

I Territory

A. Defining Political Geography

1. Political geography is the study of human political organization of the Earth at various geographic levels.

2. Scholars study political geography at three scales

a) supranational scale: UN: has many nations

b) the national/country scale: How a country's government is organized

c) sub-national (local) scale: Boundaries of voting districts.

3. Political geographers also study the changing the role of the country in the world's political affairs.

B Human Territorially

1. Territoriality is creating ownership over a defined space.

2. Territoriality can apply to your bedroom or an entire country and often evokes an emotional response.

Ex) Iraq invading Kuwait, Germany invading Poland.

C. Personal Space

1. Territoriality also applies to the geography of personal space.

2. Personal Space is the area we claim as our own territory into which others may not enter w/o permission.

Ex) Around your desk like a bubble.

3. How much space is considered "personal" often varies with time & place.

a) People in small towns usually have bigger bubbles than people living in

NYC (Big Cities) b/c they haven't dealt with subways & crowded streets.

D. Sovereignty

1 Sovereignty is the internationally recognized control a place has over the people and territory within its boundaries.

a) 200 countries on Earth

b) The sovereignty of Taiwan has been disputed by China, as was
Kurdistan by Iraq.