

How did the  
democratic-  
republican system  
develop



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The democratic-republican system was founded through a series of events that led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence and to the American revolutionary war.

It was a sort of modernized version of the Monarchy system minus the ??? divine right??™ and the heredity of the throne through royal blood. This system would not have been possible without the creation of the Magna Carta, the Petition of Right and the English Bill of Rights along with steps taken to create popular assemblies in order to show how capable the colonials were of governing themselves. The Magna Carta, of 1215, was the first and main contributor to the democratic-republican system and the development of common law. The reason for this is because the Magna Carta pretty much abolished the Monarchy system by taking the ??? divine power??™ away from the king. It stated several things that the king could not do, giving people freedom, but the 61st article is the most important because it bound the king to obey those laws and if he broke any he was to be reported and judged accordingly: ??????; that the barons, namely, my elect at their pleasure twenty five barons from the realm, who ought, with all their strength, to observe, maintain and cause to be observed, the peace and privileges which we have granted to them and confirmed by this our present charter. In such wise, namely, that if we, or our justice, or our bailiffs, or any one of our servants shall have transgressed against any one in any respect, or shall have broken some one of the articles of peace or security, and our transgression shall have been shown to four barons of the aforesaid twenty five??;and they shall ask us to cause that error to be amended without delay??;if our justice do not amend it within a term of forty days??;we being

abroad, to our justice: the aforesaid four barons shall refer the matter to the remainder of the twenty five barons, and??| with the whole land in common, shall distraint and oppress us in every way in their power??|until amends shall have been made according to their judgment??|???, King John of England was forced to sign this with threat of war if he did not do so. Many clauses were later renewed throughout the Middle Ages leading us to the Petition of Right in 1628.

The Petition of Right was much like the Magna Carta only it asserted four principles: that no taxes should be levied without consent of Parliament, reaffirmation of the right of habeas corpus, no quartering and freedom from martial law. King Charles, ruler at the time, agreed to this, but kept violating it anyway. When colonization in the new world began in 1607 England did not have a way to make people follow the law so governors were appointed to each colony, but the colony??™s citizens elected popular assemblies in which the king had no say in. These assemblies consisted of free white men who owned land. The assemblies were tax funded by the colonials and they served to protect the people from the laws or simply get their way by employing ??? the trick of withholding the governor??™s salary unless he yielded to their wishes.

??? The assemblies also came up with new laws; of course these had to be passed through the council before they could go into effect. In 1684 King James II centered lawmaking powers in the Dominion councils he had appointed rather than colonial assemblies, but the Dominion collapsed with the Glorious Revolution in 1689. Mary, daughter of James II, and William took over with the signing of the English Bill of Rights where the people were  
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given ??? the right of the subjects to petition the king, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petition [to be] illegal.??? And ??? that the subjects which are Protestants may have arms for their defense suitable to their conditions and as allowed by law.??? This restricted the royal government in colonial affairs giving the colonials more freedom. By 1763 the colonies and Great Britain had been drifting apart at the end of the Seven Years??™ War. This war got the British government into debt and to try and pay off this debt Parliament set a series of measure to increase taxes on the colonials through the Stamp Act and the Sugar Act enforced by tax collectors and British army. They thought it was a fair way to have colonials pay to keep the colonies under British Empire, but because Parliament did not directly represent the colonies the colonials felt that Parliament had no right to levy taxes on them, so they rebelled creating a Stamp Act Congress and finally uniting the American people.

Britain was then forced to appeal the Stamp Act and passed the Declaratory Act where colonies were bound to the British laws. The Colonists rebelled again boycotting British goods with tea being among them and in ??? December of 1773, roughly a hundred Bostonians, disguised as Indians, boarded the docked ship, smashed open 342 chests of tea, and dumped their contents into the Atlantic:??? The Boston Tea Party. In 1774, in response to the Boston Tea Party, Parliament passed the ??? Intolerable Acts??™ where most of local assemblies were banned. This is when the first Continental Congress was held, but Parliament rejected the Continental Congress??™s petitions. Afterwards Americans were encouraged to take on new governments and adopt republican ideals by Thomas Paine, but the

people were afraid of strong Britain, so on July 4th of 1776 the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Congress announcing that they were cutting all ties with Britain; with this commitment to republican ideals the American Revolution seemed inevitable.

The Americans were able to completely win their independence in 1783 with the help of France who wanted revenge on Britain and this led to the start of Republican ideals in the states. Although the war with Britain was over there were still internal wars left to fight such as the pursuit of equality which went well, but stopped short of including slaves from the south and women throughout the colonies. A separation from the church and state was established. The Constitutional Convention created a permanent charter for a whole new government making the Constitution the permanent bedrock of American political values and in 1789 is where we find the first sign of the Democratic-Republican system when the first leader of a nation was elected through vote rather than heredity. The struggle to a close to fair democratic-republican system was hard and long and would not have been possible if none of the stated things above wouldn't have happened.

By abandoning English constitutionalism and creating a new republic based on the rights of the individual, the Americans introduced a new force in which they allowed republicanism to enter our world. Just a note: I got solid C on this essay so obviously it needs work. the quotes I got were from the magna carta, the petition of right and The brief American pageant textbook by Kennedy Cohen Piehl