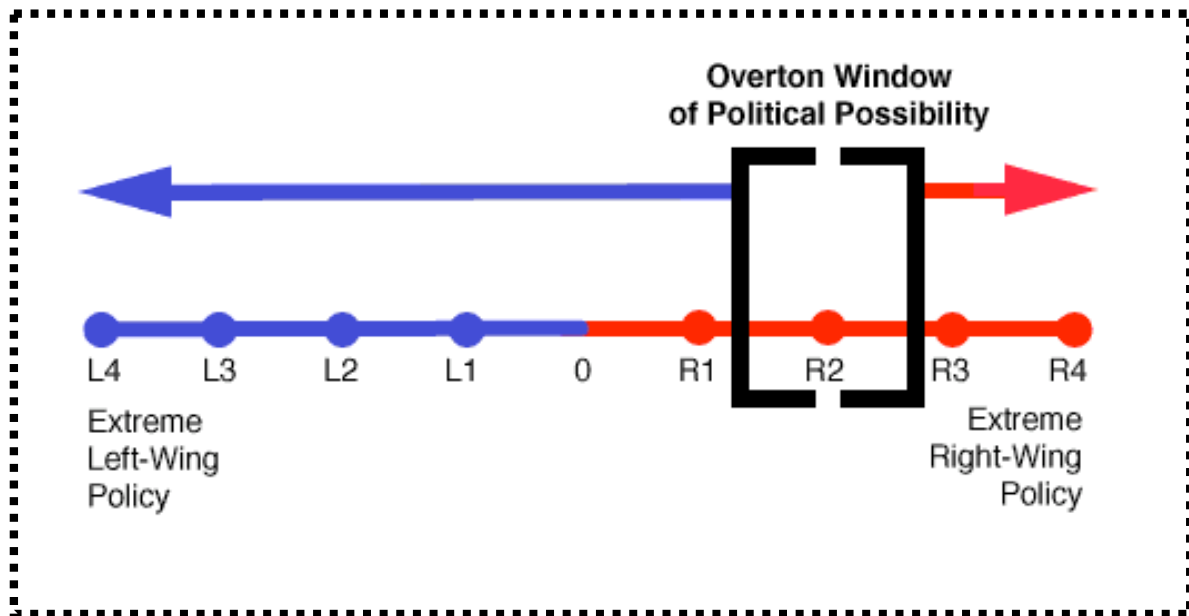


# THE OVERTON WINDOW

## Understanding Social and Political Change

The image below is a graphic representation of a political spectrum.

- There is, or there should be, a constant tug-of-war on the edges of the Overton Window on any issue. However . . .
- Relative to the rest of the developed world, the Overton Window in our country has been moving to the Right for several decades.
- What used to be considered “moderate” or “mainstream” in our country several decades ago is now viewed as Left Wing.
- By what mechanism(s) did the Overton Window move toward the Right?



The degrees of acceptance of public ideas can be described roughly as moving from:

**Unthinkable → Radical → Acceptable → Sensible → Popular → Policy**