

Paraphrase of Ben Franklin Quote about Constitution -

1. It's not great, but it's the best we got.

Some basic concepts -

From French philosopher - Montaigne

1. Separation of powers between branches

2. Three branches of govt

- executive - carries out the duties of govt
- legislative - make laws
- judicial - interpret the law in courts

3. Checks and balances - each branch has some control over other branches

examples -

President can veto a law from Congress

Congress can impeach presidential officers and the President

Congress approves Presidential appointees to the third branch, the judiciary (Supreme Court - top)

Supreme Court can rule that a policy or law is unconstitutional

Preamble Notes - 031214

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Magna Carta, 1215 - God and King rule over and protect the land and the people

We the People of the United States - based on the rule of the people

Goals -

1. Form a more perfect union - better than the loosely bound Articles of Confederation
2. establish Justice - one system of Justice that has final say when disputes between states.
3. insure domestic Tranquility - peace within the borders and between the states.