

# Learning Goals

Today you should be able to . . .

Compare and contrast different forms of government - **parliamentary democracy & presidential democracy.**

**Because . . .** this will help you understand how much power the government should have.



**2 main forms of democratic governments . . .**

**1. Presidential**

**2. Parliamentary**

**Each elects their branches of government differently**

# CONSTITUTION



The U.S. Capitol



The White House



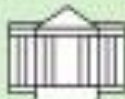
The Supreme Court

## LEGISLATIVE

## EXECUTIVE

## JUDICIAL

CONGRESS



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATE



PRESIDENT



VICE PRESIDENT



SUPREME COURT

# Separation of Powers

- In 1787, the founding fathers wrote the **Constitution**, the document which establishes the basic **laws** of the American **government**.
- The Constitution calls for a **separation of powers** that divides the powers and duties of the government between **three** separate **branches** of government.



# Branches of Government

## EXAMPLES

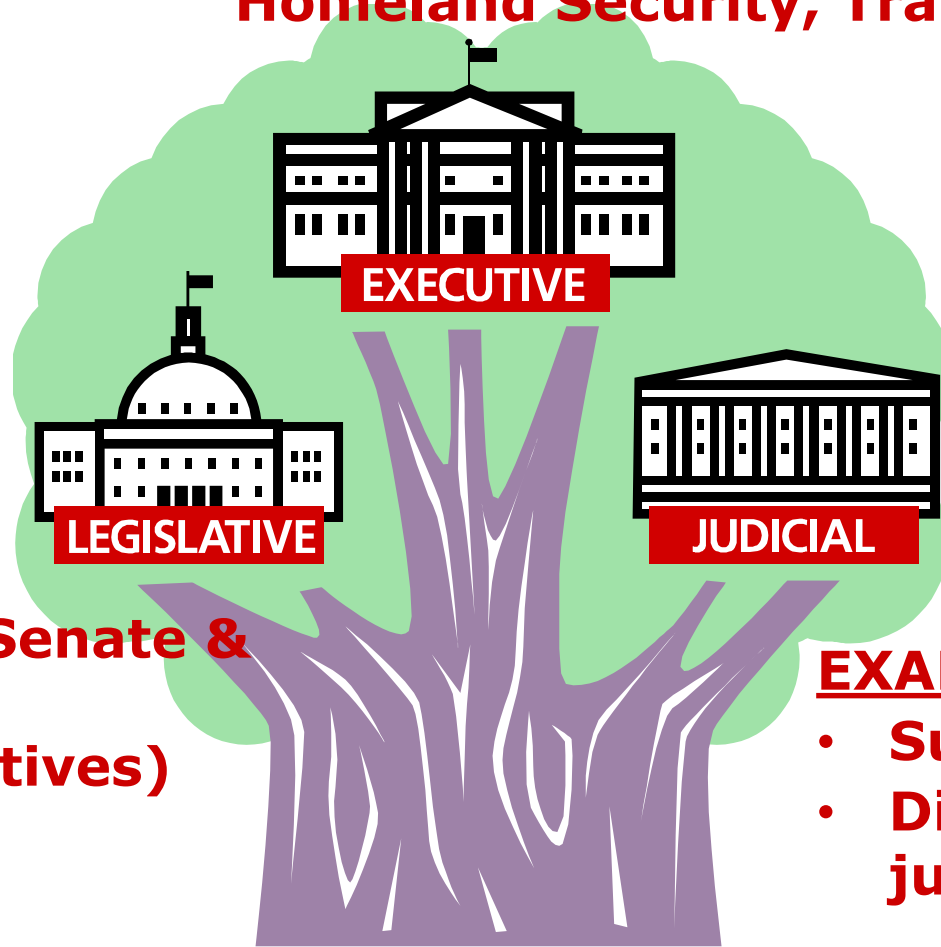
**Enforces Laws -  
makes sure laws  
are carried out**

- **President or Prime Minister**
- **Vice President**
- **Cabinets/Agencies - Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Education, Health, Homeland Security, Transportation, etc.**

**Makes laws**

## EXAMPLES

- **Congress (Senate & House of Representatives)**
- **Parliament**



**Interprets  
laws – settles  
arguments  
about laws**

## EXAMPLES

- **Supreme Court**
- **District courts & juries**

# Balance of Power



- Each **branch** has its own **responsibilities** and at the same time the branches **work together** to make the country run smoothly and to assure that the **rights** of citizens are not ignored or denied.
- This is done through **checks** and **balances**. A branch may use its powers to **check** the powers of the other two in order to maintain a **balance** of power among the three **branches** of government.

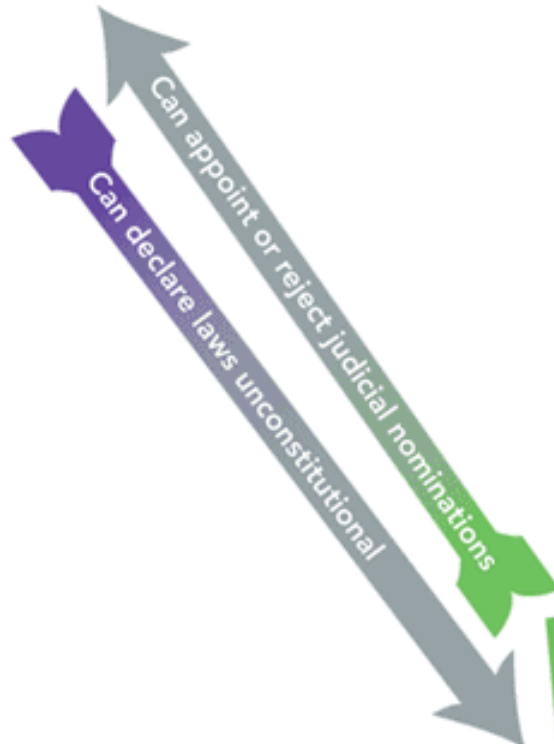
# Checks & Balances



Upholds federal and state constitutions and other laws



Enforces laws



Writes laws

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH



Nominates federal judges

Can declare acts of the executive unconstitutional

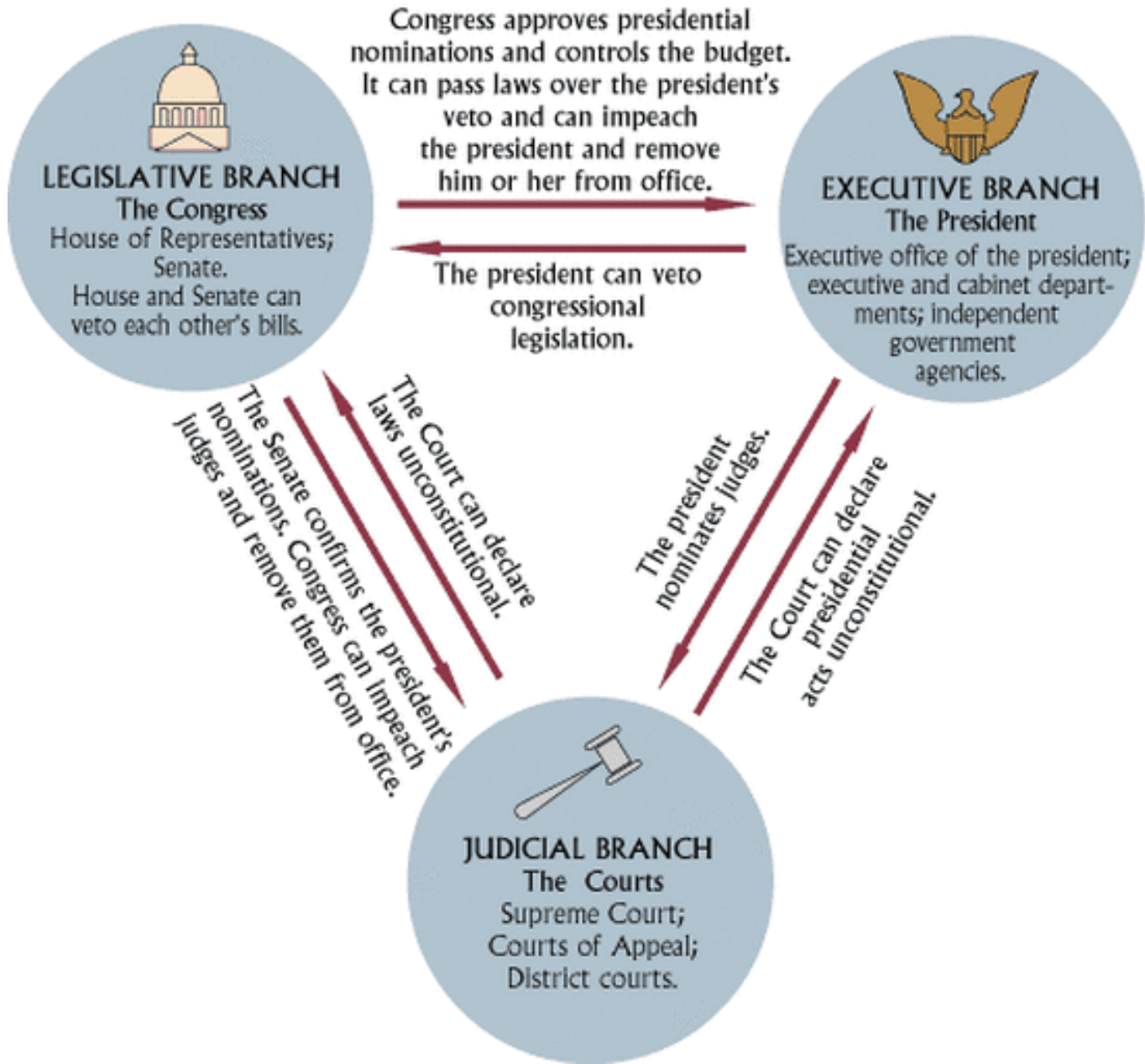
Can declare laws unconstitutional

Can appoint or reject judicial nominations

Can override executive's veto

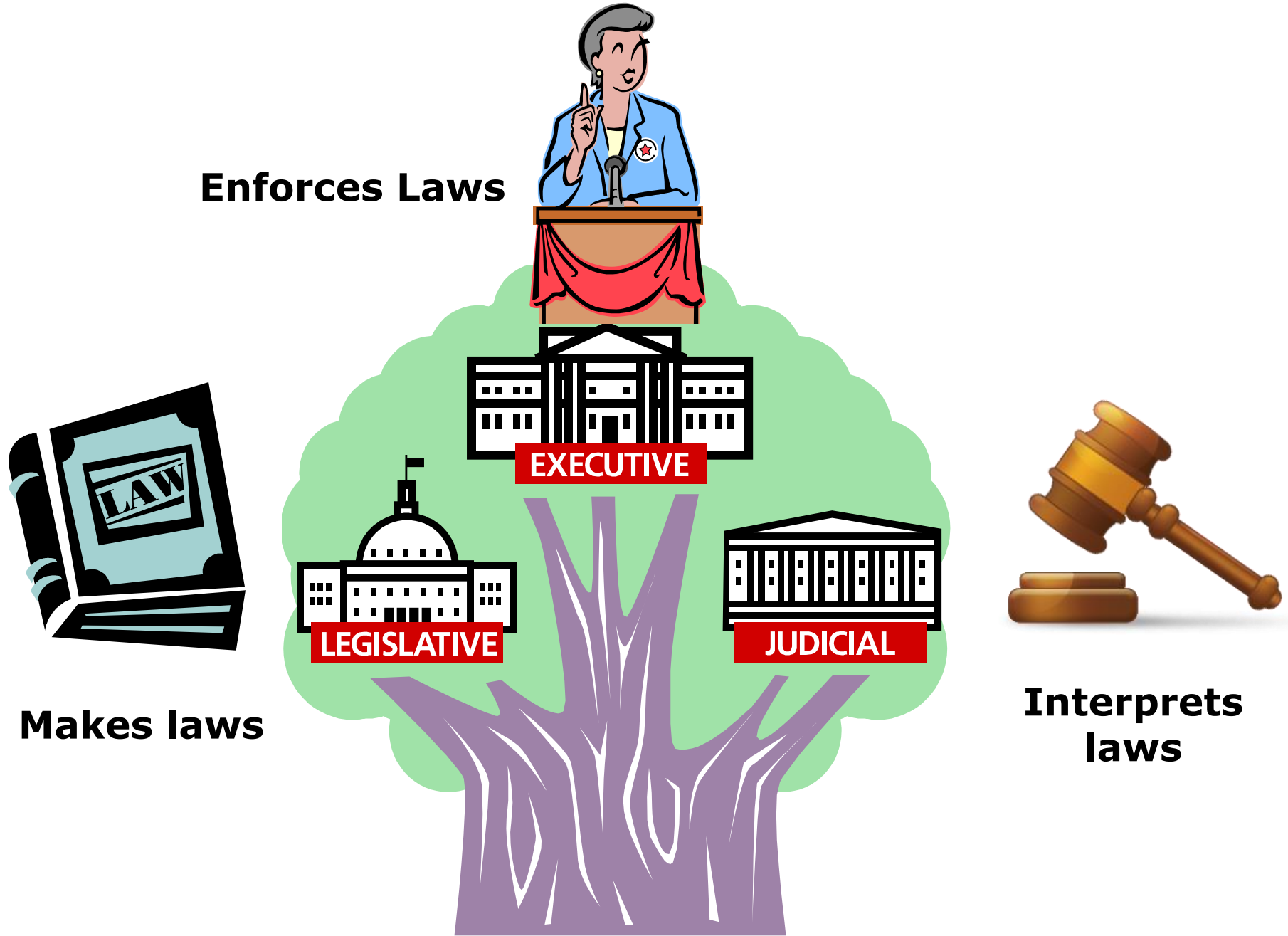
Can veto laws made by the legislature

Can reject judicial nominations



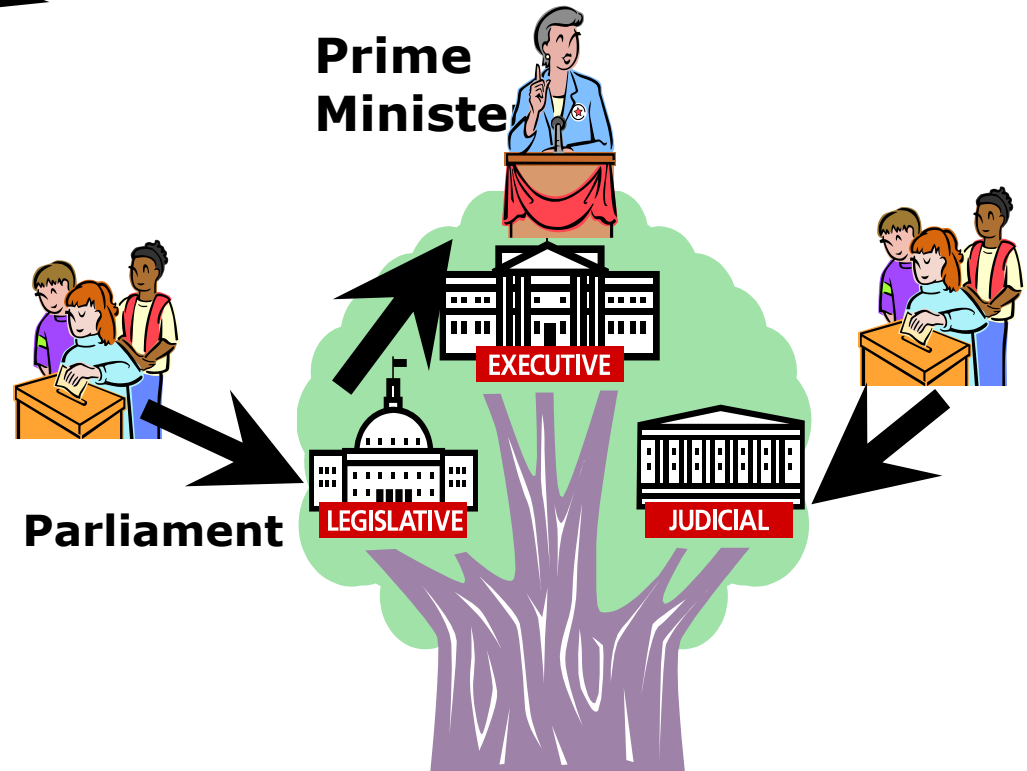
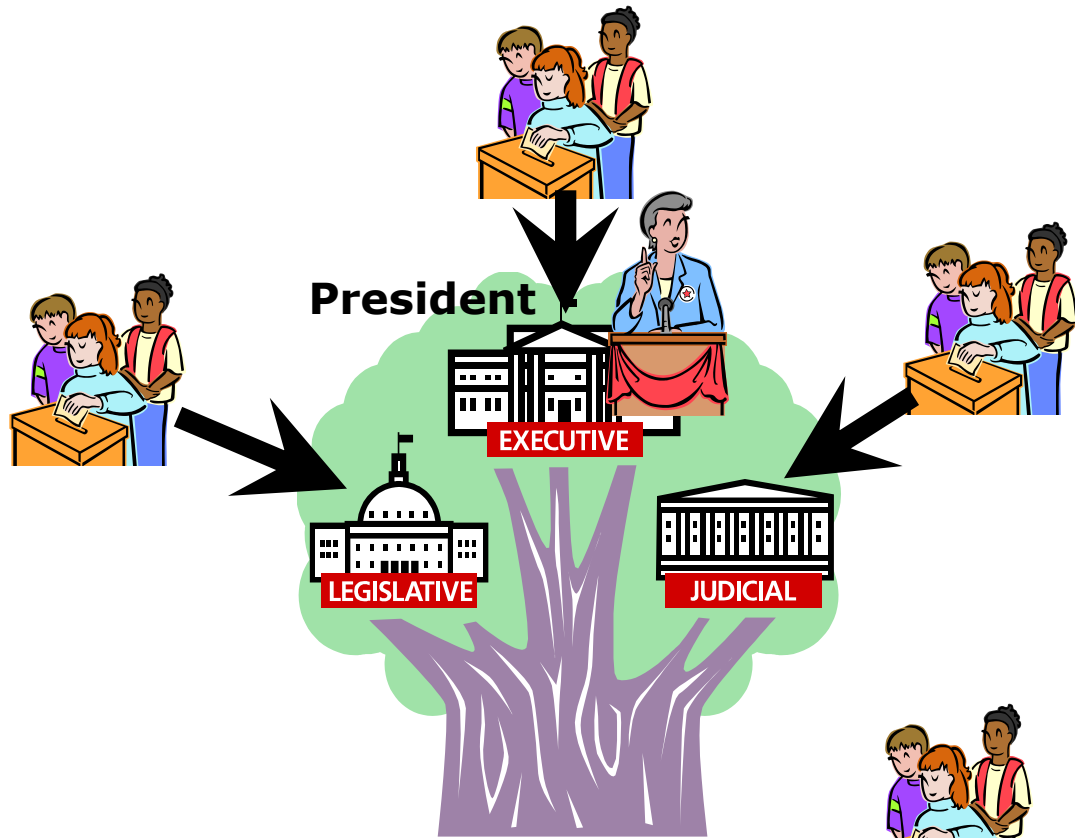


# Branches of Government



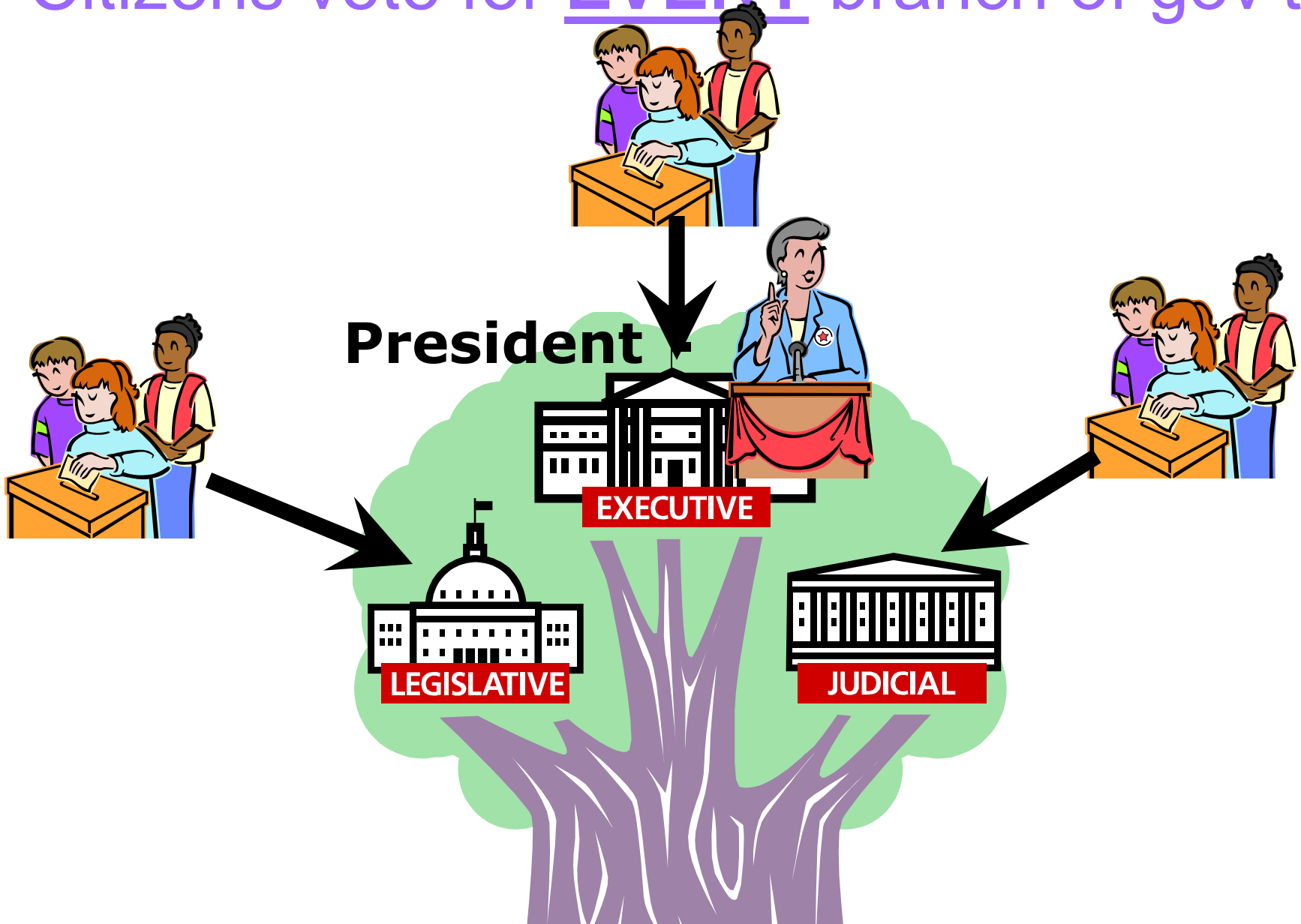
# What is the difference between these 2 pictures?

The citizens vote for the branches of government differently



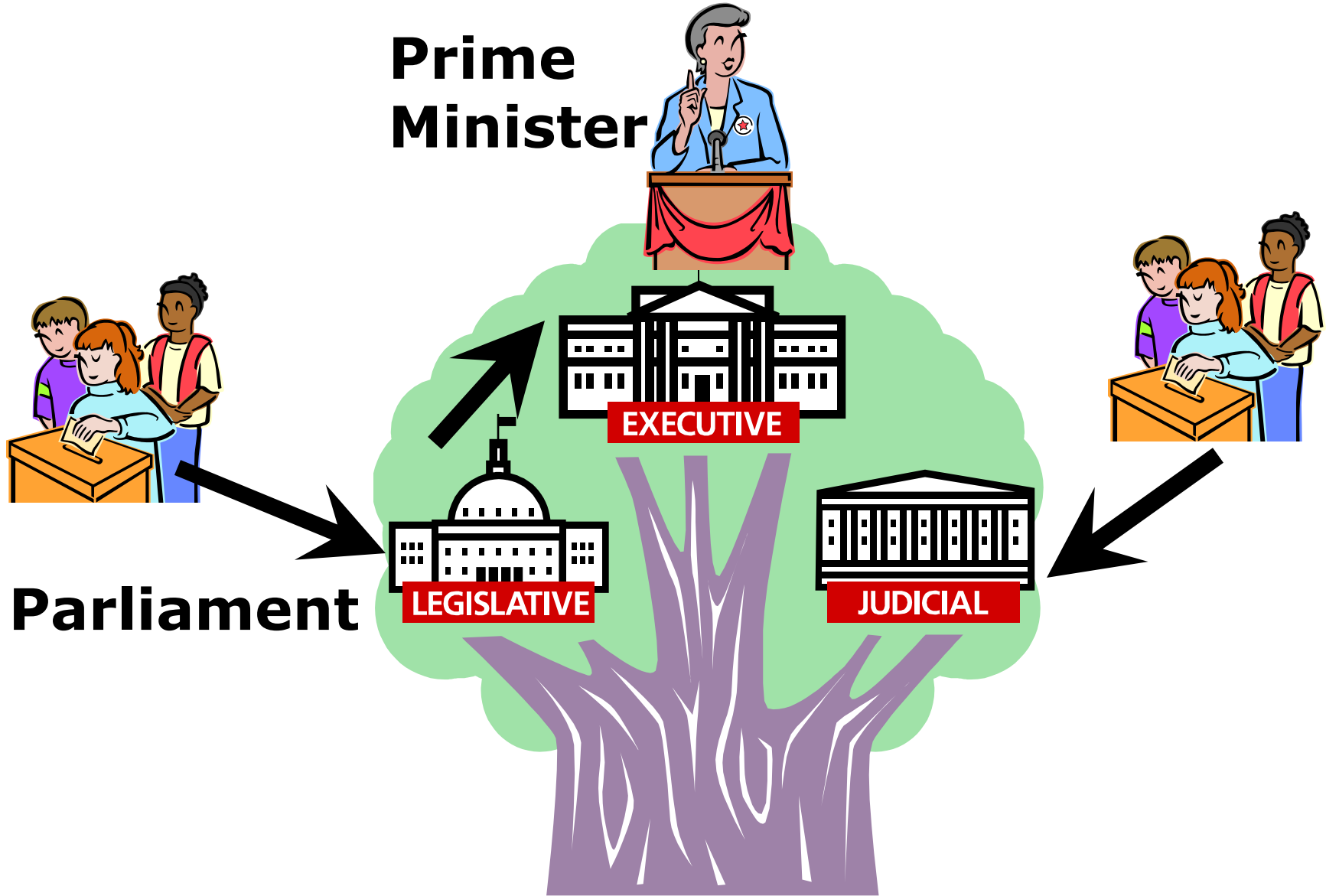
# Presidential Democracy

Citizens vote for EVERY branch of gov't



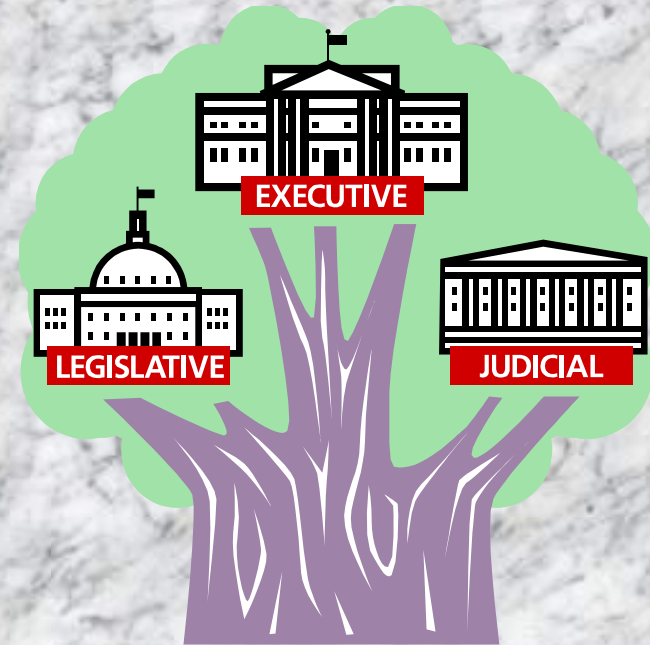
# Parliamentary Democracy

Citizens DO NOT vote for Executive Branch



# Presidential Democracy (definition)

- Executive branch is independent from the legislature
- Head of the executive branch (president) elected by citizens, not the legislature



# Presidential Democracy (characteristics)



- Different branches of government (executive, legislative, judicial) are equal in power



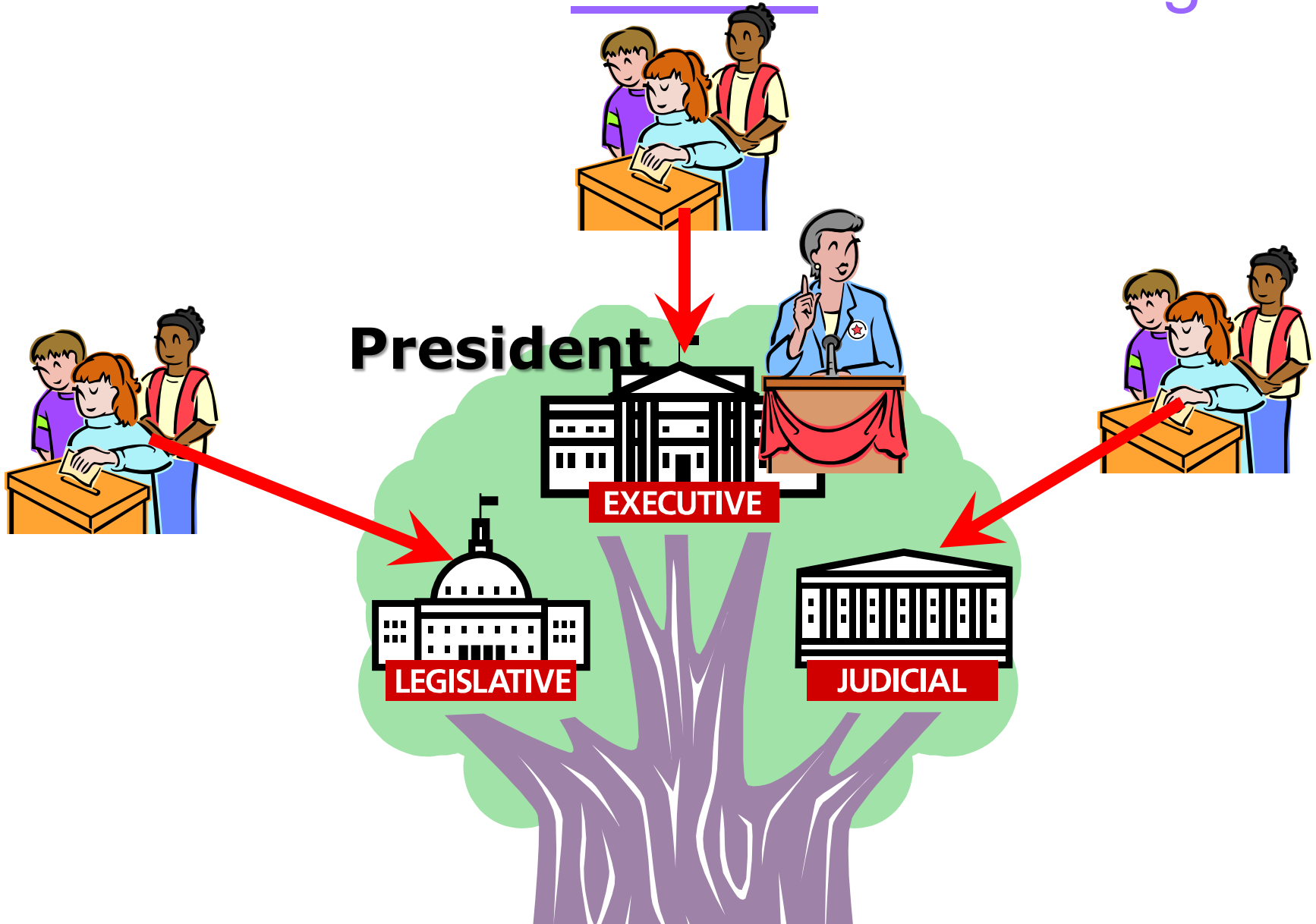
- Leader is called a president

- **EXAMPLE** U.S.A., Mexico, Brazil



# Presidential Democracy

Citizens vote for EVERY branch of gov't



# Parliamentary Democracy

(definition)

- executive branch is dependent on legislative branch (Parliament)
- Head of executive branch (Prime Minister) elected by the legislature, not the citizens

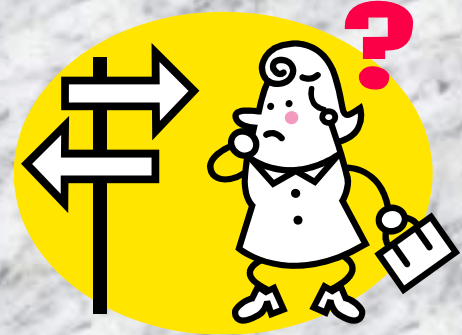




# Parliamentary Democracy

(characteristics)

- **NO clear separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches**
- **Legislature makes most decisions**
- **Leader is called a prime minister**



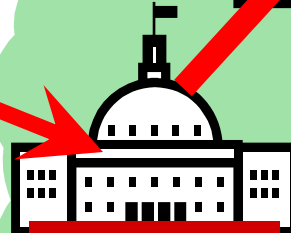
# Parliamentary Democracy

Citizens DO NOT vote for Executive Branch

Prime Minister



EXECUTIVE

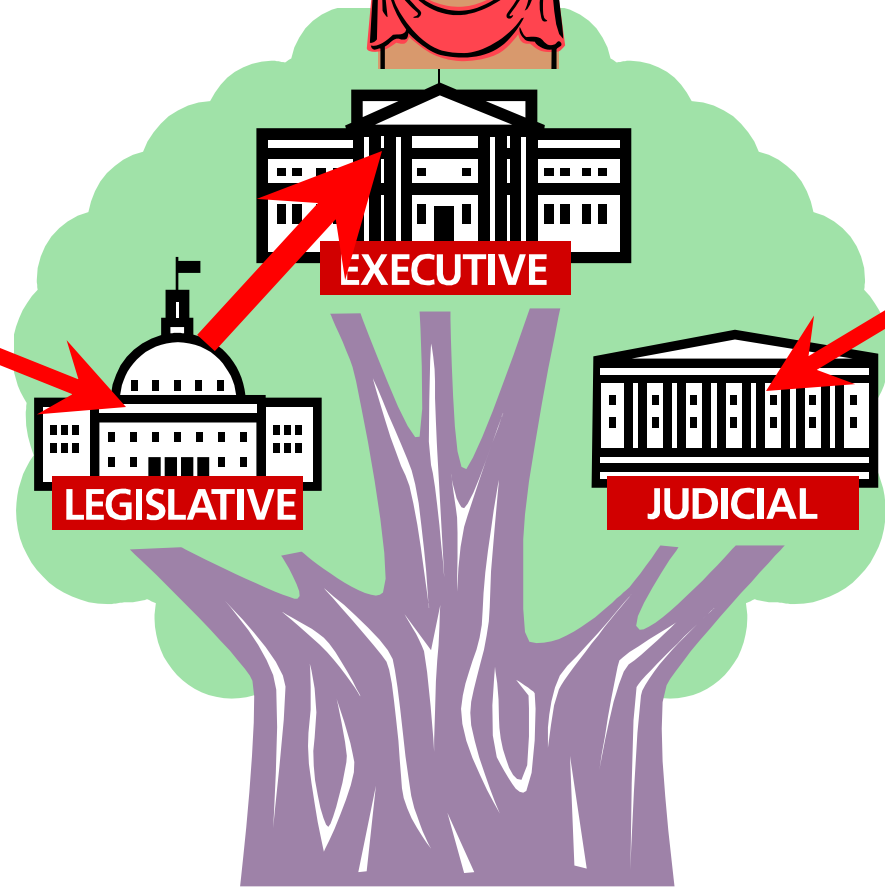


LEGISLATIVE

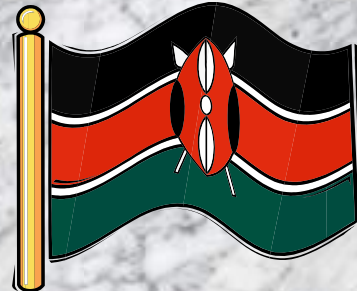
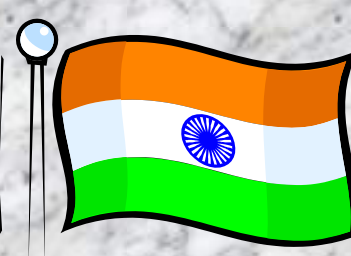
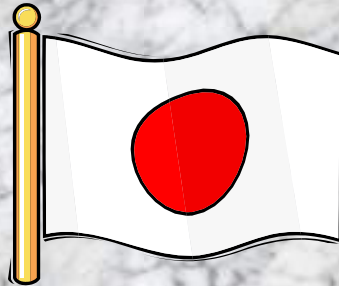
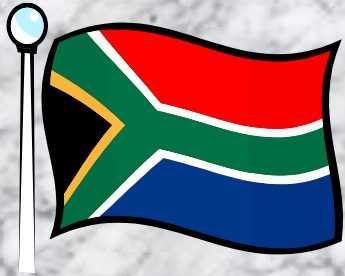


JUDICIAL

Parliament



# Examples of Parliamentary Democracy



**U.K., Canada, Germany, Australia**

