

# The Political Machine

Non-Governmental Organizations, Interest Groups, and Lobbyists

# Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)

- NGOs tend to focus on Humanitarian, Human Rights, Conservationist, or single-issue causes
- Relatively independent
  - Self motivated choice of action
    - But usually not completely self-financed
  - Nonprofit Organizations



# Operating NGOs

- Operate within governmental frameworks
  - Will work for, or against governments to achieve goals
- Can draw upon large support and aid
  - Will recruit members and high level support
- Provide aid, materials, support, education, research, and sometimes manpower



# Interests Groups

- Political Interest groups are collective groups that allow like-minded individuals to have their voices heard
- Interest groups seek positive benefits to promote the group's interests
  - Ex. Environmental Interests work to gain favor in the government and protect the planet



# Interest Groups

- Interest groups seek to pass legislation and influence the political process to protect their interests, or further their political aims



# Lobbyists

- Lobbyists are individuals who represent interest groups
- Many Lobbyists are former legislatures
  - Lobbyists are normally very well paid to influence legislation
  - Lobbyists work directly for groups or as needed
- Sources of information, ideas and innovations.
  - Ex. How a particular group would react to a particular law
- Can help politicians strategize how to pass or block legislation

