I. Untitled introduction: basic definitions
   A. Party coalitions: the socioeconomic groups that support a party
   B. Party realignments: significant and enduring changes in party coalitions usually (but not always) leading to a new majority party

II. The American party systems [Hershey defines the beginning of each party system by the year in which the new majority party coalition first took office; I use the election year in which the new party system first formed]
   A. The first party system (1788 - 1820) [it took until 1789 for 3/4ths of the states to ratify the newly proposed Constitution]
      1. Aligning issue: federalism (freedom v. order)
      2. Party positions
      3. Party balance
   B. Second party system (1824 - 1856)
      1. Dealigning issues:
         a. Nation-building (freedom v. order) – laissez-faire v. govt. subsidization of business
         b. Slavery/states' rights (freedom v. order) – freedom of slave owners v. union
      2. Party positions
      3. Party balance
   C. Third party system (1860 - 1892)
      1. Realigning issues: slavery/states' rights (freedom v. order) – freedom of slave owners v. union
      2. Party positions
      3. Party balance
   D. Fourth party system (1896 - 1928)
      1. Realigning issues: monetary, foreign trade, and immigration policies (freedom v. order)
      2. Party positions
      3. Party balance
   E. Fifth party system (1932 - 1964)
      1. Realigning issue: government regulation of the economy & public welfare (freedom v. equality) – 1st era in which freedom v. equality was the major realigning issue
      2. Party positions
      3. Party balance
   F. Sixth party system (1968 - 2004)
      1. Dealigning (wedge) issues that do no align with each other: (a mix of both freedom v. order & freedom v. equality issues)
         a. 1960s: Vietnam, civil rights, public order
         b. 1970s: Watergate, energy crisis, affirmative action
         c. 1980s: Iran-Contra, public education, family values
         d. 1990s: Zipper-gate, fall of Soviet Union, health care, social security
         e. Early 2000s: terrorism & war in Iraq, tax cuts & budget deficits, globalization & job outsourcing, gay & lesbian rights
      2. Party positions
      3. Party balance

III. The social bases of party coalitions [Table 7.2, p. 124]
   A. Socioeconomic status divisions
      1. Compared to European democracies
      2. Pragmatic v. ideological appeals
   B. Sectional divisions
      1. Tidewater v. interior
      2. East v. West & South
      3. South v. non-South
      4. Rust/frost/snow belt v. Sunbelt
      5. Rocky Mountains, Plains, & South v. Northeast, Midwest, & West Coast
   C. Religious divisions
1. Denominational affiliation
   a. Democratic leaning: seculars, Jews, black Protestants
   b. Centrists: Catholics
   c. Republican leaning: mainstream white Protestants and evangelical white Protestants (moderates, fundamentalists, & Pentecostals)

2. Religiosity (frequency of attendance at religious services)

D. Racial divisions
   1. 1860s - 1930s
   2. 1930s - 1960s
   3. 1960s - present

E. Ethnic divisions
   1. Native Americans
   2. Anglo-Saxons
   3. Irish
   4. Asians
   5. Southern & Eastern Europeans
   6. Latinos (largest minority group but also quite diverse)

F. Gender divisions in voting
   1. 1920s - 1950s: women most likely to vote the same as their fathers or husbands
   2. 1950s - 1970s: women more likely than men to vote Republican
   3. 1970s - present: women more likely than men to vote Democratic

IV. Issues are central to the parties’ coalitions

A. One-dimensional: SES v. non-SES
B. Two-dimensional:

C. Reinforcing v. cross-cutting (wedge) issues

V. The development of the sixth [seventh] party system

A. Major changes in the parties’ supporting coalitions
   1. Ideology
   2. Race
   3. Class (income, education, occupation)
   4. Region & place of residence (urban/suburban/rural)
   5. Religion
   6. Gender/marital status

B. How can we characterize these changes: realignment, dealignment, or what?
   1. Realigned coalitions have led to parity
   2. Divided control of government

C. Problems with the idea of realignment