

What Power Does the President Have?

INTERVIEWER:

What power does the president have?

MALE #1:

He has the power to declare war, he has the power to propose bills, and he has the power to veto legislation coming out of Congress.

TEXT:

People on the street

What power does the president have?

FEMALE #1:

He has a lot of power; I mean, he's the president of our country, so... I mean, he can either make us or break us.

FEMALE #2:

I guess it would be less power within just him, more in the people that he elects for his cabinet, and, you know, his senators and all that good stuff. Basically the checks and balances make him not the head power.

FEMALE #3:

Pretty much all the power, because when you look at it, at the end of the day, whether it's being the president of Queens or the president of the United States, they have the right to check powers and say, hey, this isn't working, so let's do something else. They pretty much are our strongest governing body no matter where you are. Whether it be student government or the president, they're the ones who have the real decisions to make and tell people to do something or not to do something.

MALE #2:

I mean, I guess he really doesn't have that much power, because he has to get a lot of things passed through Congress. So, it takes a lot of effort to get things passed, especially if Congress is mostly one-sided against the president, as if the president's Democratic and Congress is Republican.

FEMALE #4:

Well, I mean, he's commander in chief. He has the power to basically veto laws and stuff that he doesn't like.

MALE #3:

Like I said, he appoints the Supreme Court justices, he can veto legislation passed by Congress, he can really push for a lot of legislation as well. He controls the military, commander in chief, things of that nature.

FEMALE #5:

Well, the obvious powers are like enforcing – not enforcing laws, but signing off on laws or vetoing laws that he doesn't think are, I don't know, good. And then he has the power over the military, right?

MALE #4:

What power does the president have? The president has the power to make appointments to the cabinet, the power to send the troops into action, and hopefully influence the Congress, although that's relatively limited. Hopefully through the cabinet he can do that, and working with the other folks.