

## Reading 2:

### John P. Roche, *The Founding Fathers: A Reform Caucus in Action*

**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION** – Write your answers on a separate sheet

1. What does Roche mean when he describes the Constitutional Convention of 1787 as a democratic reform caucus?
2. What were the major political constraints operating during the Constitutional Convention of 1787?
3. Although the delegates to the Constitutional Convention were not elitists in the Beardian sense, most of the framers did share certain political views, which they sought to institutionalize over strong opposition in the country. How does Roche characterize the framers of the Constitution?
4. What does Roche feel was the role of political theory at the Constitutional Convention?
5. What evidence is there that the retrospective symmetry given to the Constitution by *The Federalist* has been influential in the American political tradition?