

Federalist Papers No. 51:

1. According to the author, if men were angels, what would not be necessary? If men were *governed* by angels, what would not be necessary?

2. The author states that there are two great difficulties in framing a government which is to be administered by men, over men. What are those two difficulties?

3. The authors states that in a republican form of government, the legislature is the predominant authority. What does he suggest is the best way to limit the power of the legislature?

4. He also says that the “Executive Magistrate” (President) is weak in this system. He says that the Executive Magistrate should be armed with what “natural defense”? What Presidential Power is he referring to here?

5. The author says that America is a compound republic, meaning that the power surrendered by the people is divided in what fashion? What is he referring to when he says this?

6. How does this give “double security” to the rights of the people?

7. The author states that, in a republic, it's not only important to safeguard against the oppression of the rulers, but also to guard against what?

8. He says that in both civil rights and religion, the degree of security is dependent upon what?

9. What is the “end of government” and the “end of civil society”? It will be pursued until what?

10. The author states that because of the variety of interests, parties & sects in the United States, a majority of the whole society would only agree on what?

Answer Key:

1. Government
2. Internal or external controls
3. To divide the legislature into different branches
4. “An absolute negative” ; The Veto Power
5. “between two distinct governments” ; The federal government and the state governments
6. The different governments will control each other while each is also being controlled by itself (there are checks & balances within the federal & state levels... AND the states will keep the federal government in line—and vice versa).
7. Guard one part of society against the injustice of the other part.
8. The number of interests & sects
9. Justice; until it is obtained.
10. Principles of justice & the general good.