

Interest Groups

How organised interests influence government.

Political Science

Channels and asymmetries.

Channels

Direct lobbying of officials

Campaign finance where permitted

Providing technical expertise

Public campaigning and media

Litigation to change policy

Asymmetries

Concentrated benefits mobilise easily

Diffuse costs mobilise poorly

Resources translate into access

Insiders shape the agenda before debate

Educational reference. The collective action problem explains why a small group with much at stake beats a large group with little.