**II. Local Government**

1. Created by the State

* Local governments have no legal independence
* Created by each state’s constitution
* **Dark Continent of American Politics –**

1. Types of Local Government

* **Counties –**
* Counties vary in size, population, and importance
* **Nebraska:** 93 counties
* **Delaware:** 3
* **Texas:** 254
* **County Board –**
* Most important role is dealing with finances
* Responsible for levying local property taxes
* **Eminent Domain –**
* Are required to pay a fair price
* Private property owners are forced to give up their property

1. Major Local Elected Officials

* **Sheriff –**
* **Clerk –**
* **District Attorney –**
* **County Commissioners** –

1. Local Government Services

* **School Districts –**
* School board is one of the more important local governmental body
* Police and fire protection make up the largest part of local budgets