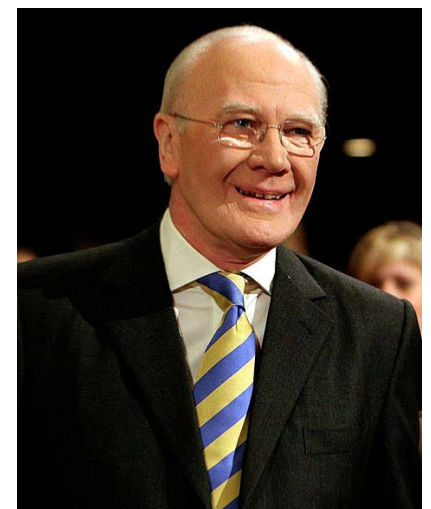
Sources: ComRes; BPIX; ICM; Ipsos-MORI; Populus; YouGov

C. Liberal Democrats

- ❑ Liberal slide after WW I
- ❑ Social Democratic Party (SDP)
- ❑ Merger into Liberal Democrats
- ❑ Problem of the Electoral System
- ❑ Liberal Democrat principles



Charles Kennedy



**Menzies ('Ming')
Campbell**

D. Nationalist Parties

□ **Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)**

- **Leader: Alex Salmond**
- **Independence**



□ **Welsh Nationalist Party (*Plaid Cymru*)**

- **Leader: Ieuan Wyn Jones**
- **Cultural (Linguistic) Freedom**



Scottish
Flag



Welsh
Flag

Northern Ireland Parties

- Northern Ireland -- Unionists
 - Democratic Unionists Party (DUP)
 - Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)
- Northern Ireland -- Republicans
 - Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP)
 - Sinn Fein



Small Parties

- **Green Party (traditional green party)**
- **UK Independence Party (UKIP – anti-EU)**
- **British Nationalist Party (BNP – racist/anti-immigrant)**
- **Respect ‘Party’ (vehicle for left-wing demagogue George Galloway)**
- **Official Monster Raving Loony Party (“Vote for Insanity – You Know It Makes Sense”)**





II. Elections

- General Elections (Westminster Parliament)
- Other Elections (National assemblies, London assembly , local government, European Parliament)
- Criteria to stand (£500 deposit)
- Safe, Unsafe, and Marginal Seats
- 4-7 week campaign
- Similarities and Differences with US

“Tony **B**liar”
Election Night
2005



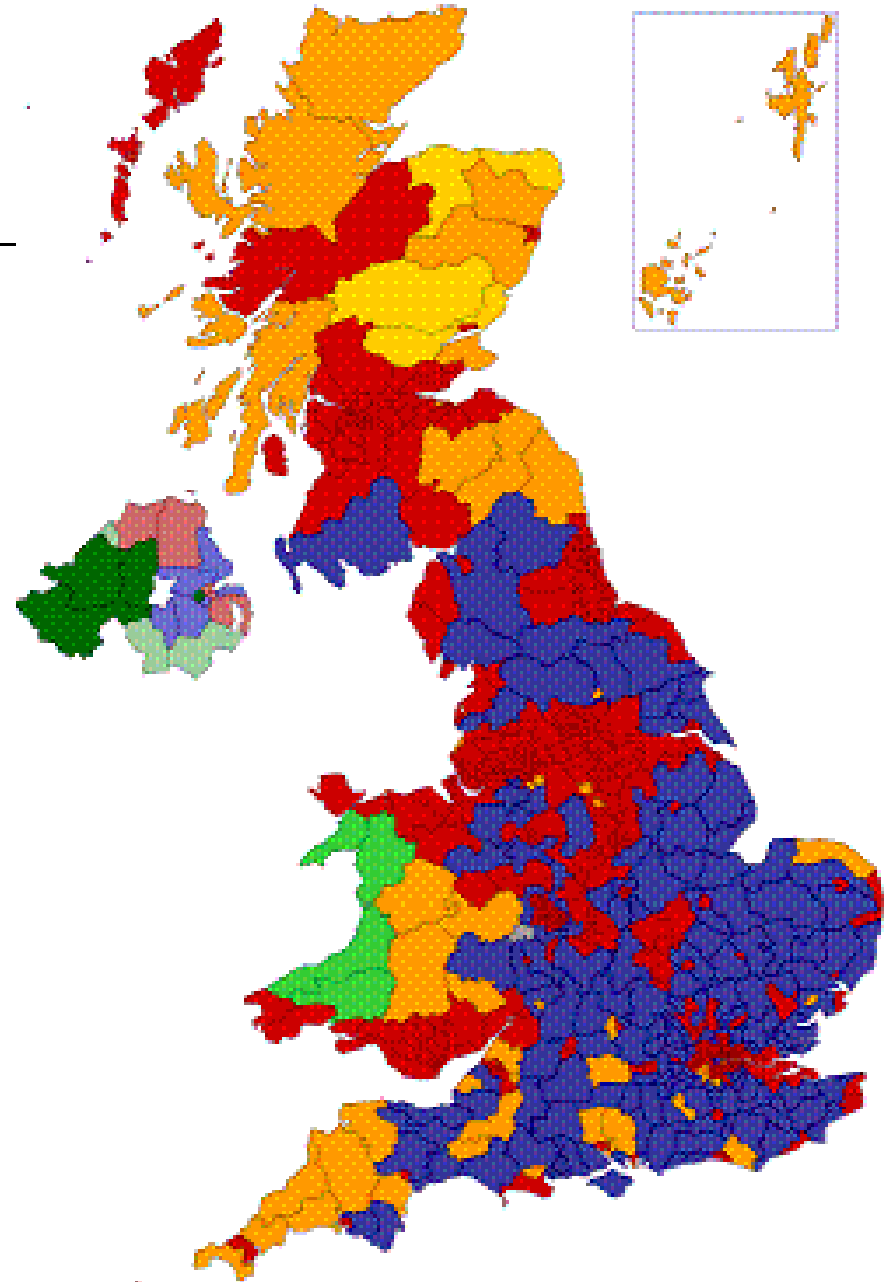


II. Electoral Behavior

- ❑ Class-party identification model
- ❑ Economic change, class dealignment, party dealignment
- ❑ Major factors influencing voting
- ❑ Demography (age, gender, race)
- ❑ Geography (North-South divide)
- ❑ Issues (Retrospective or prospective? Specific or general?)

2005 UK Election Map

- RED = Labour
- BLUE = Conservatives
- GOLD = Liberal Democrats





III. Political Culture and Identity

A. Political Culture:

- Britain as the Ideal ‘Civic Culture’
- General Traits of British Political Culture
 - Broad Support for Institutions of Government
 - Involvement/Engagement
 - Pragmatism
 - Trust and Cooperation



III. Political Culture and Identity

B. Identity

- Class (declining)
- National Identity (rising?)
 - Scotland: More Scottish than British
 - Wales: Same, but far less so
 - England: More British, less English
 - Northern Ireland: British (unionists) or Irish (republicans)
- A 'Dis-United' Kingdom?



England World Cup Fans 1966

England World Cup Fans 2006

