



The "ghost" *StickersWorld* logo is **NOT** part of the stickers

Two Nations, One Country?

Understanding Quebec Separatism and the Canadian Identity

Learning Objectives



By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Identify the key figures from **Jean Lesage** to **Jacques Parizeau**.
- Analyze the causes and consequences of the **Quiet Revolution** and the **October Crisis**.
- Evaluate the impact of the **1980 and 1995 referendums** on Canadian federalism.

Key Vocabulary



Sovereignty

The authority of a state to govern itself or another state.



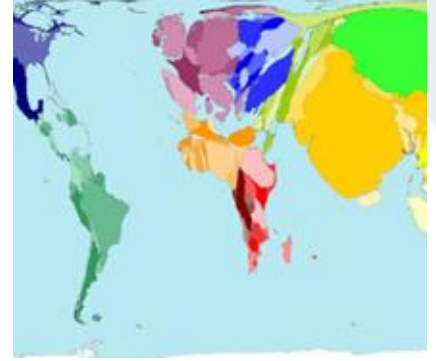
Federalism

A system where power is divided between a central government and provinces.



Referendum

A direct vote by the people on a single political question.



Separatism

The advocacy of a group of people for separation from a larger body.

A Nation Transformed

HISTORY STUDY

Can a culture survive if it doesn't control its own economy?

In the 1960s, **Jean Lesage** led the *Quiet Revolution* (*Révolution tranquille*). His government modernized Quebec, taking control of hydroelectricity and education away from the Catholic Church. The slogan was **Maîtres chez nous**—'Masters in our own house.'



Key point

Lesage didn't want to leave Canada, but he wanted Quebec to have more power and respect within it.





Crisis in the Streets

The FLQ and the October Crisis

While Lesage used politics, a fringe group called the **FLQ** (Front de libération du Québec) used **terrorism**. In 1970, they kidnapped British diplomat James Cross and Quebec minister Pierre Laporte.

In response, Prime Minister **Pierre Trudeau** famously invoked the *War Measures Act*, suspending civil liberties and deploying the army. When asked how far he would go, he replied: '**Just watch me.**'

The Rise of the PQ

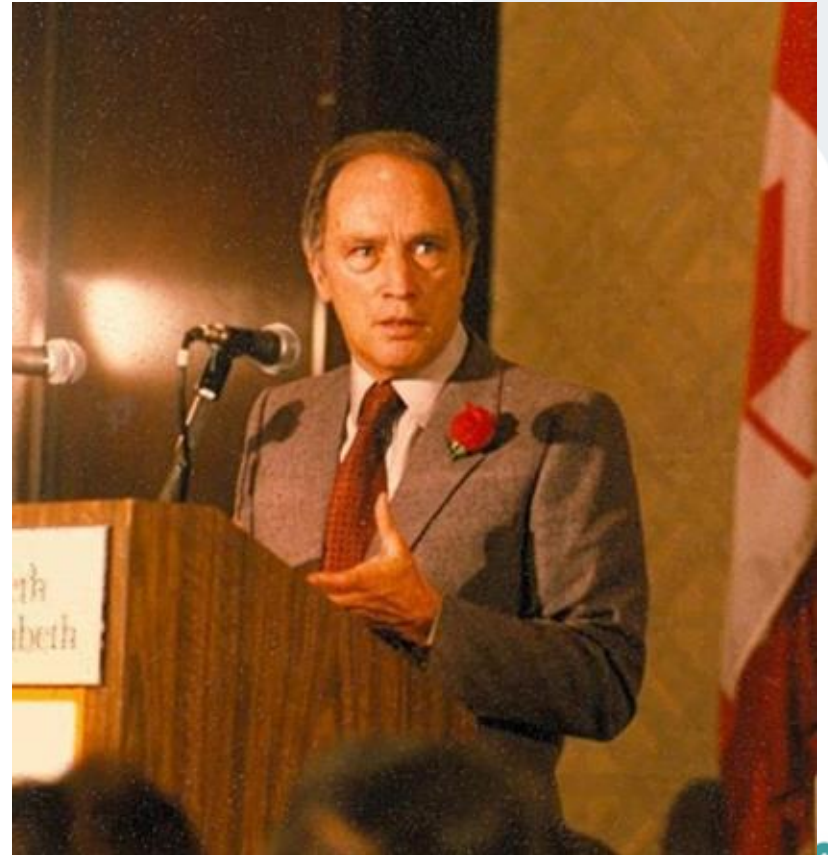
Out of the chaos of the 1970s emerged **René Lévesque**, a charismatic former journalist. He founded the *Parti Québécois* (PQ).

Lévesque believed that Quebec and Canada should have a 'Sovereignty-Association'—political independence but an economic partnership.



Remember

Lévesque passed Bill 101, making French the official language of Quebec, which remains a cornerstone of Quebec law today.



Check Your Knowledge

Answers on the next slide...

Which leader was responsible for invoking the War Measures Act during the October Crisis?

1. Jean Lesage

2. René Lévesque

3. Pierre Trudeau

4. Jacques Parizeau

Check Your Knowledge



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The Closest Vote in History



By 1995, tensions reached a boiling point. Premier **Jacques Parizeau** called a second referendum on sovereignty.

The results were incredibly close: **50.58% NO** vs **49.42% YES**. Canada stayed together by a margin of less than 1%.

It's true we have been defeated, but basically by what? By money and some ethnic votes. — Jacques Parizeau

Critical Thinking: The Cost of Unity



Jacques Parizeau blamed the 1995 loss on "money and ethnic votes," sparking criticism. Comparing the approaches of Lévesque, the FLQ, and Parizeau, which was most effective in protecting Quebec culture and why?

Critical Thinking: The Cost of Unity



You might have said...

Lévesque's Bill 101 protected the language without violence.

Parizeau brought the movement to its highest level of popular support.

Trudeau's federalism argued that a strong Canada is better for everyone.

The FLQ's violence turned many moderate Quebecers away from the cause.



Quebec Today

The 'Quebec Issue' hasn't disappeared, but it has changed. Today, Quebec is recognized as a **'nation within a united Canada.'** The debate shifted from separation to how to coexist in a multicultural, bilingual country.

Final Question to Ponder

Is it possible for a country to have two distinct national identities and still remain a single political state?