Political Economy

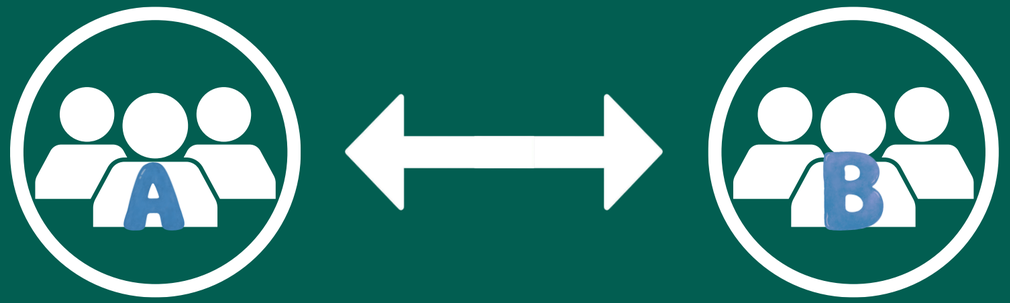
A Starting Definition

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What is Political Economy?

If you think of two people or two groups of people which we label as A and B, then we can imagine a case where they want to buy or sell a good or service. What we know from economic theory is that an exact and efficient equilibrium price and quantity can be found. However, that's not enough.

Economics

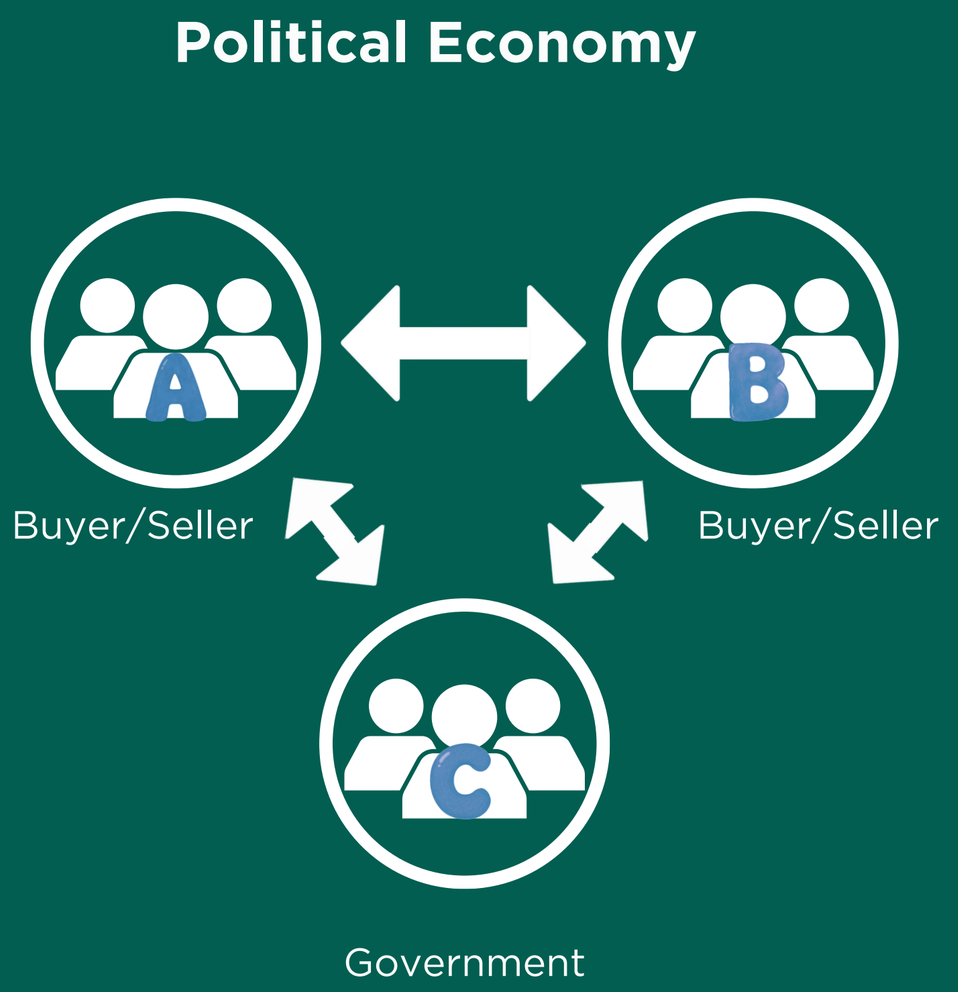


Buyer/Seller

Buyer/Seller

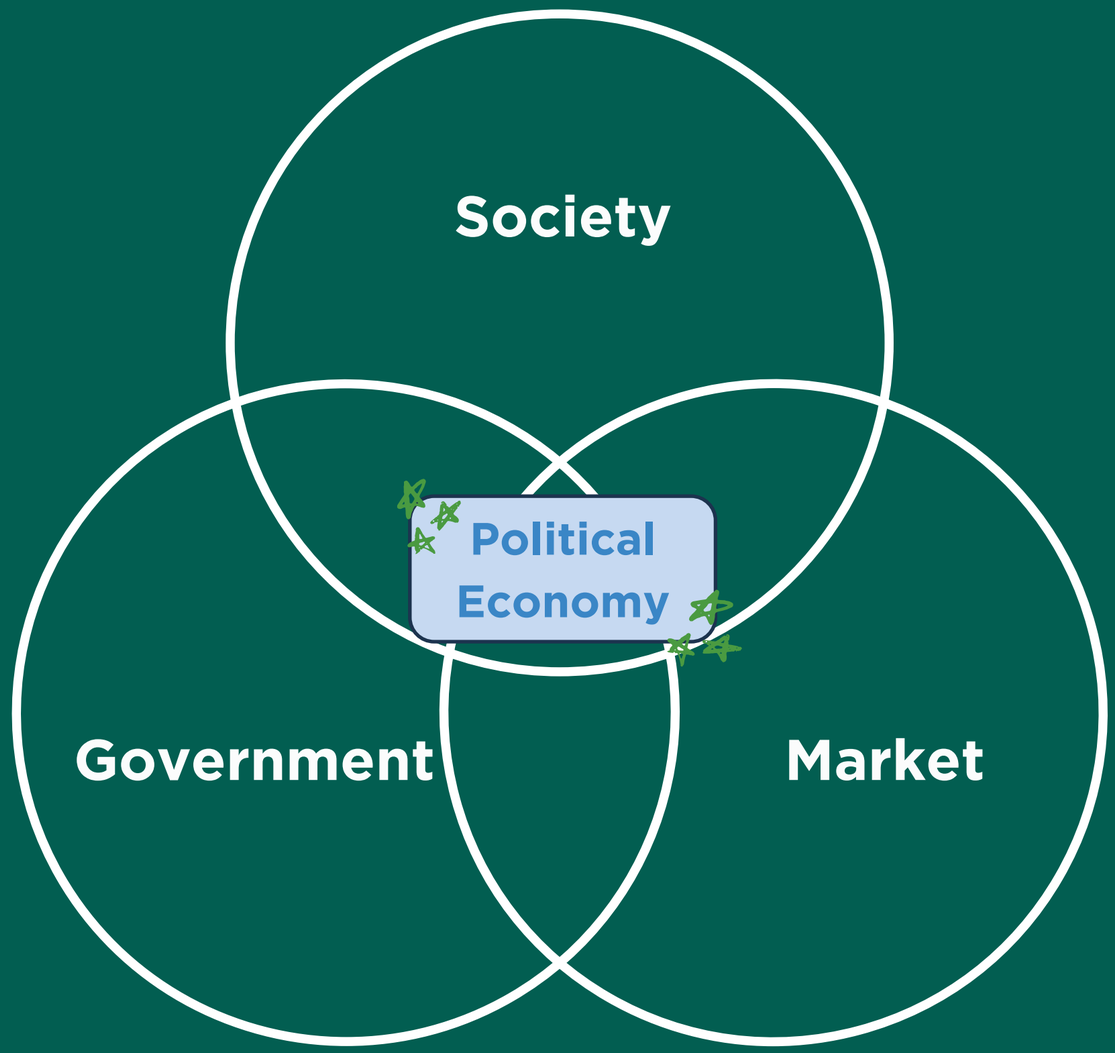
What is Political Economy?

We would argue that there should be a third actor modeled, the government which we label as C. Some would argue that C is not just a benign referee between A and B but an active participant in the market trying to gather power unto itself. Thus, it should be limited. Others would say that C is not a referee but more like a judge and both A and B will try to lobby C to influence it to make the market environment more favorable to them than their competitor.



What is Political Economy?

Those of us studying political economy would say that A and B are trying to influence C but also the society as a whole. Basically, we bridge the gap to study what the market outcomes looked like before and after the intervention of C.



Political Economy Continued

But we don't stop there, if you think about public policy, you know that there is a policy maker turning a knob and effecting policy. What policy? Any policy. It could be trade policy with the president changing policy with tariffs. It could be health policy with changes through vaccines. There is housing, tax, and education policy. The list goes on and on. On the other side are markets which see and react to those policy changes. What markets? Any markets. It could be housing markets, insurance markets, labor markets, etc. The list goes on.

So, the question is how do policy makers and markets "communicate" with each other? They do this through three main avenues.

Those avenues are **institutions, rulemaking (laws),** and **morals/ethics.**

Communication Between Policy Makers and Markets

Thus, there were institutional structures which allowed policy makers to have things in the past like slavery, insane asylums, and child labor. These institutions were normally backed by some form of legal standing. However, the law also said what markets were allowed to do in response. Think of restrictions on insider trading as legal limits on markets. Finally, there should be some ethical considerations of policy makers. Just because a policy can be enacted, should it? Is it just? Is it fair?



INSTITUTIONS

slavery
insane asylums
child labor
judicial review



RULEMAKING (LAWS)

minimum wage laws
child labor laws
antitrust laws
Insider trading



MORALS/ETHICS

policy access
equal opportunity
healthcare access
data privacy

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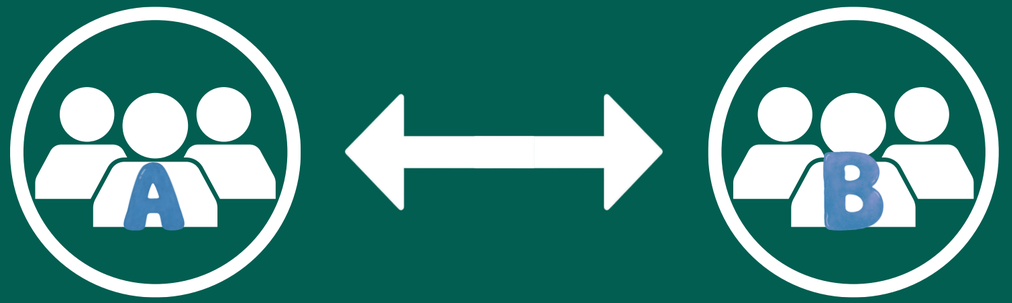
For a more in depth look at Political Economy visit:

www.murphy.tulane.edu

What is Access to Justice?

A basic principle of the rule of law. Within a legal context, it is the mechanism for litigants' voices to be heard; for fairness, transparency, and accountability in judicial proceedings to be maintained; and for judicial outcomes and decisions to be measurably principled.

--United Nations



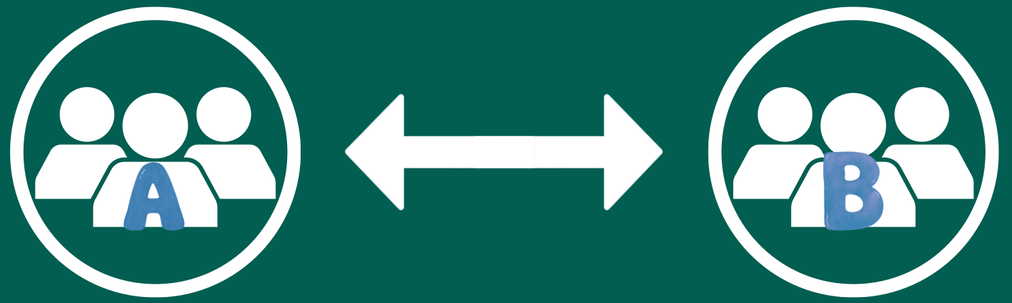
Political Economy

Access to Justice

What is Access to Justice?

Access to Justice translates primarily to Pro Bono Services and Publicly Available and Accessible Standardized Forms and Pleadings.

--State of Louisiana

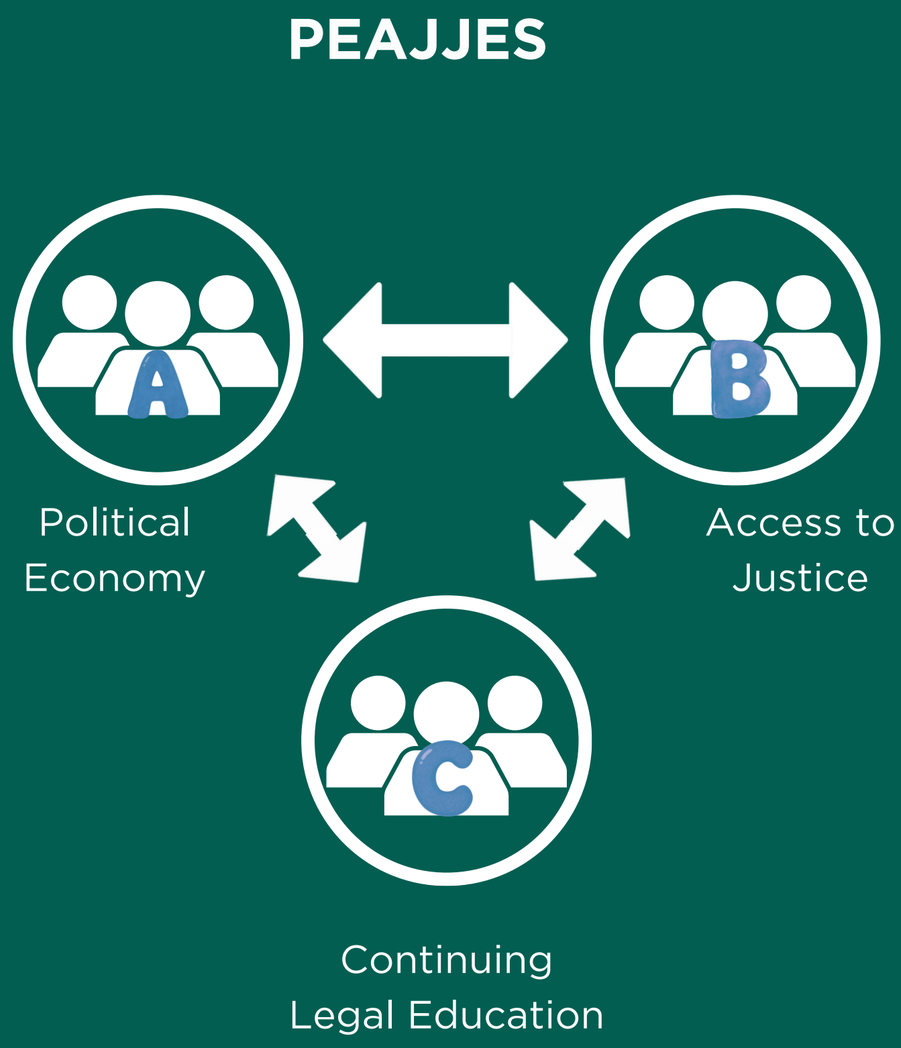


Political Economy

Access to Justice

What is Political Economy and Access to Justice Judicial Education Seminar?

A structured learning space where judges collaboratively explore the various, complex ways that policy intersects with questions of economy, politics, and access to justice. These dynamics are examined in relation to broad, intersecting issues that affect persons appearing in court, including transportation, housing, job, and food (in)security, technological innovation and advancement, advocacy, literacy, mental health, and English as a second language. These dynamics are also considered in relation to concepts that directly impact the judiciary, including ethics, professionalism, and judicial economy.



Communication Between Policy Makers and Researchers/Practitioners

YEAR 1:

“Did the Death of Split Juries Bury the History of Race on Southern Juries?”
Angela A. Allen-Bell, JD, B.K. Agnihotri Endowed Professor, Southern University Law Center



INSTITUTIONS

U.S. Slavery
Judiciary



RULEMAKING (LAWS)

Ramos v. Louisiana, 590 U.S. 83 (2020)



MORALS/ETHICS

Compliance Costs:
Retroactivity
Plea-Bargaining

Communication Between Policy Makers and Researchers/Practitioners

YEAR 2:

Cost of Poverty Experience: An Interactive Workshop
Organized & Facilitated by The Louisiana Pelican Center for Children and Families



INSTITUTIONS

Justice System
(CINC, criminal, delinquency)
Health Care Systems
(esp. mental health)
Insurance
DMV



RULEMAKING (LAWS)

1. bench warrants and contempt of court
2. virtual court
3. staggered proceedings



MORALS/ETHICS

Housing and Transportation barriers; mental health and substance abuse disorders; other traumas

Communication Between Policy Makers and Researchers/Practitioners

YEAR 3:

The Network Effect of Virtual Court Access: Weighing the Costs and Benefits
Andrea Miller, PhD, JD, National Association of State Courts



INSTITUTIONS

Courts
All sectors of the labor market



RULEMAKING (LAWS)

Traffic court; notice; warrants



MORALS/ETHICS

Compliance Costs: Technology upgrades
Access to affordable technology resets

Communication Between Policy Makers and Researchers/Practitioners

YEAR 4:

AI Readiness for State and Federal Courts: Findings from Pilot Programs
Aaron Judy, Chief of Innovation and Emerging Technologies, Maricopa County
Associate Justice Robert J. Torres, Judiciary of Guam



INSTITUTIONS

Justice System
Government
Technology
AI (and developing theories of its institutionalization)



RULEMAKING (LAWS)

Case management



MORALS/ETHICS

Transportation barriers (esp. in rural regions)

Communication Between Policy Makers and Researchers/Practitioners

YEAR 5 (Jan 8-9, 2027):

Housing Security and Public Safety: Bedfellows in Crime Prevention
Williams P. Quigley, Esq., Emeritus Professor of Law, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law



INSTITUTIONS

Courts
All sectors of the labor market



RULEMAKING (LAWS)

Criminalization of homelessness



MORALS/ETHICS

Compliance Costs
Prison Industrial complex

PEAJJES OUTCOMES

- Since inception, PEAJJES has served close to 100 judges, representing appellate, district, juvenile, and traffic courts throughout the Gulf South region and in the states of California, Tennessee, Nevada, Indiana, and North Carolina

- Participants find seminar content applicable to their day-to-day work, indicate that they do not have access to PEAJJES information through other judicial conferences, and express a desire to attend future seminars

- Of the twenty-three judicial participants who attended PEAJJES 2026, ten (10) attended PEAJJES 2025. Of the ten who attended PEAJJES 2025, three (3) have attended PEAJJES since its inception in 2022