

War of Parties

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For years the United States has been increasingly growing more politically polarized. On the news you get clickbait headlines that follow one extreme to the other depending on the publisher. To learn from the video that the divide between parties has been stemming for decades is kind of interesting and not very surprising. Despite being warned from the very first president of the United States George Washington against having a primary two party political system, over time we did revert to a two party system and we have all been kind of paying for it. From this two party system, you get the polarization and the animosity between parties. The video discussed Bork and the process he went through to be a Supreme Court Associate Justice and how ultimately he could not receive Senate confirmation because of his views. Then it introduces Mitch McConnell and his preparation to stack the cards for conservative republicans, starting with the Supreme Court nomination of Clarence Thomas. How Clarence Thomas was handpicked by the republicans, trained in a “war room” for Senate questioning, and saw all the way through the nomination with White House officials. Ultimately even a sexual harassment claim against him did not “bork” him from office, which seems to have set a precedent that those seeking political office are not immediately excused if they are accused of sexual misconduct. After Clarence Thomas, it goes through the different Supreme Court appointees briefly until the last year of President Obama’s second term. This is where Senator Mitch McConnell is utilizing his power as the Majority Leader in the Senate so as to not go through with any hearings of a Supreme Court nominee under a democratic leadership so that he can fill the seat with a republican. The fight of political parties, democrats versus republicans. How this all went about just reminded me of our discussion in class on how the courts are politically. The Supreme Court

is political in just how they get there and continue to make decisions for the citizens of the United States.