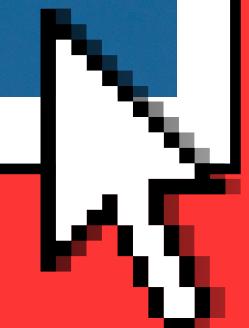


US POLITICAL PARTIES



REPUBLICANS VS DEMOCRATS

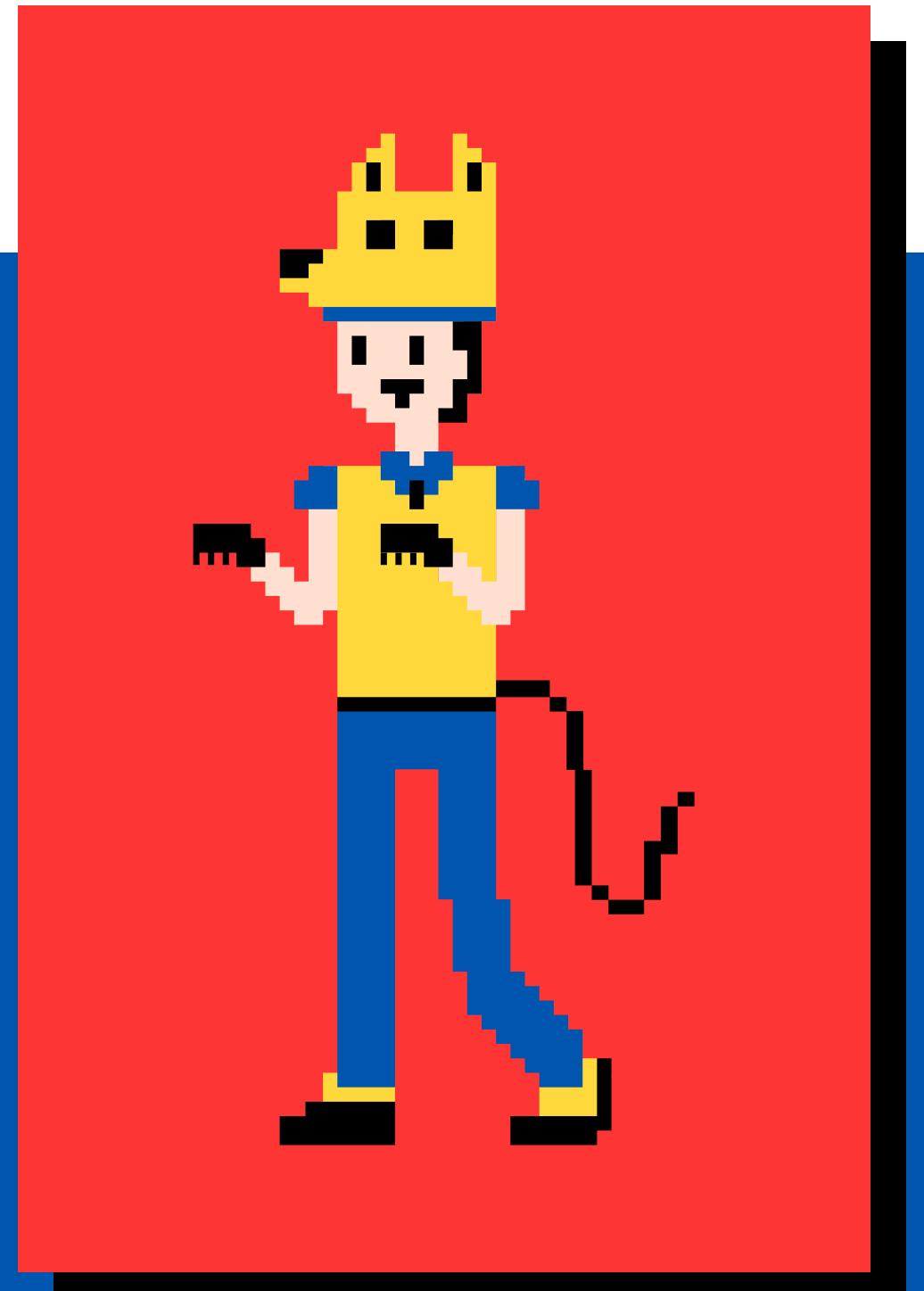
Political parties are like poets; born, not made.

-Henry Ford

A Short History

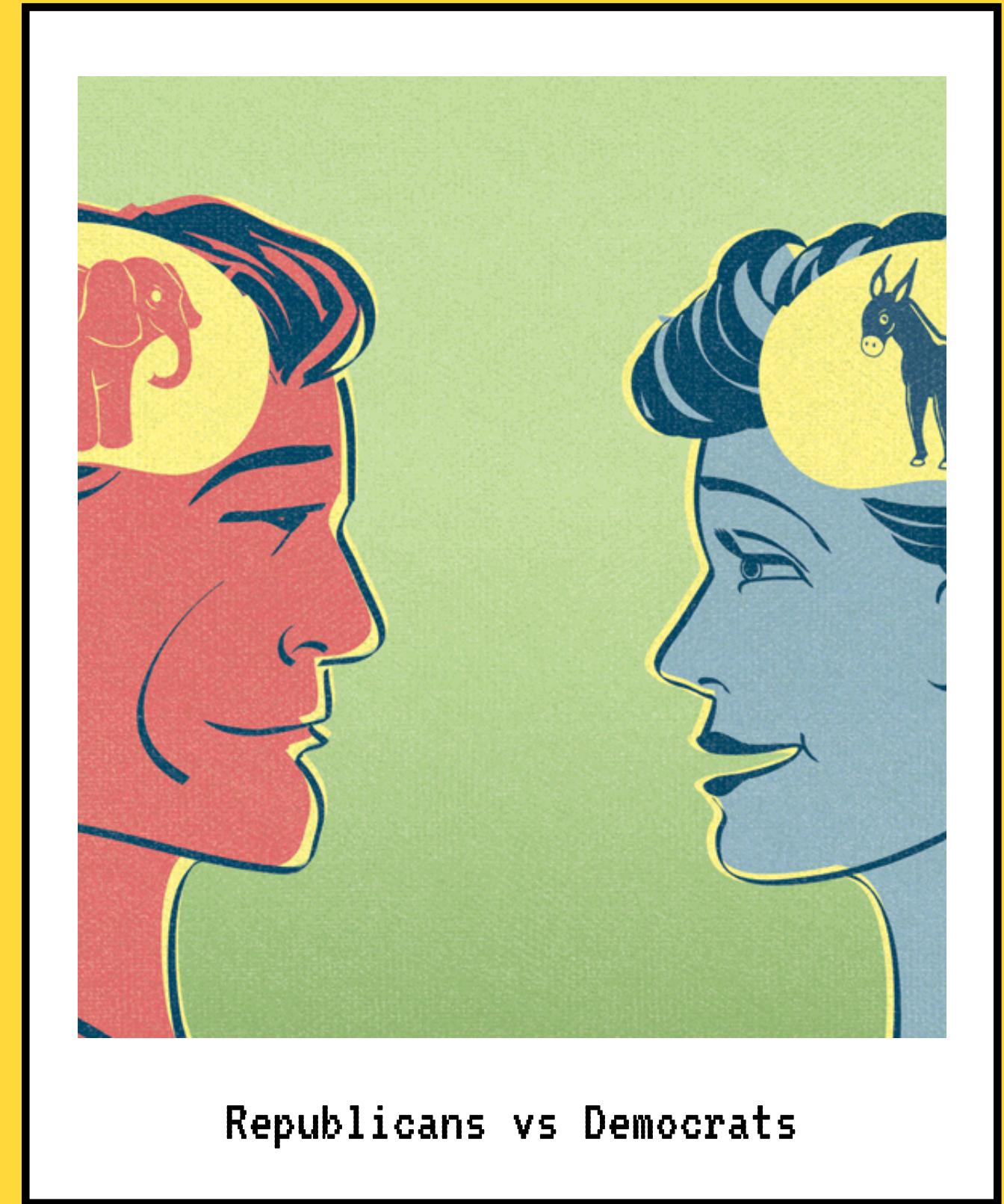
The Democratic Party traces its origins to the anti-federalist factions around the time of America's independence from British rule. These factions were organized into the Democrat – Republican party by Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and other influential opponents of the Federalists in 1792.

The Republican party is the younger of the two parties. Founded in 1854 by anti-slavery expansion activists and modernizers, the Republican Party rose to prominence with the election of Abraham Lincoln, the first Republican president. The party presided over the American Civil War and Reconstruction and was harried by internal factions and scandals towards the end of the 19th century.



DIFFERENCES

- 01** Philosophy
- 02** Stance on controversial issues
- 03** Role of Government
- 04** Color and Symbol



Differences in Philosophy

Things to note before you jump in

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Republican philosophy known as left-leaning means more towards individual freedoms, rights, and responsibilities (liberal). In contrast, Democrats known as right-leaning means attach greater importance to equality and social/community responsibility (conservative).



Differences in their stance on controversial issues

Military

Republicans: Prefer increasing military spending and have a more hard-line stance against countries like Iran, with a higher tendency to deploy the military option.

Democrats: Prefer lower increases in military spending and are comparatively more reluctant to using military force against countries like Iran, Syria and Libya.

Gay Marriage

Democrats tend to favor equal rights for gay and lesbian couples e.g. the right to get married and adopt children.

Republicans believe that marriage should be defined as between a man and a woman so they do not support gay marriage, nor allowing gay couples to adopt children.

Taxes

Democrats support progressive taxes. A progressive tax system is one where high-income individuals pay taxes at a higher rate.

Republicans support tax cuts for everyone (rich and poor alike). They believe that a smaller government would need less revenue from taxes to sustain itself.

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Differences in their stance on controversial issues



Minimum Wage

Democrats favor increasing the minimum wage, including setting a federal limit so that it also applies in so-called red states. They argue that minimum wage should be high enough that someone working a full-time minimum wage job should not be below the poverty line.

Republicans argue that raising the minimum wage hurts businesses, which makes them hire fewer workers, slowing down the economy for everyone. They also argue that since the cost of living is different in each state, minimum wage laws should take that into account rather than mandating a \$15 wage nationally (which they argue is too high for some states).

Immigration

There is greater overall support in the Democratic party for a moratorium on deporting (or offering a pathway to citizenship to) certain undocumented immigrants. e.g. those with no criminal record, who has lived in the U.S. for 5+ years.

Republicans are generally against amnesty for any undocumented immigrants. They also oppose President Obama's executive order that put a moratorium on deporting certain workers. Republicans also fund stronger enforcement actions at the border.

Healthcare Policy

Democrats support universal healthcare; strong support of government involvement in healthcare, including Medicare and Medicaid. Generally support Obamacare.

Republicans think private companies can provide healthcare services more efficiently than government-run programs. Oppose Obamacare provisions like (1) requirement for individuals to buy health insurance or pay a fine, (2) required coverage of contraceptives.

Role of Government

One of the fundamental differences between Democratic and Republican party ideals is around the role of government. Democrats tend to favor a more active role for government in society and believe that such involvement can improve the quality of people's lives and help achieve the larger goals of opportunity and equality.

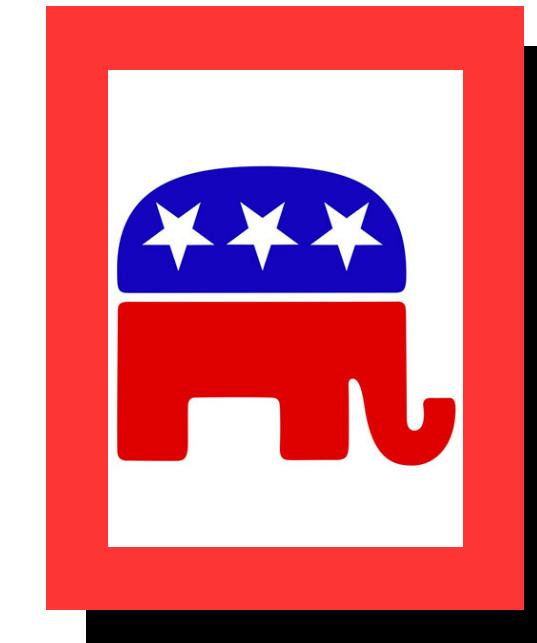
On the other hand, Republicans tend to favor a small government — both in terms of the number of people employed by the government and in terms of the roles and responsibilities of government in society. They see "big government" as wasteful and an obstacle to getting things done. Their approach is Darwinian capitalism in that strong businesses should survive in a free market rather than the government influencing—through regulation—who wins or loses in business.



Color and Symbol



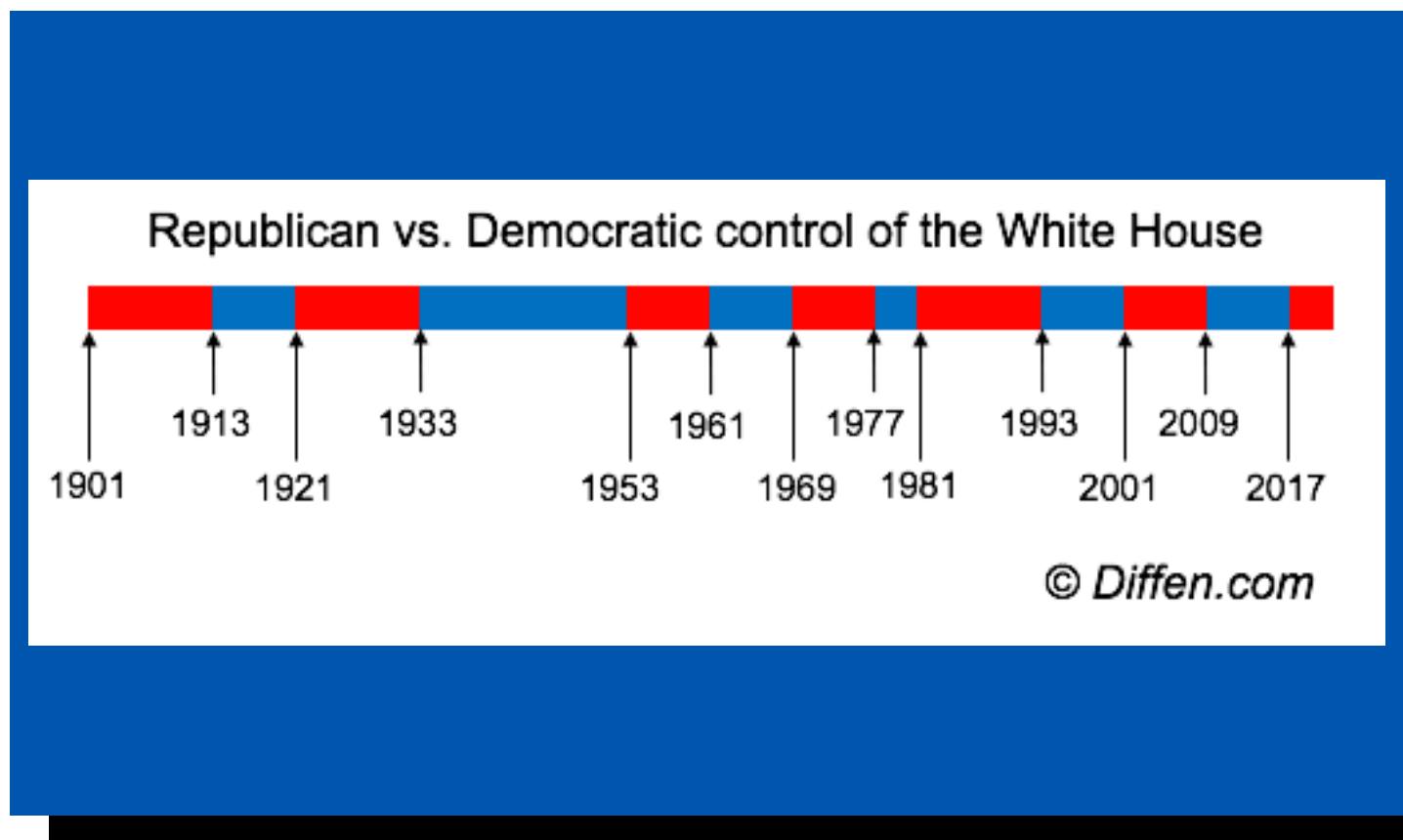
The Democratic party is often associated with the color blue and the donkey mascot. That dates back to Democratic candidate Andrew Jackson's 1828 presidential campaign when opponents called him a "jackass" for his stubbornness. Instead of taking the nickname as an insult, Jackson embraced it and used the donkey image on his election posters. It was then quickly adopted by newspapers and political cartoonists.



The Republican is often associated with the color red and the elephant symbol. It came along years later. Many believe it came about, in part, due to a widely used expression during the Civil War led by Republican President Abraham Lincoln. Soldiers entering battle were said to be "seeing the elephant" — a phrase that means learning a hard lesson, often with a profound cost. The symbol was then popularised by political cartoonist Thomas Nast; an early rendition featured in the 1879 edition of Harper's Weekly.

Control of White House and famous Presidents

This graphic shows which party controlled the White House since 1901.



Famous Democrat Presidents have been Franklin Roosevelt, who pioneered the New Deal in America and stood for 4 terms, John F. Kennedy, who presided over the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban missile crisis, and was assassinated in Office; Bill Clinton, who was impeached by the House of Representatives; and Nobel Peace Prize winners Barack Obama and Jimmy Carter.

Famous Republican Presidents include Abraham Lincoln, who abolished slavery; Teddy Roosevelt, known for the Panama Canal; Ronald Reagan, credited for ending the Cold War with Gorbachev; and the two Bush family Presidents of recent times. Republican President Richard Nixon was forced to resign over the Watergate scandal.

THANK YOU !

I hope you learned something new!

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