**Recall Process?**

Trying to recall a member of [Congress](https://www.thoughtco.com/the-legislative-branch-of-us-government-3322299) is an idea that has likely crossed the minds of voters in every congressional district in the United States at one time or another. The concept of buyer's remorse applies just as fittingly to the choices we make in who represents us in Washington, D.C., as it does our decisions on which house to buy or which mate to marry.

But unlike mortgages and marriages, which can be severed, elections are permanent.

There is no way to recall a member of Congress before their terms end. Nor has there ever been. No United States Senator or member of the [House of Representatives](https://www.thoughtco.com/house-of-representatives-3322270) has been recalled by the electorate.

### No Recall Mechanism

Americans are unable to remove an elected member of the House or Senate from office before their terms end because there is no recall mechanism set forth in the U.S. Constitution.

The framers of the Constitution actually debated whether to include a recall provision but decided against it over the arguments of some state legislators during the ratification process. A Congressional Research Service report cited Luther Martin of Maryland who, while speaking to the state Legislature, lamented the fact that members of Congress "are to pay themselves, out of the treasury of the United States; and are not liable to be recalled during the period for which they are chosen."

There were failed attempts in some states, including New York, to amend the Constitution and add a recall mechanism.

### Attempts to Circumvent the Constitution

Voters in Arkansas amended their state constitution in 1992 with the belief that the U.S. Constitution's 10th Amendment left the door open for states to limit lawmakers' length of service. The 10th Amendment states that "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."

In other words, the Arkansas argument went, because the U.S. Constitution didn't provide for a recall mechanism the state could. Arkansas's constitutional amendment banned House members who had already served three terms or Senators who had served two terms from appearing on the ballot. The amendment was an attempt to remove elected officials through the use of [term limits](https://www.thoughtco.com/debate-over-term-limits-for-congress-3367505).

The U.S. Supreme Court held that the state's amendments were unconstitutional. The court essentially supported the notion that the right to choose representatives belongs not to the states but to its citizens.

"In keeping with the complexity of our federal system, once the representatives chosen by the people of each State assemble in Congress, they form a national body and are beyond the control of the individual States until the next election," Justice Clarence Thomas wrote.

### Removal of a Member of Congress

Even though citizens cannot recall a member of Congress, the individual chambers can remove members of the House of Representatives or Senate by way of expulsion. There have been only 20 cases of expulsion in the history of the United States.

The House or Senate can expel a member if there is the support to do so by at least two-thirds of the members. There doesn't have to be a specific reason, but in the past expulsion has been used to punish House and Senate members who have committed a serious crime, abuse of their power or been "disloyal" to the United States.

### Recall of State and Local Officials

Voters in 19 states can recall elected officials at the state level. Those states are Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington, and Wisconsin, according to National Conference of State Legislatures.

**Russia Deploys Precision Cruise Missiles in Atlantic**

You will recall that President Obama decommissioned the entire 2nd Fleet in 2011. The Fake Stream News universally reports that it was Sequestration that starved out the 2nd Fleet, and it was decommissioned as part of that process. What they fail to report, is that it was Obama who put that Sequestration in place, and then his Congress forced the government to match all money spent on the military with spending on vote-buying programs for the Democrats. The process double the national debt in less than 8 years.

Russia is deploying long-range, precision cruise missiles to the western Atlantic that American defense officials say will allow Moscow to target Washington and other East Coast cities with conventional or nuclear attacks.

Moscow is adding Kalibr land attack cruise missiles to both warships and missile submarines that Moscow plans to use in Atlantic patrols near the United States, sorties that were once routine during the Cold War.

The new sea-based Kalibr deployments are expected in the coming months, according to officials familiar with intelligence reports of the Russian maritime operations.

The land-attack version of the Kalibr, known as the SS-N-30A by NATO, is a relatively new weapon and was showcased for the first time by Moscow in attacks on Syria that began in 2015

Russia has stated that over 100 Kalibr missile strikes were carried out against Islamic terrorists and other anti-Syrian government rebels.

The Office of Naval Intelligence in 2015 said the Kalibr is deployed on Russia's new Sverodvinsk-class nuclear attack submarine as well as older submarines and surface warships. A total of 32 Kalibrs can be launched from missile tubes on the new submarine.

Nuclear-armed Kalibrs will be deployed on Russia's new Borei-class missile submarines as well as the attack submarines.

Most of Russia's surface warships and many coastal vessels are being outfitted with the long-range missile.

The missile is considered very lethal because it flies close to the sea surface, frustrating efforts to detect and strike the missile with anti-missile systems.

"Russia plans to deploy Kalibr capability on all new design construction of nuclear and non-nuclear submarines, corvettes, frigates, and larger surface ships," the ONI said in a report, noting the missile gives even modest vessels "significant offensive capability."

"The proliferation of this capability within the new Russian Navy is profoundly changing its ability to deter, threaten or destroy adversary targets."

The missile also comes in anti-ship and anti-submarine variants.

According to ONI, the Kalibr land attack missile has a range of between 930 miles and 1,550 miles.

That range means a ship or submarine armed with Kalibrs and located 1,000 miles off the U.S. coast could target all American cities stretching from Boston to Miami and as far west as Chicago.

Kalibr is a concern for U.S. military commanders in Europe as a result of their deployment on ships and submarines in the Mediterranean and areas near Europe. The missile has been compared to the Navy's Tomahawk cruise missile.

Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti, NATO commander and commander of the European Command, told Congress last spring he is concerned about the submarine-launched Kalibr.

"The activity level of their maritime forces is up in Europe," Scaparrotti told the House Armed Services Committee, adding that the deployments were not normal.

"Most of their ships now have a Kalibr system on them," he said. "It is both conventional and can be nuclear, if they choose to do so. It's a very good system. It provides reach and precision, and, of course, wherever they have a ship, whether it's undersea or on the surface, many of their ships now have the Kalibr system on them."

Scaparrotti said the Russians are making "rapid progress" in developing the new Severodvinsk nuclear attack submarine, more capable Kilo submarines, and Kalibr cruise missiles.

Vice Adm. James Foggo III, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Europe, described the Kalibr as a missile "I'm very interested in."

"It's a capable weapon system and from where the Russians operate it's capable of targeting any capital in Europe," he said. "Do I think they'll do that? No, I don't, because I think that the NATO Alliance operates from a position of strength."

Foggo said it's important for the United States to know the location of Russian submarines in the European theater at all times.

Asked during a Pentagon briefing if all Russian submarines can be detected where they sail, Foggo said: "Well, I prefer not to comment on the tactical details and the operational issues. But I can tell you that we hold an acoustic advantage, and we will continue to do that. Our boats are the best in the world."

He also warned last year about the growing threat of Russian undersea warfare capabilities.

"Russia has renewed its capabilities in the North Atlantic and the Arctic in places not seen since the Cold War. For example, Russian forces have recently reoccupied seven for their former Soviet Union bases in the Arctic Circle," Foggo said.

"The improved capability of Russia to be able to project power into this [European] region and these strategic routes from the Arctic into the North Atlantic and the [Greenland, Iceland, United Kingdom] Gap is something that we need to pay particular attention to."

Russian submarines, Foggo said, "today are perhaps some of the most silent and lethal in the world, with the exception of our own."

Kalibr missiles deployed on a variety of launch platforms have "shown the ability to reach pretty much all the capitals in Europe from any of the bodies of water that surround Europe."

"We know that Russian submarines are in the Atlantic, testing our defenses, confirming our command of the seas and preparing a very complex underwater battlespace to try to give them an edge in any future conflict," Foggo said Oct. 4 in a podcast. "And we need to deny them that edge."

A Navy spokesman had no comment and a spokesman for the Northern Command, which in charge of defending the U.S. homeland, also declined to comment.

Mark Schneider, a former Pentagon nuclear analyst, said the Russians have stated that the Kalibr will be a major weapons system for the Russian navy and will be dual-capable—armed with both conventional and nuclear warheads.

"The Russians say the long-range version of the Kalibr is a nuclear capable missile with a range of 2,000 or 2,500 kilometers [1,242 miles or 1,553 miles]," Schneider said.

Russian state-run media reports have identified the new Severodvinsk-class submarine with Kalibr missile as part of the strategic nuclear forces, he added.

"There is no reason it can’t be used against the U.S.," Schneider said. "Its range is comparable to the early Polaris missiles which were our strategic deterrent in the 1960s."

The Kalibr is one of two main weapons systems that Russia plans to use in any future strikes on the United States. The second is the advanced Kh-101 air-launched cruise missile that can be armed with either conventional or nuclear warheads.

The Washington Free Beacon [reported](https://freebeacon.com/national-security/northcom-russian-cruise-missile-threat-to-u-s-grows/) in 2015 that Russian bombers practiced cruise missile strikes on the United States from launch areas off the coast of Canada in September 2014

Last month, Russia President Vladimir Putin announced that Moscow will soon deploy a new hypersonic missile capable of defeating U.S. missile defenses. The new missile called Avangard was flight tested last month and traveled at a reported Mach 30—more than 20,000 miles per hour—while maneuvering and changing altitude.

Putin has stated that Russia may produce a land-based version of the Kalibr because of the U.S. pullout from the 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

Also in December, Igor Korotchenko, editor-in-chief of Russian magazine National Defense, stated that Russia could deploy its submarines close to the United States.

"Our submarines, too, might have surfaced suddenly some place in the Gulf of Mexico to shock America," Korotchenko said. "We have the corresponding forces of our submarine fleet there. We do not do that for the simple reason our purpose is not to show off in such a silly way, but to cope with the assigned tasks."

Russia claimed in state media earlier this year that in 2013 a Russian submarine sailed into the Gulf of Mexico undetected.

A Russian submarine officer asserted that an Akula-class nuclear-powered attack submarine armed with Kalibr cruise missiles came within "missile strike distance from one of the main bases of American submarines," an apparent reference to the Kings Bay submarine base in Georgia.

The Free Beacon reported in 2012 that the Akula-class submarine sailed in the Gulf of Mexico.

However, the chief of naval operations at the time, Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, denied the incursion in a letter to Sen. John Cornyn (R., Texas). "Based on all of the source information available to us, a Russian submarine did not enter the Gulf of Mexico," Greenert said.

The Kalibr also comes in an export version known as the Klub that are deployed in a launch cannister disguised as a shipping container, making it an ideal missile to fire from the deck of a merchant vessel.

President Trump saw this coming almost two years ago. Under his direction, Adm. John Richardson, the chief of US Naval Operations, said this in May of last year: "Our National Defense Strategy makes clear that we're back in an era of great-power competition as the security environment continues to grow more challenging and complex."

President Trump ordered the 2nd Fleet to be again commissioned and modernized. The staff officer that Obama forced out of the military are being recalled. The 2nd Fleet "will exercise operational and administrative authorities over assigned ships, aircraft and landing forces on the East Coast and northern Atlantic Ocean," Richardson said. It will also plan and conduct maritime, joint, and combined operations and train, certify, and provide maritime forces in response events around the world.

The fleet was activated on July 1 and initially was staffed by 11 officers and four enlisted personnel, eventually growing to 85 officers, 164 enlisted personnel, and seven civilians, according to a memo announcing the change obtained by US Naval Institute News. Obama left the entire US Eastern seaboard without a defense by sea. Trump restored it. Why?

Let’s talk about the 'fourth battle of the Atlantic'

Prior to the 2014 seizure of the Crimean peninsula in Ukraine by Russian forces, Navy forces on the U.S. side of the Atlantic Ocean were mainly focused on humanitarian and disaster relief missions as well as drug interdiction.

But Russian naval activity has increased considerably in recent years, with several NATO officials describing it as being at the highest levels since the Cold War (Though Cold War-era intelligence reports indicate that activity is still far short of Cold War peaks.)

Russia's navy is smaller than it was during the Cold War, but Moscow has pursued ambitious modernization efforts, focusing primarily on the Black Sea and Northern fleets. The latter force, based in and around the Kola Peninsula in the Arctic, represents a significant military force a short distance from NATO territory in Norway and contains Russia's sea-based nuclear forces. By the way, it is interesting to note that the flagship for the Clinton Crime Syndicate, the Chelsea, was anchored two weeks ago in the Black Sea in enemy waters.

In 2016, U.S. Navy Adm. James Foggo III, who is now chief of Naval Forces Europe, described tensions between Russia and the U.S. as the "fourth battle of the Atlantic," following the surface and submarine battles of World War I, World War II, and the Cold War.

"Once again, an effective, skilled, and technologically advanced Russian submarine force is challenging us," he said. "Russian submarines are prowling the Atlantic, testing our defenses, confronting our command of the seas, and preparing the complex underwater battlespace to give them an edge in any future conflict."

Sailors and Marines man the rails of amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima as she transits the Hudson River on November 10, 2016.U.S. Navy/Petty Officer 3rd Class Jess E. Tone

The U.S. Navy has increased its patrols in the Baltic Sea, the North Atlantic, and the Arctic. US Navy ships have also been more active in the Black Sea to "desensitize Russia" to a US military presence there. US and Russian ships have also operated in close quarters in the eastern Mediterranean, where Russian forces are assisting the Bashar Assad regime in the Syrian civil war.

The Navy is also renovating hangers in Iceland to house P-8 Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft there to monitor the Greenland-Iceland-UK gap, a choke point for ships moving between the Arctic and North Atlantic oceans — though that doesn't necessarily mean a permanent presence will be reestablished there.

NATO is making changes to its command structure in response to increased tension with Russia and to prepare for potential military operations on and around the continent. In March, Germany announced that the proposed NATO logistics command — which would work to streamline the movement of personnel and material around Europe — would be based in the southern city of Ulm. The Globalist leaders in Belgium and Germany are actively building and branding a European Military Force. Yes, we have been there before with Germany and Belgium. This time, they are nuclear armed. This time, they have a European enemy wearing yellow vests. It will be interesting to see what happens.

**A Good Guy With a Chop**

 A man tries to kidnap a woman by forcing her into his car, in north Charlotte, North Carolina. She breaks free, and runs into a nearby karate studio pleading for help.

You can already see how this ends: with the suspect being carried out on a stretcher after a fight with a karate head instructor.

The incident happened at 9 p.m. Thursday outside Bushiken Karate Charlotte Dojo, according to [CNN affiliate WSOC](https://www.wsoctv.com/news/local/karate-instructor-assaulted-after-man-tries-to-force-woman-into-car-police-say/898822729) and the head instructor, Randall Ephraim.

WSOC reported that cops said the man tried to force the woman in his vehicle near the karate school.

Ephraim told CNN he was straightening up when the woman rushed inside the studio.

"There were still some kids in the dojo being picked up by parents and a couple of adult students cleaning up when a young lady came through our doors and stated that someone was trying to harm her," he told CNN.

"Shortly afterward, a big male entered the building," he said. "Not knowing what he wanted, I assumed he was inquiring about classes.

"I asked how I could assist him and he stated that he was there for the lady. She insisted that she did not know him and tried to kidnap her."

Ephraim said he asked the man to leave, but he stated he was not going anywhere. "He then tried to force himself further into the dojo, aggressively pushing and swinging," the instructor said.

"I then went into action defending myself and got him out of the dojo. Once outside he attempted to attack again and was dealt with accordingly."

The suspect also tried to assault police officers before he was arrested, WSOC reports.

He was taken to the hospital with injuries. There's no word on his condition at this point.

**The Morality Clause**

When you see publishers and authors chatting chummily at book parties, you’re likely to think that they’re on the same side — the side of great literature and the free flow of ideas.

In reality, their interests are at odds. Publishers are marketers. They don’t like scandals that might threaten their bottom line — or the bottom lines of the multinational media conglomerates of which most form a small part. Authors are people, often flawed. Sometimes they behave badly. How, for instance, should publishers deal with the #MeToo era, when accusations of sexual impropriety can lead to books being pulled from shelves and syllabuses, as happened last year with the novelists Junot Díaz and Sherman Alexie?

One answer is the increasingly widespread “morality clause.” Over the past few years, Simon & Schuster, HarperCollins and Penguin Random House have added such clauses to their standard book contracts. I’ve heard that Hachette Book Group is debating putting one in its trade book contracts, though the publisher wouldn’t confirm it. These clauses release a company from the obligation to publish a book if, in the words of Penguin Random House, “past or future conduct of the author inconsistent with the author’s reputation at the time this agreement is executed comes to light and results in sustained, widespread public condemnation of the author that materially diminishes the sales potential of the work.”

That’s reasonable, I guess. Penguin, to its credit, doesn’t ask authors to return their advances. But other publishers do, and some are even more hard-nosed.

This past year, regular contributors to Condé Nast magazines started spotting a new paragraph in their yearly contracts. It’s a doozy. If, in the company’s “sole judgment,” the clause states, the writer “becomes the subject of public disrepute, contempt, complaints or scandals,” Condé Nast can terminate the agreement. In other words, a writer need not have done anything wrong; she need only become scandalous. In the age of the Twitter mob, that could mean simply writing or saying something that offends some group of strident tweeters.

Agents hate morality clauses because terms like “public condemnation” are vague and open to abuse, especially if a publisher is looking for an excuse to back out of its contractual obligations. When I asked writers about morality clauses, on the other hand, most of them had no idea what I was talking about. You’d be surprised at how many don’t read the small print.

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One writer who did was the fantasy and science-fiction novelist Ursula K. Le Guin, who died last year. When she discovered the morality clause in her HarperCollins contract in 2011, she posted [on her blog](http://www.ursulakleguin.com/Blog2011.html) a satirical letter from a fictional writer confessing sins to Rupert Murdoch, who owns the company: “It was nothing really materially damaging, only just the money and I.D. I stole from the old man with the walker and some things I said about some schoolgirls with big tits.” Please, the letter went on, don’t “make me pay back the money because I can’t because I already had to give most of it to some stupid lawyer who said I had defaulted on a loan and was behind on my child support, which is just a lie. That stupid brat was never mine.”

Jeannie Suk Gersen, a Harvard Law School professor who writes regularly for The New Yorker, a Condé Nast magazine, read the small print, too, and thought: “No way. I’m not signing that.” Ms. Gersen, an expert in the laws regulating sexuality, often takes stands that may offend the magazine’s liberal readers, as [when she defended](https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/betsy-devos-title-ix-and-the-both-sides-approach-to-sexual-assault) Education Secretary Betsy DeVos’s rollback of Obama-era rules on campus sexual-assault accusations. When I called Ms. Gersen in November, she said, “No person who is engaged in creative expressive activity should be signing one of these.”

It’s not that a company should have to keep on staff a murderer or rapist, she added. But when the trigger for termination could be a Twitter storm or a letter-writing campaign, she said, “I think it would have a very significant chilling effect.”

## Editors’ Picks

[](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/20/business/kiini-bikini-lawsuit-ipek-irgit-solange-ferrarini.html?fallback=0&recId=1FOvNumtD7ekB0fNqn6HGBrTkyJ&locked=0&geoContinent=NA&geoRegion=NC&recAlloc=story-geo&geoCountry=US&blockId=signature-journalism-vi&imp_id=520071092)

### [The Itsy-Bitsy, Teenie-Weenie, Very Litigious Bikini](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/20/business/kiini-bikini-lawsuit-ipek-irgit-solange-ferrarini.html?fallback=0&recId=1FOvNumtD7ekB0fNqn6HGBrTkyJ&locked=0&geoContinent=NA&geoRegion=NC&recAlloc=story-geo&geoCountry=US&blockId=signature-journalism-vi&imp_id=520071092)

[](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/27/nyregion/sandra-lee-cuomo-breast-cancer-profile.html?fallback=0&recId=1FOvNumtD7ekB0fNqn6HGBrTkyJ&locked=0&geoContinent=NA&geoRegion=NC&recAlloc=story-geo&geoCountry=US&blockId=signature-journalism-vi&imp_id=644110077)

### [Cancer Pushes New York’s ‘First Girlfriend,’ Sandra Lee, Onto Political Stage](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/27/nyregion/sandra-lee-cuomo-breast-cancer-profile.html?fallback=0&recId=1FOvNumtD7ekB0fNqn6HGBrTkyJ&locked=0&geoContinent=NA&geoRegion=NC&recAlloc=story-geo&geoCountry=US&blockId=signature-journalism-vi&imp_id=644110077)

[](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/12/24/climate/how-electricity-generation-changed-in-your-state.html?fallback=0&recId=1FOvNumtD7ekB0fNqn6HGBrTkyJ&locked=0&geoContinent=NA&geoRegion=NC&recAlloc=story-geo&geoCountry=US&blockId=signature-journalism-vi&imp_id=380928546)

### [How Does Your State Make Electricity?](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/12/24/climate/how-electricity-generation-changed-in-your-state.html?fallback=0&recId=1FOvNumtD7ekB0fNqn6HGBrTkyJ&locked=0&geoContinent=NA&geoRegion=NC&recAlloc=story-geo&geoCountry=US&blockId=signature-journalism-vi&imp_id=380928546)

Masha Gessen, another New Yorker writer, also said she wouldn’t sign her new contract, at least not as it was originally worded. Ms. Gessen, a Russian-American journalist who won the 2017 National Book Award for “The Future Is History,” about the return of totalitarianism in post-Communist Russia, has spent her career challenging prevailing nostrums.

Last year, as prominent men fell like bowling pins after being accused of sexual misconduct, Ms. Gessen published columns on the New Yorker website describing the #MeToo movement as an [out-of-control “moral panic”](https://www.newyorker.com/news/our-columnists/when-does-a-watershed-become-a-sex-panic) bent on policing sexual behavior by mob justice. Needless to say, many readers did not agree.

“I’m extremely uncomfortable with it,” Ms. Gessen said about the contract, “because I have in the past been vilified on social media.” Having once been fired from a job as the director of Radio Liberty in Russia after what she called a disinformation campaign, she added, “I know what it’s like to lose institutional support when you most need it.”

Both Ms. Gersen’s and Ms. Gessen’s agents got Condé Nast to tone down the language that offended them, and the writers have now signed. Ms. Gessen’s agent made Condé Nast acknowledge “that I have expressed controversial views,” Ms. Gessen said, and the morality clause now states that it can’t be invoked as “the result of my professional work.” By “professional work,” she added, she meant public events or posts on social media in addition to her writing.

Ms. Gessen said she felt she could stand up to Condé Nast because she has clout. She worries that younger or less famous writers won’t be as empowered.

I share that concern. Over the past four years, I’ve published articles criticizing [the concept of safe spaces](https://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/22/opinion/sunday/judith-shulevitz-hiding-from-scary-ideas.html?module=inline) and deploring [the lack of due process in campus rape hearings](https://newrepublic.com/article/119778/college-sexual-assault-rules-trample-rights-accused-campus-rapists). I’ve been called [transphobic](https://thinkprogress.org/new-york-times-shulevitz-transgender-80686781b4c3/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) for an essay I wrote in 2016 about [the tension between transgender rights and the right to privacy](https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/16/opinion/sunday/is-it-time-to-desegregate-the-sexes.html?module=inline), and I’m [still](https://www.dailydot.com/irl/transphobia-definition/) being called that. If I’d had a book contract with a morality clause when I wrote those, I might have thought twice before indulging my fondness for picking fights.

It’s impossible to say how many novelists and journalists have fallen afoul of morality clauses, or, indeed, if any of them have. No one I talked to could or would name a case.

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In 2017, [Simon & Schuster canceled a book by the professional provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos](https://twitter.com/AdamRothberg/status/833800857762295808) after he gave an interview in which he appeared to condone pedophilia. His contract reportedly did not include a morality clause, and he sued, though he later dropped the suit. If a morality clause did lead to a book’s cancellation, we probably wouldn’t know it, according to Devereux Chatillon, a partner in the media and intellectual property law firm Chatillon Weiss who has represented both The New Yorker and writers. “It wouldn’t be public unless somebody sued over it,” she said. And even then, the lawsuit probably wouldn’t come to light.

Morality clauses may be relatively new to mainstream publishing, but they have a long history. The entertainment industry started drafting them in 1921, when the silent-movie star Fatty Arbuckle, who had just signed a then-astonishing $1 million contract with Paramount Pictures, was accused of the rape and manslaughter of a girl at a party. Mr. Arbuckle was acquitted after two mistrials, but by then the public had soured on him, and the studios wanted out.

Today the clauses are widespread in sports, television and advertising. Religious publishers have used them for at least 15 years, which seems fair enough. You can’t condemn a Christian publisher that [cancels publication of a book called “The Ridiculously Good Marriage”](https://twitter.com/bethany_house/status/950456791711862784) after the author is accused of having sexually assaulted an underage girl when he was a youth pastor. (He apologized for a “sexual incident.”) Children’s publishers have been including the clauses for a decade or more, and they, too, have a case. It would be challenging to sell a children’s book written by a pedophile.

Maybe you don’t find morality clauses alarming under any circumstances. “If what you’re selling me is your reputation, if that’s what I’m paying you for, then I should not have to pay you” if your reputation tanks, said Rick Kurnit, a partner in Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, a firm specializing in art and entertainment law.

Maybe you’re asking: Why should anyone get away with being a racist or sexist jerk? What gives Mr. Alexie, accused of hitting on women who saw him as a mentor, and Mr. Díaz, accused of forcibly kissing someone, the right to have their books published? Or even: Why should opinion writers be allowed to gratuitously insult duly elected officials? If a loudmouth suffers from a backlash, this reasoning goes, he probably deserves it.

The problem with letting publishers back out of contracts with noncelebrity, nonreligious, non-children’s book authors on the grounds of immorality is that immorality is a slippery concept. Publishers have little incentive to clarify what they mean by it, and the public is fickle in what it takes umbrage at.

In 1947, the concern was Communism, and morality clauses gave studios a way to blacklist the Hollywood 10, a group of directors and screenwriters who denounced the House Un-American Activities Committee as illegitimate and refused to say whether they’d ever been Communists. All 10 went to jail, and all but one, who decided to cooperate with the committee, became unemployable until the 1960s, though some continued to write under pseudonyms.

Not long ago, publishers were hailed as countercultural heroes for backing works that offended public sensibilities. Barney Rosset, the publisher of Grove Press, introduced Americans to Samuel Beckett, Jack Kerouac, Malcolm X, Marguerite Duras and Kathy Acker, among scores of other writers considered avant-garde at the time.

Mr. Rosset fought doggedly to overturn laws that were preventing him from publishing D.H. Lawrence’s “Lady Chatterley’s Lover” and Henry Miller’s “Tropic of Cancer,” both of which contained scenes of graphic sex.The “Tropic of Cancer” case made it to the Supreme Court, which ruled that the book was not obscene. The feminist critic Kate Millet attacked Henry Miller’s novels as misogynistic — she was quite right about that — but that didn’t stop the PEN American Center from awarding Mr. Rosset a citation for “the free transmission of the printed word across the barriers of poverty, ignorance, censorship and repression.”

Times change; norms change with them. Morality clauses hand the power to censor to publishers, not the government, so they don’t violate the constitutional right to free speech. But that power is still dangerous.

After our conversation, Ms. Gersen sent me an email pointing out a possible unintended consequence of the Condé Nast clause. Who are the groups subjected to the most public vitriol for their published work, she asked? Who is most viciously trolled? Women and members of minorities. “That is one of the realities of publishing while a woman or minority in this age,” she wrote. “The clause is perversely posing more career risk to women and minorities than to white males.”

If all it takes to lose a magazine gig or book deal is to fall into “public disrepute,” it won’t be only villains whose voices are lost.

**Dr. Turi**

“For those who know me, my UFO’s predictive legacy and the Cosmic Code jurisdictions, no explanation is necessary; For those who do not, none will ever suffice… If every 8 year old in the world is taught Astropsychology and meditation, we will eliminate ignorance and violence from the world within one generation.”

“There is a tide in the affairs of man, when taken at its crest, leads on to fortune.”

“Cosmic Consciousness” is; the awareness of God cosmic identity, the cosmic code Universal rules and make a good use of it by making unarguable predictions and guiding souls into a cosmic God’s mighty light! Anything else is deceptiveness! Pope Francis, Bible heads, Religious leaders, Monks, Gurus, televangelists, priests and nuns including atheists are cosmic unconscious born Neptunians and unable to read the signs…

“The future is the reincarnation of the thought, where Cosmic Consciousness is lacking, science, religion, conspiracy and imagination have the wrong answers. There are no accidents just cosmic circumstances the five logical human senses cannot yet perceive.” Dr.Turi

No man will ever be born equal to another in body, mind and soul… This is why teachers can try their best educating their students, yet some will drop out. If the teacher’s 3rd house (critical thinking) and his 9th house of higher education conflicts with the student 3rd and 9th house, in no way will the information passed be assimilated.

There is nothing to believe when it comes to the cosmic code jurisdictions, it is not based upon faith and it is not a religion! It is a science that can only be acknowledged by a highly spiritual student. In fact, much of the scientific community is forbidden access to the cosmic code spiritual jurisdictions and the golden keys to what it means to be human are not for everyone.

All Truths evolve through 3 Stages of Consciousness:

1. First, they are Ridiculed,
2. Next, they are Violently Opposed, and
3. Then, they are Accepted as Self-Evident!

**Weapons of Mass Destruction Inside the People’s House**

Apparently, you’re only Palestinian-American if you’re a Democrat.

That’s the takeaway from Rep. Ilhan Omar, the Minnesota Democrat who became one of the first two Muslim women in Congress.

After her swearing-in on Thursday, the controversial representative posted a list of putative firsts for the 116th Congress, including the fact that they had the first Palestinian-American member.

Except they didn’t. That went back to at least 2011, as Justin Amash of Michigan noted.

So, let’s go back to the first tweet from Omar, which proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that Twitter posts with the “green checkmark” emoji should be on our list for targeted cultural obsolescence in 2019.

It’s interesting that Omar says that the 116th Congress contains the “1st Indigenous women.” I’m guessing she’s pretty much acknowledging that Elizabeth Warren’s 1/1024th Native American claim means she’s 1023/1024ths full of bunkum. However, Rep. Rashida Tlaib of Michigan is definitely Palestinian-American.

However, there was a bit of an error in Omar’s calculations. Huh. I guess you don’t count as Palestinian-American if you’re a Republican?

Oh, and as [Independent Journal Review](https://ijr.com/justin-amash-fact-checks-ilhan-omar-dems-history/) notes, John E. Sununu of New Hampshire, who entered Congress first in 1997, has Palestinian heritage through his father. But, again, GOP.

Rashida is a suicide F-bomber who will lose her mind when she sees Jewish Yarmulke on the floor of the House this month. You see, they were banned in the 19th century. Yes, the ban on headgear on the floor of the House was specifically to block Jews from wearing their Yarmulke. It was strikingly clear that non-Jews wanted to separate church from State. But, when Ms. Omar showed up—Yes I still say she is a ms, because she married her own blood brother to stay in the US and not be deported for overstaying her Visa—they dropped the rule, and now say it’s okay dandy if she comes as a member of the UN delegation from Somalia, instead of Congress. When the Jewish men of Congress, and there are many, begin wearing their Yarmulke, you just wait to see the very uncivil war erupt.

**California Voter Role NOW Get Cleaned up.**

Nine precincts are being sued for voter fraud. All nine of them voted Republicans into office, but truckloads of ballots showed up within 48 hours to overturn all nine elections for Democrats. Judicial Watch announced today that it signed a settlement agreement with the State of California and County of Los Angeles under which they will begin the process of removing from their voter registration rolls as many as 1.5 million inactive registered names that may be invalid. These removals are required by the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).

There goes Hillary's "Win."

The NVRA is a federal law requiring the removal of inactive registrations from the voter rolls after two general federal elections (encompassing from 2 to 4 years). Inactive voter registrations belong, for the most part, to voters who have moved to another county or state or have passed away.

Los Angeles County has over 10 million residents, more than the populations of 41 of the 50 United States. California is America’s largest state, with almost 40 million residents.

Judicial Watch filed a 2017 federal lawsuit to force the cleanup of voter rolls (Judicial Watch, Inc., et al. v. Dean C. Logan, et al. (No. 2:17-cv-08948)). Judicial Watch sued on its own behalf and on behalf of Wolfgang Kupka, Rhue Guyant, Jerry Griffin, and Delores M. Mars, who are lawfully registered voters in Los Angeles County. Judicial Watch was also joined by Election Integrity Project California, Inc., a public interest group that has long been involved in monitoring California’s voter rolls.

In its lawsuit, Judicial Watch alleged:

Los Angeles County has more voter registrations on its voter rolls than it has citizens who are old enough to register. Specifically, according to data provided to and published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Los Angeles County has a registration rate of 112 percent of its adult citizen population.

The entire State of California has a registration rate of about 101 percent of its age-eligible citizenry.

Eleven of California’s 58 counties have registration rates exceeding 100 percent of the age-eligible citizenry.

The lawsuit confirmed that Los Angeles County has on its rolls more than 1.5 million potentially ineligible voters. This means that more than one out of every five LA County registrations likely belongs to a voter who has moved or is deceased. Judicial Watch notes that “Los Angeles County has the highest number of inactive registrations of any single county in the country.”

The Judicial Watch lawsuit also uncovered that neither the State of California nor Los Angeles County had been removing inactive voters from the voter registration rolls for the past 20 years. The Supreme Court affirmed last year in Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Inst., 138 S. Ct. 1833 (2018) that the NVRA “makes this removal mandatory.”

The new settlement agreement, filed today with U.S. District Court Judge Manuel L. Real, requires all of the 1.5 million potentially ineligible registrants to be notified and asked to respond. If there is no response, those names are to be removed as required by the NVRA. California Secretary of State Padilla also agrees to update the State’s online NVRA manual to make clear that ineligible names must be removed and to notify each California county that they are obligated to do this. This should lead to cleaner voter rolls statewide.

Prior to this settlement agreement, Judicial Watch estimated that based on comparisons of national census data to voter-roll information, there were 3.5 million more names on various county voter rolls than there were citizens of voting age. This settlement could cut this number in half.

This is only the third statewide settlement achieved by private plaintiffs under the NVRA – and Judicial Watch was the plaintiff in each of those cases. The other statewide settlements are with Ohio (in 2014) and with Kentucky (2018), which agreed to a court-ordered consent decree.

“This settlement vindicates Judicial Watch’s groundbreaking lawsuits to clean up state voter rolls to help ensure cleaner elections,” said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. “Judicial Watch and its clients are thrilled with this historic settlement that will clean up election rolls in Los Angeles County and California – and set a nationwide precedent to ensure that states take reasonable steps to ensure that dead and other ineligible voters are removed from the rolls.”

Judicial Watch Attorney Robert Popper is the director of the organization’s Election Integrity Project and led the Judicial Watch legal team in this litigation.

Judicial Watch is the national leader in enforcing the list maintenance provisions of the NVRA. In addition to its settlement agreements with Ohio and win in Kentucky, Judicial Watch filed a successful NVRA lawsuit against Indiana, causing it to voluntarily clean up its voting rolls, and has an ongoing lawsuit with the State of Maryland.

Judicial Watch helped the State of Ohio to successfully defend their settlement agreement before the Supreme Court. In North Carolina, Judicial Watch supported implementation of the state’s election integrity reform laws, filing amicus briefs in the Supreme Court in March 2017. And, in April 2018, Judicial Watch filed an amicus brief in the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in support of Alabama’s voter ID law. In Georgia, Judicial Watch filed an amicus brief in support of Secretary Brian Kemp’s list maintenance process against a lawsuit by left-wing groups. Judicial Watch and Georgia won when the Supreme Court ruled in Ohio’s favor.

**Travel Warnings**

A few days ago a bomb blew up a tour bus in Giza. Not Gaza. They were Vietnamese tourists, but they just as well could have been Americas. 14 dead. The bus was pulverized. Egypt has a problem. But, they are not the only ones.

The U.S. State Department - Bureau of Consular Affairs, is warning Americans to use caution when traveling to China due to "arbitrary enforcement of local laws.

Put simply, Americans are apparently being held to a different standard than other travelers, with any POTENTIAL infraction being prosecuted as an actual crime. "Welcome to China, now go directly to jail."

The Advisory reads as follows:

Exercise increased caution in China due to arbitrary enforcement of local laws as well as special restrictions on dual U.S.-Chinese nationals. Chinese authorities have asserted broad authority to prohibit U.S. citizens from leaving China by using ‘exit bans,’ sometimes keeping U.S. citizens in China for years. China uses exit bans coercively:

* to compel U.S. citizens to participate in Chinese government investigations,
* to lure individuals back to China from abroad, and
* to aid Chinese authorities in resolving civil disputes in favor of Chinese parties.

In most cases, U.S. citizens only become aware of the exit ban when they attempt to depart China, and there is no method to find out how long the ban may continue. U.S. citizens under exit bans have been harassed and threatened. Exit bans are usually imposed when they believe you may be leaving the country after a business excursion where you may have been given large sums of Chinese cash to deposit outside the country.

People seeking investors, buyers, or who make a business out of laundering cash to set up an escape plan for wealthy Chinese nationals who may want to escape China or end their families outside the country for asylum. I encountered this myself from a Chinese billionaire who wanted to get his teenage daughter out of the country. He was under an exit ban.

U.S. citizens may be detained without access to U.S. consular services or information about their alleged crime. U.S. citizens may be subjected to prolonged interrogations and extended detention for reasons related to “state security.” Security personnel may detain and/or deport U.S. citizens for sending private electronic messages critical of the Chinese government. It is much much more common today than at any time in the past, depending on your political value.

Extra security measures, such as security checks and increased levels of police presence, are common in the Xinjiang Uighur and Tibet Autonomous Regions. Authorities may impose curfews and travel restrictions on short notice.

By the way, China does not recognize dual nationality. U.S.-Chinese citizens and U.S. citizens of Chinese heritage may be subject to additional scrutiny and harassment, and China may prevent the U.S. Embassy from providing consular services. If you are taking a trusted translator with you, that translator may be in danger of being detained.

Read the Safety and Security section on the country information page.

If you decide to travel to China:

* Enter China on your U.S. passport with a valid Chinese visa and keep it with you.
* If you are arrested or detained, ask police or prison officials to notify the U.S. Embassy or the nearest consulate immediately.
* If you plan to enter North Korea, read the North Korea Travel Advisory.
* Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) to receive Alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
* Follow the Department of State on Facebook and Twitter. Follow the U.S. Embassy on Twitter, WeChat, and Weibo.
* Review the Crime and Safety Reports for China.

U.S. citizens who travel abroad should always have a contingency plan for emergency situations. Review the Traveler’s Checklist.

**Trump Was Right Again**

Many people criticized President Trump for forming the Space Force. Well, he was right again. As I have said for decades, he who controls the Moon, will control the Earth. A Chinese robotic probe named "Chang'e 4" has landed on the far side of the moon, becoming the first man-made craft to explore on the far surface.

The probe reportedly landed in the South Pole-Aitken basin, the oldest, largest, and deepest crater on the moon's surface. The moon's far side remains largely unexplored because its position shields it from radio frequencies, preventing direct contact with the Earth. To solve that problem, China launched the relay satellite Queqiao earlier this year to transmit signals from the far side.

The first photo relayed back to Earth by the probe shows a relatively flat, rocky surface pockmarked by a large crater.

Chang'e 4 will perform several experiments while on the moon, including testing whether plants will grow in the low gravity environment, exploring the poles to find water or other resources, observing the interaction between solar winds and the lunar surface, and conducting the first lunar low-frequency radio astronomy experiment.

"Since the far side of the Moon is shielded from electromagnetic interference from the Earth, it's an ideal place to research the space environment and solar bursts, and the probe can 'listen' to the deeper reaches of the cosmos," said Tongjie Liu, deputy director of the Lunar Exploration and Space Program Center at China's National Space Administration.

The Chinese probe had been circling the moon in an elliptical orbit in preparation for landing since Sunday. The mission left Xichang Satellite Launch Center on December 8 and was reported to have reached lunar orbit four days later.

China is a relative newcomer to space travel compared to the US and Russia, but has been making up for lost time at a rapid rate. The country's last lunar rover, Yutu, had spent 972 days on the lunar surface by the time its mission ended in 2016.

China plans to launch a Mars probe in 2020 to collect samples from the surface of the planet and seeks to have its own permanent space station in orbit by 2022. Meanwhile, the US, threatened by China’s incursions into space, is planning a buildup of its military there – the ‘Space Force’ – and forbids NASA from collaborating with China.