

WEEK 8: Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Ideology and Religion

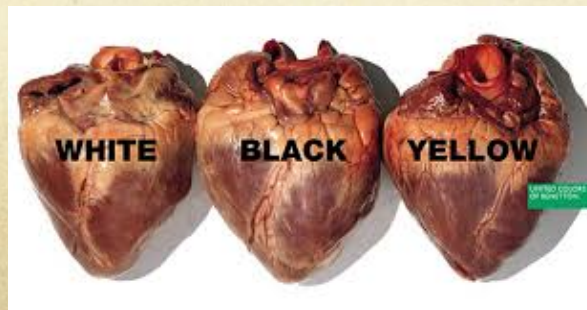
- Identity categories: race, ethnicity, and gender.
- The ways in which these categories are sometimes used as bases for discrimination and inequality.
- The concepts of modernity and modernization, ideology, religion, and secularization.
- Major theories about the changing place of religious organizations as polities modernize.

Race, Ethnicity, and Gender



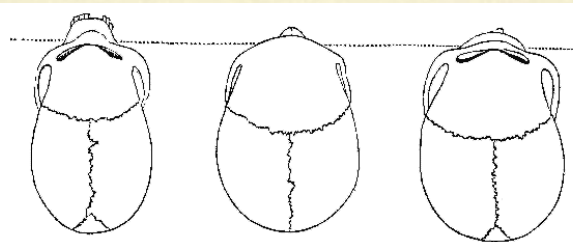
Concepts: Race

- Race and ethnicity are categories of identity
- Race
 - Idea that human beings are divided into different groups, often thought of *as biological categories*, and usually based on skin color.
 - Used to justify slavery, discrimination, holocaust.
 - Note: the beliefs about biological basis here are *not* considered accurate by social scientists
 - Ex. Irish immigrants were once categorized as non-white.
 - In Brazil racial categories are much more fluid.
 - Scientific racism is denounced after the WW2.



Disentangling Race and Ethnicity

- Race can become more and less salient in societies over time
- Racialization
 - *The historical process through which social relations become interpreted in terms of racial categories*
 - *During colonization of Africa*



The *first* of these figures represents a Negro head, elongated, and narrow in front, with expanded zygomatic arches, projecting cheek bones, and protruded upper jaw. The *second* is a Caucasian skull, in which those parts are nearly concealed in the more symmetrical outline of the whole head, and especially by the full development of the frontal region. The *third* figure is taken from a Mongol head, in which the orbits and cheek bones are exposed, as in the Negro, and the zygomæ arched and expanded; but the forehead is much broader, the face more retracted, and the whole cranium larger. Having been at much pains to give the *norma verticalis* of the skulls figured in this work, the reader will have ample opportunity to compare for himself. He will see that the American head approaches nearest to the Mongol, yet is not so long, is narrower in front, with a more prominent face and much more contracted zygomæ.

Concepts: Ethnicity

- Ethnicity is distinct from race
- Ethnicity
 - *Quality that one has by identifying with or being ascribed membership in an ethnic group*
- Ethnic group
 - *A group that identifies itself as having strong cultural commonality and a shared sense of long-run history*

Disentangling Race and Ethnicity

- Characteristics of ethnic groups
 - Cultural commonality
 - Shared sense of long-run history
- It is possible to have multiple affiliations
 - “hyphenated Americans” as ethnicity
 - Korean-Americans or African-Americans, e.g.

Pay

Minority ethnic families earning up to £8,900 less than white Britons

Gap in annual salaries is highlighted in report, which also finds income is growing fastest in Bangladeshi households



 The Resolution Foundation said the gaps were even larger when housing costs were taken into account.
Photograph: Dan Kitwood/Getty Images

Concepts: Gender

- Gender

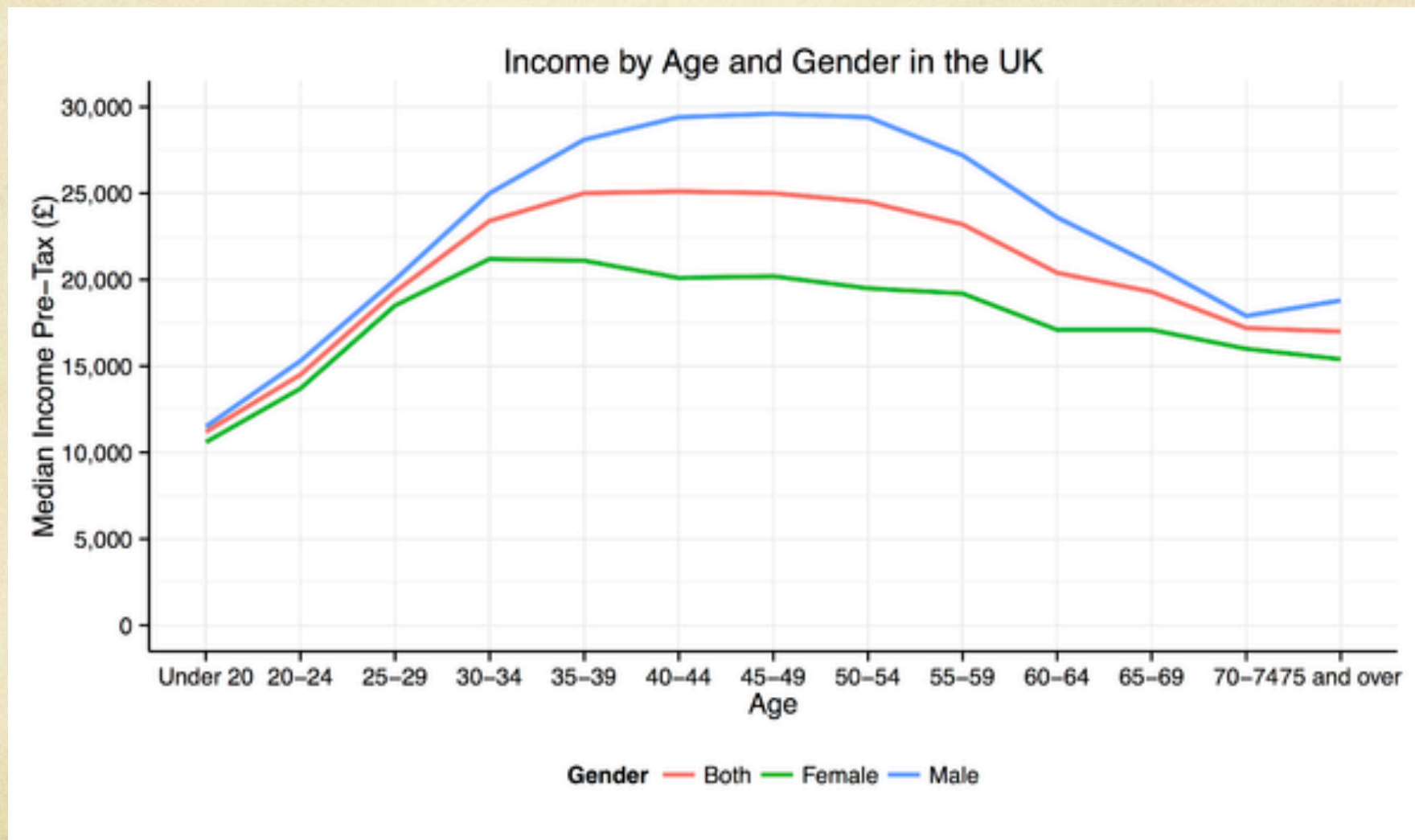
- *Culturally constructed roles or identities one has by virtue of being considered male or female*
- **Note: gender is distinguished from sex. How?**
- Sex is biological, gender is cultural
- Some people are transgender: *an identity in which one's gender does not conform to conventional matching with biological sex*
- Facebook offers 71 options for gender including asexual, polygender, and two-spirit person.

Concepts: Sexual Orientation

- Category of identity like race, ethnicity, gender



Gender Discrimination



Global Gender Gap Report

○ <http://projects.two-n.com/world-gender/>

Global Gender Gap Report Browser

Select a country



Rankings, 2016

The overall gender parity score varies widely across the globe. In the 2016 report, the U.S. ranks 45th with an overall score of 72%. A score of 100% (right side of the chart) denotes true gender equality but no nation in the report has managed to close the gap completely.

The top 5 ranked countries in 2016 were:

1. Iceland 87.4%
2. Finland 84.5%
3. Norway 84.2%
4. Sweden 81.6%
5. Rwanda 80.0%

and the bottom 5 were:

1. Yemen 51.6%
2. Pakistan 55.6%
3. Syria 56.7%
4. Saudi Arabia 58.3%
5. Chad 58.7%

The median ranked country, Bangladesh, rose from 90th place in 2006 to 72nd place in 2016.



Source: World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2006 to 2016

Gender Gap Index, 2016 | Gender Equality

Work-life balance



- Women do not stop working when they leave their offices.
- At home, they bear the brunt of unpaid work, such as cooking and cleaning, as well as caring for children, the sick and the elderly.
- The average Italian woman spends 22 hours (or almost 3 full-time workdays) more than her partner on unpaid work per week, while this gap averages 5 hours in the Nordic countries.
- Altogether, the estimated annual value of women's unpaid work totals \$10 trillion, or 13% of global GDP.
- If women and men were to share unpaid tasks equally, women would gain 5 hours of free time per week.
- Source: OECD

Women's and Minority Empowerment

- Empowerment
 - *An increase in the social, political, or economic capabilities of an individual or group*
- Economic empowerment
 - Credit/loans to women, cooperatives, etc.
 - Government programs to support child care
- Cultural empowerment
 - LGBT movements in U.S.
- Political empowerment
 - Women's movement and civil rights movement

Mala Htun, Is Gender Like Ethnicity, 2004



- Key differences in the ways equitable political representation can be achieved for women and members of other groups.
- Gender movements rarely form political parties (as opposed to ethnic groups). Instead they have gender quotas. Why?
- Ethnic groups coincide with other forms of group difference, whereas gender tends to “crosscut” them.
- Difficult to organize a party around so many other different interests.

Institutional Methods to Promote Representation for Identity Groups

- Can legal and institutional designs promote representation for identity groups (as opposed to social movements)?
- Quota system is the clearest example
 - Reserved-seat systems: certain number of seats in legislature are reserved for groups (women, e.g.)
 - Candidate-quota systems: certain number of candidates by group
 - Often by law requiring political parties to have a number of such candidates
 - Some such candidate quotas are self-imposed by parties in systems with proportional representation
 - <http://www.quotaproject.org/country.cfm>
- What do you think of gender/minority quotas?

Ideology, Modernization, Religion, Secularism



Ideology

- *Systematically coordinated and cognitively salient set of beliefs focused on politics*
 - *Liberalism*
 - *Fascism*
 - *Socialism*
- *But also many others Anarchism, Feminism, Conservatism, etc.*

Modern Ideologies (Liberalism)



- *Emphasizes individual freedoms, representative democracy, and the market economy (John Locke, Adam Smith, etc)*
- Liberalism has variations:
 - *Social democracy: liberalism with substantial state action to promote economic and social equality*
 - *Note: social democracy considered by some a variant of socialism, but by most as a variant of liberalism*
 - *Libertarianism: liberalism that emphasizes minimal or limited role of government*

Modern Ideologies

(Fascism)

- *Authoritarian ideology favoring militarism and right-wing nationalism*
 - associated with regimes like Nazi Germany and Italy's Benito Mussolini
- Anti-democratic
 - Opposes liberalism's emphasis on individual rights
- Emphasis is on the state and nation



Modern Ideologies (Socialism)



- *Emphasizes economic equality as a key goal, to be pursued through state action*
- Critique of liberalism (esp. Karl Marx)
 - Also (often) emphasizes groups over individual
- Advocates for working class revolution
 - Seize the state to take economy from capitalists
 - For Marx, *communism* would be achieved as end result of socialism
 - Will end psychological “alienation” of workers

Modernity and Religion

**THE BASIC
ASSUMPTION OF THE
SECULAR SOCIETY IS
THAT MODERNITY
OVERCOMES
RELIGION.**

QUOTEHD.COM

Ulrich Beck
German Sociologist

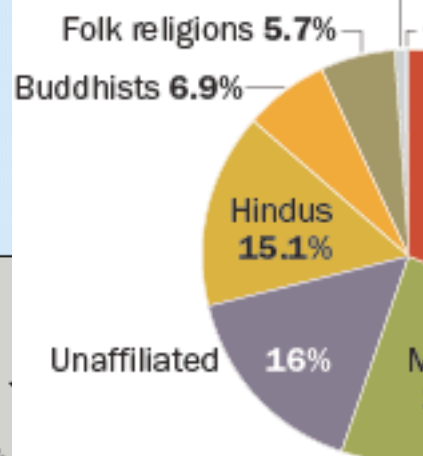
Modernity and Modernization

- Modernity
 - *What is modern?*
 - *Refers to a type of society, typically one having experienced economic growth and a relatively strong state*
 - *Note: Modernity is a contested term. Why?*
- Modernization
 - *Process through which a society becomes “more modern”*
- A major aspect of “Modernity” is some form of secularism.



Christians are the largest religious group

% of world population

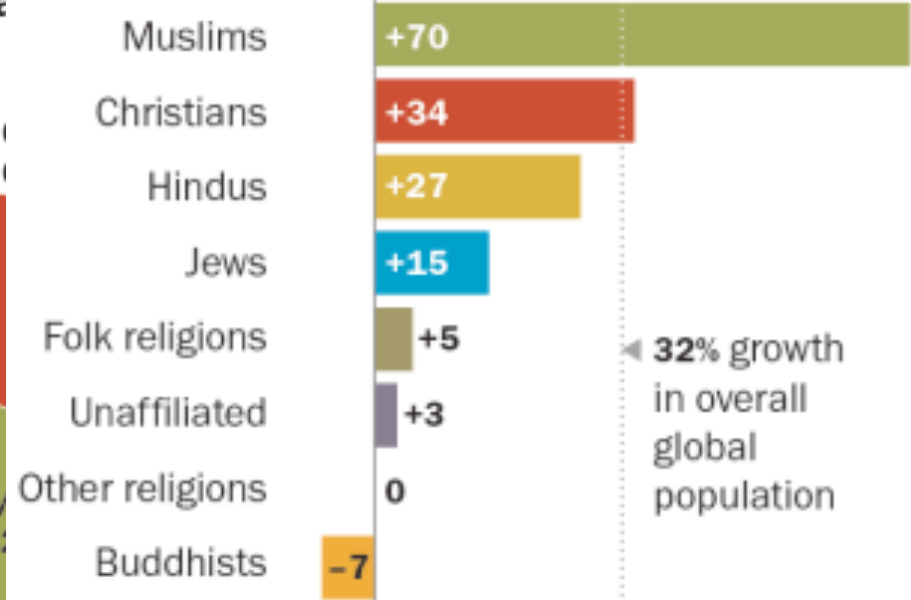


Source: Pew Research Center
"The Changing Global Religious Landscape"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Muslims projected to be fastest-growing major religious group

Estimated percent change in population size, 2015-2060



32% growth in overall global population

Source: Pew Research Center demographic projections. See Methodology for details.

"The Changing Global Religious Landscape"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

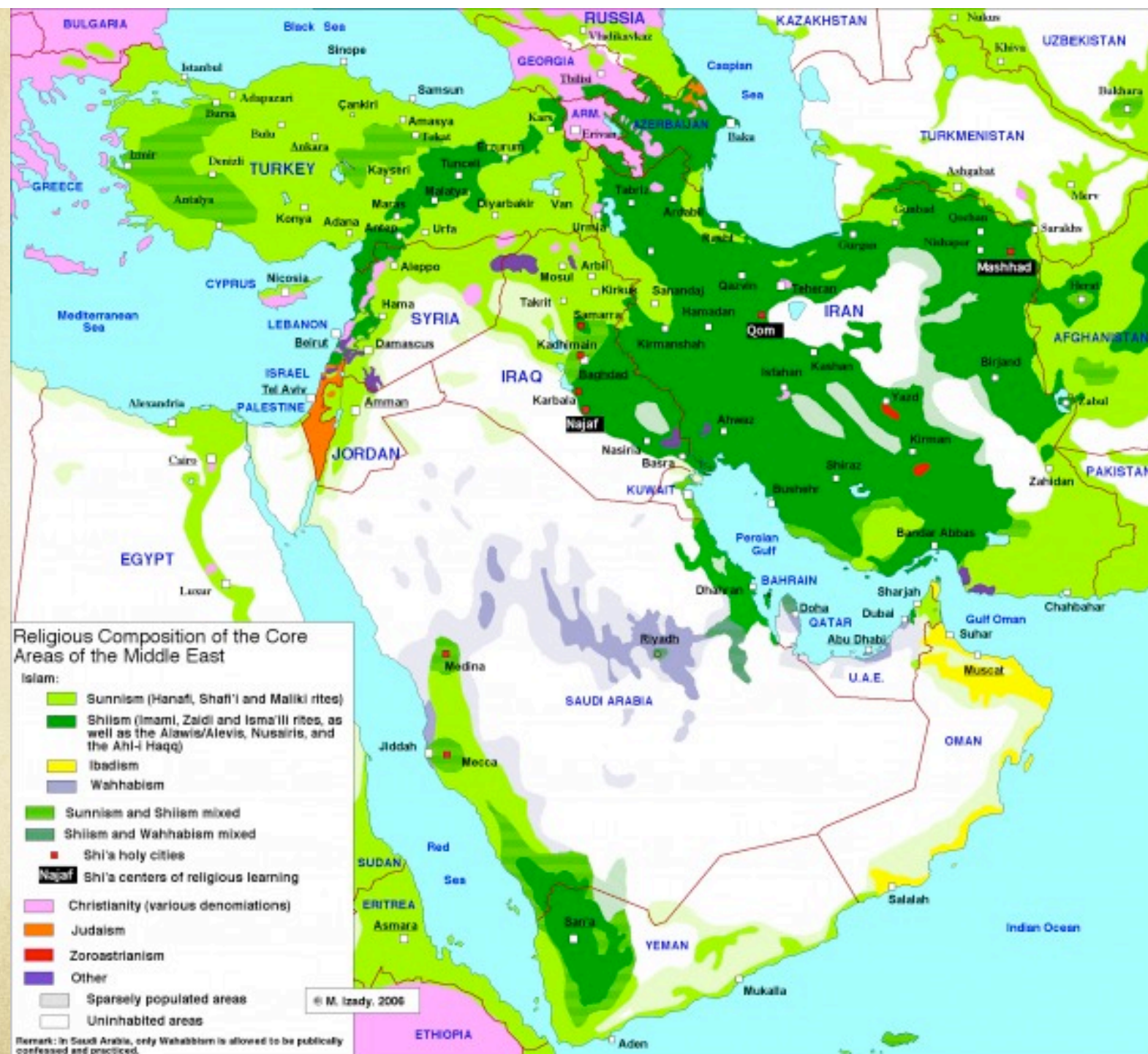
Religions of the WORLD

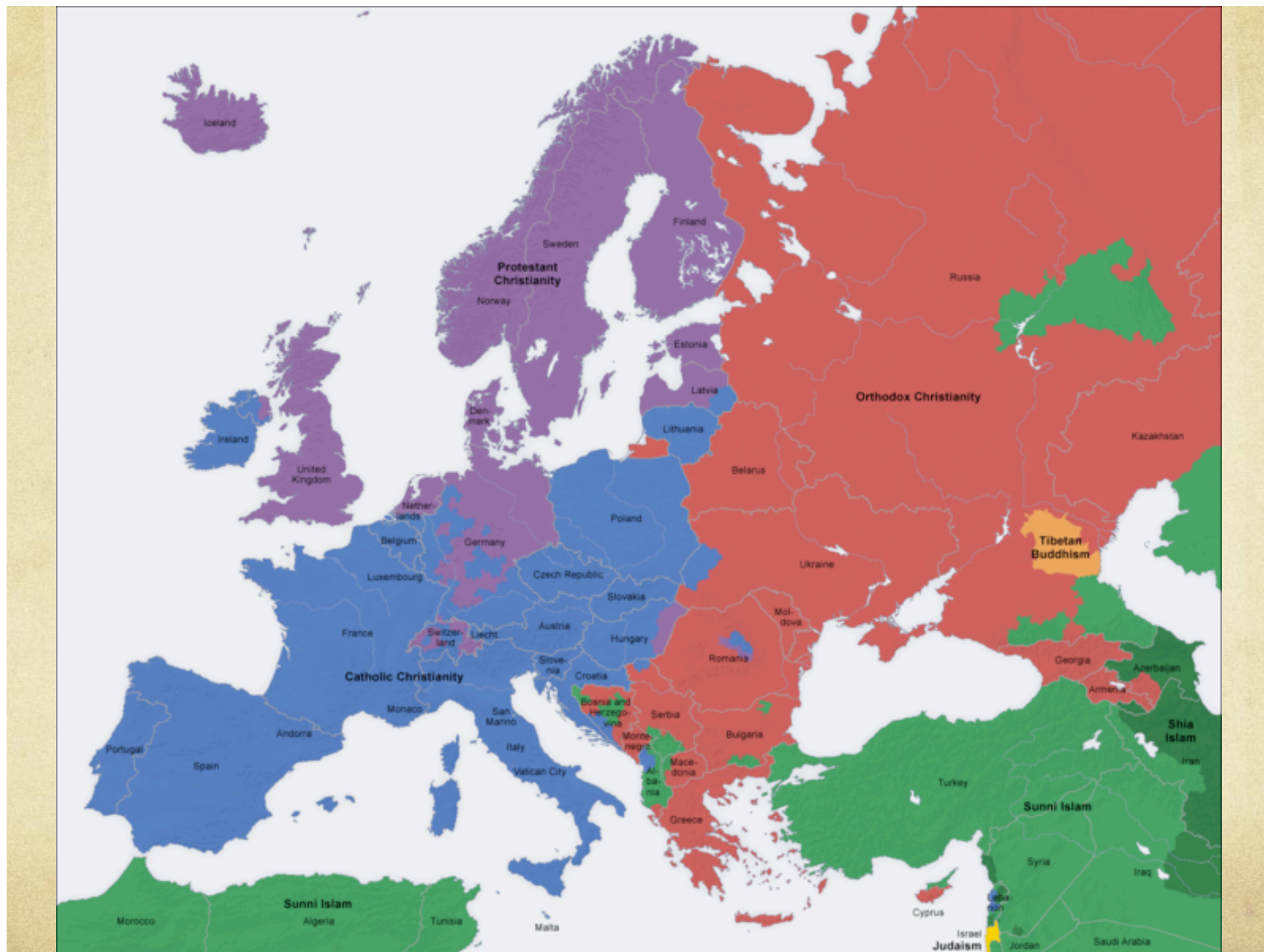
in billions



Map not to Scale

Copyright © 2006 Compare Infobase Limited





Secularization

- *Process through which societies become less religious as they become more modern*
- *Note: happens for some theories, but not all agree secularization happens regularly*
- Religion's role in society may change
 - *Differentiation from the state*
 - *Often more confined to private sphere*
 - *Privatization of religion/removal from public sphere*



Religion in Politics

- Secularist states
 - *States that establish a formal separation of religion and public life*
 - This includes, but is not always limited to, separation of church and state
 - Religion is typically conceptualized as an exclusively private matter
 - Ex.: Many countries in Europe, North America, and Asia.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fx50d_aqaUo

Religion in Politics

- Religious states
 - *States in which religion is a key part of official politics*
 - Ex.: Iran
 - May involve *established religions* that are granted official status and support by the state
 - Ex.: Costa Rica (Roman Catholic)
 - May have restrictions on religious minorities in some cases
 - Ex.: Saudi Arabia

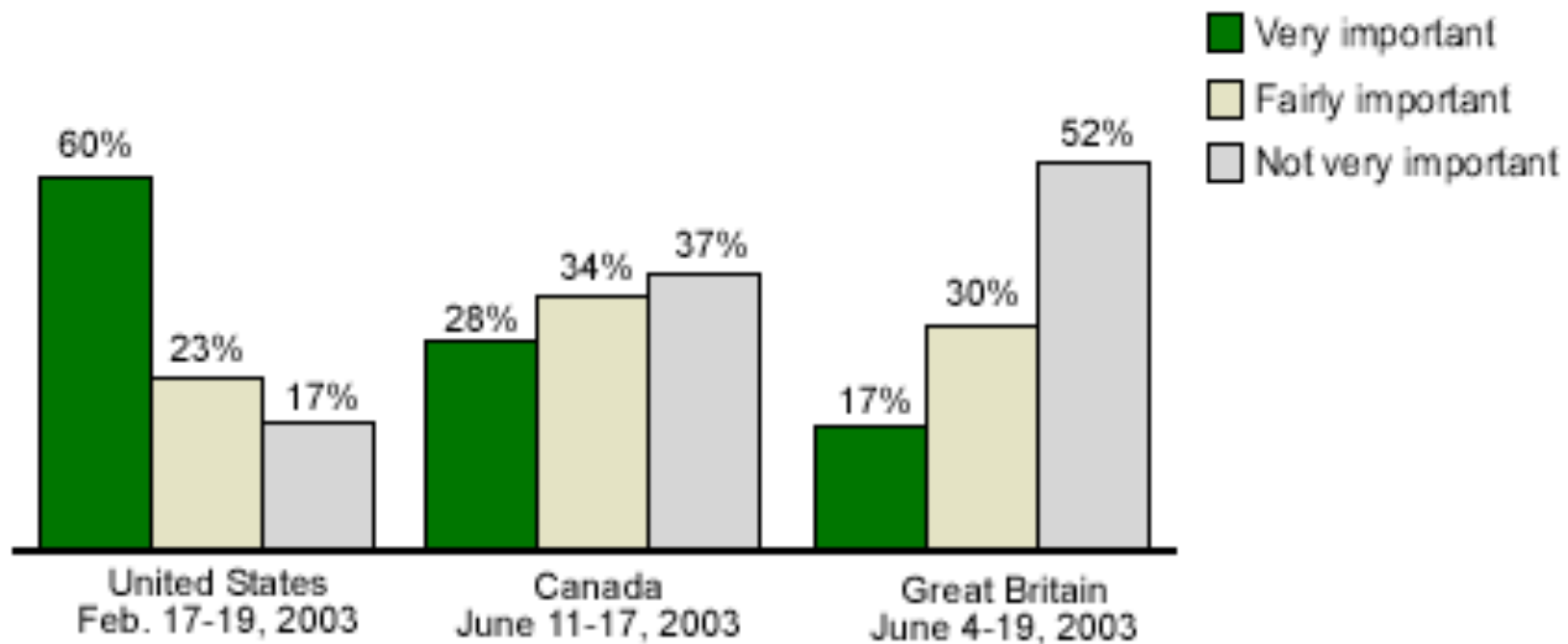
WHY DO RELIGION AND IDEOLOGY REMAIN PREVALENT IN MODERN POLITICS?

1. Modernization Theory and Secularization
2. Religious Economies Approach
3. Institutional Theories

Modernization and Religion in Politics

Importance of Religion in the U.S., Canada, and Great Britain

How important would you say religion is in your own life -- very important, fairly important, or not very important?



Modernization and Religion in Politics

Religious Economies Approach – Anthony Gill, 2008

- *Theory*: Demand for religion is constant and religiosity depends upon religious “market”
 - More competitive (plural) market for religion leads to more religiosity
 - Religions need to “compete” for adherents
 - Ex.: United States
 - Less competitive markets lead to less religiosity
 - “Monopolies” are not innovative
 - Ex.: modern Europe

Modernization and Religion in Politics

Institutional Theories

- The founding moment of the state is crucial!
- Kuru (2009) compares United States, France, and Turkey.
- The key feature is whether a single, dominant religion is closely linked to an authoritarian government before the establishment of modern statehood.

Religion – Eddie Izzard

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ope-1Zb5t-k>

Discussion

- What would be the best method for achieving more equality among different ethnicities within a country?
- What would be the best method to bridge the gender gap?
- How would you define modernity?
- Is religion compatible with your definition of modernity?
- Is Islam compatible with your definition of modernity?
- Are ideologies just like religions?

Revolution in Lampeter

- Get into two groups.
- Assume that quite a few of you are in favor of gender-neutral toilets at UWTSD Lampeter and you would like to do something about it.
- Lay out your “revolutionary plan”. How would you assemble a revolutionary student movement to address this issue?
- Take the four major theories of contention discussed into account.
 - Relative deprivation
 - Opportunities / resource mobilization
 - Rational choice
 - Cultural / framing
- What are some obstacles based on these theories ?

