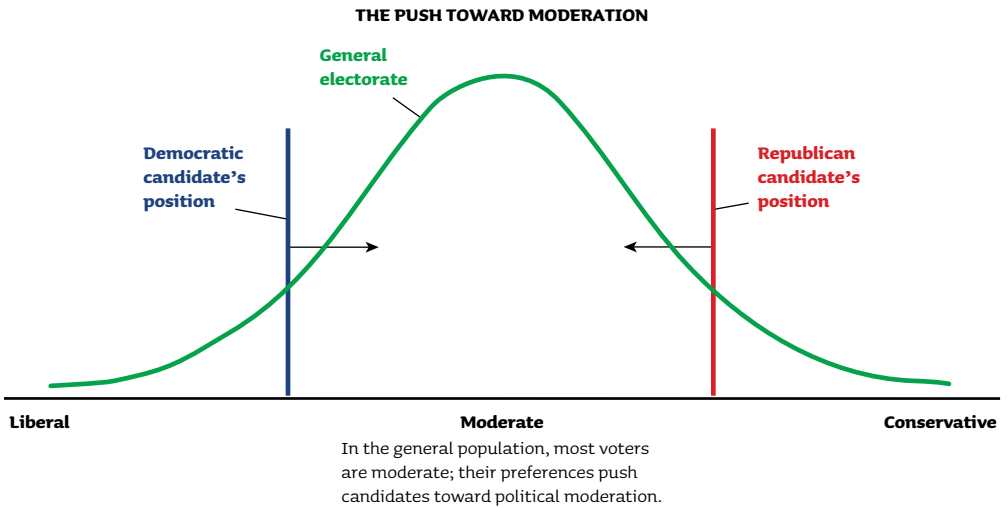
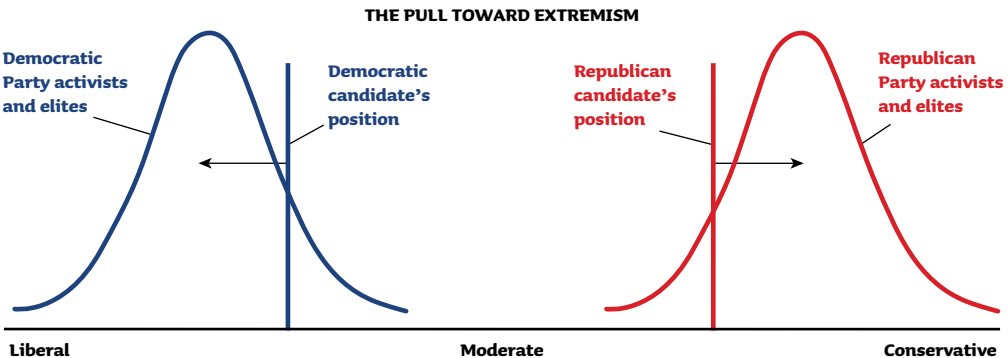
FIGURE 12.4 EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL FORCES ON THE PARTIES



In the general population, most voters are moderate; their preferences push candidates toward political moderation.



Democratic primary voters, party elites, and contributors are liberal, drawing Democratic candidates toward liberal positions.

Republican primary voters, party elites, and contributors are conservative, pulling Republican candidates toward conservative positions.