

The Whip in the House: Rituals of Social Control in Parliament.

This paper will attempt a comparison of the role of the Chief Whip or its equivalent in Caribbean, English and Canadian Parliamentary systems of government. Although this office originated with the need to 'whip in' members of parliament from wherever they might be to save a crucial vote in a divided house (According to Gladstone, 1927), the office has since acquired the connotations of the disciplinarian who whips members into the party line. The paper will explore the extent to which the role of the whip differs from country to country and the implications of such differences for theories of power and social control.

Proposed by

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