

# Politics and Animal Behavior

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Human beings take pride in their sentient nature. Unfortunately when engaged in life's most serious undertakings, thinking is dispensed with and decisions are made with the animal portion of the brain. This is all while professing the exact opposite.

How much thinking is used in making political decisions? Lets look at the evidence. When was the last time someone tried to change your mind with a well thought out intellectual argument? That is because politics is an animal brain activity. There actually is a huge reason for this. The popular notion is that government acts as an arbitrator of goodness and fairness. All people, even the brilliant and highly esteemed, are instinctively programmed to relate to government like a child relates to its parents. Mention this out loud and you will hear denial after denial. But it is true.

What is the purpose of government? The purpose of government doesn't matter. What matters is what government is used for 365 days a year 24 hours a day. Despite all of the lofty definitions and fancy explanations government is where people go to get what they want. When folks are doing nothing other than trying to get what they want, intellectual reasoning is a handicap. Communication in the political arena boils down to getting others to act now without thinking. That is accomplished by appealing to the animal brain, which registers phenomenon as good, bad, dangerous etc. so that an animal can react without thinking.

The last thing someone with a political agenda wants is for folks to do any serious thinking before making a decision. Notice with the immigration issue, what you get amounts to, "Illegals bad!" or "Immigrants just like us, seeking better life....." A thinking type argument might question, how many migrants around the globe are misplaced because U.S. inspired bombings and warfare? With respect to Mexico, we might ask, how much of that immigration results from the U.S. war on drugs keeping illegal drug prices high for the drug cartels? What are the chances the Deep State is sponsoring immigration to the U.S. because those poor folks make better customers in a modern country than they do in a third world nation?

Those kinds of questions are never asked because they have no utility when the goal is to “get what I want as fast and as efficiently as possible.” In times of crisis, this changes a little. Remember how after 911, how thoughtfulness caught on for a short period of time? The thinking never lasts. During the financial crisis of 2008 the population became thoughtful briefly. Politicians rightly figured that whatever they did would be completely forgotten by the time the election rolled around. They were absolutely right. After just a few months animal behavior had completely taken over again.

I believe we are on the cusp of another crisis. What will the reaction be? That depends on the level of suffering and which socioeconomics groups are most afflicted. When suffering continues long enough actual thinking can continue for years. Remember the Vietnam War era? That was a time when thousands of family members were being killed in an unpopular war. The average person had skin in the game.

When the next crisis occurs, my guess is that there will be perhaps a four to five month period where minds are open. What we know for sure is that the public is worth far more to the politically powerful when everyone is warm, entertained, comfortable and is completely oblivious as to how what goes on in Washington is effecting their lives.