

LIBERTY RULES!



BY MR. MARTY



Liberty Rules!

By

Martin F. Danahy
(Mr. Marty)

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Love and appreciation to:

My daughter, Sean, for her constructive feedback and contributions.

My son, Matthew, and all the others who have served in the military to preserve our freedom.

My family and friends who have helped and supported me along the way (you know who you are).

An almost blank page.

The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people,
it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government –
lest it come to dominate our lives and interests.

Patrick Henry

Governor of Virginia: 1776 – 1779, 1784 – 1786
1736 – 1799



Greetings

Welcome to *Liberty Rules!* I'm Mr. Marty and I'll be acting as your host as we explore the U.S. Constitution in an effort to break it down and understand its relevance. Nowadays, everything is being politicized. Our constitution is apolitical. That is, it is without bias, one way or the other. The U.S. Constitution forms our rules for preserving liberty. The rules should be neutral from a political standpoint and I believe that they are.

I'm sharing my plain-language rendition of each clause in and amendment to the constitution while striving to maintain neutrality. However, there are quite a few things that I see that make me wonder "What the hell is going on here? Why are our elected presidents, Senators, Representatives (Congressmen) and judges not following the Law of the Land to the letter?" I'll try to keep it to a minimum because I don't wanna get entangled in "whose side are you on anyway"...

I'm on your side!

We are the people. They are the government.

And I say, long live *the people!*

The U.S. Constitution is a remarkable rule book for the operation of the government of a free people in the United States of America. Through our votes, we're the referees and we should know the rules!

While *Liberty Rules!* provides my concise interpretation of the U.S. Constitution clauses and amendments, it also includes the original U.S. Constitution text with each entry so you're free and encouraged to form your own interpretations.

In this post Pandemic-Peak and Roe vs. Wade overturn update, I've unraveled a few key ground-breaking subtleties in a few interpretations. I've boldly challenged what I see going on with candid commentary likely to piss many people off. Especially those fully committed to hardline political party platforms. However, those observations and thoughts remain clearly separated from the interpretations. Channeling my inner JFK... My fellow Americans, I ask, not, what I can do to change your mind, but what you can do to open your mind?

The U.S. Constitution was approved on September 17, 1787 by the Constitutional Convention and went into operation a year and a half later with President George Washington's inauguration on April 30, 1789. It's the longest governing single-document supreme-law constitution in effect today. If a generation is twenty years, we're about twelve generations into The Great Experiment. Let's keep it going!



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Organization with Key Words

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Organization with Key Words

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Liberty Rules! Orientation

Introduction

I am living the American Dream. For me, that simply means that the only one or thing holding me back is me. We are truly a blessed people. We can envision living our lives virtually any way we desire. We can aspire to achieve those things that form in our wildest dreams.

For some reason, I've had a conscious appreciation for our freedoms since I was a teenager running amuck in the late 1970s. In those times the boundaries of acceptable, or should I say unharassed, social behavior were as wide as they ever were. The 1960s opened them up for my generation. The 1980s started shutting them down. Hey, I could legally drink at age 18. That ended in the 1980s when it got jacked up to age 21 because of coercive measures by the federal government. What more proof do you need?

On top of that, my loving parents pretty much left me to figure life out on my own. They were always there for me, but they really didn't tell me what to do. They taught me manners which were good enough that if I had dinner at a friend's house, on more than one occasion, I was complimented for, well, being civilized.

Someone sneezes, you say "God Bless You." Thank you. You're welcome. Excuse me (I farted, only kidding, burped, not burred).

I don't know how I got through high school without having to read much. The best book I ever read was, without a doubt, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. [(1960) J. B. Lippincott & Co.] Essentially, this is the only book she ever published other than publishing an earlier draft of it late in life. She passed away on February 19, 2015. They say it remains a masterpiece of American Literature to this day. There was another book about Indian, as in India, society that I also found really fascinating. I can't figure out what it was though. It talked about men, women, cows and their place in society as well as concubines and women throwing themselves on the pyres of their husbands and it was the real life or customs of these people. That was really mind blowing. It effectively exposed me to the caste system that they had there and you couldn't help but realize the contrast versus our ideal of being a classless society (in a Groucho Marx voice: "which we may have achieved in more ways than one!").

I believe that everyone needs a foundation. You need to have some scruples and know right from wrong. Let's face it, everyone knows right from wrong by the age of five. What happens after that are choices more than ignorance. Anywho, we need to understand that the world's not perfect, but collectively, we can make it better with something as simple as a good attitude and a little faith.

I built my soul on rock and roll. The lyrics of the 1960s and 1970s were heavily laced with the theme of "make love not war." I got a kick out of a bumper sticker from a local gun shop back in the 1970s that added "be prepared for both!" The songs also morphed into a very party-hardy theme which we followed religiously among my high school friends.

The most constructive thing I did with the money I made working during high school was buy concert tickets. I've experienced some really phenomenal shows. I still have just about every ticket stub. As many times as I've moved in my life, I haven't lost track of them or given them up.

Liberty Rules! Orientation
Introduction (continued)

In the course of a lifetime I think it's interesting to realize the things that you have carried from place to place to place. I have a stick since 1980. It's a good stick. In my first year of college I had a room in a dorm on campus for the year, however, I moved off campus during the second semester. I left the dorm room entirely for my roommate for the rest of the year because he put up with a lot those first couple of months. So, the story of the stick is that a friend of a friend asked if his friend could hang at our place for the day because he had to hang low for the day for some reason. I'd never met this guy before and I've never seen him again.

We were on the first floor with a storefront style entry plus there was a little back way to the place with a driveway behind the house from the next street and an outside staircase to a small secluded deck. He spent a good part of the day back there and he whittled the bark off of a stick. As I recall, he didn't even spend the night. When night fell, he bid us farewell and gave me the stick. It's not a perfect stick. I'm looking at it now. It has a split on one end, which is otherwise formed nicely, and the other end is missing a chunk of about one third of the thickness for the first five inches. At that end there are also two branch-beginning knobbies about an inch from the very end on opposite sides. It really is the perfect thickness and length for me. Also, it's certainly straight enough. This is what I value. Why you may wonder as have I. When I hold this stick, or even think of this stick, I'm cast through space and time to a space in time. A random space but a space none the less. A simple silly memory of a totally unremarkable event attached to a day in our lives that would otherwise be forgotten.

Over the years, I've often kept this stick within reach in case of an intruder. Thankfully, it's never been tested. In spite of its flaws, I have faith in this stick. It will protect me. It has protected me. Thinking about it now, I wonder what he was thinking as he made that first cut, and then that second cut, and so on and so on. All his fears, all his future plans, all his hopes, all his desires, everything he ever wished, everything he ever wanted, love he had, love he lost, what he would do if they caught up with him, what he would do if he got through this unscathed? Whatever he poured into it with each cut, he handed it to me on his way out in appreciation for helping a friend of a friend of a friend.

In physics they say that energy cannot be destroyed, it can only be converted into other forms of energy. If you lift something up you load it with kinetic energy. Letting it go releases that energy. I sense that there's a fountain of energy captive in that stick. Perhaps I've even drawn upon it. If I had to choose between a brick of gold and the stick, I believe I'd choose that stick. It's served me well.

Post receipt of the stick and post college graduation, sometimes, certainly not all the time, but I'd say every now and then, I can't help but feel like the man's been sticking it to me.

I believe I've tried, in earnest, to stay between the lines that society has laid out for us. I graduated college with a technical bachelor's degree. I went on to work in some good jobs, gained some good experience and even rose up the ladder a bit. However, I generally wasn't paid overtime and 36 years later was still only getting two weeks of vacation a year. I held eight professional positions in my field that have ranged from about one to thirteen years in length. I believe I've received a grand total of two weeks of unemployment over that span. I quit one job after about a year where I just couldn't take the conditions of the working environment and the behavior of those I reported to. I went for unemployment, they fought it and I lost. I stand corrected, I ran across something that looks like I got some additional unemployment up and until I lost that hearing.

Liberty Rules! Orientation
Introduction (continued)

I realize that many people don't even get two weeks of vacation, and now, neither do I, however, when I did I was on the one hand grateful for it. But, when I hear of the sweetheart benefits that government employees get, I just wanna puke! There's something unjust in our society where you can do all the things prescribed to lead a productive life and have the same amount of vacation as you approach retirement age as some kid wet behind the ears with one year of experience. However, our society is stacked against recognizing and rewarding experience. If older people walked into jobs with, say, one month of vacation because of their long-term experience, what employer's gonna call them for that interview?

What jobs nowadays are lifelong jobs? Government jobs, that's what. Unless of course it's a twenty-and-out job and some people get two of those under their belt in their lifetime. I don't fault those people. I can look back and now declare that they are, and were, obviously, a lot smarter than me. And now I see in the news that they hand out bonuses in government jobs like they're going out of style. We're astronomically in debt beyond comprehension and our big fat government is handing out bonuses? Don't even get me started!

I've since given all that up and am now freestyling with no paid vacation, medical or holidays. At the end of the C19 spike in July 2020, I did a two-week self-quarantine out of an abundance of caution. That caught the last week's federal support of \$600 plus I squeezed an additional \$80 out of my new-to-me home state of New Hampshire. That was odd because I worked about 80 hours a week across four jobs through the spike but that's the way it went by-the-book. I started two of those jobs, which were already in the works, the day President Trump declared the pandemic on March 16, 2020. The second week of my self-Q, I only got the \$80. I'm grateful that I returned to work healthy immediately after that. However, I only returned to one of those jobs because we couldn't agree on mutually satisfactory reduced hours on any of the others. They were all deemed "essential" through the spike while the professional self-employment e-commute work I was doing in New York was completely shut down. I sought no benefits in NY.

When I originally committed all the prior experiences to paper in 2018, I considered the prior paragraph's ending a powerful segue to the following paragraph, however, in this 3rd Edition, I feel it's necessary to interrupt that flow to share what has occurred in my personal evolution in the interim over these rather unpredictable subsequent years. I add it to update my evolving story which I shared to give context on where I'm coming from and why I feel as I do about what I'm presenting. Many people, including myself, worked on the dotted front lines to serve our communities during those most uncertain of times. I believe the ultimate heroes were the healthcare workers who made herculean efforts and sacrifices, at great risk to themselves and their loved ones, on the true front lines of that battle, which took place in our hospitals during those difficult days. So, where was I? Oh yeah...

Don't even get me started!!!

There are those who would have you believe that the U.S. Constitution is an old and irrelevant document that's outmoded and outdated for our modern society. I absolutely and positively believe that there's nothing further from the truth. From what I understand, there's a basic unchanging thing that's known as the human condition. There are dramas and melodramas being played out through the ages, up to and including today, that in spite of all the technology and knowledge that we're surrounded by, consume and are consumed by, the human condition remains unchanged. Love, betrayal, trust, valor, honor, faith. These things cannot be bought or sold. Well, maybe betrayal has a price for some.

Liberty Rules! Orientation
Introduction (continued)

The U.S. Constitution is a marvel. A relatively small group of men (sorry ladies, that's just the way it went down historically) agreed to capture, in words, ideals to aspire to and the specific prescribed operation and scope of responsibilities of the federal government. Like my stick, they weren't perfect men, but they sought to preserve something that they cherished. A freedom they had put their lives on the line to achieve and a freedom beyond that which was practiced or society could handle at the time. They put all their hopes and fears into this document, so that perhaps their children and their children's children and so on and so forth could achieve a higher level of freedom and have the opportunity to become richer than they were, in the ways that really matter. Did these men lay a foundation where their daughters and their slaves or their far away future descendants could achieve levels of freedom in their pursuits of happiness far beyond what was achievable at the time? I think yes!

These were men firmly rooted in reality. They understood history and they knew that what they were trying to achieve was beyond rational expectations. Yet, they threw caution to the wind, and risked everything they ever had or wanted, to achieve the hitherto impossible; a lasting society for the people and by the people.

I've heard and seen well-respected commentators on one side or another make blanket statements prefaced with, "well the constitution says that blah, blah, blah." I was deep into this project and I'd respond to the TV and those with me, "it doesn't say that!" The information age has segued into the disinformation age.

When my kids were young, I asked them for parchment replicas of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution as a gift. I've kept them rolled up in the box that they came in though. Unfortunately, they're not really very suitable for reading. The set also includes the Bill of Rights and a poster looking for volunteers to serve under General George Washington. A few years ago, my daughter bought me one of those, now infamous, pocket constitutions. A couple of times I tried to read it, and I guess that mostly because of the words they use, which are often antiquated, it was surprisingly difficult to understand. Additionally, there are a few stipulations about the transition to the new government that are long behind us. After we won the Revolutionary War, our government operated under the Articles of Confederation, which resulted in a weak federal government. The U.S. Constitution is a re-write of how the federal government of the United States of America is *supposed* to operate. It was subsequently ratified by the original thirteen states and went into operation with President George Washington sworn in on April 30, 1789 in New York City.

One day I had the idea that I'd reword it using the common language spoken today, to try to break it down for myself. Once you get past this extended introduction, or orientation, as I've titled it, you'll see that's what I've done here. Also, I'd like to add, that it turns out that those antiquated words have rather specific meaning which, although not commonly used or spoken today, remain very relevant.





Liberty Rules! Orientation
How to utilize this book for Incredibly Brilliant People

Ways to dig into *Liberty Rules!*

There are several ways that *Liberty Rules!* can be used. It's more like a reference book than a novel.

Traditional:

Read on, read on.

However, please excuse some redundancy that exists for the convenience of the grazers and slingers.

Format:

Clause by Clause by Amendment by Amendment **PER PAGE** format with 3 or 4 sections each. The optional section labeled a Huh? # challenges practices that I see today in contrast to my interpretation of that section.

Section by section format in the order that they appear on each page:

- A quote from through the ages or a quip, by yours truly, of some relevance
- Liberty Rule or Liberty Rules Amendment (my forthright interpretation of the original text in plain language)
- Huh? (when I noticed a contradiction between the law and what's happening worth pointing out)
- U.S. Constitution or Amendment original text (occasionally on the next page which is always noted)

Amendment Notations Cross References: The Liberty Rules (LR1 through LR84) are my interpretations of the original constitutional text clauses. Some of the amendments impact those interpretations. If a Liberty Rule (LR1 through LR84) is impacted by a later Liberty Rules Amendment (LRA1 through LRA27) I noted that right in the Liberty Rule. You must read both to get the current rule of law regarding that Liberty Rule. [Time out: I'm old school. I read the symbol # as "number" not "hashtag" or "pound." If you read # as hashtag or pound throughout this book, you're missing the point. Just like there are several 2's (to, too, two, 2) and lead can weigh you down, kill you, or be how to get others to safety, # can also be read more than one way. Hey, read can be read more than one way!] Anyway, the Liberty Rules Amendments also cross reference back to the Liberty Rules that they affect. I believe that it's obvious how I've captured them within the LR's and LRA's. I hope that I caught them all.

The Constitutional Challenge:

The entire transcribed U.S. Constitution, and the amendments to it, are in here in case you want or need to fact-check my interpretations. Additionally, if for any reason you're really on some kind of mission to either save your sorry arse or help someone else's out, if you think that you found a Liberty Rule to work with, you must chew on the original text a while also. That is the law. Those are the words that you must refer to in your defense or offense. If you like a challenge, you can first try reading only the original constitutional text from cover to cover at the end of each section which is almost always the passage at the bottom of the page or on the next page in a few instances. I discovered the pocket constitution that I have actually has titles added to the clauses of the constitution that aren't in the original document. The text herein is 100% exactly what it says accordingly to U.S. Senate website transcripts. Nothing added. Nothing taken away. By the way, those aren't typos in these sections, they just spelt funny back then.

Liberty Rules! Orientation

How to utilize this book for Incredibly Brilliant People (continued)

Easy reading overview:

I generally recommend that you skip the original constitutional text at the bottom of each section for easy reading to make a first pass through it. At the top of each clause I have a quote from through the ages or a quip of some relevance by yours truly which, I believe, is kind of interesting, affirming, thought provoking or on point. There are the Liberty Rules, which are what I call my interpretations of each clause, as well as the Liberty Rules Amendments for all of the amendments to the constitution. There are 84 clauses and 27 amendments in and to the U.S. Constitution as of today. Occasionally, I recognized things going on in contradiction to the Law of the Land that made me stop and ask “Huh?” Those contradictions are noted where I felt it necessary (Huh? #1 through Huh? #31).

Grazing:

If you like, you can just randomly open to a page and read about that clause or amendment as a sort of constitutional thought for the day. You can also hide a dot somewhere inconspicuous on the page, or put your initials or mark on a public copy, at say a bar, so that if you hit it again you can immediately try another page until you hit a new page for yourself. There are three or four sections for every clause and amendment that have clear points of demarcation so maybe you wanna dot, initial or mark each one as you read it.

Instant gratification:

Congratulations! I can't believe you made it this far! Give yourself a hardy round of applause!!! Now go to the back of the book, if you haven't already, and slowly turn back a couple of pages until you see the words “Final Thought” at the top and concentrate real hard to make it to the bottom of the page (while reading the words) without interruption. Good luck!

Get your arse out of a sling:

If you need or wanna use *Liberty Rules!* to look something up, I recommend that you start with what I titled “Organization with Key Words.” It's not a Table of Contents in the traditional sense, it's a list of contents using excerpts instead. It lists the contents in the order that they appear, using the titles LR# and LRA# for Liberty Rules LR1 to LR84 and Liberty Rules Amendments LRA1 to LRA27, followed by words that are exclusively taken directly from among the words that I used in my interpretation of that U.S. Constitution clause or amendment that I believe are key in the LR or LRA interpretations that I've made that give a clue to the subject covered in that clause or amendment. Wow, that was a long sentence. I hope that you can avoid one altogether.

WARNING: The “Organization with Key Words” lacks page numbers for the most part. The contents of *Liberty Rules!* are in order, so looking for LR24 isn't much harder than looking up page 46, for example. It also forces you to take a look towards the center of the page rather than only at the bottom for a meaningless number sitting all by its lonesome. Maybe through divine providence you may find not what you were looking for but what you need.

Liberty Rules! Orientation

How to utilize this book for Incredibly Brilliant People (continued)

Collectors:

The more you read the more the monetary value will probably go down, however, you may be enriched by the experience. Worst case, you may have to obtain another set of *Liberty Rules!* for posterity.

Stoners:

You should really just concentrate on the cover to get the full impact. Feel the vibe... Be the vibe...

What's the Problem?

There are also a bunch of Huhs? Huh? #1, Huh? #2, etc.

If you wanna take a bite out of the meat that I put on the bones, be prepared for a sour taste and scan for them. Enjoy!

The Huh? #'s are also noted in the "Organization with Key Words" to make your hunt a little easier.

X marks the spot:

Liberty Rules Amendment #1 through #10 (1791) embody what is and has forever been known as the Bill of Rights. These amendments to the constitution are as valid a part of the Law of the Land as the original U.S. Constitution, as are all of them for that matter. All amendments have been officially and formally numbered using Roman numerals. All football fans know how they work. If you're not sure, just ask one for help...

Amendment X, in particular, has a power, that I believe, has been largely ignored by the federal government. Plus, the states and the courts have left them unchecked to trample all over the rights of the states, the people and their small businesses by not putting up fights to their usurping powers of regulation and control beyond the scope of the U.S. Constitution's prescribed operation and authority of the federal government. And, if you think that just because it doesn't say they can't do something doesn't mean that the feds can't do it, then take a good look at Amendment X. That's actually exactly what the 10th Amendment dictates. It's preceded by the 9th Amendment which ensures our individual catch-all right to self-determination which the Supreme Court and many people continue to refuse to accept. They form the old one, two punch that the federal government deserves in the gut.

And what's good for the goose is good for the gander. I believe that my former home state of New York, where I wrote most of this, takes its own special sets of exceptions to the Bill of Rights. Maybe I'll deal with that some other time. This book is focused on the federal government, or feds, as I like to call them.

Gold diggers:

There's one nugget within.

Liberty Rules! Orientation

How to utilize this book for Incredibly Brilliant People (continued)

Poets:

Once upon a time
I had a dime
So, I figured I'd make a call
But I couldn't find a phone nowhere at all
My Mom said without it they could call me a vagrant
But I just won't be happy until it is spent
With nothing to do I took a good look
And realized it's like reading a book
A rather handsome man looking thru the prism of LIBERTY
Declaring IN GOD WE TRUST to you and me
The date can vary along with the mint
Brotherly Love & Mile High is a hint
Flip it over and you're reminded of where we are
The UNITED STATES OF AMERICA whether in a car or bar
A Grandparent convinced my son at a tender age that a penny was worth the most
They say "A Penny for Your Thoughts" but I almost gave up the ghost
I had to set him straight and walk him thru their values
Pennies, Nickels, Dimes and Quarters are there for you to choose
E PLURIBUS UNUM straddles three images
The letters a real mess like they're lined up for scrimmages
In the center it looks like an Olympic Torch
With two leafy things on its porch
But they appear to be safe from being set on fire
In the absence of the wind of desire
In the course of history art often outlasts words
So, you must read between the lines regardless of what you heard
Other than no longer being all silver
It and maybe a buck are the only legal tender unchanged in my life Wilbur
It stands as a monument traveling thru time and space
That perhaps can transport you back to some place
It could be in your mind or in your heart
It could be exactly all that you have with which to start
They say those Latin words mean FROM ONE COMES MANY
You could literally trade it for a couple of nickels or a bunch of pennies
However, I am sure
It means so much more
If you count up the letters there are 13
Each one standing like a bright beam
Offering the world, a glimmer of hope
That their lives may one day no longer be ruled by a dope

Liberty Rules! Orientation

How to utilize this book for Incredibly Brilliant People (continued)

Now there are 50 bound in faith
That our chosen words shall remain safe
The United States of America is a statement
I think you know what it means but those words are being bent
When I look at those letters darting around the branches
I see George Washington and his men who left their ranches
Using tactics learned from the Original Americans
Tyranny was outfoxed by a bunch of hooligans
Was the reminder of the loss at Bunker Hill too much to bear?
No! Please leave it there
Those intent on erasing history are doomed to repeat it
If a monument offends you just take joy when a bird makes a direct hit
On my dime there is 2012 and a P
Using a scaled loupe a mentor gave me, here's what else I see
Just to the left and down from the year
Are two very small letters I hadn't noticed were there
The first is kinda between a J and a V
The second is a solid S to me
The back side has two visible dots about ONE DIME
There are also two microdots between the Latin words chime
The right branch must be of a sturdy oak
Because there's two acorns on it and that's no joke
I say there is a leaf count of eight
8 plus 2 makes 10 which is always great!
Perhaps that recognizes the Bill of Rights
And the strength of the people when called upon to unite
The left branch has 13 leaves
Representing the original states who fought back the thieves
A revolution born out of unfair taxes
The Sixteenth Amendment of 1913 was an attack with axes
The same pool of fools gave us the 17th in 1913
Clearly unconstitutional from what I have seen
These are the things that I ponder when I have nothing to do
Unravel the clues left for me and you
The type of branch on the left must mean something, I have no doubt
But I'll leave that for you to figure out

How does it end?

If you wanna know how it all ends I can tell you it ain't over yet and I'll add two other things. It's so hard to not be offensive that I've resolved to be offensive. The second thing is that constructive feedback is a rare bird or any feedback for that matter. Either way, this is what I've poured my energy into regardless of what you may think of it. In my heart and in my mind, hey, let me add my soul brother, I will always be free to do so. The best defense is a good offense!

Liberty Rules! Orientation

How to utilize this book for Incredibly Brilliant People (continued)

In conclusion... just go to the Commentary section towards the back of the book which starts with Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #28. If you read the rest of *Liberty Rules!* from there you'll at least get an idea of where they've gone astray.

Further research:

The most interesting part of this project was looking for quotes. Through happenstance, those searches led me down some interesting excursions and I found some fascinating letters written by our founders along with some intriguing decisions rendered by the Supreme Court. Admittedly, I haven't read through all of the contents of those that I referenced, however, if you wanna look deeper into some of the subjects that are touched upon, that's where I'd recommend that you start. The word from college students nowadays is that if you can find the same tidbit of information in three apparently unique web sources, it's generally accepted as adequately vetted by professors.

◇ The Liberty Rules ◇



It is every Americans' right and obligation
to read and interpret the Constitution
for himself.

Thomas Jefferson

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #1: We, the people of the United States, and our future kin practice liberty in the United States of America and we ain't takin' no spit!



Preamble: **We the People** of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

It will be of little avail to the people that the laws are made by men of their own choice
if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read,
or so incoherent that they cannot be understood.

James Madison

4th President (1809 – 1817)

U.S. Secretary of State for President Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)

U.S. Representative (VA, 1st – 4th Congress, 1789 – 1797)

1751 – 1836



Liberty Rule #2: The Senate and the House of Representatives make the laws. Together they're the Congress.



Article 1, Section 1.

All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Hi, it's me again.

I for one am vehemently opposed to electronic voting methods.

A paper trail is immutable.

I don't mind citizens determining the intent of hanging chads
(as in the 2000 presidential election vote recounting in Florida).

I certainly object to methods where ordinary people
cannot recount your individual vote on a piece of paper.

We have reached the point where judges and the press are heavily swayed by their political persuasion.

Are programmers and their managers above the corruption of political preferences?

We should not take that chance.

Our voting population has only doubled since the 1950s when there were no computers.

We counted the votes manually then.

With twice as many people, we could count them manually now.



Liberty Rule #3: The entire People's House, aka House of Representatives, will be elected every two years by the people. As clearly as that is stated, the waters are muddied by ending with 'Electors' references, which, seem irrelevant in practice.



Article I, Section 2, Clause 1.

The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

Hey there.

There oughta be a constitutional aptitude test to be
the president, vice president,
a Representative, a Senator
or a judge.



Liberty Rule #4: If you wanna be a Representative (aka Congressman) you gotta be a 7 year U.S. citizen, at least 25 years old, and have a spot to live in the state you'll serve by Election Day.



Article I, Section 2, Clause 2.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Now hold on cowboy.

The 2010 census asked whether or not you owned your house.
Was it written by and for the United Banks of America?



Liberty Rule #5: There'll be a census every ten years to get the number of Representatives (aka Congressmen) and taxes per state correct. The counting excludes untaxed Native Americans and includes a three fifths count for all other persons which implied applied to slaves. (Affected by Amendment 14, 1868 & Amendment 16, 1913).



Huh? #1: This sounds like the states gets taxed by the federal government according to their population (not income). So, why is the federal government taxing me? Probably because of Amendment 16, 1913.



Article I, Section 2, Clause 3.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

It could probably be shown by facts and figures
that there is no distinctly native American criminal class
except Congress.

Mark Twain

American Author
1835 - 1910



Liberty Rule #6: If any Representative drops out of office, for any reason, the governor of their state will hold an election for their replacement.



Article I, Section 2, Clause 4.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

Experience has already shown that
the impeachment the Constitution provided
is not even a scarecrow.

Thomas Jefferson

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #7: The House of Representatives chooses their speaker and other officers. Additionally, they have the sole power of impeachment.



Article I, Section 2, Clause 5.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Senator, I served with Jack Kennedy,
I knew Jack Kennedy.
Jack Kennedy was a friend of mine.
Senator, you're no Jack Kennedy.

Lloyd Bentsen

1988 – To Dan Quayle in VP Debate.
U.S. Secretary of the Treasury for President Bill Clinton (1993 - 1994)
U.S. Senator (D-TX, 1971 – 1993)
U.S. Representative (D-TX, 1948 – 1955)
1921 - 2006



Liberty Rule #8: The Senate of the United States includes two Senators from each state, chosen by each state's legislature, for six year terms. Each Senator shall have one vote. (Affected by Amendment 17, 1913).



Huh? #2: When did the people, instead of the state legislatures, start electing Senators? 1914. (Reference Amendment 17, 1913).



Article I, Section 3, Clause 1.

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

No surprise here.

Campaign finance reform typically rearranges the loopholes.



Liberty Rule #9: One third of the Senators are elected every two years and vacated seats are filled by the state legislature or the governor, temporarily, if they're not around. (Affected by Amendment 17, 1913).



Article I, Section 3, Clause 2.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

When a member of the Senate wishes to hold legislation or a nomination,
that Senator owes to this body and, more importantly,
to the American public a full explanation.

Claire McCaskill

U.S. Senator (D-MO, 2007 to 2019)

State Auditor (D-MO, 1999 – 2007)

Jackson County, MO Prosecutor (1993 – 1998)

State Representative (D-MO, 1983 – 1988)

Born 1953



Liberty Rule #10: If you wanna be a Senator you gotta be a 9 year U.S. citizen, at least 30 years old, and have a spot to live in the state you'll serve by Election Day.



Article I, Section 3, Clause 3.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

No need to panic.

In practice, the vice president probably has the easiest job in the world.



Liberty Rule #11: The vice president of the United States shall be president of the Senate, but won't have a vote, unless needed to break a tie.



Article I, Section 3, Clause 4

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

I am vice president.
In this I am nothing,
but it may be everything.

John Adams

2nd President (1797-1801)
1st VP to President George Washington (1789 – 1797)
1735 - 1826



Liberty Rule #12: If the vice president isn't around or is the acting president then, typically, the senior member of the majority party will run the show in the Senate.



Article I, Section 3, Clause 5.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

No point is of more importance than that the right of impeachment should be continued.
Shall any man be above Justice?

George Mason

Credited with proposing a Bill of Rights at the Constitutional Convention which was rejected.
Among three delegates who attended the entire Constitutional Convention
who did not sign the U.S. Constitution.
1725 - 1792



Liberty Rule #13: The Senate is the judge and jury for all impeachments, except that for a presidential impeachment the Supreme Court Chief Justice will preside as the judge. A two thirds majority of those present is required for all impeachment convictions.



Article I, Section 3, Clause 6.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

I have impeached myself.

Richard M. Nixon

Presidential Resignation Speech, August 8, 1974

37th President (1969 – 1974)

36th VP to President Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953 – 1961)

U.S. Senator (R-CA, 1950-1953)

U.S. Representative (R-CA, 1947 – 1950),

1913 - 1994



Liberty Rule #14: If convicted following impeachment, you're kicked out of government for good and can be subsequently indicted and punished according to law.



Article 1, Section 3, Clause 7.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Always vote for principle,
though you may vote alone,
and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost.

John Quincy Adams

6th President (1825 – 1829)
U.S. Representative (MA, 1831 – 1848)
(the only president to become a U.S. Congress Representative after his presidency)
U.S. Secretary of State for President James Monroe (1817 – 1825)
U.S. Senator (MA, 1803 – 1808)
1767 – 1848

(Note: 17th President Andrew Johnson (1865-1869) (NOT Jackson) became a U.S. Senator after his presidency)

(Note: 27th President Taft (1909-1913) became a Supreme Court Chief Justice after his presidency)

(that amounts to one each went on to each of the other three U.S. government federal bodies)



Liberty Rule #15: The state legislatures set when, where and how the elections of Representatives and Senators will happen but the Congress may by law overrule them (affected by Amendments 14, 15, 19, 24, & 26), except when it comes to Senators (affected by Amendment 17, 1913).



Huh? #3: It can be argued that the wording of the U.S. Constitution clearly states that under no circumstances can the place of choosing Senators (by the state legislatures per Liberty Rule #8) be changed, which would make Amendment 17, 1913 (giving Senator elections to the people) unconstitutional.



Article I, Section 4, Clause 1.

The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

Overpaid.

Work Days: The lucky among us work 239 days on the job (Monday through Friday with two weeks of vacation and eleven paid holidays). Congress only serves 112 days in session.

Pay:

Salary	Position
\$174,400	Delegates to the House of Representatives
\$174,000	Senators
\$174,000	Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico
\$193,400	President pro tempore of the Senate
\$193,400	Majority leader and minority leader of the Senate
\$193,400	Majority leader and minority leader of the House of Representatives
\$223,500	Speaker of the House of Representatives

Executive Order 13655 of December 23, 2013, Adjustments of Certain Rates of Pay.

Office of Personnel Management – Pay and Leave – salaries and wages – Executive Order for 2014 Pay Schedules

Comparison:

Federal Minimum Wage: \$7.25/hour for 40 hours a week at 52 weeks a year equals \$15,080 per year.

\$174,000 divided by \$15,080 equals 11.5 times the pay for less than half the days which means they're paid over 23 times the federal minimum wage rate of pay.



Liberty Rule #16: Congress must meet at least once a year in December. (Affected by Amendment 20, 1933).



Article I, Section 4, Clause 2.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

Coulda, shoulda, woulda.

When I stop, and think about job benefits,
I realize that I really shoulda run for Congress.



Liberty Rule #17: Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members (affected by Amendment 14, 1868). At least half the members of each house gotta be present to do business and they can do what they gotta do to compel absent members to attend and punish them if need be.



Article I, Section 5, Clause 1.

Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Suppose you were an idiot.
And suppose you were a member of Congress.
But I repeat myself.

Mark Twain

American Author
1835 – 1910



Liberty Rule #18: Each House defines the rules of its proceedings, punishes its members for disorderly conduct, and may kick someone out if two thirds agree to it.



Article I, Section 5, Clause 2.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

The very word 'secrecy' is repugnant in a free and open society;
and we are as a people inherently and historically opposed to secret societies,
to secret oaths, and to secret proceedings.

John F. Kennedy

Address before the American Newspaper Publishers Association, April 27, 1961
35th President (1961 – 1963)
4th U.S. President Assassinated (fatally shot on Friday, November 22, 1963)
U.S. Senator (D-MA, 1953 – 1960)
U.S. Representative (D-MA, 1947 – 1953)
1917 - 1963



Liberty Rule #19: A record of the proceedings of each House will be published, except for those requiring secrecy. And, just for the record, the members' votes are recorded when better than 1 in 5 think it best.



Article I, Section 5, Clause 3.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Hi, it's me again.

Life is really just a continuous series of adjournments.
Some reconvened, some not.



Liberty Rule #20: Up to 3 day weekends or breaks are OK when in session. The other House must approve a longer adjournment or leaving D.C.



Article I, Section 5, Clause 4.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

A people that values its privileges
above its principles
soon loses both.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Inaugural Address, January 20, 1953
34th President (1953 – 1961)
U.S. Army General (served 1915 – 1953)
1890 - 1969



Liberty Rule #21: The Senators and Representatives will be paid as provided by law and are free from arrest during session except in the case of treason, felony and breach of the peace, additionally, anything said in session can only be questioned in session.



Article I, Section 6, Clause 1.

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

Whenever a man has cast a longing eye on offices,
a rottenness begins in his conduct.

Thomas Jefferson

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #22: If you're a Senator or Representative, you cannot hold any other office of the United States and you'll get no raises during your term in office (affected by Amendment 27, 1992).



Article I, Section 6, Clause 2.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

What at first was plunder
assumed the softer name of revenue.

Thomas Paine

Rights of Man (1791)

Also, authored ***Common Sense*** (1776)

1737 - 1809



Liberty Rule #23: All laws for funding the federal government originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or approve with amendments as with other laws.



Article I, Section 7, Clause 1.

All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

The power given by the Constitution to the Executive to interpose his veto is a high conservative power; but in my opinion, it should never be exercised except in cases of clear violation of the Constitution, or manifest haste and want of due consideration by Congress.

Zachary Taylor

12th President, Died in Office (1849 – 1850)

0 Vetoes in 15 Months

U.S. Army Major General (served 1808 – 1849)

1784 - 1850



Liberty Rule #24: The president has ten days, not including Sundays, to approve or formally reject a bill with his written objections or it'll become law anyway unless Congress shall have adjourned, but if after a presidential veto two thirds of Representatives and Senators approve it, the veto is overridden. All veto override voting is recorded by name.



Huh? #4: Why aren't the president's objections to bills routinely published? On-line web searches for presidential veto written objections were unsuccessful at finding a central repository for all of them. However, the U.S. Senate website emerged as a good place to get general information about them. It appears to have a list of each president's vetoes and whether or not they were later overridden. It also provides reference numbers for the "Veto Message" from the president but a few searches on those reference numbers that are provided were unsuccessful. Search "Nixon Veto Message" on the U.S. Senate website for President Richard M. Nixon vetoes, for example, if you're interested and see where that takes you.



Article I, Section 7, Clause 2.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and Nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

The bill's a textbook example of special interest pork barrel politics at work,
and I have no choice but to veto it.

Ronald Reagan

Upon veto of \$87.5B Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987

40th President (1981 – 1989)

78 Vetoes in 8 Years, 9 Overridden

Governor of California (R, 1967 – 1975)

1911 - 2004



Liberty Rule #25: Every order, resolution or vote not approved by the president will need to be overridden by a two thirds vote to take effect just like a law.



Article I, Section 7, Clause 3.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

In these cases our province is to determine whether this income tax on the revenue from property does or does not belong to the class of direct taxes.
If it does, it is, being unapportioned, in violation of the Constitution, and we must so declare.

Chief Justice Melville Fuller

Delivering Supreme Court Opinion
Pollock v. Farmer's Loan & Trust Co., 157 U.S. 429, 607 (1895)
This decision made income tax unconstitutional from 1895 to 1913.
Amendment XVI made it constitutional in 1913.
Supreme Court Chief Justice 1888 - 1910
1833 - 1910



Liberty Rule #26: Congress may tax everyone and everything imported uniformly as needed to pay debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States. (Affected by Amendment 16, 1913).



Huh? #5: This sounds like a flat tax to me!



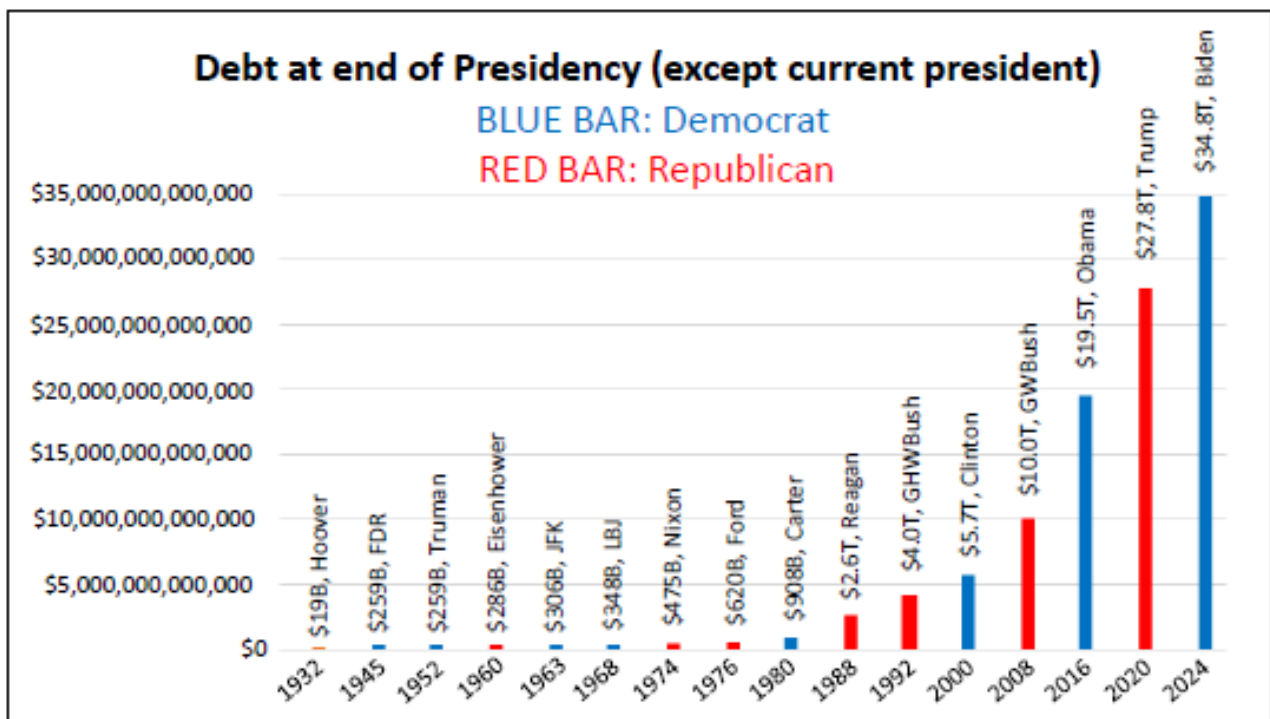
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

The fact that we are here today to debate raising America’s debt limit is a sign of leadership failure.
 It is a sign that the U.S. Government cannot pay its own bills.
 It is a sign that we now depend on ongoing financial assistance from foreign countries
 to finance our Government’s reckless fiscal policies...
 Increasing America’s debt weakens us domestically and internationally.
 Leadership means that ‘the buck stops here.’
 Instead, Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices today
 onto the backs of our children and grandchildren.
 America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership.
 Americans deserve better.

Barack Hussein Obama

March 16, 2006 Senate floor speech, then Senator (D-IL)
 44th President (2009 – 2017), U.S. Senator (D-IL, 2005 – 2008), State Senator (D-IL, 1997 – 2005)
 Added \$9.5 trillion to the \$19.5 trillion national debt at the end of his two terms.



Data sources: https://www.treasurydirect.gov/govt/reports/pd/pd_debttothepenny.htm
 2024: US Debt Clock 2024-05-21 9:48AM <https://www.usdebtclock.org>



Liberty Rule #27: The Congress may borrow money.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 2.
 To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

The Commerce Clause is not a general license to regulate an individual from cradle to grave,
simply because he will predictably engage in particular transactions.
Any police power to regulate individuals as such, as opposed to their activities,
remains vested in the States.

Chief Justice John Roberts

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS ET AL.
v. SEBELIUS, SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Majority Decision upholding the Affordable Care Act Individual Mandate "Penalty" as a Constitutional Tax

June 28, 2012

Supreme Court Chief Justice since 2005

Born 1955



Liberty Rule #28: The Congress may regulate commerce internationally, among states and with the Native Americans.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

DOES NOT COMPUTE.

1. "Immigration" is not in the U.S. Constitution.
2. "Naturalization" does not equal "Immigration"
3. Amendment X (1791): The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.
4. History of federal government (Congress) immigration laws.
5. Go to 1.



Liberty Rule #29: Congress shall make uniform rules for naturalization to becoming a U.S. citizen and laws regarding bankruptcy.



Un-Huh? #1: President Biden reinstated President Obama's southern border neglectoids (neglect on steroids or hemorrhoids)! These collective actions and inactions best represent the breach of faith and trust of the federal government by the last two Democrat presidents. Liberty Rule #79 obligates them to protect all states from invasion. This represents a direct breach of contract with the states enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. It is the pact that unites the states as one country with an exclusive federally centralized command and control for overall national sovereignty and security. Is an open-border-policy grounds for impeachment? Who cares...

The nationwide impacts are directly economic, social and security based. Members of both parties are now whining. Democrat big city mayors are demanding more federal funds to support it and Republicans demand stopping it altogether. Governor Greg Abbott's initiated Operation Lone Star to secure the Texas southern border with Mexico in 2021. Republican Governors have sent words and personnel in support of this.

I don't know where this is going but I see it as the first most encouraging sign that the unconstitutional tide is turning. Leaders are understanding, respecting and exercising valid constitutional options not before explored.

I've been reluctant to comment on this specifically because it is a political flash point issue where you gotta pick a side. We have a legal process of naturalization to becoming a citizen. I believe it's gotta be followed. It's not my concern which 'team' happens to share that position. I have more than enough issues with leaders on both 'teams' to assure you that I'm not committed to either. I'm for us, even if you're for one of them.

Our immigration policies help towards controlled and assured paths to assimilation rather than infiltration and exploitation. Foreigners are being encouraged and supported financially and otherwise to enter here illegally. Meanwhile, many U.S. born people have fallen victim to life as we know it through debilitating opioids abuse, skyrocketing costs of living and mental health neglect. They're left on the streets to rot. That's bass-ackwards!



Article I, Section 8, Clause 4.

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

The trifling economy of paper, as a cheaper medium, or its convenience for transmission,
weighs nothing in opposition to the advantages of the precious metals...
it is liable to be abused, has been, is, and forever will be abused,
in every country in which it is permitted.

Thomas Jefferson

Letter to John W. Eppes, 1813

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #30: Congress will oversee the manufacture of money, regulate its value and the value of foreign money, and set the standards of weights and measures.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 5.

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

I got nothin'!

Tirre Farmer

One hell of a guy!
U.S. ARMY 1970 - 1974
1952 - 2007



Liberty Rule #31: Counterfeiting is a federal offense and Congress will determine sentences.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 6.

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

There are only two mistakes one can make along the road to truth;
not going all the way,
and not starting.

Buddha

Circa 4000BC



Liberty Rule #32: Congress will oversee the operation of Post Offices and the highway transportation system.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 7.
To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

Surprising, no?

The word 'right' appears but once in the ratified U.S. Constitution and here it is.



Liberty Rule #33: Congress will secure the protection of artists, authors and inventors' intellectual property rights for original works, discoveries and inventions, typically via copyright and patent protection, for a limited time duration.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 8.

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

The constitution is either a superior paramount law, unchangeable by ordinary means,
or it is on a level with ordinary legislative acts,
alterable when the legislature shall please to alter it.
It is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is.
This is the very essence of judicial duty.

Chief Justice John Marshall

4th Supreme Court Chief Justice, 1801 - 1835

1755 - 1835



Liberty Rule #34: Congress shall create a federal court hierarchy.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 9.

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

In an honest service there is thin commons, low wages, and hard labor;
in this, plenty and satiety, pleasure and ease, liberty and power;
and who would not balance creditor on this side,
when all the hazard that is run for it, at worst, is only a sour look or two at choking.
No, a merry life and a short one, shall be my motto.

Bartholomew "Black Bart" Roberts

"Arrrrgh"

1682 - 1722



Liberty Rule #35: Congress defines sentences for piracy and felonies at sea as well as offenses of international law (reference Emmerich de Vattel's *Law of Nations* (1758)).



Article I, Section 8, Clause 10.

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations;

The time has come for President Obama to formally rescind his order to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and end his irresponsible allegations of injustices at the facility, which operates in a framework that respects the rule of law, keeps terrorists off American soil, and bolsters our national security.

Jason Chaffetz

Open Letter to President Obama, January 22, 2011

Chaffetz is a Democrat turned Republican

U.S. Representative (R-UT, 1/3/2009 – 6/30/2017 (Resigned))

Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Governmental Reform 1/3/2015 – 6/30/2017

Born 1967



Liberty Rule #36: Congress declares war, authorizes piracy and makes rules concerning captured enemy combatants.



Huh? #6: By this unamended constitutional clause it's crystal clear that Congress, not the president, has the exclusive power over the rules, and I may add dispositions, of enemy combatants captured on land and at sea. This authority clearly applies to the people detained in Guantanamo Bay (aka Gitmo) yet the Republican majorities in both houses were only able to muster a weak whine as President Obama, not Congress, indiscriminately released Guantanamo Bay detainees. Do your freaking job! Release them, detain them, whatever; it's your job, so do it!

I only note the parties because the Republican congressional majorities acted like they were helpless victims. Every Representative and Senator from all parties should be offended and take action when any executive supersedes their constitutional authority. When it comes to rights and authority "use it or lose it" is the operative expression in my belief, lest you have no rights or authority at all.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 11.

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

Hey good lookin'.

Ah, the purported power of the purse.



Liberty Rule #37: Congress funds the military but funding will be for periods of two or less years.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 12.

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

ANY DECK APES STILL AROUND?

JOE TABORY wrote on April 19, 2001

Email Update Needed

City and State: SANDPOINT ID

Unit: 1ST DIV OR WAS IT THE 2ND?

Service or Relationship: NAVY VETERAN - KOREA

Comments: Served on Whiting 1951-1955, was there for commissioning in 1951.

Here are a few names I still remember, if any of them are still around, would like to get in touch.

Stringfield, Yeary, Glass, Crabtree, Rydeski, Knapek, Danahey, Hewelett, Franklin(Eli), Grider, Prewitt, Branscum, Holton, Mclaughlin, Heine, McNutt, Running, Tousignant, McCullers, Watson, Chappel, Doshier, Strange, Weber, Rollins,

Reference www.koreanwar.org, Entry: 16037, USS KENNETH WHITING (AV-14), keyword: "DECK APES"

In honor of my Dad:

MARTIN F. DANAHY

SN US NAVY

KOREA

FEB 9 1934 + APR 9, 2007

BELOVED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM



Liberty Rule #38: Congress is responsible for maintaining an adequate naval force.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 13.

To provide and maintain a Navy;

What do you think?

Military Intelligence...
The epitome of an oxymoron.



Liberty Rule #39: Congress makes the rules concerning the regulation of the military.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 14.

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

... Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, in virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution, and the laws, have thought fit to call forth, and hereby do call forth, the militia of the several States of the Union, to the aggregate number of seventy-five thousand, in order to suppress said combinations, and to cause the laws to be duly executed. ...

Abraham Lincoln

Proclamation 80 - Calling Forth the Militia and Convening an Extra Session of Congress

April 15, 1861

16th President (1861 – 1865)

1st President Assassinated (shot on Good Friday, April 14, 1865; died April 15, 1865)

U.S. Representative (IL, 1847 – 1849)

State Representative (IL, 1834 – 1842)

1809 - 1865



Liberty Rule #40: Congress provides for activating the Militia to enforce the law, put down homeland uprisings and fight off invasions.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 15.

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

For a people who are free,
and who mean to remain so,
a well-organized and armed militia
is their best security.

Thomas Jefferson

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #41: States appoint officers to their militias and are responsible for training them but the general operation will be defined by Congress.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 16.

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

Aside from the murders,
DC has one of the lowest crime rates in the country.

Marion Barry

Washington, D.C., 2nd and 4th Mayor (1979 – 1991, 1995 – 1999)
Washington D.C. Council Member positions (1975 – 1979, 1993 – 1995, 2005 – 2014)
1936 – 2014



Liberty Rule #42: Congress will oversee Washington, D.C., and national defense forts, arsenals, dock-yards, and other state consented federal facilities.



Huh? #7: Here's another case where in spite of the specificity of the constitution ("exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever"), Congress has abdicated their responsibility to other branches of government or created other legislative bodies to do their job (delegating their responsibilities) without constitutional amendment over the years. The present arrangement has been in place since the 1973 District of Columbia Home Rule Act.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 17.

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings;—And

Say what?

Congress makes the laws and Congress breaks the laws.



Liberty Rule #43: Congress makes the laws including those that ensure their responsibilities are fulfilled.



Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

I am exceedingly distressed
at the proceedings of the Convention –
being ... almost sure, they will ...
lay the foundation of a Civil War.

Elbridge Gerry

Massachusetts Delegate, 1787 Constitutional Convention
Among three delegates who attended the entire Constitutional Convention
who did not sign the U.S. Constitution.
(The guy whom “Gerrymandering” is named after.)
5th VP to President James Madison (1813 – 1814)
Governor of Massachusetts (1810 – 1812)
U.S. Representative (MA, 1789 – 1793)
1744 - 1814



Liberty Rule #44: Slavery will continue until 1808 or so but there may be a federal tax for every person imported. (Affected by Amendment 13, 1865).



Huh? #8: They agreed to at least a twenty-year pass on slavery but it took the Civil War to end it seventy-seven years later. In my view, this was a condemnation of slavery but they gave it a pass to form this union of thirteen states for a limited time only.



Article I, Section 9, Clause 1.

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

It doesn't matter if they're coming for you or me.

They can't just lock you up and throw away the key.



Liberty Rule #45: You have the right to protest whether or not you're being lawfully jailed unless, in cases of rebellion or invasion, this right may be suspended for the public safety.



Huh? #9: U.S. citizen Jose Padilla was captured on U.S. soil and declared an enemy combatant by President George W. Bush in 2002, after which he was secretly moved to a U.S. military brig and held without Habeas Corpus incommunicado without formal charges. That means that he couldn't protest the basis for his incarceration and wasn't allowed to communicate with friends or family. Three years later he's indicted in federal (not military) court and in 2007 convicted to twenty-one years in prison. The original capture claimed a military concern, however, they were later compelled to proceed to federal court as a last resort best legal option.

Point: He was held for three years because the president said so. It's the Congress that has the authority to suspend Habeas Corpus, not the president. We're in a perpetual war on terror and in my opinion, if we lose our rights, the terrorists are winning. On the other hand, more than one homeland terrorist has been reported to have been investigated by the FBI and later fell off their radar. This is obviously not a good sign.



Article I, Section 9, Clause 2.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

...the writings of the architects of our constitutional system, indicates that the Bill of Attainder Clause was intended not as a narrow, technical (and therefore soon to be outmoded) prohibition, but rather as an implementation of the separation of powers, a general safeguard against legislative exercise of the judicial function, or more simply—trial by legislature.

The Constitution divides the National Government into three branches—
Legislative, Executive and Judicial.

This "separation of powers" was obviously not instituted with the idea that it would promote governmental efficiency.

It was, on the contrary, looked to as a bulwark against tyranny.

Chief Justice Earl Warren

381 U.S. 487 (1965), United States v. Brown (No. 399)

Chief Justice 1953 – 1969

1891 – 1974



Liberty Rule #46: You may not be put in jail or executed for who you are or who you're related to and a law cannot be created after you have done something to convict you for that something done before the creation of the law.



Huh? #10: How is it remotely possible that a U.S. citizen can be targeted by a drone in a foreign land by the United States of America, such as was the case during the war on terror by the Obama administration? In my belief, this amounts to a bold-faced assassination of a U.S. citizen by President Obama. This person wasn't killed in the course of armed conflict on the battlefield against the United States. Instead, they were specifically hunted down for execution performed by a remote control drone thereby eliminating the possibility of due process by trial as is their right per Liberty Rule #70 and Amendment 5, 1791. If the U.S. government went out of their way to drop a bomb on a U.S. citizen in a foreign land, what makes you think that they won't do it on U.S. soil? What difference does it make where they assassinate their citizens?

Then Attorney General Eric Holder released a letter dated May 22, 2013 describing their actions and justification for the successful and deliberate use of lethal force against Anwar al-Aulaqi as well as 3 other U.S. citizens incidentally killed by U.S. government operations outside of the Afghanistan & Iraq war theater.



Article I, Section 9, Clause 3.

No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

My Momma done taught me well.

I have a dislike/dislike relationship with taxes.



Liberty Rule #47: If there's a tax per person it must apply to everyone per the Census. (Affected by Amendment 16, 1913).



Article I, Section 9, Clause 4.

No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

The duty of government is to leave commerce to its own capital and credit
as well as all other branches of business,
protecting all in their legal pursuits,
granting exclusive privileges to none.

Andrew Jackson

7th President (1829 – 1837)

U.S. Senator (TN, 1797 – 1798, 1823 – 1825)

U.S. Army Major General (served in Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Creek & Seminole Wars)
1767 - 1845



Liberty Rule #48: There'll be free commerce between states, and no taxes will be placed on exports out of the country from any state.



Article I, Section 9, Clause 5.

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

It should be our endeavor to cultivate the peace and friendship of every nation . . .
Our interest will be to throw open the doors of commerce,
and to knock off all its shackles,
giving perfect freedom to all persons for the vent of whatever they may choose to bring into our ports,
and asking the same in theirs.

Thomas Jefferson

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #49: All ports gotta be treated equally and vessels won't have to clear other ports for entry or exit.



Article I, Section 9, Clause 6.

No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

A lack of transparency results in distrust
and a deep sense of insecurity.

14th Dalai Lama

Born 1935



Liberty Rule #50: Spending's gotta be authorized by Congress and totally transparent.



Huh? #11: Where is the transparency? I strongly believe that we need a Public Transparency Policy where all public funding and spending is available online, in real-time, for anyone to see. Open the books! Public servants should understand that they're paid by the people and they're ultimately accountable to the people. We should be able to see every penny that comes in, the balance at any given moment and every penny that goes out. This will enable the beginning of open and honest government at the town, county, state and federal level. This will lead to a spending efficiency crusade. Taxpayers can have their pet projects that they'll follow. This will invigorate the participation in the public forum of town and school meetings. This will spur competition in businesses' efforts to get government contracts.

Sweetheart deals will be quickly exposed and fall to the wayside. Competition is always a good thing in this regard. Some companies will take the time to look at the big picture and make sweeping proposals for how to be more efficient. Above all, this will give the public the ammunition to constructively participate in how their precious tax dollars are spent. That ammunition will be fact-based instead of opinion and frustration based. Technically, this shouldn't be that difficult. Of course, there'll be certain details that must be kept secret due to national security issues, however, that should be fairly limited.

This clause is the one that gives the federal legislative branch, or Congress' House of Representatives and Senate, the ultimate and exclusive authority to make laws authorizing federal spending and to keep account of it. Abuse of this critically important explicit separation of power is mentioned or alluded to later in Liberty Rule #63, Huh? #16 (Treaties - President Obama Iran Deal bribe with "Judgement Fund" payments) and in the Commentary "Presidential Overreach" section where that is reiterated and President Trump's use of FEMA related legislation to directly authorize huge spending is detailed. I'm not a fan of either of those realities. When the people's house (House of Representatives) and Senate are figuratively seized from the politicians by the people via a high integrity Election Day that ousts all incumbents, on Day One of being sworn in, I hope to witness all prior legislation in existence giving the president funding authority repealed.



Article I, Section 9, Clause 7.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

U.S. citizens found the loophole in the granting of titles of nobility...
Nothing forbids you from bestowing one upon yourself.

The Grand Exultant Author of this Book

Mr. Marty

Born 1961



Liberty Rule #51: The United States will not grant titles of nobility and if you work for the United States you cannot accept any gifts or title of nobility from foreign states without congressional approval.



Huh? #12: The recent Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, while holding office unabashedly accepted and was aware of millions of dollars in donations from foreign powers to the Clinton Foundation which she promised she wouldn't actively participate in while holding the Secretary of State position (but apparently did). Donors later magically get meetings with heads of state. Coincidence or pay to play? Constitutionally speaking, is a foreign donation to your family charity not considered a present or emolument? If a donation precedes a meeting with a head of state, that looks like an emolument to me. And if it walks, talks and quacks like an emolument, it's an emolument!



Article I, Section 9, Clause 8.

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

Do as I say, not as I do!

The Unknown Parent



Liberty Rule #52: States may not make treaties, authorize piracy, coin money, extend credit, or impair the obligation of contracts, and just like the federal government, the states cannot grant any title of nobility or have a person imprisoned or executed for who they are or who they're related to and a law cannot be created after a person has done a misdeed to convict them for that misdeed done before the creation of the law. States shall only allow debts to be paid in gold and silver.



Huh? #13: Debts paid in gold and silver? We know that ain't happening.



Article I, Section 10, Clause 1.

No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

The root of all evil.

If I had a penny for every thousand dollars Congress wasted,
I'd be a very rich man.



Liberty Rule #53: Congress must approve any state's taxes or duties on imports and exports, except as necessary for the purpose of inspection of those goods. Any surplus funds gotta be paid to the Treasury of the United States.



Article I, Section 10, Clause 2.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Controul of the Congress.

The preachers and lecturers deal with men of straw,
as they are men of straw themselves.
Why, a free-spoken man, of sound lungs, cannot draw a long breath
without causing your rotten institutions to come toppling down by the vacuum he makes.
Your church is a baby-house made of blocks, and so of the state.
...The church, the state, the school, the magazine, think they are liberal and free!
It is the freedom of a prison-yard.

Henry David Thoreau

I to Myself (1837 – 1861 Journal)

American Transcendentalist

1817 – 1862

Liberty Rule #54: Unless Congress approves it, states aren't allowed to charge taxes or fees for the use of their ports. They also cannot build up a military in times of peace and do not have the authority to make agreements with other states or countries. States cannot go to war with anyone unless invaded or in a do or die situation.

Article I, Section 10, Clause 3.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

Hi, it's me again.

The best thing about elections is that they eventually come to an end.



Liberty Rule #55: The executive power is vested in the president of the United States of America who, simultaneously with the vice president, are elected every four years as follows. (Affected by Amendment 22, 1951).



Article II, Section 1, Clause 1.

The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows

The present rule of voting for President...
is so great a departure from the Republican principle of numerical equality...
and is so pregnant also with a mischievous tendency in practice,
that an amendment of the Constitution on this point
is justly called for by all its considerate and best friends.

James Madison

Letter to George Hay, August 23, 1823

4th President (1809 – 1817), etc. (more experience noted in other instances of his many quotes herein)
1751 – 1836



Liberty Rule #56: State legislatures appoint presidential electors. The total amount of electors from each state will equal their number of congressional Representatives plus Senators. Each elector chosen must not be a member of Congress or be on the federal payroll or provide counsel to the president. This is known as the Electoral College. (Affected by Amendment 12, 1804 & Amendment 23, 1961).



Huh? #14: How does the Electoral College work anyway?

For the 2016 presidential election there were a total of 538 electors. This is because there were 435 House of Representatives members (held at 435 by law since 1941) and 100 Senators plus 3 are for the District of Columbia per Amendment 23, 1961. For all states, except Maine and Nebraska, it's all or nothing. These two states split the electors votes up depending on the results. So, the person who gets the most votes in the other states gets 100% of the presidential electors for that state.

The president elect must have a majority of electors which means that greater than half of the electors must vote for a president to make that person the president elect per Amendment 12, 1804. Since half of the 538 electors is 269, you add 1 to that making the minimum number of required electors 270 to be declared the winner.

If a presidential candidate doesn't get 270 electors then the decision goes to the U.S. House of Representatives to choose from among the top three candidates per Amendment 12, 1804. However, each state only gets one vote for one of the top three candidates. Washington, D.C. doesn't get a vote. A majority of 26 is required for a decision to pick a president. They'd have until March 4th, following the presidential election, to pick a winner by a majority vote of twenty-six or more. Otherwise, the vice president comes to act as the president.

After much consideration I've concluded that the sitting VP becomes president. However, how the current system of the presidential candidate self-picking their vice president legally came into existence, I can't figure out. Originally, your runner up (the presidential loser) would typically get the vice president position which was kind of interesting because this gave your opponent the deciding vote in the Senate in the case of a tie. Talk about needing to reach across the aisle! Now, today, still, the vice president is supposed to be separately simultaneously elected by the electoral college per Amendment 12, 1804 the way I see it.

In the 2016 election, if there was a tie (conceivable) or a third party candidate (Johnson, McMullin or Stein) won one or more states to effectively block the two major party candidates (Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump) from reaching 270 electors, it could have gone to the Republican majority House of Representatives, several of which had publicly stated that they didn't support the Republican candidate, to pick a winner. However, it swung the other way and was a largely unpredicted upset with the Republican candidate Trump winning.

In the 2020 election... Big Tech, in the way of social media, became Big Brother, Social Mediator. They asserted authority to censor and judge information versus misinformation and disinformation. The consequences for being on the wrong side of what they deemed accepted facts and conjecture included rapid banning of voices deemed verboten including that of the president seeking a second term. Nothing to see here... Move along...

I'm pro-people. Myself, as a people, was improperly denied my right to vote at the polling place on Election Day 2020. Our sitting government, whom I do not trust, says it was the most secure vote ever. All things considered, I've chalked it up to poor training on the part of the police officer who denied me entry to vote just before the person in charge came out the door and declared the polls closed. Nothing to make a federal or state case about and my one vote wouldn't've changed anything the way the numbers came in. However, faith is a funny thing. You either got it or you don't. However, you may choose to pretend you got it when you don't. I feel that without full faith, there's no faith. I lost all faith in our election process due to the events before, during and after November 3, 2020. The United States of America should have, without any doubt or uncertainty whatsoever, the most assuredly uncompromised and unquestionable election process on Earth that absolutely ascertains the will of the voting public on Election Day.

I tend to think if greater than 1 out of 100 people who have ever cast a vote in their life in the USA don't have faith in our election process, it's the most alarming societal situation I can imagine for freedom as we know and wish it to be and continue in these United States of America. Since I'm already one of those people, I feel that if I can find any other person I encounter without faith in our elections, we've got a major problem.

I contemplated adding a section titled Perplexing Presidential Power Politics in this 3rd Edition looking back over the trend of sloppy transitions of presidential power that have become commonplace but it's a political minefield that I don't care to explore at length in words. Additionally, it's extremely difficult to comment on it and not sound committed to a political ideology the way everything has unfolded. I'll just add that in addition to concerns about election confidence and integrity, it's my observation that election campaigns are harvesting susceptible people they can transform into one-issue haters whose votes they can count on.

Those same elected politicians, sowing the seeds of hate, are stunned when haters go on shooting rampages killing innocent people for no apparent reason. They're converting wanderers and lost souls they're culling through social media data mining exploitation into polarized political haters. What do politicians gotta do with collateral damage of campaigns that thrive off of stoking the flames of hate? Well, conventional wisdom says a hater's gonna hate. Once hate is justified, where does it end? Nothing to see here... Move along...



Article II, Section 1, Clause 2.

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good.
'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

American Transcendentalist
1803 – 1882

Please note that his grandfather and father (then quite young) witnessed, about a football field away from their home, the “skirmish” at the North Bridge in Concord where the first shots of the Revolutionary War were returned in what Ralph Waldo Emerson characterized as “The Shot heard ‘round the World” in the “Concord Hymm” which he wrote in 1837 for a dedication that he was invited to make at the bridge.

Concord Hymm:

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
And fired the shot heard round the world.

The foe long since in silence slept;
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps;
And Time the ruined bridge has swept
Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,
We set to-day a votive stone;
That memory may their deed redeem,
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

Spirit, that made those heroes dare,
To die, and leave their children free,
Bid Time and Nature gently spare
The shaft we raise to them and thee.

Liberty Rule #57: Congress sets when a single Election Day happens, kind of... (See Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30).

Article II, Section 1, Clause 3.

The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

How come we choose from
just two people to run for president
and 50 for Miss America?

Author Unknown



Liberty Rule #58: To be president, you gotta be a natural born citizen of 35 or older and a 14-year resident within the United States. (Affected by Amendment 12, 1804 & Amendment 14, 1868).



Article II, Section 1, Clause 4.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

I, Al Haig,
am in control here at the White House.

Alexander Haig

Statement made after President Ronald Reagan assassination attempt on March 30, 1981.
The Secretary of State is actually 4th in line to the presidency per the Presidential Succession Act of 1947.
U.S. Secretary of State for President Ronald Reagan (1981 – 1982)
U.S. Army General (served 1947 – 1979)
1924 – 2010

Liberty Rule #59: When you gotta go, you gotta go and either the vice president or then the succession list passed by Congress shall act as president until a new president is elected or the old one is all better. (Affected by Amendment 20, 1933 & Amendment 25, 1967).

Article II, Section 1, Clause 5.

In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

He serves his party best
who serves the country best.

Rutherford B. Hayes

19th President (1877 – 1881)
Governor of Ohio (1868 – 1872, 1876 – 1877)
U.S. Representative (OH, 1865 – 1867)
Union Army Major General (served 1861 – 1865)
1822 - 1893



Liberty Rule #60: For the president, you get a paycheck, period.



Article II, Section 1, Clause 6.

The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

The Constitution is the guide
which I never will abandon.

George Washington

Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army
1st President (1789 – 1797)
1723 – 1799



Liberty Rule #61: The president's gotta do his job well and by oath pledges that the U.S. Constitution is, was, and shall forever be the Law of the Land. (Affected by Amendment 14, 1868).



Article II, Section 1, Clause 7.

Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The President is to be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States. In this respect, his authority would be nominally the same with that of the king of Great Britain, but in substance much inferior to it.

It would amount to nothing more than the supreme command and direction of the land and naval forces, as first general and admiral ... while that of the British king extends to the declaring of war and to the raising and regulating of fleets and armies – all which, by the Constitution under consideration, would appertain to the legislature.

Alexander Hamilton

1st U.S. Secretary of the Treasury for President George Washington (1789 – 1795)
Died in duel lost to then 3rd VP Aaron Burr
(some things never change... New Yorkers settling their differences in the swamps of New Jersey...)
1755 – 1804



Liberty Rule #62: The president commands all of the armed forces of the United States, can require the written opinions of his cabinet relating to their responsibilities and may grant reprieves or pardons for violations of the law except in the case of impeachment.



Huh? #15: Did President Gerald Ford legally pardon resigned President Richard Nixon? Yes. He didn't pardon him from impeachment, he pardoned him from the possibility of being charged with criminal offense(s) committed by act or omission while president (Presidential Proclamation 4311 of September 8, 1974). Additionally, he took some solace and later admitted to explicitly having Nixon instructed that accepting the pardon implied guilt based on prior Supreme Court case law (*United States v. Wilson*, 32 U.S. 7 Pet. 150 (1833)).

Golden nugget: There's an unsung hero of the USA whose name is George Burdick. He was the city editor of the now defunct New York Tribune. He stood on the 5th Amendment in 1914 to achieve what I believe most people assume is the power of the 1st Amendment. Whether they know it or not, the "free press" owes a huge debt of gratitude to the man with the fortitude to protect his sources at any cost. The note above about even prior Supreme Court case law is related. Check it out (*Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915)).



Article II, Section 2, Clause 1.

The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

Rep. Reid Ribble (R-Wisc.): “Why is this [Iran deal] not considered a treaty?”

Secretary of State John Kerry: “Well Congressman, I spent quite a few years ago trying to get a lot of treaties through the United States Senate. And frankly, it’s become physically impossible. That’s why. Because you can’t pass a treaty anymore. And it’s become impossible to, you know, schedule, it’s become impossible to pass. And I sat there leading the charge on the Disabilities Treaty which fell to, basically, ideology and politics. So, I think that’s the reason why.”

Rep. Lee Zeldin (R-N.Y.): “... it isn’t a treaty because it is difficult to pass?”

Secretary of State John Kerry: “... We don’t have diplomatic relations with Iran. It’s very complicated with six other countries,” he said, referring to Iran and the other negotiating partners: Britain, China, France, Germany, and Russia. “It’s just a very complicated process. So, we thought that the easiest way to get something that had the leverage, had the accountability, could achieve our goal was through a political agreement. And that’s what we have.”



Liberty Rule #63: The president can make treaties when two thirds of the Senate there agree. Senate approval is also required for presidential picks of supreme court justices, cabinet positions, and ambassadors, however, the Congress can, by law, give the president the full authority to pick his or her own people of lesser positions.



Huh? #16: How then did the Iran deals happen? Well, President Obama released a \$400 million cash hostage payment on January 16, 2016 (labeled an IOU from a pre-1979 hostage arms deal gone bad on the same day just before four present day hostages are released after the unmarked cash arrived in an unmarked plane) plus \$1.31 billion was paid for the Iran nuke deal framework, aka a treaty (in all respects except ultimately nonbinding), announced April 2, 2015 purportedly paid in a total of thirteen \$99,999,999.00 withdrawals (that’s one hundred million dollars minus one dollar each) plus a bonus \$10 million payment for who knows what or who, from some previously unknown to me and possibly unlimited “Judgement Fund” in direct violation of Liberty Rule #50 requiring only Congress authorize federal spending. Never mind that the deal wasn’t passed by two thirds Senate approval as is required here. It has been reported that President Obama had extensive collegiate study in constitutional law so he must have understood the commitment of his Oath of Office (Liberty Rule #61). Knowledgeably subverting the constitution is not “preserving it”, it’s gaming it.



Article II, Section 2, Clause 2.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

Watch out!

While the cat's away,
the mouse will play.



Liberty Rule #64: If the Senate is on recess, the president can fill any vacancies that arise, however, those acting officers' positions end when the Senate goes on their next recess.



Huh? #17: When was the first time when, right after a president took office, that the Senate went on recess before all presidential appointment confirmation hearings were complete? Has or could a president make all pending appointments, without confirmations, to whomever they wanted to on the day after the Senate flew the coup? For this, I gotta go straight to the original U.S. Constitution text below. At issue are two words as far as I'm concerned. Word #1 is "all." Word #2 is "may." With "all" preceding "may", I'd say that "all" overrules "may." That it just so happens that the vacancies that happened were because of a poor work ethic and lack of true concern or resolve for satisfactorily performing the duties of the job which the Senate was elected to perform in a timely manner isn't the president's problem.

But that's just my opinion...



Article II, Section 2, Clause 3.

The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

The welfare of our country is the great object to which our cares and efforts ought to be directed,
and I shall derive great satisfaction from a cooperation with you
in the pleasing though arduous task of insuring to our fellow citizens the blessings
which they have a right to expect from
a free, efficient, and equal government.

George Washington

January 8, 1790 1st State of the Union Address
Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army
1st President (1789 – 1797)
1723 – 1799



Liberty Rule #65: The president will give an annual State of the Union address and may, if really necessary, convene Congress and/or the Senate for as long as needed. The president will be the *hostess with the mostest* for dignitaries of states, will make sure that the laws are faithfully executed, and shall commission officers.



Article II, Section 3.

He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

Go figure.

Has Congress not heard that there is honor among thieves?



Liberty Rule #66: The president, vice president and executive or judicial staff members may get kicked out of office because of illegal behavior. They'd have to be impeached and then convicted for their crime or treason. Impeachment is like an indictment which is a conclusion that there appears to be enough evidence to need to go to trial.



Article II, Section 4.

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

We are under a Constitution,
but the Constitution is what the judges say it is,
and the judiciary is the safeguard of our liberty
and of our property under the Constitution.

Chief Justice Charles Evan Hughes, Sr.

Speech before Elmira Chamber of Commerce, May 3, 1907

Supreme Court Chief Justice (1930 – 1941)

Secretary of State for Presidents Warren G. Harding (died in office) and Calvin Coolidge (1921 – 1925)

Supreme Court Justice (1910 – 1916)

Governor of New York (R, 1907 – 1910)

1862 – 1948



Liberty Rule #67: The ultimate judge and jury in the United States will be the Supreme Court. Other lower courts may be established by Congress. Once in office, the judges' salaries won't go down and they can stay on the court as long as they maintain good behavior.



Article III, Section 1.

The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

When you're right, you're right.

These matters should be adjudicated in federal courts.



Liberty Rule #68: Federal courts have original jurisdiction to hear cases regarding constitutionality, federal laws, treaties, ambassadors, and international waters as well as cases where the U.S. is a party to the lawsuit, between states, between citizens of different states, between a citizen of one state and another state*, between a state and a foreign citizen*, between a citizen and a foreign citizen or state and between a state and a foreign state (* = affected by Amendment 11, 1795/1798).



Article III, Section 2, Clause 1.

The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;—to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;—to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction;—to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;—to Controversies between two or more States;—between a State and Citizens of another State,—between Citizens of different States,—between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

... on every question of construction [of the Constitution, let us] carry ourselves back to the time when the Constitution was adopted, recollect the spirit manifested in the debates, and instead of trying what meaning may be squeezed out of the text, or invented against it, conform to the probable one in which it was [passed] ...

Thomas Jefferson

Letter to William Johnson, June 12, 1823

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #69: The Supreme Court is *the* court for cases affecting ambassadors and where a state is a party. Otherwise, it's the last stop for an appeal decision of the lower courts.



Article III, Section 2, Clause 2.

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

If the jury have no right to judge of the justice of a law of the government, they plainly can do nothing to protect the people against the oppressions of the government; for there are no oppressions which the government may not authorize by law.

Lysander Spooner

Mentored (not College'd) Lawyer in Massachusetts
Founded - American Letter Mail Company - in 1844
The discussed action is known as "Jury Nullification" and
is generally prohibited by judges' instructions nowadays.
1808 – 1887



Liberty Rule #70: Trials shall be by juries in the state of the offense, however, if not committed in a particular state then Congress will by law say where to have the trial.



Article III, Section 2, Clause 3.

The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

I ponder as I wonder.

Did Edward Snowden's actions seek to help our enemies, allies or citizens?
If enemies, that is treason; if allies and citizens, perhaps whistleblowing?
If the actions needed to be taken to be an effective whistleblower are illegal,
then whistleblowers blow the whistle at their own peril.

I don't have enough reliable information to make a conclusion.

Nowadays, there are so many opinions and so few facts. I don't know what to believe.

However, if I remember correctly, there was bi-partisan consensus against him.

That being the case, I tend to think that he was onto something and acting more like a whistleblower.

In today's environment of polarized politics, when all of Congress agrees on anything,
other than a pay raise for themselves, be suspicious... be very suspicious.

Edward Snowden (born 1983) is a computer geek who sought asylum in Russia
after working for Booz Allen Hamilton (subcontractor to National Security Agency (NSA))

Charged June 14, 2013 with:

Theft of Government Property

Unauthorized Communication of National Defense Information

Willful Communication of Classified Communications Intelligence Information to an Unauthorized Person



Liberty Rule #71: A traitor who wages war against us, switches sides or helps our enemies is in big trouble if two witnesses can attest to it, or in the case of a confession, in open court.



Article III, Section 3, Clause 1.

Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

Arnold has betrayed us!
Whom can we trust now?

George Washington

Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army
1st President (1789 – 1797)
1723 – 1799



Liberty Rule #72: Congress may set the punishment for treason and can additionally freeze all your assets until your death.



Article III, Section 3, Clause 2.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted.

Hi, it's me again.

Your life should be transportable among the states.



Liberty Rule #73: The states shall accept each other's records as fact and Congress may further enact laws regarding this.



Huh? #18: If one state says a couple of unconventional sex pairing are married, do other states gotta recognize that? I think yes.



Article IV, Section 1.

Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

Are we there yet?

Being able to freely travel among or relocate your residence to other states is very cool.



Liberty Rule #74: In any given state, all U.S. citizens have the same ‘privileges and immunities’ enacted by law in that or any other state. (Affected by Amendment 14, 1868).



Huh? #19: Whoa dude... I think this means that the day getting high on weed became legal in Colorado, it became a common privilege immune from prosecution in all states. When any state breaks the ice to expand our recognized freedoms by law, all U.S. citizens reap those rewards according to this. Additionally, I see no reason why this isn't another monkey wrench in what the Supreme Court thinks they achieved by vacating the Roe vs. Wade decision in 2022. If a woman's access to abortion is declared a privilege immune from prosecution by law in any one state, the same holds true for any woman in that or any other state. Colorado turned the tide against the federal government mandating laws over all states regarding pot. The feds never had a basis for doing that which the 10th Amendment clearly ensures is out of their realm of authority.

After the 12th Amendment in 1804 and the 13th, 14th, and 15th directly associated with the Civil War's end of slavery in 1865, there were no amendments until 1913. All the founding fathers and their kids were long gone. They started tinkering and the people by and large took their eyes off of our freedom's foundation, the U.S. Constitution. The feds started flexing their muscles over all the states. No one's stopped them.

This is the last “Huh?” that I added in the 3rd Edition and I'll admit it may be a bit of a stretch compared to all the legal wrangling we're so conditioned to in laws from one state to another. However, after opening my eyes to just how free we're recognized to be by Amendment 9, 1791, I'm thinking they originally wrote the U.S. Constitution so that we would truly be free to move about the country. Why wouldn't they have?

If we can responsibly and legally possess marijuana or a gun in any one state, why should we have to leave it at home or check it at state borders when we travel? Crossing borders south to Mexico or north to Canada is an entirely different story. However, in the United States of America, other than dead bodies, hostages and stolen property, we should be free to transport just about anything. Why should we have to set a course through the free to puff and free to carry a gun states to travel with a bag of smoke and gun? There's no good reason for it. Look at the state of New York. Gun laws are nuts! You can practically go to jail for life for illegal possession of a gun. NY is huge and stretches from the Atlantic Ocean straight up the Hudson River to Canada. CT, MA, VT, NH, ME & RI are landlocked North and East of it and everyone else South and West of it. If you think about it, my interpretation makes a hell of a lot more sense than what the practice is. Should we have to go through Canada or ferry around Long Island to get south of New York with a gun? It makes no sense.

No one has to smoke weed, carry a gun, or carry lipstick, but we should be free to do so if that's our thing.



Article IV, Section 2, Cause 1.

The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

In the write hands, a sword needs but one edge.

We have the best legal system that money can buy.



Liberty Rule #75: You can run but you cannot hide. In whatever state you are found you will be sent back to the state where you must answer for your alleged crimes.



Article IV, Section 2, Clause 2.

A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

Every measure of prudence, therefore,
ought to be assumed for the eventual total extirpation of slavery from the United States...
I have, throughout my whole life, held the practice of slavery
in... abhorrence.

John Adams

Letter to Robert Evans, June 8, 1819
2nd President (1797-1801)
1st VP to President George Washington (1789 – 1797)
1735 - 1826



Liberty Rule #76: Rules regarding slavery which are thankfully obsolete. (Affected by Amendment 13, 1865).



Article IV, Section 2, Clause 3.

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in
Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be
delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.

We need Hawaii just as much and a good deal more than we did California.
It is Manifest Destiny.

William McKinley

25th President (1897 – 1901)

3rd President Assassinated (shot on Friday, September 6, 1901, died September 14, 1901)

Governor of Ohio (R, 1892 – 1896)

U.S. Representative (R-OH, 1877 – 1884, 1885 – 1891)

1843 - 1901



Liberty Rule #77: New states may be admitted by the Congress into the United States but may not affect the independent sovereignty of any other state unless that state's legislature and Congress agree to it.



Article IV, Section 3, Clause 1.

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

Conservation means development as much as it does protection.
I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land;
but I do not recognize the right to waste them,
or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us.

Theodore Roosevelt

26th President (1901 – 1909)
25th VP to President William McKinley (1901)
Governor of New York (1899 – 1900)
President of NYC Board of Police Commissioners for Mayor W. L. Strong (1895 – 1897)
U.S. Civil Service Commissioner for Presidents Harrison & Cleveland (1889 – 1895)
State Assembly (R-NY, 1882 – 1884)
1858 - 1919



Liberty Rule #78: The Congress may sell and make the rules and regulations regarding the territory and other property of the United States. Nothing in this constitution shall be interpreted to have any effect on the claims of the United States, or of any particular state.



Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

If we resort for a criterion to the different principles on which different forms of government are established, we may define a republic to be, or at least may bestow that name on, a government which derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the great body of the people, and is administered by persons holding their offices during pleasure, for a limited period, or during good behavior.

James Madison

The Federalists Papers #39, January 16, 1788

4th President (1809 – 1817)

U.S. Secretary of State for President Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)

U.S. Representative (VA, 1st – 4th Congress, 1789 – 1797)

1751 - 1836



Liberty Rule #79: The United States promise to the states – we guarantee you a representative based government (Republic, **not** Democracy) and we've got your back!



Article IV, Section 4.

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened), against domestic Violence.

Some men look at constitutions with sanctimonious reverence,
and deem them like the arc of the covenant, too sacred to be touched.
They ascribe to the men of the preceding age a wisdom more than human,
and suppose what they did to be beyond amendment. ...
Let us follow no such examples,
nor weakly believe that one generation is not as capable as another of taking care of itself,
and of ordering its own affairs. ...
Each generation is as independent as the one preceding, as that was of all which had gone before.

Thomas Jefferson

Letter to Samuel Kercheval, June 12, 1816

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rule #80: The U.S. Constitution can be revised with overwhelming support by two thirds of the Representatives and Senators or by application of two thirds of the state legislatures and then ratified by three fourths of the states, but no state can ever have their number of Senators reduced unless they agree to it.



Article V

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

To contract new debts is not the way to pay old ones.

George Washington - §1

We must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt.

Thomas Jefferson - §2

The Government should create, issue, and circulate all the currency and credits needed to satisfy the spending power of the Government and the buying power of consumers.

By the adoption of these principles, the taxpayers will be saved immense sums of interest.

Abraham Lincoln - §5

A national debt, if it is not excessive, will be to us a national blessing.

Alexander Hamilton - §10

If congress has the right under the Constitution to issue paper money, it was given them to use themselves, not to be delegated to individuals or corporations.

Andrew Jackson - §20

Nations, like individuals, are punished for their transgressions.

Ulysses S. Grant - §50

Rather go to bed without dinner than to rise in debt.

Benjamin Franklin - §100



Liberty Rule #81: All United States debts remain valid. (Affected by Amendment 14, 1868).



Article VI, Section 1, Clause 1.

All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

The people are the only legitimate fountain of power,
and it is from them that the constitutional charter,
under which the several branches of government hold their power,
is derived.

James Madison

4th President (1809 – 1817)

U.S. Secretary of State for President Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)

U.S. Representative (VA, 1st – 4th Congress, 1789 – 1797)

1751 – 1836



Liberty Rule #82: This is the Law of the Land and along with all legal U.S. treaties must be honored by the judges of all the states regardless of the laws enacted in those states.



Article VI, Section 1, Clause 2.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

To paraphrase Winston Churchill,
I did not take the oath I have just taken
with the intention of presiding
over the dissolution of the world's strongest economy.

Ronald Reagan

Inaugural Address, January 20, 1981
40th President (1981 – 1989)
Governor of California (R, 1967 – 1975)
1911 - 2002



Liberty Rule #83: All the main people of our government must, by oath, support this constitution, however, there'll not be any religious test to hold office. (Affected by Amendment 14, 1868).



Article VI, Section 1, Clause 3.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

The happy Union of these States is a wonder;
their Constitution a miracle;
their example the hope of Liberty throughout the world.

James Madison

4th President (1809 – 1817)

U.S. Secretary of State for President Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)

U.S. Representative (VA, 1st – 4th Congress, 1789 – 1797)

1751 – 1836



Liberty Rule #84: That's it, it's a done deal.



Article VII

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

Attest William Jackson Secretary

done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independance of the United States of America the Twelfth In witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,

G. Washington

Presidt and deputy from Virginia

Note: an additional 38 delegates from among the original 13 states signed the U.S. Constitution.



The Liberty Rules Amendments



The Bill of Rights Amendments I - X



The Later Revisions Amendments XI - XXVII



It's About Time/Lines Election References Matrix



The citizens of the United States of America have a right to applaud themselves for having given to mankind examples of an enlarged and liberal policy—a policy worthy of imitation.

All possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship.

It is now no more that toleration is spoken of as if it were the indulgence of one class of people that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights, for, happily, the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens in giving it on all occasions their effectual support.

George Washington

August 18, 1790 Letter to the Jews of Newport
Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army
1st President (1789 – 1797)
1723 – 1799

Liberty Rules Amendment #1 (1791): We'll practice freedom of religion, free speech, free press, the right to get together to protest or party and the right to petition the government if we feel we were done wrong.

Huh? #20: In 1954, what is known as "The Johnson Amendment" came into existence. It carries the name of then Senator Lyndon B. Johnson (D-TX, 36th President). It's not an amendment to the constitution, it's a late change to a tax law that, I'd argue, is an affront to the constitution. Specifically, it's an amendment to H.R. 8300 bill before the 83rd Congress and became part of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It forbids 501(c)(3) tax exempt organizations from speaking ill or kindly of politicians.

Johnson was known as a strong politician. It's further reported that it was a specific reaction to silence opposition that he experienced in Texas during a political campaign. It's said to have been passed July 2, 1954 without debate. The 1st Amendment specifically and clearly states that "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech..." I'm not twisting the words, I'm exactly quoting the words relevant to this discussion and I see no other words that affect the meaning of these words in the 1st Amendment. We know that randomly yelling "fire" in a movie theater creates a public safety hazard which isn't protected within the bounds of free speech. However, saying "Lyndon B. Johnson something or another" from the pulpit doesn't create an immediate public safety hazard. The 1st Amendment doesn't go on to say, unless of course you're a preacher or a non-profit organization. It applies to all. I see nothing remotely constitutional about this law. In 2017, President Trump agreed. His Executive Order 34 (#13,798) eased the restrictions.

The Sedition Act of 1798? That plus this book and I'd be up the river for good. Jefferson pardoned those jailed.

Bill of Rights Introduction and Amendment I (1791) text on next page.

Bill of Rights Introduction:

Congress of the United States begun and held at the City of New-York, on Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine.

THE Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government, will best ensure the beneficent ends of its institution.

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following Articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all, or any of which Articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution; viz.

ARTICLES in addition to, and Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the original Constitution.

Amendment I (1791)

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Americans have the right and advantage of being armed –
unlike the citizens of other countries
whose governments are afraid
to trust the people with arms.

James Madison

The Federalist, No. 46 at 243- 244
4th President (1809 – 1817)

U.S. Secretary of State for President Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)

U.S. Representative (VA, 1st – 4th Congress, 1789 – 1797)
1751 – 1836



Liberty Rules Amendment #2 (1791): The government won't mess with the rights of people to possess, carry and use weapons. This ensures the capability to form self-equipped state militias.



Amendment II (1791)

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

The Third Amendment, which forbids the 'quartering' of 'soldiers' in private homes without the owner's consent, is often the butt of jokes because it is so rarely litigated. But in this case, a Nevada family claimed that local police had violated the Amendment by forcibly occupying their home in order to gain a "tactical advantage" against suspected criminals in the neighboring house.

Ilya Somin

The Washington Post – Article 3/23/15
Professor of Law at George Mason University School of Law
ANTHONY MITCHELL, et al. Plaintiffs, v. CITY OF HENDERSON, et al., Defendants.
Born 1973



Liberty Rules Amendment #3 (1791): No soldiers are permitted to expect a place to crash without the homeowner's consent, except, perhaps in time of war, as prescribed by law.



Amendment III (1791)

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Statutes authorizing unreasonable searches
were the core concern of the framers
of the Fourth Amendment.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

Dissenting opinion (Illinois v. Krull, (No. 85-608)), March 9, 1987

First woman to serve as a Supreme Court Justice

Supreme Court Justice 1981 – 2006

1930 – 2023

Thank you Sandra.



Liberty Rules Amendment #4 (1791): We have the right to privacy except if a warrant is issued with probable cause, but then only search and seizures as described in the warrant may be carried out.



Huh? #21: In 1791, it was physically possible for the government to bust your door down and raid your personal and private belongings, but they chose to include the 4th Amendment in the Bill of Rights to specifically prohibit that. Nowadays, it's technically possible for the government to bust through a back door into your phone or computer and raid your personal and private belongings. They act like because they can utilize technology to do it that makes it okay. What difference does it make how they raid your stuff? Either way, it's clearly unconstitutional.



Amendment IV (1791)

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Pay attention.

If ever you should find yourself in a serious jam, remember this:

The First Amendment gives you the right to speak freely.

The Fifth Amendment reminds you that you need to know when to shut up.



Liberty Rules Amendment #5 (1791): You have the right to remain silent. If you're accused of murder or other felony, you gotta be indicted by a grand jury to be prosecuted for it, except for servicemen when in war or during times of public danger. You can only be tried once for an offence. Your life, liberty, and property cannot be seized without due process and if they take your property for public use you gotta be paid a fair price for it.



Amendment V (1791)

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

He [George Washington] has often declared to me that he considered our new constitution as an experiment on the practicability of republican government, and with what dose of liberty man could be trusted for his own good; that he was determined the experiment should have a fair trial, and would lose the last drop of his blood in support of it.

Thomas Jefferson

3rd President (1801 – 1809)

2nd VP to President John Adams (1797 – 1801)

1st U.S. Secretary of State for President George Washington (1790 – 1793)

Declaration of Independence author (1776)

1743 – 1826



Liberty Rules Amendment #6 (1791): You have the right to a defense attorney and a speedy public trial by an impartial jury where the alleged crime was committed. You gotta be told what the charges are, you can hear and see what the witnesses against you have to say and you may subpoena other witnesses in your defense.



Amendment VI (1791)

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

We need a law that will permit a voter
to sue a candidate
for breach of promise.

Mark Twain

American Author
1835 - 1910



Liberty Rules Amendment #7 (1791): Civil lawsuits may be tried by a jury and, once concluded, the facts established may not be re-examined. The lawsuit's gotta be greater than seventy-five thousand dollars to gain eligibility for federal and, potentially, Supreme Court consideration. A minimum amount in controversy was established by the Judiciary Act of 1789 in the amount of five hundred dollars and was raised for the fifth time to this level in 1996 by Congressional degree 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).



Amendment VII (1791)

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Hi, it's me again.

I'm tortured by the thought that the inhumane atrocities by terrorists makes their torture justifiable.



Liberty Rules Amendment #8 (1791): Excessive bail and fines are forbidden as well as cruel and unusual punishment.



Amendment VIII (1791)

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

The very purpose of a Bill of Rights was to withdraw certain subjects
from the vicissitudes of political controversy,
to place them beyond the reach of majorities and officials,
and to establish them as legal principles to be applied by the courts.
One's right to life, liberty, and property, to free speech, a free press, freedom of worship and assembly,
and fundamental rights may not be submitted to vote;
they depend on the outcome of no elections.

Justice Robert H. Jackson

319 U.S. 624, West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette (No. 591) (1943)
Supreme Court Justice 1941 – 1954
1892 - 1954

Liberty Rules Amendment #9 (1791): The free to be me amendment! People have unbounded 'rights' and authority of self-determination in all matters concerning their *being* at or below the skin; seen and unseen. They extend to all matters relating to their consenting relationship(s).

Huh? #22: Thank goodness for the 2022 Roe vs. Wade overturn (xRvW). I think it sucks! However, it made me seriously reconsider Amendment 9 & 10, 1791, Amendment 14, 1868 and the behavior of the Supreme Court here and in general. Overall, I've concluded Amendment #9 is mighty fine! It's been hiding in plain sight. The quote above seemed to nail it so well, I overlooked its true magnificence.

Although the subject of a woman's right to abortion was confirmed nationwide by the original Roe vs. Wade decision dated January 22, 1973, the subject's continued to fester as a socially, emotionally, religiously and politically charged concern. For very good and justifiable reasons, there are many groups that have coalesced with very strong convictions in their position on the subject. There are religious and faith based groups that for their beliefs or simple direct willful submission to the doctrine of their religion hold a blind faith opposition to the notion of abortion. On the opposite end, there are groups for similarly justifiable reasons that adhere to a strict doctrine of "my body my choice." Between them, there exists no middle ground, or happy medium, that can please either of them. However, there are several other loosely defined groups that promote compromise positions on abortion. Whether driven by reason, accommodation, compassion, or tradition, they take a somewhat pragmatic approach to draw some line in between where, under certain circumstances, or up until a certain time in gestation, abortion should be permissible country-wide.

The subject itself is such a delicate matter. Any woman or couple faced with even the momentary hesitation of a decision rather than pure joy, wonder, excitement and anticipation is surely in a difficult heart wrenching moment.

Any state or federal policy other than a hardline yes or no is inherently arbitrary in all circumstances. Regardless of where any line may be drawn, those at the extremes will persistently drive to relentlessly move that line incrementally towards their absolutely black and white, yes or no position. It becomes a never-ending negotiation. Ultimately and necessarily, government is the arbiter. That makes it an even stickier issue.

Liberty Rules Amendment #9 (1791) (continued)

Every one of many aspects of regulation are cause for lengthy debate. Regarding the age of the woman, whether they should have any obligation to share a decision with either a parent, if very young, or the lover at any age. Should there be any obligation to be counseled or mull it over a bit? In cases of rape or incest there's often wide consensus that it's an entirely different situation and most make an accommodation for that instance without question. Medical circumstances, where decisions are driven by preserving the health of the woman, are also among the typically widely accepted recognized exceptions. There's also the valid concern that to make it illegal may make it unsafe for those who seek it or financially impossible for economically insecure women.

The issue has crossed the bench of the Supreme Court many times. Roe vs. Wade largely settled it from the critical aspect that it became legally available in all states. That made it safe and accessible for all women.

Over the decades after RvW, all had to accept it but some of the practices regarding it became justifiably offensive as well. There's tax-payer funding objections. Undercover videos emerged where the counseling and coaching of young adults clearly encouraged abortion nearly to the point of pressuring women to get it. Genetic engineering advances bring other questions of underlying motives and benefits that may exist in "harvesting" human embryos or fetuses for stem cells or other genetic therapy measures for the living.

If you could indulge me for a moment, and try to put all that aside, as I'm trying to do, I'd like to share with you a few of my observations from my best effort to thoroughly read only two of the very many decisions related and cited on the subject and glean from them what I may on the subject from a constitutional stand point. The Law of the Land's provisions for the Rights of the People. One could easily dedicate the rest of their lives trying to understand the world, USA and Supreme Court histories and precedence. I'm not that guy!

The high impact abortion decisions are given as follows (**my shorthand** // typical shorthand // formal case).

1/22/1973: RvW // Roe vs Wade // Jane ROE, et al., Appellants, v. Henry WADE.

Summary Impact: Made abortion legal in all 50 states. Created a trimester framework for latest abortion date.

Historical context of 1/22/1973: 1969 Summer of Love culmination of the psychedelic experimenting, free loving, civil rights & Vietnam War protesting 1960s is still fresh in people's minds. Republican President Richard Nixon's 2nd term inauguration happened the day before. The unpopular Vietnam War is still on-going.

6/29/1992: Casey // Planned Parenthood vs. Casey // PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF SOUTHEASTERN PA v CASEY

Summary Impact: Preserved RvW but changed trimester framework to a viability test to refer to length into pregnancy after which the fetus could live outside the womb for latest abortion date.

Historical context of June 1992: The 1980s were deemed the "Me Generation." In those days kids got into playing video games at home. After 2 terms of Republican President Ronald Reagan, and about 6 months before the end of his VP's 1st term as president, George H. W. Bush was in campaign mode for his losing bid for a 2nd term. The Berlin Wall came down November 11, 1989 which was declared the end of The Cold War.

6/24/2022: xRvW // Dobbs vs. Mississippi // THOMAS E. DOBBS, STATE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ET AL., PETITIONERS v. JACKSON WOMEN'S HEALTH ORGANIZATION, ET AL.

Summary Impact: Overruled RvW & Casey and returned the authority to legislate on abortion from legal nationwide to each of the 50 states to decide.

Historical context of the 21st Century: 2000-2025 in a nut shell... it's been nuts!!!

Liberty Rules Amendment #9 (1791) (continued)

The Roe vs. Wade Overturn decision (xRvW) led me to read the Barnette decision cited here regarding doing the Pledge of Allegiance and then read the xRvW decision's Opinions and Dissent in their entirety. That led to an epiphany of the true depth and intent of this 9th Amendment and the sharp distinction of it versus the 10th Amendment. Once there, I laid out "The *Liberty Rules!* Timeline" of U.S. Wars versus the U.S. Constitution and its Amendments dates located after the Liberty Rules Amendments on Page 149. That helps to demonstrate the outrageousness of Justice Alito's ignorance of the Pearl Harbor attack of December 7, 1941 in his Opinion for the court. He cites Barnette in his justifications and gross misrepresentation of its decision being a primary example demonstrating the Supreme Court overturning earlier decisions justifying the RvW overturn. In the xRvW Opinion, he asks rhetorically, what happened between 1940 and 1943 as if it was some vacuum in time of quaint serenity. Additionally, the timeline shows the contextual reality of how Amendment 14, 1868 should be viewed as a direct result of the Civil War and applied more limitedly forward going.

I've been carrying a deep-seated suspicion of the lapses of integrity of the Supreme Court over our history. Past decisions, possibly influenced by private interests, have been stood on to justify and perpetuate serial 'right' killing principles and political feeding frenzies. xRvW was such a blatant political hack job, which I fully realized the moment I reached the xRvW Opinion's declaration, or edict, that the decision exclusively impacts abortion, that it inspired the deep dive to confirm that. I still stand by that assessment. If one is to judge something in earnest, you may be forced to consider if the 999 good points allow the 1 deviant point to be overlooked or if the one deviant point is the unraveling of the true intent and nature of the judged. I'm raising the glaring deviant points and omissions that call it all into question.

Bottom line assessment: Two wrongs didn't make it right!

xRvW Beneficial Revelations:

A – This Supreme Court has gone on record that they've got it wrong before, they'll get it wrong again. They can, on occasion, correct past bad decisions of the court when necessary. 'Stare Decisis' as they say. 'Stare' as in look. 'Decisis' as in cease and desist. "STOP LOOKING AT THAT!" with regard to prior precedence cases.

B – This Supreme Court has clearly made one very good constitutional point. The Opinions describe the RvW original decision as looking like a piece of legislation rather than a court decision. That's clearly outside of the role of the judicial branch per the U.S. Constitution. If the Supreme Court stays in their lane, maybe the executive and legislative branches will revert to staying in their lanes and truly holding each other accountable as they should always be doing per the U.S. Constitution defined roles and responsibilities.

The quote I used by Chief Justice Earl Warren with Liberty Rules #46 from 1965 describes the separation of powers and that the judiciary's unique role ensures no "trial by legislation" by the Congress. xRvW calls out the malpractice of the prior seated RvW Supreme Court doing what should be termed "legislating from the bench." It is this seated Supreme Court's Opinions' cornerstone argument for overturning RvW.

So, although I believe that xRvW represents one huge step backwards, it's also two baby steps in the 'right' direction. No pun/Pun intended... The bright light that all this is shining on the federal 3-branch dysfunction is a vanity mirror. This court calling out a prior court has inadvertently exposed them as party to a 3-ring circus.

4th Amendment only relates to our things: Within Liberty Rules Amendment #4, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor is quoted in Dissent to a decision "Statutes authorizing unreasonable searches were the core concern of the framers of the Fourth Amendment." In this quote, Justice O'Connor confirms my position that this

Liberty Rules Amendment #9 (1791) (continued)

amendment primarily protects us from the uncalled for, unjustified and unauthorized search of our stuff. I'm not certain what other concerns she may believe the 4th Amendment was meant to address outside of this "core concern." Regardless, I see nothing remotely associated with our *being* as it is currently known to exist or as it may come to be known to exist at or below the skin. The first reference to 'persons' in the 4th Amendment is regarding someone's clothing and what they may be carrying around with them, not their *being* at or below the skin; seen and unseen. The second reference is just a plural of person.

9th Amendment's Infinite Me Liberty: Per Liberty Rules Amendment #9 posted here.

14th Amendment Smoke and Mirrors: The court has historically sidestepped the recognition of the unbounded rights that the 9th Amendment affords us. They've systematically misrepresented the 14th Amendment to fit desired outcomes rather than give us a clue of our boundless rights ensured by the 9th Amendment. I strongly believe that the 14th Amendment did not re-assert any of the Bill of Rights as parts of these and other past Opinions falsely claim. No Amendment has ever done anything like reaffirming prior amendments as they claim with the exception of, perhaps, the 25th, which I haven't unraveled yet. The Civil War ended in 1865 and Amendment 13, 1865, abolishing slavery, is unquestionably associated with that. To me, given the context of history, Amendment 14, 1868 was clearly in response to the continued overt injustices that African American people and former slaves were experiencing after becoming free people by Amendment 13, 1865. xRvW dances around this with 101 'fourteenth' mentions versus 7 of the 'ninth.'

The 14th attempted to narrow the lanes of oppression that continued after the civil war in varying degrees and, I must add, existed in highly offensive ways even a century later when Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. spearheaded the 1960s civil rights movement that finally turned the tide against systematic "legal" racial oppression in the USA. Furthermore, it is evident in their use of the words 'privileges and immunities' rather than 'rights' in Section 1 of Amendment 14, 1868 that they weren't reasserting the Bill of Rights existence. At that time, they were still respecting the reservation of 'rights' belonging to people only. As freshly freed people and citizens, they inherently had equal rights under the Bill of Rights. Liberty Rule #82 dictates that all states judges honor the constitution which, by Liberty Rule #80, includes its amendments. Amendment 14, 1868 did not change states' obligations. The 10th Amendment's recognition of state sovereignty and codifying the limited role of the federal government over the daily activities of the people, their businesses and the states made it clear to all the states that the 'powers' exercised in their laws had to treat all citizens equally assuring their common 'privileges and immunities' as etched in Liberty Rule #74 as well. Unfortunately, words, while helpful, don't always cause the immediate results they intend and support. Everything in Amendment 14, 1868 should be looked at from the viewpoint of recognizing it immediately followed and was in response to the end of the Civil War. Nothing in Amendment 14, 1868 should be used to justify disparaging any rights of individual people assured by the 9th Amendment's infinite scope respecting our individual sovereignty.

Supreme Court's role: In a smash up of their own words: It is the justices "duty" "against tyranny" as "the safeguard of our liberty and of our property under the constitution." (See LR34, LR46 & LR67 for citations.)

Supreme Court malpractice "indictments":

Concurring Justices (ALITO, THOMAS, GORSUCH, KAVANAUGH, BARRETT, and ROBERTS) (xRvW): To overrule and vacate RvW on procedure as legislation and then not correctly justify the 'right' to abortion as ensured by the 9th Amendment is a sort of double reverse legislating from the bench. It wronged a wrong in defiance of our 9th Amendment catch-all 'right' to final self-determination in all '*being*' matters.

Liberty Rules Amendment #9 (1791) (continued)

Justice ALITO (xRvW): Justice Alito’s delivered the xRvW Opinion, in which he asks what happened between 1940 and 1943, in ignorance to the WWII Pearl Harbor attack of December 7, 1941. “Barnette stands out because nothing had changed during the intervening period other than the Court’s belated recognition that its earlier decision had been seriously wrong.” I consider that an impeachable offense. And they doubled down on it in rebuttal. Except for Roberts, the other four joined in the Judgement and Opinion, so they’re just as guilty of this! Similarly appalling displays of malpractice through selective irrelevant dissertations on world and court history that run rampant in xRvW are shocking! Verbose inconsequential selective fluff ad nauseum. This is such a glaring and insulting omission and oversight it defies “good behavior” required by Liberty Rule #67.

Chief Justice ROBERTS (Affordable Care Act (aka ACA/Obamacare)): I believe that Chief Justice John Roberts had already legislated from the bench the way he preserved the Obamacare uninsured penalty fine by freelancing to create a basis to preserve it when that basis wasn’t brought before him as an argument in that case. (See Liberty Rule #28). His statement there recognizes the states’ role in the U.S. government. He cornered himself by that here. I gotta give President Trump credit for somehow getting that “tax” cancelled.

Justice BREYER, SOTOMAYOR, and KAGAN (xRvW Dissent): To be fair, in full disclosure of my disgust with this court and the characters we’ve entrusted with this high duty, the xRvW Dissent includes the statement that “The first problem with the majority’s account comes from JUSTICE THOMAS’s concurrence—which makes clear he is not with the program.” With all due and undue respect, marching out such casual “pop” language in a document for all future generations to refer to from the highest court in the land sounds like it was written by a snot nosed kid whose parents bribed their way into some entry-for-hire Ivy League cesspool. I must admit that their statement that “Casey is a precedent about precedent” is quite clever and catchy. However, it is ultimately an empty point that I disagree with in this case because they both stand on the 14th Amendment instead of the 9th. Their Dissent also goes on about the court’s evolving recognition of rights. My view, rather, is that the court very slowly walks back unjustifiable limitations of rights as social mores and general acceptance of each other has evolved. The courts seem to be walking back so many things that they need to throw down the gauntlet in recognition of the very wide mainstream of America is largely in understanding and acceptance of each other and of what we each do in our own spaces as Amendment 9, 1791 recognizes.

All 9 Justices of the 2022 xRvW Supreme Court (the fix was in): To add insult to injury, on top of all those appalling behaviors, the court’s recognition that the parties in the case dictated that the court could only render an all or nothing decision is pathetic. If any one of these nine justices had a spine they’d’ve thrown them all out of court for good for the nerve to even make such an utterance! The audacity of the plaintiff and defense is beyond belief! And they got away with it! Chief Justice Roberts concurrence in the Judgement and the Dissent speak of this. Once they got to the Supreme Court, the parties presenting the case upped the ante. My wild speculation: The fix was in!

The Dissent supports that conclusion. The beauty of xRvW is that it finally lifted the veil of integrity that the Supreme Court has hid behind and revealed that they’re just another bunch of misfits mirroring the rampant dysfunction of the presidency, House of Representatives and Senate telling us how to live our lives when they appear to all have gotten their law degrees out of Cracker Jacks™ boxes. This overall miscarriage of justice accomplishes one benefit for the “3-branch-club.” The judicial branch served up a lob ball for the legislative branch to tee off on to whip up their tried and true one issue bases to keep them relevant for the 2022 mid-term election. Go government! You guys are awesome! Protecting us from those ogres with life long sentences, ah, positions to serve us or eat us alive! The Supreme Court took one for the team – government.

Liberty Rules Amendment #9 (1791) (continued)

If you'll recall, President Trump promised to pick his Justices from "The List." And he did. And "oh no, they didn't!", which means, "oh yes, they did!" ... take the first opportunity to overturn RvW because they knew they had the majority to do it. The case before them was just a vehicle in my sincere belief.

The Barnette decision is about a person's behavior. The xRvW decision is about a person's *being*: The Barnette decision cited here was about outward behavior required by the West Virginia Board of Education. Both the Opinions and the Dissent of xRvW refer to the decision. The court was of 7 Justices in total at the time of the Barnette decision in 1943 and went 6-1 to overrule the WV Board of Education requiring kids to say the Pledge of Allegiance in public school based on a Jehovah's Witness religious objection. I believe the one Justice who stood against it in Dissent, Justice Frankfurter, (yes, Frankfurter... Hot Dog! This oughta be good!) makes many compelling points that lead me to believe that he was right and the court got it wrong on the Barnette case on which they stand so proudly as setting good precedence to overturn prior decisions.

Justice Frankfurter actually makes a very interesting description of the long term value of leaving so much with the states the way it should be by way of the 10th Amendment. He describes it as fostering a healthy involvement of people engaged in their state's political process which has to ultimately be a good thing for our society and our republic's democratic process. The Barnette Dissent is definitely a good read. xRvW is about an individual's right. The RvW original decision correctly ensured it for the wrong reasons and by the wrong process. xRvW wrongly vacated that right and threw it back to the mob that exists in some states to impose their will on "pregos" not planning to carry to full term. I use the term "pregos" in the absolute most affectionate way possible, and I mean that! The xRvW primary valid argument was with the process.

They missed the opportunity to vacate it because of the process and then ensure it for all to come for the 'right' reason by way of the 9th Amendment. However, as due process and jurisprudence goes, I believe Justices aren't supposed to invent a way to justify a desired outcome as Justice Roberts did for Obamacare.

Summary: People have unbounded 'rights' (LRA1, LRA2, LRA3, LRA4, LRA9). People, their businesses and states have 'powers' to define 'privileges & immunities' (LR74, LRA10, LRA14) of those who are in their sphere of influence. Congress may sell and make 'rules & regulations' regarding federal property (LR78). No 'powers' of any people, states or federal entity may impose on people's unbounded 'rights' without 'due process' and respect or without a person's explicit permission (LRA4, LRA5, LRA6, LRA7, LRA8). Got it? Get it. Do it!

If you seriously doubt my conclusions, that's cool... However, since you're already this invested in the subject, please read the entire Barnette and xRvW decisions, at the minimum, and come to your own conclusions.

To reel in the Supreme Court and "handcuff them" for these "indictments", Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #29 is offered for your thoughtful consideration later in the Commentary section.

Remember, all people retain the rights and ability to do what they do to foster the outcomes they prefer.



Amendment IX (1791)

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined.
Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite.
The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation and foreign commerce;
with which last the power of taxation will for the most part be connected.
The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which in the ordinary course of affairs,
concern the lives and liberties, and properties of the people,
and the internal order, improvement and prosperity of the State.

James Madison

Federalist, no. 45, 313-314

4th President (1809 – 1817), etc. (more experience noted in other instances of his many quotes herein)
1751 – 1836

Liberty Rules Amendment #10 (1791): If the constitution doesn't specifically provide for powers to the federal government, then those powers go to the states or the people.

Huh? #23: This book opens with the following quote of Patrick Henry: "The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people, it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government – lest it come to dominate our lives and interests." Amendment X essentially formalizes his position on the meaning, scope and power of the U.S. Constitution's purpose to restrain the federal government. However, I believe that in spite of this, the federal government has become like a million armed octopus. They've extended their tentacles into far too many facets of our lives and businesses. These matters of personal choice are expressly reserved to the states and the people by the 10th Amendment. If the personal affairs affecting the people were limited to legislation by the states and local governments then, as President Ronald Reagan said, people can vote with their feet. Oppressive states with imposing laws restricting personal choice and freedom could theoretically become isolated and abandoned. Judging by the quote of James Madison above, which was made during the development of the constitution, he obviously agrees. It also confirms that although the original Articles of Confederation were replaced by the U.S. Constitution to strengthen the federal government, they were careful to construct it such that at the same time the U.S. Constitution defines the limited powers that the federal government was designed to exercise.

In spite of these clear and noble goals embodied in the U.S. Constitution, the federal government has launched deep into the business of behavior modification of its citizens. The results of those efforts are becoming oppressive. That's tyranny. An old word with regrettably renewed meaning and relevance.

The 10th Amendment is the most powerful sentence of the entire U.S. Constitution protecting people & state sovereignty. I strongly believe that all federal laws should be vigorously debated and passed through the prism of their place to be legislated, if at all, with consideration to Amendment X. Let's call this "The Power of the X."

Amendment X (1791)

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Only recently has the debate come that states' rights are being trumped in a fundamental way,
reading of the 10th Amendment and 11th Amendment.

That's a legitimate debate, totally legitimate.

But anybody who pretends that how you read the 10th and 11th Amendment
doesn't have a fundamental impact on the things we care about is kidding themselves.

They're either uninformed
or they're kidding themselves.

Joe Biden

Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing for Justice Alito Supreme Court Nomination, January 1, 2006

then Senator (D-DE)

46th President (since 2021)

47th VP to President Barack Hussain Obama (2009 – 2017)

U.S. Senator (D-DE, 1973 – 2009)

Born 1942



Liberty Rules Amendment #11 (1795/1798): This amendment sought to not allow states to be sued in federal courts by other state United States and foreign citizens. However, it continues to happen, especially in cases of state violations of federal law (affects Liberty Rule #68).



Amendment XI (1795/1798)

The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State.

An axiom.

Whether you voted for them or not,
as long as you maintain your U.S. citizenship,
the president is your president.



Liberty Rules Amendment #12 (1804): The president and vice president are picked by the people via the electoral college and in the case of a tie or no candidate getting a majority of the electors (270 presently - see Liberty Rule #56, Huh? #14 for the math) then the House of Representatives will pick the winner from among the top three presidential candidates with one vote per state and a majority of twenty-six required (affects Liberty Rule #56). If they can't decide by March fourth, then the sitting VP becomes president and the Senate picks the new VP from the top two VP candidates. The VP must also be a natural born citizen of thirty-five or older and a fourteen-year resident within the United States, just like the president (affects Liberty Rule #58). (Affected by Amendment 23, 1961.)



Huh? #24: I'm still looking for when the presidential candidates got the power to simply pick their running mate for vice president. I believe that the exercise of this corruption of power, authority and legal practice ensures that every vice president will be a lap dog for the president as opposed to being their likely number one nemesis who would likely have been the one who lost the presidential election.

Remember, the vice president has the deciding vote in the case of a tie vote in the Senate per Liberty Rule #11. Conceivably, if the 2016 presidential election was conducted the way that it appears to me that they should be conducted, Donald Trump would have become president with Hillary Clinton vice president. Could you imagine that?

By the way, if anyone should try to pin this practice as a byproduct of the 12th Amendment, nothing in the 12th Amendment remotely suggests that as I see it. The reading of it very clearly reveals very distinct and separate processes of arriving to the President and Vice President winners via the electoral college. It also very clearly states what is to be done when less than half the votes are awarded to the most popular candidate in either case.



Amendment XII (1804) text on next page.

Amendment XII (1804)

The Electors shall meet in their respective states and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate; -- the President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted; -- The person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

Gettysburg Address

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate — we can not consecrate — we can not hallow — this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us — that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion — that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain — that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln

November 19, 1863

16th President (1861 – 1865)

1st President Assassinated (shot on Good Friday, April 14, 1865; died April 15, 1865)

U.S. Representative (IL, 1847 – 1849)

State Representative (IL, 1834 – 1842)

1809 - 1865

Liberty Rules Amendment #13 (1865): Slavery is mostly abolished across the United States and all of its jurisdictions (affects Liberty Rule #44 & #76). For convicted criminals, not so much...

Amendment XIII (1865)

Section 1.

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Despite fundamentally differing views concerning the coverage of the Privileges or Immunities Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, most notably expressed in the majority and dissenting opinions in the Slaughter-House Cases (1873), it has always been common ground that this Clause protects the third component of the right to travel. Writing for the majority in the Slaughter-House Cases, Justice Miller explained that one of the privileges conferred by this Clause "is that a citizen of the United States can, of his own volition, become a citizen of any State of the Union by a bona fide residence therein, with the same rights as other citizens of that State."

Justice John Paul Stevens

Saenz v Roe (1999)
Supreme Court Justice 1975 – 2010
1920 - 2019



Liberty Rules Amendment #14 (1868): If you're born here, or naturalized, you're a citizen and are entitled to all the freedoms, rights, privileges and immunities that come with it in all states (affects Liberty Rule #74 (LR74)). States can't make or enforce any law to the contrary. If you're physically in a state, you're due full protection of the law. The number of Congress Representatives will be based on the number of people in the state, excluding Native Americans, and all men of 21 (affected by Amendment 19, 1920 & Amendment 26, 1971) or older may vote in the elections (before this, states were restricting voters in all kinds of ways which sometimes required property ownership, for example) (affects LR5 & LR15). If you take the oath of office to support the constitution and later participate in a rebellion or provide aid or comfort to a rebellion against the United States you're forbidden to hold office again unless two thirds of Congress permit it (affects LR17, LR58, LR61 & LR83). United States debts incurred in squashing rebellions are valid, however, any debts incurred by the rebellion are null and void (affects LR81) along with any claims for losses resulting from the freeing of slaves. Congress may pass legislation to enforce this.



Huh? #25: What a contradiction. In one section, you're guaranteed equal rights as a citizen and then in the next, only providing you're a guy. Either way, that wasn't clear enough so the 15th Amendment more specifically gave the right to vote to former slaves. Gender wasn't addressed until the 19th Amendment in 1920.

I must also point out that Section 1 of the 14th Amendment is a very sticky subject. I've touched upon it in Amendment 9, 1791. Ultimately, I've concluded that 'privileges and immunities' is the constitution's catch-all phrase for state laws authorizing what people and businesses can do themselves when out and about as well as with, to and for each other. 'Rights' are not impacted. People's unbounded personal activities, possessions, and *being* rights remain intact per LRA1, LRA2, LRA3, LRA4 & LRA9 respectively with 2, 3 & 4 for possessions.

As far as 'rights' go, I've always considered the expression that "driving is a privilege, not a right" a nonsensical flippant statement. I don't understand it. Did anyone ever lose their right to ride a horse? It'd be news to me. Logically, I don't understand the impact of riding something greater than one horsepower and why that should be the difference between it being a 'right' versus a 'privilege.' We have a need for speed!

Are shoplifters prohibited from shopping for life after a conviction? Are convicted sex offenders anatomically altered? Are people convicted of white collar crimes never to wear a white collared shirt again? I don't think so. Yet, when it comes to driving, which is by and large a very necessary activity for lots of people, there are lots of reasons why they'll pull this 'privilege' from you. I consider access to mobility a right akin to air and water.

Additionally, the last section of the last sentence of Section 1 states "nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." This is also very interesting. To me this says that there won't be two sets of laws that differ in definition or punishment depending on who you are or where you're from regardless of whether or not you're a citizen. With all the hoopla about immigration these days, I wonder if this factors into that discussion. One thing I did realize though, this is why they put military prisoners in Gitmo.



Amendment XIV (1868)

Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2.

Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

Section 3.

No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

Section 4.

The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Section 5.

The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

I repeat that the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution completes the greatest civil change and constitutes the most important event that has occurred since the nation came into life.

Ulysses S. Grant

18th President (1869 – 1877)

U.S. Army Commanding General for Presidents A. Lincoln and A. Johnson (served 1839 -1854, 1861 – 1869)
1822 - 1885



Liberty Rules Amendment #15 (1870): All citizens, including former slaves, may vote (Oops! The 14th made it official - 'male' only need apply. Dang...) (affects Liberty Rule #15).



Amendment XV (1870)

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude--

Section 2.

The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

This says it all.

They say that you can't avoid taxes and death.
The Sixteenth Amendment legalized being taxed to death.



Liberty Rules Amendment #16 (1913): There it is, Congress can tax the hell out of us as they see fit. What a bunch of crooks! (Affects Liberty Rule #5, #26 & #47).



Huh? #26: In 1895, the Supreme Court declared income tax unconstitutional (Pollock v. Farmers Loan & Trust Co.) and shut down Congress from raising revenue this way for eighteen years. The final accepted amendment to the U.S. Constitution was written by Nelson W. Aldrich of Rhode Island. That got passed in 1909 by our elected Representatives and Senators, then subsequently ratified in 1913 by the required three fourths of the states. Ironically, Nelson's home state of Rhode Island rejected it and hasn't ratified it to this day along with Connecticut, Utah, and Virginia. The legislatures of Florida and Pennsylvania have yet to consider it. This amendment's words specifically shot down the stipulations of Liberty Rules #5, #26 and #47. This one short sentence formally gave our government a license to continuously steal property from their citizens without bounds or any consideration to fairness.

But that's not even enough. We're now almost \$34.8 trillion in debt, on top of it, as of May 21, 2024. \$34.8 trillion divided by 330 million people means that each little baby that's born into this great country is encumbered with \$105,454,54 of the federal debt. That's over \$100,000.00 (one hundred thousand dollars). Theoretically, or at least there was a time in my lifetime, when you could buy a home at that price. I'll make the analogy that each little baby born into this country is carrying a home mortgage on their back. How pathetic is that?



Amendment XVI (1913)

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

The Senate will be elected
absolutely and exclusively
by the State legislatures.

James Madison

The Federalists Papers #45, January 26, 1788

4th President (1809 – 1817)

U.S. Secretary of State for President Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)

U.S. Representative (VA, 1st – 4th Congress, 1789 – 1797)

1751 – 1836

Liberty Rules Amendment #17 (1913): People are given the power to elect their Senators. State legislatures may empower their governor to temporarily appoint a Senator prior to an election if the need arises. (Affects Liberty Rule #8, #9 & #15).

Huh? #27: This is, in my considered opinion, an unquestionably unconstitutional amendment.

If you refer back to Liberty Rule #8 and #15, you'll see that I questioned the contradiction of people being given the power to elect their two Senators per Amendment 17, 1913. I believe that the wording of those two clauses clearly forbids that from ever being allowed to occur. The structure of the number of Representatives per state being proportional to their population and all states having an equal number of Senators is known as the Connecticut Compromise or Great Compromise. This was a compromise between the Virginia Plan (population based representation) and the New Jersey Plan (equal representation) which centered around the concerns that states of small size and less population had about maintaining an equal voice in the federal government. There's much written about the Connecticut Compromise and how it came about, however, there's surprisingly little said about the final constitutional clauses clearly and permanently giving the choice of the Senators to the state legislatures rather than the people. Everything in the constitution is there for a reason and part of the debates leading to the Connecticut Compromise involved discussion regarding maintaining the sovereignty of the states. The final logic for having the state legislatures, who are elected by the people of the state, select the state's federal Senators rather than having the people directly elect them isn't clear to me. What is clear is that's the way it was and the way it was supposed to stay. In fact, it remained that way for 125 years!

I've asked myself, self?

1. Why would two thirds of the 46 states' Senators at that time in 1909 (2 Senators for each state makes 92 total) who were put in place by their state legislatures, vote to have their selection go to the people instead?
2. Why would three fourths of the 48 states at the time in 1913 vote to ratify this amendment to give up the states' say in the federal government?
3. Why would all involved including the House of Representatives of 1909, the Senate of 1909, all the state Representatives, state Senators and state governors between 1909 and the ratification in 1913 support a blatantly unconstitutional amendment (in spite of their Oaths of Office, to support the constitution per Liberty Rule #83)?

4. Why hasn't the Supreme Court ever been called on to judge the constitutionality of the 17th Amendment? To me, the Supreme Court should just be called upon to declare it unconstitutional and be done with it.

In researching the quote for this amendment, I stumbled across an author and columnist, Devvy Kidd, who argues that the 16th and 17th Amendments were never properly ratified. Plus, she goes on to claim that documentation supporting her claims are disappearing from the National Archives and when you go to state archives to cross check the claims in the National Archives, the information cannot be corroborated. Since she is a modern day originator of this work, I reached out to her about this reference to it and she makes the distinction that it isn't a *claim* of hers, the documents *are* missing! She verified this along with two well qualified people, one of which is classified as a Master Researcher by the National Archives. And, I suppose, just in case I harbored reservations about the possibility of being able to steal from there, she reminded me that President Bill Clinton's National Security Advisor, Sandy Berger, got snagged having walked out with a bunch of documents folded and stuffed in his clothes in 2003. In 2020, the www.archives.gov website listed 10 notable National Archive thefts. Including Berger's, a total of 8 of the 10 noted had happened since 2000. Aside from her work, the lack of serious discussions online regarding the questions I raised is surprising.

Every two years some citizen voters vote for one of their two U.S. Senators. This has been the practice for over one hundred years now. Those voters are thereby unwittingly perpetuating the corruption of our government where a vote very specifically and explicitly reserved for the state legislatures was given to the people.

The people constitutionally elect their Representatives. Now they have the unconstitutional power to also elect their Senators. We all know that we were taught in grade school of the "checks and balances" and "distribution of power" that was arranged by the U.S. Constitution. Well, Amendment 17, 1913 is an absolutely positively illegal and unconstitutional redistribution of power. The framers of the constitution clearly did not want this to ever happen and they clearly wrote the constitution (Liberty Rule #8 & #15) to prevent it. The quote of James Madison that's posted here was made during the writing of the constitution and it says in no uncertain terms that this was not to happen. Yet it happened. I find this most baffling.

Note that Devvy has since posted that a couple of states fairly recently "re-ratified" the 17th Amendment. Very odd and very interesting... They may sense that President Woodrow Wilson's charades are unraveling.



Amendment XVII (1913)

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

Prohibition... evidence that we don't need a bunch of mindless zealots running the country... ever.

Martin F. Danahy
Common Sense, Present Tense. (2012)
Born 1961



Liberty Rules Amendment #18 (1919): Let the alcohol prohibition begin (repealed by Amendment 21, 1933).



Amendment XVIII (1919)

Section 1.

After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2.

The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Suffrage is a pivotal right.

Susan B. Anthony

American Social Reformer and Women's Rights Advocate
Campaigned for African American rights as well as Women's Rights
Introduced what would become Amendment XIX in 1898 with
Elizabeth C. Stanton via U.S. Senator Aaron A. Sargent (R-CA)
1820 - 1906



Liberty Rules Amendment #19 (1920): Finally! Women are people too and have the right to vote! (Affects Liberty Rule #15 & Amendment 14, 1868). From what I can see, Native Americans got the right to vote per the Indian's Citizen Act of 1924 but still faced barriers.



Amendment XIX (1920)

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

If you are as happy on entering the White House
as I am on leaving it,
you are a very happy man indeed.

James Buchanan

To Abraham Lincoln, 1861

15th President (1857 – 1861)

U.S. Minister to the United Kingdom for President Franklin Pierce (1853 – 1856)

U.S. Secretary of State for Presidents James Polk & Zackary Taylor (1845 – 1849)

U.S. Representative (PA, 1821 – 1831)

State Representative (PA, 1814 – 1816)

1791 - 1868



Liberty Rules Amendment #20 (1933): The presidential inauguration occurs on January 20th, at noon, following the election. Senators and Representatives take office at noon on January 3rd. The Congress will get together at least once a year in January (affects Liberty Rule #16). If there's a major problem with the president elect then the vice president elect will act as president and if there's a big problem with the vice president elect then Congress will, by law, decide who will act as president. More specifically, the House of Representatives chooses the president when necessary and the Senate chooses the vice president when necessary (affects Liberty Rule #59).



Amendment XX (1933) text on next page.

Amendment XX (1933)

Section 1.

The terms of the President and the Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section 2.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 3.

If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Section 4.

The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Section 5.

Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Section 6.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

Why not?

If the Twenty-First Amendment can undo the Eighteenth Amendment of alcohol prohibition, then it is possible for an amendment to undo the Sixteenth Amendment allowing income taxes and the unconstitutional Seventeenth Amendment transferring the election of Senators from the state legislatures to the people.



Liberty Rules Amendment #21 (1933): Fourteen years later, so much for alcohol prohibition – that really sucked! The states may now regulate alcohol. (Repeals Amendment 18, 1919).



Amendment XXI (1933)

Section 1.

The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

Section 2.

The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

Section 3.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Hi, it's me again.

Thank God for term limits!



Liberty Rules Amendment #22 (1951): Term limits for the president. Now it's two and you're done! And, if you acted as the president for two or more years that counts as one term (affects Liberty Rule #55).



Amendment XXII (1951)

Section 1.

No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

Section 2.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

They were the best of times.

When I took my kids to D.C. in 1997 they were nine and eleven.
In 1997, most t-shirts sold on the streets of D.C. had aliens on them.
When your biggest perceived threat is aliens from outer space, things are pretty good.



Liberty Rules Amendment #23 (1961): Washington, D.C., gets to vote for the president and vice president too now (affects Liberty Rule #56 & Amendment 12, 1804).



Amendment XXIII (1961)

Section 1.

The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

I have paid no poll-tax for six years.
I was put into a jail once on this account, for one night; and,
as I stood considering the walls of solid stone,
two or three feet thick, the door of wood and iron, a foot thick,
and the iron grating which strained the light,
I could not help being struck with the foolishness
of that institution which treated me as if I were mere flesh and blood and bones,
to be locked up.

Henry David Thoreau

Civil Disobedience (1849)
American Transcendentalist
1817 - 1862



Liberty Rules Amendment #24 (1964): If you don't pay your taxes you still have the right to vote (affects Liberty Rule #15).



Amendment XXIV (1964)
Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Sounds kinda crazy to me.

The Twenty-Fifth Amendment tries to lull you to sleep with presidential succession details that sound redundant. Then, at the very end, it provides for a cabinet mutiny. Very sneaky.

Liberty Rules Amendment #25 (1967): Once again, the VP takes over if the president dies or is removed from office. If the VP vacates their office, then the president nominates a new vice president that's gotta be approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate. If the president themselves say they cannot do the job for a while, then the VP acts as president until the president says he or she is ready to resume the job. Additionally, there are provisions for a mutiny by the VP and the cabinet (or some other group if Congress legislates it so) to temporarily remove the President from office, however, if the President objects, then both houses have twenty-one days to both reach a two thirds majority to keep him or her out of office or else he or she will resume the presidency (affects Liberty Rule #59).

Huh??? (not # worthy): Towards the end, this amendment provides many options for removing a president from office. I still don't understand what the point or novelty is of the president succession details that are included in the beginning of this amendment. Liberty Rule #59 explicitly calls for the VP to succeed the president. It strikes me as fluff and cover for slipping in the mutiny options at the end. The VP details are new.

Anyway, I randomly discovered that President Nixon's successor, President Gerald Ford, has a presidential library website. One probably exists for every president with a library which is quite possibly almost all of them. This website has an extraordinarily detailed account of the first uses of the 25th Amendment relating to Gerald Ford. It is described as the guiding provisions that were used to install him as the new VP after President Richard Nixon's VP, Spiro Agnew, resigned. Then it goes on to describe how it was used again for Ford to become president after Nixon resigned. I'm amazed that the one amendment that I really feel I'm most perplexed by is spoken there with the greatest clarity of all! I don't see how they wouldn't've had the same conclusions without the 25th Amendment regarding the process of Ford becoming president.

Somewhat related, *The Jeffersonians* by Kevin R. C. Gutzman [(2022) St. Martin's Griffin] came out about presidents 3 through 5. I heard them talking about those presidents with much greater clarity, certainty and agreement than they can speak of what's happened with the last two presidents and their elections. Maybe he's right and miraculously uncovered everything that happened 200 years ago. What about now?

I don't know if the Ford presidential library website goes into detail about the 25th Amendment cabinet mutiny options. I think it would be interesting if someone, and I'm thinking... not me... went through all the presidential library websites and compiled all the currently described incidental wisdom or precedent experiences of the presidents regarding constitutional issues in their view over their terms. Good luck!

Amendment XXV (1967) text on next page.

Amendment XXV (1967)

Section 1.

In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

Section 2.

Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Section 3.

Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

Section 4.

Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office.

I believe that our young people
possess a great social conscience,
are perplexed by the injustices
which exist in the world,
and are anxious to rectify these ills.

Jennings Randolph

“Father of the 26th Amendment”
Upon its ratification, June 30, 1971
U.S. Senator (D-WV, 1958 - 1985)
U.S. Representative (D-WV, 1933 - 1947)
1902 - 1998



Liberty Rules Amendment #26 (1971): Voter rights minimum age is reduced from the age of 21 to the age of 18 (affects Liberty Rule #15 & Amendment 14, 1868).



Amendment XXVI (1971)

Section 1.

The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Section 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

A long, long, long, long, ..., long, long time coming.

The curious thing about the 27th Amendment is whether it restricted or expanded the self-gratification of Congress.



Liberty Rules Amendment #27 (1992): The bums in Congress can vote themselves a raise but it won't take effect until after the next election of the House of Representatives (affects Liberty Rules #22).



Huh? #28: Well I'll be damned... I was ready to question if this is the best that Congress and the states can agree on since Amendment 26, 1971? Regarding the 26th Amendment, I wanted to point out that in 1971, with the passage of voter rights reduced to the age of eighteen by the 26th Amendment, the required two thirds of the U.S. House of Representatives and two thirds of the U.S. Senate and over three fourths of the states came together and did something just. They made it so that if you could serve in the military you could vote. Regardless of how it happened and who else was consequently empowered they accomplished something that actually made sense. Then, I was gonna say how unimpressed I was that this is the only thing since then that they came together on, but it turns out that Congress hasn't come together and been backed up by the states to change, add or delete anything to the constitution since 1971. That's probably a good thing.

This amendment was part of the package of the first twelve amendments to the constitution that became known as the Bill of Rights, however, only ten of them passed in 1791. There was no expiration date on those first two unratified amendments. In 1992, enough states finally had ratified this amendment to officially make it part of the constitution. I guess the other one may still happen one day.

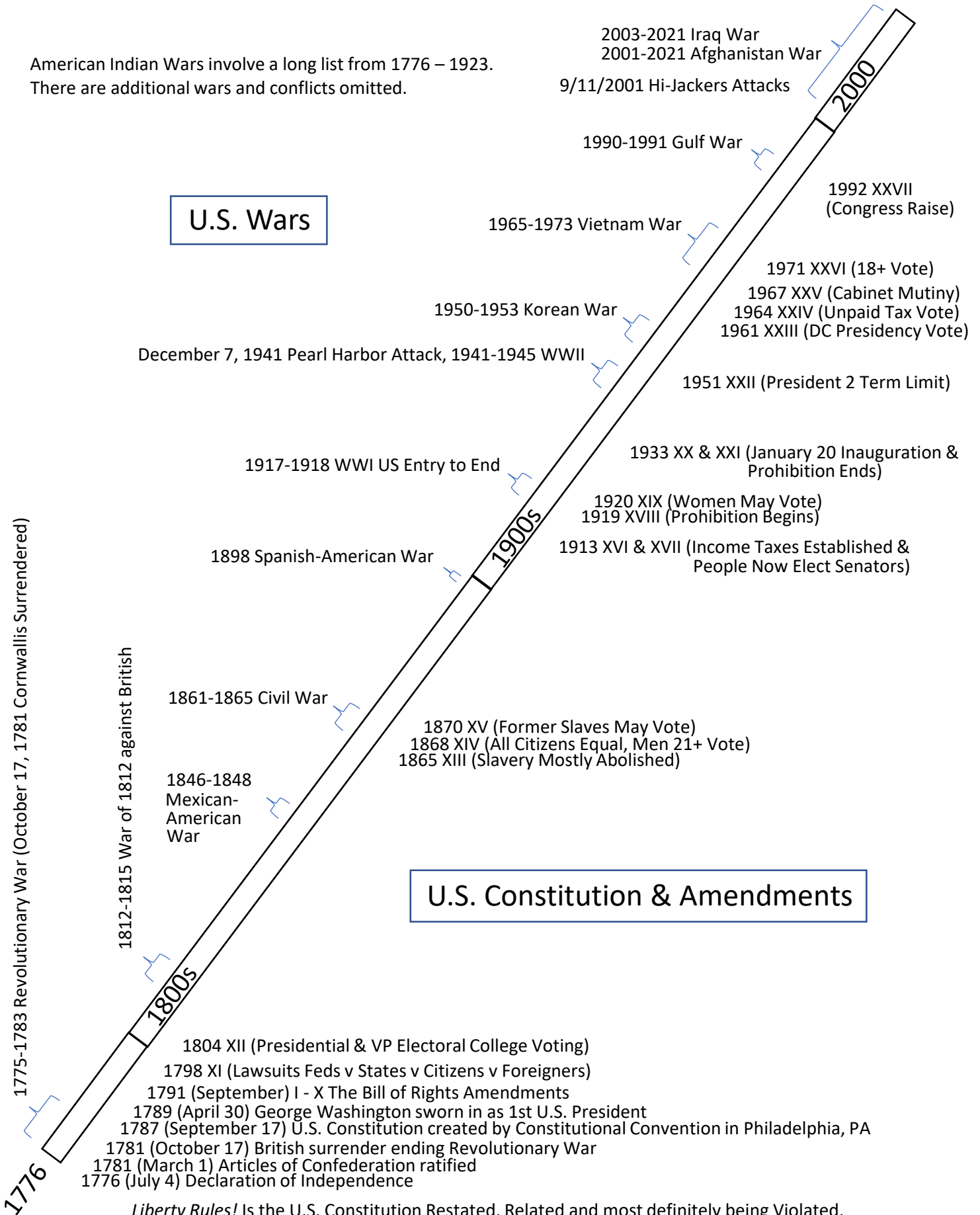


Amendment XXVII (1992)

No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

The Liberty Rules! It's About Time/Line

American Indian Wars involve a long list from 1776 – 1923.
There are additional wars and conflicts omitted.



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Election References Matrix

Election References Matrix								
LR/LRA	Clause/ Amendment	Involves Office(s)				Keywords		
		Representative	Senator	President	VP	People	Electors	Legislatures
LR3	I:2-1	X				X	X	X
LR4	I:2-2	X						
LR5	I:2-3	X						
LR6	I:2-4	X						
LR8	I:3-1		X					X
LR9	I:3-2		X					X
LR10	I:3-3		X					
LR11	I:3-4				X			
LR15	I:4-1	X	X					X
LR17	I:5-1	X	X					
LR22	I:6-2	X	X					
LR25	I:7-3	X	X	X				
LR55	II:1-1			X	X			
LR56	II:1-2			X	X		X	X
LR57	II:1-3	X	X	X	X		X	
LR58	II:1-4			X				
LR59	II:1-5			X	X			
LR60	II:1-6			X				
LRA12	XII			X	X		X	
LRA14	XIV					21+ vote	X	X
LRA15	XV					Former slaves vote		
LRA17	XVII		X			People elect Senators	X	X
LRA19	XIX					All sexes vote		
LRA20	XX	X	X	X	X			X
LRA22	XXII			X				
LRA23	XXIII			X	X		X	
LRA24	XXIV					Tax deadbeats vote	X	
LRA25	XXV			X	X			
LRA26	XXVI					18+ vote		
LRA27	XXVII	X	X					

Abbreviations examples:

"LR3" is "Liberty Rule #3" which is "I:2-1" for "Article I, Section 2, Clause 1" of the U.S. Constitution

"LRA12" is "Liberty Rules Amendment #12" which is "Amendment XII" to the U.S. Constitution

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Information Mobility - It's About Time/Line

Gistory: Most communications have a cycle of invention supported by a patent, demonstration, initial adoption, mass appeal and obsolescence. The year given is near the initial invention date unless otherwise noted.

2020: Social Media Censorship
2020: Virtual Everything

2018 🇺🇸 Trump
Space Force
2011 🇺🇸 Shuttle Final Missions
2008 🇺🇸 SpaceX
1st private orbiter
2004 🇺🇸 Prius 50MPG
2001 🇺🇸 Harley V-Rod
2001 🇺🇸 Segway
Personal Transport
1986 🇺🇸 Shuttle explodes

2007: iPhone by Apple
2003: Social Media (MySpace)

9/11/2001 Hi-Jackers Attacks

U.S. Communications

1975: CableTV HBO Ali/Frazier
1973: Mobile Phone
1972: Corning Fiber Optic "Cable"
1971: email
1969: DARPA funds ARPANET
1964: Modern fax machine
1960: Pagers commercialized
1957: Satellites (USSR Sputnik)
1955: TVs in 50% of US homes
1948: Milton Berle epicenter of popular TV programming
December 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor Attack, 1941-1945 WWII

1923: US TV patent application by Russian born Zwarykin
1921: KDKA Radio 1st Ballgame - Pirates win over Phillies
1920: KDKA Radio (Pittsburgh, PA) 1st Broadcast has live Harding-Cox presidential election results

1911: USPS Airmail begins
1910: "Talkies" Movies emerge

1906: 1st Radio voice broadcast in MA by Fessenden
1905: 1st Movie Theater opens in Pittsburgh, PA

1894: Marconi develops wireless transmissions in Italy based on Maxwell & Hertz discoveries
1889: Movie Camera (Thomas Alva Edison)

1876: Telephone (Alexander Graham Bell)

1867: Signal Lamps (Morse Code)

1860-1861: Pony Express
1858: US, GB Telegraph

1844: Balt., DC Telegraph (Morse Code)

1827: Camera

1814: Steam Print Press

1816 🇩🇪 German Draisine "Walker" Bicycle popular for wealthy in cities of Europe & U.S.

1797 🇺🇸 USS Constitution "Old Ironsides" naval ship launched
INITIAL U.S. CONSTITUTION EVENTS (foot, beasts of burden, wagons, boats)

1791 (September) I - X The Bill of Rights Amendments
1789 (April 30) George Washington sworn in as 1st U.S. President
1787 (September 17) U.S. Constitution created by Constitutional Convention
1781 (October 17) British surrender ending Revolutionary War

1781 (March 1) Articles of Confederation ratified
1776 (July 4) Declaration of Independence

1775 🇺🇸 (April 19) Giddy-Up! "The British are Coming!" Paul Revere warns Minutemen on horseback

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U.S. Transportation

KEY: YEAR 🚗 - Automotive
YEAR 🚲 - Bicycle
YEAR ✈️ - Flight
YEAR 🐎 - Horse
YEAR 🚂 - Railroad
YEAR 🚀 - Spacecraft
YEAR ⚓ - Watercraft

1775: U.S. Postal Service
1776: U.S. has 37 newspapers (often reprinting each others stories) and many pamphlets in print. Pamphlets mostly factual and instructive regarding the history of world liberty and the impact of no representation.

1790: Flag Semaphore (often between ships)

1800s

1900s

2000



◇ Commentary ◇



The history of liberty is a history of
the limitation of governmental power,
not the increase of it.

Woodrow Wilson

28th President (1913 – 1921)
Governor of New Jersey (D, 1911 – 1913)
President of Princeton University (1902 – 1910)
1856 - 1924



Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #28: Term limits for Representatives and Senators. Now it's 5 terms or 10 years max for Representatives and 3 terms or 18 years max for Senators and you're done.



Huh? #29: This U.S. Constitution gives us the awesome power to conceivably replace all 100% of the presently 435 members of the House of Representatives and 33% or 33 but sometimes 34 of the 100 Senators with the federal elections that are held every two years if we all chose not to reelect our incumbents. That would be a revolution to effectively rid ourselves of so many politicians responsible for the mess that we're in without firing a shot. However, as much as they say that everyone is distrustful and disenchanted with our federal government, we apparently love rather than loath the one Representative and Senator that we actually get to vote for in each election because we keep electing them while we observe with great disgust how everyone else keeps electing their same Representatives and Senators. It's unfortunate that an amendment such as this should be needed to save ourselves from ourselves.

A swamp is a natural environment that exists in some areas of the United States that, although considered generally inhospitable to people, is teeming with life that certainly provides a benefit to the eco-system at large. The U.S. federal government located in Washington, D.C., has been equated with being a swamp that needs to be drained. This is far too kind and a disservice to swamps everywhere. It's a manmade concoction more akin to a cesspool. Polarized politics has backed it up such that the stench is palpable. It's time to drain the cesspool that is the elected U.S. government seated in Washington, D.C.

With a non-corrupted fresh start Congress, maybe they can clean up the non-elected government in Washington, D.C., too.

The only way I see this amendment happening is via a convention of states. If two thirds of the state legislatures approve an amendment to the constitution, it's just as valid if two thirds of the House of Representatives and two thirds of the Senate approve it (reference Liberty Rule #80). Then it'd have to be ratified by three fourths of the states and you're practically there already. Suddenly, whom we elect to state offices is important. They need to be constitutionally oriented and support federal term limits. This is probably the last bastion of states' ability to exercise their influence over the federal government. It'd be there way of "sticking it to the man."

The net effect of term limits would then be as follows.

Presidents: 2 terms maximum equals 8 years (Per Amendment 22, 1951)

Representatives: 5 terms maximum would equal 10 years

Senators: 3 terms maximum would equal 18 years

I believe that many people will believe that five terms for Representatives and three terms for Senators is too long, however, I believe that there needs to be some stability in government and we shouldn't overreact to our current concerns. After a while, there'll always be turn-over occurring. This provides some stability and experience in government at all times with a mandatorily reasonable steady stream of new blood also.

By the way, I love Woodrow Wilson's quote here! However, I find it startling that he came out of academia. Next, he pads his resume with 2 years as NJ governor. Then, as president, he presides over the creation of The Federal Reserve in 1913, which many people detest, and Amendment 16 & 17, 1913 that I detest. Then in his second term, he enters us in World War I in 1917 to its 1918 end. Plus, Alcohol Prohibition starts per Amendment 18, 1919 and the following year women get to vote per Amendment 19, 1920. That's a lot!



Proposed Amendment XXVIII:

No person shall be elected to the office of U.S. Representative more than five times, and a partial term shall count as a full term. No person shall be elected to the office of U.S. Senator more than three times, and a partial term of three or more years shall count as one full term. When ratified, all U.S. Representatives and Senators in office at or above the limit may not seek another term for that office.

The U.S. Constitution wasn't written with the intent to keep us safe.

The U.S. Constitution is written with the intent to keep us free!



Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #29: All juries, whether of people or justices, must reach unanimous decisions to declare guilt or constitutionality.



Huh? #30: There's surprisingly little written about exactly how courts of law are to operate in the U.S. Constitution. It has been said that we're to error on the side of freedom. Better to have 100 guilty set free than 1 innocent found guilty. Not everyone agrees with that, however, we should be mindful of our ideals as well as our practices. Juries of peers abide by this. It'd probably be hard to get a dozen people to agree on lunch, yet, they must all agree to find an accused person guilty. Judges judging the soundness of a law and its constitutionality, in my belief, should be in full agreement most of the time. It's the law! They're typically lawyers and now judges. Any law that they can't all agree on is constitutionally correct by not overstepping the boundaries into our personal physical, emotional and spiritual space assured by the U.S. Constitution and its amendments should not stand.

As Americans, we have some odd and paradoxical mantras. While it's difficult for us to fathom kamikaze pilots from Japan on December 7, 1941 with just enough fuel to reach Hawaii and the Middle East hijackers on September 11, 2001 with one-way ticket suicide, or shall we say homicide missions, some of our practices may be hard for other countries and cultures to understand. My America leaves no American behind. We have and will risk the lives of 100 to save the 1. It breaks my heart that that America has been violated in this millennium. I'll resist the overwhelming temptation and desire to go on a rant on that one...

My point here is that it's my belief and understanding that it's better to have 100 ok laws overturned than to have 1 truly unjust unconstitutional law that stomps on our rights remaining on the books. That's my America's way! Please note, that's a bit of an overstatement that I'll soon walk back.

I firmly believe that judges have seized far too much power against our liberty to set far too many boundaries to prevent people from opposing imposing laws. I'm specifically aware of a case in New Hampshire where a small business self-funded their opposition to some of the restrictions enacted during C19 and the judge ultimately played the "it hasn't hurt you yet" card to shut down the challenge. I'm sorry, but that's total BS! Politicians are freelancing with our rights to score partisan political points. They may even know of their unjust tyranny but have the benefit of experience to know that it will not ever come back to bite them in the arse and they'll have that feather of oppression in their little thinking cap for a couple of few years, at the minimum, before someone may be impacted by it severely enough with the time, money and wherewithal to mount a serious legal challenge to it. It wouldn't cost the politician one dime.

It'd be defended by the state, county or town at taxpayer expense. Most states and municipalities have very deep pockets that are essentially bottomless when the need for competent legal representation is needed. Many of the people gotta rely on public defenders when accused of crimes (thanks be to Amendment 6, 1791) and the possibility of hiring a lawyer to oppose a law that hasn't thrown them in jail is highly unlikely.

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #29 (continued)

The U.S. Constitution, with the Bill of Rights, weren't written with the intent to keep us safe. The U.S. Constitution, with the Bill of Rights, were written with the intent to keep us free! They guarantee our individual natural and legal rights immune from government and community interference by our neighbors in our "pursuit of happiness" as is the way it should be in a true republic. It also provides for the preservation of our nation to exist in what clearly remains an all too often hostile world. Our politicians are so misinformed or misdirected that they're constantly referring to it as a democracy.

Early on in the course of trying to understand these words laid down nearly 250 years ago (that's 12 generations ago, now struggling to a degree, to reach that magical mystical 13th generation) I found the perfect analogy for the difference between a republic and a democracy.

In a true majority-rules mob-rules democracy, if three wolves and a sheep get together and then come around to deciding what's for dinner, it doesn't end well for Mr. or Ms. Sheep. In a true republic, such as ours is, we're guaranteed that we don't end up on the menu because of how good or bad we look or how hungry everyone else may be.

These mobs aren't inherently necessarily bad people. They've been convinced they're good people and everybody would be better off if everyone was as good as they are by imposing restrictions and penalties for those who aren't. Many are just in the herd going along with the crowd around them.

Additionally, the "not a democracy" assertion is obviously supported by The Pledge of Allegiance including "... and the Republic for which it stands ..." which is supported by Liberty Rule #79. Any reputable news outlet that has ever referred to, or allows other to refer to, our form of government as anything that does not, at the very least, include the word 'republic' is not.

The judges so commonly short circuit sincere efforts by people in defense of their small businesses to petition for a redress of their grievances by closing the case on the "it hasn't hurt you" technicality that it has me seriously wondering who the judges think they're working for? The government, the big corporations or the people? Everything we understand, were taught and must believe says the people... All our people.

Within Liberty Rules Amendment #9, Huh? #22, I comment on Roe vs. Wade being overturned (xRvW) in 2022. I describe my conclusions after reading the Barnette Opinion and Dissent that I quoted from as well as the xRvW Opinions and Dissent. I believe it laid bare the underlying lack of sincere integrity of the members of the court with careful consideration of the words in and not in their justifications in the Opinions and Dissent of xRvW. It's now my view that we're experiencing a manifestation of the perfect storm where all three branches of our federal government have devolved into such glaring dysfunction and hypocrisy that it provides a great opportunity to add thoughtful and considerate amendments to the U.S. Constitution that will, now and into the future, alter the abysmal course we're on and have been for quite a while now.

The Supreme Court is supposed to be the branch with the individuals having the greatest understanding of constitutional law. Their role is so special that they're nominated and confirmed to a position of "Justice for Life." That's a very select special high privilege and it comes with a very high duty by putting them in the position to be above the shifting political winds. Additionally, once on the court, they should be above allegiance to any person or group who helped them get there. They're entrusted for life to judge cases elevated for a final determination. Just or unjust? Constitutional or unconstitutional?

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #29 (continued)

It's inescapable, that major socially, emotionally and politically charged cases will come before them. The xRvW result has made it painfully clear that the corruption of political preference has overwhelmed the 2022 Supreme Court's individuals' ability to render constitutionally based just conclusions. That's OK. No need to panic. They're people. Unfortunately, these things can happen with people. This proposed amendment is the one best way I can imagine that we can restrain the court so they must rise above those political preferences and maintain laws and challenged behavior only if they all agree that it's constitutional. If it's so politically charged that one of them cannot let it go through, and essentially vetoes it, it fails and is overturned.

In a good and true well-functioning society, we need less, not more laws. We gotta get along and respect each other's boundaries. The court has been justifying bad decisions that don't respect individuals' autonomy and boundaries. When that's the case, some of those same people may be less likely to respect the boundaries and autonomy of other people.

Juries of people have had to reach unanimous decisions. Why should juries of justices be any different? Like I said, they're just people when push comes to shove.

The U.S. Constitution establishes a system of boundaries, rules and procedures where a freer society could develop over time but it always remains heavily dependent on people paying enough attention to recognize whether or not the people elected have good intentions and vote them out in the next election if they don't.

However, we remain a republic where individual rights should be carrying the day leaving us free from the tyranny of elected runts and groups who can whip them into a frenzy to violate our individual rights. The only recourse against bad laws is to elevate them through the courts that may rise to the ultimate and final judgement by the Supreme Court.

That's where the courts, by way of the judges, are failing the people. They appear stuck in a penal colony mindset more attached to the ways and means of the government and big corporations than the people.

We need to course correct. Many would have you believe that we're going headlong into a constitutional crisis. The constitution is fine. It NOT being honored is the problem. We have an integrity crisis on our hands.

Throughout *Liberty Rules!*, if you look at it in detail from cover to cover, I've identified many fact based conflicts between my interpretation of what the U.S. Constitution says and the contrary behavior of our federal government sworn to honor it. The frustration is mounting.

You, I, we... can buy into the chaos they create, pitting us against each other, or we can work together, in unity, to call for constitutional action to alter the course of the chaos.

So much of what's happening today appears out of our reach and beyond our control. Of even greater concern to me is that a great deal of the odd government behavior we're witnessing totally seems to be geared to scare away regular working stiffs to roll up their sleeves and run for offices or try to make a difference. It appears they're conspiring to discourage anyone to even try if they're not loaded with money to keep Congress and the "deep state" at bay with a sharp legal team.

Conceptually, if we demanded it, a constitutional amendment could happen so fast. Look how quickly state

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #29 (continued)

governments and the federal government moved to circumvent or locally prohibit the impact of the xRvW decision in some of the states. Government can move quickly when they want.

With all in, all out support by lots of people demanding it of their Representatives and Senators, they'd have to discuss it and respond to ignore it or act on the idea.

No need to waste a lot of our time, money and gas to assemble somewhere and expose us to the lunatic fringe. If you support this idea, just call, write or click until our numbers compel Congress to action.

That should lead to a healthy Congressional debate to craft such an amendment properly. Two-thirds House of Representatives and Senate approval. Three-quarters states approval and it's the Law of the Land once certified by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). NARA was empowered on April 1, 1985.

Done. New court process. New day. Or not? Sounds too easy, right? However unlikely it may be, it is possible. The constitutional tool exists.

Finally, I must add that the implications of such a change are by no means trivial. Justice Frankfurter's Dissent in the Barnette decision associated with that Opinion quoted with Liberty Rules Amendment #9 highlight some important views on this. Any such amendment would require very careful consideration and open-minded debate to reach an appropriate change. Anyone who thinks term limits for justices is the path to address this hasn't a single clue about the delicate structure and balance of our government and the unique intent and purpose of the lifelong justice construct. They are like babies playing with fire. No good can come of it. They tried though with the 2023 unpassed "Supreme Court Biennial Appointments and Term Limits Act."

Here's two interesting excerpts of Justice Frankfurter's Dissent for the fun of it.

... "These questions are not lightly stirred. They touch the most delicate issues and their solution challenges the best wisdom of political and religious statesmen. But it presents awful possibilities to try to encase the solution of these problems within the rigid prohibitions of unconstitutionality." ...

... "In the past this Court has from time to time set its views of policy against that embodied in legislation by finding laws in conflict with what was called the 'spirit of the Constitution'. Such undefined destructive power was not conferred on this Court by the Constitution. Before a duly enacted law can be judicially nullified, it must be forbidden by some explicit restriction upon political authority in the Constitution. Equally inadmissible is the claim to strike down legislation because to us as individuals it seems opposed to the 'plan and purpose' of the Constitution. That is too tempting a basis for finding in one's personal views the purposes of the Founders." ...



Proposed Amendment XXIX

All juries must reach unanimous decisions. A jury of peers must all agree to reach a guilty verdict for a crime, otherwise, the accused is found not guilty or the case is dismissed. A tribunal of judges, including the Supreme Court, must all agree to declare a contested law or practice constitutional and just, otherwise, it's declared unconstitutional and vacated or penalized.

The generation gap's falling into collapse.

Mr. Marty

Born 1961



Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30: We're so done with "electors" (affects Liberty Rule #3, #56, #57, Liberty Rules Amendment #12, 14, 17, 23 & 24). People will vote the 2nd Tuesday of November from 6AM to 9PM local time nationwide in person by paper ballot for their Representative plus the president and VP along with their state and local offices. All ballots will have write-in candidate provisions for all offices up for election. All regularly scheduled Representatives elections are on even years. Recounts will be done manually.

The president and VP Electoral College system lives on. Only Maine and Nebraska can split their votes as is their tradition. The governor of each state will report the results the day after the election and they'll be certified by the governor after all elections in their state have been decided. Any governor caught gaming the system will face charges and penalties of treason.

Citizens 16 years or older may vote (affects Liberty Rule #15, Liberty Rules Amendment 14 & 26).

Voters gotta register when they move or skip a federal election at least 1 month before Election Day. Voter registration will simply declare local and state residency with an address. No citizen who casts a single ballot may be penalized for it. People in transition committed to state residency may vote for president & VP. Congress will make laws and penalties for people who cast multiple ballots.

Convicted felons may vote after 7 years off supervision and out of trouble retroactively once enacted.

Voters will sign in on Election Day and certify they're casting their only ballot there. The ballot will be anonymous and its image digitized in real time as cast there and centrally backed up. No results will be made public until voting ends nationwide. The paper ballots are stored for 1,000 years. Unsubpoenaed polling video will eventually be destroyed.

Amendment XVII is repealed. Senators will be elected by state legislatures again per Liberty Rule #8. Senators in office may complete their term.

Representatives will be 14 years a U.S. Citizen and at least 22 when elected (affects Liberty Rule #4).

Senators will be 18 years a U.S. Citizen and at least 26 when elected (affects Liberty Rule #10).

The President & VP will be a natural born U.S. Citizen, have 21 years U.S. residency and at least 30 when elected (affects Liberty Rule #58 and Amendment XII).



Huh? #31: 18 of the 84 Liberty Rules have something to do with elections. I discovered this by utilizing technology. I searched the following words with my handy dandy word processor to quickly find the related

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30 (continued)

clauses and amendments: elect, elected, election, elector, vote, and vacancy. That's hitting over 20% of them. As far as the amendments go, 12 of the 27 have hits. That's just a couple shy of half of them!

I wish I could've just pointed out that Liberty Rule #57 calls for an 'Election Day' to prove how corrupted our government has migrated the election process beyond what's required and just drop the mic.

However, Liberty Rule #57 is actually talking about these creatures called 'electors' and relating exclusively to the election of the president and VP. There's a huge disconnect between what we kind of think happens and what happens. What actually happens behind the scenes usually occurs quietly with no consequence as an old stale ritual that pays some homage to what the U.S. Constitution actually requires by way of Amendment 12, 1804 and supported by Amendment 23, 1961 and incidentally by Amendment 24, 1964 reference to 'electors.'

The Capital Riot of January 6, 2021 was an attempt to disrupt that ritual that made the November 2020 election results for the president and VP "official." In January of 2022 they treated the symptom with the "Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act" over the "Electoral Count Act of 1887."

The only vote that the people were directly granted in the original U.S. Constitution is for their federal Representative in Congress. However, it was granted ambiguously enough and largely referred to the state legislatures to administer which must have led to many excluded from voting because Amendments 14 (1865), 15 (1867), 19 (1920), 24 (1961), and 26 (1971) expanded the definition of 'people' to respectively include citizens 21+, former slaves 21+, women, people who owe taxes and then expanded all those explicit inclusions of what constitutes 'people' to those age 18+.

There's a common expression that "people are people" and who can argue with that? Unfortunately, politicians are politicians...

We the People...

What part of 'people' is so hard to understand?

It is the perfect casual non-gender-loaded linguistic reference to human beings in the English language. There's lots of 'people', and I'm using the term loosely, that share with us how horrible those that wrote the U.S. Constitution were. Those 'terrible' people were cooped up over a particularly hot summer of 1787 in a building in Philadelphia arguing over the contents of it. (1787... No A/C. No fans. Sweat!) All those who signed it agreed unanimously on "We the People" to be the grand opening three words of it. Not "we the men" or "we the rich" or "we the noble" or "we the slave owners" or "we above you."

There was no more inclusive word that could have been used as far as I'm concerned. However, they still had to sell the results of their labor to all 13 original states now operating as a confederation of states under the Articles of Confederation to buy into this new organization of government for it to become the Law of the Land and actually go into operation as the United States Constitution.

State sovereignty was a serious matter at the time. Looking at the model of Europe, from which they generally came, I'm gonna go out on a limb and submit that many states were more than big enough in size and population to go their own way and try to stand on their own as the countries of Europe did until the

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30 (continued)

European Union formed not too long ago in 1992. Each state had, and generally has, their own constitution. They knew when they were done they'd have to sell it to all original 13 states and have them accept that the U.S. Constitution superseded each of their respective state constitutions in the case of any conflicts.

The election of Senators in Congress was granted to their respective state legislatures and set at 2 per state. Amendment XVII, in violation of the constitution, transferred that vote to the people in 1913. This is discussed in further detail in Huh? #27 within Liberty Rules Amendment #17.

The U.S. Constitution and its amendments have yet to unambiguously grant the voting of president and VP to its citizens. It remains embedded in the votes of the electors that are installed by the states who must each meet the specifics of who can be an elector as defined in the U.S. Constitution and its amendments.

Hogwash!

Let's move on...

People should have the formal and well-defined final say by their collective votes of who they elect president and VP.

As far as the requirements of the candidates, I'm simply doubling their required length of U.S. citizenship for Representatives and Senators and adding 7 years for the president and VP's minimum duration of U.S. residency. The minimum age by Election Day is adjusted with a reverse progression of incremental reductions from the longest to the shortest. It sounds complicated, so here's the resulting impact:

President and VP age FROM 35 TO 30 (-5 years). Plus U.S. born citizen with residency FROM 14 years to NOW 21 years minimum.

Senators age FROM 30 TO 26 (- 4 years). Plus U.S. Citizen FROM 9 years to NOW 18 years minimum.

Representatives age FROM 25 TO 22 (- 3 years). Plus U.S. Citizen FROM 7 years to NOW 14 years minimum.

Voter age FROM 18 TO 16 (- 2 years) minimum and officially a natural born or naturalized citizen.

At first it sounds shocking but when the basis is broken down, I think it's quite palatable.

This could make things worse as opposed to what? Things have been appearing to get worse by the day...

As radical as this may all seem, let me share analogies of driving actual cars through seemingly inevitable doom of potential catastrophic crashes when the only other choice was to do nothing and hope for the best.

In the first instance, I was a passenger sleeping in the back seat and was asked rather calmly in a sharp and loud enough voice to awake, assess the situation and wisely offer no advice. The question was, "Marty, do you turn in or out of a spin?" I opened my eyes, sat up and watched the world go by very quickly in a circular motion which included a big old Cadillac turning in front of us and coming up quick in the proper direction of travel that we should have been heading. Without saying a word, I laid back down and my lovely driver made a decision which seemed to be rapidly cutting the wheel that sent us into a spin in the opposite direction but faster. When the spinning seemed to stop I sat up again and we were traveling in the original direction on the other side of the intersection and we just kept rolling. Woo-Hoo! Crisis and crash averted, no thanks to me.

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30 (continued)

The next time, decades later, I was behind the wheel and experienced a phenomenon I had only heard about a relatively short time before and seriously doubted it as a potential reality. It's the dreaded 4-wheel drift...

It was quite a ride in which we had already worked through two noteworthy stories all by themselves. One involved being pulled over in a case of mistaken identity which a little fast talking luckily led to the conclusion "so it couldn't have been us" which he bought. That was followed by torrential downpours where we were moving at highway speeds in now lighter rain and hit a huge puddle in synchronous splash formation with a Jeep® just ahead of us and to the right. We were in the perfect alignment where the water from their front tire created a deluge as if we were driving through a never-ending waterfall. The Jeep® and I synchronously slowed down enough that the splash finally subsided and, since I hadn't yet hit anything, I just kept driving.

Realize that the temperature was nowhere near freezing... As I'm cruising down a completely different stretch of road in fairly light rain on the last leg of our journey home, I felt a loss of steering control as all four tires began to drift from the direction they were rolling in. I rather gently tried to steer out of it (a trick question all by itself which the answer is a relative one depending on the direction of the spin and the direction of the road). I'd say this was a spin "out" to the right as the road was somewhat bending to the left. The most important thing that became immediately apparent was that no matter what I did, unless I did something really stupid really fast, we would clear the overpass rail above the road below on the right that came up very quickly and we did. Next, it was in the wee hours of the morning and there were really no cars near us. However, without much of any help from me we were now spinning like a top clockwise which I was trying to gently steer out of. It worked! The car stopped spinning but I realized that we were now traveling backwards at highway speed facing in the same direction as the traffic on the other side of the Jersey barrier. Without any hesitation whatsoever, the moment I realized that, I cut the wheel violently and we started spinning like a top in the opposite direction which seemed like progress in the moment.

Then we finally slowed down such that everything that was spinning by us slowed down enough to come into focus as we spun into the Jersey barrier on our left with the front bumper and fender coming to a fairly gentle rest against it. A cop came up on us quickly and said there'd been several spin outs and there could be more. He said since we seemed OK, we should just immediately keep going and we did.

In my life, the whole story's epic enough to have a title which is "Harass, Splash and Crash!"

The government of the United States of America appears to me to be so far out of control, off course and being governed by a bunch of misfits gaming the system and the people that we must cut the wheel hard and hope for the best. As long as we abruptly change course, more good than bad is sure to come out of it in my estimation. Although these three proposed amendments are somewhat sweeping in nature, I believe that they deserve a fair chance to be put in place and see where it goes before something unrecoverable happens.

For good measure, I went through the trouble of creating the Communications and Mobility Timeline to show that by the early 1900s there were major advances in both. We've yet to take advantage of those changes other than injecting the uncertainty and great opportunity for corruption associated with electronic voting.

Overall, our voting process remains a hodgepodge of disjointed locally controlled discretionary state defined voting practices. Those practices are embedded in the U.S. Constitution to ensure the integrity of the voting results as best they could in ways that made sense in 1787. The Communications and Mobility Timeline

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30 (continued)

captures the advent of everything but the carrier pigeon! That's been around a really really really long time.

What I find most interesting though, is that the moment we put a hotline in from the U.S. to England in 1858, via telegraph, all hell broke loose in that the Civil War started 3 years later. A weird coincidence...

The other thing that I discovered in the process is that in Liberty Rule #15, they anticipated the potential for advances and set that Congress could overrule the states by law on how to conduct the elections of Representatives and Senators. It appears that they may have, but regardless, it remains in need of an overhaul.

The timeline was a lot of work and a little bit of fun to support the obvious and undeniable assertion that transportation and communications have changed to an almost unimaginable degree over our history. A new approach to voting that recognizes and takes advantage of that is long overdue. However, it must remain transparent with a hard paper trail for recounts when needed. It must ultimately remain in our hands.

The more productive effort was to compile all the election related aspects of the constitution and its amendments. The original constitution necessarily had a splintered approach due to the fastest way to get a private message somewhere was hand written in a sealed envelope carried on horseback by a trustworthy person or go old school with a pigeon text. Please see Page 150 & 151 for the Election References Matrix and the Information Mobility Timeline.

The USA is the country of second chances and people from all over the world come here for a fresh start. Citizen felons who log an extended period of staying out of trouble after paying their debt deserve a second chance also.

This is how you throw down the gauntlet! Let's not change it. Let's not fix it. Let's comprehensively harmonize and advance it!

We're evolving collectively and individually. Kids are born and mature in understanding of what's going on around them very rapidly compared to when I was a kid. Whether for better or worse, it's what's happening, so let's recognize it and embrace it.

The bubble has burst! The age of innocence is over. It's nearly impossible to raise children in a bubble of isolation from far too many nasty realities of our modern world. Sadly, many children and rather young adults are forced to raise themselves in large part due to no fault of their own. They're profoundly impacted by the rules and laws of society but they have no say in them with regard to a vote in representation.

Maybe this will invigorate participation in running for offices and voting for offices in a good way. We must embrace and foster change before we become victim to it. We must take a quantum leap into the present.



Proposed Amendment XXX text on next page.

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30 (continued)

Proposed Amendment XXX: The concept and use of people as electors is repealed in all respects for the U.S. Constitution and all of its Amendments.

The president and vice president will continue to be elected as per Amendment XII with the number of votes per state as defined for the census based Electoral College where all votes for each state will be awarded to the candidate with the most popular votes of the people in the state except for Maine and Nebraska which may continue to split their votes as has been their tradition. All regular federal elections will be on even years.

The governor of each state will report the federal election results the day after the election. They will be certified by the governor when all elections in their state have been decided and press conferences will be conducted daily until certified. Any governor knowingly subverting the integrity of the election results will be subject to charges and penalties of treason against the United States of America if found guilty.

The annual Election Day will be the 2nd Tuesday of November nationwide. All polling places will be open from 6AM to 9PM local time. Votes will be cast in person at polling places by paper ballot on Election Day only for their Representative plus the president and VP along with their state and local offices. All ballots will have write-in candidate provisions for all offices up for election. Recounts will be done manually.

Citizens 16 years or older may vote.

Convicted citizen felons may vote again 7 years after released from prison, parole and probation and not convicted of another misdemeanor or felony. This waiting period will be retroactive and those whom already meet it may immediately register to vote once enacted.

Citizen voters must register at least 1 month before the next federal Election Day when they move or don't vote on a regularly scheduled federal Election Day which occurs every 2 years. Voter registration will require affirmation of residency to allow full ballot voting or allow them to only vote for president and vice president if the voter is in transition but committed to reside in the state. Every elected office on every ballot will have a write-in provision. No federal or state law may impose any penalty whatsoever on any citizen eligible to vote who casts only one voting ballot anywhere. Congress may by law define penalties for anyone duly convicted of casting more than one voting ballot in an election or voting when ineligible. Voters will sign a voter roll affirming this is their only ballot cast in the election and their paper vote ballot will be anonymous and its image will be digitized as cast for storage in an isolated local repository and encrypted for redundant central repository transmission in real time. No results will be made public until voting ends nationwide. The paper ballots cast will be stored for 1,000 years. All video recording at polling places will be preserved for 5 years after the elections. Unsubpoenaed video will then be destroyed.

Amendment XVII is repealed. Senators will be elected by state legislatures again per Article I/Section 2/Clause 1. Senators in office when enacted may remain in office until their next election.

Representatives will be 14 years a U.S. Citizen and 22 years of age minimum when elected.

Senators will be 18 years a U.S. Citizen and 26 years of age minimum when elected.

The president & vice president will be a natural born U.S. Citizen, have 21 years U.S. residency and 30 years of age minimum when elected.





If Tyranny and Oppression come to this land,
it will be in the guise of fighting a foreign enemy.

James Madison

4th President (1809 – 1817)

U.S. Secretary of State for President Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)

U.S. Representative (VA, 1st – 4th Congress, 1789 – 1797)

1751 – 1836



Prohibited Powers Abuse Re-Cap

U.S. Constitution Article I, Section 9 “Prohibited Powers” Re-Cap:

Basically, “Whatever you do, don’t do this” (Article I, Section 9):

1. (LR44) Slavery can’t last forever: But it lasted for seventy-seven years and took a civil war to end it.
2. (LR45) Habeas Corpus (right to protest being jailed): Under President George W. Bush a U.S. citizen was denied this right on his say so.
3. (LR46) No Bill of Attainder (no punishment without due process): Obama administration orders lethal drone strikes of U.S. citizens abroad.
4. (LR47) Direct taxes gotta be applied equally to all people: Amendment 16, 1913 undid that.
5. (LR48) Tax on exports from states: I think we’re okay here.
6. (LR49) No preference of ports: Federally funded dredging and airport construction projects happen.
7. (LR 50) Expenditures of money shall be published from time to time: Where’s the transparency?
8. (LR51) Presents from foreign states prohibited: Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s Clinton Foundation receives millions.

So, seven out of eight of the expressly prohibited powers have been violated (now six of eight since the first one’s been addressed).

Our fore-fathers outlined what powers are associated with each branch of government and arranged a set of checks and balances but also saw fit to expressly state what the government cannot do. I’m sure they did this for a reason—to restrain the federal government and to protect the states and the people from tyranny and corruption. I believe that we need to start electing constitutionally oriented Representatives and Senators because we’re going far adrift from our constitutional foundation.



Presidential Overreach

We're there.

It really is time to reel in the presidents from going off the rails.



Okay, let's recap Article II regarding the president, or The Executive Branch, as it relates to recent history.

1. (LR55) Tenure: Okay (capped by Amendment 22, 1951 to two terms)
2. (LR56) Presidential electors (Affected by Amendment 12, 1804 & Amendment 23, 1961): Citizens are essentially unofficially electing the president instead (not their fault and I prefer that).
3. (LR57) Election Day: Now it's Election Year practically!
4. (LR58) Presidential eligibility: Okay. (Affected by Amendment 12, 1804 & Amendment 14, 1868)
5. (LR59) Succession to President: Okay. (Affected by Amendment 20, 1933 & Amendment 25, 1967)
6. (LR60) Pay: Okay.
7. (LR61) Oath of Office: President Obama knowledgeably subverting the constitution is not "preserving it."
8. (LR62) Commander in Chief – Opinions of department heads, Reprieves and pardons – okay
9. (LR63) Treaties: Major problem with President Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry Iran Nuke Deal never being approved by two thirds of the Senate. This allowed President Trump to simply dump it.
10. (LR64) Appointments during recess: Okay.
11. (LR65) Execute laws: Problem with underreach rather than overreach here (President Obama and President Biden not enforcing immigration laws).
12. (LR66) Removal from office: Congress has abused the impeachment process to being sad political theater.

Well, I'd say that looks like a mixed bag to me. Hmm, "Election Day" is toast and presidential impeachments have become a joke. However, I believe they're both cases of government mob-mentality political abuse rather than presidential overreach. Otherwise, there's one big bad violation by President Obama making treaties (so much for the separation of powers as well as checks and balances) and one debatable violation about executing the Oath of Office in good faith by virtue of the aforementioned one big bad violation.

However, the overreach is occurring by presidents usurping the powers stipulated in Article I to the Congress (House of Representatives and the Senate) as is next detailed.

1. (LR29) Naturalization: President has no authority to legislate immigration laws – only enforce them (LR65).
2. (LR36) Captures on land and water: Congress, not President Obama, should have been dispositioning Guantánamo Bay Detention Camp (Gitmo) detainees.
3. (LR45) Habeas corpus: President G.W. Bush wasn't justified in throwing a U.S. citizen in jail on his say-so.
4. (LR46) No Bill of Attainder (punishment before trial): Not even Congress can do this, but President Obama executed U.S. citizens in foreign lands with drone strikes.
5. (LR50) Expenditures of public money: Presidents have their own private slush fund called the "Judgement Fund." President Obama has thirteen, \$99,999,999 withdrawals, plus a bonus \$10,000,000 to bribe Iran to agree to a toothless "Political Agreement" that Trump axed. Plus, there was the \$400 million cash hostage payment (labeled an IOU from a pre-1979 hostage arms deal gone bad, on the same day just before four present hostages were released after the unmarked cash arrived in an unmarked plane). Obama gifted \$1.71 billion to Iran. So much for "the power of the purse" that the House of Representatives is supposed to wield.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

Oddly enough, President Trump did something of a similar nature, in terms of being able to unilaterally dole out a huge amount of money without direct congressional approval, with a second round of pandemic induced supplemental federal unemployment funding via an executive order. Congress considered doing the funding but couldn't reach a timely agreement on achieving it. So, President Trump went around them by issuing the Executive Order titled "Memorandum on Authorizing the Other Needs Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019" on August 8, 2020. Each state then had to decide to accept it or not, which included a co-funding provision where the state provides an addition \$100 to the federal \$300 per week for certain unemployed people in their state. It looks like almost or all states did.

In the memorandum, the prime law appears to be FEMA related. The FEMA website notes it as follows: Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, PL 100-707, signed into law November 23, 1988; amended the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, PL 93-288.

As harshly as I'd like to speak of this seated Congress as being responsible for allowing this, it's really a case of Congress after Congress legislating ways for the presidents to skirt the separation of powers that exists in the U.S. Constitution. Subsequent Congresses aren't striking those laws and the result is this nibbling away at the system, or foundation, that was so carefully put in place to prevent the excessive concentration of power and authority in any given branch of our very well-conceived, three-branch, federal-government structure. So, Congress after Congress has been playing fast and loose with the separation of powers. When they allow their president to violate the U.S. Constitution's tenets by law, then they have to look the other way when "not-their-president" does the same thing, which is of course inevitable!

Additionally:

Per Amendment 12, 1804 the electors are to select the vice president, not the presidential nominee. All are guilty for allowing this practice.

Plenty of blame to go around: So where does the blame lie? It starts with the presidents and is followed close behind by the complicit House of Representatives and Senate. The latter take an Oath of Office also, to wit: Too what? Too wit! Like... get to wit! Read the gosh darn clause.

Article VI, Section 1, Clause 3. (Liberty Rule #83)

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

Liberty Rule #83 is the next to last Clause of the U.S. Constitution. So, it rests with the Congress "to support this Constitution." If they don't start stopping and reversing the overreach of presidents, where will it end? Most will take whatever power they can get. Each subsequent administration starts off where the prior one left off. In finance, they refer to "Market Corrections" when bad things happen. In our government, the presidents are doing bad things to U.S. citizens directly and indirectly by this overreach. President Obama's execution of U.S. citizens abroad with drone strikes is the most unforgivable in my sincere opinion. This is specifically stated in the constitution as a "denied power." Therefore, we're reaching the point where we need a government correction.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

Presidential overreach goes hand in hand with the dereliction of duties by Congress. The two are inextricably intertwined. The well-defined 4-branches of government, per the U.S. Constitution, inherently imposes a sixfold responsibility on each branch to first, perform the obligations of their responsibilities, second, stay within the boundaries of their authority as defined for the branch they're in, third, fourth, and fifth, hold the other 3 branches accountable when they go beyond their roles, and, sixth, self-police within their branch of government when members misbehave. The fourth branch is the states. We have a 3-branch federal government with a separately defined aspect of states sovereignty.

Class... Pay attention! The federal branches are, in the order they're defined: (1) legislative with 435 members in The House of Representatives and 100 members in the Senate, (2) executive for the president and vice president, and (3) judicial, with the Supreme Court currently holding at 9 justices appointed by presidents and confirmed by the Senate at the time. In a way, the federal government structure is like a love triangle... It's complicated... On any given day, which branches are at odds or in love can change rapidly and dramatically! There's a certain tension by design. Unfortunately, polarized politics is making it look like a certain impending calamity by design. Are there any statesmen in the system today?

Rebel with a Clause (see LR74+LRA1 & LRA9): The rant is, IMHO, a greatly underutilized and underappreciated literary construct. Its greatest value lies in its above lying underlying dose of unbridled candor exposing what can be blurted out in words driven more by simmering feelings and discontent than constructive attempts at coherent reason which invariably fall on deaf ears. The inevitable collateral damage to oneself and others that goes with it is sometimes a risk worth taking... And let's face it, if nothing else, the ranter feels better...

Supreme Leader? You may say or think, well, at least the money Trump authorized went to the American people instead of a foreign enemy as Obama did. True, and if this benefited you, bravo for you! Hopefully, you're now gainfully employed. However, that doesn't make it right or remotely acceptable. If the president can just do whatever the hell he or she wants, then he or she morphs from being the President of the United States of America, with a prescribed set of limited powers operating under our U.S. Constitution that he or she was sworn in to honor and uphold, into some broken incarnation of a "Supreme Leader" with unlimited powers that can make laws, break laws, pardon, jail, pay off people with federal funds, make dirty deals with foreign heads of states, generate and foster propaganda, sic federal enforcement on political foes, fund and defund things on a whim and cook the books on election results.

Chaos by design? Furthermore, in the present environment of extreme federal government insanity, I believe that both sides of the political aisle have concluded that the only path to holding onto power and position is to conspire to have the American people acquiesce to accept that reaching the truth of any matter is unachievable. That conclusion perfectly suits the goals of foreign meddling in our affairs by our enemies. They want our system to break down and for the people to lose faith in it and our elected officials.

Not my nannie state! This government has politicized their reactions and handling of a worldwide pandemic. They appear to only care about themselves. All the funny money they've dished out is simply to buy the silence of the silent majority. Everything is fine, our government is taking care of us, is what many may think. Nothing is fine! Upheaval and rioting is fine but only when it suits the political divisions that they've created and need to perpetuate. If we all get together to say, you all gotta go, well that's a problem that they seek to avoid at all costs. However, we only need to all virtually get together on any given federal election cycle to vote them all out when seriously needed.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

This next group of words weren't getting along and cooperating. They're a very unruly bunch.

I put 'em in a blender to separate them all enmasse.

----- JUMBLE -----

They all look like a bunch of brats, punks, bullies and whiners. No couth.

President Obama was elected as a member of the Democratic Party. In the last two years of his presidency there was a majority of Republicans in the House of Representatives and the Senate. Why didn't they effectively execute their constitutional official obligation to exercise their official responsibilities as members of Congress to stop his rapid-fire brand of unconstitutional executive overreach? Additionally, the Democrats should have been just as active to exercise their official responsibilities as members of Congress to stop his sort of unconstitutional executive overreach as that's part and parcel to all their Oaths of Office. They don't owe it to the president of their political party, they owe it to their constituents and their personal integrity in their oath. Obama's widespread freelancing wasn't properly called out by either party. The Republicans tried to impeach Bill Clinton. Oops, that was in the last millennium... Ancient history. Oh well... I think that waste of effort handcuffed them from trying to impeach President Barrack Obama come hell or high water.

Look at Jason Chaffetz, whom I quoted in Liberty Rule #36. He was the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Governmental Reform (1/3/2015 – 6/30/2017). He's a quitter and now a commentator. The fact is that he was the chairman for the last 2 years of Obama's presidency. If anyone should have realized and called Obama out on his freelancing with powers beyond his capacity as the president it should have been Chaffetz. Who paid for the ad noted with Liberty Rule #36 - him or us? That's the tool for Congress when the president usurps Legislative authority? You take out an advertisement? BAD PRESIDENT! PLEEEEEESE!

Did Chaffetz write a book about his struggle to call out Obama? I've not heard about it. About 6 months into Trump's presidency, he can't take the heat and he gets out of the kitchen attributed to medical reasons. He took office a couple of weeks before Obama. He rode out the Obama years and then he bolts. Looks really fishy to me. I apologize to Jason and I apologize to anyone who reads this. I really just don't feel like taking a deep dive into what his deal was and is. I see he wrote 3 books. *Deep State* among a couple others. Based on thin air and wild speculation, is he the mole? There's gotta be moles... If he's not one, he should know who is.

Trump's the best? It's my belief that President Trump was the most constitutionally compliant president in this millennium. Not easily said with the capital riot reality. I've stated concerns with actions by President George W. Bush, President Obama, and I expected to find constitutional fault with President Trump but, as I explained earlier in this section, found his actions of concern to be legal. Furthermore, I'll add that I believe that Trump's second impeachment trial, pushed forward by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), was ultimately a total charade.

Liberty Rule #13 requires that the Senate trial for a presidential impeachment be presided over by the Chief Justice. Chief Justice John Roberts apparently wanted and had nothing to do with it. A case of Schu said he said... I've seen some attempts to rationalize the absence of the Chief Justice parsing the words vs. the

timeline to justify why and how this Presidential Impeachment was different. All weasel words crafted to fit a conclusion to waste more money we ain't got that amounts to a total sham by Chuck Shamer. What a shame.

The Trump Dump? Realize that just as bad laws can be constitutional, constitutional presidents can be bad choices for reelection. President Trump accomplished some very important things. He did what he said he would do which was refreshing. There were no new wars. I think some in-your-face challenge to China was due. Did that lead them to unleash C19 on the world? I don't know. The Middle East stabilized somewhat. He exposed the federal government nastiness and the "deep state", but sadly, I believe, he became a party to it as well. If you'll recall, we can thank the Trump administration for the extraordinarily imaginative term "alternative facts."

As far as impeachments go, he's the "Teflon Don", however, I seriously believe his ego overwhelms his ability to adhere to many fundamental ideals of our country and its people. It's "ideals" of our country and people, not "I deals" for Donald Trump. Underneath any incidental good, and I believe there had been a lot, the thrust of all things Trump is all about Donald Trump. Regardless of all that, he should've been the perfect pivot to a new direction. January 6, 2021 is an indelible stain on his presidency.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

Here's a question... Does the statement "the federal government has collectively become an organized crime syndicate of two mobs" sound like an unsubstantiated outrageous accusation that would only be made by someone who's come completely unhinged, or, as analogies go, does that sound about in the neighborhood of how it appears looking from the outside with what we're hearing and seeing these days?

My guess is that Trump trumped the establishment in his first election by hiring the Americans all over the world on the shadowy frontlines doing the dirty work for the establishment. It's all truly just wild speculation on my part. I'm seeing, hearing and reading things that just don't add up. Some of the stuff Paul Manafort was reported to be involved with seemed to me to involve such shady dealings with characters on the world stage and in communist Russia that I don't know how he gets away with them. A mob of people supporting a man of Trump's ego, resources and connections is unsettling to me. I don't subscribe to "Trump derangement syndrome" though.

He was a critical stop in the direction of U.S. politics when elected. To me, he's like the Billy Smith of the NY Islanders hockey team during their dynasty of the sport in the 1980s. His stops led the team to 4 consecutive Stanley Cup Championships. He was an intense player and had a well-deserved reputation of attacking anyone who came into the goalie's crease.

In my adult life, I appreciate what President Trump accomplished more than any other president. Against all odds and with all out no holds barred resistance he accomplished many good things. The economy was definitely heading in a great direction and world affairs were stabilizing. He forced many to overplay their hands and exposed the rampant underlying federal government corruption spectacularly!

Trump's now established himself as a serious political force to be reckoned with. Overall, his record of who he backs and how well they do versus their opponents is fairly impressive and a credit to Trump and the depth of loyalty he's achieved among his supporters.

I get that. We're being railroaded down paths very many Americans don't subscribe to.

Trump's Base – DON'T TREAD ON ME! The accommodations for the minorities are imposing upon the majorities. Fringe ideas and concepts appear out of nowhere that are being shoved down the throats of people who don't subscribe to them. They tend to be very private and personal matters. I don't believe that most people care what others do in their own spaces on their own time. All people are equal. All people are unique. My point is that, in the USA, all people are uniquely equal, yet, everybody's different. It's not a contest of who's the most different. Whatever floats your boat is OK with me, just don't push it on me in offensive ways. You do your thing, I'll do mine. However, states and communities have the power to define acceptable public social behavior. I'm not aware that it's generally legally acceptable behavior to do the wild thing on a street sidewalk. The sexes, how they identify and the sexual preferences of the people involved are irrelevant.

However, we're not all and each in a bubble. There are still many of us who rub elbows with others in public enjoying local and national people, places and things. Throughout my life, I've, on occasion, been in busy bars where restrooms spontaneously become unisex or co-ed. It's really no big deal. One line's too long and sometimes, when you gotta go, you gotta go. In every case, everyone got a little chuckle out of it and they respectfully allowed the opposite sex renegade to use a stall unmolested. However, in the policy of society, to cast confusion and debate into the most essential and basic fundamental necessities of life appears to me to be part of constructive efforts to muddy the waters on any and everything. As an individual struggling to get by or raise oneself up out of rough circumstances, which battles, if any, can one possibly put any sincere energy and effort into? Trump is justifiably a top star to all these people who have very valid concerns about assaults on the most basic rules of common decency we expect when out and about in America.

----- END JUMBLE -----

Presidential Overreach (continued)

iNCONCEIVABLE! In the 1960s, colleges were the center of people organizing to speak out against war and civil rights abuses. I think it was called free speech. When I saw college students rioting to shut down voices they didn't agree with on college campuses in this millennium, I was stunned and amazed. Talk about dystopia... Black is white and white is black. These are like *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (1945) type basic communist principles of mass control and manipulation. Shout down opposite views. The hypocrisy is startling. People all up in arms about X, Y, Z shaming and then someone tries to share an original thought and they're shamed for stepping out of line with societally and socially mandated A/B thinking and choices at best. It's A/A in this case.

We wrote the book on how to be free and now we're stealing methods from the communist playbooks on how to oppress. Toilet paper hoarding... Decades Long Wars... so Russian. Mask wearing... Crony Capitalism... so Chinese. Shouting down voices that differ... mass media manipulation... propaganda... censorship... so communist. The Patriot Act... Soooo stupid! You can pretty up a pig with as much lipstick as you want and when you're all done, it's still a pig. Unrestrained Congress legislated authorization to monitor citizens ain't cool. Call that "The Patriot Act" and I gotta wonder, just how freaking stupid and ignorant do the leaders of our government really think the people are? Packing stadiums with people enamored with your vile remarks of anyone who opposes you... oh so unimpressive...

And to all the accusers always waiting in the wings to say "AHA, he's an anti-masker" - I'm not. I love masks. I only wore them situationally. I would've gone Jesse James throughout but it's just too silly for me.

The Trump Train's left the Tracks! In mid-2022, Trump has rekindled his one-man show. In what could be his victory lap of presumably and justifiably giving himself credit for the Roe vs. Wade overturn returning abortion laws to the domain of the states, he can claim to be saving lives... However, instead, in his speech to the

Presidential Overreach (continued)

America First Policy Institute on July 26, 2022, which I heard a little about and have since watched his first few points, he identified the domestic group we'll kill once he's back in power. That's lunacy! When I'm president, I promise, we'll kill THOSE people! He's talking about instituting a federal police state. He subtly applauded China's Xi and their "quick trial" practice. I would've liked to watch the whole thing but the rate of commercials on the social media platform that I was being challenged to endure was too much for me.

During the pandemic unleashed late in Trump's presidency, I found it interesting that states' autonomy and sovereignty were never more apparent in my lifetime. It was such a widespread overwhelming internal issue that each and every state had to sink or swim on their own. In some of that speech, Trump is talking about having federal storm troopers (my words, not his) descending upon cities as needed to restore safety. He even not so subtly speaks of taking guns away from gangs but letting those who really need them keep them. The way he's talking about raising up the police, don't be surprised if he's hinting of a police state where the police are the only people who really need guns. Having just now watched a good chunk of the beginning of that speech, I wouldn't trust him with a second presidency, no way!

By the way, constitutionally, Liberty Rule #79 details that the feds can only help the states deal with "domestic violence" when requested by a state's legislature or the executive when they're not around. Just saying...

It appears that Trump is consolidating power and ensuring strong loyalty should he return to the presidency. Including Liz Cheney whom, as a Republican, consistently opposed the party line, he's credited with taking out most of the Republicans that supported re-impeaching him because of the capital riot.

If he endorses you and you say thank you... you're his bi-atch bro. You're implicitly on the hook to obey his every command. I got far enough to hear him applaud Lee Zeldin, who was unfortunately seriously physically attacked in mid-2022 by part of the lunatic fringe. Lee ran for Governor of New York. I have a fair amount of respect for Lee. New York is Donald Trump's "raised in" home state, like myself. New York State, as an entity, has gone after Trump relentlessly. Andrew Cuomo, as Governor of New York, enroute to his fall from grace, was such a jerk he couldn't even get along with his Democratic Party buddy Mayor Bill DeBlasio in NYC through the C19 pandemic devastating initial spike in 2020. They were constantly at odds and they were on the same team! If Donald Trump had the Governor of New York in his back pocket, I think there'd been hell to pay! That's his M.O. Watch out NYC! I don't mean to suggest that Lee Zeldin shouldn't've gotten a fair look for governor; I'm trying to make the point that all these Representatives and Senators that have directly benefited from Trump support will have to adhere to him, not challenge him, and do his bidding.

Look at Trump's VP Mike Pence. He did his job as lapdog to the president as well as anyone could have. How many others in Trump's inner circle made it through his whole presidency? When Trump asked Pence to disrupt the election results in a way that he refused, Trump immediately vilified him to the extent that it appeared that Trump loyalists wanted his head. Not cool...

As far as Andrew Cuomo goes, I saw an editorial in a small local publication in New Hampshire after he said "America was never that great" calling him out. Going from memory and relaying my impression years later, the editor explained that he recognized the grace of Mario Cuomo in the Great State of New York and his meaningful contributions and accomplishments. Then he described how unfortunate it was that the son of a man whose parents emigrated here and was himself a living testament of the opportunity and wonder of

Presidential Overreach (continued)

America has a kid who sits in the thrown of self-endowed privilege. He directly benefited from just how great America is and he says America was never that great? Talk about feeling privileged!

I'm pro-police. I'm not a fan of them, however, I respect and appreciate them. Defund the police is the most asinine, yet quite widely embraced, "idea" I ever heard. Defund the jails? That could make more sense as a concept but we're a long way off from that in the present state of affairs. Defund the police accomplished so much more! Police backed away from policing and the cities reverted back to 1970s levels of crime in no time. Who wants this and why, I can't imagine. Nothing makes any sense to me.

Police officers are the buffer between government and people. They gotta know the law. They gotta obey the law. Democrats have been systematically undermining not only the authority and role of police but their existence altogether. Trump's been building them up. What Trump spoke of in that speech is frighteningly alarming! If police don't ask, where's the warrant when directed to arrest someone, we're in big trouble. The way the FIB is operating, who ya gonna call? The FIB have become the henchman for the Democratic machine in my sincere belief. If they ever come after me and the FIB ever says I lied, they're lying because I would never give them anything other than my name, if that. F the FIB! It seems the only thing they ever get anybody on is lying to them. Why anyone would ever open their mouth to the FIB is beyond my comprehension.

I once overheard a couple of detectives talking and they were mocking the FIB. They said that lying is our 1st Amendment Right. It's law enforcement's job to overcome that!

Good freaking point!!!

Remember, Trump has a record of doing what he says. It's not the sort of Trump being Trump rhetoric. If he said it, he will do everything he can to make it happen, if reelected. That's his record.

There's good and bad everything. Many horrendous deaths have happened here at the hands of police. Many horrendous deaths have happened here at the hands of citizens and non-citizens. All should be held accountable. We each likely have the impression of the one of these many horrific events that cements for us the prime example which impacted us the most. I will never get over the death of Eric Garner in NYC over selling "loosies" on the streets of NYC. "Loosies" are single cigarettes from a pack. The choke hold should have never been used by law enforcement that day forth in the USA.

Post 2022 Election Comments: I pushed out the 2018 and 2020 1st and 2nd Editions before the elections with some outlandish hope to have an influence on the elections to replace many incumbents. While I rushed forward for that possibility, I decided to let it pass and then try to wrap up the 3rd Edition after the 2022 election in 2023.

NOTHING DRAMATIC HAPPENED ANYWHERE!

With my post-2020 election lack of confidence in the U.S. Election process, it's a stretch to say anything but "what-eva!"

The fact that it was well reported that Democrats colluded to back Republican candidates with ads before their primaries either promoting them or attacking their adversaries proves exactly what they deny. They are

Presidential Overreach (continued)

more than willing to subvert the process of our elections by any means and at any price to engage in mass manipulation towards achieving the desired result of winning elections. While that may be perfectly legal, I find it totally despicable. On second thought, there's only one word that really nails how to describe it... sleazy!

Ultimately though, the 2022 elections appear to have fallen in place largely as desired. In New Hampshire, I got a good gist of it. We have an odd arrangement of a pair of Democratic Representatives and Senators each as our entire federal government representation with a Republican Governor running the state. All incumbents got reelected. Two Democratic Representatives and a Democratic Senator plus the Republican Governor. Business as usual... Everything's great... Everyone's happy... Nothing needs to change... Carry on...

Leading up to the election, Democratic money backed outsider Republican candidates for these three federal seats (one Senator wasn't up for election) to help them win the primaries and then they lost the elections. The losing Republican candidates were one young woman and two military men. What I find most revolting is that now the establishment (key word) Democrats and Republicans are agreeing (always a sign to raise suspicions) that the 2022 election was a rejection of extremists.

After the Trump disruption it's back to politics as usual. The e-stab is back!

They see the light at the end of the tunnel and they don't think it's the Trump Train. [2024 Update: He's back!] They are actively and constructively brandishing anyone who doesn't bow down to the e-stab an extremist.

Military experienced people step up and enter the fray for love of country from time to time after having risked their lives through warring years to help ensure that the country they fought for remains committed to the values and ideals they truly value as an extension of their service and commitment to our independence, freedoms and security. Politicians who collectively applaud the sacrifices of the military and are quick to shame individuals from that military who enter politics and label them extremists are on the wrong side of everything.

I presume that almost none of the politicians themselves are the establishment itself. They're likely the tools of it primarily supported by the true establishment running big businesses and banks that resist and block true progress for fear it may impact their business models.

The e-stab is sensing their demise so strongly that they are circling the wagon train and have their lackeys' sponsoring legislation in New Hampshire to raise fees associated with running for office from \$100 to \$10,000 just to make sure that people can't stink up the place voicing concerns for the people unless they got big businesses backing so as not to be disruptive. [Reference House Bill 116 by NH State House Representatives Joe Sweeney (R-Salem, NH), Ross Berry (R-Manchester, NH), Joe Alexander (R-Goffstown, NH).] Although it's a term and phrase that gets abused over all sorts of stupid things, I consider any and all constructive efforts to raise the cost of entry into every and anything un-American. Opportunity shouldn't have a financial entry fee in America. Equal opportunity for all is kind of our thing... Removing, not creating, barriers to opportunity should be the goal of all politicians.

In 2022, there were some local elections in NH where the candidate won by 1 vote. I'm glad I didn't push this out before the election. A poorly or cleverly placed fart could have swayed those results...

Presidential Overreach (continued)

My goal isn't to get the blame or credit for altering the outcome of an election somewhere. I'm rooting for a tsunami of change. People overwhelmingly overcoming the entrenched insidious establishment.

The power of the people!

No one wants to find and define some happy medium. In 2011, I started writing about our state of affairs because as Obama's first term was coming to a close, I was growing concerned of the direction of things under his presidency. They were taking the pile on approach. Scandal after scandal overwhelmed people's ability to focus on any single one. It was 10 years after the coordinated hi-jackers attacks on 9/11/2001. Post 9/11, living on Long Island, New York, we were part of the national unity which naturally formed among everyone. The radio would put out the word of what was needed on "The Pile" and people would respond and drop those things off to fire departments and they got to "Ground Hero" in NYC. Anything. Water, cigarettes, fresh clean t-shirts. It was a natural person to person bucket brigade of support that formed organically.

I visited Ground Hero on Day 44. I traveled to NYC regularly for business from Long Island and knew it was just a matter of time before I'd be down there for work. I know it was Day 44 because I overheard a worker in the building say so in passing. I was immediately struck with a sense of the impact to those right there that dodged many "bullets" that day. The only thing I could compare it to was of the exact opposite of the birth of our first child. I no longer recall when I went from counting the days of her life from days to weeks to months to years. I'm pretty sure that at Day 44, for Sean, I was still in days mode. I remember that mode of time counting from the most joyous day in my life in contrast to him still in that mode from the most horrible day in his life.

Once I finished my business I decided to simply walk "the perimeter" as it existed on Day 44. After 9/11, as time went on, the perimeter shrunk. On Day 1, all of lower Manhattan got locked down. On Day 44, it was still a fairly big jagged circle. 20+ years later, 3 strong impressions of the perimeter walk remain emblazoned in my memory.

In order, first were the large and small banners from all over the country in support and with compassion for all those impacted and dealing with close ties to all those lost that day and impacted by the events of that day.

Second, was a long conversation I had with an NYPD officer stationed at a checkpoint into "The Pile." The funny thing is, I can't say I've had many person to person real conversations with cops in uniform in my life. I was regularly at Long Island campgrounds back then and was actually camping on 9/11/2001 when I awoke at 9:44AM to a summary of the events of the day thus far. Immediately after, they cut to what was likely their first commercial break since the first tower was hit.

"Holy shit!" The towers were burning but still standing. I was alone. I had my kids for the weekend prior but this was Tuesday morning and being after Labor Day, the campground was otherwise empty. The towers were burning but still standing. I fired up a little portable black & white TV and watched them go down with fuzzy antenna reception... agasp...

Turns out, he was also a camper. We just talked about some of our camping experiences and "war stories" raising kids and all. We went on for about an hour before I moved on. Based on some of the things he shared about his camping adventures, he was a camper, not a cop, when camping. I'm a camper. Maybe we're not so different after all.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

Last and most overwhelming was that the perimeter to the west side guided me right to the edge of the Hudson River in Battery Park. I strolled the perimeter counter-clockwise starting from around Wall Street. There was an almost waist high wall with grassy soil behind it. It was loaded with what seemed like 1000s of Teddy Bears placed there out in the elements on the grass in recognition, and hope, for missing loved ones. After 9/11, there was a tremendous lack of rain down there which was missed by all as “The Pile” was still smoldering for far too long. So, even though they may have well been there for up to 44 days, they were all with rather fresh looks and you could feel that hope against hope still embodied in each and every one of them. There were also many laminated sheets with pictures and descriptions in search of lost souls.

It took me well over an hour to take in as much as I could. It was late. It was dark. It was quiet.

A formal monument to FDNY losses stands not far from there today.

At the onset of C19 in New Hampshire, a similar spirit emerged. Hospitals and people needed masks. Apparently, there’s underground sewing circles in New Hampshire! Boxes full of handmade sewn cloth masks were suddenly showing up; first in the hospitals and then in stores. Free to hospitals and with a suggested donation of a buck in some stores.

Never underestimate the power and resiliency of the American people!

There’s a great dilemma before us. This government is essentially illegitimate. They’re all operating in such blatant ignorance to the U.S. Constitution that our participation legitimizes their existence. Constitutionally, Election Day is a complicated and convoluted set of aspects that I’m sure made perfect sense in 1787 and ensured the highest level of integrity in the voting, counting and reporting of elections around a century before any means of modern communications and transportation existed. The most reliable and fastest form of communications at the time was Paul Revere and his trusted horse below him.

I strongly believe that we absolutely positively must get a voting system back in place where all votes are made in person and manually counted on a single Election Day. Look, up until Amendment 26, 1971 you had to be 21 to vote. In 2020, 40.6% of the military were 25 or younger (reference “2020 Demographics, PROFILE OF THE MILITARY COMMUNITY” report at www.militaryonesource.mil). Those below age 21 never had the option to vote until Amendment 26, 1971. By opening the questionably constitutional, yet understandable, benefit of allowing the military to vote outside of Election Day, it slowly allowed the migration to the gross violation of what happened in 2020 under the guise of it being for the public safety at the sweet spot of a devastating worldwide pandemic.

I was shocked when I registered to vote around a month or so before the 2020 election and they asked if I wanted to vote today. They didn’t first ask if I would be out of town or anything.

No thank you! I’m not going to bother speculating on all the reasons why they made it an “Election Day” for the presidential electors to cast their votes for president and VP. I’m sure there are many. I don’t want to offend all those who will feel “disenfranchised” by having to schlep down to their local polling place on Election Day come rain or shine. If I do vote again, it will certainly be on Election Day at my polling place. In 2022, Vermont mailed ballots out to everyone in the state claiming to ensure their constitutional right which I believe undermines the integrity of the election results.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

After Trump was elected, they manufactured all this Russian collusion ridiculousness and made a stink about all sorts of efforts of foreign meddling in our elections and impeached President Trump for it. Democrats just openly colluded in 2022 by meddling with the Republican election process to influence the outcome of their primary process to raise up candidates they believed more beatable. Isn't meddling meddling... foreign or domestic based? With all the stated concerns of meddling from both sides why hasn't any significant aspect of the election process been revised since 2016?

It's all BS. They're gaming the process. They're gaming the people. They're gaming the constitution.

Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #30 (Proposed Amendment XXX) is offered as a way to reset the election process to restore the integrity and confidence that all this has compromised.

It's a cook book! The prior president's term ends and the new president is sworn in at noon on January 20th following every presidential election. Amendment 20, 1933 clearly states that and they clearly follow that. They can't pick and choose which clauses and amendments they follow and which they don't. It's not some crazy 10,000 page document like Obamacare with a million rules and regulations. In 1787 they didn't say "we gotta-ith ratify the U.S. Constitution so we can see what's in it-ith." It amounts to 84 clauses with 27 amendments now added. That's 111 altogether. I've included it, interpreted it and called out the 3-branch contrary behavior six ways to Sunday in about 200 pages. Obama not having any authority whatsoever to possibly assassinate citizens in foreign lands or release Guantanamo Bay Camp detainees couldn't be clearer as far as I'm concerned. Not to mention essentially gifting \$1.71 billion to Iran in the long run.

Oops, there they go again... Words...

Trump has been called out six ways to Sunday over a bunch of trumped up charges of everything under the sun. There... I said it.

We have a U.S. Constitution. Regardless of how they ever got in office, the broad and rampant violations by this federal government that I identified across my Huh?'s makes this an illegitimate government as far as I'm concerned.

Can the people make a solemn pact of no federal incumbents to reset the process and the federal government? That's my question. That's my hope! There's no other way that I can imagine. Any other way is just a fork in the road preserving and perpetuating the Red/Blue gaming.

If we all know we didn't vote for any federal incumbents, and they all remain in power, we're being railroaded down, up, over, under and across the river.

We each get to figure out what we want to do, if anything. I'm not telling anyone what to do. I'm beating the no-incumbents drum. I'm beating as hard and loudly as I can virtually do so. I may be trying to piss you off at this point enough to throw me in some cauldron of your mind for THEM.

Maybe I'll get death threats! That appears to be legal now. That's, I guess, the one new right that's been created? We get to make death threats and harass people who say things that offend us if we don't like it if

Presidential Overreach (continued)

we're in the offendable class. I'll stand alone and against the world before I side with any part of this federal government. I believe in people, our country, our constitution and not any part of this seated federal government. Every single member of the federal government in 2022 are all unforgivably party to the corruption of our republic by acts and inaction. That's where I stand. I don't hear of any 2023 newbies rocking the boat so much either. However, I've not looked hard. Hopefully, a couple of renegades slipped in.

No repeats. I can't run up and down the ranks of Representatives and Senators with specifics. The presidents are the common denominator. In the course of working to understand the U.S. Constitution, the presidents have naturally stood out as the epicenter of unconstitutional behavior and by obligational association, Congress for not keeping them in line which is one of their fundamental functions. We're all party to what the presidents do whether we vote or not.

It's quite tricky to share observations of government behavior that I believe stand out in contrast to the constitution and possibly maintain a tone or voice to avoid many people seeing one thing or another and slam the book shut with the closing thought "he's one of THEM!" I'm just calling them as I see THEM. I no longer care what anyone thinks of what I got to say. Nothing would please me more than for me to be proven wrong. Collectively, I don't know or care who they're for. They take an oath to do a job and they're not doing that job.

Make no mistake. THEM is the government. We is the people. I'm with you brother and sister.

The future? Come what may, I couldn't close out the 3rd Edition in 2023 without addressing the Roe vs. Wade overturn by the Supreme Court, the capital riot in President Donald Trump's closing days and some mention of President Joe Biden about half way into his presidency. The Roe vs. Wade overturn led to some very fruitful re-examinations for me. They're primarily covered with Amendment 9, 1791 and Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #29. The presidential stuff is troubling because it leaves me wondering... Is the best we can do?

Now it's mid-2024 for the 4th Edition update and still, none of us know the future. I've been finding it helpful in exploring my concerns and further developing my understanding of the U.S. Constitution to put a serious effort into updating this about every two years. Each time, it's easy to get caught up in the issues around us with election season brewing and the continuation of fairly turbulent world events of people, powers and the planet as I wrap up this edition (actually, finally adding last minimal touches in early 2025). On the other hand, two years later, it always seems like we just "keep on keepin' on" and are muddling along.

What's really changed? The entire world shut down for the pandemic for months in 2020. The world's economy's now on a roller coaster as the reverberations of that play out. Weird supply chain issues are arising. World affairs are as messy as ever with Russia/Ukraine, China/USA relations at odds and 2024 Israel total chaos and warped reactions. Domestic mass murder shootings seem to be happening on a daily basis. Housing, opioid and safety crises have not abated. The Obama/Biden open southern border practice helps none of this. The northern border is also on the radar as a rising concern which doesn't surprise me. Our true security of having given away so much technology to China and being so dependent on getting those technologies from them has achieved an unhealthy dependency. And to all that they say, let's go green!

I'd just appreciate seeing some fresh and refreshing direction. People, not politicians, addressing issues that trouble us rather than creating new issues in the political tug-of-war which is clearly stretching beyond our nation's borders which makes it even dicier.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

The Capital Riot: I thought it was a riot! Can I say that? Can I write that?

Based on the scattered tidbits of information I picked up here and there on the capital riot, it appeared that no one inside or outside the capital stopped the capital riot of January 6, 2021. They seemed to let it play out in a game of high stakes political positioning. Luckily, it didn't become some kind of truly wild massacre one way or the other.

This is your brain... this is your birdbrain on twitter! (Sorry, that's a nod to one particular "birdbrain" I had the displeasure of dealing with personally. No offense meant for all the bird watchers.)

Go Joe! So what can I say about President Joe Biden... Of all the people I don't want as president, he's at the top of the list, which is conveniently ambiguous. However, he's the president. My wild speculation on that front is that with him having been VP to Obama, he's just the fall guy for the car wreck of all those wheels put in motion in the Obama administration. I've specifically challenged enough of what Obama did as president that I find constitutional fault with that I don't think that statement's too much of a stretch. Obama kept the wars going plus started and dabbled in some new conflicts as president further destabilizing Africa and the Middle East. He was in charge when some really shady things happened, which I summarized in the opening rundown. He didn't end the wars, Biden did, and quite sloppily. That the USA turned tail and ran out of Afghanistan the way it was conducted after seeing that with the Vietnam War in my life was disgusting. Remember, there were zero U.S. casualties in the 18 months before President Biden hastily ordered the withdrawal that directly resulted in 13 Americans deaths. All of whom were someone very important and special to many people. Biden appears callously dismissive of all challenges to the outcome of his decisions.

Our "modern" post WWII philosophy has been, in the long arc of history, peace keepers, not conquerors. Japan, Germany, Korea... 70 & 80 years later and we're still there ensuring strongholds of people enacting democratic societies in their own way.

Everything just seems to really stink... I'm definitely not getting a "warm and fuzzy feeling" when I consider the direction of things. I wish I was... There's a way forward, but I don't think it's by repeating the cycle.

In 2024, Biden's been more of the same. The Trump/Biden first debate happened a couple of days ago in June of 2024 and there is suddenly overnight united surprise by the seriously corrupted uni-media and Democrat party itself that they didn't see Biden's mental capacity failings coming. Yeah, right...

I was still twiddling this section when Trump was shot. I was actually visiting family with the TV live streaming the event when he got shot. My immediate thought was "put down the pen." I've added very little since then excepting this comment and those at the close of this section. The following most concerns me.

The Supreme Court has in June of 2024 issued decisions on some major issues the impact of which is not clear to me. One relates to upholding the executive branch practice to request social media "misinformation" and "disinformation" cancellations of posts and people (official bye bye to 1st Amendment's free speech???). Another ruled many January 6, 2021 charges of the Capital Riot were serious overreaches of the purpose and intent of laws used to convict some to felonies and jail time. Many cases are reported to likely require re-consideration and reconciliation. The third one concerns a ruling overruling the "Chevron deference" where federal agencies had carte blanc to self-determine interpretation of ambiguous laws relating to them.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

The one relating to the 1st Amendment has commentators on the right up in arms but I've heard conflicting statements about it. I'm feeling compelled to take a deep dive into the decision as I did for xRvW but it's a daunting task and one that I cannot possibly work through fast enough to include in this edition...

As busy a day as that was, they followed with a decision relating to presidential immunity where it's being reported that reaffirms that all official actions are immune. The reporting quickly follows that with the statement "who's to say what's official and non-official actions." They have postponed the sentencing of one of the Trump trials supposedly because of this decision. Another one allows criminalization of homelessness.

Here's a thought... If there's one thing we should all be able to agree on, it's that something's broken. Our seated federal government only seems capable of perpetuating the back and forth, plus or minus a couple of Representatives and Senators, business as usual, Democrat vs. Republican hyperbolically polarized politics. There are people reaching for radical ways into the future. My simple crazy idea is, before we go global or become a police state or some other hidden agenda comes to fruition, why not try honoring the U.S. Constitution a while and see how that goes?

USA vs. World? Presidents' over stepping their authority is not helping us on the world stage either. Constitutional treaties stand the test of time. Presidential bravado and freelancing diminish our position in world affairs. Other countries and their leaders can just ride out our president's 4 or 8 years when there's a strong and pushy leader or get aggressive when a weak leader passes through the White House.

The U.S. has historically maintained a closest and favored relationship with European nations. I believe they formed the bulk of people emigrating here up into the early 1900s. While we should all be aware of the brutalities in Europe during World War I & World War II, Europe has started calling out U.S. internal policies as if we're the bad guys. That's ok, but I've personally learned from individuals I've met of extermination of small pockets of people in Europe where their ancestors escaped from Europe and they had the deep-rooted fear that they didn't dare share their stories with their children. They shared them with their grandchildren late in life. Sort of, before I go, someone oughta know...

There are many musical artists that have in this millennium performed songs espousing the virtues and wonders of the USA and our ideals. In 2022, high profile global artists toured the USA with some provocative messaging. There's ultimately not much more they can do. The future of the USA remains exclusively in the hands of our citizens. It's my view that politicians and parties are very strategically positioning and acting in ways to facilitate a feeling of helplessness upon the people here.

I'm questioning everything because I know nothing. George W. Bush has Daddy's SoD as VP in Chaney and the next thing you know, 9/11 fires up a military machine complex here that's not cooled down 22 years later. They're just shipping to Ukraine instead of our soldiers now. Obama's actions demonstrated a disrespect for the U.S. Constitution which blows me away. Trump may be resonating with lots of people but I find his often repeated admiration of Russia's Putin messed up. I could've missed it, but I've not heard one objection on his part about Russia's invasion of Ukraine or the very harsh old-school methods of brutal death and destruction of citizens by Russia in Ukraine. Of course, he says he'll end it in a snap if reelected – that's all I've caught. I don't like that whole Hunter Biden business exposing odd ties to Ukraine that his father, President Joe Biden, must've known something about. Next thing you know, Ukraine is fighting to keep their independence from

Presidential Overreach (continued)

Russia shortly after President Biden abruptly pulls out of Afghanistan. Do any or all of these things give rise to a conflict of interest?

Each and every president is charged with, above all else, keeping the country together, free and independent from the rest of the world. We're generally not isolated from the world and obviously became the biggest player on the world stage as "the leader of the free world."

For some time now, our country has generally adopted a position of being on the side of freedom throughout the world. However, we're losing the high-ground of American ideals due to the harsh realities of our nation's actions. We occupy Afghanistan for almost 20 years. It's the poppy fields for opium capitol of the world growing ten times more than any other country. During those 20 years, we end up with a devastating opioid crisis. Opioids give way to synthetic hard drugs like fentanyl and methamphetamine being abused. The Sackler family goes down as the primary source of the prescription opioid market that instigated all the addiction, then, next thing you know, we bolt out of Afghanistan as if we no longer need the poppy fields.

Any relationship to connect those dots? I don't know, but it all looks too easily connected that it leads me to imagine there are corrupt dirty deals everywhere. There are current stories of politician's spouses being involved in dubious technology investing deals that aren't far removed from government policy decisions. I find the possibility that some federal government elected officials are driving policy for personal profit over what's in the best interest of the country, the people of the country and especially their constituents troubling. Not surprising but troubling. I can't accept it as the new or continued normal.

I'm referring to former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's (D-CA) husband's investments in silicon companies. He closes the deal in advance of a Congressional law to invest big money into U.S. semiconductor manufacturing with concerns for dependency on China production rising. Then she flies to Taiwan thereby destabilizing a degrading USA/China temperament. It's so obvious, it feels like a dare. Whatcha gonna do 'bout it? Not a dare to China, but that too. A dare to us to have to look the other way on such blatant abuse of political power and position. It's more Russian communist crap. They're not happy to steal elections by a few points. They gotta win by landslides to make sure their people know the fix was in and there's not a damn thing they can do about it. Shove it right down the Russian people's throats good and hard. Nancy just shoved that one right down the American people's throats good and hard and no one's doing a damn thing about it.

Look man... In the USA, people in their positions should be operating to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest. She certainly appears to me to be operating as if she's part of some monarchy above the law and immune from arrest and prosecution. The Democrat political machines are harassing Trump to no end and the woman near, or at the helm, of that machine goes waltzing around the world in full frontal grand public display to demonstrate they've orchestrated an untouchable status.

Liberty Rule #16 includes the pay rates for members of Congress. She was the highest paid of all at a \$223,500 salary. She clearly and directly has provocatively moved beyond inside trading to market manipulation.

It appears to me that Trump muscled his way into the Republican Party (formerly supposedly a Democrat by the way) in spite of much inside opposition to it. He's resonating so well with a rising frustration with the whole process of government by a large segment of members of the party that they're now stuck with him.

Presidential Overreach (continued)

The Democrats stomp on their own regularly and systematically to ensure the pick of the party as appeared the case for Biden. In the prior election, they killed Bernie's chances in deference to Hillary Clinton's bid.

Is there anyone I like? Fair question... I am finding fault with everyone... At the time, I wasn't really a great fan of his at all, however, in the 1980s, I believe President Ronald Reagan turned around a malaise of an underlying American guilt about our Vietnam War experience and took a firm stance against communist Russia. You gotta give him credit for his hardline position against Russia primarily leading to the fall of the Berlin Wall right after his presidency which reunited East and West Germany.

Additionally, the day he took office, Iran wasted no time releasing the hostages that they had held for over a year. 52 individuals were held for 444 days and released January 20, 1981. Job done, Day One! Who ya gonna call? The Gipper!

Somewhere in that mix, me and my x-wife, then married, let go of our apprehensions and general agreement on "why would we wanna bring kids into this world" having grown up under the umbrella of assured mutual destruction of imminent nuclear annihilation during the Cold War of the late 1970s into the 1980s. Both our kids were born during Reagan's 2nd term. In my belief, he deserves a fair amount of credit for that. I thank him for that. We always enjoyed and appreciated being Americans, especially the rebel part! However, I give him a lot of credit for fostering our security in the present and hope for the future enough that by the mid-1980s we were contemplating having kids.

My fav is definitely the one who took office when I was knee-high to a zygote. I ask anyone who should ever read this to do me one and only one favor. Please watch President John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Address given on January 20, 1961. Everything he says, sadly, remains just as relevant today as when he said it then. We've moved forward in time 60+ years but in progress so much less than he challenged us and the world on that day.

On the 100-year anniversary of the women vote in 2020, I would've liked to have seen a well-qualified woman of integrity elected to the presidency. It's overdue. Additionally, at this time, I can't think of a single more qualified candidate than any of these three. These choices are primarily based on something that caught my attention, a little casual investigation reinforcing a strong gut impression and nothing popping up since to scratch them. Sure, it may sound arbitrary... but I can dream there's a way to break the cycle of diabolic stupidity to foster a paradigm shift to usher in a new era...

As much as I'd like and am promoting that the entire next crop of Representatives and Senators come straight out of the ranks of the people, my presidential picks are all with experience in government.

My three nominees for the next President of the United States of America are (drum roll please...)

Presidential Overreach (continued)

First, the elder stateswoman, Claire McCaskill (D-MO), because she's the one modern elected member of Congress whom, as Senator, said something constitutionally and responsibly correct that impressed me. It happens to be with Liberty Rule #10. Claire's at 10 in my book! I heard she's "a progressive" at heart, but I'd trust her regardless. Her heart appears in the right place. She's also surprisingly gritty and apparently well connected to the sentiments and experiences of life as we know it in America.

[2024 Update: Waned.]

Next, Nikki Haley (R-SC), whose performances speaking as Ambassador to the United Nations for the Trump administration were out of this world! She was firm, well spoken, with a measured authority that commanded respect on the world stage. She was resolute. She also has executive experience as Governor of South Carolina. She speaks well of her realities as a military wife raising a family during her husband's deployments which gives her a well-grounded world perspective.

[2024 Update: Waning.]

Last but not least, I nominate the woman who appears to desire the job the most of these three, has military experience and was completely railroaded like the way Bernie was by the Democratic Machine, Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI). Tulsi has experience as a U.S. Representative for Hawaii. I wouldn't have ever even known of Tulsi except for a mutilated sign of hers that I saw leading up to the 2020 presidential election primaries. I was in Manchester, NH, which remains ground zero for the kick off of the presidential election cycle in America. I saw a modest sized TULSI campaign banner on a fence of a main highway overpass by the Mall of New Hampshire that was totally mutilated. Cut to shreds. I immediately took note and realized, this is someone that someone fears. It turned out to be her own party. To get a clue about her in 2020, I saw a couple of Joe Rogan interviews she appeared in. Many of her ideas and positions resonate with me. There seems to be a deep admiration of her among her supporters. In New Hampshire, presidential candidate lawn signs are especially common. Hers definitely stayed up the longest after Biden was given the nomination. There was a full billboard of hers in the center of the city and her slogan was "The Heart of a Soldier." Based on what I saw of her interviews, I'd flip that to "A Warrior with a Heart." In late 2022 she bailed on the Democratic Party.

[2024 Update: Waiting...]

I committed to the bulk of these woman candidate nominee comments in the summer of 2022 and all three of these ladies were popping up in the news. McCaskill has fallen off my radar. Haley lost in her 2023-2024 Republican run for president effort in which Trump didn't even participate in one debate just like his withering opponent Biden. However, as I mentioned, they debated each other in June of 2024. The whole election process looks very phony to me. They've stopped faking the process so it's just openly flat out fake.

I optimistically closed this section of the 3rd Edition with "Let the antidisestablishmentarianism games resume!"

Now in mid-2024 we appear stuck on a sad path to the same old story... "Let the BS continue..."

However, it ain't over yet... Trump's since been declared the winner over Biden's VP, Kamala Harris, who the party swapped for Biden after that debate. Trump's a month in the office and on a tear! Not since President Bill Clinton has any president tried to reel in runaway spending. I'm very happy to see them try! Contrary to my observation elsewhere, Trump's taking every opportunity he can to say "stop the death and destruction" regarding Russia/Ukraine. With Tulsi Gabbard and Lee Zeldin in his cabinet, I gotta have hope.





Applied Logic Example – The Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) Dilemma

The Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) Dilemma: A few of my favorite topics all wrapped up into one big mess. The environment, the U.S. Constitution, Native American rights, energy independence, corporate greed, corruption and last, but not least, our children.

It's not too late: Usually, by the time we hear about an environmental disaster it's all over and there's not a damn thing we can do about it. Although DAPL went through, just like the Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant on Long Island, New York, it could be shut down. From conception, Shoreham had no chance of a feasible evacuation plan. Traffic on Long Island has always been jammed up during rush hour. With only three to four serious highways running west, which would be the way out, an evacuation plan was always pure fiction. For whatever reason they were compelled to complete building it and start it up, it never went into commercial operation and has since been dismantled to the degree that all nuclear material is reportedly removed from the site. As far as DAPL goes, yes, they completed it and, yes, it went into operation. However, there's been no disaster yet reported. It could be shut down if there was the right public outcry and political will before the potential disaster of a serious crude oil leak into the Missouri River happens.

Native American rights: The Standing Rock Sioux are on the front line as an easy target. After Bismarck and another municipality said "not through my city" they took aim at the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. They continue to valiantly stand up for their land and water rights against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) going through North Dakota, among other places. On September 3, 2016 a group of Standing Rock Sioux went to pray at a sacred site and found it being bulldozed. They intervened and were sprayed with mace and security attack dogs were literally unleashed on them. The Standing Rock Sioux had been working to prevent the Dakota Access Pipeline from proceeding through their land on the way to eventually run it under the Missouri River to Illinois. The Standing Rock Sioux say "water is life" and they don't wanna risk it. Amy Goodman, of Democracy Now, was there and documented the whole thing. The Sioux contend that they're land and water protectors, not protesters. They're non-violent and unarmed. They were arrested, strip searched and held for days instead of just overnight. Because of Amy's reporting on that day, a North Dakota state prosecutor later charged her with trespassing and then, before court, admitted that he realized the charges wouldn't stick so he instead charged her with rioting. Subsequently, they began militarizing the position and forces of the DAPL builders. Many indigenous people's nations outside of the United States, from South America and Canada, have joined their cause. It's not an indigenous peoples cause; it's an American cause and a world cause. After President Trump took office, a short four months later, it was completed on June 1, 2017. However, what happened is still worth considering.

U.S. Constitution, Amendment I (1791): "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The 1st Amendment guarantees free speech as individuals and freedom of the press, among other things. This prosecutor tried to equate reporting with rioting. On October 17, 2016, in court, Judge John Grinsteiner immediately dismissed the charges without listening to any arguments by refusing to sign the criminal complaint brought against Amy Goodman by North Dakota's state attorney, Ladd Erickson. Nowadays, with camera and video recording in our phones at all times, we're all potential reporters. We can post to social media and we can stream live video if we want. If she could be prosecuted for reporting, we could be prosecuted for posting if someone in the right position doesn't like what we're saying or too many people

The DAPL Dilemma (continued)

hear it. I wouldn't elevate Amy's charges being dismissed to a victory, it was simply constitutional justice or better yet, a sanity check. Had they not been dismissed I'd be saying "Houston, we have a problem."

Corporate greed: Enbridge Inc., of Canada no less, appears to have been the primary corporation who constructed the pipeline. The first statement that popped up on their website in 2018 said "Moving the energy that fuels North Americans' quality of life." As the Standing Rock Sioux say "water is life", so if you move the energy at the potential expense of the water, exactly what kind of "quality of life" are you fueling?

I look at it this way. Either way, the fuel will come out of the ground, the fuel will get where it needs to get to and it'll end up in the atmosphere as emissions anyway. Why directly risk the water at the same time? Pre-pipeline, mostly rail and perhaps some trucks were used to move all that oil around which limited the potential spill to one string of trains or a truck load at a time. This exercise in corporate greed consolidates all that industry in one pipeline. As of 2021, there were four business partners in the venture and Enbridge is no longer cited as one of them. They appear to have been replaced by a MarEn Bakken Company LLC. It looks like the other prime partner, Energy Transfers, is based in Texas and they have the largest financial interest in it, but less than 50%. I don't know how the four firms work and profit together. If it ever gets shut down, I'm sure that they'll get repaid for going through the trouble to build it. It was a \$3.8 billion project. At this point, that's a bit more than one one-hundredth of one percent of our national deficit (0.01%). We're paying about \$1.4 billion a day in interest on the U.S. National Debt which is almost \$34.8 trillion as of May 21, 2024 with no end in sight. To pay them \$3.8 billion to shut it down is only the equivalent of 3 days of interest on the U.S. National Debt. President Biden sort of called for its shut down in July of 2020. Years later... still going...

Corruption: Oh, it's there. Corruption is the link that gets money to achieve power. The police protected the Canadian corporation from the unarmed Native Americans. Whose side are they on anyway?

Energy independence: I want energy independence, but with a balanced approach. Once we truly achieve it, then we need to focus on the lowest environmental impact approaches to maintain it and over time displace the fossil fuels approach through efficiency and renewable energy. What if we weren't beholden to two-faced alliances in the Middle-East because of our dependency on the oil beneath them? That could lead to a more stable position for the U.S. in the world. President Obama lifted a 40 year ban on exporting crude oil in 2015. I believe those non-renewable resources should be for our use only. Exporting fossil fuels while recklessly funding renewable power potential, as was the case by President Obama with Solyndra, appears to me to have had a misguided crony capitalism business benefit, and certainly not achieve a "balanced approach" he spoke of regarding so many things to which I'll add U.S. energy policy and being energy independent.

I fear the environmental catastrophes that have and continue to happen with the excavation, transportation and generation of energy. The risk has proven unmanageable and unacceptable.

History snapshots – "What could possibly go wrong?" (War impacts such as burning oil fields are omitted.):

1979 – 3 Mile Island, Pennsylvania Nuclear Meltdown.

1986 – Chernobyl, Russia Nuclear Meltdown.

1989 – Exxon Valdez Tanker Spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska releasing about 250,000 barrels of oil.

1996 – Reedy River, Greenville County, SC pipeline ruptures releasing 22,800 barrels of diesel fuel into river.

2003 – Derrybrien landslide, County Galway, Ireland windfarm causes peat landslide contaminating lake and killing massive amounts of fish (even "green energy" can cause environmental catastrophes).

The DAPL Dilemma (continued)

- 2010 – BP Deepwater Horizon Gulf Drilling Rig explodes in the Gulf of Mexico causing largest oil spill in U.S. history that went on for months and is estimated to have released over 3 million barrels of crude oil.
- 2011 – Tsunami causes Fukushima Japan triple nuclear reactor meltdowns.
- 2013 – Lac-Megantic, Quebec Crude Oil Train Wreck completely devastates an entire town.
- 2014 – Long Island Sound, New York 8,000-gallon oil spill containment in Long Island Sound from severed utility cable just off shore was unreported by brand new local utility operator PSEGLI & long time electric cable operator NYPA. It went unreported for a month before finally exposed by local residents.
- 2016 – Pennsylvania under river pipeline washes out (Wallis Run, a tributary to Loyalsock Creek that flows into the Susquehanna River) and spills 55,000 gallons of gasoline into river.
- 2016 – Shelby County, AL pipeline explodes while performing maintenance with an excavating machine.
- 2017 – Gulf of Mexico, 40 miles south of Venice, Louisiana underwater pipe releases 8,000 barrels of oil.
- 2017 – Marshall County, South Dakota Keystone Pipeline breaks spilling 400,000 gallons onto farmland. I learned about this four months after the fact! This perfectly disproves the validity of DAPL safety assurances.
- 2018 – East China Sea, Sanchi Oil Tanker from Iran to South Korea collides with CF Crystal cargo ship catching fire, releasing nearly 1 million barrels of natural-gas condensate and sinking off Shanghai, China.
- 2020 – Ecuadorian Amazon, landslide breaks 3 oil pipelines releasing 15,400 barrels in Coca and Napo Rivers.
- 2021 – Hadera, Israel beach extensive tar oil spill. Investigation for likely ship source on-going.
- 2022 – Ecuadorian Amazon, landslide breaks an oil pipeline releasing 3,600 barrels in Coca and Napo Rivers.

The environment: As my daughter, Sean, explained to me in a spontaneous dissertation during a long drive when she was six years old, the land, water, air, vegetation, and animals are all interrelated and important.

I do things to reduce pollution that may help in the long run, but here's a potential opportunity to have an impact to stop a potential disaster in the future. To draw a line in the sand. I was born and raised on Long Island, New York. There's a wonderful underground aquifer there that isolates people from the annual variations of rainfall. Over the years, there's been much land on the island preserved to protect the aquifer. The main tract of land is known as the Pine Barrens. But still, it got screwed up. On Long Island, NY, like too many people everywhere, they rely on filtered and bottled water for drinking. A true shame and testament that our local and national people running the show don't know what the hell they're doing! The water there isn't what it used to be. Now you periodically taste a strong chlorine flavor in the tap water which is not a good sign. Furthermore, as a friend said, in all seriousness, "I wouldn't give it to my dog!"

President Trump said and still says "America First", however, I'm afraid the "Corporate" is silent. It should be Americans First. I'm not aware of him taking any actions to protect our waters. Instead, he opened DAPL.

The environment is as resilient as it is fragile. If given the opportunity to recover, I believe that it can display that remarkable resiliency. However, it can go the other way. Take fish for example. There are stories where, either due to excessive pollution or changes in salinity, a day came when huge, and I mean on the order of tons of fish, turned up dead floating to the top in various lakes over the years. These events should be shocking to everyone. There exists a point of no return for some wildlife and when it gets hit it's over and there's no reversing it. We're not heeding the lessons in reality that the environment is giving us.

Our children: Because we care, we must care.

Action: If you can't think of anything, ask your kids, nieces and nephews. They may have some great ideas.



Food for Thought

We're morally corrupt and financially bankrupt. We're financially corrupt and morally bankrupt. Either way sounds very applicable to our plight. With all that's gone on over the last few years, I haven't heard or seen a feasible or even feeble attempt to address our fundamental problems as a society.

Under Liberty Rule #50, I put forth the "Public Transparency Policy" concept where I say that all government income and spending should be available to look at in detail on computers and smart phones accessible by anyone anywhere so that the public can scrutinize the spending and take issue with it locally and/or nationally. In other words, "open the books" which simply means that all the income and payments made by and to the town, county, state and federal governments should be easily available for anyone to view using a computer or smart phone with rare exception when the detailed disclosure would truly compromise national security.

If this was the case I believe that some people will begin to scrutinize these budgets and financially things will get better over time due to a public outcry over the waste, abuse and corruption which will be found to exist "here and there." Town hall meetings could now include people expressing their outrage based on financial facts instead of just emotions.

We've had altogether too many cases of senseless violence in the United States with non-terrorist rampage shootings and the like. Therefore, I hereby put forth a second fundamental concept which is to simply bring back the "Blue Laws." The Blue Laws are those that dictate that most stores should be closed on Sundays.

Overall, the breakdown of a nurturing family structure in America could be the blame for all these freaks shooting up places. Sure, there are those that will continue to be irresponsible with regard to their obligations to provide a loving and moral upbringing of their kids. However, I believe that many good intentioned parents simply can't find the time to have quality time with their kids. If we start to shut down Sunday business the way it was when I was a kid in the 1960s and early 1970s then we can start to enable the possibility of good family time together. Over time, this could help a lot. What has "the war on drugs", "just say no", "no child left behind" and "a balanced approach" accomplished? They seem to just be popular catch phrases put forth by various presidential administrations.

We must balance money and morals. In the early 1960s, there was a huge boom in our society. At that time stores were generally not open on Sundays and it certainly didn't hold back the economy. We like to fanaticize that there's so much news now that we just hear about more bad stuff that has always been going on. I don't think that's the case. Things are worse and we're financially corrupt and morally bankrupt. We're morally corrupt and financially bankrupt.

Either way, it's a mess and if we don't fundamentally change course soon things will only continue to get worse before they get better. Personally, if this ever came to pass it'd be a great inconvenience to me, but it's not about me. We need to think of the big picture and do something that may be helpful to everyone in the long run.

Food for Thought (continued)

Ideas that may be worth a try:

1. Restore Election Integrity and Confidence: Election Day restoration and comprehensive Voting Harmonization (proposed Amendment XXX (PLRA30)).
2. Financial Recklessness: Public Transparency Policy (described in Liberty Rule #50, Huh? #11).
3. Repression & Regression: Unanimous Supreme Court decisions (proposed Amendment XXIX (PLRA29)).
4. Polarized Politics & Allowing Presidential Overreach: Representative & Senator Term Limits (proposed Amendment XXVIII (PLRA28)).
5. National Security: True Energy Independence (not just hot air).
6. Americans First: Protect our waters (prior section: Applied Logic Example - The DAPL Dilemma).
7. Families First: Return of Blue Laws (proposed here).
8. Free speech!

Conclusion



There's a movement afoot to erase history. Has everyone forgotten the expression that those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it? I firmly believe that those who constructively seek to erase history are paving an expressway to repeat it. The most casualties in a war was, by far, the Civil War for the United States of America and that's just by the head count alone. By percentage of population at the time, fuhgeddaboudit! I believe that the words we use and how we use them are important, however, the notion of banning words or how they can be used is sacrilegious to any American who has any understanding of what it means to be a free people. It'd be awesome if we all loved one another, but it's more than good enough if we could all just get along. The Civil War is something that I feel I need to really dig into and understand. That mission is growing urgent because they're actively working to destroy the artifacts of those times and those that recognize those times. The word is, that it was the North against the South to end slavery in the South. That may be what it became but I seriously doubt that it was that simple. The root of all evil is, was, has been and shall forever be, money. Follow the money is what they say. Therein lies the truth.

For example, on Long Island a supposed gentleman named William Floyd (1734 – 1821) has a major road, a high school and a town named after him and you can visit his old estate if you like. Apparently, his claim to fame is being one of the fifty-six men who signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Additionally, he served as a first New York State Congressman in 1789, under this, then, brand new constitution, and later as Senator. I was curious to see if there were any writings of his online. I found none. Instead, I discovered that farming was his thing and he was supposedly a slave owner. O-kay... I turned over one stone and it contradicts the very notion of everything that we've been taught to believe about the Civil War. Furthermore, research shows that as late as 1820 he's noted in the U.S. Census as having 6 slaves at his residence in upstate New York. I don't understand how this could have remotely even been legal in 1820 in the State of New York. I thought that it was never legal in New York to possess slaves. Furthermore, he notes it on his census like it's no big deal. I do not believe that it's at all likely that he could not have been the only slave owner in New York.

As far as the monuments go, I came up with a compromise... erect a jail cell over those where those depicted could perhaps rot in jail for eternity if people feel it's justified but be sure to leave the top open for the birds!

The South had a flag and the North had a flag, which was previously the same one that the South had. Something pissed off the South so bad that they designed a flag to rally around. Now they're tearing those flags down over 150 years after the fact. Gimme a break. If it weren't for all those who thrive off of division we would recognize that opportunity has never been better for all people of the USA. I'm not gonna look up the statistics or make the arguments and there certainly remains oppression and disharmony. I believe that there are people and forces of people engaged in keeping people stuck where they are. Hopelessness is unimaginable to me. I always hold on to hope. I always have faith that somehow someday things will work out.

The people of the South were known as the Confederates. Confederate statues have been torn down by municipalities, in secrecy, in the middle of the night in some cases, and stashed away. I dare say that I can think of no other thing that could be done to pave the way for the return of slavery and oppression. We, of course, must identify slavery as a matter of black history in the United States, which I can't argue with, but in the annals of history, slavery knows no color.

Conclusion (continued)

My life has had its fair share of struggles and as I worked through them it had, on occasion, occurred to me “and I’m not a bad looking tall white dude.” Physically, I may have had a leg up on some others due to prevailing biases, which, unfortunately exist for some on both sides of that equation (those with bias and those whom are the target of that bias) but life’s not a beauty contest.

Life may be a bit of a popularity contest though...

Privilege is perhaps a parental gift if you’re so inclined but I’m not one of those either.

Both of my kids are acknowledged in the content of *Liberty Rules!* because of how they influenced me. They’ve both already passed an age where I believe that they’re doing better than I was at that age and have a better chance of success beyond what I could hope for at their ages. Additionally, they each have accomplishments far beyond what I could ever hope to achieve! That truly is living the American Dream. Who, with kids, doesn’t hope and work towards giving their kids the opportunity to do better than themselves? In this country, I believe that’s more possible than in any other country on this Earth. It’s not a given, however, between the parents and the kids it’s certainly possible.

Many express themselves the most when they’re young. They let out that raw emotion and angst seeing the road ahead looks like no fun at all. I just took a walk on the wild side when I was young, as I already mentioned. Since then, I’ve been taking a lot in. Observing. Wondering. Now, I’m just trying really hard to sort this whole mess out.

Every elected Representative, Senator, president, VP and every judge in the United States of America have a set of rules that they’re bound by oath to abide by. I don’t know if they’ve ever read them though. Judges probably, but beyond them, I tend to think not, none the less understand them or abide by them. We gave them the spare keys and let them drive off with the baby birthed by this nation. They’re running the red lights and generally driving recklessly with wild abandon. They’re on a joy ride on our dime. They ignore the street signs and have become mobile toll booths collecting money and favors at every turn. We’re the cops having a good time dunking donuts at the diner. La de da.

They’ve convinced us that they own the road and we better get out of their way. Our founders gave us the original keys for times just like these.

The design of the U.S. Constitution has an awesome power for a revolt by the people without firing a shot. Every two years the people have the opportunity to clean house of all those perpetuating a corrupt system where there are those that are favored. We’re all equal in this country. However, those in Congress (Congressmen, or Representatives as they should be called, and Senators) have put themselves above the people they serve who elected them in the first place. They’ve become the elected elite. I’d capitalize that but they’re not worthy of such an honor. They’ve perpetrated an entrenched system of favors and favored. The people are the cattle they feed off. They create laws that legalize their exercise of using the privileged information that they receive in their positions for inside trading.

They talk about all this crap and how they promise to fix all these problems and utilize our money really responsibly to take care of us. As you open your bottle of water and tilt your head back for that first sip, I

Conclusion (continued)

beseech thee, please take that first moment of that first sip to steal a glance towards the sky and think or lip or whisper ever so softly in that moment “help me help us” because they sure aren’t.

God help us hasn’t been effective. We must take matters into our own hands. In a perfect world, you could cup a sip of water from a nearby brook with your hands. In my youth we could get it from the tap or sink faucet, and yes, there was a river in a preserve down the block that we would sneak into and if we were thirsty we would do just that. Who polluted everything? Hmm, the big businesses? Industry? The dirty dozen?

Now they try to regulate us as if that’s gonna make a difference at this point. They sunk the boat and now we can’t go in the water. They try to overregulate what’s on people’s property while they sanction, as in allow, running major energy pipelines under major waterways. Hippocrats! You take something big and fat and give it the broad unregulated and unpoliced authority of a bureaucracy and that’s what you get, a bunch of hippocrats. The EPA has now become a policing organization. I had to sign some crap for them in the course of my employment that basically says that if we ever find even the slightest falsehood or inadvertent inaccuracy with what you’re signing, you’ll be strung and quartered. Hey, thanks for caring about the environment so much that you’re willing to sacrifice my life in defense of it. I feel so much better. Seriously, it’s not like being off by plus or minus 10% on the particulars of the matter is gonna land someone on Mars instead of the Moon. The true consequences of being plus or minus 10% are so imperceptibly insignificant in the big scheme of things that I strongly believe that this is purely an undue and excessive show of strength and authority by the EPA. (Period.) Boy, this is making me thirsty. Anybody got a buck for a bottle of water? I’m feeling really parched...

I’ve heard that one definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. We keep electing the same people over and over again based on their promises that it’s gonna be different this time. They’re gonna keep over-promising and under-delivering. We’re the insane ones for expecting different results. They keep playing the same games and they keep inventing new ones. Over-the-top corrupt practices and policies have become so commonplace that they take it for granted that we’re gonna buy whatever BS they decide to peddle today. A scandal arises and a bunch of that particular bureaucracy’s hippocrats hard drives crash overnight. Yeah, I’ll buy that? Total cra-os! That’s crazy-chaos!

I’ve resolved, that I will act upon the realization that a swift change of course in a new direction is possible. My goal is, for the citizens of the United States of America, to send a message loud and clear throughout the land. This is our country and we’re taking it back! I want every one of all of the 435 Representatives up for election spit canned. Every two years one third of the 100 Senators are also up for election which is usually 33 but sometimes 34. Buh-bye. This has all been happening on their watch. It’s time... to go with the “nuclear option” and toss them all over the “fiscal cliff” off their gravy train that’s been at our expense.

Through primaries, perhaps you can knock them out in the first round and still support your preferred party if you’re so inclined. Maybe we can all vote for another party. They’re all a bunch of party poopers anyway! If they make it to the general election they shouldn’t get our votes. If we do this, we can make Election Day Correction Day! Let a new crop see if they know how to work together to make things better. Originally, I thought we should just start enforcing the term limits in Proposed Liberty Rules Amendment #28, however, I now feel that polarized politics has reached the point of no return.

Conclusion (continued)

If one side said the sky was blue, the other side would say it's red and those who believe in them would agree, and cite earnestly, how this is so. If the other side said that blood runs red, the other would say that it runs blue and their followers would cite all the reasons why this was true.

We should start some new parties. The two imposed parties have a complete lock on the presidential debates. If someone else could meet the bar to get into a debate, I bet they'd move the bar. Their bar to allow a third party candidate in is fuzzy and subjective. Hey, all this talk about bars is making me thirsty!

If this ever took hold, oh my God! Can you imagine the 24/7 news cycle saying how the world will come to an end, in support of their chosen parties? The other one sure to be pulled out from their playbook is that they'll tell everyone "here they come after your pensions..." For those who have served in public service jobs, or any jobs for that matter, I believe that a promise is a promise and should be kept. The private sector gets away with screwing over a lot of people. Does anyone remember Enron? As I recall, their employees were generally pressured to invest savings heavily in company stocks. When the company went up in flames in late 2001, along with everything else, so did their pensions. The government should be held to a higher standard and set a better example. The retirement and pension packages promised in the past must be upheld. The scope and lucrativeness for new employees may need to be tamped down a bit, but not eliminated, and all prior commitments must be honored.

As far as the world coming to an end goes, we have an unelected military designed for the purpose of protecting us from everything that could bring us bodily harm. I'll put all my faith in them. They'll protect us no matter what. Plus, we're armed to the hilt throughout the land like no other nation on Earth. Anything short of an all-out nuclear holocaust will be outgunned and overpowered by the people. But this would only be in defense from outside forces, within, we needn't fire a shot. All we gotta do is revolt by vote. Please realize that two thirds of the Senate will remain unchanged and they'll have no choice but to work with us to facilitate the changes that we seek and agree upon them or they'll all be gone after the following two elections four years later. In the meanwhile, we can argue and debate the merits of Bills, like civilized people do, and get them all agreed upon and queued up for when they all get ejected and are replaced.

In politics, both sides use fear and hate to have you believe that we're locked in a struggle and that the other side is full of bad horrible people. For once, they're both correct! They're all bad horrible people. Let's dump 'em!

There are lots of misnomers in our society. I see little reality in reality TV. We drive on parkways and park on driveways. The best one ever though was when someone started the idea of let's all vote for the worst first. He got pretty far and I think he deserved it. He took every opportunity he was given and took the next step. The person who came up with that idea and the guy who kept climbing towards the top are true American heroes in my book. I've yet to cast a vote for such things. I don't know who let them down, but it wasn't me. I'm just an innocent bystander to that one. Why couldn't everyone who is into those things stuck it out for one season? Just one time? One time. There may only be one time. One opportunity. It may never come again.

Our fore-fathers didn't all try to cash in or out after winning the Revolutionary War as far as I know. They wanted to live within to create and preserve a government by and for the good of the people. I totally feel that we've become a people by and for the good of the government.

Conclusion (continued)

As far as the dark political times that we live in go, remember this... It's always darkest before the dawn.



Final Thought

Complacency kills.

Matthew Danahy

USMC 2006 - 2010

Born 1988



As seems to be the case with almost all people that have served in combat, my son doesn't talk much about it. However, before he went overseas, without going into much detail, he expressed to me that he learned that "complacency kills." I guessed, and, many years later when I asked him, he agreed, that this means that in a combat situation you can never afford to think "that's not my problem." If you see something that's even a little off you must speak up or act immediately. Otherwise, someone could die.

What is the cost of complacency at home?

While our daughters and sons, brothers and sisters, family and friends are fighting to preserve our freedom and our way of life abroad, what are we doing to preserve our freedom and our way of life at home?

What are we doing to honor their sacrifices?

Erosion is a slow and almost imperceptible process. Yet, over time it adds up. The year 2000 New Hampshire Statehood Quarter has the Old Man of the Mountain on the back along with the official state motto or mantra *Live Free or Die*. We can never know the full breath of forces that created the Old Man, but in spite of some efforts over the years to secure it it collapsed on May 3, 2003. After many millennia of creation, existence, and fascination, three short years after its memorialization onto a quarter - oops, gone, goodbye.

If we let the foundation of our republic erode, what is there to prevent its collapse?



State Abbreviations:

AL - Alabama

AK - Alaska

AR - Arkansas

AZ - Arizona

CA - California

CO - Colorado

CT - Connecticut

DC - Washington DC (District of Columbia)

DE - Delaware

FL - Florida

GA - Georgia

HI - Hawaii

IA - Iowa

ID - Idaho

IL - Illinois

IN - Indiana

KS - Kansas

KY - Kentucky

LA - Louisiana

MA - Massachusetts

MD - Maryland

ME - Maine

MI - Michigan

MN - Minnesota

MO - Missouri

MS - Mississippi

MT - Montana

NC - North Carolina

ND - North Dakota

NE - Nebraska

NH - New Hampshire

NJ - New Jersey

NY - New York

NM - New Mexico

NV - Nevada

OH - Ohio

OK - Oklahoma

OR - Oregon

PA - Pennsylvania

RI - Rhode Island

SC - South Carolina

SD - South Dakota

TN - Tennessee

TX - Texas

UT - Utah

VA - Virginia

VT - Vermont

WA - Washington

WI - Wisconsin

WV - West Virginia

WY - Wyoming



Adio
Adiós
Agur
Até a vista
Au revoir
Auf Wiedersehen
Ayoo
Buh bye
Bless
Chao
Chào ông
Ciao
Daa daa
Da svidahnia
Do widzenia
Farvel
Fiimaan illaah
Goodbye
Hoscakal
Khush
La gohn
Ma'as salaama
Namasté
Peace out
Salut
Sionara
Sgagay
Shalom
Slán leat
Sayonara
Trok Lam
Viso gero
Viszlát
Wot maber
Zai jian
Zbohem

U.S. Constitution text source:
<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>

The Bill of Rights and the rest of the amendments text source:
<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights-transcript>

Obligational acknowledgement:
Jeep® has a storied history born out of WWII in 1941. Since 2014, it's a Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) brand.



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2025.02.25

Closing editorial note 1: I revisited the U.S. Constitution and Amendment text source links noted above briefly for the 3rd Edition and it appears that they've integrated some effort to correlate the impact of the Amendments XI - XXVII to the original constitutional text. I've not examined it in enough detail to comment on the pros and cons of how it's been done. All of my correlations were done independently and I haven't compared my cross references versus theirs.

Closing editorial note 2: The original constitution, amendments and I refer to 'enemies.' No people in the world are inherently 'enemies' of the USA. Certain heads of state and government structures earn it or seem to. Only by association, the people of those countries become our 'enemies' which I hope we overcome.

One religion: Love

One religion: Understanding

One religion: Compassion

One religion: Support

One religion: Inspiration

Love understands. Understanding is compassion. Compassion supports. Support inspires. Inspiration lives.



It is every Americans' right and obligation to read and interpret the Constitution for himself.

Thomas Jefferson

