

Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists

What are the Federalist Papers? *Essays that argued for support of the Constitution.*

Who are the Federalists? *Supported the Constitution and a strong national government*

Who are the Anti-Federalists? *Supported strong state governments and protection of individual rights.*

What does ratify mean? *To approve, in this case, the Constitution.*

What arguments did the Federalists use during the ratification of the Constitution?

What was the argument?	What might a Federalist argue in relationship to a current issue?
1 – Argued that anarchy, political disorder, would happen without a strong national government. There was no unity of government and between the state under the Articles.	Would argue in favor of a strong federal government or federal control over issues. Such as a national policy on medicinal marijuana.
2 - Needed strong national government to protect nation from enemies abroad.	Would argue that a strong military is necessary for protection of nation's interests.
3 – Didn't need a Bill of Rights because most states already had a Bill of Rights in their state constitutions and the new constitution didn't give the government power to violate peoples' rights.	

What arguments did the Anti-Federalists use during the ratification of the Constitution?

What was the argument?	What might an Anti-Federalist argue in relationship to a current issue?
1 – New constitution was drafted in secrecy and was illegal/extralegal (not sanctioned by law) because Convention was there to revise Articles, not write a new Constitution.	Would argue that all government matters need to be open to the public and within the letter of the law.
2 – New constitution created a strong central government that limited state government. Feared a large, unwieldy (inefficient/abusive), government.	Would argue for strong states' rights on a variety of issues. Would say the states should make the law about medical marijuana.
3 – New constitution didn't have a Bill of Rights to protect individual rights from abusive government.	Would argue for strong protection of individual right/civil liberties on a variety of issues.

