

Humphrey School of Public Affairs

American Politics R Rated: D.C. Deadlock Meets Campaign Marathon

Critical choices face voters and policy makers in Washington, D.C. as they sift through the presidential candidates. Political deadlock in Washington and marathon campaigning may result. **Norm Ornstein** (<http://www.aei.org/scholar/norman-j-ornstein/>), one of the nation's leading political analysts, will sort out what may become one of the country's most eventful years in American politics.



NORMAN ORNSTEIN ([HTTP://WWW.AEI.ORG/SCHOLAR/NORMAN-J-ORNSTEIN/](http://www.aei.org/scholar/norman-j-ornstein/))

Norman Ornstein is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. He also serves as an election analyst for CBS News and writes a weekly column called "Congress Inside Out" for *Roll Call* newspaper. He has written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, and other major publications, and regularly appears on television programs like *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*, *Nightline*, and *Charlie Rose*. He serves as senior counselor to the Continuity of Government Commission, working to ensure that our institutions of government can be maintained in the event of a terrorist attack on Washington; his efforts in this area are recounted in a profile of him in the June 2003 *Atlantic Monthly*.

Ornstein's campaign finance working group of scholars and practitioners helped shape the major law, known as McCain/Feingold, that reformed the campaign financing system. *Legal Times* referred to him as "a principal drafter of the law" and his role in its design and enactment was profiled in the February 2004 issue of *Washington Lawyer*. He is also co-directing a multi-year effort, called the Transition to Governing Project, to create a better climate for governing in the era of the

permanent campaign. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and the Campaign Legal Center and of the Board of Trustees of the U.S. Capitol Historical Society. He was elected as a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2004. His many books include *The Permanent Campaign and Its Future*; *Intensive Care: How Congress Shapes Health Policy*, both with Thomas E. Mann; and *Debt and Taxes: How America Got Into Its Budget Mess and What to Do About It*, with John H. Makin. *The Broken Branch: How Congress Is Failing America and What Can Be Done about It*, co-authored by Thomas E. Mann, is published by Oxford University Press.

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4:30 PM to 5:45 PM

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