

Public Policy Overview

Definition

- A plan of action, adopted by government, to solve a problem or reach a goal.
- Example

Problem: Many students have had books and belongings stolen from their school lockers.

Goal: To reduce the amount of stealing from school lockers.

Policy: School officials issue locks for all students for their lockers.

Characteristics (What “good” looks like)

- Clearly stated
- Enforceable
- Fair
- Reasonable

Goals

- Protect basic human rights
- Promote fairness
- Help resolve conflicts
- Promote order and stability
- Promote desirable social behaviors
- Represent the will of the majority
- Protect the rights of minorities