

1. Registration
2. Reaching me: @wcaleb and #hist118, email, office hours on Friday
3. Taking notes

The Five C's of Historical Thinking

1. Change over time / Continuity
2. Causation
3. Contingency
4. Contextualizing
5. Complexity

Two Questions:

- When did the Civil War begin?

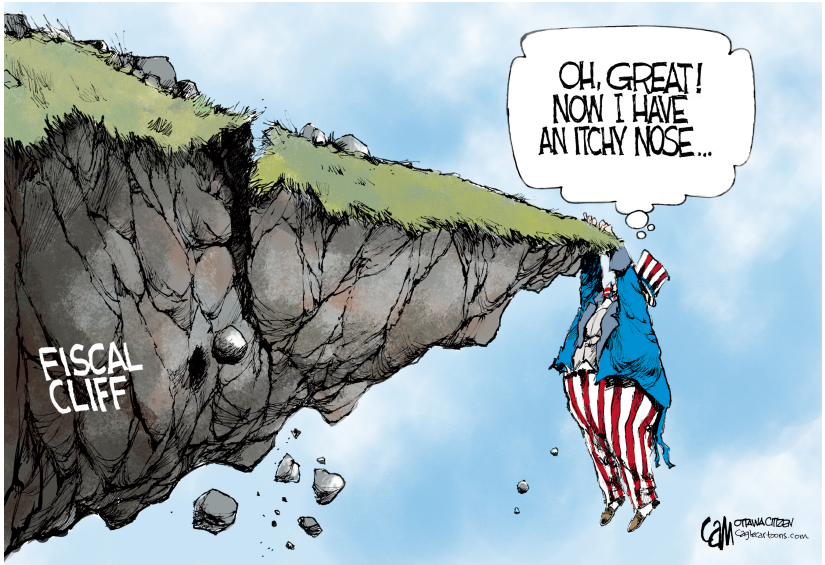
Two Questions:

- When did the Civil War begin?
- Given that Southerners had threatened secession before (most recently in 1856), why did earlier crises result in compromise? What changed between 1850 and 1861 to make the war happen *then* and in *that* way?

Though suffrage has been granted to everyone over the age of 18 after long political issues, why is the voter turnout still low?

Why has marijuana been legalized (specifically) in Washington and Colorado (and not elsewhere)?

- Did the rise of the Republican Party trigger secessionists to take bolder steps than before, and if so, why?



Definitions:

- Deficit
- Debt
- Debt ceiling

“... Because that’s the top level Ronald Reagan put in place, and if it is good enough for Reagan on taxes, it’s good enough for me.”

■ *Rick Santorum, January 2012*

[http://youtu.be/TdMTT1pfNP4?
t=9m25s](http://youtu.be/TdMTT1pfNP4?t=9m25s)

Reagan's Tax Cuts:

- Economic Recovery Tax Bill of 1981
- Tax Reform Act of 1986





Concessions on Reaganomics

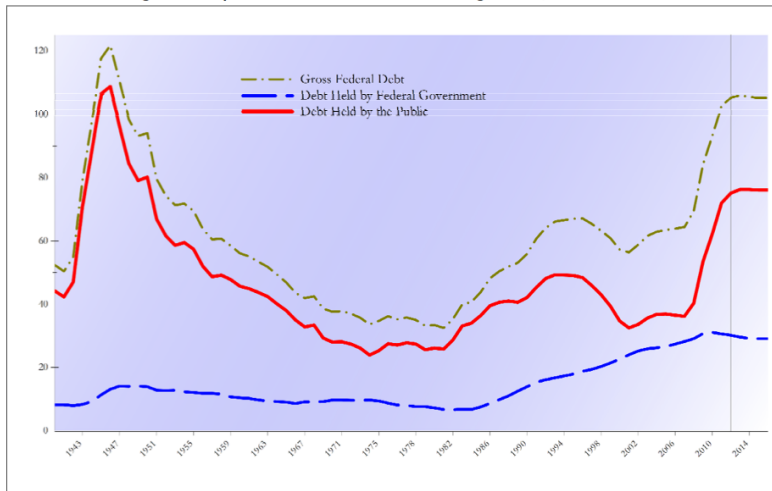
- Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982
- Greenspan Commission on Social Security of 1983

Table 2. Increases in the Debt Limit 1993-2011

Date	Public Law (P.L.) Number	New Debt Limit (\$ billion)	Change From Previous Limit (\$ billion)
April 6, 1993	P.L. 103-12	\$4,370 ^a	\$225
August 10, 1993	P.L. 103-66	4,900	530
February 8, 1996	P.L. 104-103	^b	—
March 12, 1996	P.L. 104-115	^c	—
March 29, 1996	P.L. 104-121	5,500	600 ^d
August 5, 1997	P.L. 105-33	5,950	450
June 28, 2002	P.L. 107-199	6,400	450
May 27, 2003	P.L. 108-24	7,384	984
November 19, 2004	P.L. 108-415	8,184	800
March 20, 2006	P.L. 109-182	8,965	781
September 29, 2007	P.L. 110-91	9,815	850
July 30, 2008	P.L. 110-289	10,615	800
October 3, 2008	P.L. 110-343	11,315	700
February 17, 2009	P.L. 111-5	12,104	789
December 28, 2009	P.L. 111-123	12,394	290
February 12, 2010	P.L. 111-139	14,294	1,900
August 2, 2011	P.L. 112-25	16,394 ^e	2,100 ^e

Sources: CRS, compiled using the Legislative Information System, available at <http://www.congress.gov>; OMB.

Figure 1. Components of Federal Debt As a Percentage of GDP, FY1940-FY2016



Source: CRS calculations based on FY2012 budget submission.

Notes: FY2011 values are estimated; FY2012-FY2016 values are OMB projections reflecting Administration assumptions and proposals.