

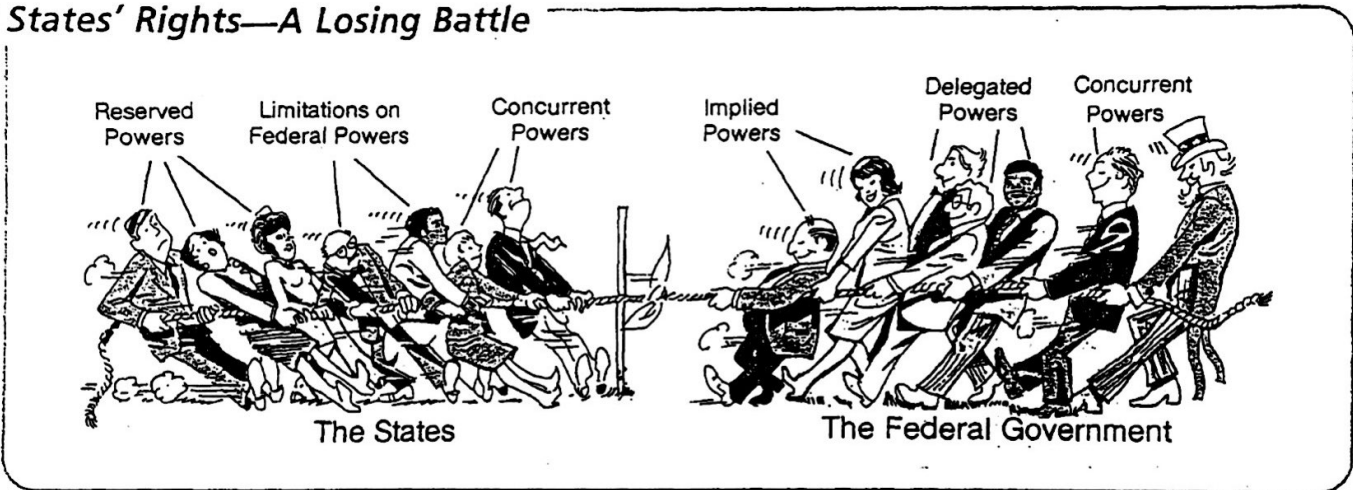
# The Federal System

The U.S. Constitution set up a new form of government based on the principle of *federalism*. Under federalism, the *federal* (central) government shares powers with the state governments. The Constitution spells out the division of powers. The federal government's powers may be either *delegated* (specifically mentioned), *implied* (indirectly indicated), or *concurrent* (shared). The powers of state governments may be either concurrent or *reserved* (for the exclusive use of those governments).

## A. Interpreting a Political Cartoon

Study the political cartoon below. Then answer the questions that follow.

### States' Rights—A Losing Battle



1. Who seems to be winning the tug-of-war? The federal gov.

2. On whose team are "Implied Powers" and "Delegated Powers"? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Delegated powers are clearly assigned (written down) to the fed. gov. The fed. gov. also does some things that are not written

3. Why is "Concurrent Powers" on both teams? \_\_\_\_\_

These are some powers, like taxation, that both the state and fed. gov. can do.

*in the con. (Implied Powers)*

4. What is the main idea of the cartoon? \_\_\_\_\_

In a federal system of gov., the states have power, but not as much as the federal gov.

5. Do you agree with the cartoonist's point of view? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_