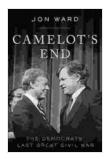
## Kennedy Vs Carter And The Fight That Broke The Democratic Party

The 1980 Democratic primary was one of the most bitter and divisive in history. It pitted two of the party's most prominent figures against each other: Senator Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts and President Jimmy Carter of Georgia.



## Camelot's End: Kennedy vs. Carter and the Fight that Broke the Democratic Party by Jon Ward

🚖 🚖 🚖 🌟 4.5 out of 5	
Language	: English
File size	: 13688 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
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X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 401 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported



Kennedy was a charismatic and popular figure, but he was also haunted by the Chappaquiddick incident, in which he drove his car off a bridge and left a young woman to drown. Carter, on the other hand, was a more pragmatic and less flashy politician, but he was also seen as weak and indecisive, especially in the wake of the Iran hostage crisis.

The primary campaign was a bruising affair, with both candidates trading barbs and negative attacks. Kennedy accused Carter of being a failed leader, while Carter accused Kennedy of being reckless and irresponsible.

In the end, Carter won the nomination, but he was badly weakened by the primary fight. He went on to lose the general election to Ronald Reagan in a landslide.

The 1980 Democratic primary was a watershed moment in the party's history. It marked the end of the liberal era that had begun with Franklin Delano Roosevelt and led to the rise of a more conservative and centrist Democratic Party.

The primary also left the Democratic Party deeply divided. Many Kennedy supporters felt that Carter had stolen the nomination, and they refused to support him in the general election. This division helped to contribute to Carter's defeat.

The 1980 Democratic primary is a reminder of the importance of unity in politics. When a party is divided, it is difficult to win elections and advance its agenda.

#### **Timeline of the 1980 Democratic Primary**

- November 7, 1979: Kennedy announces his candidacy for president.
- November 12, 1979: Carter announces his candidacy for re-election.
- January 21, 1980: The lowa caucuses are held. Carter wins by a narrow margin.
- February 12, 1980: The New Hampshire primary is held. Kennedy wins by a landslide.

- March 4, 1980: The Massachusetts primary is held. Kennedy wins again.
- March 18, 1980: The Florida primary is held. Carter wins by a narrow margin.
- April 1, 1980: The Pennsylvania primary is held. Carter wins by a landslide.
- June 3, 1980: The Democratic National Convention is held in New York City. Carter wins the nomination.
- November 4, 1980: Carter loses the general election to Ronald Reagan.

## Key Figures in the 1980 Democratic Primary

## Ted Kennedy

Ted Kennedy was a charismatic and popular figure, but he was also haunted by the Chappaquiddick incident, in which he drove his car off a bridge and left a young woman to drown. Kennedy was a liberal Democrat who supported social justice and economic equality.



#### **Jimmy Carter**

Jimmy Carter was a more pragmatic and less flashy politician than Kennedy, but he was also seen as weak and indecisive, especially in the wake of the Iran hostage crisis. Carter was a moderate Democrat who supported a balanced budget and a strong national defense.



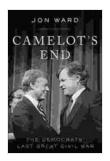
Jimmy Carter

#### The Impact of the 1980 Democratic Primary

The 1980 Democratic primary had a profound impact on the party and on American politics as a whole.

- It marked the end of the liberal era that had begun with Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
- It led to the rise of a more conservative and centrist Democratic Party.
- It left the Democratic Party deeply divided.
- It helped to contribute to Carter's defeat in the general election.

The 1980 Democratic primary is a reminder of the importance of unity in politics. When a party is divided, it is difficult to win elections and advance its agenda.



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