

The background of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes in detail. The flag is waving, creating a sense of movement. The colors are vibrant, with a deep blue field for the stars and bright red and white stripes.

# **THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF THE USA**

# Government

- Presidential Republic
- 50 states, centralized government in Washington
- Separation of powers

# Separation of powers

## Executive

leading the affairs  
of the state

### Cabinet

- President
- Vice President
- 15 ministers

## Legislative

enacting and  
discussing laws

### Congress

- House of  
Representatives  
(435)
- Senate (100)

## Judiciary

Pushing through the  
laws

### Supreme Court

(=highest judicial  
body)



# State Governmen

Each State has its own  
separate government

There are 3 branches

- State governor
- State legislative
- State court

Responsibilities

- Police
- Education
- Transport
- Social Welfare
- Health





### Congress:

- Power of the purse
- Can override presidential veto (2/3 majority)
- Power of impeachment
- Senate approves treaties and the president's appointments

### Supreme Court:

- Power to declare laws and presidential actions unconstitutional

### The President:

- Power to veto
- Issues executive orders
- Commander-in-chief
- Appoints Federal Judges
- Grants Pardons for offenses against the US



**The Constitution of the United States** is the supreme law of the United States of America. It is the framework for the organization of the United States government and for the relationship of the federal government with the states, citizens, and all people within the United States. The United States Constitution is the oldest written constitution (when defined as a single document) still in use by any nation in the world.

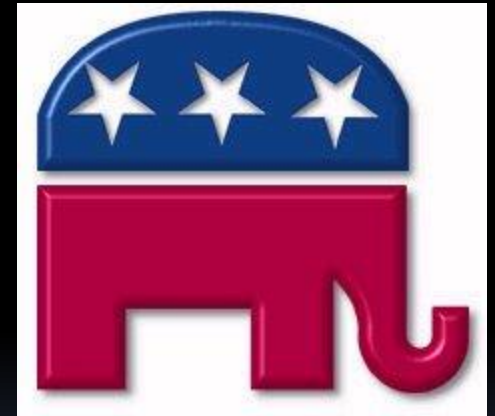
# Declaration of Independence

- All men are created equal
- Endowed with certain inalienable rights, life liberty pursuit of happiness
- Government derives “their just powers from the consent of the governed “

# Political Parties

## Republican Party

They believe in low taxation  
And little interference from the  
Federal Government. They  
encourage individuals to work  
hard and do not like welfare.  
A party for the rich and Middle  
Class.





# Republican Presidents



Dwight Eisenhower  
1953-61

Richard Nixon  
1969-74



Gerald Ford  
1974-77

# Political Parties

## Democratic Party

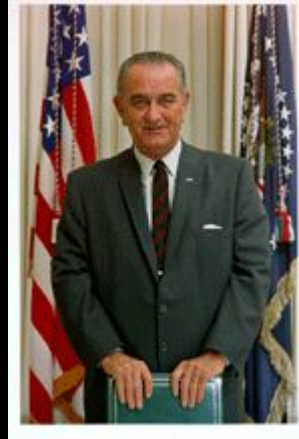


Believe it is the governments duty to distribute wealth Evenly. They introduce higher taxation and welfare benefits.

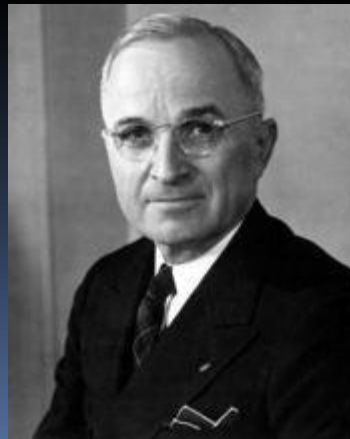
Their support comes from urban areas and minorities.

# Democrat Presidents

John F Kennedy 1961-63



Lyndon B Johnson  
1963-68



Harry Truman 1945-53



Jimmy Carter 1977-81

# Democrats and Republicans And Their Voters

- Democrats supported by majority of black voters (Clinton 83%)
- Urban ethnics
- Blue collar workers
- Catholics
- More women voters
- Northeast, upper midwest, northwest, Hawaii
- Protestant voters
- Business community
- White collar workers
- Religious fundamentalists



# Democrats and Republicans and Their Policies

## ▪ Democrats

- Support welfare programs
- Keynesian economics and job creating programs
- Social security, Medicare and Medicaid
- Civil Rights legislation
- Women's right to abortion

## ▪ Republicans

- Limiting federal regulation of business
- Reduction in welfare spending
- Anti-abortion

# Presidential elections

- Plurality voting system: „The winner takes all!“
- Election of a party in form of electors
- Elected electors represent the opinion of their state in the „Electoral College“
- The party with the most votes gets all the electoral votes of this state -> The parties have to look that they win in the states with a high amount of electors.

# Problem

- Parties and candidates try to get as many as possible votes in states with a high amount of electors and ignore the others
- The party with more than 270 electoral votes wins, though an other one has more votes of the people in fact (f.e. Bush vs. Gore)

# Donald John Trump



- (born June 14, 1946) is the 45th born June 14, 1946) is the 45th and current President of the United States, in office since January 20, 2017.
- A businessman and television personality
- Republican Party




# Trump's policy





# Crime

- **1** Allow states to legalize marijuana if they chose to do so
  - **2** Legalize drugs to take profit away from drug cartels
  - **3** Defend the Second Amendment of our Constitution
- 



# Crime


- 4 Nominate United States Supreme Court justices that will abide by the rule of law and the Constitution of the United States that includes upholding the Second Amendment
- 5 Expand and bring back programs like Project Exile and get gang members and drug dealers off the street
- 6 Empower law-abiding gun owners to defend themselves



# Education

7 Immediately add an additional federal investment of \$20 billion towards school choice

8 Give states the option to allow these funds to follow the student to the public or private school they attend



9 Establish the national goal of providing school choice to every one of the 11 million school aged children living in poverty





# Education

**10** Work with Congress on reforms to ensure universities are making a good faith effort to reduce the cost of college and student debt

**11** Ensure that the opportunity to attend a two or four-year college, or to pursue a trade or a skill set through vocational and technical education, will be easier to access, pay for, and finish

# Questions

- What is the supreme law of the US?
- Name branches of the US government
- For how many years is a US Representative elected?
- What is a ticket in presidential elections?
- Who vetoes bills?
- What are two ways that Americans can participate in the democracy?