

Third-Party System

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Subject: New political structures

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Terrill, Marshall, and Mary Beth Faller. "Would America Benefit from a Three-Party Political System?" ASU Now: Access, Excellence, Impact, ASU News, 6 Nov. 2017, [asunow.asu.edu/20171106-solutions-would-america-benefit-three-party-political-sy
stem](http://asunow.asu.edu/20171106-solutions-would-america-benefit-three-party-political-system).

Assessment:

One of the many factors of a changing government is changing parties. Throughout the history of the United States many political parties have risen and many have fallen but the two that remained were the Republican Party and the Democratic party. These parties have existed over a hundred years and many smaller parties were never able to rise and take control. The possibility of a third party sounds highly unlikely but could emerge in the right political conditions.

One factor of a third party is the political ideas that the party will support. This is a major concern when it comes to the purpose of a party. The major parties usually will support a political idea more than the other, so a third party may not even emerge due to the lack of necessity. Another factor to consider is loyalty to a party. Since the number of representatives and senators can not change, the bureaucrats in the new party have to come from the existing democratic party and republican party. The members who leave may be seen as unloyal and could potentially hurt their political reputations. Due to this dilemma of loyalty there will not be much support for the new party within congress. Additionally, If a third party does establish itself then there is the problem of power. If two dominant parties exist the third one is weak and can only gain small victories like city bureaucrat victories. If the third party is weak and can not pass any acts to support the ideas in which they stand for, the parties will become dormant.

Although there is a multitude of factors limiting the creation of a third party, there are multiple factors that indicate the rise of a third party. First, there is no law or policy limiting the implementation of a third-party system. The only factor that is missing is popular support for a third-party system and support can be demonstrated by voters. This is the primary reason why surveys need to be conducted to find what the current youth feels about a third party. When the youth is asked about their party affiliation they do not always know what party they support or they do not agree with the extreme interpretations of both parties. Since the existence of a grey area is possible it is worth the time to survey about this topic to prove the support of a third party. To add on the governments of other elite countries were able to successfully establish a third and fourth party in their own political systems. If the United States were to advocate the third party system by implementing some policies that Uk has in order to establish our own third party system.

Overall a third-party system is unlikely to be implemented in the United States due to stubbornness. The two-party system works and provides an adequate form of government and does provide a fair amount of representation. There also is the chance that a third-party system will be established but it can also quickly be removed.