

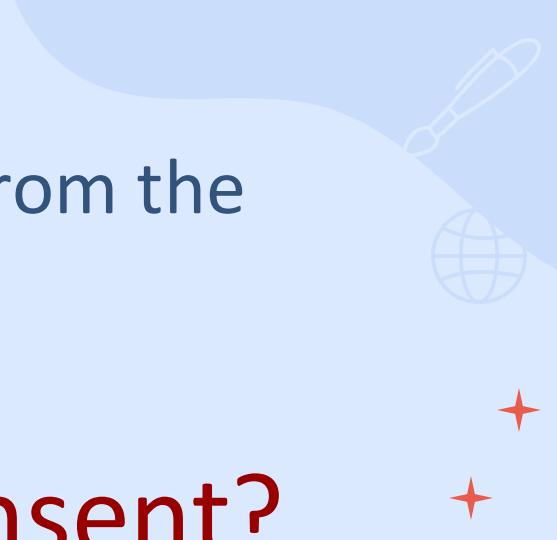
Where does the government get its power??





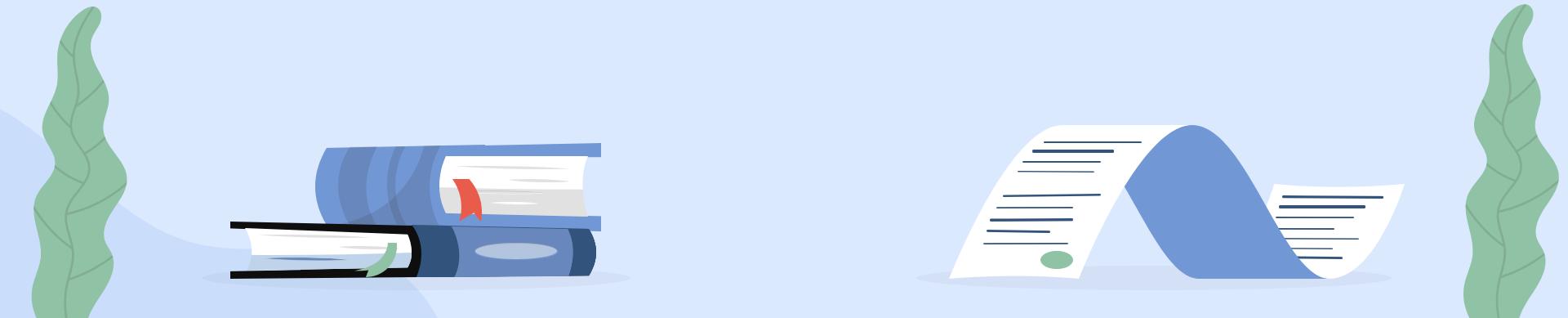
"Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the **consent of the governed**"

-Thomas Jefferson



If the government gets its power from the
consent of the people...

How do the people consent?



Article 1 Section 4 Clause 1 of the Constitution says...

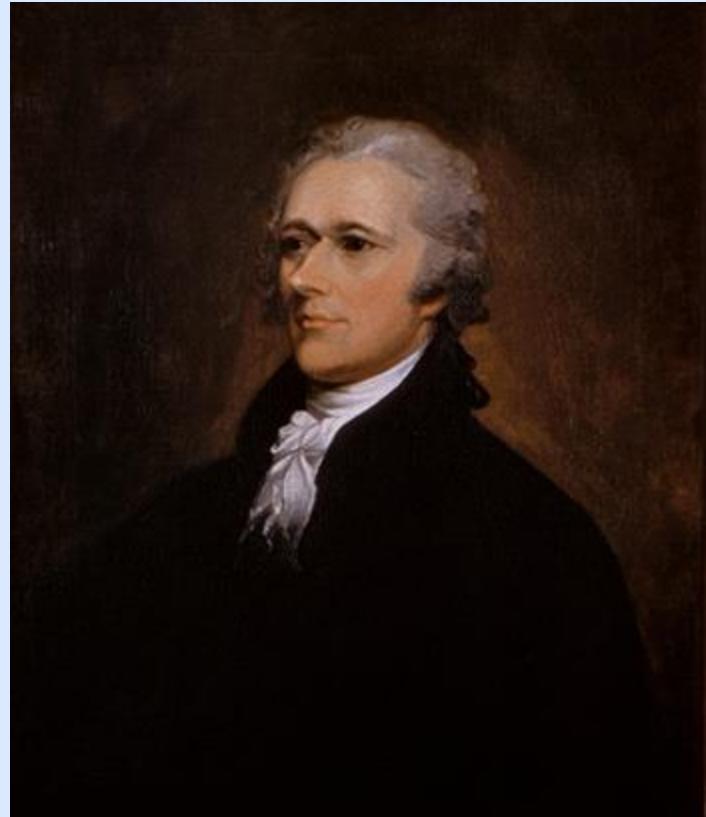
The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof;

but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.

Voting Rights Eras

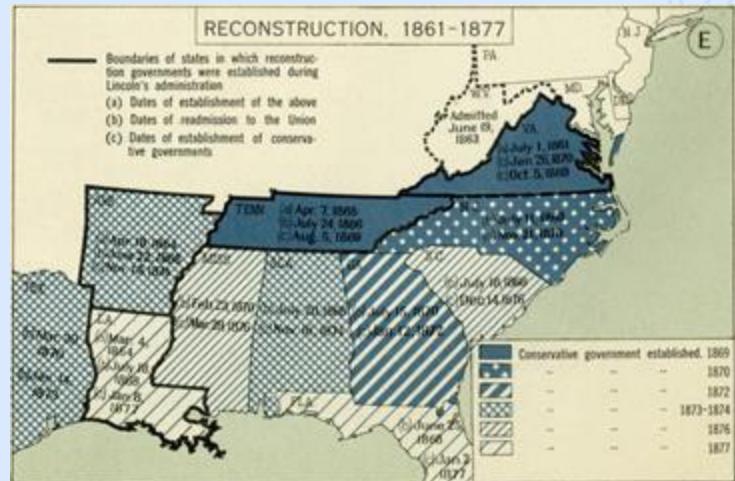
1776 - 1856

- Voting rights are restricted to white men who **OWN PROPERTY**.
 - *Why?*
- Excerpt from *Federalist 68*:
 - *"A small number of persons, selected by their fellow-citizens from the general mass, will be most likely to possess the information and discernment requisite to such complicated investigations."*
- In 1856, the property requirement for white men to vote is rescinded, meaning all white men who are citizens can vote.



The Reconstruction Era

- 14th Amendment (Equal Protection Clause) - 1868
 - Gave former slaves citizenship, but did not include removing race as a barrier to voting,
 - *Why is this important?*
- 15th Amendment - 1870
 - Removed race as a barrier to voting, but did not extend voting rights to women.



The Roaring 20's

- **The 19th Amendment (1920)**
 - Resulted from the Women's Suffrage Movement.
 - Gave women the right to vote.
- **1924 - Native American Voting Rights**
 - Native Americans are granted citizenship and the right to vote.
 - Had to be implemented by the states.
 - Last state to comply with the law was Utah in 1957.





Where we've been...

1776

Voting is restricted to property owners, mostly white men over 21

1868

14th Amendment gives former slaves citizenship but only men can vote

1920

19th Amendment gives women right to vote

1952

People of Asian ancestry granted citizenship, right to vote

1974

California allows felons to vote after completion of incarceration and parole

1787

States given power to regulate voting rights

1870

15th Amendment removes race as a barrier to suffrage but states continue voter discrimination

1924

Native Americans granted citizenship, voting rights

1965

Voting Rights Act forbids states from voter discrimination

1975

Literacy tests banned, voting materials come in various languages

Voter Turnout

2020 Presidential Election

66% turn out – the highest rate for any national election since 1900

2018 Midterm Election

49% turn out- the highest rate for a midterm since 1914

2022 Midterm Election

46% turnout - exceeded that of all midterm elections since 1970



Voter Turnout 2024 (Preliminary)

Voting Age Population

266,978,268

Eligible Voters

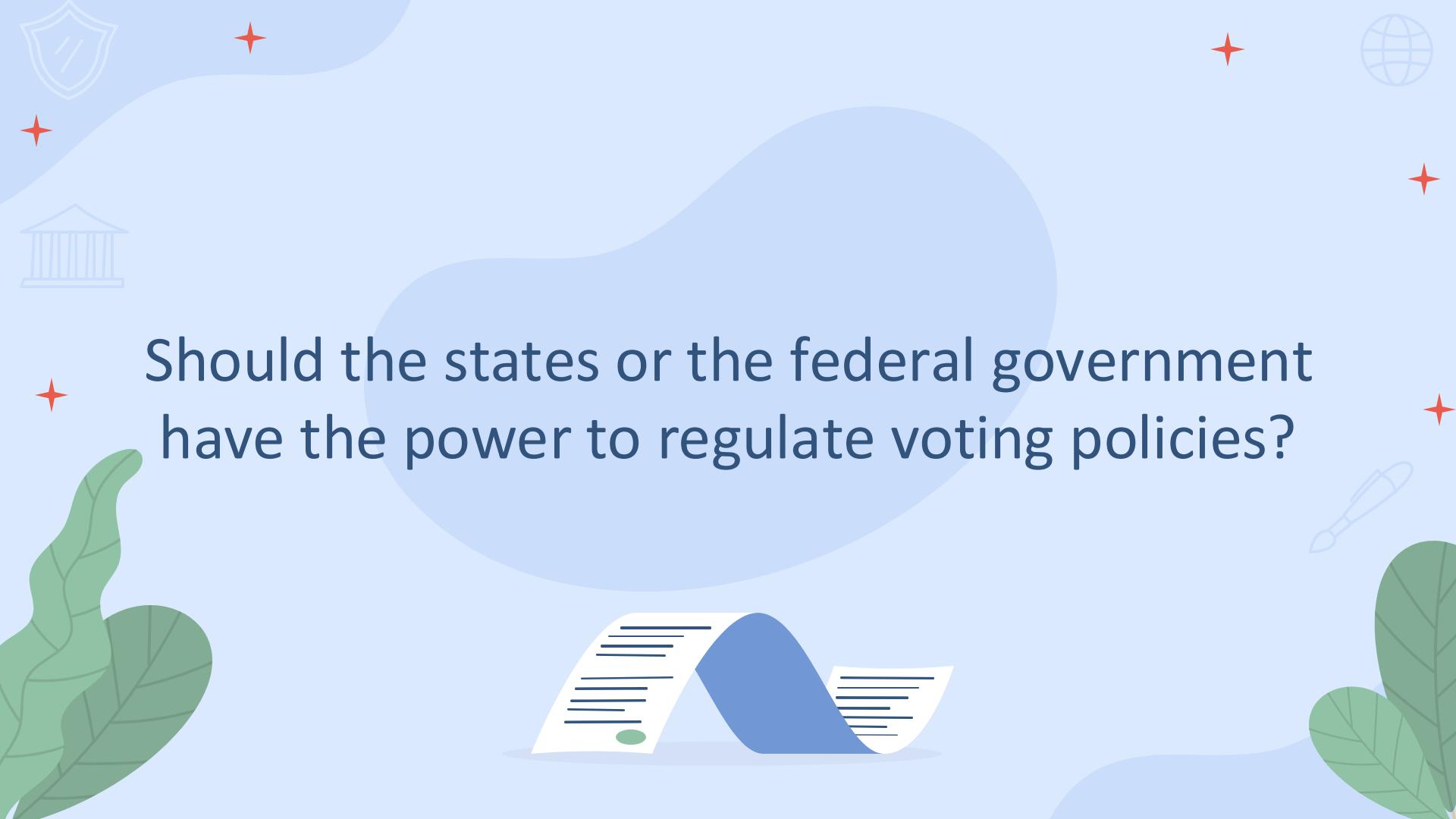
244,666,890

Voter Turnout

155,201,157
63%

Why is turnout so low??





Should the states or the federal government have the power to regulate voting policies?

Social Media Campaign

Your group has been hired by VoteSquad, a non-profit organization that focuses on providing unbaised information about voting in the US. Your job will be to create a social media campaign that informs the public about the benefits and drawbacks of various voting polices.