



POLS 2301 Written Assignment: Bureaucracy, Weberian model, and Acquisitive model

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POLS 2301 Written Assignment: Bureaucracy, Weberian Model, and Acquisitive Model

The USA enjoys a strong governing structure that enhances both non-elected and elected members to accomplish common goals of providing services to the public. To explore further on the government structure, I choose bureaucracy, Weberian model, and Acquisitive model. I chose these terms because I am interested to learn and understand the significance of the common statement, “America has the largest bureaucracy in the world”. Besides, I am interested to understand the various types of bureaucracy that exist and their functionality as well as various sociological models that can help me to understand the bureaucracy in depth.

Three Subject Areas

Bureaucracy

Bureaucracy can be expressed as a complex administrative institution that has personnel responsible for accomplishing specific tasks in regards to laid programs and policies. For an individual to appreciate bureaucracy, he or she has to respond to the question, can we live in a society with order, if there lack regulations and rules? We cannot consist peacefully if there lack regulations and rules, which shows that bureaucracy has to be embraced for administration. Otherwise, the regulations and rules will be meaningless. Bureaucracies encompasses formal rules, job specialization, and principles of hierarchy regardless of whether they are private or public owned (Kratz & Waskiewicz, 2019). Therefore, Southwest Airlines, Walmart, Coca-Cola, Department of Homeland Security, Catholic Church, and Madison School District are bureaucracies. However, a person may be confused about the distinct features that differentiate

the private bureaucracies and the public bureaucracies. Private-owned bureaucracies are

answerable to senior authorities including shareholders, directors, and the owner while the latter answers to the public, courts, Congress, and president (Krutz & Waskiewicz, 2019). More so, privately owned bureaucracies focus on generating profits rather than providing services.

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Weberian Model

Bureaucracies involve humans who execute the tasks and have nothing to do with the technology or machines, which perhaps makes it challenging for people to appreciate the way **they work. To clarify this challenge, the social model involving the Weberian model is used to identify traits of the bureaucracy, which include formal procedures for governing, hierarchy structures, and political frameworks (Krutz & Waskiewicz, 2019; Montgomery & Langier, 2017). People may argue that Weberian bureaucracies are a dominant governing structure that has**

nothing to offer other than preserving patronage to favor the bureaucrats such as rewarding political loyalists with cabinet positions. However, the Weberian model highlights that the use of rationalities has enhanced bureaucracies to block patronage at the expense of promoting market-based systems (Kratz & Waskiewicz, 2019). Based on rational calculations, bureaucracies have reduced arbitrariness and redundancy through job specialization. For instance, President Obama proposed to reorganize the bureaucracies and consolidate six agencies into a department that was to be at the same level as the cabinet (Carrigan & Febrizio, 2018). The affected bureaucracies include the Commerce department apart from National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, Small Business Administration, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, Export-Import Bank, US Trade and Development Agency, and US Trade Representative. The objective of this reorganization was a rational approach for attrition of 1000-2000 jobs; focusing on the business needs; reducing duplication (Carrigan & Febrizio, 2018).

Acquisitive Model

On the other hand, a person may question the reasonableness of the Weberian model of bureaucracies in the era that bureaucracies are expanding their sovereignty and autonomy. For **this concern, the Acquisitive model of bureaucracy is considered to respond to the critical question. The Acquisitive model posits that bureaucrats are hungry for power and in nature, the bureaucracy itself exists as a form of power (Kratz & Waskiewicz, 2019; Montgomery &**

Laugier, 2017). Based on this nature, the bureaucrats leverage their power for the acquisition and growth of influence and power. The constant progressive quest of increasing budgets for senior government officials demonstrates the competitive nature of the bureaucrats.

Most importantly, the legislature in the USA has advocated for organizational measures to combat the invasive nature of the bureaucracies in their quest for more influence and responsibility. To achieve this, the legislature has created similar organizations to counter the targeted bureaucracies (Kratz & Waskiewicz, 2019). To counter the political control of the elected representatives and chief executive, the Government Accounting Office and Department of Homeland Security have been placed in overall structure respectively.

Contemporary Political Problem

The existing redistributive policies have been attributed to the challenges of failing to address income inequality. Economists have argued that consistent implementation of **redistributive policies can lessen the income disparity. The increasing healthcare costs are directly proportional to the increasing disparity in earnings (Waskiewicz, 2019). Despite that higher-income earners have experienced increased earnings compared to the low earners, there is a reflection of the increased benefits and compensation on the same approach. However, middle-class persons are exposed to the vulnerability of the rising health costs because their cost of health is larger than the compensation they receive (Waskiewicz, 2019). The rising healthcare**

costs in the USA have burgeoned government deficits and spending and slowed the growth of retirements and worker earnings.

Solution

To reduce the income disparity, policymakers should shift from focusing on redistributive policies because they have failed to address the prevailing income inequalities. The effective measure entails reducing the growth of the costs of healthcare. To accomplish this, the government should encourage employers to provide employees with insurance coverage that includes the sensitivity of consumers to costs (Warshawsky, 2016). The federal government should reduce the high tax treatment for insurance and spending on healthcare. Besides, the federal government should enforce strict ant-trust policies in this sector.

Conclusion

Bureaucracy is a complex organization that offers administrative services and involves humans who are responsible for executing the tasks. All bureaucracies share common characteristics including regulations and formal rules, specialized jobs, and a hierarchy approach **for members to be answerable to the top authority. Public-owned bureaucracies focus on service delivery to the people while private-owned bureaucracies focus on profits. The Weberian model explains the rational approach of bureaucracies to reduce their wastage, repetition of tasks, and attrition while the Acquisitive model explains the quest for expansion and more power in bureaucracies. Despite the consistent emphasis on the application of the redistributive policies,** these policies have failed to consider the effect of compensation given to earners on healthcare

costs. Future policies should reduce tax for spending in healthcare and insurances while enforcing anti-trust policies.

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