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**ANDREW JACKSON AND HIS FOLLOWERS
ARE THE GUARDIANS OF CERTAIN AMERICAN IDEAS**

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AP AMERICAN HISTORY: PERIOD 2

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Good Intro paragraph

The progression of democracy is gradual. In America, democracy is like an invention that needs constant tinkering. The people that start this invention have no idea how it will turn out. In the process of this invention, people fix what needs fixing and change what needs changing, in order to make the invention better. The seventh president, Andrew Jackson, does his part to make America and its democracy better. Some people get left out of the process, but Jackson does his best to protect the American ideas. As far as the progression of democracy ok concerns itself, the Jacksonians are the guardians of the United States Constitution, political democracy, individual liberty, and equality of economic opportunity.

The safety of the Constitution is an integral thing for the Jacksonians to ensure. While making sure everyone has their rights, Jackson must hold the Union together. Between 1828 and 1833, South Carolina threatens to leave the Union. They claim a tariff financially drains them, by increasing prices they pay for manufactured goods that they can't make. Some are ready to ~~FEDERAL~~ ① secede to get away from the government's tariff. Vice President Calhoun, who is from South Carolina, ~~discovered~~ ② nullification instead of secession. South Carolina would nullify the tariff, making it unlawful in their state. If the other states pass the tariff, South Carolina must give in or leave the Union. South Carolina does nullify, but Jackson stops at nothing to force South Carolina to accept the tariff. Congress reaches an

Good paragraph but you didn't use any documents

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agreement with South Carolina. This satisfies Jackson, because he wants South Carolina to remain with the Union and to stay with the Constitution. Jackson shows that the federal government carries more weight than any state government. He also proves the Constitution is safe, as the ultimate law of the states, by showing that South Carolina can't defy it. This protection of the Constitution is important, because Jackson must guarantee that the Union won't fall apart to something like the Articles of Confederation. Under the Constitution, the Union is strong, and guarding the Constitution will keep the Union strong.

Even more important than the preservation of the Constitution is the proper development of political democracy. Andrew Jackson helps to expand political democracy in the right direction. For awhile, only land-owning, adult, white males could participate in voting and office-holding. This changes greatly when Jackson steps in and a little before he assumes office. States begin allowing any adult white males to vote or hold office. This is a great step towards political democracy for all. Andrew Jackson even wants to develop a rotation for assuming office, where everyone gets a chance to govern. The other big change in democracy is nominating a presidential candidate. Before Jackson's time, a small "caucus" of people in the party would choose the whole party's candidate. (It's not This isn't fair to the whole party, so this changes to a whole big convention.) At the convention of the party, they would pick a compromised to the others (E)

~~NO DOCUMENT~~
~~(3)~~

candidate to run for president of the U.S. Many more members would be at the convention to have a say in the selection, which makes it more democratic. Although women, blacks, and Indians have nothing in this broadening of democracy, it would pave the way for them to get into the democratic process in the future.

It takes one step at a time, and Jackson makes a big step towards democracy for all. Jackson guards political democracy in the right way, which is not guarding it from the people at all. The people are the ones who deserve to participate in the democratic process.

The most prominent idea is individual liberty. If the citizens aren't free to be and do what they wish, then everything else goes down the drain. Jackson is all for individual liberty, and during his time in office, liberty is at an all time high. It would continue to rise of course, but for Jackson's time, liberty is well in the hands of the people. Liberty or freedom produces good effects, such as "the absence of poverty, of gross ignorance, of all servility, of all insolence of manner..."

(Document D) Jackson has no desire to impede the pursuit of happiness, which derives itself from liberty. It is the responsibility of government to eliminate the obstacles to social mobility. By guarding the individual liberty of the people, Jackson's job is so much more easier. There is less revolt, because Jackson and the government don't interfere with personal freedom. People can live their own lives out of the clutches of

I don't feel like you proved your point
here - Just a lot of opinion. ~~(5)~~

the government. Guarding individual liberty is essential to government for Jackson.

Finally, equality of economic opportunity for all is necessary to Jackson. Andrew Jackson has two major questions about economics to deal with during his presidency. The first one is simple, and Jackson goes about it almost singlehandedly. It concerns the Bank of the United States, which was designed by Alexander Hamilton. Jackson holds a grudge against the Bank of U.S. He pursues it the way he pursues Indians, which is to destroy. Jackson believes the Bank only benefits the wealthy and is corrupt. ("It is easy to conceive that great evils to our country and its institutions might flow from such a concentration of power in the hands of a few men irresponsible to the people.") (Document B) Jackson removes the government's deposits, and the Bank of the U.S. comes to ruin. Jackson believes the end of the Bank would help all the citizens in their economics. In the second situation of economic opportunity, Jackson has some help from his old ally, chief justice to the Supreme Court, Roger B. Taney. This is the case of *Charles River Bridge vs. Warren Bridge* (1837). It involves one company wishing to own a monopoly on bridge-building over another company wishing to build just one bridge. ("...we must not forget, that the community also have rights, and that the happiness and well-being of every citizen depends on their faithful preservation,") says Chief Justice Taney. (Document H) The Supreme Court does not grant the

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monopoly. In the end, it comes out that now anyone can get a license to run a corporation. This extends economic opportunity to all, a definite positive for Jackson. Before, only people weak with lots of money and influence in state legislature could get a corporation. Jackson is a guardian of equal economic opportunity for all, because he is able to reach his high status position by economic opportunity. Eventually, everyone would receive equal economic opportunity, but for the time, Jackson makes a huge step in this progression of democracy.

As far as the progression of democracy goes, the Jacksonians are the guardians of the United States Constitution, political democracy, individual liberty, and equality of economic opportunity. Admittedly, Jackson leaves women, blacks, and Indians out of the picture for these American rights, but he does take a few steps towards making America a more democratic country. The future leaders can build on what Jackson accomplishes, as he builds on what his predecessors accomplish.

This is history - ~~and~~ everything should be in past tense. -4