

# A Recommended Reading List

(For use with “How We Started” at [www.walthofman.com](http://www.walthofman.com) )

The works below are arranged in order. The order is arbitrary and my own selection. My rationale was to allow the individual to be able to start forming their own body of political philosophy as they go along. I do recommend that you always read all sides of each issue as you progress. Many of the writers were very persuasive and can mislead you without any counterpoint. The writings are arranged by depth. The general writings are first and introduce the general issues and arguments for each issue. Later writings get more into the minds of the individual writers.

Remember, these are writings from the Era of the Founding Fathers, not the present. The issues in question here are about Strong Central (No State Involvement) vs Loose Federal (State Involvement) government, Government involvement in trade and commerce (Mercantile vs Free Market), Empire vs Isolation (Foreign Relations) and Democracy vs Strong Authority. All of the above are in the reflection of what the Constitution said and/or meant on these topics.

Always remember that there were three “Political camps” from the beginning: The federalists, the republicans (small “r”) and those who didn’t want a Constitution at all (Articles of Confederation “camp”). None of these three are truly reflected in our current political parties.

## **Start with:**

Writings of the Founding Fathers:

*The Federalist Papers*

*The Anti-Federalist Papers*

*Friends of the Constitution (Other writers)*

## **Read in its entirety:**

William Rawle: *A View of the Constitution of the United States of America*

**Now read the rest!**