

A Comparogram of Federalist and Anti-Federalist Thought on the Small-Large Republic Argument

Common Ground

Differences

The “Problem” in human nature/government

The Solution or Advantage Offered by Republican Government

A-F Version (Small Rep)

F Version (Large Rep)

The preservation of human nature in civil society (i.e. retaining the our naturally “free” nature in the context of being ruled by government)

Voluntary Attachment (republican government means its citizens obey the government as an act of free, rational choice)

Participation (In intimate, local institutions)

Confidence or appreciation in effective, well-run Government

Ambition of the political class (problem of tyranny of government reduced to the self-interest of the governors)

Responsibility (of the governors to the governed/to public good)

Simple Institutions/ Institutions that cannot Become vehicles Of self-interest)

Complex Institutions that encourage and channel/ Balance the Self-interest Of the governors

Eventual decay of free government (generational amnesia)/attachment of citizens to common good

Citizen Character (both required by/ generated by republican institutions)

Civic Virtue (Citizens whose Primary attachment/ Love is the common Good)

Enlightened self-interest