

The Constitution Impact on the Development of American Freedom

Student's Name

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How did the Constitution Impact the Development of American Freedom?

Introduction

The Americans obtained their sovereignty in 1776. This was when the American drafting of the constitution began, and in 1777 the constitutional articles were adopted. The congress delegates met for the second time and agreed to adopt this constitution. The articles contained the laws for the thirteen national states represented by their congress member. The articles were unsuccessful and led to the need for a new set of articles. The new articles for the new document were needed because if the amendments were to be made to the earlier articles, all thirteen states would have to come to a consensus.

The Constitution Impact on the development of American Freedom

One major reason for the proposal of the new document was to assist the different states in operating in harmony under one national government¹. The intention was to ensure the document operated in all the states. The proposal to amend articles failed because many states felt uncomfortable with those articles operating in their states². It was not easy for the thirteen states to reach a consensus, which led to the proposal of coming up with new articles that would form the constitution. Therefore, in 1787 the constitution was drafted, and in 1788 the document was ratified. 1789 was the year when the constitution started to operate. Those who proposed this

¹ Johansen, Bruce E and Barry Pritzker. 2008. *Encyclopedia Of American Indian History*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO.

² Bianco, William T and David T Canon. 2011. *American Politics Today*. New York: W.W. Norton..

draft were satisfied that the draft had formed a powerful central government that ensured the harmonious operation of the United States.

Several of the united thirteen states proposed the change of articles that the previous government used to sustain it. The articles stated that the thirteen elected delegates formed the national congress. Most of the decisions depended on the majority vote in the national congress because each state had one vote of their representative. Those who supported reforms had some reasons, such as the confederation of the different states where loose, these articles limited the central government authority and gave the states too much power.

In the articles, there was no federal provision for taxes, which limited the government from performing serious duties like providing funds for the army. Trade control and regulation under these articles were limited to the national government. The same articles did not allow the central government to cultivate foreign relations and affairs. Therefore, these led to the understanding that these articles would only create a weak national government³. Furthermore, the articles did not have enough ground to unite the entire states. The white males who opposed the constitution had several reasons. One was that those who had the right to vote owned property. All states supported this right of property owners to vote apart from Pennsylvania State. Also to be a holder of an office depended on the properties you owned. These articles denied the central government from collecting taxes, though it could collect federal levies.

³ Bianco, William T and David T Canon. 2011. *American Politics Today*. New York: W.W. Norton.

The constitution led to the development of American freedom and did away with the discrimination of some Americans from being involved in public affairs. It brought especially the democratic rights and social welfare of the secluded people. These were the natives, enslaved people, women, and poor white males. These people had no voting rights, based on the articles. The constitution did away with the use of property as a measure to hold federal government office. The poor could now campaign for federal seats, which was their freedom to gain leadership positions. The Native Americans and women, through the bills of rights, obtained their freedom as well. The first ten amendments prevented states from favoring any part and provided these group freedoms.

People were given the freedom to gather peacefully in public places. Minority group could present their grievances and complaints, and they would be rectified. Those who were unrepresented could not be arrested without reason, and their property was withheld. The rights of women were protected through creating equality measures. The constitution ensured the few elites did not have absolute power over the citizens. The slaves, especially the blacks, got their freedom based on the new constitution. The northern states ended the slave trade when the constitution was established.

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