

POLICY PROJECTS

Students in Public Policy Methods complete policy analyses on randomly assigned issues. Over the course of the semester, they do memorandum exercises intended to help them apply concepts introduced in [Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice](#) to their issues. Near the end of the semester, each student submits a fifteen page policy analysis (exclusive of an executive summary and an *unlimited* number of pages of appendices) to me and to one other student. The other student writes a collegial critique and I prepare a more comprehensive evaluation following a [template](#) that helps me cover important points systematically.

Projects for 1993 randomly assigned from the following list:

Does the Indian Regulatory Gaming Act of 1988 provide an adequate framework for regulating gambling offered by tribes? Client: Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior

Recent studies suggest that many birth defects of the central nervous system could be avoided if susceptible women consumed more folic acid prior to pregnancy. Should the federal government require that folic acid be added to some staple food? Client: Surgeon General, Department of Health and Human Services

Since the federal government introduced provisions for the seizure of property related to certain crimes under the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, many states have adopted similar forfeiture laws. Should the New York State forfeiture law be altered to better protect the rights of innocent people? Client: Director of Criminal Justice, Office of the Governor

What mental health benefits, if any, should be included in the basic health insurance package proposed as part of the Clinton administration's health care reform? Client: Ira Magaziner, Senior Advisor to the President for Policy Development

In 1992 the Department of Agriculture recommended that poultry be routinely irradiated to reduce the health risks of bacterial infection. The proposal was rejected. Reconsider the recommendation. Client: Secretary, Department of Agriculture

How should the fees charged for grazing on federal land be set? Client: Secretary, Department of the Interior

Should New York State adopt laws similar to those in Minnesota that allow students to attend public schools in districts other than the ones in which they live? Client: New York State Board of Regents

What dental benefits, if any, should be included in the basic health insurance package proposed as part of the Clinton administration's health care reform? Client: Ira Magaziner, Senior Advisor to the President for Policy Development

Evaluate the Department of Agriculture's regulation of the lemon industry (Marketing Order 910). Client: Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Review the Food and Drug Administration's regulation of the direct advertising of prescription drugs to consumers. Client: Chair, Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources

Evaluate import quotas and related federal programs affecting the domestic sugar market. Client: Chair, House Committee on Agriculture

Should New York State prohibit the use of sex as a rating factor in automobile insurance? Client: New York State Superintendent of Insurance

Should the federal government regulate the disposal of the batteries used in flashlights, radios, and other consumer products? Client: Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency

A disproportionate number of children in foster care in New York State are black. Should the state revise its policy of discouraging adoption of black children by white parents? Client: Commissioner, New York State Department of Social Services

New York State often provides grants to local jurisdictions to help fund the construction of sports stadiums. What guidelines should be used in deciding which such grants are appropriate? Client: Commissioner, New York State Department of Economic Development

Should New York State eliminate or restrict awards for "pain and suffering" in tort cases? Client: Governor's Office

Should New York State encourage, discourage, or ignore local restrictions on the use of plastic containers by the "fast food" industry? Client: Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation