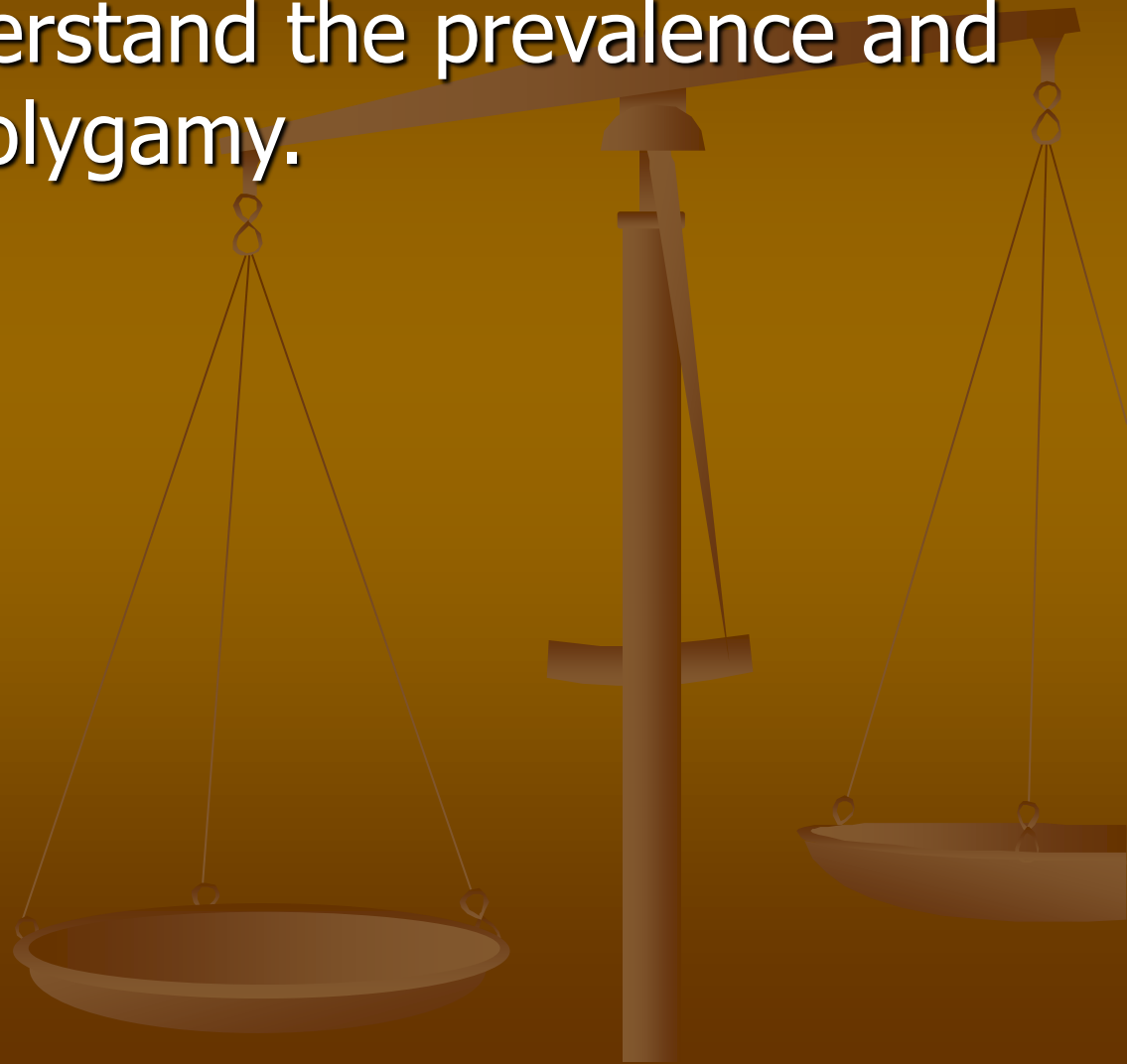


# Polygamy in Utah



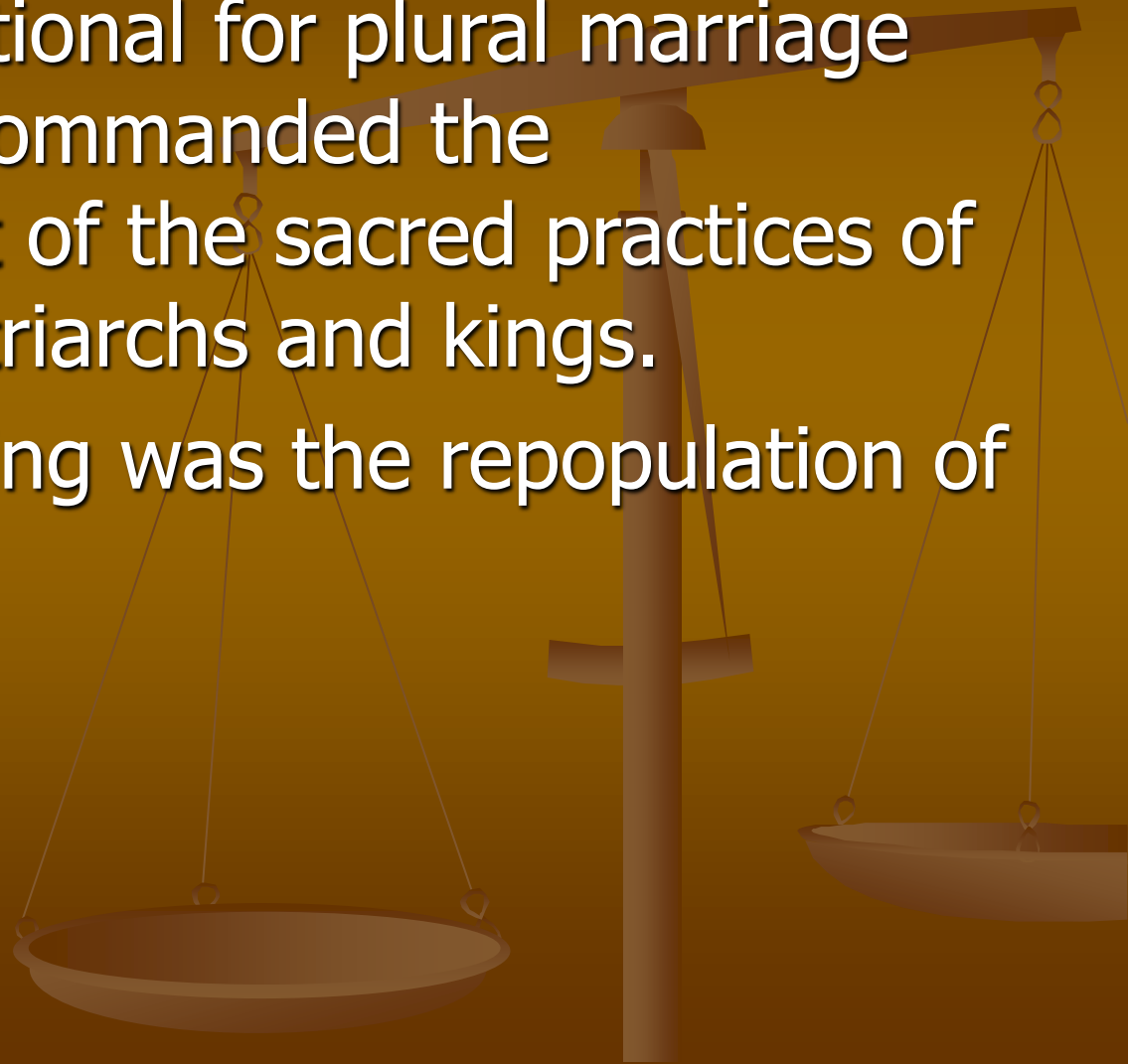
# Class Objective

Students will understand the prevalence and reasoning for polygamy.

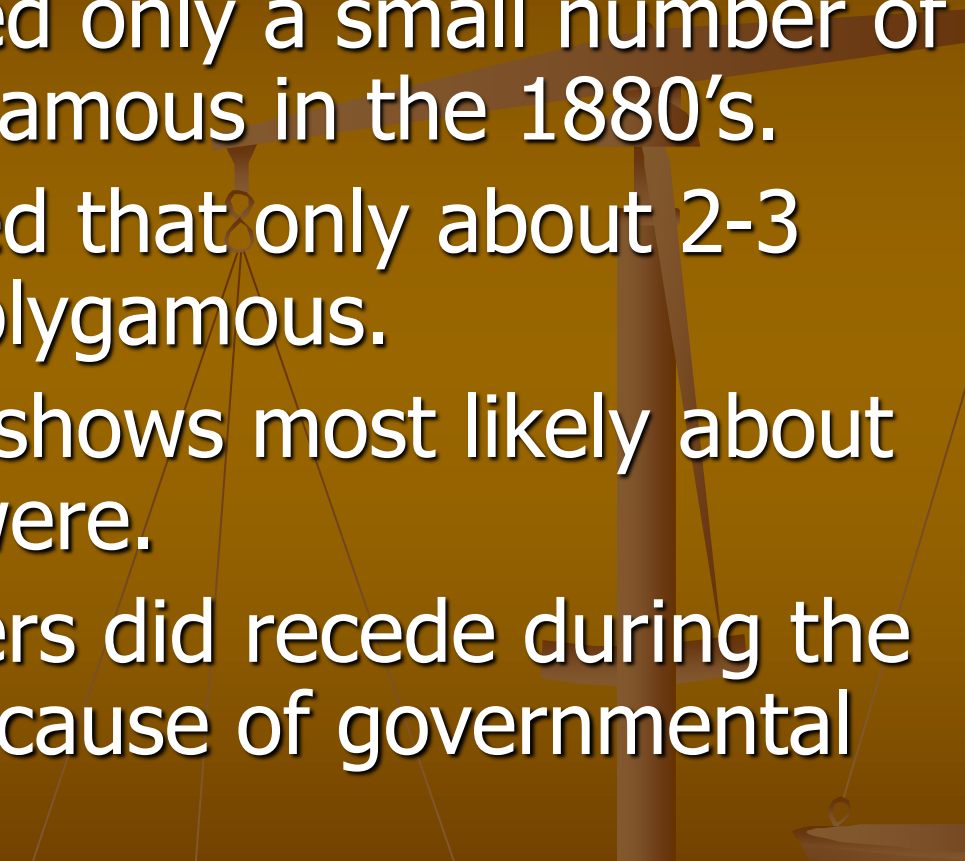


# Reasoning

- The Mormon rationale for plural marriage was, God had commanded the reestablishment of the sacred practices of the Israelite patriarchs and kings.
- Another reasoning was the repopulation of Earth.

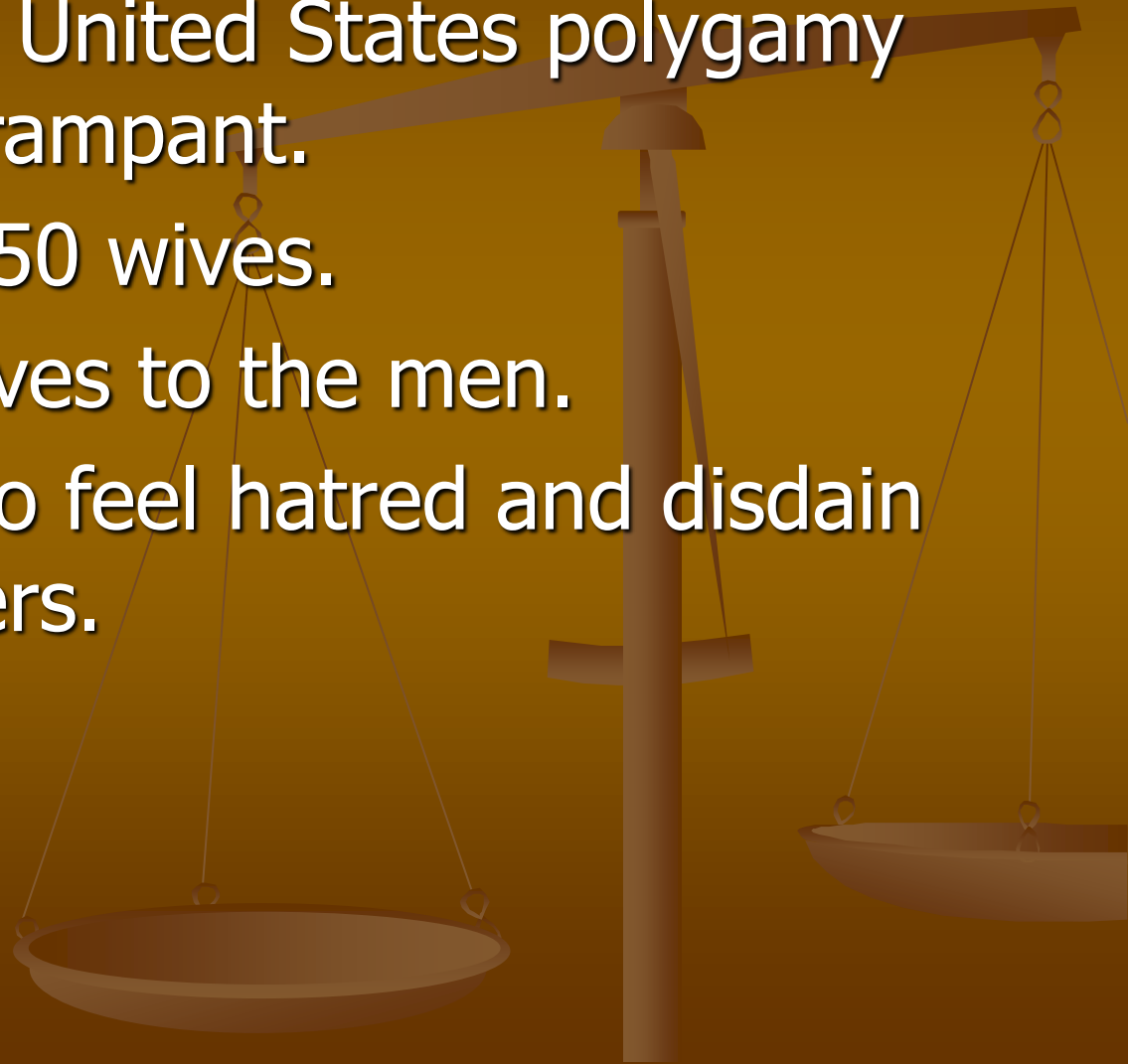


# Numbers

- Mormons claimed only a small number of men were polygamous in the 1880's.
  - Mormons insisted that only about 2-3 percent were polygamous.
  - Other evidence shows most likely about 20-30 percent were.
  - Marriage numbers did recede during the 1870-1880's, because of governmental pressure.
- 

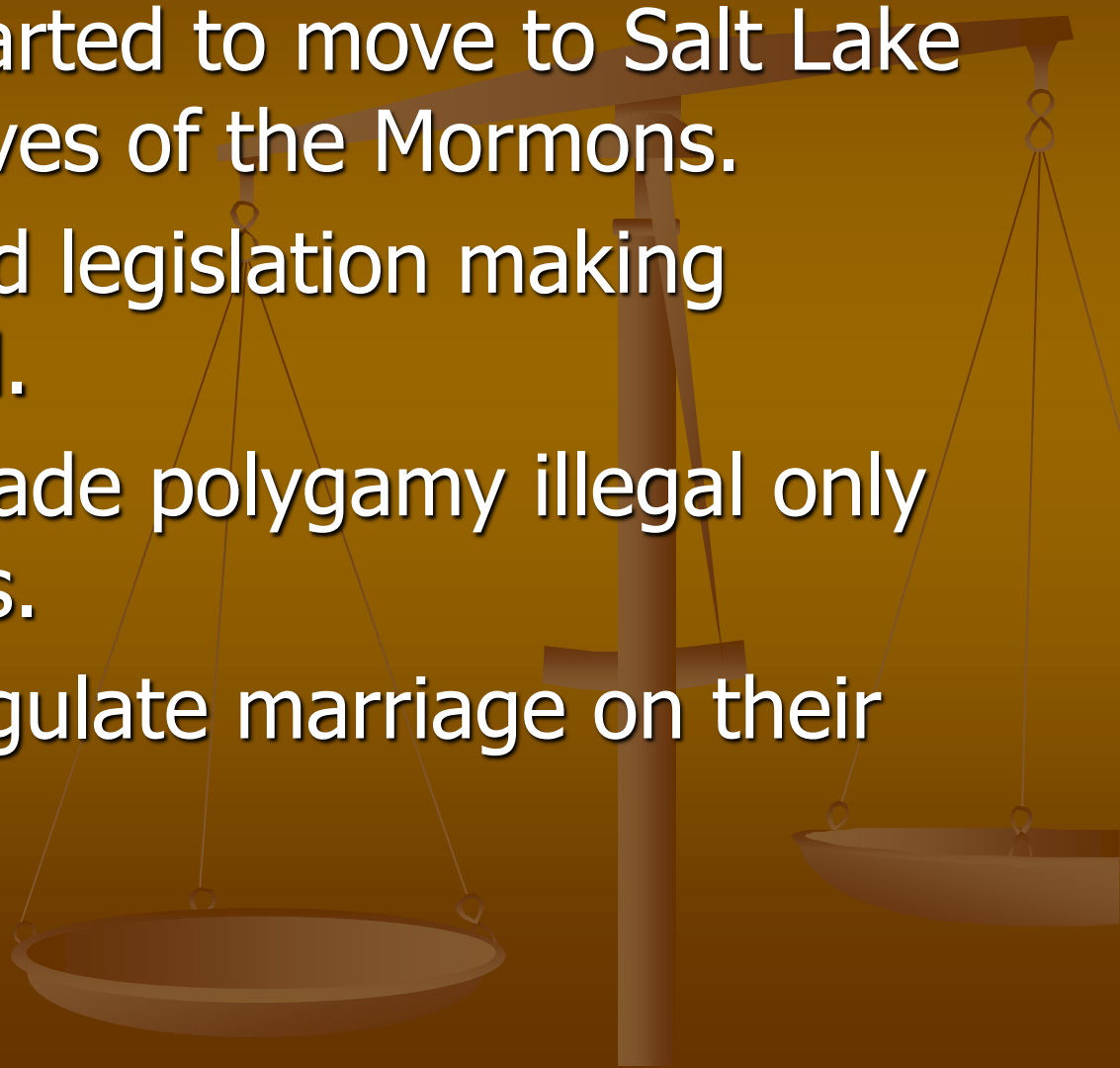
# Stereotypes

- Throughout the United States polygamy was viewed as rampant.
- Men having 20-50 wives.
- Wives being slaves to the men.
- People began to feel hatred and disdain towards members.



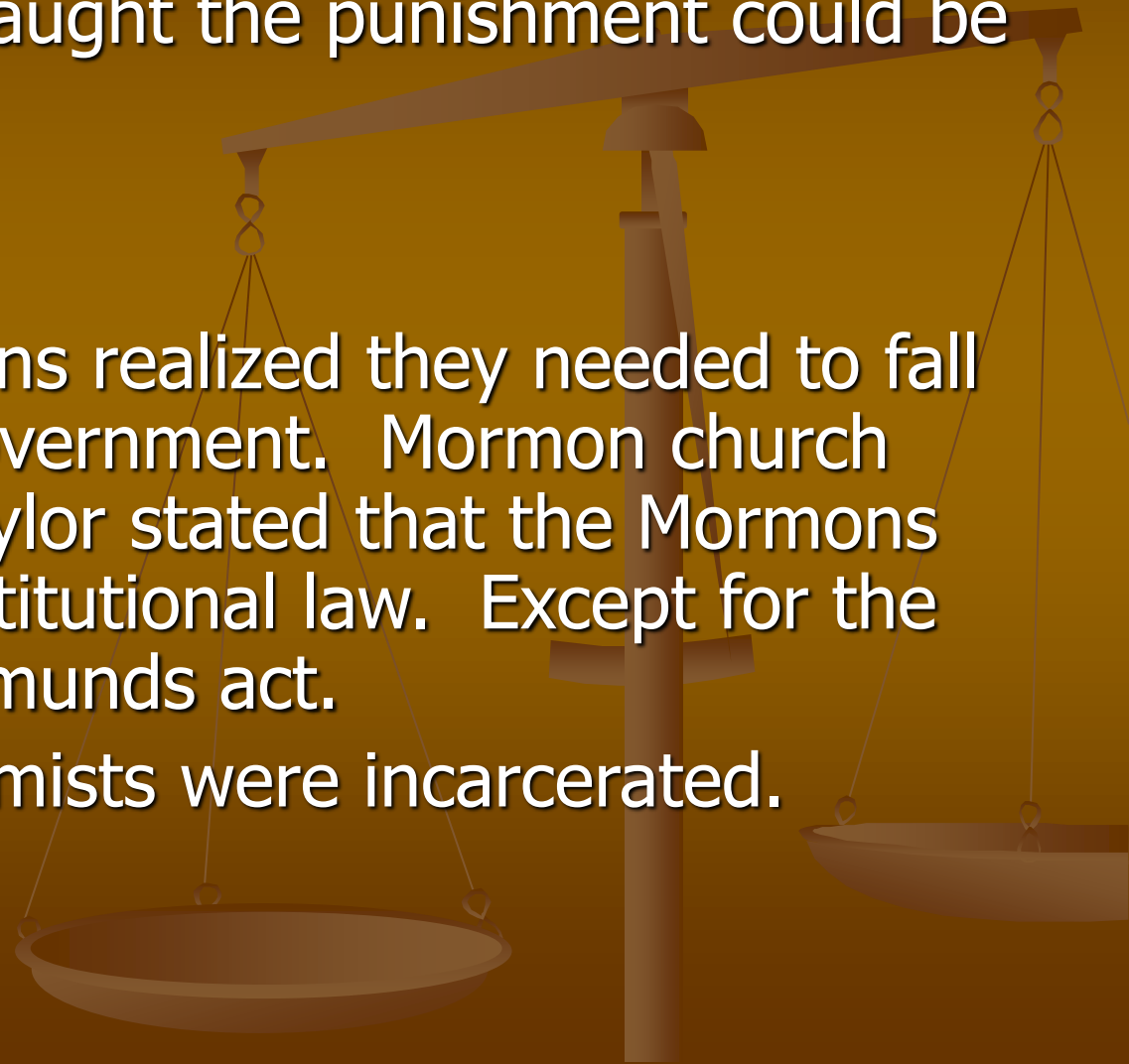
# Government Involvement

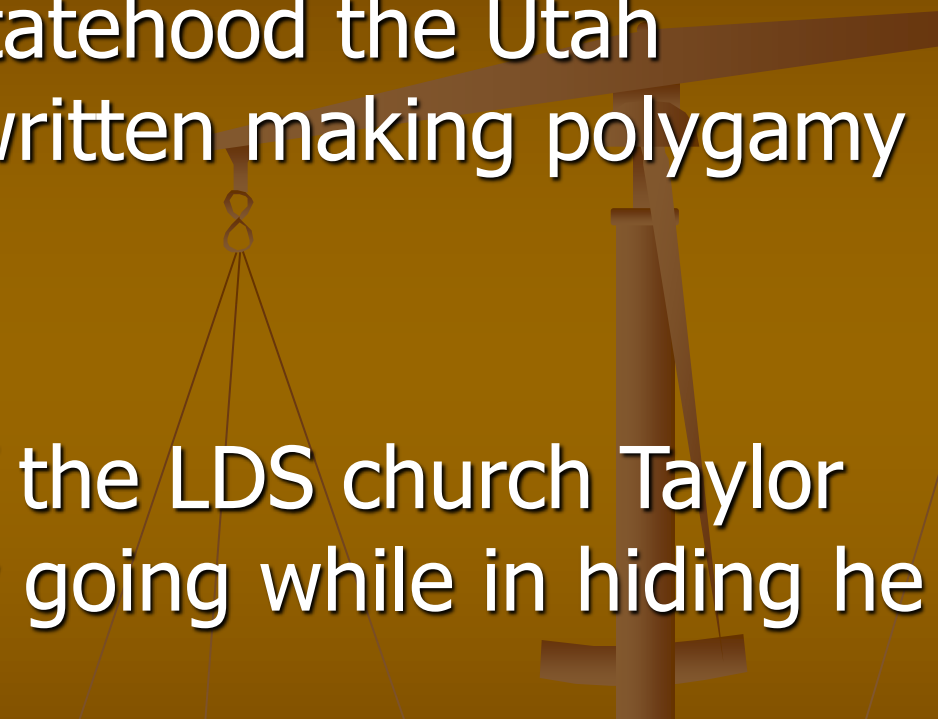
- Many people started to move to Salt Lake to “free” the wives of the Mormons.
- Congress passed legislation making polygamy illegal.
- Edmunds act made polygamy illegal only in U.S territories.
- State’s could regulate marriage on their own.



# Prison Time

- If someone was caught the punishment could be the following:
  - 5 years in prison
  - \$500 Fine
- Eventually Mormons realized they needed to fall in line with the government. Mormon church President John Taylor stated that the Mormons would follow constitutional law. Except for the anti-polygamy Edmunds act.
- Over 1000 polygamists were incarcerated.

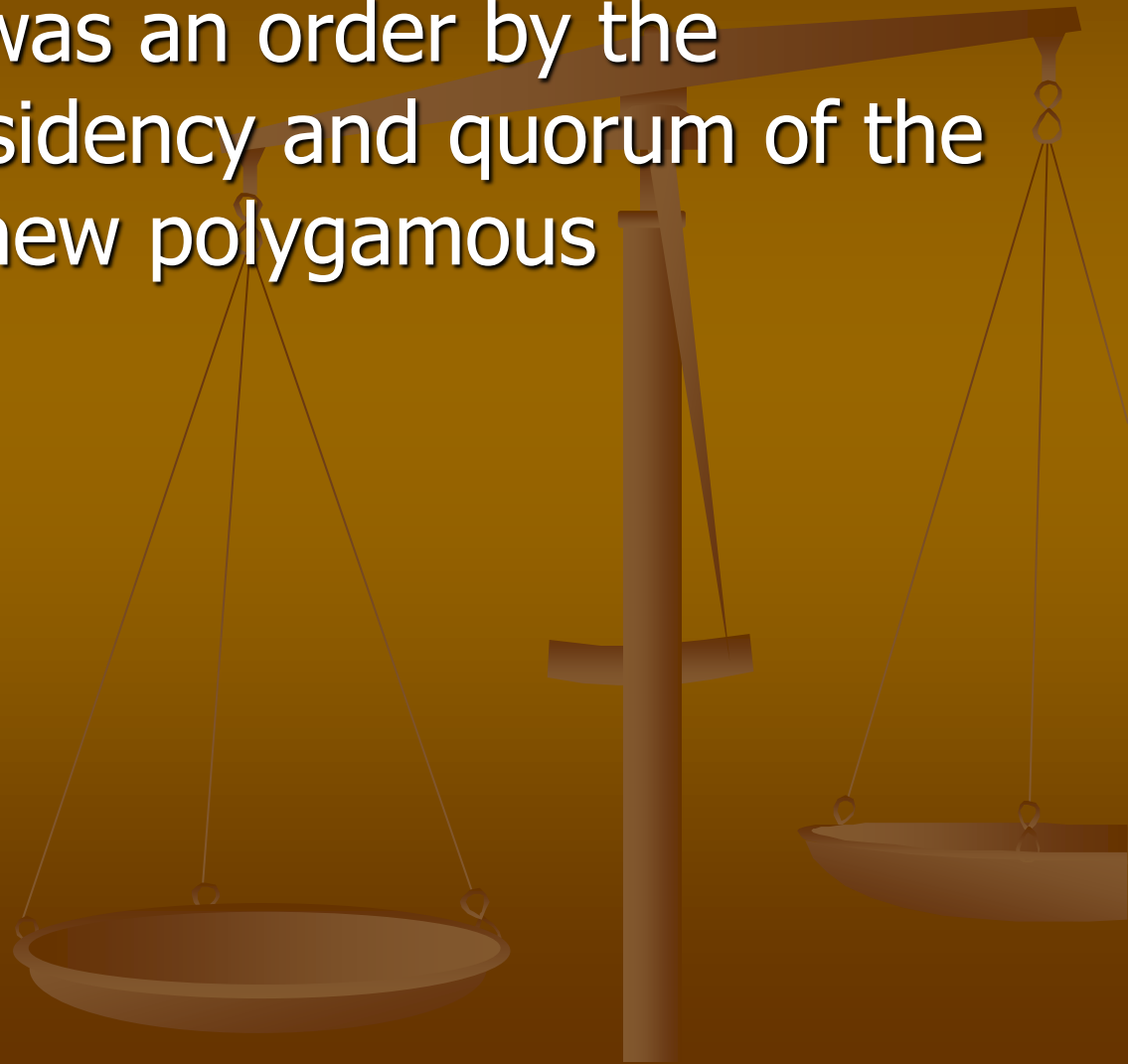


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- Trying to gain statehood the Utah Constitution is written making polygamy illegal.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> President of the LDS church Taylor keeps polygamy going while in hiding he dies.



# Manifesto

- The manifesto was an order by the Mormon 1<sup>st</sup> presidency and quorum of the 12 ending any new polygamous marriages.







**POLITICAL CARTOON: MORMON POLYGAMY**



TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

THE PROPHETS  
BEDROOM

WIVES SUBMIT  
TO YOUR  
HUSBAND

WOMEN OBEY  
YOUR  
HUSBAND

NO MARRIAGES  
HERE

COME ALONG  
MY DEARS

