

EDU 5420 – Politics in Education  
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In this course, we were introduced to politics and the role it plays in the educational system. Deborah Stone's political paradox was heavily discussed. It seemed that every time a solution was arrived at, some other force caused it to be a problem, thus the political paradox. Deborah Stone magnificently weaves the paradox all through her text and Dr. Smith constantly referred us back to it. We were focused and refocused on this fact throughout our time together. A political paradox occurs when the community, students, unions, and other interested parties come with views that are different and all stating that their view is the one that is good for children. These so called common views help us to understand that there is no "one answer" that is correct, but instead answers that is based on the politics of the situation.

In the end, perceptions are formed by interests whether they are individual or societal in nature. The interests and stakes of the parties define the definition of the problem. The paradox continues.