Use of stories to frame policy problems?

- Story of decline
- Stymied progress story
- Change is only an illusion
- Helplessness and control
- Conspiracy
- Blame the victim
Use of metaphor?

- Organisms (natural)
- Machines (in order)
- Inclines (slippery slope)
- Containers (fixed space)
- Wars (invasion, campaign)
- Diseases (spreading, infecting, epidemics, breeding ground, healthy, blight, dying)
Theories of cause?

- Mechanical (unguided, intended) – machines work but harm, brainwashed people
- Accidental (unguided, unintended) – nature, weather, machines run amok
- Intentional (purposeful, intended) – oppression, conspiracies that work
- Inadvertent (purposeful, unintended) – unforeseen side effects, carelessness
Concepts of interests – “sides”?

- Good and weak vs strong and bad
- Objective vs subjective interests
- Mobilization of groups around interests – concentrated or diffused costs and benefits
What about making decisions?

- Cost-benefit analysis
- Risk-benefit analysis
- Decision analysis
- Hobson’s choice
- Rational analysis as a form of dramatic story, a persuasive appeal
- Contrast of rational-analytical model and polis model for decision analysis strategies
  - Precise, static goals vs ambiguous, shifting goals
  - Consider and clearly define all alternatives and their costs and benefits vs selective, preferred, doable *and* unclear alternatives that support your case
  - Maximize total welfare vs minimize harm to powerful constituents