

America is a Republic.

Republic (government) (*Latin res publica, literally “the public thing”*), form of state based on the concept that sovereignty resides in the people, who delegate the power to rule in their behalf to elected representatives and officials.

“Cherish, therefore, the spirit of our people, and keep alive their attention. Do not be too severe upon their errors, but reclaim them by enlightening them. If once they become inattentive to the public affairs, you and I, and Congress, and Assemblies, Judges, and Governors, shall all become wolves.”

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Edward Carrington, January 16, 1787

I agree with James Madison

“Whatever may be the judgment pronounced on the competency of the architects of the Constitution, or whatever may be the destiny of the edifice prepared by them, I feel it a duty to express my profound and solemn conviction ... that there never was an assembly of men, charged with a great and arduous trust, who were more pure in their motives, or more exclusively or anxiously devoted to the object committed to them.”

~ James Madison, circa 1835

You want my vote?

Earn it by following the lead of our forefathers whose wisdom laid out the original plan for the manifest destiny of the United States of America.

Then, you will be following ME.

You want my vote? Then you will follow ME.

We the People

Public opinion sets bounds to every government, and is the real sovereign in every free one.

James Madison, Public Opinion, December 19, 1791

“Neither the wisest constitution nor the wisest laws will secure the liberty and happiness of a people whose manners are universally corrupt.

He therefore is the truest friend to the liberty of his country who tries most to promote its virtue, and who ... will not allow a man to be chosen into any office of power and trust who is not a wise and virtuous man.”

~ Samuel Adams

Nationalizing Banks

"I consider the foundation of the constitution as laid on this ground that 'all powers not delegated to the United States, by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states or to the people.' To take a single step beyond the boundaries thus specially drawn around the powers of Congress, is to take possession of a boundless field of power, not longer susceptible of any definition."

~ **Thomas Jefferson, Opinion on the Constitutionality of a National Bank, February 15, 1791**

"Wherever the real power in a government lies, there is the danger of oppression."
James Madison, letter to Thomas Jefferson, October 17, 1788

The Burden of Debt

"He that goes a borrowing goes a sorrowing."
Benjamin Franklin, from his writings, 1758

"The principle of spending money to be paid by posterity, under the name of funding, is but swindling futurity on a large scale."
~ **Thomas Jefferson, May 28, 1816**

"The same prudence which in private life would forbid our paying our own money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the dispensation of the public moneys."
~ **Thomas Jefferson, letter to Shelton Gilliam, June 19, 1808**

"But with respect to future debt; would it not be wise and just for that nation to declare in the constitution they are forming that neither the legislature, nor the nation itself can validly contract more debt, than they may pay within their own age, or within the term of 19 years." ~ **Thomas Jefferson, September 6, 1789**

"A rigid economy of the public contributions and absolute interdiction of all useless expenses will go far towards keeping the government honest and unoppressive." ~ **Thomas Jefferson, letter to Lafayette, 1823**

Transparency is my right

"The right of freely examining public characters and measures, and of free communication among the people thereon ... has ever been justly deemed the only effectual guardian of every other right."
James Madison, December 21, 1798

"A popular government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."
James Madison, August 4, 1822

"If we can but prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretence of taking care of them, they must become happy."

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Thomas Cooper, Nov 29, 1802

The Abuse of Power

"An elective despotism was not the government we fought for; but one which should not only be founded on free principles, but in which the powers of government should be so divided and balanced among several bodies of magistracy, as that no one could transcend their legal limits, without being effectually checked and restrained by the others." ~ **James Madison, Federalist No. 48, February 1, 1788**

"There are more instances of the abridgment of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations." ~ **James Madison, June 16, 1788**

"The legitimate powers of government extend to such acts only as are injurious to others. But it does me no injury for my neighbour to say there are twenty gods, or no god. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg."
~ **Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the State of Virginia, Query 17, 1782**

Law

"Laws are made for men of ordinary understanding and should, therefore, be construed by the ordinary rules of common sense. Their meaning is not to be sought for in metaphysical subtleties which may make anything mean everything or nothing at pleasure." ~ **Thomas Jefferson, June 12, 1823**

"The ordaining of laws in favor of one part of the nation, to the prejudice and oppression of another, is certainly the most erroneous and mistaken policy. An equal dispensation of protection, rights, privileges, and advantages, is what every part is entitled to, and ought to enjoy." ~ **Benjamin Franklin, Circa 1774**

The Sum of Good Government

"A wise and frugal government... shall restrain men from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government."
~ **Thomas Jefferson, First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1801**

"Government is instituted to protect property of every sort; as well that which lies in the various rights of individuals, as that which the term particularly expresses. This being the end of government, that alone is a just government which impartially secures to every man whatever is his own."
~ **James Madison, Essay on Property, March 29, 1792**