



*E PLURIBUS
UNUM?*

LESSON PLAN



QUESTION:
HAVE YOU EVER
REALLY LOOKED
AT A U.S.
QUARTER?



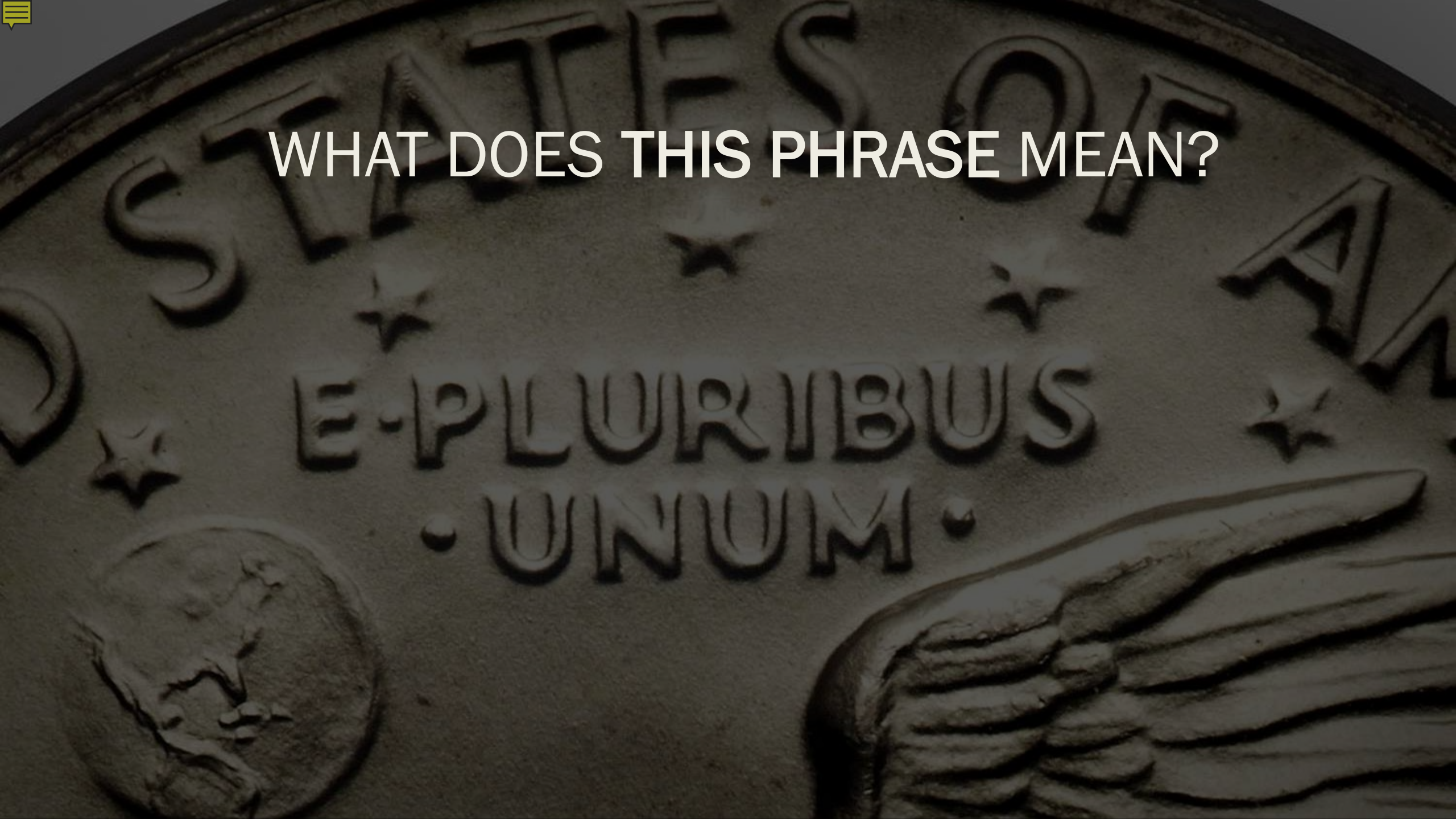
IN AN AGE WITH ALL OF THESE, PROBABLY NOT



BUT ...
LET'S
TAKE A
LOOK



WHAT DOES THIS PHRASE MEAN?



A close-up, dark-toned image of the Seal of the United States. The central focus is the motto "E-PLURIBUS UNUM" embossed in a circular arrangement. Above it, the words "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" are partially visible, also embossed. The seal features several stars and a central shield with a figure. The overall image has a grainy, high-contrast appearance.

OUT OF MANY, ONE

WHAT DOES *THAT* MEAN?



MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MOTTO

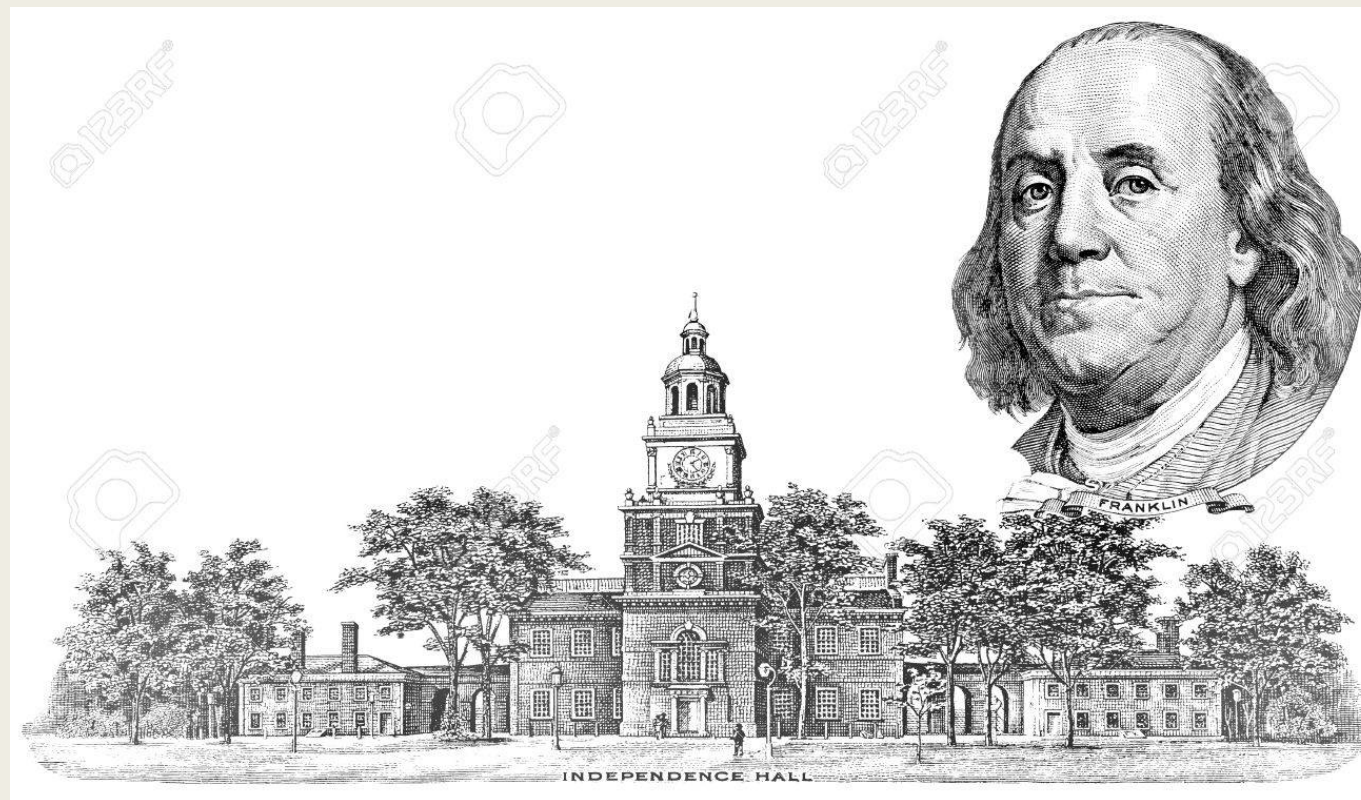
WHAT OR WHO WERE INCLUDED IN THE 'MANY' BACK IN 1787?

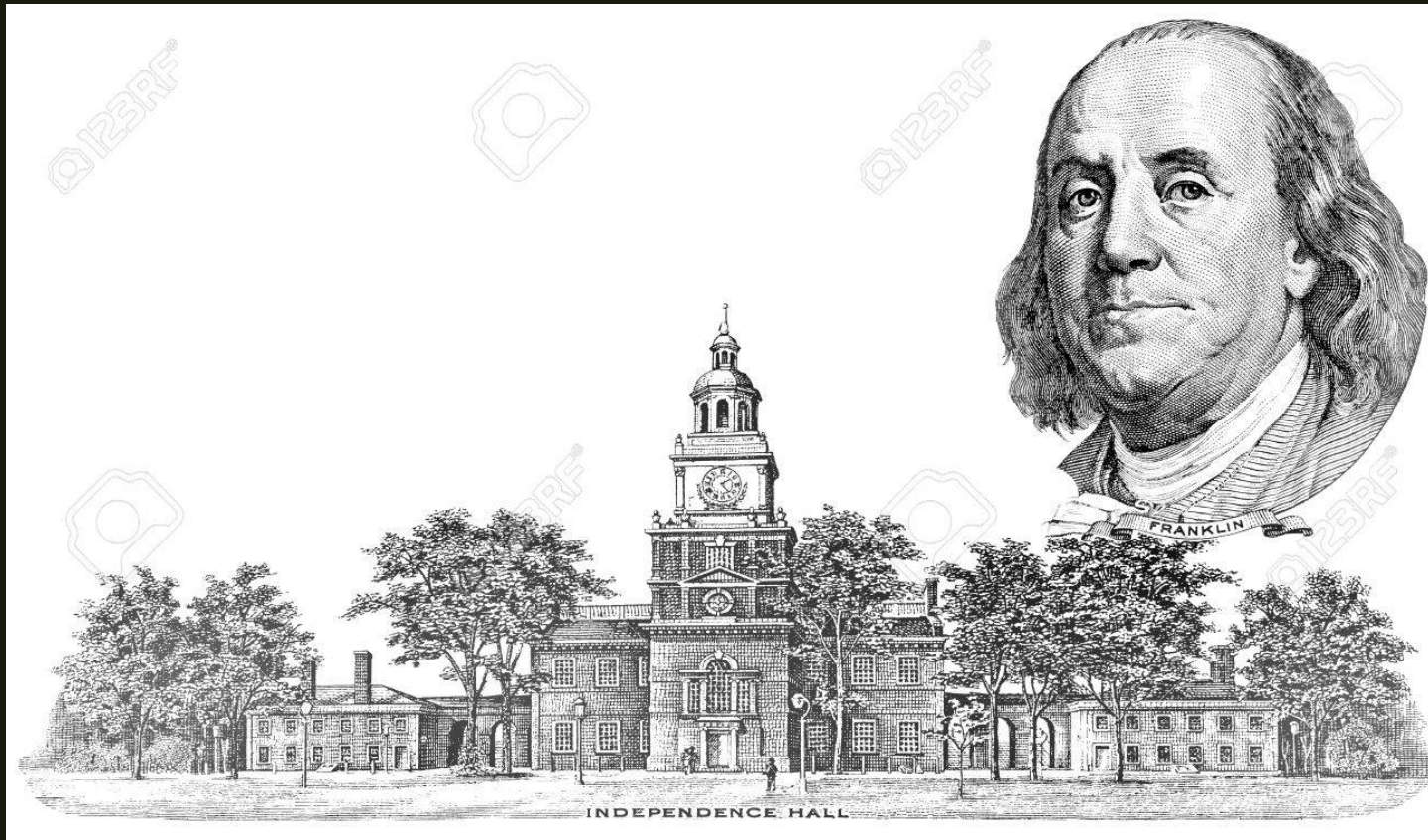
HOW HAS THAT CHANGED TODAY?

AND WHAT IS THAT 'ONE' SUPPOSED TO BE AND DO?

A STORY (PERHAPS TRUE) ABOUT OL' BEN ...

THE STORY GOES THAT ...
AS BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
EMERGED FROM
INDEPENDENCE HALL AT THE
END OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION IN 1787, A
PROMINENT PHILADELPHIA
WOMAN CALLED TO HIM:
“DR. FRANKLIN, WHAT HAVE
YOU GIVEN US, A MONARCHY
OR A REPUBLIC?”

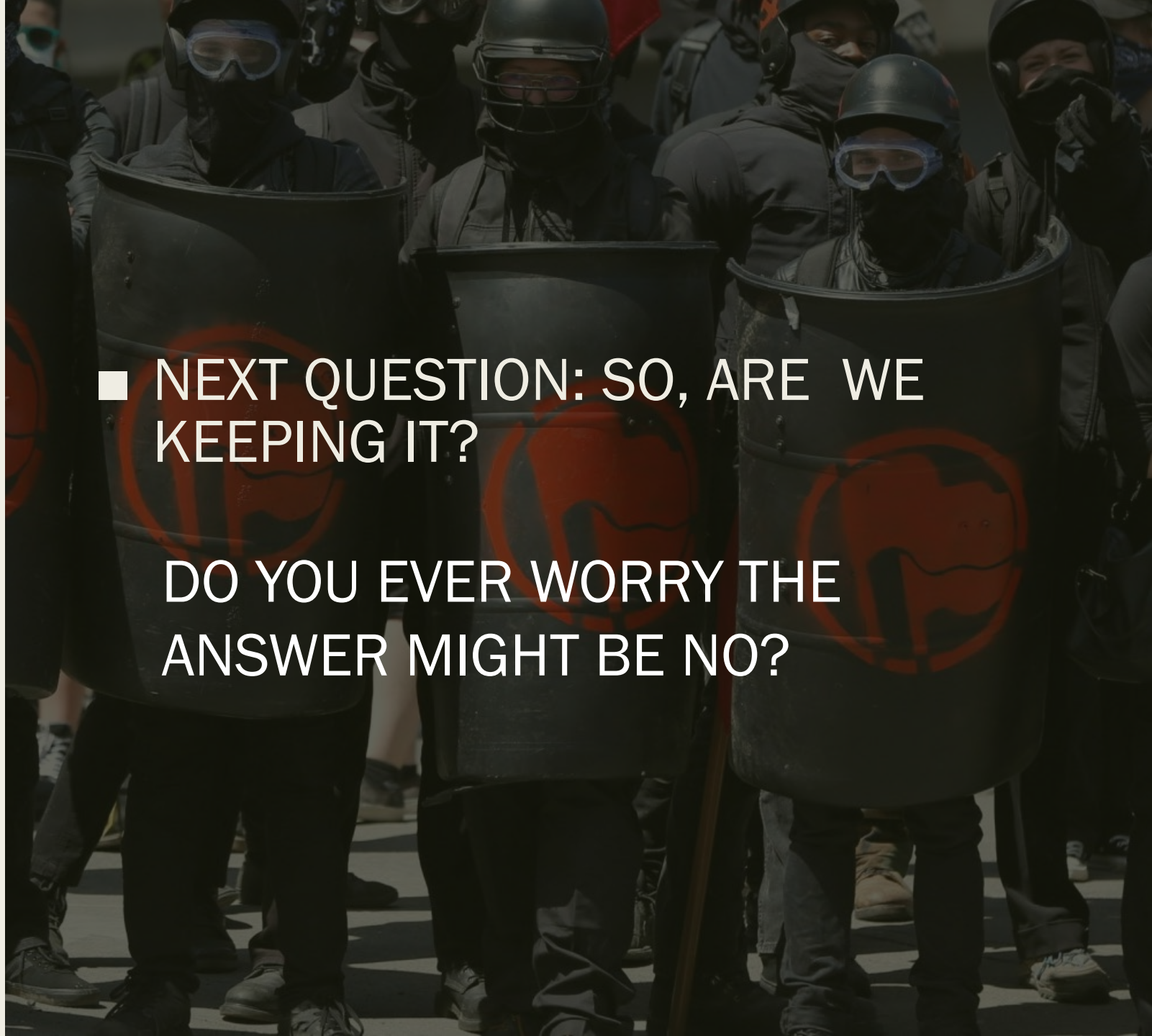




“A REPUBLIC,
MADAM,”
FRANKLIN
REPLIED, “IF
YOU CAN KEEP
IT.”

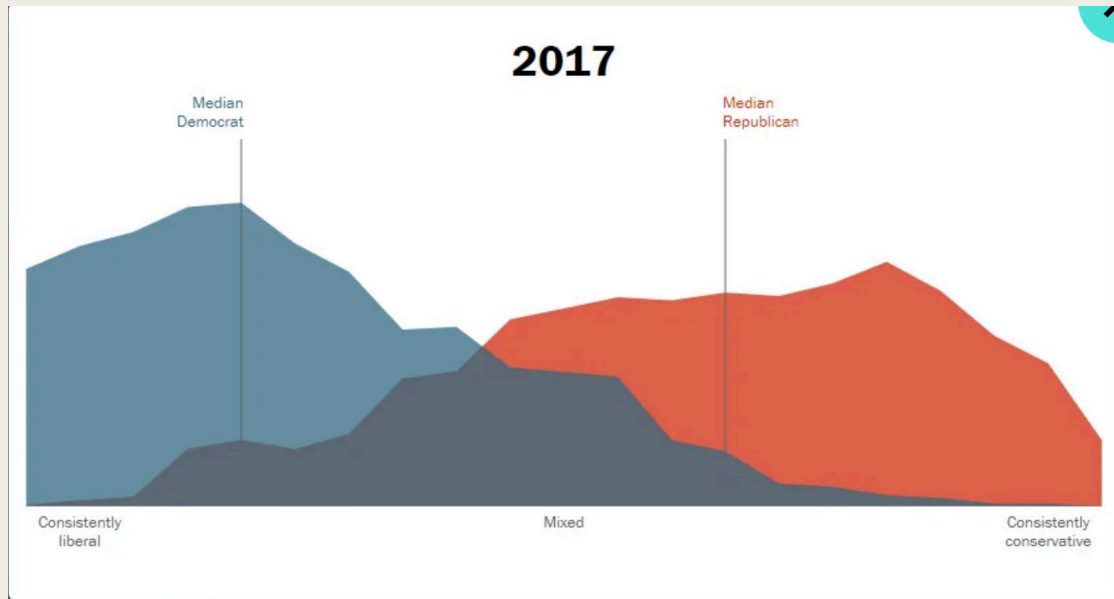
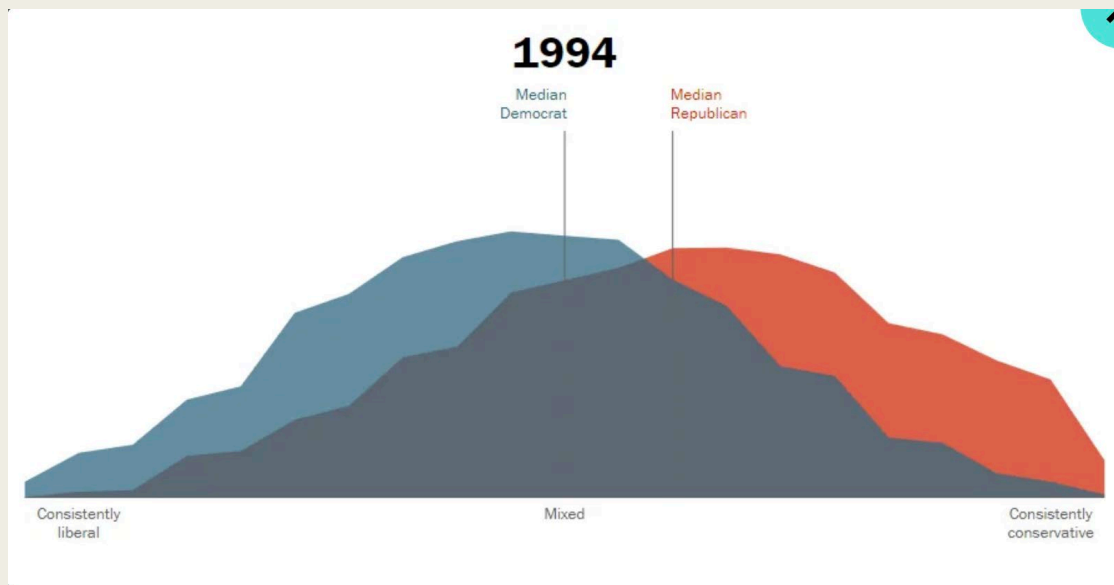


**A REPUBLIC.
SO, WHAT IS
THIS THING
WE SAY
PLEDGES TO?**



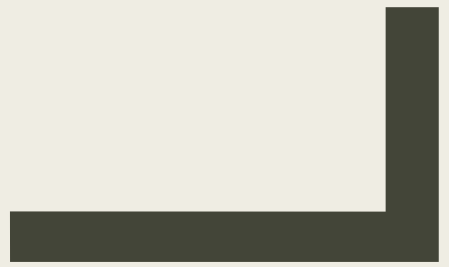
■ NEXT QUESTION: SO, ARE WE KEEPING IT?

DO YOU EVER WORRY THE ANSWER MIGHT BE NO?



POLARIZATION: WHAT IS IT? WHERE DO YOU SEE IT?

- <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/interactives/political-polarization-1994-2017/>





DISTRESSING NUMBERS FROM A DIVIDED NATION

POLARIZATION RANKED 3D (BEHIND ONLY INFLATION AND GUN VIOLENCE) AS A MAJOR ISSUE IN A 538/IPSOS POLL (2022) OF 1,700 AMERICANS

MORE THAN HALF OF YOUNG AMERICANS FEEL OUR DEMOCRACY IS "IN TROUBLE" OR "HAS FAILED." MORE THAN A THIRD EXPECT A CIVIL WAR IN THEIR LIFETIMES. (HARVARD IOP POLL, 2021)

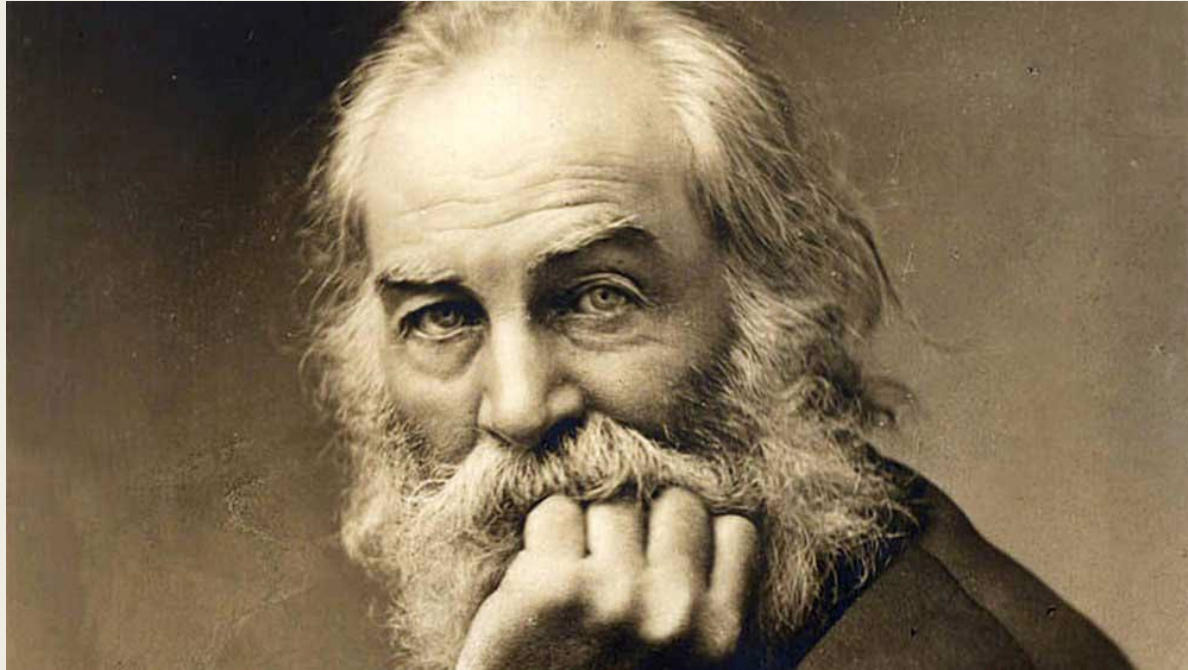
ONLY 4% OF MARRIAGES ARE BETWEEN D'S AND R'S; ONLY 21% ARE MIXED POLITICALLY IN ANY WAY (YOUNG GOV POLL)

HALF THE MEMBERS OF EACH PARTY THINK THE OTHER SIDE IS "IGNORANT"; 20% ON EACH SIDE THINK THE OTHER PARTY IS ACTIVELY "EVIL" (AXIOS POLL)

EACH SIDE OVERESTIMATES BY 2X THE % OF PEOPLE ON THE OTHER SIDE WHO HOLD "EXTREME" VIEWS (MORE IN COMMON STUDY)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
CAN WE STILL BE 'OUT OF MANY, ONE'?





'I CONTAIN MULTITUDES'

WHAT ABOUT
YOU? AREN'T
YOU ALSO
'OUT OF
MANY, ONE'?