

## Roots of Democracy



## Democracy is . .

- A system of government in which citizens:
- Vote for their leaders
- Have specific rights and responsibilities

## Greece: Democracy

(dēmokratía)

"rule of the people"

- (dēmos)  
"people"
- (krátos)  
"power"



## Democracy came from many sources:



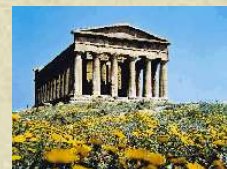
## The ancient Greeks :

- ❏ In Athens, citizens voting for their leaders became common
- ❏ "Civic virtue" became important to many philosophers.



## The ancient Romans :

- ❏ Developed the "rule of law" common to all citizens throughout the empire
- ❏ Developed advanced forms of representative government, before evolving in to a dictatorship.



## The Bible:

- ❏ Hebrew prophets developed the idea of all people being equal, created in the image of God.
- ❏ The idea caring for the weaker members of society.



## The Magna Carta (chap 2 vocab)



- ❏ British Document
- ❏ King John forced to recognize his power was limited by the Barons
- ❏ First step toward limited government

## English Bill of Rights (chap 2 vocab)

- ❏ Made Parliament stronger than King or Queen
- ❏ Protected rights to trial by jury
- ❏ Outlawed cruel and unusual punishment



*Individual Rights*

## Mayflower Compact (chap 2 vocab)

- ❏ Pilgrims signed it
- ❏ Agreed to follow all laws made by elected leaders



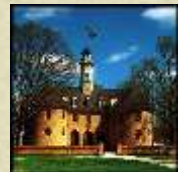
## Fundamental Orders of Connecticut (chap 2 vocab)

- ❏ Limited powers of colony government
- ❏ Powers not given to colony given to towns
- ❏ Similar to federalism



## House of Burgesses (chap 2 vocab)

- ❏ Founded at Jamestown in 1619
- ❏ First representative body in the English colonies
- ❏ Served as a model for other colonies



# SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY



- John Locke was an English philosopher during the late 1680s.
- He wrote several books on how people should be governed.
- His ideas influenced Thomas Jefferson.

▪ The power of government comes from the people.... We give the government certain powers to force people to do things for the common good of the community..... If the government does not reflect the will of the people, then the people can change it.....

# SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY

## John Locke

## Declaration of Independence

### Authority of Government

A government's power comes from the consent of the people.

The people have the right to abolish an oppressive government and establish a new one.

### Natural Rights

All people are born free and equal with natural rights to life, liberty and property

All men are endowed with certain unalienable rights among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

### Purpose of Government

To preserve himself, his liberty and property

To secure these rights

### Limited Government

Government of laws not man

History of the present King of England is repeated injuries

### Equality

Men being by nature all free, equal and independent

All men are created equal

## The Colonial Background



- Separatists were dissatisfied with the Church of England and sought a place where they could practice their religious beliefs.
- The compact they formed set forth the idea of consent of the governed.
- Most governmental actions that affected the people were made within the colony.
- Each colony was separate with its own decision-making government.

## British Restrictions and Colonial Grievances

- In 1763 the British Parliament began to pass laws that treated the colonies as a unit. The major reason for these laws was to raise revenue to help pay off the war debt incurred during the French and Indian Wars (1756-1763).

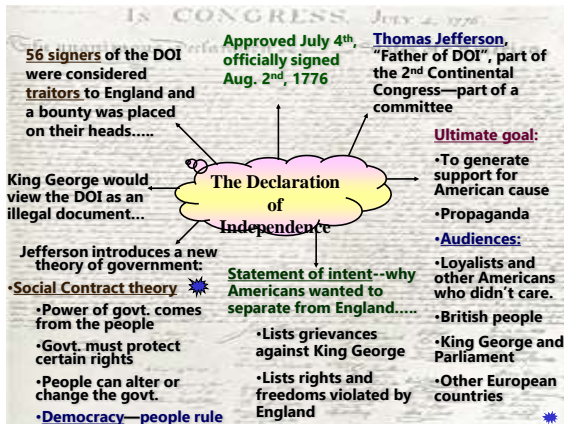
## First Continental Congress

- The focus was to restore the political structure that was in existence before the passage of legislation affecting the internal operations of each colony by Parliament.
- Had the Crown and Parliament relented on many of their demands it is possible the Declaration of Independence would never have been issued.

## Second Continental Congress

- Established an army.
- Made Washington the general in chief and pursued the Revolutionary War.





## DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

• Explain to the world why separation from England was necessary

• **New theory of government (democracy—people rule)**

• **27 grievances listed against King George**

• **Declaration of War**

• **We became the United States of America**

## DOWNFALL OF KING GEORGE



King George's statue is torn down by Patriots in New York City after the Declaration of Independence is signed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress



### "All Men Created Equal"

• New England states are the first to abolish slavery after the Revolution.

• Middle States would abolish later....

• In 1791, the Quakers formed first Anti-Slavery Society and Underground Railroad

• Southern States would expand slavery after the invention of the cotton gin.

• As country expands, North and South would compromise over the issue of slavery.....

## "All Men Created Equal"



• Mason Dixon Line set the precedent over dividing the country over slavery.

• **Ohio River would be the dividing boundary between North and South.**




WMA 21 yrs. old, educated and property owner.....

Several states would drop property qualifications and education.....




## WOMEN'S RIGHTS



• Abigail Adams—1790's to early 1800's

**Republican motherhood**

- Concept that a woman's role was to stay at home and raise the next generation of **PATRIOTS**.
- This was a role to be proud of because a woman's responsibility was to teach and raise their children in **REPUBLICANISM**.



• Supported the abolition of slavery

• Republican motherhood

• Despite their contributions, women's rights did not progress and would remain 2<sup>nd</sup> class citizens

## REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY



• Also referred to as a **republic**

**Concept: Republicanism**

• Government authority comes from the **people** who **elect officials** that represent their interests

• Promoted the **end of slavery**, **encouraged education** and sacrifice for the public good

## REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY



- 13 colonies had a tradition of **governing** themselves.....
- Elected their own representative law making bodies.
- Passed laws to keep peace within their communities.
- Colonies had a tradition of **representative democracy**.
- That's why they fought the Revolution.

## ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION



- Our first **constitution** (**law of the land**) and attempt to create a **democratic government** based on the ideas of **DOI**.
- Written by **2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress** during War and took effect in March 1781... Becomes the **Confederation Congress**
- Founding Fathers were determined not to have a king.....

# THE ARTICLES of Confederation

*America's First Constitution*

© Ocean/Corbis

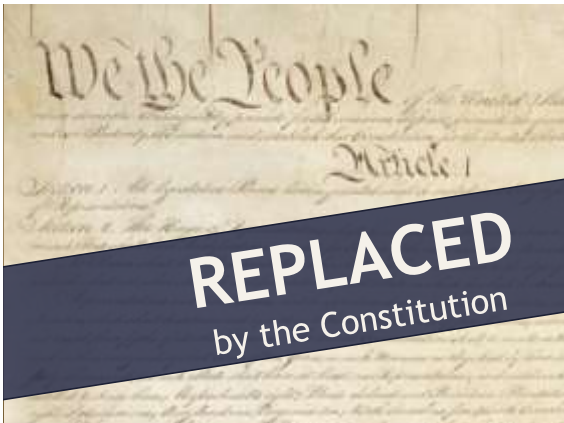




## The Articles of Confederation

First plan of government

**WEAK**



## Treaty of Paris (1783)

"His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said United States, viz., New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, to be **free sovereign and independent states...**"

Source: [ourdocuments.gov](http://ourdocuments.gov)



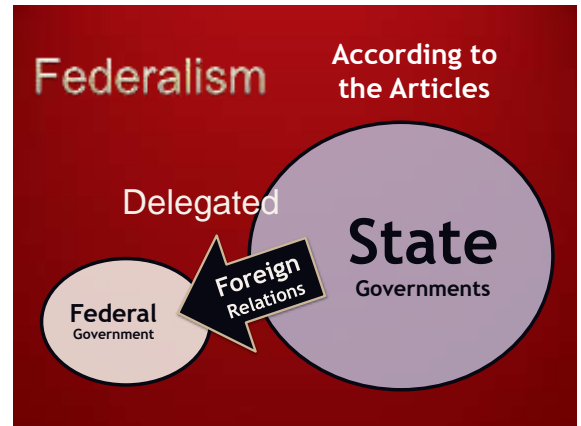
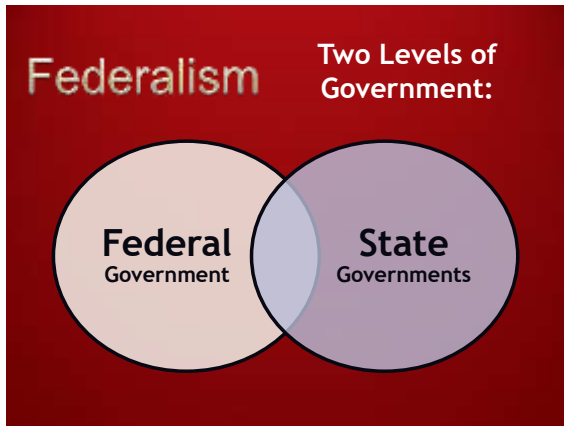
## From Article II

Each state retains its **sovereignty, freedom, and independence**, and every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

<http://www.constitution.org/cons/usa-conf.htm>

**SOVEREIGNTY**

*Where Ultimate Power Resides*



## State Constitutions & State Governments

**Common aspects**

- *Each state listed the basic rights and freedoms that belonged to all citizens*
  - “unalienable rights”
  - i.e. jury trial and freedom of religion
- *Separation of powers*
  - Legislative powers to an elected two-house legislature
  - Executive powers to an elected governor
  - Judicial powers to a system of courts
- *All white males with property could vote*
  - Based on the assumption that property-owners had a larger stake in government than did the poor and property-less
  - Elected officials higher qualifications than the voters

State Constitutions	
Popular Sovereignty	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Popular sovereignty was the basis for every new State constitution.</li> <li>2. Government can exist and function only with the consent of the governed.</li> <li>3. People hold power and are sovereign.</li> </ol>
Limited Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Limited government was a major feature of each State constitution.</li> <li>2. Powers delegated to government were granted reluctantly and hedged with many restrictions.</li> </ol>
Civil Rights and Liberties	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In every State it was made clear that the sovereign people held certain rights that the government must respect at all times.</li> <li>2. Seven of the new constitutions contained a bill of rights, setting out the “unalienable rights”</li> </ol>
Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State governments were purposely divided among three branches: <u>executive, legislative, and judicial</u>.</li> <li>2. Each branch was given powers with a system of checks and balances.</li> </ol>

# CONFEDERATION

## A Military Alliance

## ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

### Confederation Government

- ✓ govt. of loosely organized states
- ✓ Each state independent and conducted their own affairs
- ✓ Created a weak national govt. which had little powers to solve US problems
- ✓ States held more power than US govt.
  - ✓ Would unite in times of crisis.
- ✓ “Treaty of Cooperation between the states”

## From Article III

The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against... attacks made upon them...

<http://www.constitution.org/cons/usa-conf.htm>

## A firm league of friendship

### The Articles of Confederation

The Articles of Confederation established “a firm league of friendship” among the States.

#### **Confederation Congress**

- Congress was given the power to declare war.
- Deal with national finance issues.
- Settle disputes among the States.
- Request funds (taxes from states) to pay off debt

#### **Obligations**

- The States promised to obey Congress.
- Respect the laws of the other States.
- Most other powers were retained by each State.

EQUAL  
Representation



# 9 / 13

## To Legislate

# 13 / 13

## To Amend





	Articles	Constitution
Federalism	A Firm League of Friendship	
Sovereignty	States	
Representation of States	<b>EQUAL</b>	
<b>Taxation</b>	<b>States ONLY</b>	
<b>Powers of Congress</b>	Foreign Relations Army and Navy Declare War Ambassadors Treaties	
Legislation	2/3	
Amendments	<b>UNANIMOUS</b>	

## ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

<b>Government Structure</b>	<b>Powers of Congress</b>	<b>State Responsibilities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Congress--1 branch</li> <li>•Confederation Congress</li> <li>•No executive branch or president...</li> <li>•No judicial system.....</li> <li>•One vote per state regardless of size</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Make war and peace</li> <li>•make treaties</li> <li>•build navy and army</li> <li>•settle disputes among states</li> <li>•set up monetary system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Obey Articles and acts of Congress</li> <li>•provide funds and troops when <b>"requested"</b> by Congress</li> <li>•States regulated own trade and taxed each other</li> <li>•States had their own currency</li> </ul>

**Major Problem:** Created a weak national govt that could not tax, regulate trade or enforce its laws because the states held more power than the National Government.

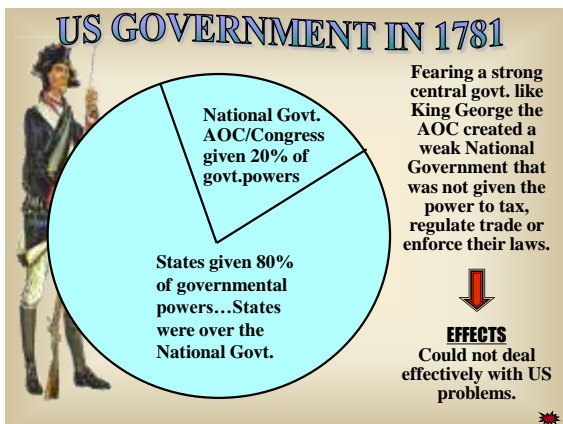
### Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

- ♦ One vote for each State, regardless of size.
- ♦ Congress powerless to lay and collect taxes or duties.
- ♦ Congress powerless to regulate foreign and interstate commerce.
- ♦ No executive to enforce acts of Congress.
- ♦ No national court system.
- ♦ Amendment only with consent of all States.
- ♦ A 9/13 majority required to pass laws.
- ♦ Articles only a "Firm league of friendship."

**Major Problem**  
Could not tax, regulate trade or enforce its laws because the states held more power than the National Government.

↓

**Why?**  
Feared a government like King George



### ALL MEN CREATED EQUAL

•The **Confederation Congress** created a **National Government** based on **representative democracy**.

## Powers Granted to Government under the Articles of Confederation

- Declare war and make peace
- Make treaties with foreign countries
- Establish an army and navy
- Appoint high-ranking military officials
- Requisition, print, and borrow money
- Establish weights and measures
- Hear disputes among the states related to trade or boundaries

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## Powers Denied to Government

- No power to raise funds for an army or navy
- No power to tax, impose tariffs, or collect duties
- No executive branch to enforce laws
- No power to control trade among the states
- No power to force states to honor obligations
- No power to regulate the value of currency

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## Problems with Trade

- U.S. no longer the favorite trading partner of Great Britain
  - U.S. exports to British ports had to be on British ships
  - Many U.S.-produced goods were barred from British ports
  - Britain sent vast amounts of cheap goods to U.S.
- Potential Remedy
  - Establish a tariff on British goods
- Weakness in Articles of Confederation preventing this solution

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## Disputed Territorial Claims Between Spain & the US: 1783-1796



**SUCCESSES**

*of the Articles*







## LAND ORDINANCE OF 1785

- Grid system was created by Thomas Jefferson...
- Structured and organized land policy
- Allowed for a peaceful purchase of land.
- Promoted an orderly expansion westward..
- Confederation Congress convinced states who claimed land out west to cede their land to the US Govt.
- US Govt. was to come up with a fair and reasonable land policy....Unlike the Proclamation of 1763....

## LAND ORDINANCE OF 1785

Plot #16 was set aside for public education

## NORTHWEST ORDINANCE OF 1787

- An addition to the Land Ordinance of 1785
- Congress sold land in large blocks, 40, 80, 160, 320 and 640 acres.
- \$1 to 2\$ an acre to help pay debt.
- Encouraged settlers to form townships.
- New states formed would be = to original 13
- Influx of settlers causes violence with Indians
- Guaranteed settlers "unalienable rights"

## NORTHWEST ORDINANCE

**1<sup>ST</sup> STEP**

**WHEN PEOPLE FIRST SETTLE IN THE AREA:**

Congress appoints a governor and three judges to govern the territory

**2<sup>ND</sup> STEP**

**50,000 FREE ADULT MALES:**

Landowners elect a congress to make laws and raise taxes with approval of governor. 1 representative is elected to the US Congress who can debate but not vote.

**3<sup>RD</sup> STEP**

**60,000 SETTLERS:**

Becomes a state, with its own government and constitution. New states admitted with same rights as the original states. No more than 5 states can be carved out of this area.

The Northwest Ordinance encouraged ideals of the DOI and republicanism (representative democracy) religious freedom, protection of liberty and property, encouraged education, admitted new states and no slavery

## Northwest Ordinance 1787

**SLAVERY OUTLAWED**  
in Northwest Territories

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**GREAT SUCCESS**

**SUCCESS**

The Northwest Ordinance is widely regarded as the most successful piece of legislation passed by the Confederation Congress.

**HIGH FIVE**



**PROBLEMS**

*with the Articles*



**Bad Economy**

Image by Beyond My Ken



**Shays' Rebellion**

Aug., 1786 - Feb., 1787



**SHAYS' REBELLION, 1787**




**Daniel Shays**

1785 to 1787, unfair taxes, debt and foreclosure  
Farmer's rebellion to overthrow Mass. Govt.



## SHAY'S REBELLION, 1787

Attacks by Shay followers  
Encounters between Shay's and hired militias.

### Outcomes

Rebellion put down by a private militia

**US Govt. too weak to put down rebellion**

Americans feared govt. too weak = anarchy

**Call for a Constitutional Convention to change AOC and create a stronger national government.**



## US DEBT AFTER THE WAR

**Foreign Debt**  
\$11,710,000

→ We owed France, Spain and other countries who helped us with the Revolutionary War.

**State Debt**  
\$21,500,000

→ Individual states owed citizens who loaned money to their state.

**Federal Domestic Debt**  
\$42,414,000

→ US Govt. owed soldier's for fighting in the war, debts to British and Loyalists.

\$80 Million

## Debtors vs. Creditors

**Western Mass. Farmers**

**Boston Merchants**

## Debtors Want

- Debt Relief
- Paper Money
- Foreclosures



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Creditors  
Want  
Their Money  
Payable in  
Hard Currency

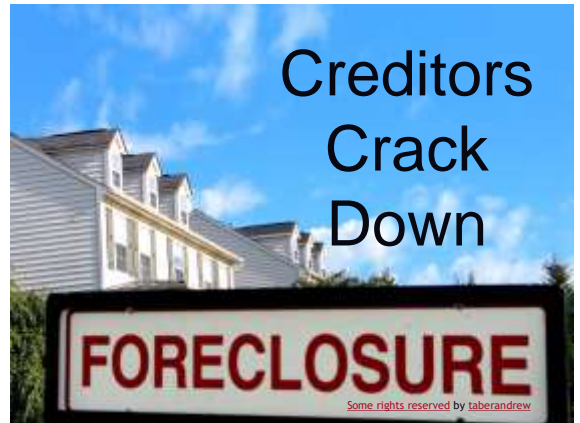


Legislature  
dominated by  
Creditors



Photo Credit:  
Corey Templeton

Creditors  
Crack  
Down



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Rebellion



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## SHAY'S REBELLION

- ✓ In early 1787 a group of small farmers protested against the Massachusetts govt.
- ✓ Why? They were in debt, their homes being repossessed and unfair taxation.
- ✓ They were led by Daniel Shays, a former army captain in the Revolutionary War.
- ✓ The purpose of the rebellion was to prevent foreclosures by keeping the courts from sitting until the next election.
- ✓ Shay's Rebellion was put down by private army paid for by wealthy merchants from Boston.
- ✓ The AOC was unable to put down the rebellion with a national guard or army.

## ANARCHY

**total chaos, mob rule,  
survival of the fittest, no  
respect for law and order  
or attempting to  
overthrow the authority of  
govt. = unstable govt. =  
no govt.**

## “MOBOCRACY”



**ELITE  
CONSENSUS  
WE NEED MORE  
GOVERNMENT**



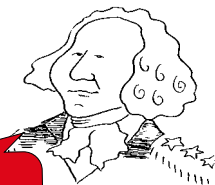
## Why A New Constitution

- ✓ The AOC was unable to act decisively in a time of crisis (***could not protect life, liberty and property***).
- ✓ Provided all the evidence needed to finally convene and revise the constitution.
- ✓ Why was ***Shay's Rebellion*** such a concern to our founding fathers?




## The Elites Response to Shay's Rebellion:

**“Respectable”  
Americans were  
shocked by the  
violence. Feared  
“mobocracy”.**



Let us have  
{ a Constitution }  
by which our lives,  
liberties and properties  
will be secured....

**Madison**

“Our situation is becoming every day more and more critical. No money comes into the Federal Treasury; no respect is paid to the Federal authority... the existing confederacy is tottering to its foundation...”

-- James Madison to Edmund Pendleton, February 25, 1787, Madison Papers.

[http://www.shaysrebellion.stcc.edu/shaysapp/person.do?shortName=james\\_madison](http://www.shaysrebellion.stcc.edu/shaysapp/person.do?shortName=james_madison)



"The moment is, indeed, important! - If government shrinks, or is unable to enforce its laws; fresh maneuvers will be displayed by the insurgents - anarchy & confusion must prevail - and every thing will be turned topsy turvey."

George Washington to Henry Knox,  
February 3, 1787

**Washington**

<http://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/creating-new-government/resources/george-washington>

"God forbid we should ever be twenty years without such a rebellion... We have had thirteen States independent for eleven years. There has been one rebellion. That comes to one rebellion in a century and a half, for each State. What country before ever existed a century and a half without a rebellion?"

-- Jefferson to William S. Smith, 1787

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/review/summer/letter.html>

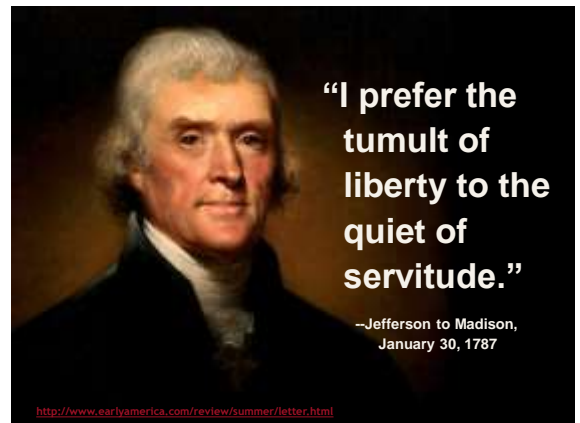
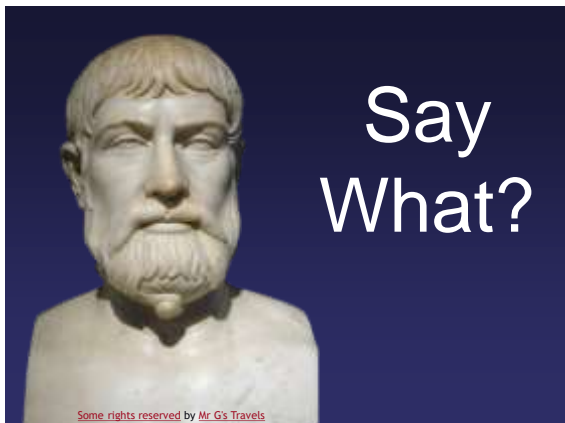
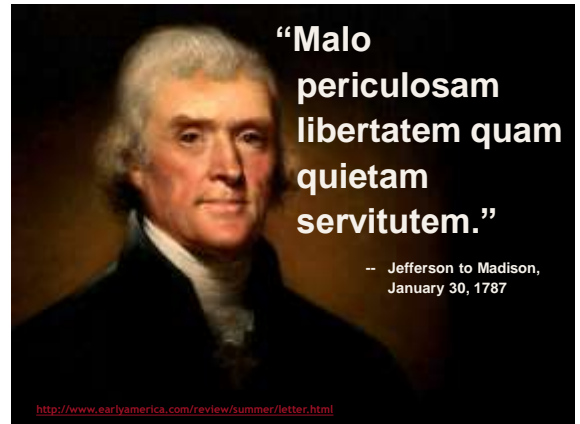
The Voice of Reason

$$11 \times 13 = 143$$

$$11 \times 13 = 143$$

APPROX 150 YEARS  
PER STATE

THIS IS NOT  
A BIG DEAL!



### The Elites Response to Shay's Rebellion

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#### The Annapolis Convention (1786)

- 📌 George Washington hosted a conference at his home in Mt. Vernon, VA (1785)
- 📌 Representatives agreed that the problems were serious enough to hold further discussions at a later meeting at Annapolis, MD, at which all the states might be represented
- 📌 Only 5 states sent delegates
- 📌 Alexander Hamilton and James Madison persuaded the others to call for a **Constitutional Convention**, to be held in Philadelphia for the purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation



*The Federalist*  
(aka, *The Federalist Papers*)







**A New Constitution is Necessary**





**The last stage of national humiliation...**  
(Federalist 15)

Map Credit: Golbez

**The last stage of national humiliation...**  
(Federalist 15)




Map Credit: Golbez

	Articles	Constitution
Federalism	A Firm League of Friendship	A More Perfect UNION
Sovereignty	States	Shared
Representation of States	EQUAL	Proportional (House) Equal (Senate)
Taxation	States ONLY	State & Federal
Powers of Congress	Foreign Relations Army and Navy Declare War Ambassadors Treaties	In Addition: Taxation Interstate Commerce Currency Crush Rebellions
Legislation	2/3	Senate + House + President
Amendments	UNANIMOUS	2/3 Congress + 3/4 States