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To What extent are characterizations of Hoover and FDR Valid?

Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln are thought of as the first Democrat and the first Republican. However, Democrat Franklin Roosevelt and Republican Herbert Hoover ~~were~~ were somewhat different from their predecessors. Hoover was commonly considered a conservative, while FDR was normally thought of as a liberal.

Many reasons exist as to why Hoover is considered a conservative. First of all, conservatives are known for favoring business ~~over~~ over government. They like less government and low taxes. The Great Depression best illustrates why Hoover was conservative. The first reason ~~was~~ was his idea of voluntary cooperation. In the early days of the Depression, Hoover, as president, urged business, labor, and agricultural leaders to not fire employees or make the conditions of the country any worse than they already were. His system of voluntary cooperation didn't work very well, and it collapsed. Hoover also showed his conservatism when he condemned liberation. ~~that~~ "It is the road, not to more liberty, but to less liberty." (Document A)

Like his fellow Republicans, Hoover believes in a system of laissez faire. Laissez faire means for government to stay out of the way of business. Another way to explain Hoover's conservatism is in government spending. As the economic conditions grew worse, Hoover became less willing ~~to~~ to spend government money. He did appropriate \$520,000,000 ~~for~~ for loans to "merchant shipbuilders improvement of the navy, and other construction work". (Document B) This is much money, but a conservative amount. In the following years of the Great Depression much more money would be spent. Hoover is conservative in every way.

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"It  
is the road, not to more liberty, but to less liberty." (Document A)

(Document B)



Franklin Roosevelt was far more liberal than Hoover. His programs massively tried to reform the poor economic conditions. FDR was also one to spend much money on the programs. His programs were more far-reaching than Hoover's programs. For example, the Works Progress Administration or WPA was given a \$5,000,000,000 budget to work with. The Civil Works Administration or CWA was far-reaching, because it put 4,000,000 people to work during one winter. FDR was more liberal in trying to help those who couldn't help themselves. He extended a hand to the elderly and blind by creating the Social Security Act, which provided money to the two needy groups. FDR was also a good definition of a liberal, because liberals like a more intervening government. They like spending money and taking more. FDR showed his liberalism through results. Expenditures by the federal government went up every year from 1929 to 1941. The country went into a deficit, also under FDR. (Document F) FDR is finally a liberal, because he likes government solving problems. (Document H)

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Hoover was a conservative and FDR was a liberal. These two were totally opposite in popularity. FDR was the more popular president.