

The Evolution of American Political Parties

Federalists

- Washington, Adams, Hamilton
- Favored a strong federal government
- Died out after the Hartford Convention (1815)

Whigs

- Henry Clay, American System
- Formed to oppose Andrew Jackson
- Favored a stronger federal government
- Became divided over slavery

Republican

- Firmly against the expansion of slavery into new territory
- Only drew support from the North in the Election of 1860
- Pushed for protection of rights of freedmen during Reconstruction (Radical Republicans)

Democratic-Republicans

- Jefferson, Madison
- Feared a strong federal government, favored more state's rights.
- Only major political party from 1815-1828

Democratic

- Formed by Jackson's supporters for the Election of 1828
- Supported state's rights (up to a point)

Democratic

- Became primarily a Southern party during the 1860s.
- Many Southern Democrats actively opposed any progress for freedmen during Reconstruction (Redeemers)