

## CONFFLICT & MEMORY

CONTINUE THE STORY

### LEAVING THE SLAVE STATE

*On May 23rd, in 1788, South Carolina is the 8th State to ratify the Constitution. Prior to this date, South Carolina became an independent state when it adopted its own Constitution on March 26, 1776. At the time, South Carolina was a slave state, with most of the population being African slaves.*

*It was also the first state to vote in favor of secession from the union on December 20, 1860 and was readmitted back into the United States on July 9, 1868. Yet by 2020, South Carolina is found to be moving closer to the reality of being the first state to elect 2 black senators. Conservative values are a strong barometer of the policies that guide the people of this state, just ask Harriet Holman.*

### CONGRESS AGREES

*On May 25th in 1787, the Constitutional Congress begins in PA, with all states represented but Rhode Island. The war for independence from England is now 4 years in the rear-view mirror. The people had even agreed on the Articles of Confederation 6 years earlier, allowing for a federal government to exist, with very limited powers. George Washington is elected convention president, as they convened to meet in Independence Hall (Philadelphia, PA).*



### IN EVERY INSTANCE WITH WAR, THERE IS A NEED TO REBUILD AT ALL LEVELS.

This is true in families, businesses, and countries. Some might say that it is about finding a new balance and ensuring that mistakes of the past are not repeated.

Our ancestors had an idea of what did not work, due to their experiences acquired, to what had been happening as Independence was fought for and earned. Perhaps it was because they had been willing to give their all, and saw many close friends do exactly that, that they joined in debates, listened, and discussed, all while calling on Providence, an almighty God to provide inspiration, insights. Destiny smiled kindly and granted the confidence to create not just a **Constitution**, but a **Bill of Rights** with full recognition that **States were to lead** and maintain control as the **Federal Government was granted Limited Enumerated Rights**.

The People, now had greater confidence that their Freedoms they had fought for, could be exercised for generations to come. For the first time in history, a society clearly was organized not around the idea of conquering and subjugating the world, but that everyone had rights and the opportunity to pursue their happiness. Much like King Arthur's round table, people could find inspiration in an idea and opportunity, protected by a rule of law that enshrined their freedoms. This is the **"American Experiment"**. Unlike the fabled story, the American experiment has prevailed as an example of good, lifting more people out of poverty, globally, than any other culture in the history of this world. Our challenge now, is to learn what we can do to add to this legacy. **What will be your contribution?** Social Justice Warrior (5:42) or something else?

You might also consider the words of a **Harvard Professor, Clayton Christianson**, as he describes what a Fullbright Scholar, a Chinese Marxist economist observed is a connection between America's success and its connection to Religion.