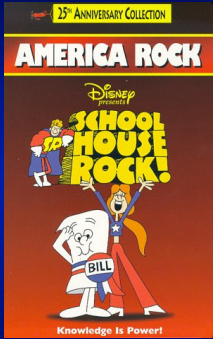


12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

# American Democratic Principles

Chapter 3



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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

# Topics

I. American Democratic Principles



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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

# I. American Principles

- A. Popular Sovereignty
- B. Limited Government
- C. Separation of Powers
- D. Checks and Balances
- E. Judicial Review
- F. Federalism

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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## A. Popular Sovereignty

- Principle that the **people** hold the supreme power.
  - The Constitution
    - "We the People..." the Preamble
    - Representative government and elections
  - The Declaration of Independence
    - Power comes from the consent of the governed
    - People have the Right to revolt




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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## B. Limited Government

- Government does not have absolute power
- Principle by which the government is given the power to do only certain things.
  - Constitution has sections on what the government can and can not do.
  - Governmental power limited by Bill of Rights
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Amendment states people have rights not mentioned.
  - The 10<sup>th</sup> amendment. Powers not delegated to the central government nor denied to the states, are reserved for the states and the people.

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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## C. Separation of Powers

- Separation of powers** divided the function of government into 3 branches, the legislative, Executive and Judicial Branches
  - Executive enforces the law
  - Legislative writes the law
  - Judicial Interprets the Law



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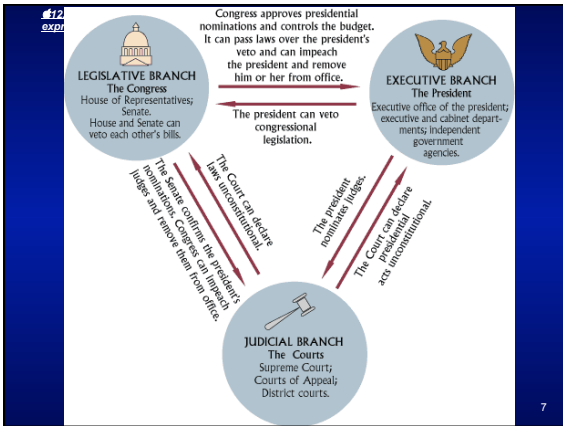
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**12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.**

## D. Checks and Balances

- Inspired by Baron de Montesquieu.
  - “Power is a check to power”
- Checks and balance system where each branch is subject to checks or restraints by the other branches.
  - Veto powers
  - Appointment powers
  - Constitutionality

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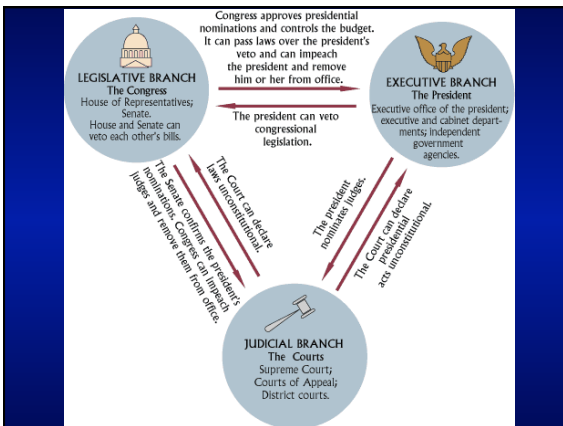
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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## E. Judicial Review

- Principle by which courts have the power to decide whether a law or an executive order is constitutional.
  - Established by John Marshall in **Marbury vs Madison**.
- Gives Judicial Branch a powerful check on the other branches.



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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## F. Federalism

- Who should have more power?
  - The central government?
  - The states?
- The Solution is shared power.
  - Delegated powers to the central government.
  - Reserved powers for the states.
  - Think layered chocolate cake

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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## Cont...

- The Supremacy Clause
  - The Constitution is still the Supreme law of the land
- Yet conflicts still arise.
  - nullification
  - Slavery and the Civil war.
  - The Civil Rights movement
  - Immigration policy
  - Drug enforcement
  - Education policy

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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## Summary

- How does the federal system demonstrate the principle of popular sovereignty?
- How does the constitution demonstrate the principle of limited government?
- Explain the difference between separation of powers and checks and balances.
- How do the courts act as a check against executive or legislative abuses?
- Summarize how Federalism works in comparison to a unitary system.

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12.1 Explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

## End

- Popular Sovereignty
- Limited Government
- Separation of Powers
- Checks and Balances
- Judicial Review
- Federalism
- Executive Branch
- Legislative Branch
- Judicial Branch
- Nullification
- Delegated powers
- Reserved powers
- Marbury vs. Madison

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