**3rd Parties and Voting Behavior Interactive Notes**

1. A 3rd party is defined as…
2. Describe why the 5 obstacles to 3rd parties makes it difficult for them to win elections
3. Winner Take-All Elections

1. Getting on the ballot

1. Getting on televised debates

1. Major party adoption of platform

1. Very little funding

1. Describe the 3 effects that 3rd parties can have on elections
2.
3.

**Voting Behavior**

1. Voting Behavior: A study which is used to explain how and why decisions are made by public decision makers, or by voters
2. How do political scientists use voting behavior?
3. Political Efficacy: The belief that ordinary people can influence the government.
4. How does political efficacy increase or decrease the likelihood that someone will vote?
5. Civic Duty:
6. How does civic duty increase or decrease the likelihood that someone will vote?
7. List 2 characteristics of regular voters
8. List 2 characteristics of regular Non-Voters
9. The 4 factors that influence voters are:
10. Personal Background
11. Party Loyalty
12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
13. Campaign issues
14. What 2 personal background characteristics are most influential in determining whether a person will vote or not?
15. Why do you think party loyalty is a good predictor of whether a person will vote or not?
16. What single issue would be most influential in motivating you to vote?
17. In general, people vote for a candidate who…

**Questions for Discussion**

After reading “How Elections Reduce Americans to Stereotypes” by Dante Chinni, answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper and be ready to discuss your answers with the class

* Is it morally right that we stereotype people into groups to generalize their political behavior?

* According to the author what characteristic is the most reliable in predicting the voting behavior of people?
* According to the author what characteristics are the least reliable in predicting the voting behavior or people?
* Do you believe that stereotyping people into groups is helpful to candidates attempting to win elections? Why or why not?

* List 3 issues and the stereotypical voter that the issue would appeal to.
* How do you think that candidates and their campaign teams use demographic information to target voters?