**Chapter 5**

***A Novel Approach to Politics: Introducing Political Science through Books, Movies, and Popular Culture***

**Class Activities:**

Activity: Political Institutions

Learning Objective(s):

Students will be able to describe the role of human nature in the construction of political institutions

Students will understand the real challenges facing political institutions

Materials needed: Whiteboard and dry-erase markers

Class Size: Ideal small breakout discussion groups or an individual assignment

The students should choose and research one political institution (legislature, judiciary, presidency, direct democracy, etc.). The focus of their research should be centered on one large event that took place in that institution. An event that change the institutions nature. For example, direct democracy and the use of Prop. 13 in California. There can be many examples of events that have significantly changed the institutions nature, however, to limit the time, students should generally focus on one.