

## **Unpacking the Tactic of Shutting Down the Government**

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The author writes, "To more accurately weigh this question, it is imperative to step away from partisan language [...and ...] To wade through heavy partisanship, these two shutdowns must be compared by their objective facts." Do you agree with this? Is it possible to assess the issue free from partisan language? Is there any objective way to address the question?

The author uses public approval data to critique government shutdowns. Do you think the strategy is effective? Do public approval ratings tell us anything significant? Why or why not?

It is argued that the government has a basic obligation to provide for the welfare of its citizens. What does this mean? How does the government go about providing for its citizens welfare? Is there any way to see the past two government shutdowns as improving or defending citizens' welfare?

Do you think the government shutdown of 2018-2019 was ethical? Why or why not?



