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Forum 1

A Democratic Revolt?

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A Democratic Revolt?

by [Joe Escobar](#) – Friday, January 15, 2016, 7:23 PM

Make sure you have read [How Forums are Graded](#). After studying the required materials, address and discuss the various questions with your group members **throughout the week**.

DO NOT attempt to answer every question in a single post. In this class, forums are a place for sharing informed comments having analytical discussions. (Forums are NOT a place for students to publicly display full essays.)

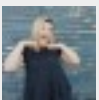
To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT – SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post, something that describes which question(s) you are addressing . Do NOT simply leave it RE: A Democratic Revolt? This will help keep the discussion organized.

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Yes, A Democratic Revolt

by [Emma Knutson](#) – Saturday, January 16, 2016, 1:03 PM

I would have to say yes. I say yes because simply, when reading the yes side, I noticed that, each state had their own way of voting. Delaware and South Carolina had the legislators chose the electors. Louisiana, Virginia, and Rhode Island had only adult white men voting. Maryland, Maine, Illinois, Tennessee and New York had a district system. Then all the other states not listed had the general ticket, which the highest popular vote got the electoral (205). I think this created tension between states by having there be unfair advantages on choosing the president. One state had the people voting while other states had no say in what their state would vote on for president.

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Re: Yes, A Democratic Revolt

by [Bryan Jakiemiec](#) – Monday, January 18, 2016, 8:20 PM

I found that very interesting when I read it as well. And I agree with you that the recognition of this messy voting situation caused people to desire a more democratic America.

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Yes to a revolution

by [Victoria Hayles](#) – Sunday, January 17, 2016, 5:43 PM

I agree with Robert V. Remini's position the most. There were several candidates in the election of 1824, where in 1828 only two were running. Also the two party political system was beginning to be reestablished, though there were other factions within. With two candidates from two opposing parties, the people were able to choose a side.

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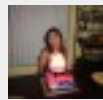
Re: Yes to a revolution

by [Bryan Jakiemiec](#) – Monday, January 18, 2016, 8:17 PM

I like your insight as to how the voter turnout rate was greater since there were only two parties in the 1828 election. I didn't take that into consideration prior to reading your post. It makes sense as to why the fact that there was only two parties would increase the voting rate since it's more entertaining to follow and easier to just simply choose one side.

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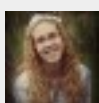
Re: Yes to a revolution

by [Nicolle Tapia](#) – Friday, January 22, 2016, 10:58 AM

I keep saying no that the 1828 election was not a revolt but you brought up that before it was messy in terms of having political parties, whereas in the 1828 election there were just two political parties, so seeing it that way I actually could see why some do believe that the 1828 was a rise in Democratic revolt. I am still sticking to it not being a revolt just because there are other ends that have not been tied up. This election was a dirty election and for the most part nobody focused on political issues that could be solved. Also McCormick says "The average voter participation for all states in 1828 was 56.3 per cent. Before 1824 fifteen of the twenty two states had surpassed that percentage."(211 McCormick) This means that even before 1824 there were records of more people coming that for example 1828, which means that 1828 was not really a democratic vote but because it was the election after Jackson was stolen the win for president, people voted. That really wouldn't count as a democratic revolt but more as a rebellion.

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Re: Yes to a revolution

by [Victoria Hayles](#) – Friday, January 22, 2016, 10:42 PM

I am just pointing out that your argument was difficult to understand due to the grammatical inconsistencies. That being said, I gathered from your post that you claim that there were actually more voters in the elections prior to 1828 than during. This cannot be correct. We clearly saw in class the dramatic rise in voter participation as a percentage during the election of 1828(1). Furthermore, throughout the 1820's the number of eligible voters was increasing due to lessening of restrictions for voter eligibility (2). Joe pointed out in class that hard numbers are usually not fully correct, huge differences cannot be excluded. Looking at the raw number of votes cast in 1828, which totaled at about 1.14 million, versus the number in 1824, approximately 315 thousand (3), we can see the huge difference (4). While you are correct that force was used to garner votes, this cannot account for so many more voters for both of the candidates.

(1) [Week 3 lecture images](#) in moodle, slide #32

(2) [Week 2 lecture images](#) in moodle, slide #21

(3) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1828

(4) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1824

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Jackson was not the cause of a Democratic revolt.

by [Brian Hunter](#) – Monday, January 18, 2016, 6:10 PM

I agree with Richard P. McCormick's perspective. Although the Jackson/Adams presidential election did increase votes from 26.5% in 1824 to 56.3% in 1828 it was not proportionate to the amount of states involved. The advance that was registered in 1828 did not carry forward to 1832. Even after Jackson was out of office voting percentage remained at 55.2% and four years later in 1840 it soared to 78%. This election rate was greater than that of the Jackson period by more than 40%. Even as late as 1860 the level of voter activity remained well above that of the Jackson elections. The "mighty democratic uprising" came after the period of Jackson's presidency.

New Perspectives on Jacksonian Politics by Richard P. McCormick p.211,212,213

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Re: Jackson was not the cause of a Democratic revolt.

by [Nicolle Tapia](#) – Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 10:24 PM

Great use of the statistics from the reading. I completely agree because sure there was an increase for the 1828 election, but the numbers kept growing as the future elections came out. Also the 1824 election was stolen from Jackson, so voters who were infuriated with the "corrupt bargain" that occurred, they really wanted Jackson to win and I honestly believe that is one of the reasons why they think this was a Democratic revolt. And this election was more towards the candidates and campaign teams slandering each other rather than addressing how political and societal problems would be solved. So I completely agree with Jackson not being the cause of a Democratic Revolt.

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Yes, the Election of 1828 Represented a Democratic Revolt of the People

by [Bryan Jakiemiec](#) – Monday, January 18, 2016, 7:09 PM

I agree with Robert V. Remini's opinion on the matter. His analysis of what each party (Democratic Republican and Nation Republican) stood for prior to the election was very well detailed, and it made it clear to me that the Democratic Republican party were aiming to appeal to the common man. Jackson was the perfect candidate for seducing the majority of Americans since he came from nothing and became a very wealthy man. On top of that, he was a war hero. Jackson's politics gave people the sense that America would become more Democratic, and that the people would have more influence than they had previously. Remini mentions how due to Jackson's encouraging, "for the people" voice, the total voter turnout increased 800,000 compared to the previous election of 1824. That is a massive increase, especially for the American population in those days. This jump to me helps me realize that clearly, a democratic revolt of the people has come to be. The most logical explanation for why a democratic revolt occurs is clear in the electoral college votes. Jackson won with 178 votes compared to only 83 for Adams. This means that people want to vote for the candidate who is preaching democracy and more rights and power for the people. And since the margin of victory was so historically big, it is evident that the majority of Americans were for this transition towards more democracy, therefore, there absolutely was a democratic revolt of the people.

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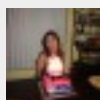
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Re: Yes, the Election of 1828 Represented a Democratic Revolt of the People

by [Aleethia Collins](#) – Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 6:20 PM

I agree with your stance that the Election of 1828 was a democratic revolt of the people, and the points you state are valid examples to why that is. It is true, what you said about Jackson’s politics giving people more influence than they had previously had. More people had voted in this election and it was clear that across the nation Jackson was the victor. This is very different from the previous election, where Adams did not receive the majority of the votes, but regardless became president. More people voted and Jackson received a far majority of those votes. Therefore it was clearly a democratic revolt.

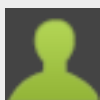


I Side With McCormick

by [Nicolle Tapia](#) – Monday, January 18, 2016, 7:35 PM

I agreed with McCormick’s statement about how the rise of the roaring Democracy took place in 1840 and not in the Election of 1828. “The flood receded only slightly in 1844, when 74.9 per cent of the estimates potential electorate went to the polls”(213 McCormick) The flood of votes on slightly receded in 1844 which only shows us that electorates had gone up by 1840 by possibly 25 per cent considering in the Election of 1828 is was about 50 per cent in electorate votes. This was a time when Jackson was not in office, only showing us that the rise of a roaring Democracy did not happen when he was elected as president in the Election of 1828. Another quote that stood out to me that McCormick wrote was “When Van Buren replaced jackson in 1836, the voting average increased slightly over 1832.”(213 Mccormick) The election of 1828 could not have been the uprising of Democracy because, yes even though Jackson was like the common man and he was at his peak of popularity, there weren't that many voters in this election than there were in previous ones.

Looking back at the Election of 1824 when Adams won presidency with Clay and beat Jackson even though Jackson was winning, the people were furious. Jackson kept talking about Corrupt Bargain and how Adams and Clay stole the election from Jackson. “Others in Washington agreed denouncing the Clay–Adams union as ‘Unnatural and preposterous’ and ‘monstrous’”(375 Textbook) This could and most likely be the reason why there are thought about the Election of 1828 being a roaring rise of Democracy. It was because Jackson was not the victor of an unfair presidential race of 1824, that the people went for voting for Jackson to give him the fair chance he should've had four years prior to that.



Re: I Side With McCormick

by [Coal Taylor](#) – Tuesday, January 19, 2016, 3:25 PM

I think your point about the rise of the democracy in 1840 is a valid one, and McCormick supports the point of why the election of 1840 was a "roaring flood of the new democracy" (McCormick 213) very well. Statements like "four out of five (78.0 per cent) of the adult white males cast their votes" (McCormick 212), and "new electorate was greater than that of the Jackson period by more than 40 per cent" (McCormick 212) do make a convincing case for why the election of 1840 was a very important election that could represent a rise of democracy.

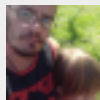
However, I don't see why this means that the election of 1828 can not also be a democratic revolt of the people. McCormick uses a drastic increase in voter turnout as one of his main points to drive his argument that the election of 1840 represented an extreme rise in democracy, but in the election of 1828 there was also a significant increase in voter turnout from the previous election in 1824. According to Remini, "The total popular vote in the election represented an increase of over eight hundred thousand over the previous election in 1824" (Remini 206). This would seem to indicate that the election of 1828 also had a large enough increase in voter turnout to consider it a democratic revolt as well.



Re: I Side With McCormick

by [Nicolle Tapia](#) – Friday, January 22, 2016, 11:13 AM

I agree also, why couldn't the 1828 election just be considered a Democratic revolt since the rise in voters increased from 1824 just how future election voter turnout was also an increase, so I could see why this would make sense. But Mccormick said "The average voter participation for all states in 1828 was 56.3 per cent. Before 1824 fifteen of the twenty two states had surpassed that percentage."(211 Mccormick) This means that before 1824 there were elections where voter turn out was greater than 1828 which means why not those elections be considered democratic revolts. And also another factor to look at is that 1828 had way more data to use whereas before 1824 there wasn't much because elections were probably not very fair, so that is why I think people believe 1828 was a Democratic revolt.

**Re: A Democratic Revolt?***by Shawn Jenkins - Monday, January 18, 2016, 9:16 PM*

Was the election of 1828 a Democratic Revolt? My answer has to be no. After reading the provided material one can only assume that the election was nothing more than a popularity contest. Our government was still in it's infancy and had not yet developed fully. If anything i would say that the election of 1840 was a revolt. For the first time there were distinct party affiliations. The election had more to do with the issues than with the battlefield achievements of a General. Is it astounding that voter turnout doubled from 1824 to 1828? Yes. In the grand scheme of things does it really matter? No. Electoral votes elect Presidents. Not the people.

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I think your comment about the election of 1840 being the "...first time there were distinct party affiliations." is incorrect. I believe the distinction of the two parties was quite clear in their names alone, Jacksonian democrats versus the anti-Jackson (1). While their policies may not have been as clearly different as we are accustomed to today, this was certainly not the first time America had seen a clear distinction between the two running political parties. In the election of 1796 it was a race between the Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans(2), which are very distinct from each other. We heard in the first week of class how these two parties differ. Federalist believed in a loose interpretation of the constitution along with a strong federal government, while Democratic-Republicans stood for a strict interpretation of our constitution and power in the states.

(1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Republican_Party

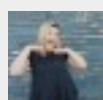
(2) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1796

Sum of ratings:2 (1) [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**A Revolt in 1828***by Coal Taylor - Monday, January 18, 2016, 11:25 PM*

I think the election of 1828 did represent a democratic revolt of the people. One of the influencing factors in this is the re-emergence of a two-party system. In this case, the two parties were the "Democratic" Republican party, supported by Andrew Jackson and John C. Calhoun and the "National" Republican Party, supported by Adams and Clay. The split between the the two parties allows for voters to form an identity with one of the parties, which gives them reason to go to the polls in support of their party. This helps increase voter turnout, and the large increase in voter turnout was a big reason the election of 1828 can be called a democratic revolt of the people.

Another reason that this election was influential enough to be called a "revolt" is how united the nation was under one candidate. In this election, Andrew Jackson won by a ratio of 647,292 to 507,730, taking 56% of the vote (Remini 206), in what can only be described as a landslide victory. According to Remini, "Some twenty thousand people from all parts of the country converged on Washington to witness the triumph of their candidate" (Remini 207).

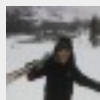
"The total popular vote in the election represented an increase of over eight hundred thousand over the previous election in 1824" (Remini 206). This number is a very large increase in the voting population, and it occurred over just four years. In my opinion, that is enough to call this election a democratic revolt of the people.

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I really like that you made a valid point to include that both parties were democratic. Your point helps give

an understanding to how there can be a pull and push affect within a party. And it seems to be that the popular vote was to create more a revolt within the same party, because in the end it really was electoral. So I completely agree with what you have to say!

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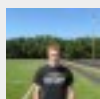
I think the election of 1828 did represent a democratic revolt of the people

by [Nuó Cheng](#) – Monday, January 25, 2016, 12:02 PM

Did the Election of 1828 Represent a Democratic Revolt of the People?

For me I think it’s Yes, the election of 1828 did represent a democratic revolt of the people. After the election, the United States be in a brand new era: Jacksonian Democracy. Since 1824 until 1840, the vote rate has been increased to 80%. The revise in politics during Jackson's presidency provided some social and economic changes. First, Jackson opposed governmentgranted monopolies to banks, especially the national bank ecause he believed they were devices to cheat common people. Second, Jackson limited powers of federal government, but meanwhile he Greatly enhance the power of State governments, this is means Slavery is state affairs unrelated to other states. This is why he gained so much support from the south. The way he supported to protect the lives of common people is to give them land. This is also why he took the land from Indian people, and he get support from working class too. Because of all the things Jackson done after he win the election, he got a lot of support from the common people, get affirmed from them, so as to stimulate the enthusiasm of voters. This is proved that it is Represent a Democratic Revolt of the People after 1828 election Jackson become the president.

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Re: A Democratic Revolt? Which author do you agree with?

by [Jeb Harper](#) – Monday, January 18, 2016, 11:40 PM

I personally agree with Mr. Remini. I believe that the 1828 election did cause a democratic revolt because of the social and political backlash that the election created. It sparked a new era, “The Age of The Common Man”. Although Remini argues the “common man” had been rising for generations, I think this election really jumpstarted and symbolized the idea. President Jackson allowed any man the opportunity to hold a government job, which was huge. Before Jackson’s presidency southern plantation owners mostly ran the government but with his new policy it allowed middle to lower class citizens to have more of a voice. I think the election was historic and changed politics.

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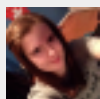


Re: A Democratic Revolt? Which author do you agree with?

by [Coal Taylor](#) – Tuesday, January 19, 2016, 3:34 PM

I think "The Age of the Common Man" is an interesting term that would seem to apply well to the election of Andrew Jackson, and I like your idea about how though the idea of the "common man" had been rising for a long time, the election of 1828 really accelerated the spread of the idea. I would be curious to know, though, where you got the information that Jackson allowed any man the opportunity of a government job, and which of his policies allowed middle to lower class citizens to have more of a voice. Also, I was not under the impression that southern plantation owners mostly ran the government before Jackson, and since Jackson was a plantation owner himself, I'm not sure how his becoming president would have a large impact on that.

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Political Responsibilities

by [Aleethia Collins](#) – Monday, January 18, 2016, 11:46 PM

The election of 1828 did represent a democratic revolt of the people. As Robert V. Remini states, the people rose to their political responsibilities. Due to less voting restrictions in the majority of the states, more people were voting. Popular vote dramatically increased from the previous election. Andrew Jackson was viewed as the “common man” and was very relatable to the people. He drew massive popular support and was the clear victor.

As the people rose to their political responsibilities, they clearly chose their victor.

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Re: Terminology matters

by Shawn Jenkins – Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 11:31 AM

After reading the excerpts assigned for this forum, I chose to disagree. Without restating what i had previously written I'd like to give another explanation.

I take issue with the terminology used. In particular I want to address the word revolt. Upon hearing that term i think most people would think armed rebellion. In fact, the definition is 1. to rise in rebellion, 2. cause to feel disgust. Wlile i agree that the election of 1828 did in fact represent a sort of democratic awakening, I do not feel it meets the phrase "Democratic Revolt."

So while i agree it was in fact a rise in political awareness and voter turnout, I cannot agree that it served as a revolt in any way.

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Re: Terminology matters

by Coal Taylor – Thursday, January 21, 2016, 11:15 AM

Personally, I do think that revolt can still apply in this case, because I think the people did rise in rebellion against the corrupt bargain of 1824 when they chose to elect Jackson by such a large margin in 1828, and I think their choice to elect Jackson could also be interpreted as a rebellion against the Bank of the United States, because Jackson made it very clear he was going to end that.

All that being said, I do think that revolt may not be the most effective and accurate term here. The term you suggested, democratic awakening, does seem to better describe this event.

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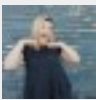
In Comparison to the Previous Election

by Aleethia Collins – Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 5:34 PM

With the facts presented, it seems clear to me that indeed the Election of 1828 was a democratic revolt of the people. Especially when you look at the previous Election of 1824. In the Election of 1824, Jackson won 42 percent of the popular vote, in comparison to his nearest rival which received 33 percent. Though, because he was shy some votes the decision went to the House of Representatives, where Jackson was not elected due to “corrupt bargaining”. In this election even though Jackson was clearly the nation's choice, he did not become the president. This was certainly not an election of the people's choice. In the next election in 1828, the number of voters doubled. Jackson received support from all over the country and was the clear winner. I believe this election was a democratic revolt of the people, because in this election the candidate who the majority of the people voted for became president.

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A Democratic Revolt, is a no

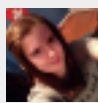
by Emma Knutson – Friday, January 22, 2016, 12:39 PM

After seeing your thoughts and reading the articles in a different way, I am changing to it was not a revolt. Jackson was a popular man with the somewhat praise from all. And because there was then only two parties running in the election, it seems only acceptable for him to win. “There remains to be considered the factor of Jackson's personal popularity. Did Jackson, the popular hero, attract voters to the polls in unprecedented

proportions? The comparisons that have already been made between the Jackson elections and other elections—state and national—before, during, and after his presidency would suggest a negative answer to the question” (10). I honestly believe that he won in such a land slide again was because they loved him and this enabled the people to actually vote because they wanted to see him in office again. I can only infer that this election was nothing more than one that would happen today, but with more angst due to the formation of how the electing was forming to be.

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Increase in Voters

by [Aleethia Collins](#) – Friday, January 22, 2016, 2:29 PM

There are many reasons why I believe the Election of 1828 was a democratic revolt of the people. For starters, more people voted in this election than had previously. Property qualifications were eliminated in almost every state, which gave more people the opportunity to vote. Though blacks and women were still not given the chance to participate in the election. The two party system of the Democrats and the National Republicans going head to head in this election, brought a competition aspect that drew in voters as well. With more voting, the victor was more likely to be the nation's choice. Andrew Jackson won an overwhelming majority of the votes and his victory was due to the people. Which was very different from the previous election, and that is why I believe that this election was a democratic revolt of the people.

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