



CIVIL DISCOURSE

An American Legacy Toolkit

■ **Module:** The Evolution of Political Parties in America

Beyond the Legacy: Video Guide

1. How was conservatism reflected in our two earliest political parties (Federalists and Democratic-Republicans)
2. What is the essential view about central government power that relates to conservatism?
3. How was conservatism reflected during the Jacksonian era?
4. What role did states' rights play in the 1960s and the nature of conservatism in the two parties at the time?
5. What were Hoover's views on the role of government? How did this reflect conservatism at the time?
6. How did the Republicans and Democrats in the 1960s view civil rights in relation to conservatism?
7. What does Dr. Brooks assert the parties have done for each other with regard to liberal and conservative threads throughout history?
8. How does Dr. Brooks explain the variances of views from within the parties?
9. What are the purposes of political parties?
10. How does the popular vote in 1824 shape the function and role of political parties?
11. According to Dr. Brooks, what is one of the biggest challenges to political parties today?
12. From your own views and experiences, what do you think about this challenge?
13. How is liberalism in the founding era exemplified by the question of how much you believe in the people?
14. Why is it hard to trace a direct line from our earliest parties to today's political parties?
15. How was liberalism present in the Jacksonian era?
16. How did the popular vote change elections and electioneering?
17. How was liberalism expressed during the Civil War/Reconstruction era? What were some of the differences between each party?
18. How is liberalism expressed during Roosevelt's presidency?
19. How did the election of 1800 highlight the differences and squabbles within each political party?