

## Terms to Remember:

assembly &amp; association

interest group

advocacy

cooptation

private (economic) interest group

public (non-economic) interest group

lobbying

lobbyist

in-house lobbyist

legislative liaison

free rider

fragmentation

grassroots movement

voting cues

soft money

iron triangle

revolving door laws

## Questions:

1. Where is the freedom to associate and assemble with other individuals protected from government intrusion?
2. What is an iron triangle?
3. What is the purpose of a legislative liaison?
4. What is the difference between a public and a private interest group?
5. How do individuals advocate for a particular cause or policy agenda?
6. Is there a way to solve the free rider problem?
7. What are voting cues?

## Answers:

1. First Amendment protects this freedom
2. an iron triangle is a symbolic expression of the reality of governmental relationships between some interest group/lobbyists, some bureaucrats, and some legislators; members of these groups form tight relationships of symbiotic assistance that result in what many political scientists call sub-governments; they assist each other with policy objectives to the point where other voices are often ignored
3. a legislative liaison is a person employed by government to represent the organization before the legislature to accomplish policy goals
4. private groups seek benefits that favor a single interest most often in the private/for profit sector; public interest groups claim to seek the public good or a benefit that should accrue to all citizens, such as MAD or Mothers Against Drunk Drivers—seeking stiffer penalties for DUI violations and more education against DUI
5. advocacy takes many forms, some of these include simply speaking out on the issue, gathering with other like-minded individuals to increase numbers, writing letters or emails to petition the government, direct action like protests and boycotts, etc.
6. if the First Amendment protects the right to freely assemble with other like minded individuals then the government may not force individuals to assemble with any particular group against their wishes
7. voting cues are attempts to sway voters to a particular candidate or policy position; cues come from agents of political socialization and from interest groups, etc.