Core/Periphery States

Political/Econ. Geography
What is the core-periphery?

• Uneven spatial distribution of economic, political and cultural power
Core-Periphery Model

- **Core States**
  - Have most power
  - Developed/Industrialized
  - Econ./Financially stable
  - Periphery provide labor
    & take jobs people in
    core states don’t want

- **Periphery States**
  - Poorer states
  - Less developed
  - Get support from
    core states
  - Many immigrate
to core states for
a better life
Continue…

• States can be core (i.e. USA, Japan), semi-periphery (Chile) or periphery (Haiti, most states in Africa, etc.)

• **Semi-periphery**: newly industrialized states with median standards of living; often offer citizens diverse economic opportunities but extreme gaps between rich and poor i.e. Brazil, India, Indonesia
What is the World-Systems Theory?

- **World-Systems Theory**: developed by Immanuel Wallerstein that explains the emergence of a core, semi-periphery, periphery in terms of economic and political connections first established at the beginning of exploration in the late 15th century and maintained through increased economic access up until the present.
What is the core area/region?

- In **economic geography** a “core region” is the national or world districts of concentrated economic power, wealth, innovation and advanced technology.
- In **political geography** the heartland (nucleus/center) of a state containing its most developed area, greatest wealth, densest population and clearest national identity (this decreases as you move into the periphery area away from the core).
Examples continue...

• England as a core state has a relatively high standard of living and contains one of the great world cities (connected in global finance and commerce with other cities) in London

• Primate Cities: rank atop the urban hierarchy and dominates the urban concentration within a state; usually political and financial heart Ex. London, Mexico City, Seoul, Paris, Luanda, etc…
Examples...

- In Western USA the **core** of the Mormon culture region is in Salt Lake City-Provo metro area (Wasatch Front) where the highest concentration of Mormons live; eastern Nevada, Wyoming, Northern Arizona, etc. compose the **peripheral** Mormon cultural region.
What is the Brandt Line/North-South Line?

- Created out of the 1980 Brandt Report

Areas north of the line are the core/developed states, those south are developing or lesser developed states.