

NEWS

for Teachers of
Political Science

A Publication of the American Political Science Assoc.

Fall, 1981

No. 31

In this issue . . .

- Journals that Survey State Supreme Court Decisions, p. 1
- Organization Theory and Existentialism, p. 1
- The Canadian Confederation—A Film Review, p. 2
- Studying the Professions, p. 3
- American Gov't. Texts, A Survey, p. 9
- College Research Services, p. 8
- Rights and Citizenship—An Ethical Issues Paper, p. 12

NEWS, for Teachers of Political Science is published quarterly and distributed free of charge to all APSA members and department chairpersons. Non-member faculty may subscribe for \$5 per year. The next issue of the NEWS will appear Winter 1981. All correspondence to the NEWS should be addressed to:

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Washington, D.C. 20036

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State Supreme Courts and Public Policy: A Bibliography

by G. Alan Tarr, Rutgers University, Camden

During the past decade political scientists have become increasingly aware that state supreme courts make major contributions to public policy. Various highly publicized decisions concerning, for example, school finance, the termination of life support systems, and plea bargaining have underlined the importance of state supreme court policymaking.¹ Historical studies have documented that this policy involvement is not merely a recent phenomenon.² However, the Burger Court's new federalism has invited state supreme courts to play a more active role, and many courts have availed themselves of this opportunity.³

Yet despite the obvious importance of state supreme court activity, research on their policymaking has lagged. In part this can be attributed to the sheer volume of cases they annually decide. Numerous law journals assist the political scientist in overcoming this difficulty by publishing annual surveys of state supreme court decisions. Listed below are journals which provide such surveys.

STATE	JOURNAL	ARTICLE
Alabama	<i>Alabama Law Review</i>	Annual Survey of Developments in Alabama Law
Arizona	<i>Arizona Law Review</i>	Arizona Appellate Decisions
California	<i>California Law Review</i>	The Supreme Court of California
California	<i>Golden Gate Law Review</i>	Women and California Law
California	<i>Pepperdine Law Review</i>	Compendium of Major California Juvenile Law Decisions
Florida	<i>University of Miami Law Review</i>	Developments in Florida Law
Georgia	<i>Georgia Law Review</i>	Developments in Georgia Law (Different Topic Selected Annually)
Georgia	<i>Mercer Law Review</i>	Annual Survey of Georgia Law
Hawaii	<i>University of Hawaii Law Review</i>	Hawaii Supreme Court Cases
Idaho	<i>Idaho Law Review</i>	Survey of Developments in Idaho Law
Illinois	<i>DePaul Law Review</i>	Developments in Illinois Law
Indiana	<i>Indiana Law Review</i>	Survey of Recent Developments in Indiana Law
Kentucky	<i>Kentucky Law Review</i>	Kentucky Law Survey
Louisiana	<i>Louisiana Law Review</i>	The Work of the Louisiana Appellate Courts
Maryland	<i>Maryland Law Review</i>	Survey of Maryland Court of Appeals Decisions
Michigan	<i>Wayne Law Review</i>	Annual Survey of Michigan Law
Mississippi	<i>Mississippi Law Journal</i>	Mississippi Supreme Court Review
Missouri	<i>University of Missouri-Kansas City Law Review</i>	Recent Developments in Missouri
Montana	<i>Montana Law Review</i>	Montana Supreme Court Survey
Nebraska	<i>Creighton Law Review</i>	Annual Survey of Nebraska Law

(continued on p. 3)

Existentialism and Organization Theory

by Yearn H. Choi
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The field of organization theory includes the individual human being, small group, human institution, and entire social system. Existential writings are concerned with individual morality, authenticity, human self-actualization and at the same time with cognitive and intellectual variables which are relevant to human growth. Existentialism provides some very useful insight to the conventional organization theory. Existential literature explores the shrinking of consciousness, the blocking off of awareness, and feelings of depersonalization and apathy. Students express their discontent to the depersonalizing effects of the modern organization, society and bureaucratic world of their lives, and their community. Public administrators face scientific management on points where the nature of the matter is not rational. If help is to be found, it may very well come from poets and writers who often deal with the limits of rational certainty.

The poet confronts uncertainty by taking the leap of judgement, beyond facts and logic. We are reminded that such leaps are possible and necessary, and that courage stands next to intelligence as an irreducible ingredient in the decision-making process. Humanities have much to offer public administration and literature with existential themes noting the irrationality of modern life (and its causes) is important to study. Technological society, automation, modern war, nuclear holocaust, and excessive individualism, produce constantly lost utopia. Social science literature helps us to understand this lost utopia, but is not as powerful as Kafka's *The Castle* and *The Trial*.

Career public administrators have found a humanist's stance toward the organization theory beneficial. One letter from a city planner and student

(continued on p. 2)