

Washington's Farewell:

Then and now

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When presidents leave...



Where do these norms come from?



Washington's Farewell, then...

- HISTORICAL CONTEXT: 1796
 - Anxieties about future of the republic, about who could fill the president's shoes, about the impact of political ambition on the electoral process
 - Burgeoning civil religion
 - Government was full of “grand orators” using “sentimental style,” especially in White House (vs Congress)

Washington's Farewell, then...

- Washington's Response: Three Warnings
 - Do not let geographic divisions threaten national unity.
 - Do not let political parties grow or become too powerful.
 - Do not create "entanglements" with other nations.

Washington's Farewell, now...



Washington's Farewell, now...

