

Agree or Disagree:

Immigrants and citizens of origin from countries we are at war with should be forced to leave the country or be put in jail.



ADAMS AS PRESIDENT

Unit III: Expansion, Nationalism, and Sectionalism



Election of 1796

- **Major Federalist candidates:**

- John Adams (VP to George Washington)
- Thomas Pinckney
- John Jay

- **Major Democratic Republican candidates:**

- Thomas Jefferson
- Aaron Burr
- Samuel Adams

- **John Adams wins the Presidency, Thomas Jefferson receives the second most votes and becomes VP.**

- Positions based on votes, not party victory (changed in 1804)
- Different political parties/views

1796 Election Results

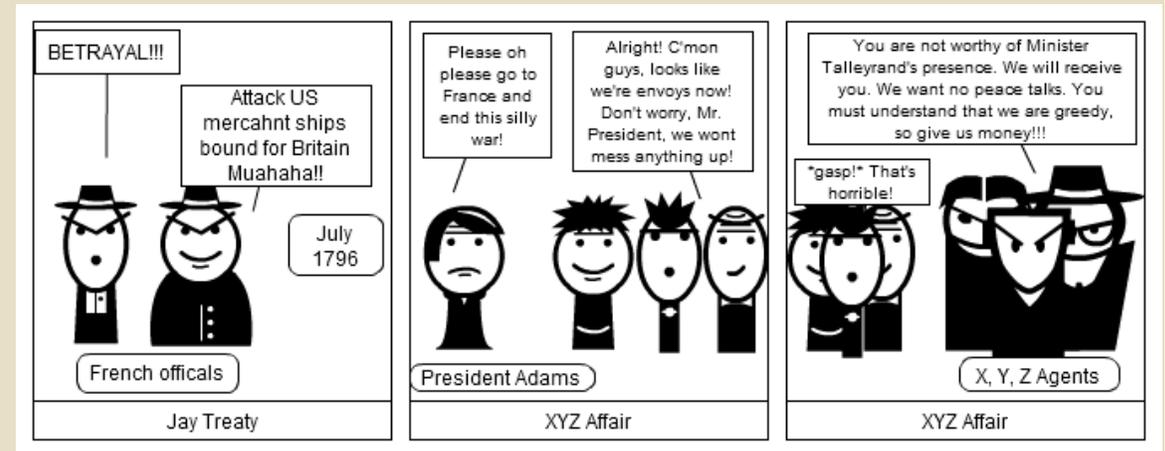
Candidate	Party	Electoral Votes
John Adams	Federalist	71
Thomas Jefferson	Democratic-Republican	68
Thomas Pinckney	Federalist	59
Others	Various	48
Aaron Burr	Democratic-Republican	30

For states colored purple, see 1796 Election Facts for details

How much influence did George Washington and/or Alexander Hamilton have on this election?

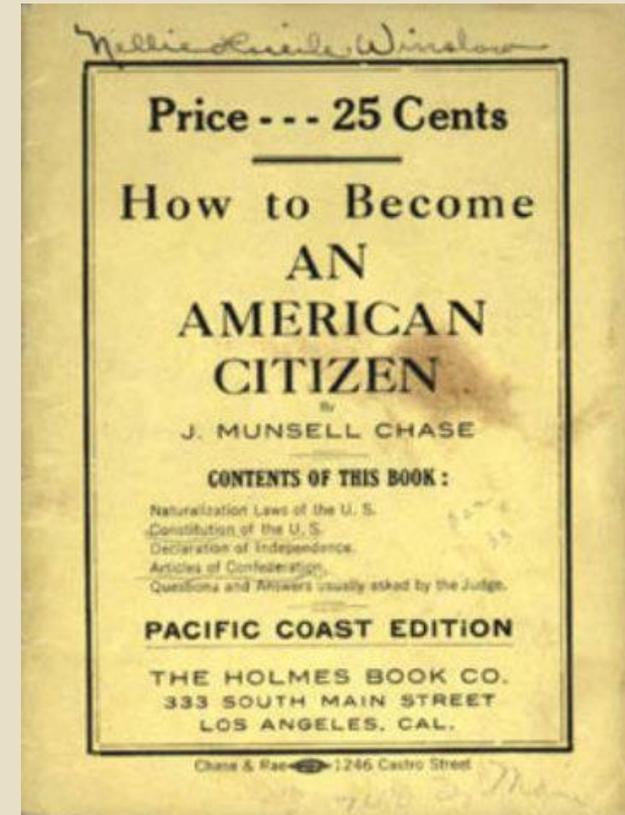
XYZ Affair

- **French Revolution & European Wars**
 - United States was “neutral” due to Washington’s policies
 - Jay Treaty deemed pro-British by Jefferson
 - French continued seizing ships of “neutral” parties, including the US
- **Negotiations**
 - Three French diplomats, coded X, Y, and Z
 - Adams sent John Marshall, Thomas Pinckney, and Elbridge Gerry to negotiate
 - French diplomats requested a bribe of \$250,000 and millions in loans to even meet
 - Americans refuse and leave (although bribes were customary in Europe)
- **Federalist Response**
 - Hamilton used situation to call for creation of larger navy and army
 - Some called for war
 - Jefferson, who is pro-French, is embarrassed



Naturalization Act of 1798

- **True Intent:**
 - Limit and eradicate criticism of the government from immigrants
- **The French and Irish**
 - Identified with Democratic-Republican ideologies (naturally support the French)
- **Legislation:**
 - Increased time it took to become citizen
 - 3 to 5 years “notice time” – declaring intent to become citizen
 - 5-14 years “residency” – time living in the United States
 - *Repealed by new law in 1802



Alien and Sedition Acts

- **Three Acts:**
 - Aliens (Friends) Act
 - Alien Enemies Act
 - Sedition Act
- **Alien (Friends) Act:**
 - President had authority to deport individuals deemed “threats” to the United States
- **Alien Enemies Act:**
 - Deportation or imprisonment of **anyone** during times of war (if origin is from country at war with)
 - *Still in effect today!
- **Sedition Act:**
 - Speaking, writing, or publishing criticism of the government were minimally misdemeanors or “treason”

SEDITION: (n.) Conduct or speech inciting people to rebel against the authority of a state or monarch

One congressmen, a Federalist, stated there was “no need to invite hordes of Wild Irishmen, nor the turbulent and disorderly of all the world, to come here with a basic view to distract our tranquility.”



- I. How were these acts even passed?!?!?!?!?
- II. What about the Supreme Court?!?!?!?
- III. What about the Bill of Rights?!?!?!?
- IV. What about the “Elastic Clause?”

I. How were these acts even passed?!?!?!?!?

- I. A Federalist President and a Federalist-dominated Congress

II. What about the Supreme Court?!?!?!?

- I. The Supreme Court did not gain the power to review legislation on constitutionality until 1803

III. What about the Bill of Rights?!?!?!?

- I. The FIRST Amendment was clearly violated
- II. The TENTH Amendment was challenged
 - I. Federalism

IV. What about the “Elastic Clause?”

- I. Federalists claimed it protected the United States
- II. Madison challenges this in Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions

“The Congress shall have Power ...
To make all Laws which shall be
necessary and proper for carrying
into Execution the foregoing
Powers, and all other Powers vested
by this Constitution in the
Government of the United States,
or in any Department or Officer
thereof.”

VS.

“The powers not delegated to the
United States by the Constitution,
nor prohibited by it to the States, are
reserved to the States respectively, or
to the people.”

Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions

The Federal Government
was created *by* the states

Conflicts will arise between the rights and
laws of the states and the authority of the
central government

The interests of the states take
precedence over the laws and actions of
the federal government

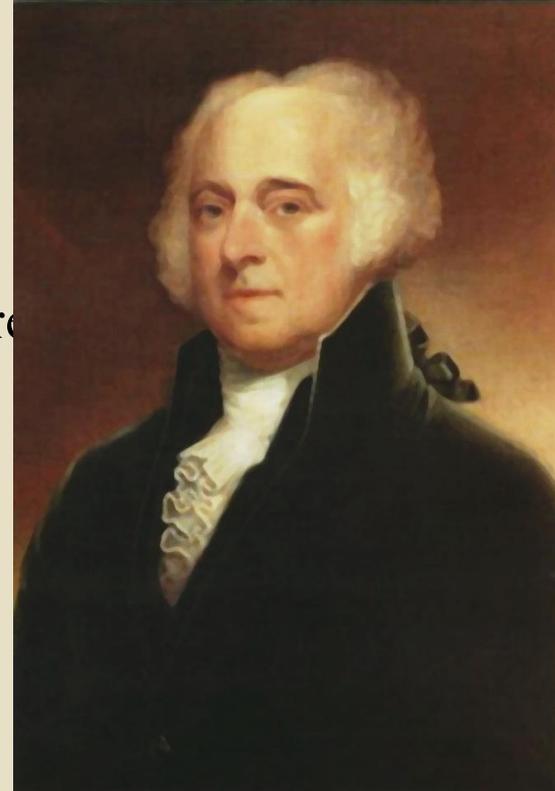
A states legislature may declare
a national law null and void

- **Written by Jefferson (anonymously) and Madison** – Some argue this is pure treason
- ***PREVIEW:** This will play a large role in steps to Civil War – Should states determine legality of slavery and create own slave laws?

ISSUE	FEDERALIST POSITION	REPUBLICAN POSITION
Role of the Federal Gov't	Strong central government to keep states and people in line.	Smaller, weaker central government that wouldn't abuse the rights of the people.
XYZ Affair	How dare the French treat us this way! We should go to war!	Oops, it was all a big misunderstanding. We love the French!
Naturalization Act	We need this to prevent immigrants from supporting the Republicans.	This act is unfair (and probably unconstitutional).
Alien Act	We need this act to prevent Republicans from gaining support from immigrants.	This act is unfair and unconstitutional – immigrants do not get a trial!
Sedition Act	We need this act to prevent Republicans from printing lies about us!	This act is unconstitutional as it violates the 1 st Amendment protection of freedom of press!
Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions	This is dangerous to the security of the US! Could ruin power of the Gov't.	Although extreme, the resolutions could help fight abuse of power by the Gov't.

Adams Presidency: Summary

- Challenges on “Federalism” continue
- Political parties continue growing and organizing
- Federal government is strengthened even if powers were
 - Legislation
 - Military
 - National Bank
 - Economy
- Financial system continues to succeed
- Economy grows



Quick Write:

◦ **Fair or Foul: Were these acts constitutional? Why or why not?**