**mRNA May Alter Human DNA**

Over the past year, it would be all but impossible for Americans not to notice the media’s decision to make vaccines the dominant COVID narrative, rushing to do so even [before](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/news/a-timeline-pandemic-and-erosion-of-freedoms-have-been-decades-in-the-making/) any coronavirus-attributed deaths occurred.

The media’s slanted coverage has provided a particularly fruitful public relations boost for [messenger RNA](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/news/components-of-mrna-technology-could-lead-to-significant-adverse-events-in-one-or-more-of-our-clinical-trials-says-moderna/) (mRNA) vaccines — [decades in the making](https://www.statnews.com/2020/11/10/the-story-of-mrna-how-a-once-dismissed-idea-became-a-leading-technology-in-the-covid-vaccine-race/) but never approved for human use — helping to usher the [experimental](https://www.fda.gov/drugs/types-applications/investigational-new-drug-ind-application#Introduction) technology closer to the regulatory finish line.

Under ordinary circumstances, the body makes (“transcribes”) [mRNA](https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/neuroscience/messenger-rna) from the DNA in a cell’s nucleus. The mRNA then travels out of the nucleus into the [cytoplasm](https://sciencing.com/cytoplasm-function-and-facts-13714432.html), where it provides instructions about which proteins to make.

By comparison, mRNA vaccines send their [chemically synthesized](https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/how-do-mrna-vaccines-work) mRNA payload (bundled with spike protein-manufacturing instructions) directly into the cytoplasm.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and most mRNA vaccine [scientists](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29326426/), the buck then stops there — mRNA vaccines “do not [affect or interact with](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/mrna.html) our DNA in any way,” the CDC says. The CDC asserts first, that the mRNA cannot enter the cell’s nucleus (where DNA resides), and second, that the cell — Mission-Impossible-style — “gets rid of the mRNA soon after it is finished using the instructions.”

A December [preprint](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33330870/) about [SARS-CoV-2](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/news/republish/chds-letter-to-congress-urging-covid-19-origins-investigation/), by scientists at Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), produced findings about wild coronavirus that raise questions about how viral RNA operates.

The scientists conducted the [analysis](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33330870/) because they were “[puzzled](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2021/02/15/breaking-study-sheds-more-light-on-whether-an-rna-vaccine-can-permanently-alter-dna/) by the fact that there is a respectable number of people who are testing positive for COVID-19 by [PCR](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender-search/?search=duped&search_verticle=defender) long after the infection was gone.”

Their key findings were as follows: SARS-CoV-2 RNAs “can be reverse transcribed in human cells,” “these DNA sequences can be integrated into the cell genome and subsequently be transcribed” (a phenomenon called “retro-integration”) — and there are viable cellular pathways to explain how this happens.

According to Ph.D. biochemist and molecular biologist [Dr. Doug Corrigan](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/about-me/), these important findings (which run contrary to “current biological dogma”) belong to the [category](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2021/02/15/breaking-study-sheds-more-light-on-whether-an-rna-vaccine-can-permanently-alter-dna/) of “Things We Were Absolutely and Unequivocally Certain Couldn’t Happen Which Actually Happened.”

The findings of the Harvard and MIT researchers also put the CDC’s assumptions about mRNA vaccines on shakier ground, according to Corrigan. In fact, a month before the Harvard-MIT preprint appeared, Corrigan had already written a blog [outlining](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2020/11/27/will-an-rna-vaccine-permanently-alter-my-dna/) possible mechanisms and pathways whereby mRNA vaccines could produce the identical phenomenon.

In a second [blog post](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2021/02/15/breaking-study-sheds-more-light-on-whether-an-rna-vaccine-can-permanently-alter-dna/), written after the preprint came out, Corrigan emphasized that the Harvard-MIT findings about coronavirus RNA have major implications for mRNA vaccines — a fact he describes as “the big elephant in the room.” While not claiming that vaccine RNA will necessarily behave in the same way as coronavirus RNA — that is, permanently altering genomic DNA — Corrigan [believes](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2021/02/15/breaking-study-sheds-more-light-on-whether-an-rna-vaccine-can-permanently-alter-dna/) that the possibility exists and deserves close scrutiny.

In Corrigan’s view, the preprint’s contribution is that it “validates that this is at least plausible, and most likely [probable](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2021/02/15/breaking-study-sheds-more-light-on-whether-an-rna-vaccine-can-permanently-alter-dna/).”

**Reverse transcription**

As the phrase “reverse transcription” implies, the DNA-to-mRNA pathway is not always a one-way street. Enzymes called reverse transcriptases can also [convert RNA into DNA](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2020/11/27/will-an-rna-vaccine-permanently-alter-my-dna/), allowing the latter to be integrated into the DNA in the cell nucleus.

Nor is reverse transcription uncommon. Geneticists report that “[Over 40%](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26104559/) of mammalian genomes comprise the products of reverse transcription.”

The [preliminary evidence](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.12.12.422516v1.full.pdf) cited by the Harvard-MIT researchers indicates that endogenous reverse transcriptase enzymes may facilitate reverse transcription of coronavirus RNAs and trigger their integration into the human genome.

The authors suggest that while the [clinical consequences](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.12.12.422516v1.full.pdf) require further study, detrimental effects are a distinct possibility and — depending on the integrated viral fragments’ “insertion sites in the human genome” and an individual’s underlying health status — could include “a more severe immune response … such as a ‘[cytokine storm](https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMra2026131)’ or auto-immune reactions.”

In 2012, a study [suggested](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7120651/) that viral genome integration could “lead to drastic consequences for the host cell, including gene disruption, insertional mutagenesis and cell death.”

Bottom of Form

Corrigan makes a point of saying that the [pathways](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2021/02/15/breaking-study-sheds-more-light-on-whether-an-rna-vaccine-can-permanently-alter-dna/) hypothesized to facilitate retro-integration of viral — or vaccine — RNA into DNA “are not unknown to people who understand molecular biology at a deeper level.”

Even so, the preprint’s discussion of reverse transcription and genome integration elicited a maelstrom of negative [comments](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.12.12.422516v1) from readers unwilling to rethink biological dogma, some of whom even advocated for retraction (though preprints are, by definition, unpublished) on the grounds that “conspiracy theorists … will take this paper to ‘proof’ that mRNA vaccines can in fact alter your genetic code.”

More thoughtful readers agreed with Corrigan that the paper raises important questions. For example, one reader stated that confirmatory evidence is lacking “to show that the spike protein only is expressed for a short amount of time (say 1-3 days) after vaccination,” adding, “We think that this is the case, but there is no evidence for that.”

In fact, just how long the vaccines’ synthetic mRNA — and thus the instructions for cells to keep manufacturing spike protein — persist inside the cells is an open question.

Ordinarily, RNA is a “[notoriously fragile](https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/how-do-mrna-vaccines-work)” and unstable molecule. According to scientists, “this fragility is true of the mRNA of [any living thing](https://www.jpost.com/health-science/could-an-mrna-vaccine-be-dangerous-in-the-long-term-649253), whether it belongs to a plant, bacteria, virus or human.”

But the synthetic mRNA in the [COVID vaccines](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/covid-19-vaccine-news/) is a different story. In fact, the step that ultimately allowed scientists and vaccine manufacturers to [resolve](https://www.statnews.com/2020/11/10/the-story-of-mrna-how-a-once-dismissed-idea-became-a-leading-technology-in-the-covid-vaccine-race/) their decades-long mRNA vaccine impasse was when they figured out how to [chemically modify](https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/how-do-mrna-vaccines-work) mRNA to increase its stability and longevity — in other words, produce RNA “that hangs around in the cell [much longer](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2020/11/27/will-an-rna-vaccine-permanently-alter-my-dna/) than viral RNA, or even RNA that our cell normally produces for normal protein production.”

It is anyone’s guess what the synthetic mRNA is doing while it is “hanging around,” but Corrigan speculates that its enhanced longevity [raises the probability](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2020/11/27/will-an-rna-vaccine-permanently-alter-my-dna/) of it “being converted over into DNA.”

Moreover, because the vaccine mRNA is also engineered to be more efficient at being translated into protein, “negative effects could be [more frequent and more pronounced with the vaccine](https://sciencewithdrdoug.com/2021/02/15/breaking-study-sheds-more-light-on-whether-an-rna-vaccine-can-permanently-alter-dna/) when compared to the natural virus.”

**Dollar signs**

Corrigan acknowledges that some people may dismiss his warnings, saying “If the virus is able to accomplish this, then why should I care if the vaccine does the same thing?”

He has a ready and compelling response:

“[T]here’s a big difference between the scenario where people randomly, and unwittingly, have their genetics monkeyed with because they were exposed to the coronavirus, and the scenario where we willfully vaccinate billions of people while telling them this isn’t happening.”

Unfortunately, the prevailing attitude seems to be that the “race to get the public vaccinated” justifies [taking these extra risks](https://www.jpost.com/health-science/could-an-mrna-vaccine-be-dangerous-in-the-long-term-649253). In mid-November, after the [Jerusalem Post](https://www.jpost.com/health-science/could-an-mrna-vaccine-be-dangerous-in-the-long-term-649253) told readers that “when the world begins inoculating itself with these completely new and revolutionary vaccines, it will know virtually nothing about their long-term effects,” an Israeli hospital director argued that it’s not worth waiting two more years to ferret out mRNA vaccines’ “unique and unknown risks” or potential long-term effects.

In the U.S., enthusiasm for mRNA technology is similarly unfettered. Just a few days after the CDC released [updated data](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/covid-vaccine-injuries-vaers-cdc/) showing that more than 2,200 deaths of individuals who had received either the [Pfizer](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/regulators-major-concerns-pfizers-mrna-vaccine/) or [Moderna](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/woman-dies-second-moderna-vaccine/) mRNA vaccines had been reported as of Mar. 26 , The Atlantic [praised the technology](https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/03/how-mrna-technology-could-change-world/618431/), suggesting that the “ingenious” synthetic mRNA technology behind Pfizer’s and Moderna’s COVID vaccines represented a “breakthrough” that could “change the world.”

Rather than dismiss the prospect of retro-integration of foreign DNA as a “conspiracy theory,” scientists should be conducting studies with the mRNA-vaccinated to assess actual risks.

For example, Corrigan believes that while in vitro data in human cell lines (one of the data sources examined by the Harvard-MIT researchers) offer “air tight” results, there is still a need to conclusively demonstrate real-life genomic alteration through “PCR, DNA sequencing or [Southern Blot](https://www.genome.gov/genetics-glossary/Southern-Blot) … on purified genomic DNA of COVID-19 patients” — and vaccinated individuals.

Yet instead of addressing these research gaps, companies are salivating over the [potential](https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/03/how-mrna-technology-could-change-world/618431/) to use human-edited mRNA to “commandeer our cellular machinery” and “make just about any protein under the sun.”

A March 10 [press release](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/rna-vaccine-patent-landscape-2021-mrna-as-vaccines-won-the-race-for-the-covid-19-vaccine-301244449.html) pronouncing mRNA vaccines the clear winners of the COVID-19 vaccine race noted that all major [pharmaceutical](https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender_category/big-pharma/) companies are now “testing out the [mRNA] technology by entering into license agreements and/or collaboration with well-established RNA companies.”

In old Disney cartoons, viewers often witnessed Donald Duck’s rich uncle, Scrooge McDuck’s, “bulging eyes [turn] into oversized Vegas slot machine [dollar signs](https://medium.com/the-coffeelicious/swimming-in-my-money-like-scrooge-mcduck-fc2140e78ee)” when contemplating opportunities to increase his already immense wealth.

Judging by pharmaceutical company executives’ willingness to overlook mRNA vaccines’ long-term — and possibly multigenerational — risks, they must be similarly entranced by dollar-sign visions of a never-ending pipeline of “[plug and play](https://www.modernatx.com/mrna-technology/mrna-platform-enabling-drug-discovery-development)” mRNA products.

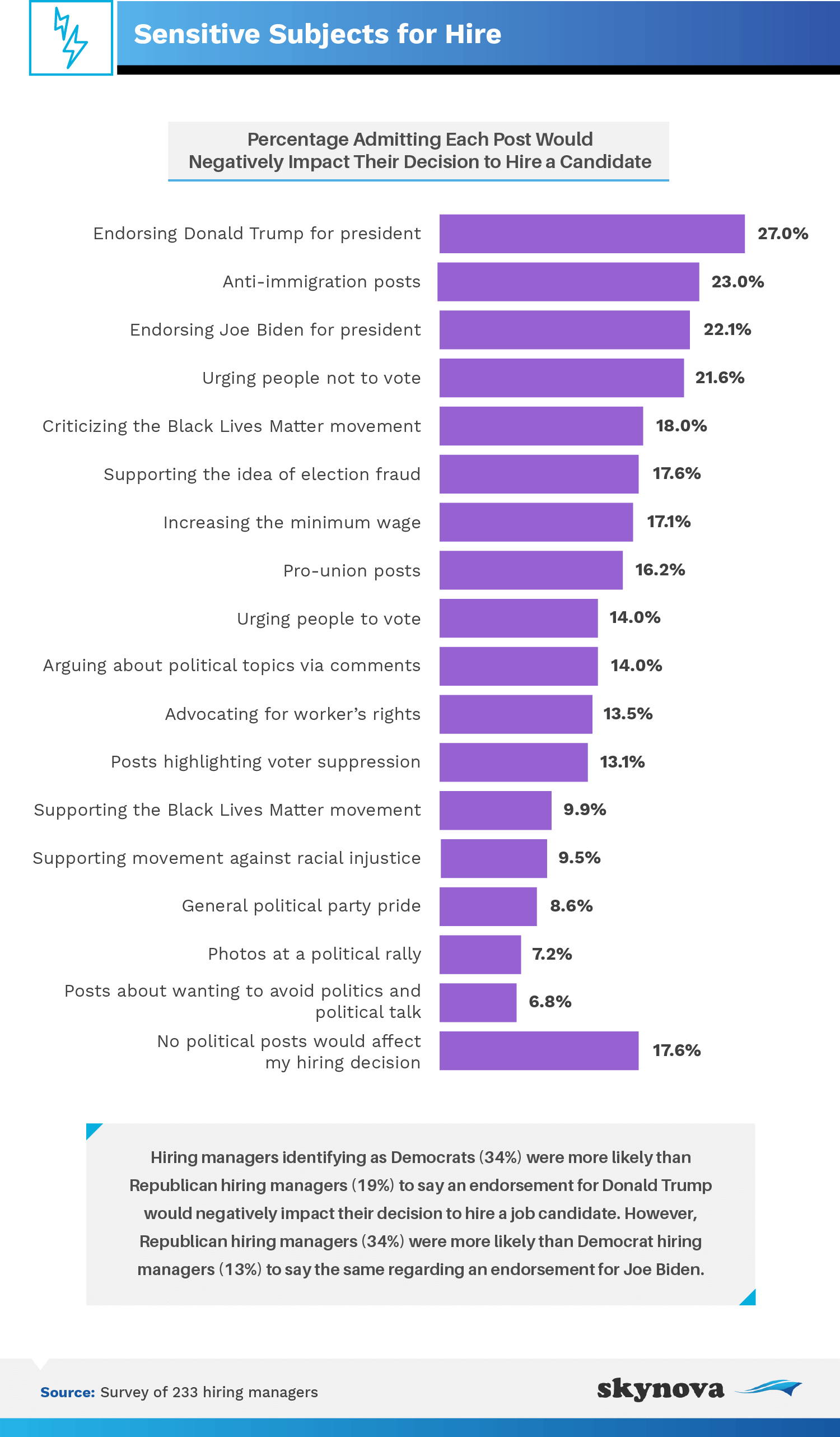
**Trump Unemployment Syndrome**

The business world’s discrimination against anything “Trump” has reached an epidemic level, touching former aides to the president, anybody pictured near the Jan. 6 Capitol protest, and now those who endorsed him on social media posts.

A new survey of hiring managers provided to Secrets found that backing Trump on social media is the top reason to reject a job applicant.

The apparent reason: Human resources departments want to avoid “tiffs” between employees.

“Likely to avoid future office tiffs, a significant portion of hiring managers admitted to negatively judging candidates based on the political content posted. For 27% of hiring managers, social media posts endorsing [Donald Trump](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/tag/donald-trump?utm_campaign=autolink&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=autolink) for president would negatively impact their decision to hire a candidate,” read the analysis of the [poll done for Skynova,](https://www.skynova.com/blog/the-impact-of-political-posts-on-hiring) an online business software company.



The survey of hiring managers and employees also found that many potential employees don’t want to work for a pro-Trump company. “Holding a similar stance as hiring managers, 40.6% of employees said evidence endorsing Donald Trump for president would negatively impact their decision to apply for a job, compared to only 21.6% reporting the same of endorsement for [Joe Biden](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/tag/joe-biden?utm_campaign=autolink&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=autolink) for president,” the analysis read.

Several top Trump aides have reported difficulties landing a suitable job. While that is typical of aides to former Republican presidents, those with Trump said it’s sometimes hard to even get in the door for an interview.

That is the result of an expanding “cancel culture” targeting Trump and “woke” corporations afraid of liberal boycotts.

In the same survey, only 9.9% of hiring managers would look negatively on a job candidate who backed [Black Lives Matter](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/tag/black-lives-matter?utm_campaign=autolink&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=autolink) online.

The survey was the latest to warn workers and companies about their [Facebook](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/tag/facebook?utm_campaign=autolink&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=autolink), [Twitter](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/tag/twitter?utm_campaign=autolink&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=autolink), and Instagram posts. That’s because 91% of hiring managers sometimes or always look at the posts of job applicants.

Other reasons that hiring managers admit would negatively affect their decision to hire a candidate are:

* Anti-immigration posts — 23%.
* Endorsing Joe Biden for president — 22%.
* Urging people not to vote — 21%.

“Right, left, or smack in the middle, employers' and employees' stances on politics are no longer chalked up to a personal matter," the analysis read. "While job applications may not explicitly ask about political affiliation, hiring managers turn to social media to see where candidates' views lie — and prospective employees are doing the same. Endorsing Donald Trump for president, even on personal social media accounts, is the easiest way to be knocked down a few notches in employers' and potential employees' eyes. Plus, not actively supporting or denouncing the most pressing social issues of 2020 — like immigration, the Black Lives Matter movement, and voting — also had a negative impact on impressions.”

**Woke and Rich**

Patrisse Khan-Cullors, one of the co-founders of the Black Lives Matter movement and a “trained Marxist,” is reported to have bought four homes over the past several years, as her activist profile grew and protests raged around the country.

Last week, real estate website Dirt.com [reported](https://www.dirt.com/gallery/more-dirt/politicians/black-lives-matter-co-founder-patrisse-khan-cullors-lands-topanga-canyon-compound-1203374803/) that the “37-year-old social justice visionary” Khan-Cullors had bought a $1.4 million compound in Topanga, a remote Los Angeles neighborhood nestled deep in the Santa Monica mountains.

In L.A. terms, $1.4 million is not necessarily extravagant, though the activist took criticism for spending what would be a fortune in most other real estate markets, and for buying in a largely white neighborhood after [urging](https://www.breitbart.com/local/2016/12/27/blm-creates-buy-black-map-black-owned-businesses/) people to “buy black.”

However, it turns out that Khan-Cullors also owns a house in the predominantly black neighborhood of Inglewood — among several other homes. The *New York Post* [reported](https://nypost.com/2021/04/10/inside-blm-co-founder-patrisse-khan-cullors-real-estate-buying-binge/?utm_source=maropost&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=news_alert&utm_content=20210410&mpweb=755-9344744-719172165) Saturday that she bought a $510,000 home there in 2016, which is worth about $800,000 today. She also bought a $590,000 home in South Los Angeles that is worth $720,000 today, and bought a ranch in rural Georgia for $415,000 last year, “featuring a private airplane hangar with a studio apartment above it.”

The *Post* added that Khan-Cullors and spouse Janaya Khan “also eyed property in the Bahamas at an ultra-exclusive resort where Justin Timberlake and Tiger Woods both have homes” called the Albany last year, with the price not disclosed.

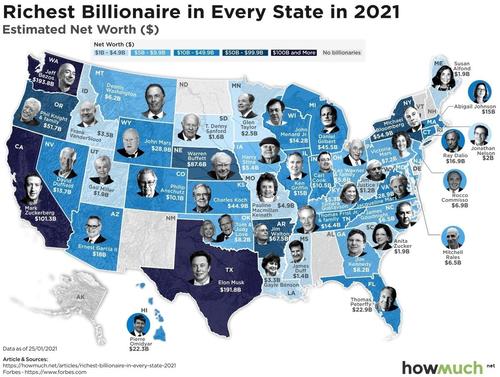
Khan-Cullors [declared](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2020/06/22/black-lives-matter-co-founder-in-2015-we-are-trained-marxists/) in 2015 that she and the other Black Lives Matter co-founders were “trained Marxists” who are ” super-versed” on “ideological theories.” Last year, as Breitbart News noted, the radical activist [signed](https://www.breitbart.com/entertainment/2020/10/18/patrisse-cullors-signs-deal-with-warner-bros/) a content production deal with Warner Bros. Television Group.

The news of Khan-Cullors’s real estate purchases prompted some activists called for a financial investigation of the Black Lives Matter movement. Khan-Cullors is hardly the first to cash in. Tamika Mallory, notorious for her support of the antisemite Louis Farrakhan, has [scored](https://www.blackenterprise.com/mysonne-defends-activist-tamika-mallory-against-clout-chaser-criticism/) product endorsements.

Nor would Khan-Cullors be the first Marxist to succeed in the real estate market with multiple homes. In 2014, Breitbart News [reported](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2014/12/23/meet-the-california-landlords-who-love-the-castro-regime/) on local landlords in Santa Monica, California, who are avowed supporters of the Castro regime in Cuba.

**Billionaire Blast**

**For the wealthy and the ultra-wealthy, happy days are here again.** Even though we have just been through [one of the most difficult 12 months in our history](http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com/this-economic-depression-has-left-very-deep-economic-scars-all-over-america/), the number of billionaires has increased dramatically during this pandemic.  That seems rather odd, but there is no denying that the rich have gotten even richer during this crisis.

[](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/Richest-Billionaire-in-Every-State%20%281%29.jpg?itok=2rzHJpZP)

**In fact, Forbes revealed this week that the number of billionaires has risen**[**by about 30 percent**](https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/news/billionaires-club-grew-by-nearly-a-third-to-2755-during-pandemic/ar-BB1fmcYV?ocid=uxbndlbing)**over the past year…**

The number of newly minted and reissued billionaires soared last year, Forbes reported Tuesday in its annual ranking, a staggering accumulation of personal wealth that stands in sharp contrast with the widespread economic struggles unleashed by the coronavirus pandemic.

The number of billionaires on Forbes’ 35th annual ranking swelled by 660 to 2,755 — a roughly 30 percent jump from a year ago — and 493 of them are first-timers. Seven of eight are richer than they were before the pandemic. Forbes calculates net worth by using stock prices and exchange rates from March 5.

**Of course thanks to the reckless policies of our leaders, a billion dollars does not go nearly as far as it once did.**

But still, a billion dollars is a whole lot of money.

**Needless to say, the biggest reason why the number of billionaires has exploded is because we have been witnessing one of the greatest stock market rallies in history.**

A year ago, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was sitting at about 23,000.

Today, it is above 33,000, and some analysts expect it to shoot quite a bit higher throughout the rest of 2021.

Stock prices have never been more detached from economic reality as they have been over the past 12 months, and they have only risen so high because of unprecedented intervention by the Federal Reserve and because of extremely wild spending by the federal government.

Many have warned that the party will inevitably come to a crashing end at some point, but it hasn’t happened yet.

So for now, the market optimists look like champions.

**And now that Joe Biden is in the White House, the corporate media is telling us that we are on the verge of a grand new era of American prosperity.**The corporate media insists that the pandemic will soon be behind us thanks to the vaccines, and the talking heads on television envision a return to the good old days very quickly.

In fact, Barron’s is [already declaring](https://www.barrons.com/articles/this-just-might-be-the-best-u-s-economy-ever-51617712252) that the “U.S. economy might be stronger than it’s ever been”.

**And CNN**[**is trying to convince us**](https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/08/investing/premarket-stocks-trading/index.html)**that “America’s economy could be heading for a golden era of growth”.**

Really?

If the U.S. economy is actually improving, then why are new claims for unemployment benefits [going up?](https://www.foxbusiness.com/economy/744000-americans-file-for-first-time-jobless-benefits)…

The number of Americans filing first-time unemployment benefits unexpectedly rose last week, according to the Labor Department.

Data released Thursday showed 744,000 Americans filed first-time jobless claims in the week ended April 3. Analysts surveyed by Refinitiv were expecting 680,000 filings. The previous week’s total was revised higher by 9,000 to 728,000.

**If economic conditions were getting better, that number should be going the other way.**

Even I didn’t expect a number this bad.

Prior to 2020, the all-time record high for new unemployment claims in a single week was 695,000.  That record was established in October 1982, and it stood all the way until the COVID pandemic hit the U.S. early last year.

Sadly, we have been above 695,000 almost every single week since then.

The numbers compiled by the states tell us that nearly three-quarters of a million Americans filed new claims for unemployment benefits last week.  That is an absolutely catastrophic number.  Nobody should be talking about a “golden era of growth” or claiming that the “economy might be stronger than it’s ever been” until we get that number back down to pre-pandemic levels.

And right now, we are at a level that is about three times as high as pre-pandemic levels.

Look, the truth is that anyone that tells you that unemployment is low in the United States is lying to you.

**According to John Williams of shadowstats.com, if honest numbers were being used the unemployment rate in the United States would be**[**25.7 percent**](http://www.shadowstats.com/alternate_data/unemployment-charts)**right now.**

That is the sort of number that we would expect to see during an economic depression, and the truth is that we are in [an economic depression](http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com/this-economic-depression-has-left-very-deep-economic-scars-all-over-america/).

Over the past year, more than 70 million new claims for unemployment benefits have been filed, and [approximately 4 million U.S. businesses](http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com/this-economic-depression-has-left-very-deep-economic-scars-all-over-america/) have gone out of existence permanently.

**But don’t worry, the stock market is hovering near all-time record highs and the corporate media is telling you that everything is going to be wonderful now that Joe Biden is in control.**

Come on man!

You can’t really believe that stuff that they are shoveling.

With each passing day, more Americans are losing their jobs, more Americans are falling out of the middle class, and the cost of living just keeps going up even higher.

In fact, we just learned that global food prices have now gone up [for 10 months in a row](https://www.yahoo.com/now/global-food-costs-keep-climbing-080444402.html)…

The global food-price rally that’s stoking inflation worries and hitting consumers around the world shows little sign of slowing.

Even with grain prices taking a breather on good crop prospects, a United Nations gauge of global food costs rose for a 10th month in March to the highest since 2014. Last month’s advance was driven by a surge in vegetable oils amid stronger demand and tight inventories, according to Abdolreza Abbassian, a senior economist at the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization.

I am going to continue to watch global food prices very carefully, because I believe that it will be a very important trend [in the months and years ahead](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08DJ6Y81Q).

**But for now, the good news is that at least economic conditions are relatively stable.**

Yes, things are not nearly as good as they were before the pandemic, but at least they are not getting a whole lot worse.

**So even though things are not great, we should enjoy this period of relative stability while we still can, because it definitely will not last.**

**Fixing the Broken 2020 Election**

This article accepts, for purposes of argument, that Trump won the election. It accepts the claims from Mike Liddell’s 2-hour documentary.  Lindell’s sources found that most of the flipping of votes from Trump to Biden occurred in the swing states of Michigan, Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Arizona, and that it occurred during the wee hours of November 4, 2020.

Many past presidential elections have been rigged. No doubt elections for all office contained the maximum dishonesty the players could get away with. Ask me about the election to Congress of Dennis Hastert — his competitor had to be disposed of.  How many times has that happened? Within the profession of politicians, deceit is taken to be part of the flora and fauna.

Still, we have law as a final arbiter. I’ll show you how the US can correct the 2020 problem, constitutionally, via any one of six scenarios. The parchment contains the scientifically correct way to thwart runaway power or unbalanced power. That’s its job, Folks.

Don’t forget, the 55 men from 13 states who sat in Convention Hall, Philadelphia in 1787 were just as selfish as any other human being and they were also selfish for their particular state and its business interests.  New York and Virginia had thriving ports. Little guys like New Hampshire and Georgia did not want the biggies to dominate. Their delegates refused to sign unless guarantees were made in their respective interests.

The next year, 1788, selfish citizens were refusing to ratify the Bill of Rights unless it contained guarantees for them.  So, far from Mary seeing the Constitution as some pious document, she sees it for what it is, in the real world of survival.

Note: “the people,” as one of the players in the Constitution, have to stick up for themselves.  None of the other players exist to mollycoddle the people. In fact all players have a duty to counteract their fellow players. A “balancing of powers” is considered to be a principle of the Constitution.

**Six Scenarios for Correcting the Stolen Election**

***Scenario 1 –*** Joe Biden sees that the jig is up. He resigns peacefully from office.  Trump takes the Oath of Office for a second term, administered by any judge or citizen (Article II, sec 1).

***Scenario 2 –***  Biden refuses to leave the building. Trump could set up his office in a tent or a van.  It doesn’t even have to be in Washington DC.  There’s federal property all over the country.  The Constitution names a capital territory as occupying up 10 square miles on land ceded by a state (Article I, sec 8, Clause 17).

***Scenario 3*** – Congress meets to pass legislation that pointedly endorses the Constitution’s method of using Elector’s ballots from each of the 50 states as the method of choosing a president (Article II, sec 2). The new law says “Owing to unusual circumstances, any state wishing to send a correction of its Electors’ ballots of December 14, 2020 may do so.”

***Scenario 4*** – The legislature of any interested state(s) passes a state law enabling the changing of its 2020 Electors’ ballots (Amendment 10.  “The powers not delegated [to the feds] are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people”).

***Scenario 5*** – The judiciary (of a state or federal court or the US Supreme Court) adjudicates a civil case brought against some player in the 2020 election. It rules that the ballot counting was fraudulent and thus is void (Article III).

***Scenario 6*** – The Executive (such as the DOJ) of the US indicts and tries one or more persons for crime in connection with the stealing of the 2020 election. (Article II, sec 3:  a president “shall take Care that the Laws shall be faithfully executed) Alternatively, a state executive indicts and tries one or more persons for that crime.

Note that Scenarios 5 and 6 (court trials) do not resolve the problem to completion – they would have to trigger Scenarios 3 or 4 (legislative action).

**Other Factors in the Air**

So you see that there are many ways to proceed, per the US Constitution, to put the real winner of the 2020 election back into office, without violence. Any one of them could start up soon.  SCOTUS announced on February 6, 2021 that it would begin to look at some of the pending appeals at its February 19th Conference.

Now we can discuss some related matters that are in the air today.

**Impeachment**. Impeachment is both constitutional and political.  In my opinion, President Trump (not to mention Obama and Bush) has done things worthy of impeachment. If he regains office and does some more, he is impeachable (Article I, sec 4).

The current “second impeachment” of Donald Trump as a private citizen should be abandoned.  I say it is unconstitutional in so far as it is a bill of attainder. Per Article I section 9, “No Bill of Attainder … shall be passed.” Apparently, though, the Senate is holding a trial with a vote of acquittal being likely.

**Pardoning a President**. It can’t be ruled out that Biden will resign quietly with a promise of a subsequent pardon by Trump. Nixon resigned and was then pardoned by Gerald Ford. It is constitutionally OK to do that. Note, though, that even when Nixon was pardoned, he could have been forced to testify to Congress at an investigation.  He could not take the Fifth.  To refuse to testify is a jailable offense.

**January 6, 2021** **Violence at the Capitol.**It is not yet clear who participated in the alleged riot of January 6th at the Capitol Building. It is very important that we find out.  Note: a state, or a citizen-led grand jury within a state can independently indict any of its citizens for crime. Article III , sec 2 says “Trials must be held in the State where [the crimes were] committed.” I believe a person can be tried for planning the Capitol action while home in his state.

“**China**.” Plus, the US has meddled in foreign elections for decades. Think Iran 1953, Guatemala 1954, Poland 1948, Chile 1973. There is also history of the US being interfered with by others.  Even the American 1775 Declaration of Independence, all sounding happy and brave, was possibly a plant for some nefarious purpose. Surely the 2020 interference by China and Iran in Biden’s election is not as foreign as it looks. Everything is coordinated from the top.

**Westminsterization of Congress**. Some of us can recall a time when House votes and Senate votes were not predictable by Party. Every vote was a conscience vote, so to speak. In the UK, the Westminster system means that the party leader tells his/her underlings what to vote for. Every year the US Congress becomes more Westminsterized, aided greatly by the media that is always telling the citizens that this is normal and that there are red states and blue sates. Among the public, the 2020 election was very divisive.

**The New**“**Cancel Culture**.” Stunningly, given America’s pride in freedom of speech, communication has been halted both on university campuses and on social media when deemed politically incorrect. For example, one is not allowed to say the election was stolen! This new move against the First Amendment seems to be part of a broad move toward authoritarianism. Twitter shockingly prevented President Trump from tweeting to the citizenry while he was still President. Rep Marjorie Greene was stripped of her committee assignments for things she said in the past, and for being a “9/11 truther.”

**Martial Law**. Sidney Powell, a lawyer furious about the voting fraud, recommended martial law. So did Mike Flynn, a retired Army general – he seemed to say that the military could be used to run new elections in the states. This is an unconstitutional use of the army. The US has a civilian government with a defense force to deal with foreign enemies. Can a president declare martial law? Yes, but only if he first gets Congress’s say so.

That is deduced from the fact that the suspension cluse appears in Article I which is Congress’s article in the Constitution: Article I, sec 9: “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.” If the president alone declared martial law,  there would be many generals disagreeing. Imagine a conflict between one battalion and another. That’s just what our enemies would love to see.

**Firing Squad**. Is it constitutional for a president to order an execution without benefit of court involvement? FDR got away with it in the case of the German saboteurs who were caught in the US in 1942, when we were at war with Germany. That precedent, known as *Ex parte Quirin* has not been overturned. However today we are not at war.

Is it constitutional for a military commission to sentence an American to death?  Yes, per SCOTUS’S decision in 2004, in the case of *Hamdi v Rumsfeld,*if he or she is an “enemy combatant.” In 2006, Congress enacted the Military Commissions Act, which incorporates the Hamdi principle.

**Precedent for “Substituting” after a Recount**. In New York’s 22nd Congressional district, Anthony Brindisi won in the 2020 election but his opponent, Claudia Tenney, demanded a recount and this put her ahead of Brindisi by 109 votes. Tenney filed a case in New York Supreme Court, where Justice Scott DelConte’s order in her favor meant that the state Board of Elections could certify her.  However as of February 5, 2021, Brindisi is appealing., and he remains in the seat. I don’t know why the state is involved as Article I, sec 5 of the Constitution says “Each House shall be the judge of the Elections, Returns, and Qualifications of its own Members….”

Note: If Tenney does get seated, I do not think there is any scope for the votes cast in Congress by the “wrong man,” Brindsi, to be deleted. Similarly for Biden’s time in the White House, if he should be found to have not been legally elected, his work would not be undone. Hence he could pardon Trump now and it would stick.

**Secession**. The governor of Texas has floated the idea of seceding from the Union. He had filed a case directly with the US Supreme Court, supported by 17 other states (as amici curiae), saying that the cheating in some swing states disenfranchised voters in his state (who wanted Trump to win). Secession is constitutionally possible, as the Constitution never specified an irrevocable commitment by each state. Note: The Civil War did not start because some states seceded.  It started when an unknown party fired on Ft Sumpter.

**State Legislature’s Hitting Brick Walls in Their Own State.**The state Senate of Georgia has asked for help in regard to the many complaints of cheating at the polls. The governor is not coooperating.  In Arizona, the Senate is considering  a contempt-of-Senate resolution against the supervisors of Maricopa County who are refusing to produce requested information.  These battles are probably related to the Westminsterization atmosphere, in which politicians feel that Party loyalty is their top guide.

I think that if the Arizona senate did go ahead and arrest the supervisors, it would create a very good lesson.

**Conclusion**

My motto is “You either have the Constitution or you don’t.” It is a very complete and helpful law, and we should not deviate from it when convenience tempts us to do so.  We should obey it precisely every time.

If Americans would insist on adherence to the Constitution (as they used to do), the globalists would not have the power they have had for the last several decades.

Why have they wielded such power? Because the media covers for them and because all three branches of the US government – legislature, executive, and judiciary — are filled with persons who are ignorant, or lacking in guts, or who are in fact criminals and traitors, working for, or turning a blind eye, to the ones harming us.

The current crisis could prove of immense value to our nation, returning us to lawfulness.

Here is a [link to Mike Liddell’s 2-hour documentary](https://www.brighteon.com/e798c41d-f583-4c2e-a9fe-294a63675db2) on the stolen election. In the comments below, today, would Commenters please send us a “vote,” if they wish, on the validity of this documentary?

I make a special request that today’s comment space not be used for subjects other than what was floated in the article: the six scenarios and the eleven “other “factors in the air” — impeachment, pardoning, January 6th, China (as hacker), Westminsterization, the new cancel culture, martial law, firing squad, precedent for substituting after a recount, secession, and legislatures hitting a brick wall in their own state.

**Voter Fraud Arrests**

**The importance of a full complement of justices on the Supreme Court comes clearly into focus as it becomes increasingly likely that the high court will be called on to make determinative decisions regarding voting irregularities.**

But Liberal activists continue diluting common sense security measures to insure the integrity of the vote.

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Unfortunately, strategically placed activist judges are turning a blind eye to the potential for widespread voter fraud that can result from mail-in ball0ting and ball0t harvesting without some common sense protections.

Those common sense protections include requiring signatures that match voting registration records and the need for a ballot to be postmarked no later than election day. Both of these protections have been jettisoned by activist judges at the request of Democrats.

take our poll - story continues below

Top of Form

* Whom do you consider to be the most corrupt Democrat Politician?

Bottom of Form

If you were to go to the polls to vote, you best show up by closing time on election day and have a signature that matches the one on record for you if you hope to vote. In my state, you also must present identification.

Why would judges okay less than that from those voters choosing to use the mail?

Another tactic to worry about being advanced in states is ballot harvesting. This allows the potential for a single person to round up multiple ballots and submit them in batches.

While that might sound like a good idea to people with good intentions, the reported tens of millions ballots being mailed to addresses, many where no one requested them, offers those with fraud on their minds, millions opportunities to intercept ballots no one requested and, without signature verification requirements, to be filled out and submitted by corrupt ballot harvester.

Already, there have been reports of entire batches of mail-in ballots being “abandoned” by postal workers. These ballots are ripe for fraud.

Now comes word from Texas that Attorney General Ken Paxton has announced four arrests Thursday on dozens of felony charges in connection with just a single instance of an alleged vote harvesting scheme during the 2018 Democratic primary elections in Gregg County.

According to Paxton’s office, Gregg County Commissioner Shannon Brown, Marlena Jackson, Charlie Burns and DeWayne Ward face 134 felony charges in total. The allegations include election fraud, tampering with a governmental record, mail-in ballot fraud and more. (you can read the details [**here**](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/texas-attorney-general-ken-paxton-voter-fraud))

It appears the scheme was successful at flipping the election in favor of Marlena Jackson’s husband.

These arrests come on the heels of the Texas attorney general filing a lawsuit against Harris County Clerk Chris Hollins for sending more than 2,000,000 applications to voters “who do not qualify and have not requested to vote by mail” in violation of Texas election law.

That’s the corruption uncovered in just two counties in Texas. There are many more examples around the country.

Irrespective of the potential for widespread fraud, U.S. District Judge Fred Biery, a Clinton appointee, presiding in San Antonio ruled that Texas must give all 16 million registered voters in the state the option of voting by mail during the pandemic.

Judge Biery, ignoring the evidence before his eyes, ruled that there was scant evidence of fraud.

Fortunately, the Supreme Court overruled Biery’s decision at least while the case continues being litigated through the courts.

**Ukraine Update**

The ugly truth about the situation between Russia and Ukraine has come out in all its outrageous sickness: Ukraine has gone NAZI which is why two eastern states are trying to leave for Russia, and the Ukrainian Capital of Kiev refuses to let them go.  Russia is trying to defend the departing states from the NAZIS in Kiev!

The video below shows a Ukrainian soldier firing his machine gun against the (breakaway) state militia of Donetsk early Sunday, and he is doing so with the NAZI FLAG flying above his firing position.

It is so clear that the Ukrainian Army has gone NAZI, their soldiers even take photos with the Swastika flag proudly displayed:

**THIS** is who the United States, under Joe Biden, is backing!  **THIS** is who NATO is backing!

 Meanwhile in Russia President Vladimir Putin plans to address the Russian Parliament & Supreme Administrative Elite on **April 21.**

In the days following the speech, **the Federal Council has already been convened so that “urgent orders” expected from the President can be implemented immediately.**

This would fit with my much-publicized assessment that any hot war would begin "on or before May 2."  
  
We will just see...BUT...**it would be wise to back up all data and have emergency preps and plans in place because the probability of cyber attacks worldwide are very high.**  
  
This will be both a kinetic and cyber battlefield that will have a global reach.

From the Line of Contact, local Russian sources report that 105,000 Ukrainian army soldiers are surrounded by Russian forces.

After information about the transfer by Russia of about 87,000 troops to the Ukrainian borders began seeping-out to the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) ---  mass desertions began.

Sergey Markov, a political scientist, general director of the NP "Institute for Political Research", told about this on his Facebook page.

“As soon as information about the real concentration of real Russian troops came out, mass desertions from "the most powerful army in Europe began,” Markov wrote. From the 36th Marine Brigade, stationed near Mariupol, 44 people left without permission, the political scientist said. He noted that, according to experts, only 40% of the personnel of the Ukrainian army are ready to participate in hostilities, [argumenti.ru](https://argumenti.ru/world/2021/04/717534) writes.

In other, related news, Ukrainian front lines report sudden loss of GPS signal and massive degradation of radars tracking. This also affects UAV use.  JAMMING is now, clearly, being used: That's usually a sign we are very near the start of hostilities; big parties start with Electromagnetic Storms.

The Russians broke the security perimeter and recorded Ukrainian movements in Mariupol.

In addition, vessels from Russia's Caspian Sea flotilla have arrived in Rostov-on-Don via the Don River, and are within hours of reaching the Sea of Azov or the Black Sea.  Photos from the River Don, taken today:

**[](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/EytVdQuXMAIFxXB?format=jpg&name=medium)**

**These gray colored vessels are Amphibious LANDING Craft, which can carry troops on an invasion.**

**Putin’s Speech**

Vladimir Putin's speech to the world

I'm tired today tired of everything. I want to speak to all sides of the world. What the hell is going on here? What evil plans do you dream of? You sacrifice the innocent soul and victims of your dirty politics in the world! You keep washing people's brains with your mainstreams, without the same and worldwide.

I know your satanic plans to reduce the population of the planet. You are truly evil to use the most vulnerable to your plans. If you think people are simply subjecting themselves to the thought of massacre, leave your position immediately!

If the USA and Europe don't stop their plans immediately, you will not only face God's wrath, but mine too. Finish your plan right away. Long live God and the homeland and receive enemies with open arms of death.

**The Buildup Decoded**

While Russia's Southern Military Theater command had previously announced major exercises were to be held, the scale and combined arms diversity of the particular units deployed is striking. This includes a heavy emphasis on infantry fighting vehicles, rapid mobility airborne and special forces, air force fighter and bomber units, and logistics trains. Moving these forces is expensive and complex and [is already constricting](https://tass.ru/ekonomika/11015893) Russian civilian economic activity by disrupting arterial train routes.

Put simply, [Vladimir Putin](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/tag/vladimir-putin?utm_campaign=autolink&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=autolink) will soon have the means to conduct a rapid offensive into southeastern Ukraine, pushing through Ukrainian army positions that have taken up a defensive posture. We should also note that Russian aviation forces have also been reinforced in Crimea. This means that the Ukrainian government-held cities reaching along the Sea of Azov, from Henichesk to Mariupol, are now heavily vulnerable to encirclement and rapid seizure. Such a seizure would give Russia dominion over the Sea of Azov and contiguous sea control right up to the Kerch Strait. It would also provide a Ukrainian land bridge from Crimea to the Russian border, without reliance on the Kerch bridge.

Context adds to the concerns here.

After all, Russia has signaled its increasing displeasure with the situation in Ukraine. On Monday, Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov stated that "things are bad" with regard to the current status of negotiations on both the Normandy and Minsk diplomatic tracks. Peskov referenced the Kremlin's aggravation over Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's reluctance to adopt European ceasefire mediation [on terms favorable](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/france-and-germany-the-other-bad-guys-in-the-trump-ukraine-call) to Russia. Russia has failed to intimidate Zelensky into giving ground, even though Putin's proxies have been relentlessly breaching the ceasefire agreement. This has included [the use of snipers to target](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/bidens-delay-on-navalny-fuels-russian-escalation-in-ukraine) Ukrainian army patrols.

The Biden administration should take note of the warning signs.

The call on Tuesday by General Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to his Russian counterpart, is insufficient. President [Joe Biden](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/tag/joe-biden?utm_campaign=autolink&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=autolink) should commit that if Russia begins a new offensive, he will not simply kill off Putin's Nord Stream 2 energy pipeline (something [he should have done](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/biden-fires-a-pebble-warning-shot-at-germany-with-new-russia-sanctions) weeks ago), but will also introduce wide-ranging new sanctions, unilaterally, if necessary, on Russian financial interests in the West. Putin already views his relationship with Biden through the [prism of personal animus](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/putin-retaliates-by-questioning-bidens-mental-faculties) and may hope to use escalation in Ukraine to undermine Biden's credibility with allies.

Biden must not fail this test.

**The Bulldog Awakens**

Special prosecutor John Durham is reportedly still actively pursuing his investigation into the origins of the 2016 ‘Russiagate’ scandal in which the Obama administration spied on the 2016 Trump campaign, according to a report.

CNN [reported](https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/30/politics/john-durham-investigation/index.html) Tuesday, citing unnamed sources, that after delays last year that were blamed on the COVID-19 pandemic, Durham’s investigators “are now arranging witness interviews” as grand jury subpoenas “also were being used to gather documents in recent months.”

Durham resigned as a U.S. attorney in February but he agreed to remain on as [a special prosecutor](https://conservativebrief.com/rwbn-9540-dfghjkl-31378/) to complete his probe.

The CNN report comes on the heels of comments from Donald Trump who mocked the time it was taking for the investigation — now entering its third year — will be completed.

“Where’s Durham? Is he a living, breathing human being? Will there ever be a Durham report?” [Trump said Friday](https://conservativebrief.com/durham-taking-37231/).

The Washington Examiner [has more](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/john-durham-issuing-subpoenas-and-interviewing-witnesses-report):

*The new report cited “people briefed on the matter” who said Durham’s investigation was scrutinizing the FBI’s “handling” of British ex-spy Christopher Steele’s discredited anti-Trump dossier as well as the FBI’s “disclosures” to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, where the bureau received a warrant followed by three renewals in 2016 and 2017 targeting former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page.*

*The outlet also cited “people briefed on the matter” in reporting that “some witnesses” have been asked about how information from Steele made it to the FBI through Perkins Coie, whose top elections lawyer, Marc Elias, served as general counsel for Hillary Clinton’s 2016 campaign, hired the opposition research firm Fusion GPS which then hired Steele, and met with the former MI6 agent in the lead-up to the election.*

In 2019, Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz released a report stemming from an investigation into the FBI’s handling of the Russiagate investigation. The IG concluded that the bureau made at least 17 “significant errors and omissions” in its surveillance of Page, who has since said a number of times he had no affiliation with Russian operatives and who was never charged with a crime.

CNN’s report noted that “people briefed on the matter” said that “at least some of the questions on which Durham’s investigators have homed in have to do with the way other FBI officials responded to intelligence gathered before the applications to surveil Page.”

It added that last year Durham was looking into former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper and former CIA Director John Brennan “before apparently moving on and continuing to prod the FBI.” The report noted further that the special counsel was still “looking at early aspects” of Russiagate.

Horowitz concluded that the FBI’s probe, codenamed Crossfire Hurricane, was “opened for an authorized investigative purpose and with sufficient factual predication.” But Durham, as well as former Attorney General William Barr, disagreed with Horowitz’s determination.

CNN added that “[i]t’s still not clear whether Durham is pursuing additional possible criminal matters” beyond a guilty plea from ex-FBI lawyer Kevin Clinesmith. He admitted that he edited a CIA email in 2017 to say that Page was “not a source” for the agency when in fact the CIA had informed the FBI several times that Page was an asset.  Clinesmith only got probation for his violation, which outraged Trump supporters at the time.

Current Attorney General Merrick Garland would not say during his confirmation hearings if he would ensure Durham’s investigation was allowed to proceed to its conclusion or that he would make his report public. He did say ending Durham’s work wasn’t the right move.

It’s also unclear — or maybe it really isn’t — whether the Biden regime will allow Durham to actually charge anyone else, especially former ranking officials within the FBI and intelligence community, who were working on behalf of Barack Obama at the time.

**The Administrative State**

Lockdowns should have shown every American just how tyrannical and unreasonable our leaders can be. There are elected leaders have acted as outright tyrants, alienating everyone without regard. Then there are the unelected bureaucrats who wave away our liberties with the stroke of a pen from the secrecy of their massive offices with technocratic efficiency. Then, there are the empowered thugs in our community who feel they have been given authority to command us to obey.

This is all of course a sudden and dramatic curtailing of our freedoms. They are banning the smile. They are placing us in solitary confinement, because they like it. I would not be surprised that with this much public attention, some sort of effort will be made to roll back much of what has been done. **Although lockdowns are certainly an existential threat to our long-term freedoms and system of liberal democracy, there has been another specter out there that many experts have been sounding the alarm on for decades. The growth of the administrative state.**

The chilling narrative about the growth of the administrative state, which is essentially the regulatory apparatus of the executive branch, is usually confined to specialist professions. The ever-present danger of a slowly expanding and unaccountable apparatus of bureaucrats that threatens to sap the life out of American society and drown it in a sea of paperwork is typically a concern that only keeps policy wonks and lawyers up at night.

Although many lawyers probably celebrate this dystopian vision because they benefit from the compliance fees. **The regulatory state not only threatens to make society that much slower and dreary with its excessive onslaught of regulation but it also makes us poorer.**Robert Samuelson writes for the Washington Post [that](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-administrative-state-is-huge-and-its-only-getting-bigger/2017/03/05/bb388e28-003a-11e7-99b4-9e613afeb09f_story.html)

“No one really knows by how much, but “there is ample evidence that regulation has expanded and that this expansion has limited economic growth,” as Ted Gayer and Philip Wallach of the Brookings Institution [recently wrote](https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/prospects-for-regulatory-reform-in-the-trump-administration/). One study estimates that regulation has shaved [0.8 percent](https://www.mercatus.org/publication/cumulative-cost-regulations) off the U.S. annual growth rate, which — if confirmed by other studies — would be huge.”

**The regulatory state refers to organizations such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Centers for Disease Control, the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Education, the Department of Justice, the Internal Revenue Service, and all the other three-letter agencies in Washington, DC.** If you would like to see how long the list of agencies is, take a look at the [Federal Register](https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies), to which there are 655.

That number is absolutely mind-boggling when you consider that each one has thousands of employees and each employee gets about $100k a year, and they cannot be fired for any reason. A paper by [Peter Strauss](https://scholarship.law.columbia.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3673&context=faculty_scholarship)at Columbia Law School notes that there are currently over 2 million civilians employed in the federal government alone. He notes that for context,

“The first Congress to meet once the Constitution was ratified created a Post Office and Departments of War, Navy, Foreign Affairs, and Treasury, each in unique ways suited to its responsibilities; this new government employed few civil servants to manage all its affairs. The first serious count of federal civilian employees, in 1816, reported that they numbered 4,837.”

**The drastic expansion of the administrative state began in 1933 under Roosevelt, and has come at a grown to consume almost our entire system of liberty, which is slowly being eroded by a sea of paperwork and regulations, but it also undermines our democracy. It is a law making body, and a tax assessor, but we have no representation in that government.**

According to [Article 1 of the Constitution](https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript), the legislative branch or Congress is supposed to be the primary law-making body of our government. That is because if there are bad laws or laws society doesn’t like, we can hold people accountable. However, more and more power has been shifted to the executive branch because of the growth of the administrative state.

Even the judicial system is losing power to the administrative state after the establishment of a legal doctrine known as [Chevron Deference](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/chevron_deference), which binds the court system to defer to the administrative agency’s interpretation of a rule, not the Constitutional interpretation of a sitting judge. It shouldn’t be too hard to assume that the interpretation will probably favor the ambitions of the agency, not the integrity of the Constitution.

These issues and more form the basis of legal scholar Richard Epstein’s [assertion](https://www.law.nyu.edu/sites/default/files/ECM_PRO_060974.pdf) that the administrative state is not congruent with rule of law in this country.

The worst part about all of this is that society continues to tell itself that those in the administrative state are simply humble public servants. Although I’m sure many of them are, the hard reality is that at the end of the day it’s a source of income and advancement for bureaucrats just like jobs in the private sector are for everyone else.

This is the basic insight of [Public Choice Theory](https://www.aier.org/research/what-is-public-choice-theory/), which is the common-sense realization that government agents are not angels, they are humans and follow human nature. That means that although many government agents may think they are serving the country, they are also limited by their own capabilities as humans as well as their desires. This is demonstrated by a phenomenon known as the [Washington Monument Syndrome](https://mises.org/wire/washington-monument-syndrome-strikes-again-trump-imposes-hiring-freeze), which refers to how when a government agency is threatened with a budget cut or hiring freeze, they shun fiscal restraint in order to protect their own self-interests.

**The Washington Monument Syndrome gets its name because when the National Park Service was faced with budget cuts, instead of streamlining its finances like a normal private company they protested by shutting down the Washington Monument rather than taking sensible steps to cut costs.** In the private sector there is a natural check on how much workers can demand, such as the threat of going out of business. In the public sector there are no such restraints. This is part of the reason why the bureaucracy simply grows and grows and grows, taking our freedom as well as our treasure as it does.

Finally, there is the dark fact that there are ambitious people in the administrative state who want to make a name for themselves at the expense of their fellow countryman. If there aren’t any problems to solve, hotshot regulators are trying to move up the food chain by creating problems to solve by either targeting innocent private actors or trying to pump up their resumes with unnecessary sanctions.

This problem is well known when it comes to the criminal justice system, as [prosecutors leverage plea bargains](https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/end-mass-incarceration/changing-incentives/prosecutorial-reform)to increase their incarceration statistics regardless of the guilt of the defendant and without ever having to take a case to trial, which is a constitutional right. However, this system of perverse incentives to simply rack up wins at the expense of society is present in the regulatory state as well as agencies bringing the government’s boot down on businesses just trying to provide a good service.

I had a personal experience with this dynamic when I interned at a law firm providing pro bono services to private entities that were being pursued by trigger-happy regulators. The case I worked on was [FTC vs D-Link Systems](https://causeofaction.org/settlement-in-federal-trade-commission-v-d-link-systems-includes-no-finding-of-liability/), which was settled finding no liability for any violations. The FTC in this case levied a claim that D-Link Systems was engaging in deceptive practices. However, upon investigation there were no rules that they violated, nor were there any widespread complaints from consumers to be found.

The FTC was essentially going out of its way and leveraging vague rules to pursue a responsible corporation likely in the name of career advancement. That is because there are no rewards for doing nothing, even though that’s what the government should be doing when its citizens are being responsible. Sadly, not every private business has the resources to fight back against overzealous government regulators. Even worse, there is little being done to check the powers of the administrative state. In fact, many elected politicians simply see it as a way to shift blame away from themselves.

**Key Takeaway**

**If lockdowns were a sudden and brutal assault on our liberties, the rise of the administrative state would be the silent killer.** It keeps itself away from the public spotlight, only raising alarms for the communities it directly affects and policy wonks who enjoy ranting about taxes and federal codes all day. To the average person, the administrative state is not a problem until it is.

Every year it grows and grows with little incentive to care for the trouble it has caused for the rest of American society. It is the true embodiment of the [leviathan](https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/hobbes-moral/) illustrated by Hobbes. Although there is certainly a time and place for regulatory agencies, today they have so greatly outgrown their bounds to the point they are becoming an unelected judge, jury, and executioner.

What was a handful of executive agencies at the beginning of the republic has now become an expansive list of alphabet soup abbreviations, some with their own [SWAT teams](https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/36343/from-nasa-to-amtrak-these-are-all-the-government-agencies-with-tactical-teams) and [court systems](https://www.fjc.gov/history/courts/executive-agency-courts). **The administrative state not only saps our treasure and stifles our creativity but it drains our spirit. If left unchecked it will surely turn this country of ambitious innovators and entrepreneurs into one of paper pushers and clerks.**

**WHY** CALL A CONVENTION OF STATES?

Simple: to bring power back to the states and the people, where it belongs. Unelected bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. shouldn’t be allowed to make sweeping decisions that impact millions of Americans. But right now, they do. So it all boils down to one question: Who do you think should decide what’s best for you and your family? You, or the feds? We’d vote for the American people every single time

## WHAT’S A CONVENTION OF STATES ANYWAY?

Article V of the U.S. Constitution gives states the power to call a Convention of States to propose amendments. It takes 34 states to call the convention and 38 to ratify any amendments that are proposed. Our convention would only allow the states to discuss amendments that, “limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, impose fiscal restraints, and place term limits on federal officials.”

HOW IT WORKS

## SO ARE YOU MAKING ANY PROGRESS?

You better believe it! Since the Project launched in 2013, we’ve been spreading like wildfire. With over 3 million supporters nationwide, we have petition signers in every single state house district across America. We’re actively working in all fifty states to pass the Convention of States Application!

[Georgia March 6, 2014](https://conventionofstates.com/news/georgia-becomes-first-state-in-history-to-pass-the-convention-of-states-application)  
  
[Alaska April 19, 2014](https://conventionofstates.com/news/florida-and-alaska-officially-pass-convention-of-states-application)  
  
[Florida April 21, 2014](https://conventionofstates.com/news/florida-and-alaska-officially-pass-convention-of-states-application)  
  
[Alabama May 22, 2015](https://conventionofstates.com/news/alabama-joins-florida-georgia-and-alaska-and-passes-the-convention-of-states-resolution)  
  
[Tennessee February 4, 2016](https://conventionofstates.com/news/tennessee-becomes-the-5th-state-to-pass-the-article-v-convention-of-states-resolution-to-rein-in-the-federal-government-video)  
  
[Indiana February 29, 2016](https://conventionofstates.com/news/indiana-becomes-6th-state-to-call-for-a-convention-of-states-to-rein-in-the-federal-government)  
  
[Oklahoma April 25, 2016](https://conventionofstates.com/news/oklahoma-becomes-the-7th-state-to-call-for-a-convention-of-states-under-article-v-to-restore-the-balance-of-power-between-the-federal-government-and-the-states)  
  
[Louisiana May 25, 2016](https://conventionofstates.com/news/victory-louisiana-becomes-the-eighth-state-to-call-for-a-convention-of-states)  
  
[Arizona March 12, 2017](https://conventionofstates.com/news/arizona-is-9-state-legislature-votes-to-call-a-convention-of-states)  
  
[North Dakota March 24, 2017](https://conventionofstates.com/news/north-dakota-is-number-10-legislature-passes-convention-of-states-resolution)  
  
[Texas May 4, 2017](https://conventionofstates.com/news/texas-is-11)  
  
[Missouri May 12, 2017](https://conventionofstates.com/news/missouri-passes-convention-of-states-application-becoming-12th-state-to-do-so)

[Arkansas February 14, 2019](https://conventionofstates.com/news/arkansas-becomes-state-13-to-pass-the-convention-of-states-resolution)

[Utah March 5, 2019](https://conventionofstates.com/news/utah-wins-state-legislature-becomes-14th-nationwide-to-call-for-convention-of-states)

[Mississippi March 27, 2019](https://conventionofstates.com/news/mississippi-is-15-state-legislature-calls-for-convention-of-states-to-limit-federal-government)

**States where the Convention of States application has passed in one chamber but not the other (all time):**  
  
New Mexico, Iowa, South Dakota, Virginia, North Carolina, West Virginia, New Hampshire.