

Student's Name

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Course

Date

Government Federalism

The objective of federalism was to create a governing approach, which would help in the implementation of the American constitution. Furthermore, federalism makes it easy for people to understand the manner in which the American government operates. Apparently, there is no section of the American constitution titled Federalism (Zarvodynik 33). However, the designers of federalism aimed at distributing, and restricting political authority in the United States.

Federalism provides an exceptional system of governance. This essay will examine the concept of federalism in the United States.

Currently, the United States has a *new federalism*, which allows the state to have some power, while recognizing the federal government as being the highest power. *New federalism* is a response to the assertion that the national government had much power, moreover, somewhat overtook some of the roles played by the state governments. Most importantly, the *new federalism* is founded on the principle of devolution. Devolution is a system where there is power sharing between the national and state government. In this regard, the national government leaves some of its responsibilities, mainly those that are not as critical to the state government (Zarvodynik 106).

When it comes to state and national governments, people hold different views. While some people advocate that state governments should have more power and discretion, others feel that, the national government should have more power. Those supporting this claim that, being

near to the people, state governments are in a position to provide the services to the people (Gertson 46). However, those objecting suggest that, such a move may result in conflicts between the national and state governments. Still, there is a perception that the national government may become obsolete; thus, not needed. Nonetheless, supporters feel that, the national government should only play a supervisory role to the state governments.

While the debate is likely to continue, there is a need for both parties to appreciate the role of the two levels of government. While some people feel that the state government should have more power there is a group of people who feel that the national government should remain the highest power. An important argument put forward is that, there is a likelihood of breakdown of crucial services such as education and healthcare. The state government lacks the capability of running the healthcare sector, including the education sector. Furthermore, the people pay taxes, which the national government collects, and leaving the function to the state government, there is a likelihood of high levels of corruption.

On the other hand, the national government controls the military and other law enforcement agency; thus, the state government may not be in a position of defending the country, accordingly. In the same context, the national government plays a supervisory role for the state governments, and when it has more power, the state government will play its role effectively (Gertson 166). Another issue brought forward is that, giving more power to the state government is like creating other countries within the country, which was not the intention of devolution.

Clearly, the separation of powers between the national and state government is appropriate. The national government should control critical ministries, and bills such as the health bill, whereas the state government should control the minimum wage policy. Issues of

health are critical, and there are high costs involved in the provision of healthcare services. This essay has explored the concept of federalism, and found out that, it is a unique governance system, which aims at promoting effective governance in the United States.

Works Cited

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