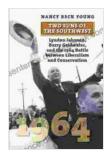
Lyndon Johnson, Barry Goldwater, and the 1964 Battle Between Liberalism and Conservatism

The 1964 United States presidential election was a watershed moment in American politics. The election pitted incumbent Democratic President Lyndon B. Johnson against Republican challenger Barry Goldwater, a conservative senator from Arizona. The election was a referendum on Johnson's Great Society programs, which aimed to expand the role of government in American society. Goldwater, on the other hand, campaigned on a platform of limited government and individual liberty.

The election was one of the most bitter and divisive in American history. Johnson and Goldwater traded barbs throughout the campaign, and the race was marked by personal attacks and negative advertising. In the end, Johnson won the election in a landslide, carrying 44 states and 61.1% of the popular vote. Goldwater won only six states, all in the Deep South, and received only 38.5% of the popular vote.



Two Suns of the Southwest: Lyndon Johnson, Barry Goldwater, and the 1964 Battle between Liberalism and Conservatism (American Presidential Elections)

by Nancy Beck Young

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The 1964 election was a turning point in American politics. It marked the end of the New Deal era and the beginning of the modern conservative movement. Goldwater's loss was a setback for the conservative movement, but it also helped to galvanize conservatives and lay the groundwork for the Reagan Revolution of the 1980s.

Lyndon B. Johnson

Lyndon B. Johnson was born in 1908 in Stonewall, Texas. He graduated from Southwest Texas State Teachers College and then worked as a teacher and principal. In 1937, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He served in the House for 12 years, and then in the U.S. Senate for six years. In 1960, he was elected vice president under John F. Kennedy.

When Kennedy was assassinated in 1963, Johnson became president. He immediately launched an ambitious legislative agenda, which he called the Great Society. The Great Society programs aimed to expand the role of government in American society and to address the problems of poverty, education, and healthcare. Johnson also signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Johnson was a master politician, and he used his skills to push his legislative agenda through Congress. He was also a skilled negotiator, and he was able to reach compromises with Republicans and Democrats alike. As a result, he was able to achieve some significant legislative victories, including the passage of the Civil Rights Act, the Medicare Act, and the Voting Rights Act.

Barry Goldwater

Barry Goldwater was born in 1909 in Phoenix, Arizona. He graduated from the University of Arizona and then worked as a businessman and pilot. In 1952, he was elected to the U.S. Senate. He served in the Senate for 12 years, and he was a vocal critic of the New Deal and the Great Society programs.

In 1964, Goldwater was the Republican nominee for president. He campaigned on a platform of limited government and individual liberty. He opposed the Great Society programs, and he argued that the government should play a smaller role in American society. Goldwater also supported the Vietnam War, and he argued that the United States should not withdraw from Vietnam until the communists were defeated.

Goldwater's campaign was divisive, and he was criticized by both Democrats and Republicans. He was seen as too conservative by many voters, and he was unable to win the support of moderate voters. As a result, he lost the election to Johnson in a landslide.

The 1964 Election

The 1964 election was one of the most bitter and divisive in American history. Johnson and Goldwater traded barbs throughout the campaign, and the race was marked by personal attacks and negative advertising.

Johnson accused Goldwater of being a warmonger and a racist. He also argued that Goldwater's policies would lead to economic disaster. Goldwater, in turn, accused Johnson of being a socialist and a communist sympathizer. He also argued that Johnson's policies were leading to a loss of American freedom.

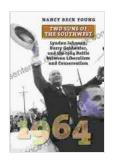
The election was a referendum on Johnson's Great Society programs. Johnson argued that his programs were necessary to address the problems of poverty, education, and healthcare. Goldwater, on the other hand, argued that the Great Society programs were too expensive and that they would lead to a loss of American freedom.

In the end, Johnson won the election in a landslide. He carried 44 states and 61.1% of the popular vote. Goldwater won only six states, all in the Deep South, and received only 38.5% of the popular vote.

The Legacy of the 1964 Election

The 1964 election was a turning point in American politics. It marked the end of the New Deal era and the beginning of the modern conservative movement. Goldwater's loss was a setback for the conservative movement, but it also helped to galvanize conservatives and lay the groundwork for the Reagan Revolution of the 1980s.

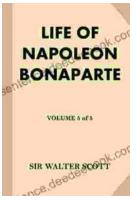
The 1964 election also had a lasting impact on the Democratic Party. Johnson's landslide victory gave the Democratic Party a mandate to pursue its liberal agenda. As a result, the Democratic Party became more liberal in the years after the election. This shift to the left helped to create the modern Democratic Party. The 1964 election was a watershed moment in American politics. It marked the end of one era and the beginning of another. The election also had a lasting impact on both the Democratic and Republican parties.



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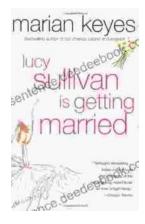
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