

Document A

Melancton Smith, June 21, 1788

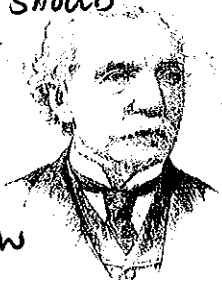
Representatives should be a true picture of the people. They should understand their circumstances and their troubles. Therefore, the number of representatives should be so large that both rich and poor people will choose to be representatives.

If the number of representatives is small, the position will be too competitive, Ordinary people will not attempt to run for office. A middle-class yeoman will never be chosen. So, the government will fall into the hands of the few and the rich. This will be a government of oppression.

The rich consider themselves above the common people, entitled to more respect. They believe they have the right to get anything they want.

Summary/Questions/Comments:

- SMITH WAS AN ANTI-FEDERALIST
- BELIEVED PEOPLE OF ALL SOCIAL CLASSES SHOULD BE ACTIVE IN AND SUPPORTED BY THE GOV'T
- FEARS/DISGUSTED BY ELITISM AND POLITICAL POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE FEW



Document B

Alexander Hamilton, June 21, 1788

The Anti-Federalists seem to think that a pure democracy would be the perfect government. Experience has shown that this idea is false. The ancient democracies of Greece were characterized by tyranny and run by mobs.

IS THAT REALLY TRUE?

The Anti-Federalists also argue that a large representation is necessary to understand the interests of the people. This is not true. Why can't someone understand fifty people as well as he understands twenty people?

The new constitution does not make a rich man more eligible for an elected office than a poor person. I also think it's dangerous to assume that men become more wicked as they gain wealth and education. Look at all the people in a community, the rich and the poor, the educated and the ignorant. Which group has higher moral standards? Both groups engage in immoral or wicked behavior. But it would seem to me that the behavior of the wealthy is less wicked and sinful.

Summary/Questions/Comments:

- FEDERALIST
- ELITIST
- FEWER REP. DOESN'T MEAN THE LOWER CLASSES CAN'T RUN FOR OFFICE
↳ BUT BELIEVES RICH ARE BETTER CANDIDATES



	Document A (Anti-Federalists)	Document B (Federalists)
Is this person happy with how the new Constitution deals with representation?	No. SMITH IS WORRIED THAT THE NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES IS TOO SMALL, WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE RICH TO CONTROL GOV'T (POOR WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RUN!).	YES. "WHY CAN'T A MAN UNDERSTAND FIFTY PEOPLE AS WELL AS HE UNDERSTANDS TWENTY PEOPLE?"
What kind of government would this person like to see?	ONE THAT REPRESENTS ALL AMERICANS, NOT JUST THE RICH. IN ORDER TO DO THIS, YOU NEED TO HAVE A GREATER NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES.	NOT A DIRECT DEMOCRACY. REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD BE FEWER IN NUMBER AND POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE UPPER CLASS.
Use a quote to support your claim from above.	"... THE NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD BE SO LARGE THAT BOTH RICH AND POOR PEOPLE WILL CHOOSE TO BE REPRESENTATIVES."	"... IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT THE BEHAVIOR OF THE WEALTHY IS LESS SINFUL AND WICKED."
Based on this document, what sort of people in society would support this point of view?	LOWER AND MIDDLE CLASS CITIZENS (YEOMAN)	WEALTHY LANDOWNERS, MERCHANTS, AND MANUFACTURERS