

# Creative Federalism

## 1960-1980

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# Definition

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- Creative federalism was prominent during Lyndon B Johnson's Presidency and his Great Society program. Where the federal government determined the needs of the states to provide social services.

# The Great Society

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- The Great Society Program was created by Lyndon B. Johnson and extend to Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford's presidency was a series of domestic programs that primary functions were the elimination of poverty and racial injustice.

# Great Society Acts

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- Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965- allocates federal funding for primary and secondary school education and forbids the establishment of a national curriculum
- Social Security Act of 1965- authorized Medicare and provided for federal funding for many of the medical costs of older Americans

# Great Society Acts cont.

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- Clean Air Act of 1970- authorized the development of comprehensive federal and state regulations to limit emissions from both stationary sources and mobile source

# New Departments Created

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- ◉ During the Creative Federalism era, the created the Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, Energy, Education, Health, and Human services.

# Amendments added during Creative Federalism Era

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- 23<sup>rd</sup>- Provides representation of Washington D.C. in the electoral college
- 24<sup>th</sup>- Bans poll taxes
- 25<sup>th</sup>- Succession of Presidency if President dies or resigns.
- 26<sup>th</sup>- Voting age lowered to age 18 instead of 21

# Baker vs. Carr

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- The state legislature of Tennessee protested that the districts were underrepresented. The districts had grown the representation needed to be adjusted to guarantee the citizens equal protection under the law. The federal government did not want to deal with districting Tennessee. Supreme Court ruled that the courts are responsible for districting



# Other Court Cases

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- ◉ Wesberry v. Sanders – congressional districts must be drawn equally
- ◉ Furman v. Georgia – all existing death penalty laws violate the constitution

# Block Grants

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- A block grant is a large sum of money granted by the national government for social services