

“A government of the masses.

“Results in mobocracy.

“Attitude toward property is communistic — negating property rights.

“Attitude toward law is that the will of the majority shall regulate, whether it be based upon deliberation or governed by passion, prejudice, and impulse, without restraint or regard to consequences.

“Results in demagogism, license, agitation, discontent, anarchy.”

It went on to say: “Our Constitutional fathers, familiar with the strength and weakness of both autocracy and democracy, with fixed principles definitely in mind, defined a representative republican form of government. They made a very marked distinction between a republic and a democracy ... and said repeatedly and emphatically that they had founded a republic.”

IS IT CONSTITUTIONAL?

The United States of America is a constitutional republic consisting of the federal government and the state governments. It is not a democracy. The federal government has specific powers delegated to it through the United States Constitution, while each state government gets its power by its state constitution.

The U.S. Congress is not allowed to make any law it wants; it is bound by this constitutional mandate. For instance, the First Amendment states, “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.”

And the Tenth Amendment speaks out more clearly: “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.”

The Constitution authorizes the federal government to protect our God-given rights and to provide for the common

defense. Nowhere does it allow the federal government to provide foreign-aid handouts, unemployment benefits, subsidized housing, food stamps, agricultural price supports, or any other share-the-wealth schemes.

Tragically, much of the legislation that Congress passes is unconstitutional. This abuse of authority happens because Americans have lost sight of basic principles.

Your congressman and state legislators have taken an oath to support and defend the constitution. Whenever a new bill comes up for a vote, he should ask himself: Is it constitutional? If it is unconstitutional, he should vote against it. If he does not vote against unconstitutional legislation, you should ask him why.

HOW IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN DOING?



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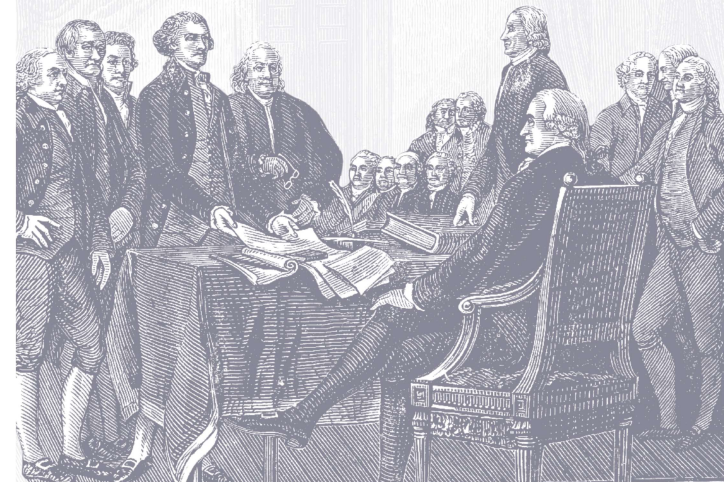
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BACK TO BASICS



AMERICA'S FOUNDERS GAVE US A CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC. BECAUSE OF THEM, WE WERE BORN FREE.

But we could die as slaves because we have, as a people, lost sight of basic truths:

- 1. Freedom cannot exist without morality.** The idea of immoral free people makes no more sense than dry water. Without sufficient character and moral fortitude, we cannot govern ourselves.
When morality declines, the abuse of rights increases and more government is necessary. Just as criminals need jailers and domesticated animals need herdsmen, an immoral citizenry needs a police state. If we ever abandon our morality, we will lose our freedom.
- 2. Ignorant and free can never be.** In order to be capable of self-government, we must not only be moral but informed. If we are not, we will tend to vote for the politician who promises the most. We will vote for more government until one day we have total government.

An uninformed electorate will vote itself into slavery. Only a moral, well-informed electorate will vote for people of principle — those who will limit the government to its proper role.

3. **Our rights come from God.** When God created humanity, He gave us certain inalienable rights. Rights existed before humans formed governments. The sole purpose of government is to protect these rights. Government cannot grant us rights we already have. And it can't legislate out of existence our inalienable rights.

Our form of government is based on this fundamental truth. If we ever abandon it, we will lose our form of government.

4. **The essence of freedom is the limitation of government.** Government is necessary to secure our God-given rights because humans are not angels. Because government officials are human, government power must be strictly limited and constantly held in check.

The U.S. Constitution limits the powers of the federal government. Nonetheless, much that the federal government does today is unconstitutional. This abuse of authority happens because we have forgotten basic truths. We will preserve our freedom for future generations only if we recall the wisdom of the Founders and *get back to basics!*

WE'VE GOT A GOVERNMENT OF LAWS — OR OF MEN?

Because humans created governments, and not vice versa, the rights of government are based on the God-given rights of the individual. An individual has the right to defend his life, liberty, and property; therefore, he also has the right to join with others and form a government to protect those rights. **An individual does not have the right to violate the rights of another, and neither does government.**

Government should be large enough to secure our God-given rights but not large enough to violate them.

If there were no government whatsoever, our rights would not be secure. Individuals acting alone would be unable to protect their liberty against criminal acts of

unjust men. Without any organized government, anarchy would prevail. Ultimately, the criminals would take control and enslave their fellow citizens.

Our rights also would not be secure under a system of total government. Such a government might grant its citizens privileges from time to time, but it could also take away those privileges on a whim. Whenever government has total power, individuals have none. Remember, the root of the word totalitarian is total.

Communism and Nazism are not at opposite ends of the political spectrum as the public has been led to believe. They are ideological twins. Both are totalitarian, and both are examples of 100 percent governmental control.



Our rights can only be secure under limited government. Liberty is a way station between anarchy (no government) on one end of the political spectrum and totalitarianism (total government) on the other end.

Preserving liberty for ourselves and future generations is hard work. As George Washington warned, "Government is not reason; it is not eloquence; it is force! Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master." The Founders realized that government, like fire, had to be contained. And so they gave us a government of laws — not of men. These wise men created a republic and not a democracy.

A democracy is majority rule and destroys liberty because there is no law to prevent the majority from trampling on individual rights. Whatever the majority says, goes. A lynch mob is a good example of pure democracy in action. There is only one dissenting vote — and that is cast by the person at the end of the rope.

But a **republic** is a government of law under a constitution. The constitution holds the government in check and prevents the majority (acting through their government) from violating the rights of the individual. Under this system of government, a lynch mob is illegal. The suspected criminal cannot be denied his right to a fair trial even if the majority of the citizenry demands otherwise.

We will either be governed by laws or ruled by humans. Because of human nature, rule by men has always ended in tyranny. Only under a government of laws will secure our God-given rights.

HAVE YOU BEEN DECEIVED?

QUESTION: When the Founders established our government, they gave us: (a) a *democracy*, or (b) a *republic*?

If you have been led to believe that our country is a *democracy*, **you have been deceived.**

Not only did our Founders establish a republic, they warned about democracy. James Madison, known as the father of the U.S. Constitution, wrote in "Essay #10" of *The Federalist Papers*, "... democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths."

The United States Constitution does not contain the word *democracy*. It does "guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government ..." When we recite the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag, we say, "to the Republic for which it stands," not "to the Democracy."

The difference between a republic and a democracy was once widely understood in America. The U.S. War Department (now the Department of Defense) taught the difference in a training manual (No. 2000-25) published on November 30, 1928.

This official U.S. government document, used at the time for the training of American military personnel, said this of democracy: