



# ***The Gerrymander***

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# Gerrymander Origin

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- ***Gerrymander, or Gerrymandering, is derived from Gerry + Salamander***
  - ***Elbridge Gerry was the governor of Massachusetts before becoming Vice President under James Madison.***
  - ***The misshapen district which was drawn and passed through the Massachusetts legislature in 1812 by the Democratic Republicans.***
  - ***The district resembles a salamander.***

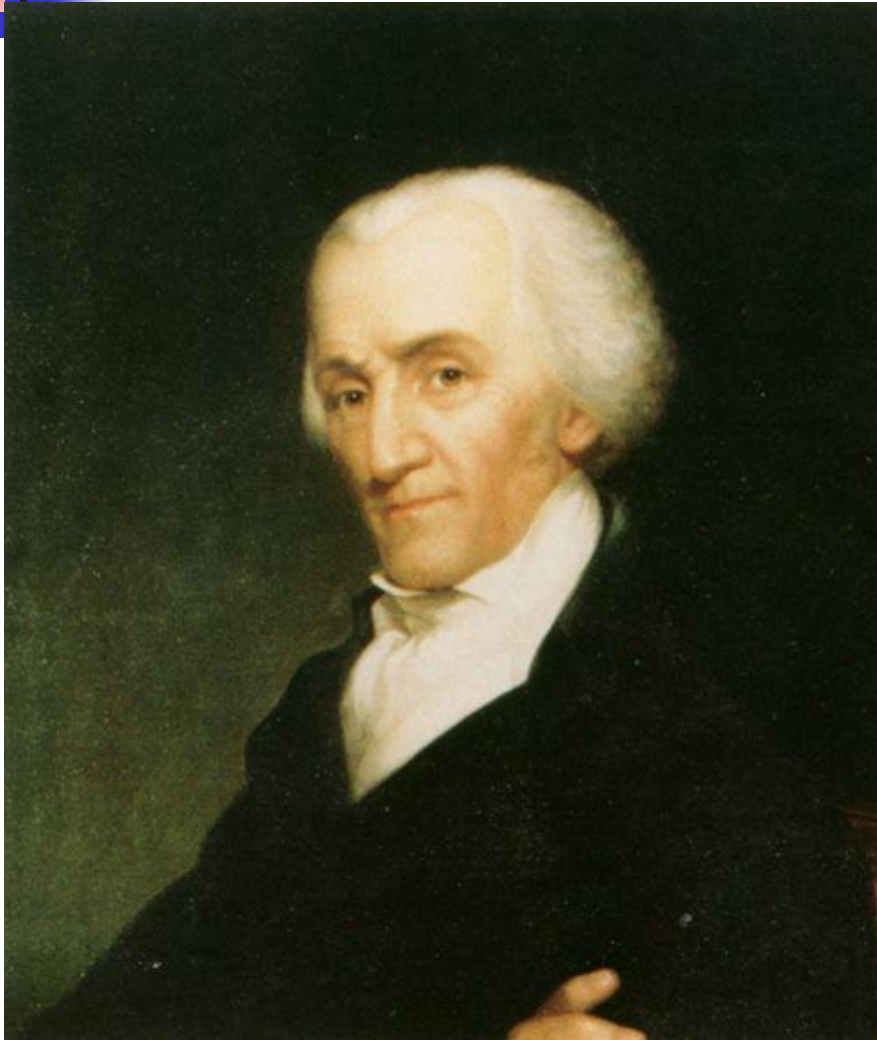


# ***Gerrymander Origin***

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- ***This is a form of redistricting in which electoral districts are manipulated for an electoral advantage for one political party.***
  - ***This careful shaping of the voting district gave them advantage over there Federalist party rivals.***

# Gerrymander Origin



***Elbridge Gerry, the 5th Vice President of the United States. In office from March 4, 1813, to November 23, 1814, under President James Madison***





***This satirical cartoon depicting a district in Essex County, Massachusetts, as a dragon, was printed in the Boston Gazette, March 26, 1812. The electoral districts were drawn by Democratic-Republican members of the Massachusetts legislature to favor their incumbent party candidates. Governor Elbridge Gerry signed the redistricting into law, although reluctantly.***



# ***Gerrymander Origin***

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- ***Redistricting by gerrymandering is typically used by those of a political party in power, or the incumbents.***
- ***This redistricting will then advantage their own party, or disadvantage the opposing party, or members of a racial, national, linguistic, religious, or class group.***



# ***Gerrymander Origin***

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- ***Redistricting can especially favor a particular political party in single-winner electoral systems that elect representatives to represent voting districts.***
  - ***Such systems, are called first past the post, or winner takes all.***
  - ***Typically, such voting systems favor few political parties, e.g., democratic and republican parties.***



## ***Example of Positive Effects of Gerrymandering***

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- ***In Arizona, the Hopi native American tribe is surrounded by the historically rival Navaho tribe.***
  - ***In this case there is good cause to elect different representatives to the two tribes that are geographically interlocked.***





## ***Example of Positive Effects of Gerrymandering***

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- ***Another, more contentious case, is a narrow California congressional district along the coast separate from the inland district.***
  - ***The two districts have different concerns that do not always overlap.***

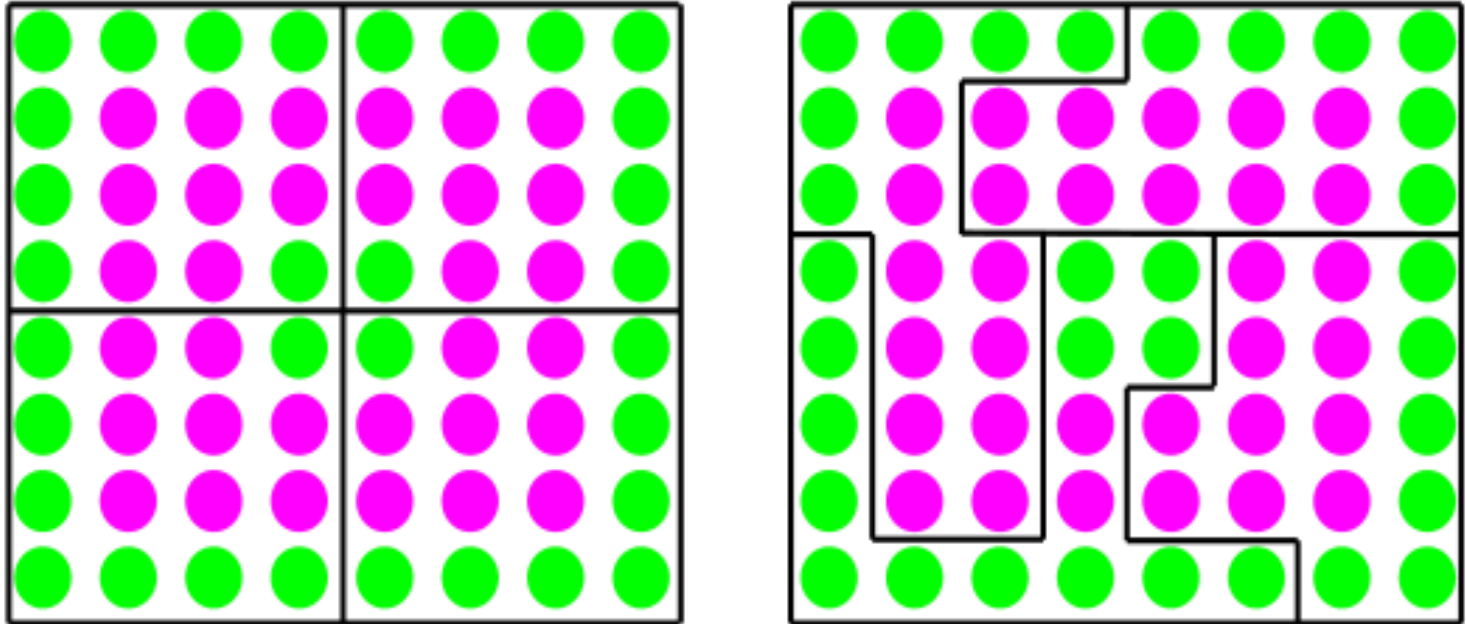


# ***Gerrymandering Techniques***

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- ***Two gerrymandering techniques, packing and cracking, allow maximizing votes for one party while minimizing votes for the opposition.***
- ***Packing concentrates opposition voters in a few districts that are already a majority in that party.***
- ***Cracking breaks down regions that will dilute the opposition so that a slight majority for the other party.***

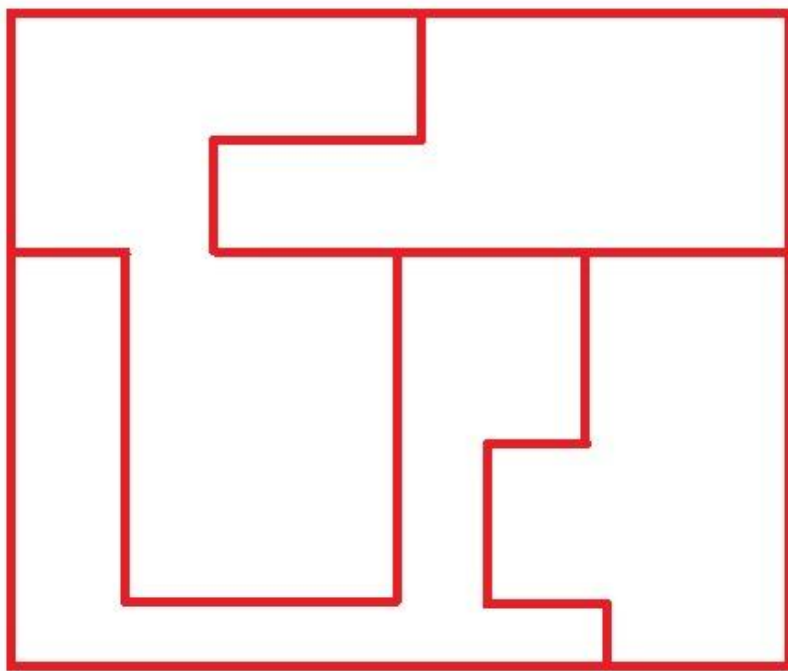
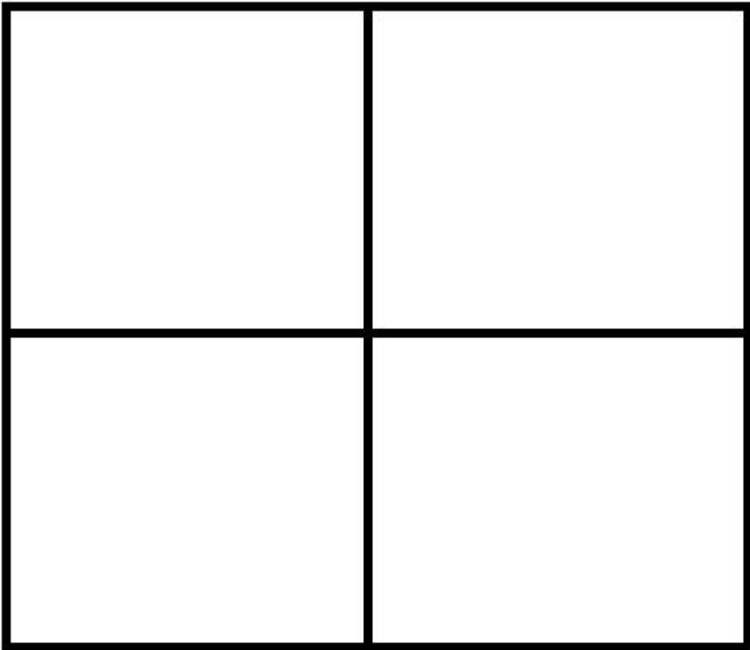
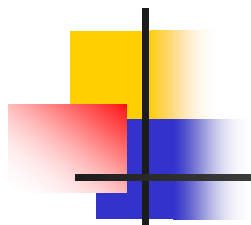
# ***Gerrymandering Example Diagram***

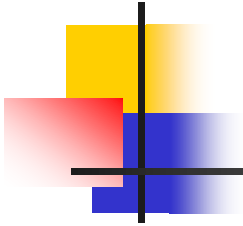










***Left: Four districts of even "Red" and "Green" party voters, 8 from each party.***

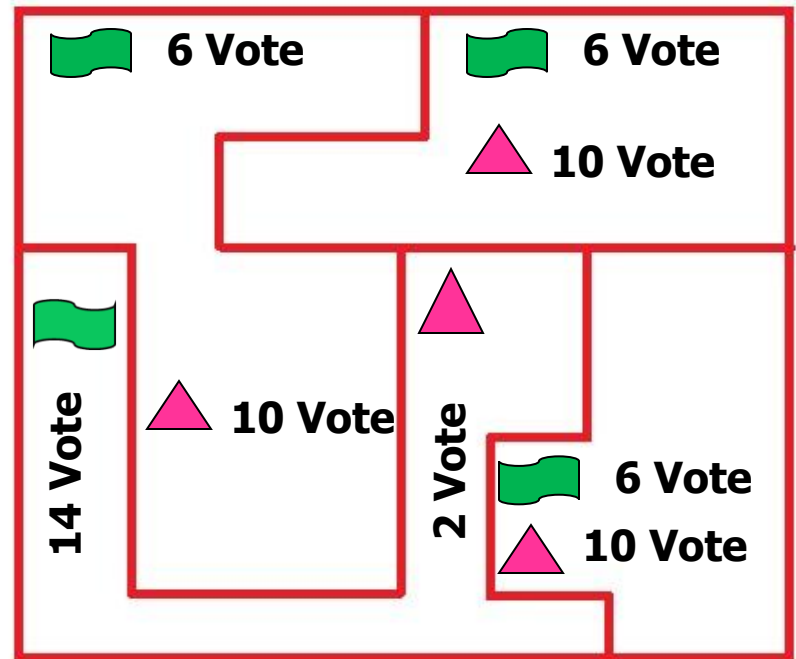
***Right: Redrawing the balanced electoral districts in this example creates only one packed district of 14 green voters.***

***The remaining 18 green voters are cracked across the 3 other districts. The result is a 3-to-1 advantage for the "Red" party.***





 <b>8 Vote</b>  <b>8 Vote</b>	 <b>8 Vote</b>  <b>8 Vote</b>
 <b>8 Vote</b>  <b>8 Vote</b>	 <b>8 Vote</b>  <b>8 Vote</b>





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***Thank You***