

The Right to Vote

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Broad Trends

- The Voting Amendments fought against a legacy of exclusion
 - Class, race, and gender
 - Decentralized process
 - Not linear

Voting Views

William Blackstone, 1774

“The true reason of requiring any qualification with regard to property...is to exclude such persons as are in so mean a situation that they are esteemed to have no will of their own...they would be tempted to dispose of them under some undue influence...”

John Adams

“Depend upon it, Sir, it is dangerous to open so fruitful a source of controversy and altercation as would be opened by attempting to alter the qualifications of voters; there will be no end to it...women will demand the vote; lads 12 to 21...and every man who has not a farthing...”

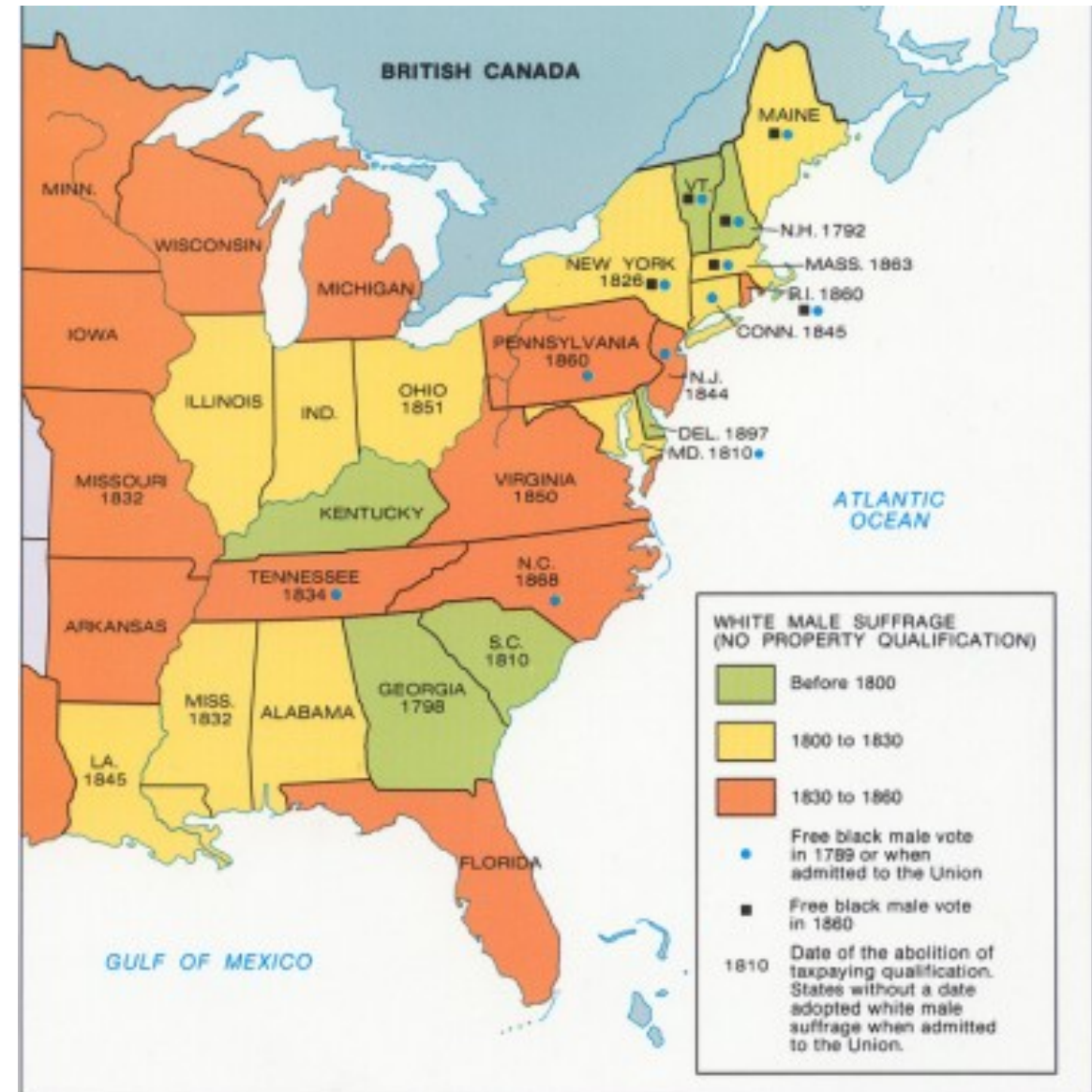


Colonial Era

William Hogarth's Election Series

Universal White, Male Suffrage

- Left to states
- Property or income requirements
- 1790s-1830s → abolition of property requirements
 - Rise of party system
- Age of “Common Man”:
 - Andrew Jackson
 - Political Parties



Women's Suffrage

- Party politics
- State suffrage
- Early suffragettes
 - Global influence
 - Abolition/temperance
 - Seneca Falls
 - Political associations



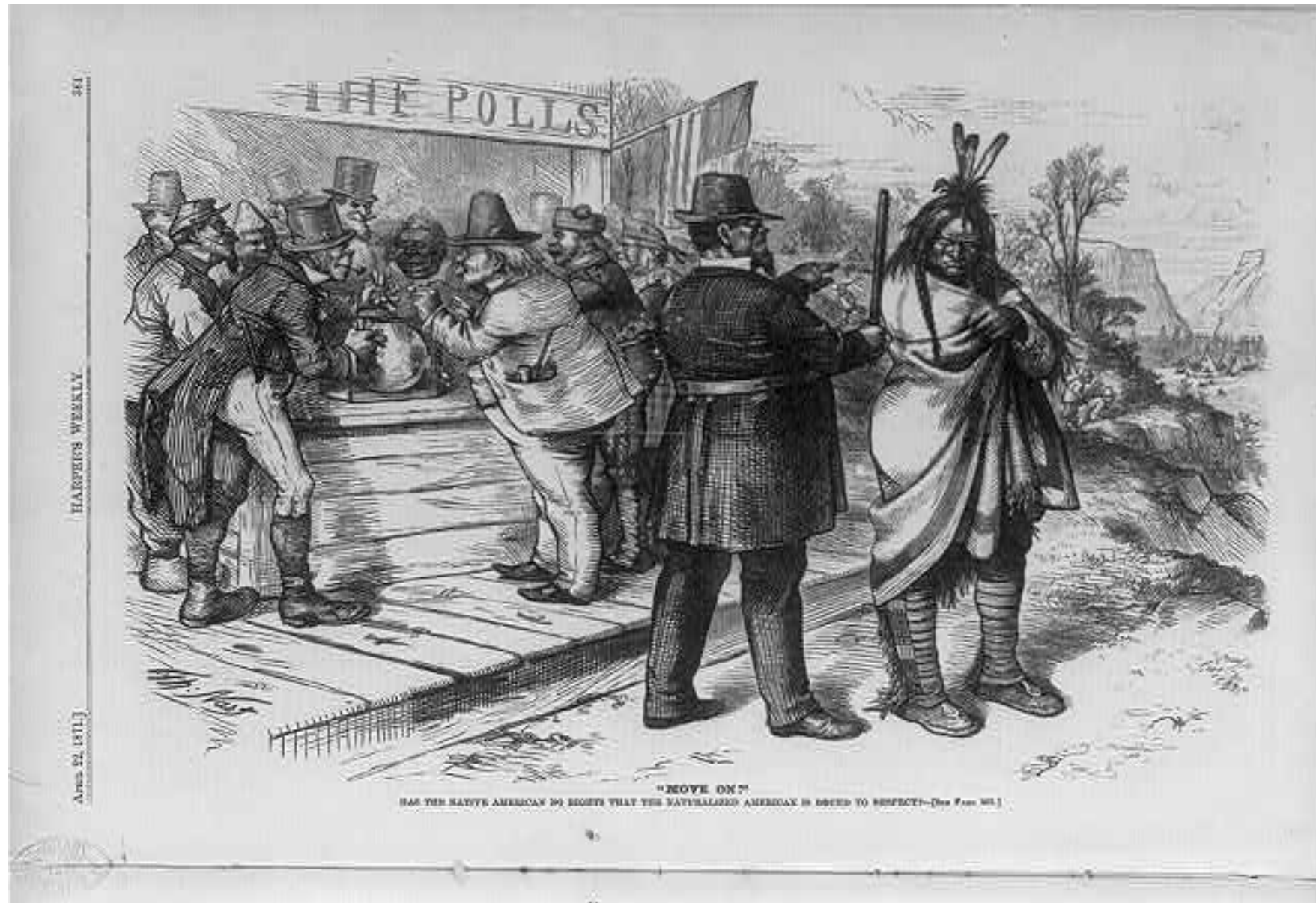
Seneca Falls Convention Opening Statement

“We are assembled to protest against a form of government, existing without the consent of the governed—to declare our right to be free as man is free, to be represented in the government which we are taxed to support, to have such disgraceful laws as give man the power to chastise and imprison his wife, to take the wages which she earns, the property which she inherits, and, in case of separation, the children of her love.” ~ Elizabeth Cady Stanton

What Next?

Voting in the 20th Century

Marginalized Groups



African American Voters

- Jim Crow
- Protests
- 24th Amendment (1964)
- Voting Rights Act of 1965



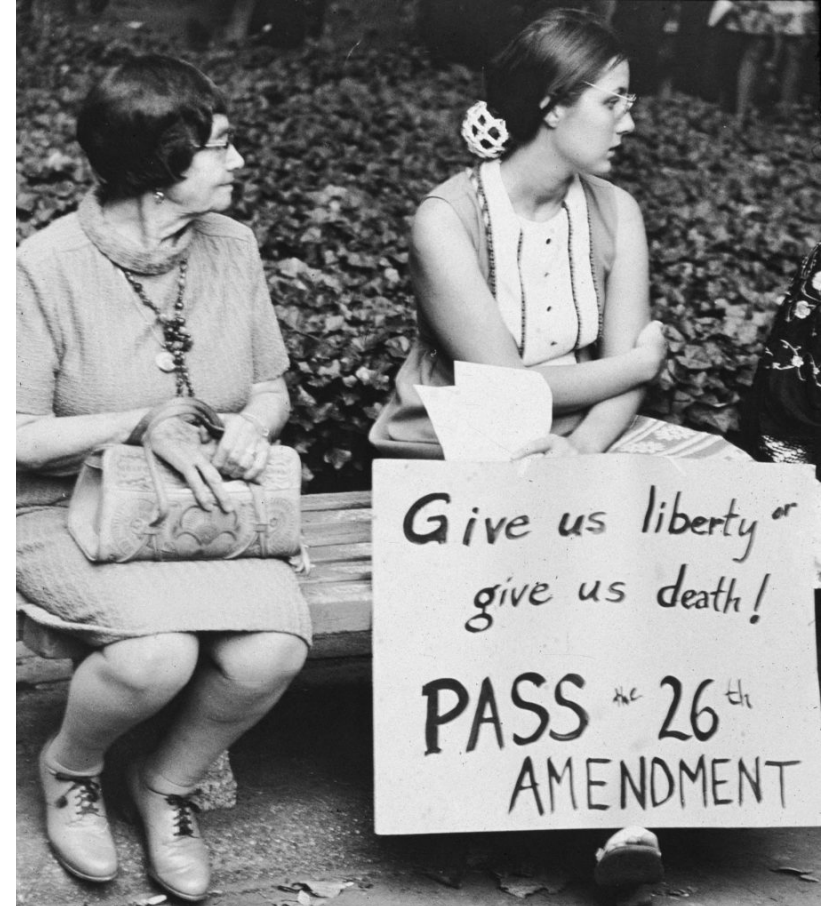
One Man, One Vote

- Warren Court
- *Baker v. Carr* (1961)
- Reapportionment for state legislatures, local governance



Age

- Vietnam
- Draft
- Individual states
- 26th Amendment



Issues?