

**#19-What does Federalist #10
Say about Factions and
Interest Groups in the US?**

Madison on Factions

What were the Federalist Papers?

- 85 Essays that appeared in four New York newspapers between **1787-88**.

Purpose

- To lobby for ratification of the new US Constitution written to replace the Articles of Confederation and to attack anti-federalist essays that were being published at the time.

What is Federalist #10?

- It was written by James Madison on November 22, 1787.
- It is considered one of the most important essays
- It discusses the role of interest groups in democracy and how to guard against factions

Start the APPARTS Doc

- Author
- Place and Time
- Audience
- Reason

Fed #10 Key Question

- **What is a faction?**

Madison defines FACTION as ...

* A group of citizens with opinions, passions or interests contrary to the interests of others.

* A faction sees its interests as irreconcilable differences that can NOT be negotiated or compromised.

Activity

- Work through the Handout- ***Current Issues and are they a Faction*** in groups of THREE.
- Write your responses
- Do FOUR CORNERS on TWO of the examples from the handout

WEDNESDAY

- **Fed #10 Analysis and Significance**
- **Part 1- Assigned partner**
- **Part 2- You pick partner**

What is a FACTION?

- Use the frame (on back of APPARTS doc) to define with a table partner
- Debrief as class

Assigned Partners

- Maddie Brennen
- Tannon Massimo
- Abi Carter
- Jovani Gabriel
- Jacob Tyler
- Paige Karina
- Carson Cadence
- Courtney Nick C
- Rylan Monique
- Raynie Erik
- Sofia Broc
- Mithrandir Gage
- Brooke Jenny
- Cannon Kai
- Nick A Ashlyng
- Alex Kilani

Fed #10

Part 1-Partner Summaries Check

- Work with your assigned partner
- **Paragraph one-sentence summaries**
Go paragraph-by-paragraph and share your summaries with your partner. Are your interpretations similar? Discuss problems. Revise your summaries.
- **Check your summaries with my handout.** Be sure you understand terms/ideas. Ask for help!

Part 2- Analysis Q's

- **Pick your own partner now**
- **Answer the key questions** with your partner, referring to the text as needed.
- Record answers.
- **Note the paragraph where you found answers** to each key question.

Answers

- Review answers as a class; add to your notes as needed.

1. What is a faction?

Madison in FED #10-

1. A group of citizens with a common passion or interest
2. Who promote their agenda without regard to the common good.
 - Highly self-interested
 - Is the NRA (National Rifle Association) a faction?
 - AARP (American Association of Retired Persons)?

#2 Why are Factions a Problem?

- Factions work on their behalf alone
- Factions can control government at the expense of other groups.
- May change the rules of government to benefit/maintain their power (iron triangles)
- Can be violent
- Can be the majority

- Founders were worried that the majority might hurt the wealthy/elite

3. How could you remove the causes of factions?

- The “cure” is worse than the “disease.”
 1. **Destroy Liberty**- Free people have the right to their own opinions. Take citizens’ freedom and you destroy democracy (result is a dictatorship).
 2. **Control Everyone’s thinking**- Ensure (somehow) that everyone have the same opinion (unrealistic)
- *BOTH of these are unacceptable in a democracy!**

What was the primary cause of conflict?

- Madison: The unequal distribution of wealth and property among citizens
- Founders feared the MAJORITY- the poor—who vastly outnumber the rich
- How can government keep them from overpowering the rich/few?
 - Answer-Control the effects of factions

4. Why is a republic less susceptible to factions?

A Republic ...

- Uses an educated group to govern that represents the majority
- Their leadership can refine and enlarge the views of the public
- Gives the majority a voice- but with control.
It **allows all interest groups the same opportunities to influence government** (so that there aren't inherent inequalities).

5. What advantages does a republic have over “pure” democracy?

In a republic, you can

- Elect enlightened leaders who can choose for the good of the whole; not always self-interested.
- Have greater diversity of opinion and background which will win out over more extreme groups and views and prevent them from taking hold (Neo Nazis, for example).
- Create a system of checks and balances, separation of powers and federalism to slow the political process down and prevent impetuous reactions.
- Federalism** also allows for checks and balances between local and national politics

6. What issues divided citizens in 1787?

- Support of the Constitution
- Religion
- Slavery
- Wealth: haves and have-nots
- Power of the national government
- Power of state governments
- Civil liberties

Federalist #10: So What?

- Madison believed that factions were inevitable because humans are **self-interested.**
- He believed that a large republic was best to diffuse their ability to sabotage democracy.
- If all groups have the same chance to be heard, then factions will not be able to thwart the interests of others.

Was Madison Right?

- We have interest groups in the U.S. today
- Do all have equal access to power in the U.S.?
- **Pluralism**
- **Elite-class theory**
- **Hyper-pluralism**

Fed #10 Quick Write

- A. What is a faction? Define it and provide an example of a “faction.” Explain why your example qualifies as one.
- B. Using your example, explain TWO ways the US political system can control the problems of factions.
- C. Describe TWO ways the original Constitution removed control from the majority.
- D. Why would Madison most likely be a pluralist? Explain.