

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
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Chapter Twelve

The President

Learning Outcomes

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- 12.1 Explain the formal and informal roles played by the president, and discuss the constitutional or political origins of those roles.
- 12.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the president's powers as commander-in-chief and the procedures described in the War Powers Act.
- 12.3 Discuss the president's role in the legislative process; describe executive tools to initiate or block legislation.
- 12.4 Explain the emergency powers of the president and the executive powers of the president.
- 12.5 Explain the process by which a president could be impeached and forced to leave office.
- 12.6 Describe the executive offices that support the president.
- 12.7 Describe the job of the vice president, and explain the circumstances under which the vice president becomes president.

Who Can Become President?

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- The Process of Becoming President
 - Article II, Section 1
 - “No person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty-five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.”

Who Can Become President?

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Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum



AP Images

Harry Truman, left, is shown when he was the proprietor of a Kansas City, Missouri, men's clothing store, about 1920. Ronald Reagan, right, is shown as a frontier marshal in the movie *Law and Order*, released in 1953. Compared to members of Congress, presidents have had more varied backgrounds. *How would varied life experiences benefit a president?*

The Many Roles of the President

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- Head of State
- Chief Executive
 - The Powers of Appointment and Removal
 - The Power to Grant Reprieves and Pardons

The Many Roles of the President

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© White House Photo/Alamy

President Barack Obama discusses global economic issues with other world leaders at the G8 summit held at Camp David, Maryland in May, 2012. *Do you think such face-to-face meetings produce tangible results or just reinforce personal relationships?*

The Many Roles of the President

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- Commander in Chief
 - Wartime Powers
 - The War Powers Resolution
- Chief Diplomat
 - Diplomatic Recognition
 - Proposal and Ratification of Treaties
 - Executive Agreements

The Many Roles of the President

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AP Photo

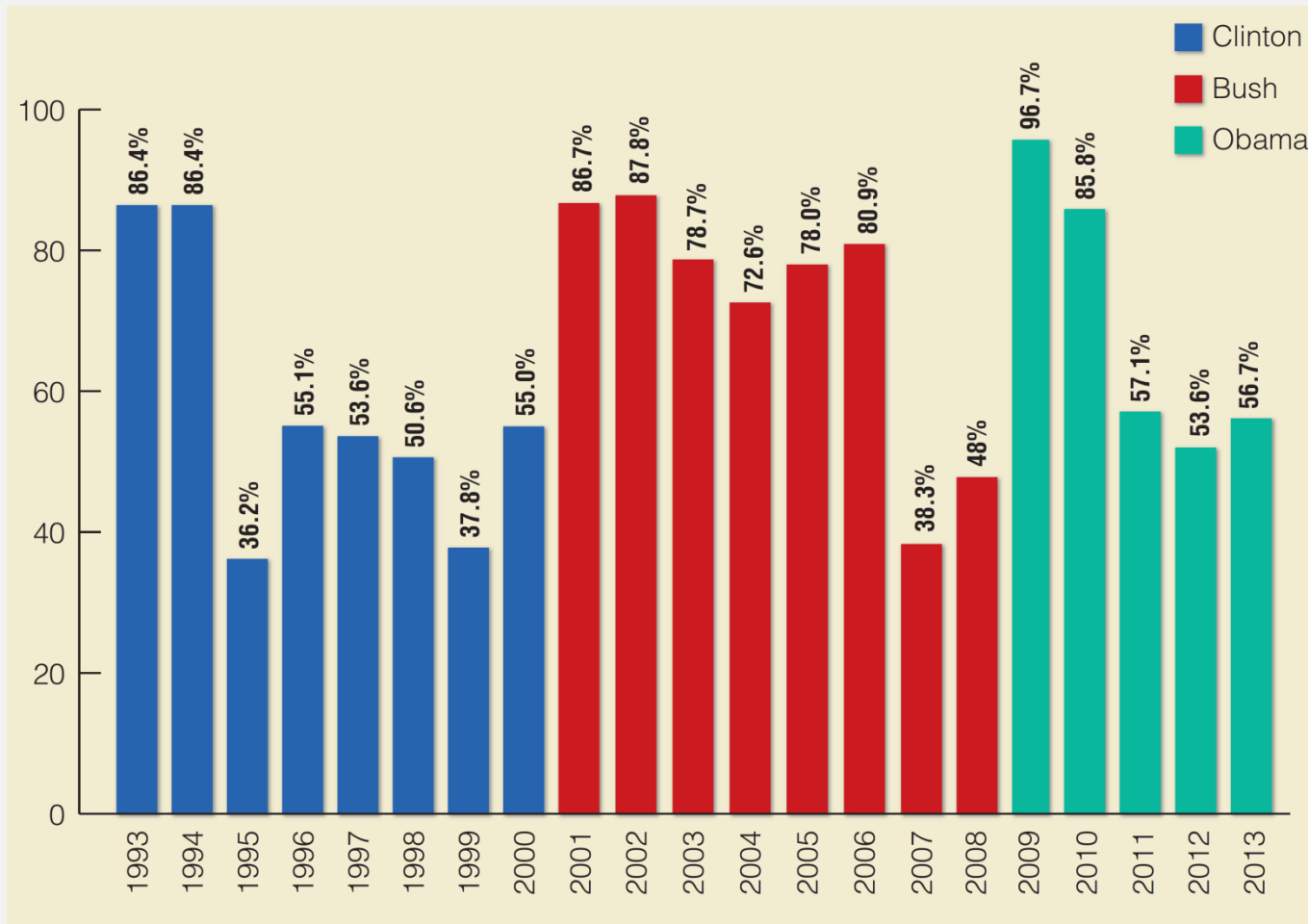
The Many Roles of the President

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- Chief Legislator
 - Legislation Passed
 - Saying No to Legislation
 - The Line-Item Veto
 - Congress's Power to Override Presidential Vetoes

Presidential Success Rate by Year of Presidency

10



The Many Roles of the President

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- Other Presidential Powers
 - Statutory
 - Expressed
 - Inherent

The Many Roles of the President

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President Dwight D. Eisenhower prepares for a nationwide radio and television address in 1959. In that address he called for new labor legislation “to protect the American people from the gangsters, racketeers, and other corrupt elements that have invaded the labor management field.”



AP Photo/Byron Rollins

The President as Party Chief and Superpolitician

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- The President as Chief of Party
 - Patronage
- The President's Power to Persuade
- Constituencies and Public Approval
 - Presidential Constituencies
 - Public Approval
 - George W. Bush and the Public Opinion Polls

The President as Party Chief and Superpolitician

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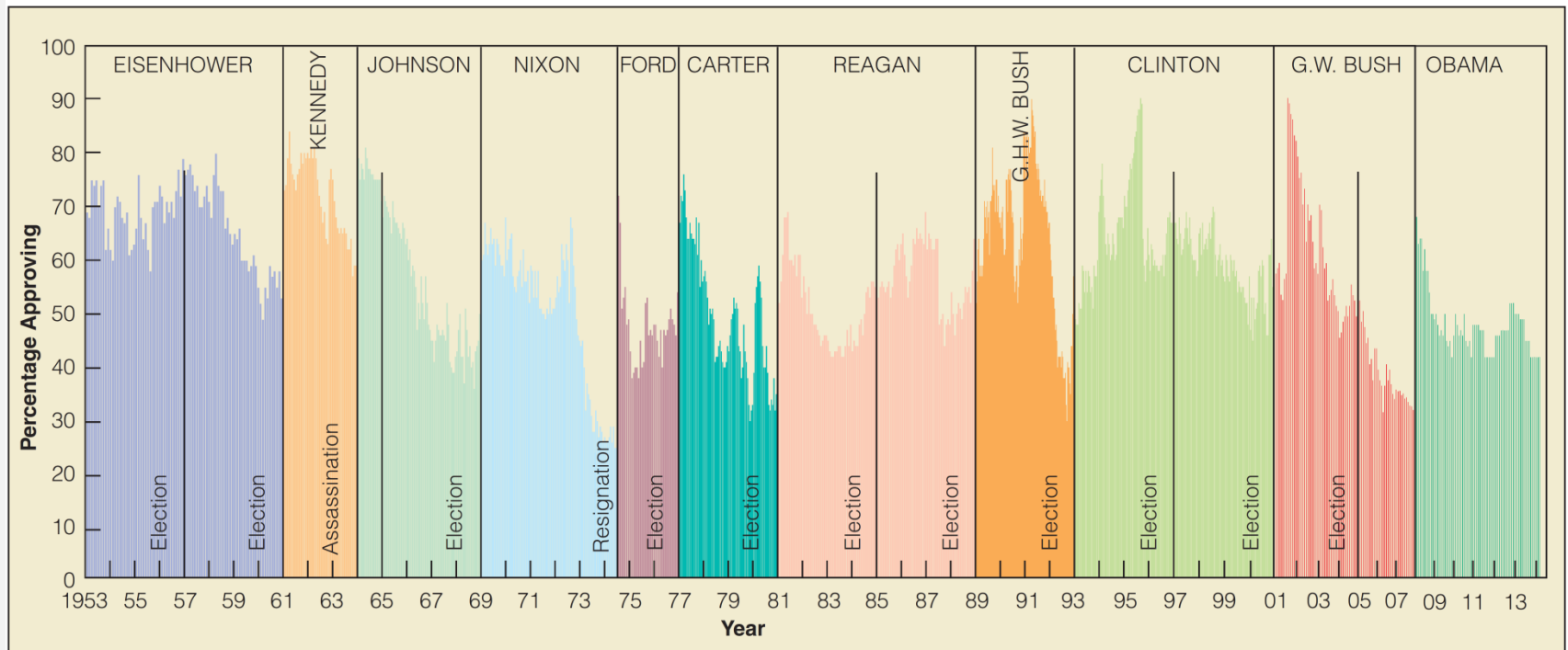
- Barack Obama and Popular Approval
 - “Going Public”



AP Photo/Bill Chaplis

Public Popularity of Modern Presidents

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Special Uses of Presidential Power

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- Emergency Powers
- Executive Orders
- Executive Privilege
 - Limiting Executive Privilege
 - Clinton's Attempted Use of Executive Privilege

Special Uses of Presidential Power

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- Abuses of Executive Power and Impeachment



The Executive Organization

- The Cabinet
 - Members of the Cabinet
 - Kitchen cabinet
 - Presidential Use of Cabinets
 - Discretionary

The Executive Organization

- The Executive Office of the President
 - The White House Office
 - Chief of Staff
 - The Office of Management and Budget
 - The National Security Council
 - “Policy Czars”

The Vice Presidency

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- The Vice President's Job
 - Strengthening the Ticket
 - Supporting the President

Supporting the President

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Retweeted by Joe Biden

 **Office of VP Biden @VP** · 24 Jan 2013

Today, @VP Biden participated in a Google+ Hangout about the Admin's plan to reduce gun violence: wh.gov/yAkY pic.twitter.com/Nvrb1eQA



Expand Reply Retweet Favorite More

Office of VP Biden/Twitter

The Vice Presidency

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- Presidential Succession
- The Twenty-Fifth Amendment
- When the Vice Presidency Becomes Vacant

Gerald Ford's Pardon of Richard Nixon

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Video Discussion Questions

1. What were Gerald Ford's greatest political assets as president?
2. Why was Ford's decision to pardon Nixon controversial?
3. Ford's public approval ratings were low during his presidency. How do you rank him in terms of presidential greatness?