



**Contested Elections  
1800 - 1824 - 1876 - 2000  
What happens if the results are challenged?**

**Activities**

**I. Watch Film:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13T4FXzkwELI39V-4ub6Oq7Wg-drsfSBB/view?usp=sharing>

**II. Classroom Discussion:**

There were 4 contested elections discussed in the film.

- Why were they contested?
- How were they resolved?
- How do you think the citizens felt after the election?

**III. Cartoon Analysis**

- Use (4) political cartoons below and complete the Cartoon Analysis Worksheet
- Research and write a summary of their interpretation of the cartoons.

[https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/cartoon\\_analysis\\_worksheet\\_former.pdf](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/cartoon_analysis_worksheet_former.pdf)

**Election of 1800**



<https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/elections/election1800.html>

<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/creating-the-united-states/election-of-1800.html>

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?17321>

**Election of 1824**



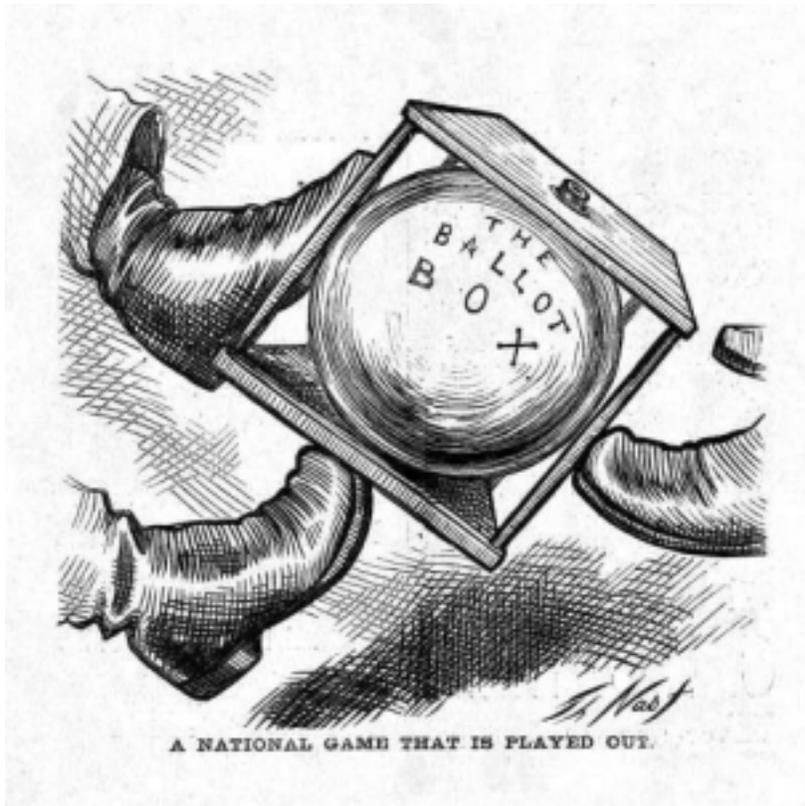
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/curricula/presidential-election-1824-election-house>

<https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/2020/10/22/the-1824-presidential-election-and-the-corrupt-bargain/>

<https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/elections/election1824.html>

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?17322>

## Election of 1876



<https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/elections/election1876.html>

<https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/educational-resources/disputed-election-1876>

<http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/footballhistory.html>

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?17323>

**Election of 2000**



<https://www.npr.org/2018/11/12/666812854/the-florida-recount-of-2000-a-nightmare-that-goes-on-haunting>

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/reflections-on-the-2000-u-s-presidential-election/>

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?17324>

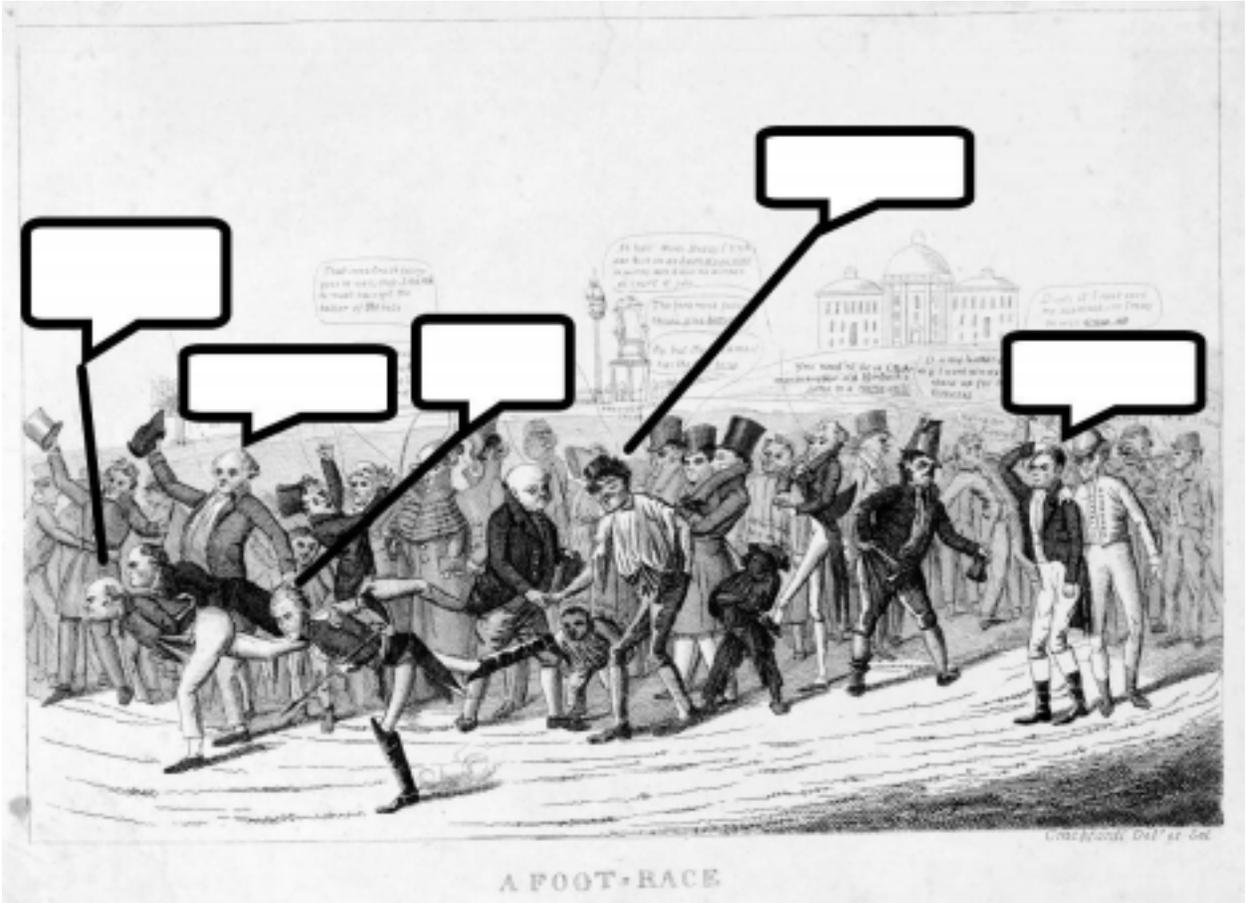
#### IV. Complete Graphic Organizer

Election of 1800 Election of 1824 Election of 1876 Election of 2000

Who were the candidates?				
Who won the election?				
Who won the popular votes?				

Who ultimately decided the election?				
What was the dispute?				
What was the reaction to the results?				
In what way were the elections similar or different?				
Do you think the decision was fair?				

**V. Fill in the chat boxes for Election of 1824 cartoon**



VI. **Visual Thinking Strategies:** Students use two cartoons below about the Election of 2020 to work with a partner and lead each other through questions and facts for interpretation. Optional: Present to class as modeled in the film.

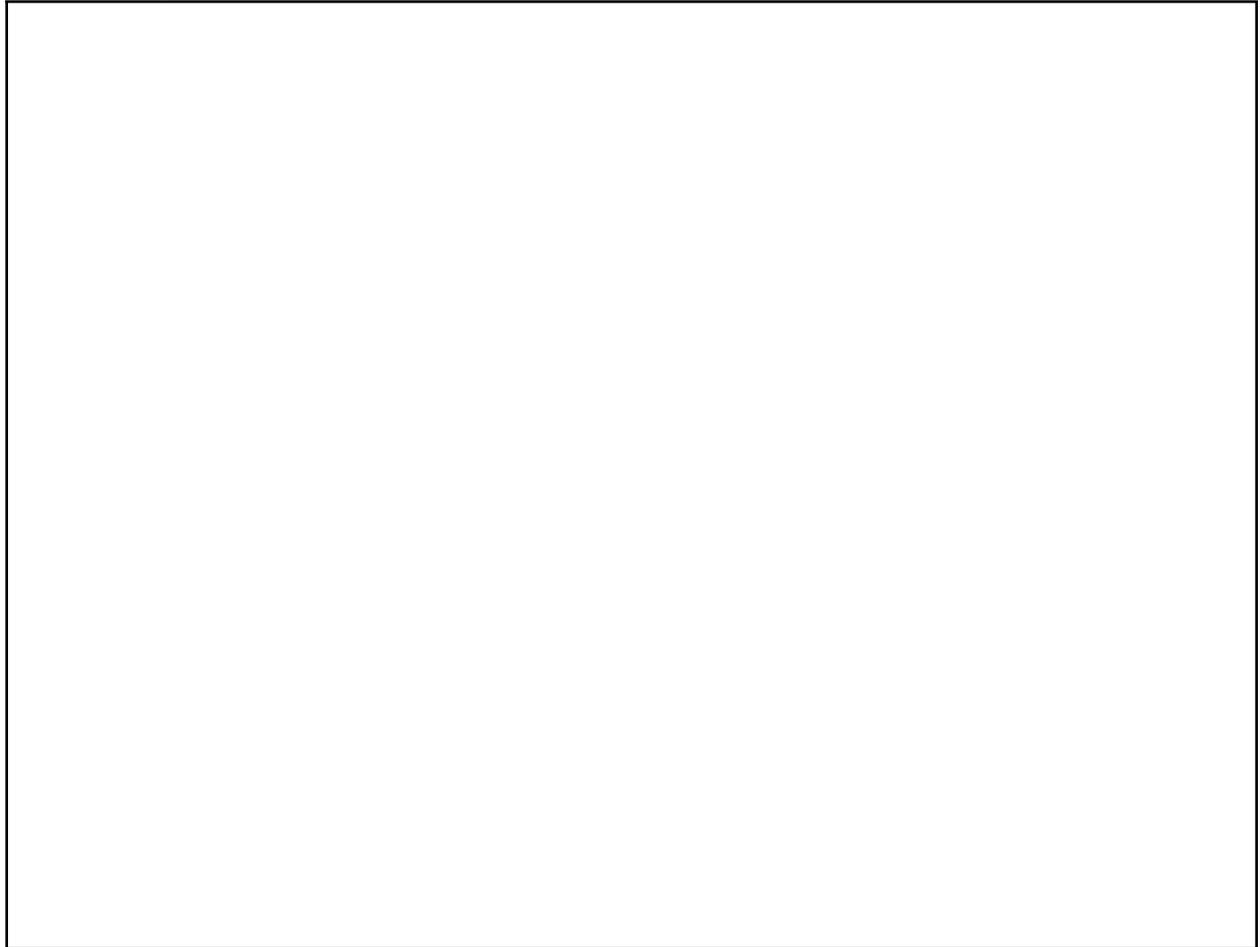


Cartoon for Nov. 4, 2020 Dave Granlund from West Central Tribune



“Until the last breath,” by Petar Pismestrovic Credit: Petar Pismestrovic, Kleine Zeitung, Austria via [Caglecartoons.com](http://Caglecartoons.com)

**VII. Create your own political cartoon based on the Election in 2020.**



**VIII. Final Discussion questions**

- What similarities do you see with all of the contested elections including the Election of 2020?
- How did the resolution of the contested 2000 election compare to previous ones?
- How has the process for electing a president changed since the election of 1800?
- How does the contesting of elections affect our nation? Our democracy? What long term effects might they have on our democracy?
- How is the current election process for electing a president and resolving contested elections an example of federalism and checks and balances? ● What do you think are some solutions to end contested elections?

**IX. Culminating Activity - Inquiry Design Model**

Do We Need the Electoral College?

<https://c3teachers.org/inquiries/electoral-college/>

Other discussion questions

- How did the resolution of the contested 2000 election compare to previous ones?
- How has the process for electing a president changed since the election of 1800?
- How does the contesting of elections affect our nation? Our democracy? What long term effects might they have on our democracy?
- How is the current election process for electing a president and resolving contested elections an example of federalism and checks and balances?

Truman Library educational resources

[Educational Resources | Harry S. Truman \(trumanlibrary.gov\)](#)

Digital Archives

[Online Collections | Harry S. Truman \(trumanlibrary.gov\)](#)

Photo collection

[Photographs - Search | Harry S. Truman \(trumanlibrary.gov\)](#)

1948 Election

[The 1948 Election Campaign | Harry S. Truman \(trumanlibrary.gov\)](#)

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[www.TrumanLibrary.gov](http://www.TrumanLibrary.gov)