

AP United States History

Political Influence of Women and the Articles of Confederation

- Republican Motherhood
 - Calls on white women to maintain + teach republican values in the family
 - Grants women a new importance in American political culture
 - New roles for women
 - Women's education improved due to Republican Motherhood
 - Cooperative family life begins to spread as husband + wife work together as partnership
 - Women begin working in numbers as teachers
- New state governments and new constitutions
 - Each state constitution had a bill of rights
 - Concerned on protecting individual rights and preventing tyranny
 - Separation of power into Legislative, executive, judicial (Montesquieu)
 - All white males with property are given rights to vote
 - The Founding Fathers saw the common man as uneducated and easy to influence.
- How were the Articles of Confederation compared to the Constitution?
 - Fears over tyranny of one person (British monarchical reaction)
 - Much more states rights and little federal rights. Federal government could not levy taxes
 - No executive branch (president), no judiciary
 - State laws supersede federal laws
- The Northwest Ordinance (1787)
 - A law passed under the Articles of Confederation soon before it was abolished
 - Defines the way new states in the northwest can enter into the union
 - These newly-created states would have slavery automatically banned
 - This is the first document to create a de jure geographical divide between slave states and abolition states

- The argument is that they are taking jobs away from whites, not moral (at this time)
- Shays' Rebellion (1786-1787)
 - Daniel Shays was a destitute farmer from Western Massachusetts, former American soldier in the War of Independence
 - Leads a rebellion against high taxes and debts
 - Exposes the weaknesses of the AOC and calls for revising them