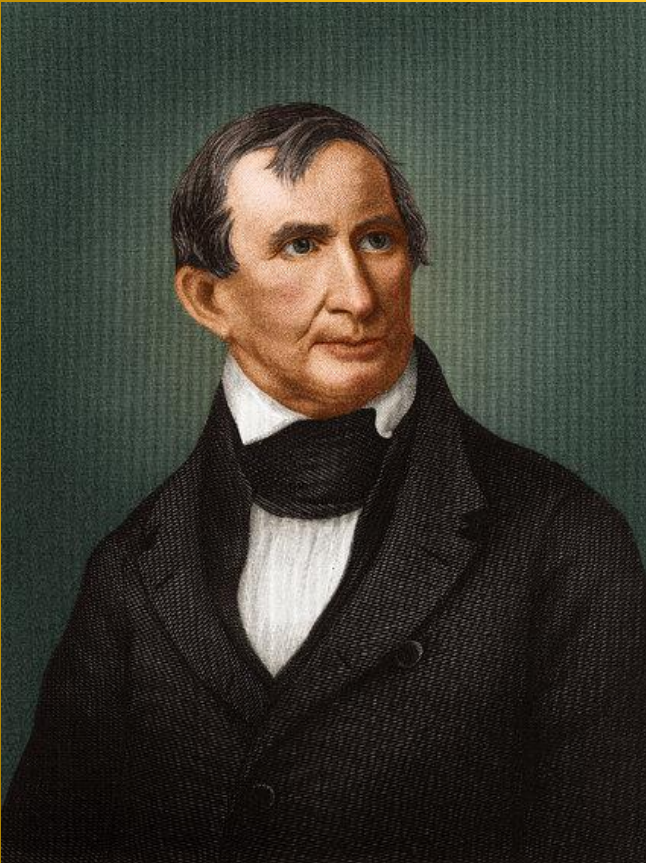


# William Henry Harrison vs. Barack Obama



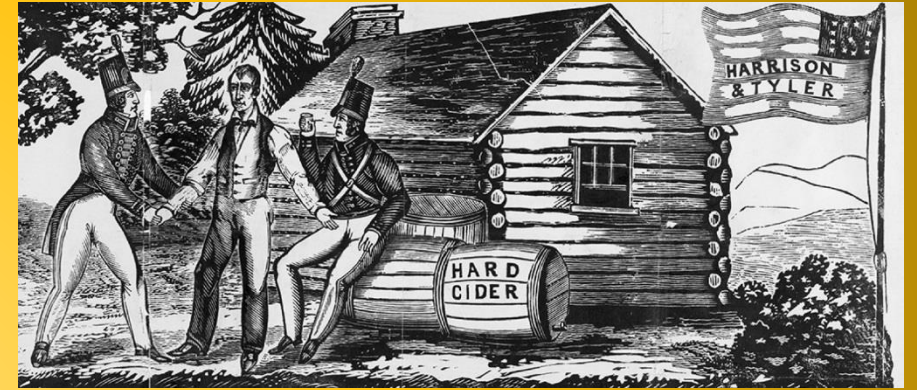
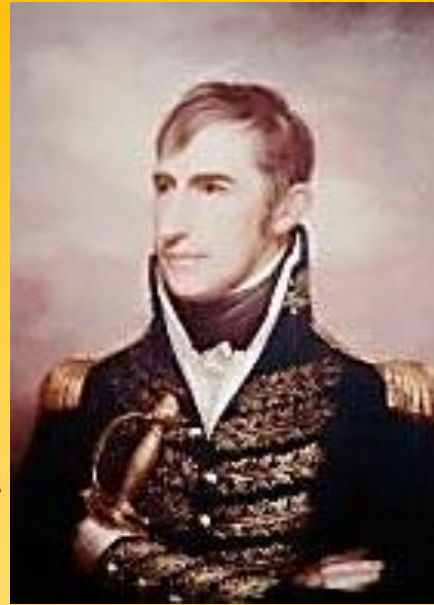
VS



# Context - WHH

## WHH

- Years in office – 1841-1841
- Political Party – Whig
- America had been under the control of the Democrat party mostly under Andrew Jackson and later Martin Van Buren. The Whigs used a “log cabin and hard cider” campaign to portray WHH as a common man which he was not.
- Strength – Popular and represented the Whig agenda
- Weakness – Died 30 days after assuming office





# Context - Obama

## Obama

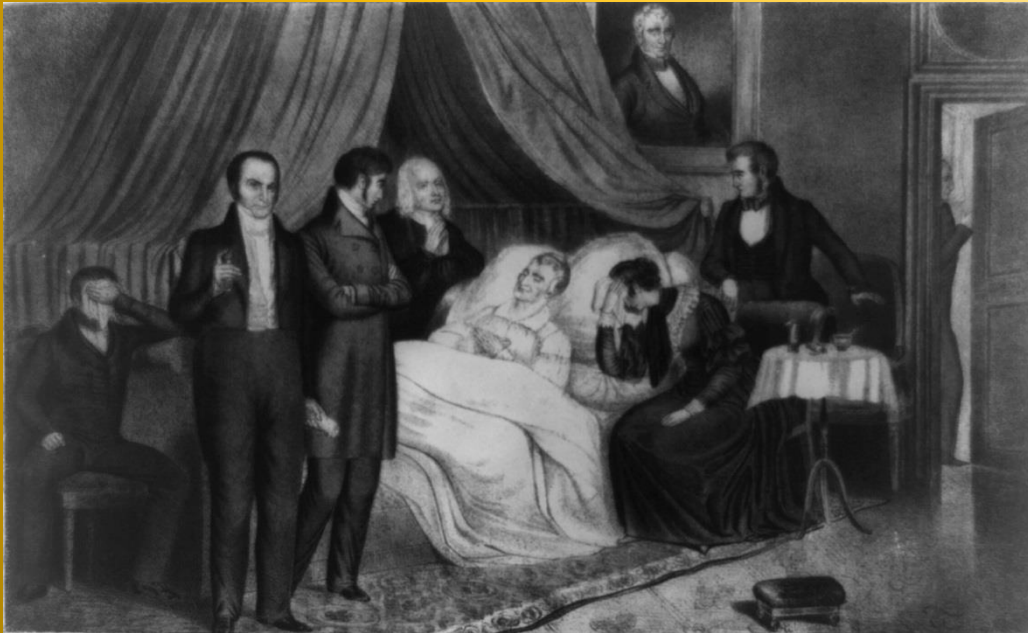
- Years in office – 2009-Present
- Political Party – Democrat
- America had been mired in a recession in 2008 and Obama hoped to strengthen the economy. He also had to deal with continued fallout from 9/11 which occurred under his predecessor, George W. Bush.
- Strength – Partisan political and social reforms
- Weakness – Foreign affairs and public opinion



# Foreign Affairs

WHH

- None



Obama

- Benghazi – Americans were attacked at the Libyan diplomatic compound (2012)
- Obama pushed for a landmark trade deal with many Asian countries called the Trans-Pacific Partnership
- For the first time since the 1970s, America reached a comprehensive treaty with Iran. Many detractors of Obama thought the treaty was not fair to America and gave Iran an avenue to obtain nuclear arms.
- Trade relations opened with Cuba for the first time in almost 60 years.

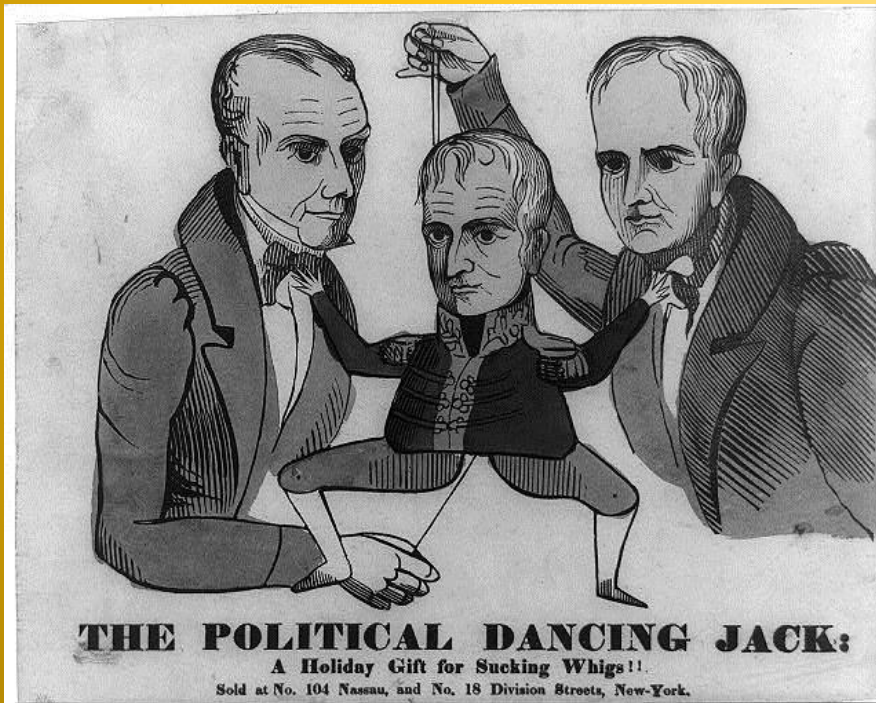




# Public Opinion

## WHH

- Many believed he would be a puppet of the Whigs in Congress – Henry Clay and Daniel Webster.



## Obama

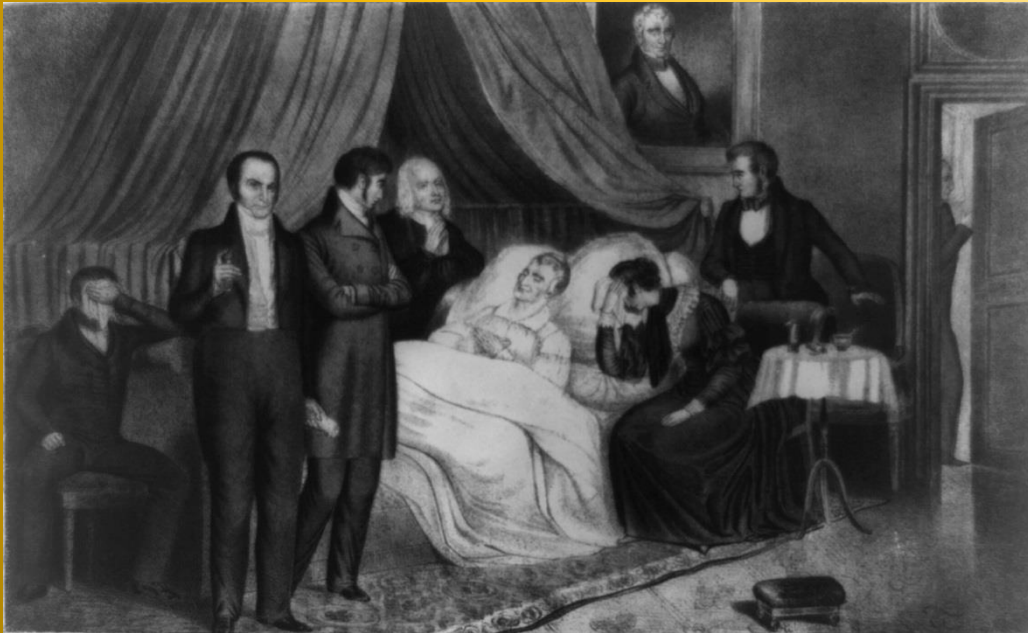
- Bin Laden – Obama saw a higher approval rating through his elimination of Bin Laden, the man responsible for 9/11
- Loss of party support – the Democrats lost the House (2010) and the Senate (2014) mostly due to Obama's policies.
- Obama's approval rating has stabilized usually around 40-50% approve



# Political Reform

WHH

- None



Obama

- Obamacare – expanded healthcare in an attempt to make it more affordable/accessible
- Executive actions on immigration amnesty, gun control, and environmental issues.

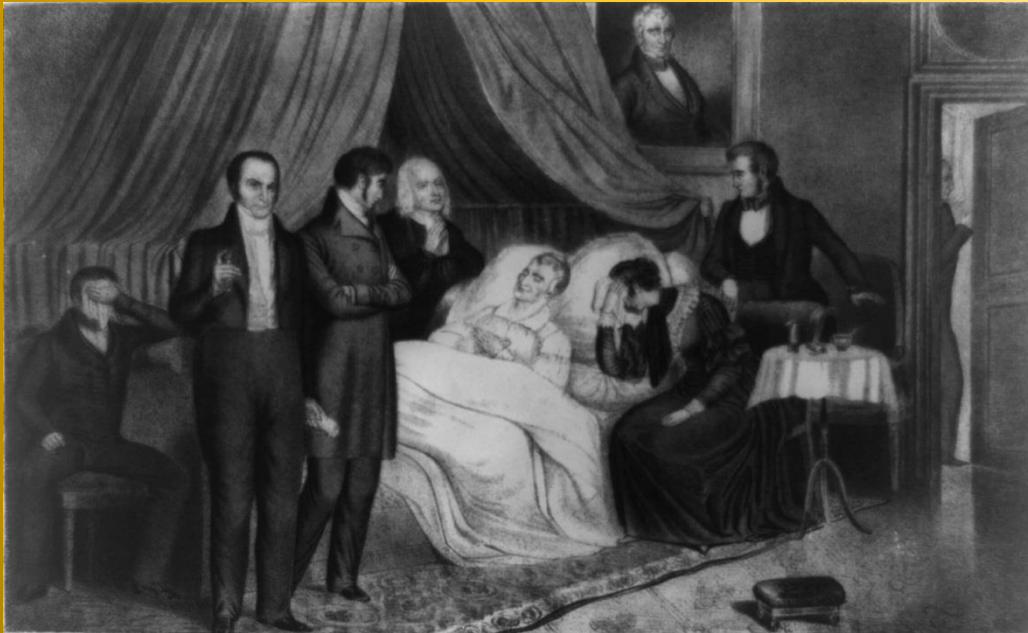




# Social Changes

WHH

- None



Obama

- Supreme Court ruling on gay marriage (2015).
  - Sotomayor and Kagan voted in favor
- Tea Party movement
- Black Lives Matter movement
- Occupy Wall Street



# Final Verdict

- Winner: Barack Obama
- Reasoning – Although Obama had his troubles, it was not hard to defeat William Henry Harrison since Harrison died just 30 days into his presidency. In the future, Obama may run into problems because of his state department's handling of Benghazi, the conservative attack on Obamacare, and his increased spending/taxation.

