



## Part 2:



# CHECKS AND BALANCES in the US Government

**"CHECKS AND BALANCES"** refers to the **SEPARATION OF POWERS** mandated by the US Constitution that results from **DIVIDED BRANCHES** of POWER.

The US Constitution divides power among three branches of government-- Executive, Legislative and Judicial--to prevent any one from having too much power.

Each branch is said to have the power to **CHECK** the power of the others, in order to maintain a **BALANCE** in the government.

### EXECUTIVE



### LEGISLATIVE



veto legislation



impeach presidents

declare presidential acts unconstitutional

nominate judges

### JUDICIAL



impeach judges

declare laws unconstitutional