

Behavioural approach

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* The Chicago School has taken a lead in

applying the disciplines of sociology, anthropology and psychology as tools for examining changing social structures and distribution of power.

* Harold D Lasswell, Simon Neumann, Amitai and Eva Etzioni and P.E Corbett are the chief exponents of this theory.

* In 1908, Abraham Wallas published his book entitled 'Human Nature in politics'

* In the same year, Arthur Bentley in his book entitled 'The process of government' stressed on the study of the roles of pressure groups, parties, elections and public opinion in political process.

* The main features of behavioural approach are -

- (1) The behavioural approach attempts to study all phenomena about politics in terms of observed all observable behaviour of man.
- (2) It generates and tests verifiable scientific explanations about the political phenomena.
- (3) It emphasises quantification and operational definition.
- (4) Flowing from the above is another procedural commitment of the behaviouralists. The behavioural approach assumes natural sciences as its ideal and rejects the methods of the humanities.
- (5) It scrupulously keeps out normative or value statements and even attempts to eliminate the influence of personal values.